



Testarossa Vineyards

LOS GATOS • CALIFORNIA

2003 Palazzo Pinot Noir

92
points

Black cherry and plum flavors. Big and rich, this Pinot has the balance and structure to age, but it's drinking so well now you'll be sorely tempted.
PinotReport - April 2005

91
points

This wine feels balanced and tastes delicious. Deep tones of forest berries and rich texture are still light enough for any fish off the grill.
Wine & Spirits - June 2005

90
points

Rich, spicy, oaky notes and extracted ripe cherry fruit seasoned with hints of caramel and toast. Full of flavor and youthful energy. Think about enjoying it over the next few years.
Connoisseurs' Guide - February 2005



2002

92
points

Ruby color, spicy, savory red cherry aromas with a hint of oak; good structure, balanced with a long finish. Silky texture and complex flavors make this great for anything with mushrooms - either over a steak or with pasta.
PinotReport - April 2004

★★★★

90
points

Extremely well balanced, this is a fine blend, with spicy, fruity, toasty aromas and flavors, and a very long finish. Best version yet of this wine.
Restaurant Wine - January 2004

2001

90
points

Lush plum flavors, dried spice, a velvety mouthfeel, good structure and balance and long finish. A terrific wine in the Testarossa style.
PinotReport - May 2003

2000

90
points

Some spice and plum on nose; bright plum and black cherry flavors, dried fruit and spice, great silky mouthfeel, terrific balance and long finish. An outstanding Pinot.
PinotReport - July 2002



Passion in Every Glass!

2003 Palazzio Pinot Noir

Tasting notes from winemaker Bill Brosseau:

The 2003 Palazzio Pinot Noir is a blend of all our our ultra-premium vineyards. It displays intense notes of cherry, strawberry, and spice enveloped by a smooth and creamy lingering mouthfeel. This is our silkiest, most hedonistic Palazzio Pinot Noir to date.

What is Testarossa's Palazzio Pinot Noir?

The name Testarossa (Italian for "red-head") was Rob's nickname while a University student in Assisi, Italy almost 20 years ago. We named our flagship Pinot Noir "Palazzio" (a derivation of the Italian word for "Palace") to continue the theme we started with our Castello ("Castle") Chardonnay.

Flavor Profiles: Palazzio Pinot Noir

Palazzio Pinot Noir is a blend of several vineyards which combines more forward "California style" fruit from Santa Barbara, with more "old world style" Pinot Noir from Monterey to create a blend that combines rich forward, sweet red fruit flavors, with an underlying backbone of minerals and firm acidity. It is a wine that is praised not only for its exceptional quality but also its great value.

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.

Vineyards	Bien Nacido, Brosseau, Clos Pepe, Garys', Michaud, Rosella's, Sleepy Hollow, Sonatera
Appellations	Santa Maria Valley, Santa Rita Hills, Santa Lucia Highlands, Chalone, Sonoma Coast
Years planted	1973 through 1999
Average yield	2.4 tons per acre
Harvest	2003
Average sugar	25.3
Average total acidity	6.5g/l
Average pH	3.55
Dates harvested	9/3-10/9/2003
Bottle:	
Alcohol	14.3%
Total acidity	6.0g/l
pH	3.63
Bottling date	11/2/2004
Time in oak	13 months
Percent new oak	50%
Production	2,291 cases
Release date	February 2005
Suggested retail price	\$32/bottle, \$17/375mL
Opt. time for consumption	2005-2010

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300-A College Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030
phone 408.354.6150
fax 408.354.8250

wine@testarossa.com
testarossa.com
Tasting Room Open
11 am to 5pm Daily