



Annabella 2010 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

100% Pinot Noir
80% Sonoma Coast
20% Russian River Valley
Aged 12 months in French Oak

This deep raspberry colored Pinot Noir stems from some of the best Pinot Noir vineyards in California found in the Sonoma Coast AVA. The wine's aromas are reminiscent of a fine Gevrey Chambertin in that it contains bright cherry fruit but is balanced over an earthy, leathery texture. Similarly, the palate unfolds with exotic spice flavors of tea leaf, clove and star anise and then folds daftly into rich and generous French oak lactone flavors and textures while maintaining its age-worthy acidity within.

I like drinking Pinot Noir regardless of food; it is the sole noble varietal that when done well, needs nothing else. But, in the spirit of avoiding a really boring dinner party here is my pick: a slice of goat cheese tart with sun-dried tomato paste and a mesclun salad tossed with a champagne vinaigrette, caramelized onions and slivered mushrooms.

While drinkable now, this wine will age nicely through 2020.