



Orin Swift

Meticulously blended from top vineyard sites across the state, this wine reflects the kaleidoscopic character of California terroir through the lens of Pinot Noir.

Slander Pinot Noir 2022

California, USA

ORIN SWIFT

Region and Vineyards

California offers a patchwork of microclimates ideal for growing Pinot Noir, and Orin Swift draws from some of the state's finest cool-climate appellations to craft Slander. In 2022, the fruit was sourced from a diverse selection of sites, including **Rancho Real in Santa Barbara County, Annapolis in Sonoma, Del Rio, and Laguna Ridge**, among others. Each contributes a unique aromatic and structural component to the final wine.

These vineyards benefit from maritime influence, long growing seasons, and well-drained soils—conditions that allow for slow, even ripening while retaining acidity and aromatic nuance. Santa Barbara lends bright red fruit and florals; Sonoma's coastal ranges contribute minerality and structure. Together, they shape a Pinot that is both varietally true and unmistakably Californian in scale and style. The blend is a harmonious mosaic—each parcel vinified individually before being skillfully assembled.

Winemaking

Slander 2022 is composed entirely of **Pinot Noir**, a notoriously delicate and expressive grape that demands careful handling in both vineyard and cellar. Following harvest, each vineyard lot underwent separate fermentation, allowing the winemaking team to preserve site-specific characteristics before final blending.

The wine was matured for **eight months in French oak barrels**, with **37% new oak**, lending a subtle spice framework and adding depth without overshadowing the wine's brightness. Bottled at **15.4% alcohol**, Slander maintains balance through its fresh acidity and layered fruit profile. True to Orin Swift's hallmark style, the wine offers immediate approachability while rewarding short-term cellaring.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Medium ruby core with a nearly translucent rim—vivid and inviting.
- **Aroma:** Opens with bing cherry, briar fruit, and raspberry, evolving into ripe strawberry and hints of red florals and earth.
- **Palate:** Juicy and enveloping on entry with flavors of fresh strawberry, watermelon, thyme, and a touch of wild funk. Finishes with subtle spice, blue fruit undertones, and a refreshing lift.



Alcohol :15,40 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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Did you know?

While Orin Swift is often associated with bold Cabernet-based blends, *Slander* showcases the house's deft hand with Pinot Noir—a grape known for its sensitivity and elegance. The name “Slander” playfully references the grape's reputation among winemakers as capricious and difficult, but here, it's a celebration of its expressive potential when grown and vinified with intent.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Seared Duck Breast with Cherry Reduction:** Echoes the wine's red fruit profile and highlights its supple texture.
- **Grilled Salmon with Herbed Couscous:** Enhances the wine's brightness and herbal nuance.
- **Mushroom Risotto:** A savory pairing that draws out the wine's earthy and spiced dimensions.
- **Brie or Époisses:** Soft, creamy cheeses offer a lush counterpart to the wine's acidity and fruit core.



Robert Parker (RP) : 87 Points (2022)

Orin Swift's 2022 Pinot Noir Slander is a blend of fruit from the Santa Lucia Highlands and Russian River Valley. Bold and fruit forward, it offers up scents of cherries and raspberries on the nose, then delivers a creamy, lush mouthfeel. It lacks a bit of varietal character, finishing warm and soft on the finish (no real surprise, as it's labeled at 15.4% alcohol).

