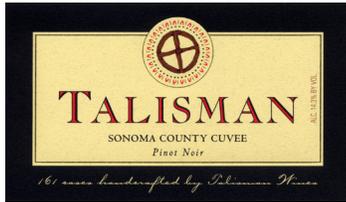




Talisman

2008 Talisman Sonoma County Cuvée Pinot Noir

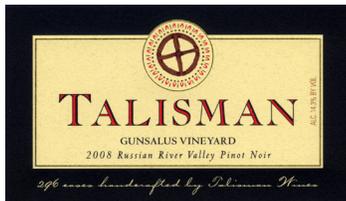


14.3% alc., pH 3.72, TA 0.62, 161 cases, \$32. A multi-vineyard blend selected from single-vineyard lots. Barrels of both 2007 and 2008 vintages went into this blend. Dijon 115, 777, Pommard and Swan. Aged 20 months in French oak barrels. • *Medium reddish-purple color in the glass. Very reserved aromatics offering hints of dark cherry compote and herbs. Earth-kissed flavors of black cherries and black raspberries clothed in mild ripe grape tannins and offering a refreshing cut of acidity on the finish. Still seems tight and I would decant if you open now. Soft in the mouth*

and easy to drink. Good. Reviewed 11.29.11



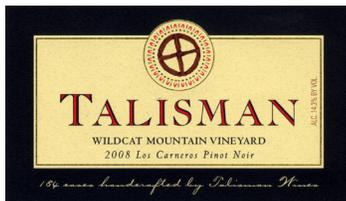
2008 Talisman Gunsalus Vineyard Russian River Valley Pinot Noir



14.3% alc., pH 3.78, TA 0.52, 296 cases, \$40. Pamela and Glen Gunsalus farm their vineyard located in the Green Valley of Russian River Valley. Dijon 114, 115, 667 and 777. 25% whole clusters, native fermentation. Aged 20 months in 75% new French oak barrels. • *Moderately deep reddish-purple color in the glass. Lovely perfume of fresh pie cherries, spice and herbs. Amazing depth of cherry and red raspberry flavor, accented with notes of saffras and baking spices. Long and creamy on the palate, finishing with a burst of sweet cherry fruit flavor that sails along. The flavors trump the*

aromas now, but further bottle aging should remedy that. Flat out beautiful and a worthy followup to the spectacular 2007 bottling from this vineyard. Reviewed 11.29.11

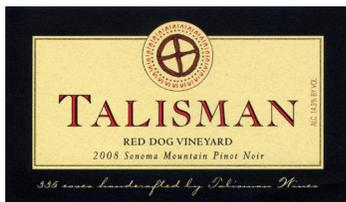
2008 Talisman Wildcat Mountain Vineyard Los Carneros Pinot Noir



14.3% alc., pH 3.75, TA 0.59, 184 cases, \$45. Highest elevation vineyard in Los Carneros. An extreme, cool site exposed to the wind from San Pablo Bay. Red pebbly clay loam soils. Swan, Pommard, Dijon 115 and 777. Aged 20 months in 86% new French oak barrels. • *Moderate reddish-purple color in the glass. A very divisive wine because of its feral and savory components. Aromas of wild strawberries, black cherries, spice and subtle ash. Silky on the palate with discreetly concentrated flavors of red cherries and berries with a hint of spice and truffle. Oak-driven smoke and tar*

are evident. Considerably better the following day from a previously opened and re-corked bottle with brighter and fruitier aromatics and less oak-driven attributes. Good (+) but may warrant a higher recommendation in a few years as the high percentage of new oak becomes better integrated into the wine. Reviewed 11.29.11

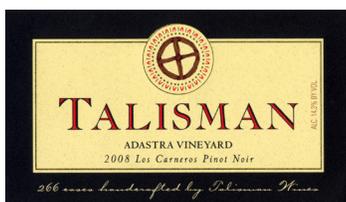
2008 Talisman Red Dog Vineyard Sonoma Mountain Pinot Noir



14.3% alc., 335 cases, \$48. This vineyard is located high above Bennett Valley at 1200 feet elevation on the northwestern side of Sonoma Mountain. 100% Pommard 4 clone. • *Moderately dark reddish-purple hue in the glass. An array of perfectly ripe purple and black fruits rise from the glass. Savory and earthy, edgy and raunchy, with a subtle tarry note in the background. Moderately dense with ripe, well-proportioned tannins and a dreamy finish. A wine of character that shows its individuality in each vintage. Very good (+).* Reviewed 04.04.12



2008 Talisman Adastra Vineyard Los Carneros Pinot Noir



14.3% alc., 266 cases, \$50. This vineyard is organically farmed by Chris Thorpe and his son-in-law Edwin Richards. Clones are Wädenswil, Dijon 113 and Pommard. • *Moderately dark in color. Appealing aromas of blackberries, boysenberries and exotic woods. Delicious core of black plum and blackberry fruit that cloaks the firm structure producing a sleek mouth feel and impressive finishing strength. A man's wine that is yet condescending and soft on the palate. Still alluring the following day from a previously opened and re-corked bottle. I wanted to hug this wine.* Reviewed 04.04.12