

AQUINAS { a·kwine·əs }



VARIETAL COMPOSITION

Pinot Noir

96% Pinot Noir
4% Petite Sirah

APPELLATION

Napa County, California
Sonoma County, California

WINEMAKER

Greg Kitchens

OAK AGING

12 months

OAK SOURCING

100% French Oak
60% New, 40% Seasoned

VINTAGE

ALCOHOL

14.5%

PH

3.62

TA

5.9 g/L

UPC

8 33302 00106 8

2013 PINOT NOIR

BRAND PHILOSOPHY

Aquinas wines were born from our conviction that good wine, one of life's simple pleasures, should be easily accessible to all. In championing this philosophy we didn't take the easy route. We headed straight for the esteemed appellations of the North Coast—Napa and Sonoma counties, where we began crafting luxurious wines that would be priced within reach of most wine drinkers.

Aquinas wines are named in tribute of St. Thomas Aquinas, a revolutionary philosopher of the 13th century who used scientific methods to try to prove the existence of a "higher being." Just as St. Thomas sought to question the assumptions of his world, we seek to challenge the assumptions of ours.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2013 Aquinas Pinot Noir is an intensely aromatic wine displaying notes of sweet cherry, Tahitian vanilla crème brûlée and raspberry compote. It has a remarkably rich fruit flavor of sweet cranberry and pomegranate, both nuances of Napa, along with sour cherry and a pleasant earthiness, contributions from the Sonoma Coast. Bright acidity leads some of the fruit flavors to have a tart edge followed by a hint of dried lavender and a delicate touch of French oak to round out the palate. The addition of Petite Sirah gives mid-palate weight to this bright, medium-bodied wine. The earthiness of mushroom risotto will highlight the fruit characters of this wine, while the robust acidity and aromatic qualities are a perfect complement to white pizza with fresh herbs.

APPELLATION

Napa is recognized as one of the top wine regions in the United States, unique for the diversity of soils found in such a small geographical area. Its maritime climate of warm days and cool nights coupled with deep, yet not excessively fertile soils make it ideally suited for the cultivation of ultra-premium grapes. The first grapes were planted here in 1838 and today Napa accounts for four percent of California's total wine production focusing primarily on the top end of the wine market.

Sonoma County borders Napa Valley along the Mayacamas Range in the east and Mendocino in the north. The region offers diverse environments including valley, hillside, moist ocean coast, dry inland, cool southern regions and warmer northern areas. A vastly diverse range of topography, distinct microclimates and small valleys, along with cooling maritime influence and moderate climate are part of why Sonoma County is said to embody a perfectly balanced environment for grape growing.

VINTAGE

Winemakers have heralded the 2013 harvest's outstanding quality. Ideal conditions prompted bud break much earlier than expected; the warm, dry spring provided for consistent flowering and fruit set throughout the valley. Vine activity was at its peak due to steady temperatures, and with only one heat spike, the grapes were able to mature on the vines as predicted and preferred. Yields were above average and first pick for most varietals happened about two weeks earlier than the usual; for most growers, this was the earliest pick in a quarter of a century. Cool nights and gentle winds increased quality across the board and helped create wines with personality and complex character.