

BJØRNSTAD CELLARS

2006 van der Kamp Vineyard Pinot noir

Vineyard Notes

Martin, Dixie and Ulysses van der Kamp have been living, working, farming and making wine together on their vineyard, high atop Sonoma Mountain for some 40 years with some of the oldest Pinot noir vines in Sonoma County. They are passionate about their work and dedicated to producing extraordinary fruit for each of their winery relationships. I've been working with them since 1997 and look forward to more years together.

During the growing season, the high elevation of about 1150' presents an environment of relatively cool days and warm nights, providing a different ripening course from vineyards on the valley floor. The soil is a mix of loam within the Spreckles series. The van der Kamps have taken advantage of the opportunity to plant several clone and rootstock combinations across their property that allows the winemaker an opportunity to create a "blended" wine within the vineyard designate concept. Wines from this vineyard typically present smoky, meaty aromas around a solid core of cherries, supported by firm mountain tannins.

Tasting Notes

From the first pour, the lifted aromatics of this wine are varied and intriguing, inviting another visit. There are the pretty red fruit aromas of cherry, raspberry and the mixed fragrances of a wild berry patch. Next are the subtle, smoky, meaty aromas that are inherent to the van der Kamp Vineyard. Flavor follows fragrance seamlessly onto the round and rich palate, supporting these defined flavors with restrained oak and spice, ending with a firm finish.

Production: 2646 bottles

Release date: March 1, 2008

Suggested retail: \$50