



2008 PISONI VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

93
POINTS

Shows the volume of this warmish, high mountain vineyard, with enormously ripe flavors of cherries, red currants and red plums, with elaborate sweet oak. Yet it preserves Pinot's silky delicacy. That juggling act, of balancing power with finesse, marks the best Pisoni Pinot Noirs. Fine now, and should slowly develop over the next six years. -Steve Heimoff

Wine Enthusiast, September 2010

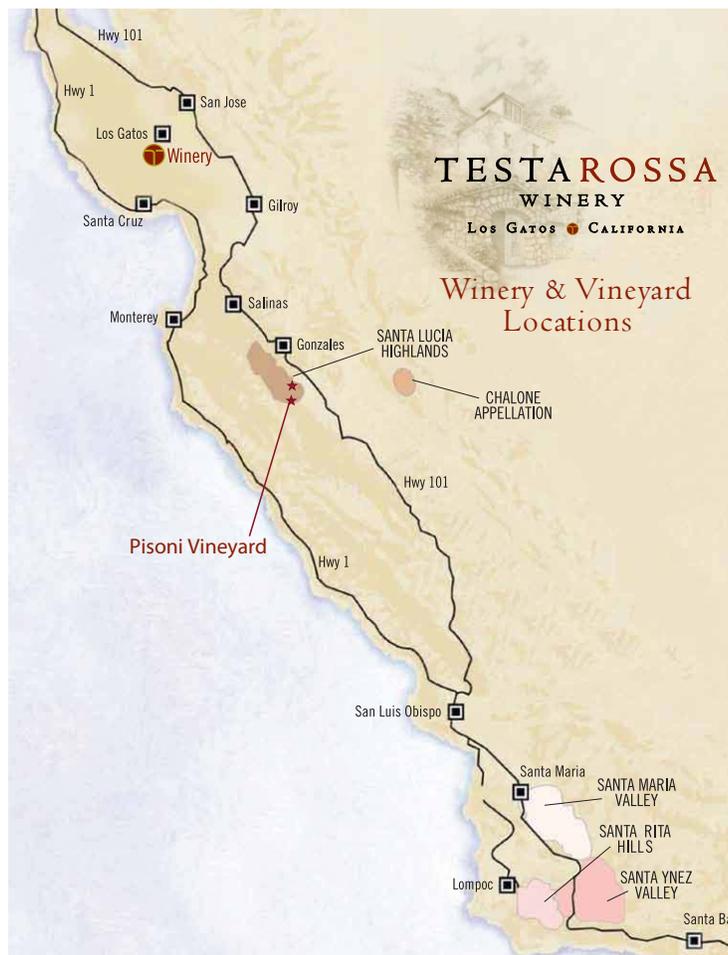
91
POINTS

Collectively, Testarossa's new Pinots from the Santa Lucia Highlands are slightly tempered in ripeness and show a little more structure and finesse than is usually the case, and nowhere is this made so clear than in what is one of the better balanced Pisoni Pinot Noirs.

Connoisseurs' Guide, June 2010

PREVIOUS VINTAGE SCORES

2007	92 points, Wine Enthusiast, October 2009 93 points, PinotReport, October 2009
2006	93 points, Wine Enthusiast, May 2008
2005	94 points, Wine Enthusiast, June 2007 93 points, PinotReport, February 2007
2004	93 points, Wine Enthusiast, December 2006 92 points, Connoisseurs' Guide, September 2006 92 points, PinotReport, April 2007
2003	92 points, Connoisseurs' Guide, June 2005
2002	93 points, PinotReport, November 2004 91 points, California Grapevine, August 2004 91 points, Wine Enthusiast, November 2004
2001	94 points, Wine & Spirits, June 2004 93 points, PinotReport, April 2004 90 points, Wine Spectator, April 2004
2000	92 points, Wine Enthusiast, October 2002
1998	98 points Connoisseurs' Guide - February 2001 92 points Wine Spectator - February 2001 90 points Wine & Spirits - February 2001



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Tasting notes from Bill Brosseau, Director of Winemaking:

Dark Red Color. This restrained Pinot Noir opens up with hints of cherry, cranberry, black pepper and anise. Upon further aeration, there is a touch of clove and orange blossoms. Sailing into the palate are rich layers of ripe cherry and cranberry, backed up by firm tannins and zesty acidity. There is immense structure to this wine and it has a finish that just does not stop, lending it to extended aging potential. Drink now through 2018.

Why is the Pisoni Vineyard special?

Gary Pisoni and his family have never wavered in their belief that Pinot Noir is the greatest red varietal on the planet and that the slopes of the Santa Lucia Highlands in the cool northern climes of California's Monterey County are the best place to grow Pinot Noir. His family's intense obsession with growing the world's best Pinot Noir shows in every bottle from their unique vineyard.

Flavor Profiles: Pisoni Vineyard Pinot Noir

Full bodied richness and fruit flavors of plum and black cherry dominate our Pisoni Vineyard Pinot Noir. The forward fruit is complemented by old world characteristics of earth, loam, and dried leaf. The long velvety finish of this wines shows hints of mocha and chocolate. A firm backbone of acidity ensures that this wine will age gracefully for ten years or more.

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 Bill Brosseau, our Director of Winemaking, 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 2008 Vintage

"The 2008 vintage was similar to 2007 except not as dry and warm. All of the fires across California lead to a fair amount of overcast days and thus, higher humidity. The wines have soft tannins and are quite approachable. Overall, I'm very pleased with this vintage. "

- Bill Brosseau, Director of Winemaking

Vineyard	Pisoni
Appellation	Santa Lucia Highlands, Monterey County
Owner	Pisoni Family
Year planted	1992
Acreage (for Testarossa)	1 acre
Yield	2.0 tons per acre
Soil composition	Decomposed granite & clay
Elevation	1200 feet
Exposure	Southeasterly-facing slopes
Climate	Summer daytime temperatures from 75 to 85 degrees; between 50 to 55 degrees at night.
First Testarossa vintage	1997
Harvest	2008
Sugar	27.1
Total acidity	7.02 g/l
pH	3.40
Date harvested	9/08/2008
Bottle:	
Alcohol	14.5%
Total acidity	6.72g/l
pH	3.49
Bottling date	12/03/2009
Time in oak	14 months
Percent new oak	50%
Production	126 cases
Suggested retail price	\$65/bottle
Opt. time for consumption	2010-2018

