



2001 DOMAINE ALFRED CHAMISAL VINEYARD DOMAINE PINOT NOIR

Domaine Alfred is a young winery, born from a tradition of excellence, merged with innovative approaches and blessed by the wonders of the Central California coast. The winery produces Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Syrah wines, along with selective specialty wines. All wines are estate bottled.

The 2001 harvest was our sixth leaf from the replanted vineyard of Chamisal. The year in the vineyard started with bud break in late February. It was a late frost year with damage occurring in April. In 2000 the rains forgot to come, requiring irrigation in June whereas usually we don't irrigate until August. Harvest started on September 10, 2001. Pinot Noir grape picking was completed by October 1.

This also was the first year that enough knowledge of the vineyard allowed us to micro-manage the various clones. Picking timing required diligence, making sure that the grapes were mature enough to be able to give the flavors and taste that was required. The challenge was to pick high quality fruit, not rotted or decaying. Our farming methodology proved to be wise. Diligent scientific techniques were used to tackle the main destroyers of the grapes, mildew, botrytis and bunch rot. Leaf pulling and severe canopy maintenance were two main weapons in this fight.

Style:	California
Vineyard Data:	Vertical trellis, Verasion 100% week of August 10th
Fermentation Type:	Open top fermenters
Yeast:	Assmanhaussen, Native
Cooperage:	60% new French oak; 40% 1 and 2 year old French oak
Clarification:	Unfiltered, Unfined
Case Production:	1875 cases
Release Date:	November 1, 2003

Wine Makers Notes: Floral, fresh and fruity aromas lead to ripe, supple cherry and blackberry texture on the palate. The rich, fruity finish lingers as it flows to inner warmth.