

ISABEL MONDAVI

2012 Estate Pinot Noir Reserve

VINTAGE NOTES

2012 was a stand-out vintage in Carneros. Spring was mild with bud break, flowering and fruit set all taking place without issue. Summer and fall brought warm temperatures, but no heat waves, and the cool Carneros evenings allowed the fruit to enjoy a long, slow ripening

WINEMAKING

2012 IM Reserve PN single barrel selection

The Gallery Vineyard is 7 acres of Pinot Noir, of which 3ac is Swan Clone and 4ac is Dijon Clone. Our Dijon clone vines (86% of blend) were picked on September 28th and our Swan clone vines (14% of blend) were picked on October 3rd as the vines ripen at different rates. The picked fruit was carefully selected on a vibrating sorting table and then de-stemmed and crushed prior to a three day cold soak. Following fermentation in stainless steel tanks with native yeast, the fermented must is gently basket pressed for careful extraction of tannin and color. The wine was aged for 10 months in Boutes and Francois Freres French oak barrels (45% new).

100% Pinot Noir

5.73g/l total acidity; 3.61 pH; 14.4% alc. by vol.

TASTING NOTES

The classic Pinot Noir aroma of soft forest floor mingled with fresh chanterelles and sweet pea flower petals establish the theme of the wine. Firm raspberry and raw coco nibs richly coat the pallet yet give way to the crisp black cherry base. The warmth is provided by the barrels subtle caramel influence while a mysterious glimmer of roasting cardamom and caraway find their way into the glass. As a whole the wine has an exception aromatic quality that established a foundation for the wines pallet which is richly complex, welcoming and beyond all satisfying.

