

2010 CLOS PEPE ESTATE PINOT NOIR



Winemaking philosophy: Philosophy is elegant, restrained Pinot Noir. 2010 was bigger, darker and riper than our traditional restrained style.

915 cases produced • Drinking window 2014-2019

COLOR: Dark garnet with a purple meniscus. Oregon haters will suggest syrah additions.

NOSE: Biggest, ripest nose in 11 years of Estate wines. Blueberry and boysenberry jam, cherry compote, intense spice and insane depth and concentration of aromatics. Plush, luxe, sexy, ultra seductive.

MOUTH: Acidity keeps this wine from being too open, soft and ripe. Mouth is just behind the nose in character, and I believe the wine is a bit dumb in the mouth early. Big, ripe, rich, but tight enough in the finish to hint that the acid in this wine may allow it to age for 5-7 years. I am hesitant to make a firm drinking window on this wine, as it is atypically ripe for our 'house style'. Surprisingly balanced in the mouth. Try with a ripe, stinky Epoisses or Affine cheese.

AGING POTENTIAL: Hesitant to make a firm drinking window, but should hold well for 5-7 years

VINTAGE: Long cool growing season punctuated by a heat wave in October. Blockbuster aromatics from long hang time and exaggerated ripeness.

PICKED: October 3-12, 2010.

CHEMISTRY: 14.5% alcohol • 3.45 pH • 7.1 g/l total acidity, full ML+

THE CLOS PEPE PHILOSOPHY

"We strive to produce wines that represent a time and a place. Great craft, whether painted, played or fermented, 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 a crew's attempts at perfection. 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

