



Birichino

Birichino St. Georges Pinot Noir 2021 is a vibrant and elegant expression of California's Central Coast, crafted from decades-old vines and showcasing a perfect balance of botanical freshness, red fruit intensity, and subtle mineral complexity.

Saint Georges Pinot Noir 2021

California, USA

BIRICHINO

Region and Vineyards

The **St. Georges Pinot Noir** draws its fruit primarily from the historic **Besson Family Vineyard**, located at the foot of the **Santa Cruz Mountains** near Gilroy, California. Planted decades ago, these vines benefit from a **meso-climate** that imparts vibrant notes of **cherry liqueur** and a distinctive **herbal raciness**.

Supplementing this base are select sites in the **Gabilan Range**, including the **Enz, Rodnick, and Boer Vineyards**. These vineyards, situated on soils rich in **limestone, dolomite, and granite**, contribute approximately **15% of the blend**, adding a stony, mineral-driven complexity to the wine. Together, these vineyards create a wine that reflects both the **terroir diversity** and the unique microclimates of the **Central Coast**.

Winemaking

The **2021 vintage** provided ideal growing conditions, with a late summer and fall free from heat spikes or adverse weather. Though yields were lower than expected, the result was fruit of exceptional **concentration** and detail.

In the cellar, Birichino adopted a minimalist approach to preserve the vibrant character of the Pinot Noir. Roughly **one-third of the stems** were included in the fermentation to enhance structure and aromatic complexity. After destemming, the stems were recombined with the fruit, and fermentation was conducted **spontaneously** with native yeasts.

Avoiding the use of **new oak, extended skin contact**, or prolonged oak aging, the wine was crafted to highlight its **bright fruit**, youthful energy, and an almost **alpine-like freshness**. This restrained winemaking ensures the purest expression of the vineyards and the vintage.



Alcohol :13,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Bright ruby red with garnet highlights.
- **Aroma:** A fragrant bouquet of **wild cherries, cranberries**, and subtle hints of **herbal botanicals**. Earthy undertones and a faint touch of **minerality** add depth and intrigue.
- **Palate:** Light to medium-bodied, offering flavors of **red berries, pomegranate**, and a whisper of **spice**. Fine, silky tannins and refreshing acidity lead to a clean, vibrant finish, with a lingering note of **stone and herbal freshness**.

Did You Know?

The **Besson Family Vineyard**, planted decades ago, is a key site for **St. Georges Pinot Noir**. Located near Gilroy on the **western edge of the Santa Cruz Mountains**, its vines are deeply rooted in history and the region's terroir, contributing to the wine's signature raciness and complexity.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Herb-crusted salmon:** The wine's vibrant acidity and fresh fruit flavors complement the richness of salmon and its herbal crust.
- **Duck breast with cherry reduction:** The red berry notes of the wine enhance the sweet-savory balance of this dish.
- **Mushroom risotto:** The earthy tones of the wine pair beautifully with the umami-rich flavors of mushrooms.
- **Roasted chicken with thyme and lemon:** The herbal undertones of the wine complement the savory and citrusy flavors of the dish.



Robert Parker (RP) : 89 Points (2021)

A more complete wine than the Pinot Noir Lilo Vineyard, the 2011 Pinot Noir Saint Georges offers up a beautiful bouquet of ripe black cherries, crushed stone minerality and underbrush to go with a medium-bodied, supple, beautifully balanced palate. Already delicious, it should evolve gracefully through 2019. Drink now-2019.



Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 91 Points (2018)

Composed mostly from older vines at Besson, near Gilroy, this is sappy and bright, with scents of turf and strawberry and a bit of orange zest to brighten the edges. The flavors are light and crunchy, coastal through and through; for roast trout. Best Buy



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