



Firm, intense and full bodied, the 2009 Salsipuedes shows dark fruit and earth, with hints of cinnamon and sassafras in the nose. In tasting, the sappy, juicy flavors in this young pinot noir are delicious upfront, with cherry and blackberry flavors that have both spicy character and ripeness to the fruit. Tannin is evident in both the dark color and lengthy finish, with cedar and tea leaf flavored tannins that are persistent and leave a mineral, aftertaste.

This wine is similar to the 2008 wine in reflecting the characteristic spicy tea and bright fruit that the Cargasacchi-Jalama vineyard consistently produces. Again the wine is a blend primarily of the Dijon clones 114 and 115, which were selected in Morey-Saint-Denis of Burgundy's Cote de Nuits, and blended with the California heritage selection known as "Martin Ray" aka "Mt. Eden."

Vintage: 2009 follows two previous drought years and was the third successive year with rainfall that was significantly below normal. The vines started and ended the season with depleted soil moisture. The canopies were small and the fruit carried by the vines was marked by much smaller than normal berry size. The tiny clusters and small berry size produced a concentrated and richly flavored wine with remarkable balance that reflects both the character of the vintage and the terroir/site expression of Cargasacchi-Jalama vineyard. 2009 was a great pinot noir vintage.

With all its opulent fruit-forward character, flavor and richness, this is a bottle that you will want to open and drink by itself. The sappy, rich fruit sings in your mouth and will keep bringing you back for a sip. Nevertheless, this wine is balanced with excellent acidity and tannin giving it great structure that will make you want to pop and pour it with a nice steak, cut of lamb or other rich food. This is a wine that can be enjoyed while dining, relaxing or entertaining.

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