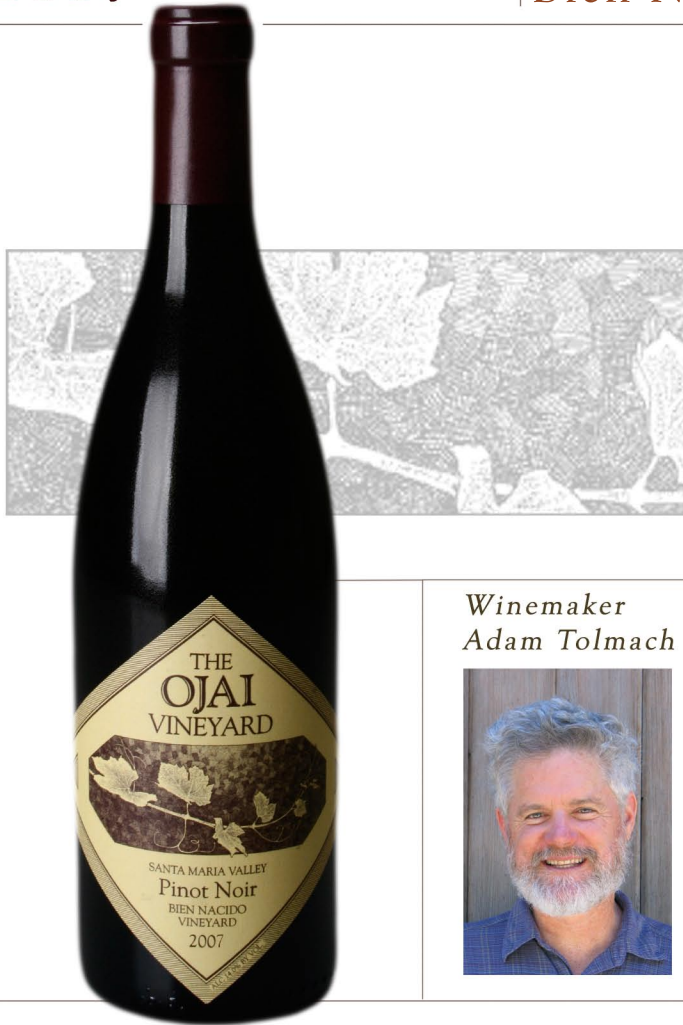


2007 Pinot Noir | Bien Nacido Vineyard, Santa Maria Valley



Winemaker
Adam Tolmach



Blend: 100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard: Bien Nacido
AVA: Santa Maria Valley
Alcohol: 13.5%
Vinification: 30% New French Oak
Barrel Aging: 14 Months
Total Production: 332 Cases

Winemakers Notes

I drink a fair amount of red Burgundy, and maybe it is my coarse palate, but I often taste wines that are so delicate and nuanced that I wonder if there is really anything there. The question arises: are these the emperor's new clothes? In the back of my mind when talking about subtlety lies the question of whether a wine is actually over-cropped and insipid.

This 2007 Bien Nacido pinot noir does have a certain delicacy, but in contrast to some too delicate Burgundies, it displays an enormous personality—this wine is fully clothed. **The aroma just knocks me out; flowers, sappy tart pie cherries, loamy earth—so much character!** The flavor profile is terrific, full of savory and briny notes, cranberry fruit and suave fine tannins. It may be a little shocking for those who have been nursed only on huge sweet California pinots, but for me it expresses the power one can get out of carefully farmed, perfectly ripe grapes picked at just the right moment.

Vinification

The fruit from this 38 year old vineyard was picked during the night to keep it cool. It arrived at the winery early in the morning and was destemmed without crushing the berries. The fruit was put in open top stainless steel vats and after a 5 day cold soak, the native yeast began fermenting. During that time we punched down (mixed) the vats by hand, and this continued until the fermentation was complete. The new wine was pressed and transferred to small French oak barrels for aging (30% were new). The wine was left untouched for the next 14 months, and then it was carefully racked off the sediment and bottled without filtration.

Bien Nacido Vineyard



Winery



THE
OJAI
VINEYARD

