

RANCHO ONTIVEROS 2017 'NATIVE 9' PINOT NOIR RANCHO ONTIVEROS VINEYARD SANTA MARIA VALLEY, SANTA BARBARA

TASTING NOTES:

The 2017 Pinot Noir Rancho Ontiveros Vineyard is forward and luscious. Succulent red cherry, cedar, tobacco, dried flowers, licorice, mint and a dollop of new oak come together in a racy, impeccably balanced Pinot. This is the first vintage that incorporates Francois Freres barrels, and also to see a reduction in whole clusters from 100% to 50-60%. At the same time, winemaker Justin Willet has backed off on heavier extractions that defined the wines prior to his arrival. Those choices yield a Pinot that deftly balanced richness awith restraint.

WINERY INFO:

Native9 is the fulfillment of my own American story two centuries in the making. Tracing my roots back to the first men and women who settled in the Santa Maria Valley, I worked for hourly wages along with my parents to buy a small plot of land our ancestors' 8,900-acre Mexican land grant: a modest cattle ranch where I planted my 8-acre vineyard and a panoramic view of the land that had once been our own. Planted in 1997 by my own two hands with the help of friends and family while I attended Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Rancho Ontiveros Vineyard is now considered one of the finest sites for Pinot Noir in California. As a natural extension of my deeply personal vision for this vineyard, Native9 is made in small lots with a nod to both Old World sensibilities and New World stylistic freedom with the help of my longtime friend and vetted winemaker, Paul Wilkins and our new winemaker Justin Willet.

WINE STATS:

Clones: 113, 114, 115, Benedict, 1A, 2A, Swan, Pommard 5

Aging: 20 months in 66% New French Oak

Alcohol: 13.8%



Regular Price. . . \$59.99 CLUB CRUSH PRICE. . . \$53.99

ANCIEN WINERY 2019 PINOT NOIR CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY

TASTING NOTES:

The 2019 exhibits the expected mouthcoating texture that sets our Carneros Pinot Noir apart. In its youth it skews more to the spicy end of the spectrum with currants, orange spice and cocoa. Dark cherry and wild berry notes open with time in the glass and characteristic notes of anise. Subtle earth notes, hummus and truffles add interest as well as exotic hibiscus nuances. It is concentrated on the palate, exhibiting the structure of the vintage. The wine finishes long and savory inviting the next sip.

WINERY INFO:

Ancien Wines are made by Ken and Teresa Bernards. Ken focused on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in the 7 years he spent at Domaine Chandon - as Research Enologist and later as Associate Winemaker. Afterward, he honed his skills making the wines at Truchard Vineyards for four years, leaving after the harvest of 1997 to focus on Ancien. He continues to work as a consulting winemaker for a number of wineries. Teresa possesses many years of experience in all aspects of the wine industry, most recently serving as Associate Winemaker at Domaine Carneros.

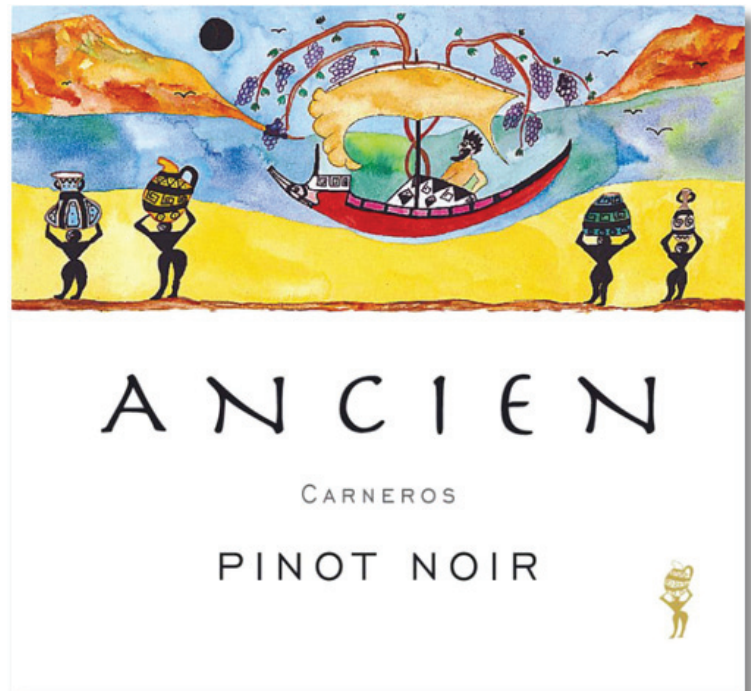
The 2019 Carneros Pinot Noir comes from the Toyon Vineyard, located in the Napa side of Carneros. This vineyard was originally planted for us in 1998 with cuttings tracing back to the Swan estate in Sonoma County and Dijon 115 - followed by cuttings from Ed Penhoet's vineyard in Carmel Valley. Ed's selection from Carmel Valley's River Ranch is a story into itself (ask us sometime!), known as the "River Ranch Clone" and now proprietary since Ed went through the tedious process of registering the clone and cleaning it of all virus.

WINE STATS:

Aging: 11 months French oak barrels (30 % new)

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 1,500 cases



Regular Price. . . . \$48.99 CLUB CRUSH PRICE. . . . \$44.09
