



2006 Siduri Clos Pepe Vineyard Pinot Noir

The Clos Pepe Vineyard has, at least in the way we view it, many similarities to the Garys' Vineyard. Clos Pepe is incredibly popular, remarkably well known, and has over the years undoubtedly produced some of our best Pinot Noirs. But we too feel that there is improvement that can be made in the wines from this cool, Santa Rita Hills location.

However, in 2006 we needed to approach the entire process differently than at Garys'. Despite waiting until mid-October to pick, we didn't feel that the stems were ripe enough to utilize whole cluster fermentation. Instead, we decided to bleed off a bit of juice from one of our two sections (the pond, not the hillside) and to increase the cold soak time to seven days. We also let all of the fermentations happen on their own with their own indigenous yeasts. Finally, we decided to let the wine age in barrel longer than many of the other wine—not bottling until January of 2008.

The resulting Clos Pepe Pinot Noir is one of the better wines that we have produced from the vineyard. Big and rich, but never “over-the-top,” we believe this is a Clos that will improve with some time in bottle. *Wine Spectator* rated this wine **91 Points** and said this, “sleek, elegant and refined, showing a mix of dried currant, black cherry, herb and light cedary oak, with hints of spice and herb. Impressive for its balance, depth, restraint, and complexity.”

91 points *Wine Spectator*

483 cases produced

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Siduri Wines

980 Airway Ct., Ste. C

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

707-578-3882 ph.

707-578-3884 fx.

www.siduri.com