



Labyrinth Bien Nacido Pinot Noir 2007

The Bien Nacido 2007 is quite simply the best wine I have produced from this vineyard, eclipsing the 2005 (the 2005 Reserve being the exception), which was considered the best of the decade at the time. This wine has a balance of weight intensity, power and extraordinary concentration, the result of reduced yield and smaller berry size. Typical of the style, the Labyrinth Bien Nacido 2007 maintains the bright red fruit flavours, refreshing acid and low alcohol.

The Vineyard

Sourced from the earliest planted vines (Block N, 1973) at Bien Nacido in the Santa Maria Valley, the close proximity to the Pacific Ocean serves to moderate daytime temperatures ensuring concentrated spicy, fruit driven wines with power and finesse, high in natural acidity.

Vintage

Poor flower set immediately reduced yield. Great for wine-makers . . . not so great for vineyard owners. The berry size was also reduced enhancing the skin/ juice ratio and resulting in more colour and tannin concentration. The lower yield also meant that wine was picked at optimum ripeness without excessive alcohol. The intensity of the fruit allowed a greater percentage of new oak.

Harvest

Bien Nacido N block . . . 15 September 2007
Brix . . . 23.6 pH 3.47 TA 7.8
Yield..1 t/ acre

Fermentation

0% whole bunch
100% destemmed
6 day cold soak
Spontaneous natural ferment.
4 day post soak
Cooperage & bottling
17 months on lees
40% new french oak
bottled 02 April 2009...coarse filtration only
production..188 cases

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