

SAINTSBURY

Vineyard Series

2009 Cerise Vineyard Anderson Valley Pinot Noir

- Vineyard planted to: Dijon 115, 667, 777 and Pommard
- Blend in 2009: Pommard, Dijon 115 and 777
- 7 day cold soak, 12 day total cuvaison
- 10 months in French oak barrels (François Frères and Taransaud),
24% new, 27% one and two year old barrels
- 1,407 six bottle cases bottled in July of 2010

The Cerise Vineyard Anderson Valley Pinot Noir is our only Vineyard Series wine from outside Carneros. Both Carneros and Anderson Valley have established themselves among the best appellations in the US for Pinot Noir. While each is influenced by their proximity to the Pacific Ocean, they have very different soils, different winter weather (Anderson Valley gets at least twice as much rain) and a different calendar. By calendar, we mean that in Anderson Valley, the vines start growing a little later in the spring and we harvest a little later in the fall, though the length of the growing season is about the same as in Carneros.

Cerise is a well-known vineyard planted on the steep slopes of the southwest facing hills just north of the town of Boonville. The estate is comprised of 37 planted acres in many small blocks ranging over the 200 acre site. Saintsbury's blocks are located at the higher elevations between 700–1,000 feet with southerly through northwesterly aspects on slopes of 10–25 degrees. Shallow gravelly loam soils predominate and combined with the steep aspect and excellent drainage give shy yields in the 1.5–2.5 tons/acre.

With the fourth vintage of Cerise Pinot Noir in 2009, we see once again, the heady perfume of dark berry spiciness mixed with an undercurrent of herbal intrigue. The sunny but cool and breezy days of this northern coastal valley offer great acidity with a fine backbone of ripe tannins that together provide a structural core balancing the concentrated black cherry mid-palate. A delicious and definite keeper!



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Saintsbury is the leading producer of fine Pinot Noir from Carneros, Napa Valley.

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