

TAZ VINEYARDS  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
PINOT NOIR 2004



Natasha Boffman, Winemaker  
Harvested September 2-21, 2004  
pH: 3.71  
TA: 0.58g/100ml  
Alcohol 14.9%  
70% Fiddlestix Vineyard  
30% North Canyon Vineyard  
100% Pinot Noir

Our Santa Barbara County Pinot Noir is a best-of-both-worlds red wine. It takes two distinct expressions in Santa Barbara County blends them in a complimentary way, resulting in balanced wine with plenty of nuance. Fiddlestix Vineyard in Santa Rita Hills lends the wine a core of dark berry fruit, while the North Canyon Vineyard in Santa Maria Valley supplies a more perfumed, spicy, red fruit character. With this wine, we've taken a wide-angle snapshot of Santa Barbara County, a region known for its extended growing season, its coastal fogs and late afternoon breezes.

This is a county wine, but we handle it the same way we do our vineyard designate bottlings. We pick individual rows of individual blocks in Fiddlestix and North Canyon. We ferment whole berry in open top fermenters, keeping lots separate until it comes time to build the blend. My goal as winemaker is to do as little to the fruit coming in as I can. We have such terrific fruit sources that I don't want to take anything away from them through manipulation. Like all of the wines in the TAZ line-up, this is a wine made in the vineyard. Getting the flavors right before we pick makes the rest of the job easy.

*Limited Release of 3100 cases.*

