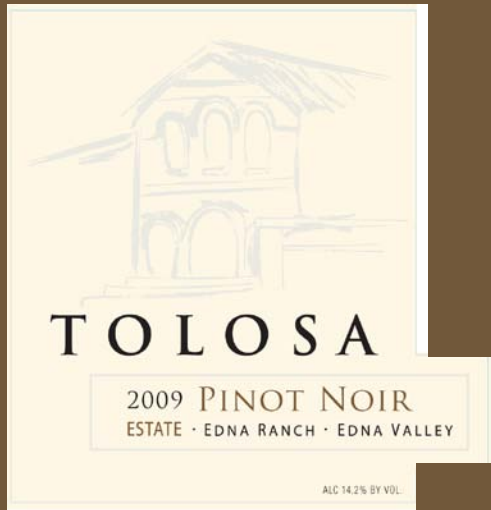


TOLOSA

Estate Wines



2009 Pinot Noir



Varietal:	100% Pinot Noir
Appellation:	Tolosa Estate, Edna Valley AVA
Clonal Selection:	D667, Pommard, 2A, and D115
Alcohol:	14.2 %
T.A.:	5.9g/L
pH:	3.7
Brix at Harvest:	24°
Cooperage Used:	French
Barrel Regime:	33% new
Barrel Aging:	11 months
Bottling Date:	8/23/2010
Aging Potential:	6-8 years from vintage
Production:	4,780
Food Pairing:	very versatile
Suggested Retail:	\$30.00

Vineyard Notes

We have more than twenty distinct blocks of Pinot Noir on our Estate vineyard, but year in and year out about half of them are capable of producing our best wines. Most of these are in the area we call Mountainside which is east of Orcutt Rd. about five miles south of the winery. We also have some blocks just in front of the winery that consistently produce first rate wine. In 2009 we had that happy combination of good quality and decent quantity. There were no real problems in the vineyard to overcome. The fruit came in ripe and healthy. This was one of those unusual vintages where both Pinot Noir and Chardonnay made first rate wines. Normally one is favored over the other.

Winemaking Notes

When the fruit is in good condition as it was in 2009 no special magic needs to be preformed in the cellar. The standard techniques can be successfully employed. We harvest at night so the fruit is cold. It is destemmed into small open topped fermenters so punch downs can be used to extract color and flavor. After two weeks we drain the free run wine into barrels. In the late winter or early spring we make out blend. In 2009 this process was particularly challenging as finding the combination of lots that gave us the correct balance of flavors was elusive. In retrospect the time was well spent as the resulting wine is well poised and delicate.

Winemaker Tasting Notes

This wine never lacked for color, but its extract is deceptive. Looking at its deep hue you think it will be big and brawny in the mouth, but just the opposite is true. The aromas are effusively fruity with blueberry dominant. Unusual for us is the lack of any herbal tones except a hint of dry hay. The mouth is full and soft while still being lively and dynamic enough to be a good companion at the table. This is quite a quaffable wine and few will be able to resist its many charms.