



Testarossa Vineyards

LOS GATOS • CALIFORNIA

2003 Cuvee Niclaire Pinot Noir

Scents of cherry, currant and raspberry jump out of the glass, backed by hints of cloves and other spices. The wine displays seamless integration with a suppleness only achieved with older vineyards and careful blending.

Bill Brosseau, Winemaker

2002

92
points

Silky texture, rich cherry fruit, great notes of bacon, spice and toasty oak; good structure and balance; long finish. Elegant Pinot with the structure to stand up to a hearty dish.
PinotReport - November 2004

Very highly recommended

91
points

Attractive, intense, spicy, elegant, complex, cedary, red berry and cherry fruit aroma with notes of mocha and vanilla. Velvety mouth feel.
California Grapevine - August 2004



91
points

While sporting the ripeness and sweet fruit that are hallmarks of fine California Pinot Noir, this keenly constructed wine shows more layered complexity than most. Impeccably balanced.
Connoisseurs' Guide - November 2004

2001

93 points *Wine Spectator - April 2004*
93 points *Restaurant Wine - January 2004*
90 points *PinotReport - April 2004*

2000

91 points *Connoisseurs' Guide - November 2002*
91 points *Wine Enthusiast - February 2003*

1999

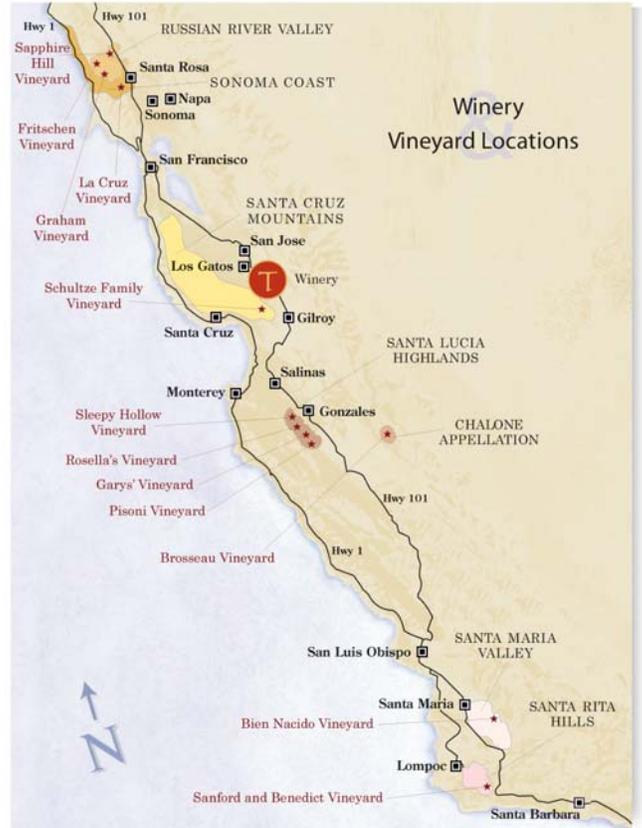
92 points *Wine Advocate - June 2002*
91 points *Wine Spectator - March 2002*

1998

94 points *Wine Enthusiast - December 2001*
91 points *Wine Advocate - June 2002*

1997

91 points *Wine Enthusiast - October 2000*



Passion in Every Glass!

2003 Cuvee Niclaire Pinot Noir

Tasting notes from winemaker Bill Brosseau:

Deep red color. Scents of cherry, currant, and raspberry jump out of the glass, backed by hints of cloves and other spices. The wine displays seamless integration with a suppleness only achieved with older vineyards and careful blending. The cherry and raspberry flavors make this wine hedonistic while young, but should only intensify as this wine ages gracefully over the next 8 to 10 years.

What is Testarossa's Cuvee Niclaire Pinot Noir?

Cuvee Niclaire is named for Nick and Claire Jensen, the children of winery founders Rob and Diana Jensen. Made from only our best seven to ten barrels each year, this cuvee (blend) is our most prestigious reserve-level Pinot Noir, marrying complementary rich flavors and aromas from our multiple cool-climate California vineyards.

Flavor Profiles: Cuvee Niclaire Pinot Noir

Silk, balance, elegance, rich fruit, and "another glass please" are what Cuvee Niclaire is all about. Spicy rich cherry characteristics from Santa Barbara County combine with red plum, black cherry, herb and mineral notes from our Monterey County vineyards to create layers of complexity in the glass and a symphony of flavors on the palate.

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.

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Tasting Room Open
11am to 5pm Daily

Vineyards	Bien Nacido, Garys', Pisoni, Sleepy Hollow
Appellations	Santa Maria Valley, Santa Lucia Highlands
Years planted	1973 through 1999
Average yield	2.75 tons per acre
Harvest	2003
Average sugar	26.1
Average total acidity	6.7g/l
Average pH	3.51
Dates harvested	9/2-9/26/2003
Bottle:	
Alcohol	14.6%
Total acidity	6.3g/l
pH	3.60
Bottling date	3/18/2005
Time in oak	18 months
Percent new oak	55%
Production	187 cases
Release date	September 2005
Suggested retail price	\$75/bottle
Opt. time for consumption	2005-2015

2004 Winery of the Year



"In only a decade, this small Los Gatos winery has established a solid reputation for the consistent quality of its wines, which are among the best now being produced in the USA."

Ronn Wiegand, MW & MS, Editor



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testarossa.com