

TESTAROSSA

WINERY

LOS GATOS CALIFORNIA

2007 SANFORD & BENEDICT VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

93

POINTS

This Chardonnay is very fine, with a coat of smoky oak framing ripe flavors of apricots, oranges, fudgy vanilla custard and cinnamon spices. Balancing acidity is bright and keen. The wine should benefit from some time in the cellar, if you can keep your hands off it. Editors' Choice. - Wine Enthusiast, April 2009

90

POINTS

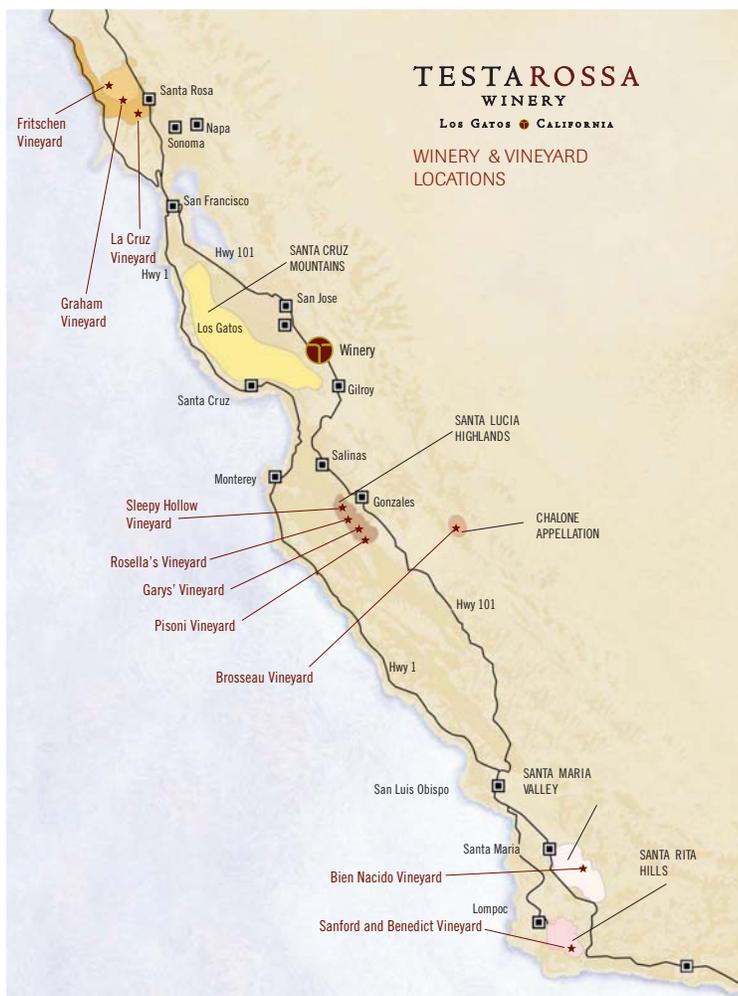
Offers a rich, complex, layered mix of currant, raspberry and cherry rhubarb that's full-bodied, pure and persistent, ending with firm, ripe tannins and good length. Drink now through 2013. -Wine Spectator, May 2009

★★★★

4+

STARS

The Sanford & benedict is richer; full bodied, fairly rich wine, with evident new oak character, and a long firm finish, tasting of cherry, pomegranate, plum, caramel, toast and spicy oak. Long aftertaste. - Restaurant Wine, March 2009



PREVIOUS VINTAGE SCORES

2006 92 points, Wine Enthusiast, May 2008

2005 92 points, Wine Enthusiast, June 2007
91 points, Connoisseurs' Guide, February 2007
91 points, PinotReport, December 2007

2004 91 points, Wine Enthusiast, September 2006

2007 SANFORD & BENEDICT VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

Tasting notes from winemaker Bill Brosseau:

Dark red color. Scents of clove, anise, cherry, black pepper, and creme brulee distinguish the aroma profile of this lush, intense Pinot Noir. The flavor profile shows notes of minerality, cherry, cranberry, and black pepper. The fruit and spice pairing of this wine makes for an intriguing wine, especially with the rich, lingering finish. Drink now through 2016.

Why is the Sanford & Benedict Vineyard special?

The 130-acre Sanford & Benedict Vineyard was planted in 1971, in what is now called the Santa Rita Hills, one of the most exciting Pinot Noir and Chardonnay growing areas in the country. It was formerly owned by Robert Atkin and has, for over three decades, been considered one of the crown jewels of Santa Barbara County. The shaley-clay loam soil adds character to all the wines from this vineyard.

Flavor Profiles: Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir

This vineyard is renowned for rich and concentrated Pinot Noirs dominated by complex cherry, wild berry, and raspberry fruit. Complementary layers of spicy lavender, tea, anise, and cola flavors make every Testarossa Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir a symphony of aromas and flavor. Hints of dried mushroom and smoky vanilla tantalize the palate on the silky smooth long, long finish.

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 2007 Vintage

The 2007 vintage started out in California style, with drought-like conditions. This lack of rain, plus a large crop from the year before, stunted the reserves in the grapevines. This scenario leads to small berries and short clusters. Weather at flowering was cool and delayed, leading to a mismatch of berries sizes. Overall, we saw many small berries, few seeds, and a high skin to juice ratio. With a moderate climatic season, we saw even ripening and good physiological ripeness as well. These factors contribute to supple tannins and good acidity. Overall, a great year for California, except for the low yields.

Vineyard	Sanford & Benedict Vineyard
Appellation	Santa Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County
Owner	Terlato Group
Year planted	1971
Acreage (for Testarossa)	5 acres
Yield	3.5 tons per acre
Soil composition	Botella clay-loam, Ballard sandy-loam, Santa Lucia shaley clay-loam
Elevation	200-400 feet
Exposure	Multiple exposures
Climate	Extreme maritime influence due to a unique transverse maritime throat. Average summer temperatures 70-75, and often cooler.
First Testarossa vintage	2004
Harvest	2007
Average Sugar	24.5
Average Total acidity	7.20 g/l
Average pH	3.29
Dates harvested	10/2/2007
Bottle:	
Alcohol	14.1%
Total acidity	6.68
pH	3.36
Bottling date	11/11/2008
Time in oak	13 months
Percent new oak	38%
Production	350 cases
Suggested retail price	\$56/bottle

