PINOT NOIR 2008



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 tests 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 lengthy Pacific border.

The idea for this style of Pinot Noir was originally produced under the "Sonoma Coast" label, with grapes sourced solely from the vineyards of that region. This 2008 vintage of Meiomi introduces a blend of Pinot Noir grapes from some of the most sought-after wine-growing areas in Region I; the coolest growing region along the California coast and the optimum location for this temperamental varietal. As with all wines from Belle Glos, we bring the same care and commitment to this blend as we do to our signature single-vineyard wines.

I've had years of experience producing Pinot Noir using the subtle characteristics of the coastal appellations, choosing vineyards that vividly represent Sonoma's bright berry flavors and minerality; Santa Barbara's spice notes and silky texture; and Monterey's opulence and earthy quality.

For this vintage, our fruit was 65% sourced from Sonoma Coast grapes; 20% from Monterey County; and 15% from Santa Barbara County, easily combining into 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.

Meiomi continues 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/Vineyardist

2008 Tasting Notes

Deep garnet color. Luxurious and dynamic aromas of ripe strawberry, bright cherry and faint notes of spicy oak and vanilla. The complexity of the palate smoothly layers rich red currant notes and baking spice flavors with light smoke, earth and leather. A balanced, velvety texture and supple tannins carry the wine through to a lingering, succulent finish.

Release date: October 2009 www.meiomiwines.com