

2009 CLOS PEPE ESTATE PINOT NOIR

900 cases produced, 14.1% alcohol



Medium strawberry/garnet color. Primary and bright fruit aromas dominate pre-release: juicy strawberry, cherry and raspberry references make this wine surprisingly open and enticing. There's a bit of spice and earth in both nose and in the mouth, but the fruit and baby fat are still dominating the flavor profile of this ebullient, young cuvee. Bright and structured in the mouth, but while persistently slutty in its infancy, we expect the middle and finish to fill in as the wine settles into its role as a long-term ager. Don't let its sexy winking fool you into drinking it young—this one is born for the cellar and we expect it to start shining in about 3 years. A spectacular, cool vintage very similar to 2007 and 2005, this cool climate gem was a pleasure to grow and make: no real hardships or challenges in the growing or vinification.

Best 2013-2020 ~ \$54

THE CLOS PEPE PHILOSOPHY

"We strive to produce wines that represent a time and a place. In a landscape where critics heap praise on 'heavy metal' wines more akin to fortified wine than a beverage for table, we believe that wine should integrate into a meal--we hope our customers discuss the flavors of wine and food and how they combine to make an experience. Great craft impresses not with an insistence that it be the sole focus of a room, but instead by its ability to integrate. I like to make wines that tell a story: a story of wind, fog, sunshine and the hard work of our crew. This vineyard has as much potential for Chardonnay and Pinot Noir as we are willing to imagine and draw from it with passion and labor. In this sense I want the wines to be 'jazz'

over 'heavy metal'--a reflection of craft embedded in an ever-changing environment instead of a homogenized attempt to kowtow to the gods of concentration." --Wes Hagen

"..the name Clos Pepe Vineyard on a bottle has become synonymous with quality. Think California Grand Cru quality."



PinotFile

Sta. Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County, California

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