

SPELL

2012 Terra de Promissio

Pinot Noir | Sonoma Coast



The Terra de Promissio Vineyard is owned and managed by Charles and Diana Karren with the help of Diana's parents it is a true family operation. Planted in 2002 to Pinot Noir clones 777 and 115 it is located east of Petaluma on a rolling hill in what is unofficially referred to as the Petaluma Gap of the Sonoma Coast AVA. Buffeted by cold maritime winds the fruit ripens slowly and produces wines of exceptional elegance and purity.

Dark violet in color, aromas of cherry, strawberry, oats, all spice, anise, sassafras add to a brooding quality in the glass. Flavors of cranberry and pomegranate hinting towards darker fruit and forest duff sweep across the palate. Balanced by smooth tannins and perfect acidity flavors of black cherry and bitter chocolate seem to linger for an eternity. Drink now or over the next 5 to 7 years.

Oak: 100% French;
40% new, 25% once used and 35% older

Harvest Dates: October 11, 2012

Bottled: August 8, 2013

Alc: 14.3%

148 Cases produced | Released January 1, 2014

91 points | Stephen Tanzer's IWC

(40% new oak): Vivid ruby. Pungent, mineral-tinged dark berry and cherry-cola scents are deepened by suggestions of mocha and black cardamom. Sweet black raspberry and floral pastille flavors expand with air and pick up suggestions of smoke and allspice. The spice and cola qualities carry through a clinging finish firmed by youthfully chewy tannins. This wine has a fairly high pH of 3.69 but I don't detect any undue or unwelcome weight.

(JR)

90 points | Pinotfile

"Clone 115. Aged in 40% new, 25% once used and 35% older French oak barrels. Moderately dark reddish-purple hue in the glass. Very appealing nose with highly aromatic raspberry coulis scent. Beguiling middleweight flavors of fresh, dark cherries and raspberries, enveloped in submerged tannins, finishing long and generous with zippy acidity. Highly satisfying and easy to drink now." Reviewed February 22, 2014