

Pinot Noir Press



BLAGDEN WINES

An under-the-radar artisan producer of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, Catherine Blagden offers exquisite, hand-crafted bottlings from California's famed Sonoma Coast.



To say that Catherine Blagden, owner of Blagden Wines, is an interesting person would be a gross understatement.

Blagden is a multi-talented, multi-degreed (as in education) native of Boston who discovered an interest in wine when she was a youngster in a family she describes as "true foodies with a real love for wine."

A graduate of Colby College (Maine), Catherine Blagden eventually secured masters degrees from Stanford University and lastly, at the University of California Davis where she acquired her credentials for the wine industry.

Blagden admitted she once thought of becoming a doctor and originally followed that path in her education. She took a number of Pre-Med courses, but ultimately decided a medical career wasn't for her. "I just couldn't find the proper attachment I needed to continue, so I changed course. I also spent months in South Africa and worked the harvest there to gain experience."

Catherine Blagden eventually found her way to San Francisco, the doorway to California's incredible wine industry. It was there that some of her 'foodie'-oriented friends suggested she investigate the world of wine she truly enjoyed. Blagden took their advice and enrolled at UC Davis.

"When I was young, my parents and

I had blind tastings all the time," recalled Blagden. "I really began to enjoy wine from a different perspective. UC Davis made it all come together and allowed me to become a winemaker. I enjoyed the experience immensely and set out to do something special with my career. This gratification of the great grape has stayed with me throughout my experiences as a winemaker and as a winery owner."

Blagden was working as a winery consultant when she started her own operation called Blagden Wines. "I had several clients, but eventually realized I needed to put more time into my own winery and that was really the beginning."

Blagden Wines made its debut on the national scene in 2006 with a smallish release of around 400 cases. In the ensuing years, Blagden Wines has produced wines at around that same level.

"It is always my intent to make really high-quality wines that are consistent from vintage to vintage," she informed. "Each vintage is different and maintaining a dependable style is important to a successful winery. Every year is diverse and it's my job to see that everything comes together correctly."

And Blagden Wines has enjoyed more than its share of accolades during

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its decade-plus existence. "I don't send my wines out to many competitions or periodicals," she admitted. "But, I am delighted when experts single out one of my wines as exceptional. It means I'm doing my job at a high level."

As far as the future is concerned, Catherine Blagden is currently investigating the possibility of moving her operation to a new location. There is also the option of constructing a winery, but she is practical in her view on that possibility. "When the time is right, I will know what to do and that will be that," she added. There is also

the idea of a marriage of health and wellness when combined with wine. "This has always been in the back of my mind. I think a facility that combines both of these aspects could prove quite useful to a large number of people. Since part of my education is in health and wellness, and the other is in winemaking, it seems like a natural fit. It will take additional exploration, but the idea of combining the two makes perfect sense to me."

At this point in its existence, Blagden Wines seems in a perfect position to move forward. Its wines are prized by the consuming public and it continues to garner high scores and accolades from wine experts. It is with great pride that we present this remarkable 2013 Pinot Noir from the heralded Sangiacomo Vineyard. We trust you will enjoy this amazing wine from this storied winery to its fullest.

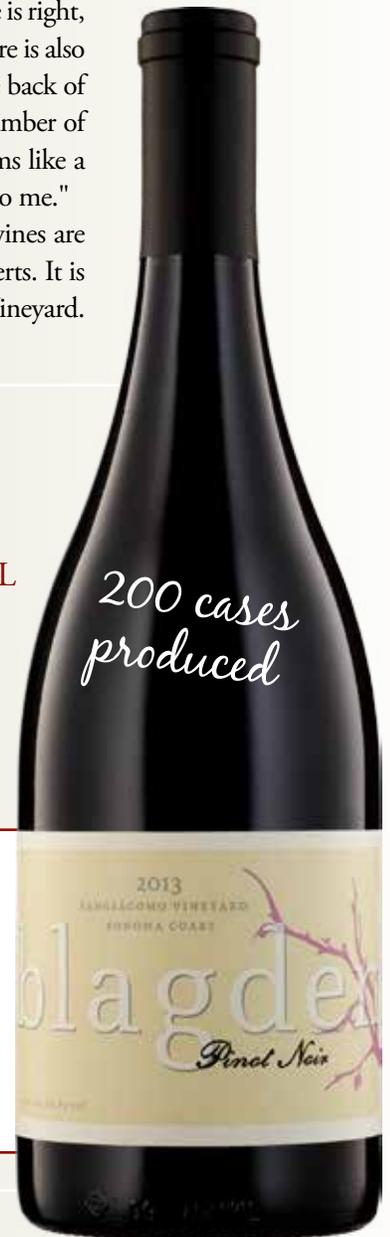
BLAGDEN 2013 PINOT NOIR

Sangiacomo Vineyard, Sonoma Coast, California

Reddish-purple in color, the Blagden 2013 Pinot Noir offers a rich and sweet nose with aromas of dark plum, black tea and leather. After a voluptuous entry, the wine explodes on the palate with lush flavors of black cherry, clove, cranberry and black currant, before leading into a long and balanced finish. The layers continue to unfold in your mouth, sip after sip. Aged in oak. 100% Pinot Noir. Enjoy!

94 POINTS
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+ BEST OF SHOW
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91 POINTS **90 POINTS**
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