



La Fenêtre

2011 Bien Nacido Pinot Noir,
Santa Maria Valley

I founded La Fenêtre in 2005 after repeated trips to the Santa Barbara County wine country. After working with the wines professionally as a sommelier, and then visiting the winemakers and the places I loved it was time to get my hands dirty. I chose Santa Barbara because of its unique terroir which allows me to produce a range of varietals in a classic style.

—Joshua Klapper

About

Having apprenticed with some of California and the world's best winemakers, namely Jim Clendenen (Au Bon Climat), Bob Lindquist (Qupé), and Jim Adelman (Makor) a classic technique and delicate hand is always employed in the winery. All grapes are harvested around 23.5 brix (13.5-14% Alc.). Wherever possible, La Fenêtre is committed to sustainable, organic, and biodynamic vineyard practices. Reds are destemmed into 1½ ton fermenters and punched down by hand until dry. The free run juice is then collected, the must is gently pressed, and the wine is aged in small French barrels for 11-23 months before being bottled. Whites are whole cluster pressed, allowed to settle for one day and fermented in barrel where they undergo the alcoholic fermentation and then 100% Malolactic fermentation. They then spend 11-18 months in small French barrels before being bottled

The 2011 Bien Nacido vineyard Pinot Noir is a blend made from the classic bench section. Three different clones from three different blocks are the components of this ethereal vintage. The backbone of this wine comes from G block, one of the own-rooted sections planted in 1973. Because it is planted with East/West running rows, one side of

the vine gets very little direct sunlight, and the harmonious interplay between the riper and leaner make for an interesting winemaking experience. This means both great structure as well as flowery perfume. The rest of the wine is an even mix of clone 115 and 777 from N and Q blocks. The Dijon clones ripen slightly differently and add a bit of power and silkiness to the blend.

Dark garnet and slightly pale towards the rim, the nose smells earthy, but also has a lifted quality like a fine perfume. The nose exhibits hints of cinnamon, pine straw, shortbread cookies and semolina flour. There is also a floral note of rose and lilac. The palate hints of strawberry preserves, bright puckering acidity, and a long spicy finish. Drink 2014-2025+.

Technical Data

Vintage: 2011
Varietal: Pinot Noir
Vineyard: Bien Nacido Vineyard
Harvest Date: Throughout 9/2011
Harvest Brix: 23 Avg.
pH: 3.6
Élevage: 18 months
Cooperage: Francois Frères, 30% new
Bottled: March 2013
TA (g/100ml): 0.6
Alcohol: 13.2%
MLF: 100% Malolactic Fermentation
Production: 142 cases