

2005 Deer Park Vineyard Pinot Noir

The Vineyard:

Located in the Santa Cruz Mountains near the town of Aptos, the Deer Park Vineyard is owned by the Dan Lester Family. The vineyard is planted to Dijon clones 115, 667, 777 as well as Clone 37 (Mount Eden), and the Swiss Clones 2A and 23. Because of the Deer Park Vineyard's close proximity of the Monterey Bay, the grapes are able to attain full physiological ripeness without excessive brix levels, resulting in wines of exceptional intensity and balance.



The Vintage:

Fruit set was moderate due to the natural thinning of late spring rains. The cool growing season was interrupted by two distinct heat waves that sent the winemakers scrambling. The grapes were harvested on September 28th.

Winemaking:

The grapes were 100% de-stemmed and lightly crushed into small open-topped fermenters. The must was chilled to 55 degrees Fahrenheit and cold soaked for four to six days. According to traditional methods, punch downs are performed daily by hand. After fermentation the wine was pressed off directly into French oak barrels where it underwent malo-lactic fermentation and was aged for 11 months on the lees.

The Wine:

Deep ruby color, with seductive aromas of smoky toast, ripe black fruits and a very distinctive spicy note that is characteristic of the clone 37. Supple texture and a long finish. Drink now or cellar up to 5 years.

Technical Data:

Production	140 cases	Release Date	December 1, 2006
Alcohol	14.5 % by vol.	Ageing	10 months in French oak barrels (40% new)
Bottle Size	750 ml	Suggested Retail	\$33.00

Suggested Food Pairings:

This wine pairs well with grilled steak, pasta, ripe cheeses and certain seafood items.