



Fourth Estate Wines
2009 Pinot Noir
Bacigalupi Vineyard
Russian River Valley

This meticulously farmed vineyard on the bank of the Russian River has a permanent place in Northern California's wine lore, growing fruit that helped Chateau Montelena win the 1976 Judgment of Paris. In 2009, Charles and Helen Bacigalupi's grapes yielded a round and concentrated Fourth Estate Pinot Noir, with the distinctive richness of the Russian River Valley.

Vintage characteristics: 2009 was Northern California's best Pinot Noir vintage in seven years. A warm, consistent growing season evenly ripened the fruit, including the Wente clone that gives this wine its character.

Clones: 66% Wente, 34% Pommard

Average Brix at Harvest: 25.6

Fermentation regime: 100% punch-down fermentation in one-ton lots. Five-day cold soak, 10-day fermentation, extended maceration.

Barrel Regime: Barrel aged for 11 months in 100% French oak, 35% of which was new (Cadus, Remond, Francois-Freres.)

Total production: 141 cases

Alcohol: 14.5%

Release date: May 2011

Winemaker notes: Its forest-floor and dark-fruit flavors prove the wine couldn't have come from any other place in the world. We set out to let the vineyard speak, and the wine's flavors recall sunny days and cool nights along Westside Road, where lush vines tumble down to the river.