

# MEIOMI

## *Belle Glos*

From the dense fogs and brilliant sun, to the high winds and drifting mists, along with a diverse terrain, California's coast presents many challenges to wine grape growers. But when everything goes right, it also presents a generous reward to winemakers.

Meiomi Pinot Noir is crafted by turning the hardships the coastal vineyards offer into opportunities. They say the hardest work of all is making something look easy, and Meiomi smoothly brings the best characteristics of three appellations into a deeply-flavored, stylish and truly balanced wine.

The name Meiomi, (pronounced May-oh-mee) was chosen as an expression of its source. The word means "coast" in the language of the native Wappo and Yuki tribes, and our wine draws its profile from the abundant choices presented along California's cool, lengthy Pacific border.

Each vineyard source is located within the sought after Region I areas; These are the coolest growing regions along the California coast and the optimum locations for this temperamental, early ripening varietal. The 2009 vintage saw amazingly consistent weather in each of the locales with above average hang-time leading to balanced, concentrated fruit that was respectful of its source.

After years of producing Pinot Noir using the subtle characteristics of the coastal appellations, we know it starts with choosing vineyards that vividly represent each area. Sonoma's bright berry flavors and minerality; Santa Barbara's spice notes and silky texture; and Monterey's opulence and earthy quality contribute to the broad yet balanced profile of Meiomi.

For this vintage, our fruit was 47% sourced from Sonoma County grapes; 34% from Santa Barbara County; and 19% from Monterey County. When married together, the wine becomes a vibrant, food-friendly blend. After nine months in French oak barrels – 60 percent new – the wine is approachable and ready to drink upon release. The twist top allows Meiomi to be easily enjoyed, presenting a great drinking wine for any occasion — at an affordable price.

My family has a knack for scouting and farming great vineyards to set the foundation of a great wine. In that mindset, we craft Meiomi to be everything a great Pinot Noir should be: rich, supple, spicy and succulent. Each note of the appellation is there, but the wine conjures up a location of its own.

**Joseph J. Wagner**  
Winemaker/ Viticulturist

**2009 Tasting Notes:** Bright, deep garnet color. Aromas of cola, blackberries and a sweet cedar note. A greatly layered palette abundant in flavor and texture. The first entry incases the mouth with a velvety richness. Then the wine unloads with flavors of bright cherry, cola, dried leaves undertoned with vanilla, leather and high style oak. The many layers emerge independently, then refocus while the supple tannins carry the wine through to a lingering, succulent finish.

**Release date:** November 2010

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