



Testarossa Vineyards

LOS GATOS • CALIFORNIA

2003 Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir

93

points

Big, full and rich, deep black cherry and plum fruit. WOW! This wine really has the depth and complexity that makes Pinot so interesting.
PinotReport - April 2005

92

points

Red cherry and rose scents build in layers behind a youthful tannin. An intriguing portrait of the Bien Nacido vineyard, one of the Central Coast's classic pinot noir sites.
Wine & Spirits - June 2005

92

points

Expansive aromas of ripe cherries, orange-rind, creme brulee and oaky spice. A full-bodied wine, supple feel with a fine sense of balance to go with its firmness of structure.
Connoisseurs' Guide - February 2005

90

points

This well-crafted wine offers immediate pleasure. Intense flavors that are opulently ripe, although the wine is correctly dry. Light and silky, with crisp acidity and a lingering aftertaste.
Wine Enthusiast - July 2005

2002

95

points

Rich, intense, blackberry and black cherry flavors. Silky, sweet oak and spice; great balance, very long finish. WOW! An incredible Pinot -- depth, structure, it's all here.
PinotReport - April 2004

93

points



A stunning Pinot Noir. Fine and very complex; an aromatic wine, full bodied, very well balanced, and very long on the finish.
Restaurant Wine - January 2004

92

points

Very deep in fruit and decked out with lots of creamy oak, it is a wine of considerable size and substance.
Connoisseurs' Guide - February 2004

2001

95 points *PinotReport - May 2003*

91 points *Connoisseurs' Guide - October 2003*

2000

94 points *Connoisseurs' Guide - July 2002*

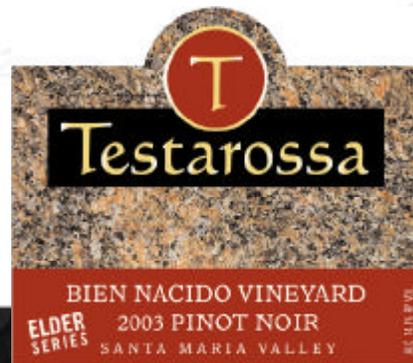
94 points *PinotReport - July 2002*

90 points *Wine Enthusiast - October 2002*

1999

91 points *Wine Enthusiast - December 2001*

91 points *Wine & Spirits - October 2001*



Passion in Every Glass!

2003 Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir

Tasting notes from winemaker Bill Brosseau:

This Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir comes from one of the hillside blocks where the vines must struggle to bear fruit. As a result, the concentration of red cherry and spice aromas lead to a flavorful and charming wine. Deep red color is supported by an intense concentration of flavor and a finish to remember.

Why is the Bien Nacido Vineyard special?

The Bien Nacido Vineyard, planted in 1973, sits in one of the most ideal locations in Santa Barbara County's cool ocean facing Santa Maria Valley which gives the grapes exceptionally long hang time. Underlying the eastern edge of the vineyard is an old crumbly shaley-loam stratum of soil called *Elder Series*, which adds extra mineral flavors to the wines.

Flavor Profiles: Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir

Forward rich cherry fruit, layers of complexity, spiciness and a special minerality are all unique characteristics of this wine from 30+ year old vines. Very old shaley-loam *Elder Series* soils underlie Testarossa's individually selected vineyard blocks giving this unmistakably rich New World Pinot Noir a complimentary Old World minerality.

Testarossa's Style:

Complexity, Balance, and Silky Texture

Testarossa's "house style" is to create wines of uncommon complexity for you to enjoy, while maintaining the beautiful balance of natural wine flavors, hints of toasty new oak, a backbone of natural acidity, and silky smooth texture that make our wines feel as good as they taste.

Testarossa's Special Pinot Noir
Winemaking Techniques

It all starts in the vineyard where our winemaker, Bill Brosseau, works with our growers to balance the vines so they produce rich, flavorful, and nutritionally healthy fruit, without over or under stressing the vines. All of the fruit is carefully hand sorted, and a gravity flow process is used throughout fermentation. In the cellar we do an extended pre-fermentation cold-soak, and then use a special strain of yeast in our small custom designed 5-ton stainless steel fermentors.

Unique Characteristics of the 2003 Vintage

2003 started off with uncharacteristically warm 80-degree weather in January, fooling some of our vineyards into coming out of dormancy two weeks to two months early. As the season progressed, the warm weather did not relent and most of the fruit ripened within a small time frame. The early bud break allowed the grapes to achieve record hang time resulting in wines that show great depth of flavor, color and richness.

Vineyard	Bien Nacido Vineyard
Appellation	Santa Maria Valley, Santa Barbara County
Owner	Miller Family
Year planted	1973
Acreage (for Testarossa)	8 acres
Yield	2 tons per acre
Soil composition	Elder Series shaley loam
Elevation	440 feet (134m)
Exposure	South/Southwest
Climate	Marine influenced, cool summer temperatures ranging from daytime highs in the low 70s to pre-dawn lows in the 50s
First Testarossa vintage	1997
Harvest	2003
Sugar	25.7
Total acidity	6.7g/l
pH	3.48
Dates harvested	9/2-9/23/2003
Bottle:	
Alcohol	14.3%
Total acidity	6.1g/l
pH	3.57
Bottling date	11/18/2004
Time in oak	14 months
Percent new oak	50%
Production	428 cases
Release date	February 2005
Suggested retail price	\$54/bottle
Opt. time for consumption	2005-2012

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PINOTREPORT

April 2005

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