



W. H. SMITH 2003 MARITIME VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

The Vineyards:

The 2003 Maritime Ridge Pinot Noir is the 2nd release from this vineyard, which is located just 5 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Named Maritime Ridge by the Smiths, this vineyard sits on a ridge far above the town of Cazadero on a south-facing slope that benefits from long days of direct sun and the coastal fog that wends its way up through Marshall Creek. The Maritime Vineyard is neighbor to Marcassin, Flowers, David Hirsch, and the Hellenthal Vineyard all located in the Sonoma Coast Appellation.

The Wine:

These closely spaced vines yielded barely more than a ton per acre in 2003, bringing tremendous intensity to the finished wine. A blend of 7 different clones, it is a beautiful amalgam of flavors—including gobs of brambly, juicy blackberries, plum and cherry, with notes of mocha and spice. Textured and full this wine displays all aspects of the dense brooding power of fruit from the Maritime Ridge Vineyard. For added pleasure try aerating the wine an hour or so before dinner. Delicious!

Technical Information:

Appellation: Sonoma Coast

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Fermentation: Cold soaked for 7 days; fermented on skins until dry; natural yeasts

Aging: 10 months in used French oak

Alcohol: 14.5%

Age of Vines: 5 years

Harvested: September 18 - September 21, 2003

Bottled: July 21, 2004

Production: 581 cases of 750 ML

Release Date: September 1, 2005