



La Crema

Sourced from coastal vineyards shrouded in fog, this Pinot Noir offers balance, purity, and finesse, with layered aromas and a long, refined finish.

LA CREMA

92
JEB DUNNUCK



Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir 2022

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The Sonoma Coast AVA is defined by its proximity to the Pacific Ocean, where cool breezes and fog play a central role in the region's unique viticultural identity. These coastal influences lengthen the growing season, allowing Pinot Noir to develop nuanced aromatics, vibrant acidity, and textural refinement.

The 2022 growing season in Sonoma County presented several climatic challenges. A dry winter and warm February led to early budbreak, increasing the risk of frost. Spring and early summer were stable, but a **late August heatwave accelerated ripening**, initiating a compressed and rapid harvest. Yields for Pinot Noir were modest on the coast, yet **fruit quality was excellent**, with notable concentration, balanced acidity, and ripe tannin development. Harvest began on August 26, marking a decisive vintage shaped by contrast and intensity.

Winemaking

Grapes were **hand-harvested and gently destemmed**, with 70% whole berries retained in tank to preserve delicate aromatics and fruit purity. A 3–5 day cold soak at 9°C preceded fermentation in open-top tanks. During fermentation, the cap was punched down three times daily, maximizing gentle extraction of tannins and flavor.

Post-fermentation, the free-run wine was settled for one night before being transferred to **100% French oak barrels**, including **20% new oak**, for 5–6 months of aging. The wine remained on lees without racking until final blending, ensuring full aromatic integration and a textured, harmonious mouthfeel. Bottled on May 31, 2023, it reflects La Crema's signature **balance of fruit, spice, and structure**.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with translucent clarity and youthful vibrancy.
- **Aroma:** Expressive notes of raspberry, cranberry, black licorice, and exotic tea.
- **Palate:** Red cherry, boysenberry, and plum layered with espresso, cocoa nib, spice, and subtle toast. Firm yet polished tannins and bright acidity lead to a long, elegant finish.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir



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Did you know?

La Crema has been a benchmark for **cool-climate Pinot Noir in California since 1979**. This Sonoma Coast cuvée exemplifies the estate's philosophy of **terroir-driven winemaking**, with all vineyards managed under strict sustainability protocols.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck breast with cherry-port reduction:** Enhances the wine's red fruit and spice elements.
- **Wild mushroom risotto:** An earthy match for the wine's savory notes and umami richness.
- **Grilled salmon with pomegranate glaze:** A classic pairing that balances acidity and texture.
- **Roasted pork tenderloin with sage:** Complements the wine's cocoa and herbal nuances.

Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 92 Points (2022)



A more widely distributed wine starting with this vintage, the 2022 Pinot Noir has plenty of finesse and delicacy given the mountain fruit that goes into it, including some from the producer's Sable Mountain Vineyard, which adds intensity to the luxurious red fruit and baking spice that accent the well-integrated oak, refined tannins, and moderate length of this medium-bodied effort.

Wine Spectator (WS) : 91 Points (2022)



Offers a friendly mix of loganberry and damson plum allied to a bright, racy frame, with a nice piercing savory thread running through the finish. Drink now through 2028.

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 89 Points (2022)



A straightforward and clean example of Pinot from coastal Sonoma County. Savory mushroom, juicy maraschino cherry and fresh orange zest highlight the nose of this wine, while flavors of raspberry coulis and cocoa powder dominate the palate.



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