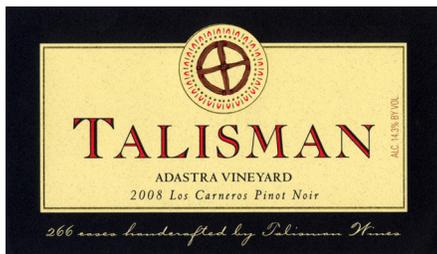


IN THE MARKET: Recent Pinot Noir Reviews — G.S. Walter

Scott Rich has been winemaker for the old Carneros Creek Winery and Etude; he's a successful consulting winemaker for wineries in Chile; he's worked as winemaker and general manager of Moraga Vineyards in Southern California. And, more to the point here, he and his wife Marta are also the founders and owners of Talisman Cellars in Sonoma, a small-lot Pinot Noir specialist winery. Scott's experience and intuition

about wine and Pinot in particular are reflected in his wines; they are soulful, deep expressions of the vineyard. Talisman's Pinot bottlings include a regional Carneros bottling and vineyard designates from the Spring Hill Vineyard in Sonoma Coast, Adastra Vineyard in Carneros, Gunsalus Vineyard in Russian River Valley and Red Dog Vineyard on Sonoma Mountain. They are texture-driven, age well and well worth your attention.

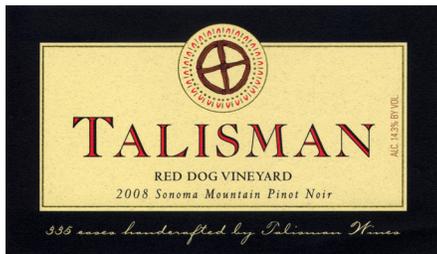


Adastra Vineyard 2008

Los Carneros Pinot Noir

Medium-deep ruby color; deep, complex, aromas of cherry, orange rind and lavender; deep, layered cherry and earthy flavors with savory spice and tea notes; sweet oak; good structure and balance; long finish. Deep and very complex Pinot that needs time to open up—pair with roasted grilled meats. 266 cases made.

94
POINTS

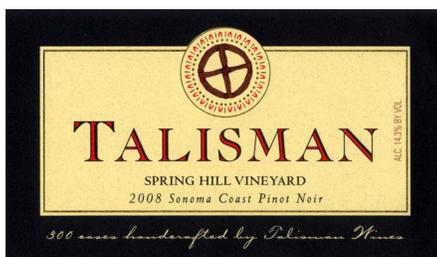


Red Dog Vineyard 2008

Sonoma Mountain Pinot Noir

Medium-deep ruby color; dark berry and cherry aromas with mineral and forest floor notes; dense, deep and complex dark cherry flavors with forest floor notes; moderate tannin and toasty oak; good structure and balance; long finish. Deep, dense and intense—and yet balanced Pinot with a lot under the hood! Perfect match for a hearty grilled steak.

94
POINTS

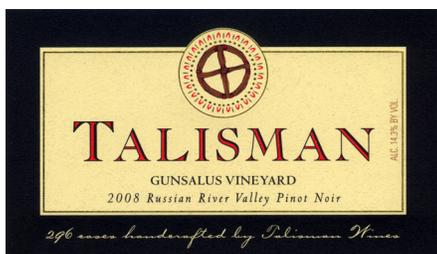


Spring Hill Vineyard 2008

Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

Medium-deep ruby color; deep, complex dark cherry and cinnamon aromas with some forest floor notes; complex dark cherry flavors with forest floor notes; some tannin and oak; good structure and balance; long finish. Complex, layered Pinot that needs time to open and will reward some cellar patience.

93
POINTS



Gunsalus Vineyard 2008

Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

Medium-deep ruby color; deep red cherry, spice and earthy aromas; rich red cherry flavors with sandalwood and earthy notes; lush texture; good structure and balance; long finish. Lush, deep Pinot with lots of layered flavors.

91
POINTS