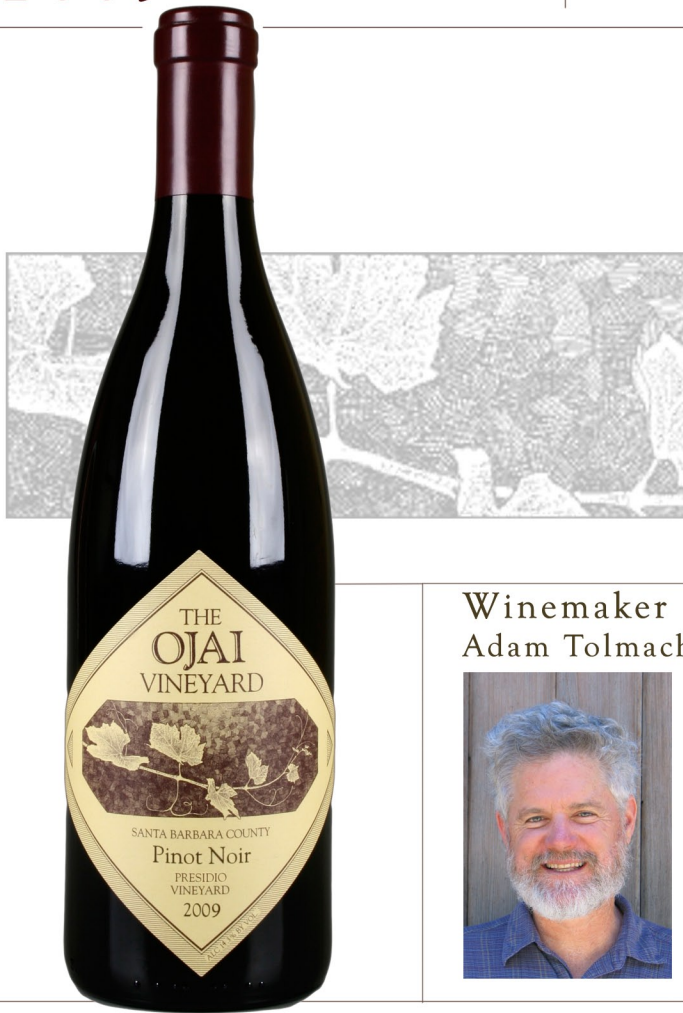


# 2009 Pinot Noir | Presidio Vineyard, Santa Barbara County



**Winemaker**  
Adam Tolmach



Blend: 100% Pinot Noir  
Vineyard: Presidio  
AVA: Santa Barbara County  
Alcohol: 14.3%  
Vinification: 30% New French Oak  
Barrel Aging: 16 Months  
Total Production: 108 Cases



## Winemakers Notes

There is plenty of controversy surrounding the concept of biodynamic farming but it is hard to disagree about the results in this case. Our 2009 Pinot Noir from Presidio Vineyard is just stunning! The aroma of raspberries wafts from a freshly poured glass, and as you delve in further there are scents of earth and spices: it is quite exotic! The flavors are particularly rich and savory for Pinot Noir, reminding me of our delicious 2007 special bottling from the same vineyard.

The grapes for this wine are from Doug Braun's lovingly farmed Presidio Vineyard, a property located west of the Santa Rita Hills appellation in Santa Barbara County. I find his vineyard compelling for a few reasons, first and foremost is the cool climate in which it is located. The lack of heat preserves the distinct character of the grapes-their struggle to ripen at this windy site produces their unique personality. The vineyard is situated in a great spot on a gentle southerly slope, and the vines are planted close together in very poor sandy soil. Doug's commitment to organic and biodynamic farming has been great for grape quality because successfully farming without the use of chemicals requires a special attentiveness to the needs of the vine, which has a direct bearing on what sort of quality the vines will produce. Although it's difficult to quantify all the differences between conventionally grown and biodynamically farmed fruit, perceptive growers I talk with think there are clear advantages to the natural approach. In any case this wine is a winner!

## Press Reviews

### Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

"Another rich, intense wine, the 2009 Pinot Noir Presidio is loaded with fruit. Soft, silky tannins frame a gently spiced finish laced with dark red cherries, plums and mint. The integration of oak (25% new), fruit and structure is superb."  
- AG

93

### Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Celler

"Bright ruby. The wildest of this set of pinots, offering intense red and dark berry, spice and potpourri scents with notes of musky herbs and cracked pepper. Stains the palate with sweet black raspberry and floral pastille flavors. Finishes juicy and focused, with excellent vivacity and length."  
- JR

93

### Burghound

"An alluring nose speaks of violet, anise, clove and dark cherries before sliding gracefully into delicious and distinctly suave middle weight flavors that are quite generous, indeed even opulent if not quite as well focused or deep as the Fe Ciega or the Kick On. There is however good length and overall this offers solid quality in a package that is notably more approachable at present."

89

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