

ISABEL MONDAVI

2009 ISABEL MONDAVI Estate Pinot Noir

VINTAGE

For early ripening varieties, such as Pinot Noir, the 2009 harvest could not have been better. A summer of mild, steady weather, allowed us to pick our Pinot Noir absent of complications from Mother Nature. Our estate Pinot Noir benefits from cooler temperatures in Carneros, where summer fog and cool breezes from San Pablo Bay slowly ripen the fruit to optimum maturity and flavor.

WINEMAKING

The Gallery Vineyard is 7.24 acres of Pinot Noir, of which 3.65ac is Swan Clone and 4.19ac is Dijon Clone. We had two picking dates in early and mid-September, as the Swan and Dijon clones planted on our estate ripen at different rates. The grapes were put through the basket press (not whole cluster) for gentleness and to mitigate any bitterness that might come from the seeds, stems, etc. followed by a three day cold soak. This Pinot Noir roars through fermentation so temperature had to be managed throughout the pump overs, punchdowns and by using the jackets on the tanks. Both lots were fermented in stainless steel using native yeasts and then aged for 10 months in Boutes and Francois Freres French oak barrels (45% new). A rigorous barrel selection created a complex blend with uncompromising quality.

100% Pinot Noir ~ Alcohol: 14.4% ~ TA 5.7 g/L ~ pH 3.62

TASTING NOTES

Elegant aromas of violets, cherries and other red fruit layered with a hint of caramel. Fresh herbal notes give the nose added complexity. On the palate, strawberry and cranberry flavors meld with a subtle expression of crème brulee. The wine is medium-bodied in weight and expresses lively acidity and bright cherry flavors on the finish.

ISABEL MONDAVI WINES

Isabel Mondavi wines are made by Isabel's son, fourth generation winemaker, Rob Mondavi Jr. With Isabel's favorite varietals and wine styles in mind, Rob crafts elegant wines with a refined, lower alcohol, food-friendly approach. Our 2009 Pinot Noir is the first vintage from our Carneros estate and we love the complex expression of Pinot Noir that this vineyard produces.