

GOLD MEDAL
WINE CLUB'S

Pinot Noir Press



v08i16



JAMES FAMILY CELLARS

A small winery born from a multi-generational Sonoma County farming family, James Family Cellars is committed to producing world-class fruit and premium wines from their estate vineyard.



Founded in 2007, James Family Cellars is a micro-boutique winery based in the city of Cotati in California's Sonoma County. The winery is known for its limited-release wines from the Sonoma Coast, Russian River Valley, and Dry Creek Valley appellations, and the wine quality is simply *outstanding* considering how new the venture is to its owners Jeff and Judy James.

Jeff and Judy James, along with their two sons, Robert and Matt, who are fourth generation Sonoma County agriculturalists, are dedicated to crafting wines that are distinct expressions of their estate Stony Point Vineyard. Their vineyard was planted in 1998 to a blend of Pinot Noir clones in a particularly cool section of the famed Sonoma County wine-growing region. The property is less than twenty miles from the coast and thus is greatly effected by the natural cooling influences of the Pacific Ocean. This climate helps provide a slow, even-ripening environment which happens to be perfect for the finicky Pinot Noir grape.

After the James' first harvest in 2000, they started selling their Pinot Noir fruit to nearby premium wineries. One of these said wineries was none other than Schramsberg, known as one of the top sparkling wine production estates in California.

Schramberg's celebrated wines quickly put Stony Point Vineyard on the map as a high-profile site with world-class Pinot Noir fruit.

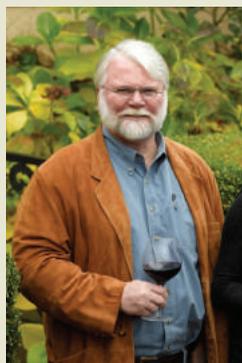
Jeff and Judy James realized the potential of their vineyard and began making amateur wines of their own that they entered into local competitions. After winning several awards, the James' decided to follow their dreams and start James Family Cellars. 2007 marked the first vintage for the new winery venture.

Stony Point Vineyard is sustainably farmed and cared for by Steve and Joe Dutton of Dutton Ranch fame. They believe in minimal handling and the use of natural techniques to preserve the fruit's remarkable quality. The wines are made by consulting winemaker Terry Adams, who gained experience at Sonoma-Cutrer and Dutton Estate Winery prior to joining the James Family Cellars team. The team, although small, is a passionate and dedicated group of very talented individuals.

James Family Cellars wines are produced in extremely limited quantities and exclusively available at the urban Cellars of Sonoma tasting room and a handful of local markets and restaurants.

We hope you enjoy this award-winning Pinot Noir from this up-and-coming Sonoma producer. Cheers!

ABOUT THE WINEMAKER



Veteran winemaker Terry Adams joined the James Family Cellars team in 2009, and brought with him over 30 years of winemaking experience. Terry began his career in 1977 as an apprentice of William Bonetti's at Chateau Souverain in the Alexander Valley. He then moved to Sonoma-Cutrer and worked as Assistant Winemaker and Cellarmaster when the winery opened in 1981. For the next ten years, Terry helped produce every bottle of Sonoma-Cutrer Chardonnay and was responsible for planting the winery's first Pinot Noir vines. He became the Director of Winemaking in 1991 and stayed with the estate until 2010 when he moved to Dutton Estate Winery. Terry enjoys consulting for James Family Cellars and crafting wines that exemplify the character of their special vineyard.

JAMES FAMILY CELLARS 2011 PINOT NOIR

Bright garnet in color, the James Family Cellars 2011 Pinot Noir offers aromas of cherry, raspberry and rose petals that compliment a silky smooth palate of Bing cherry, strawberry, vanilla and plum. A hint of soft leather lingers on the long finish. The James Family Pinot Noir has nice acidity and just the right amount of oak to make it incredibly food friendly. We recommend pairing it with salmon or grilled pork tenderloin. 100% Pinot Noir. Aged 10 months in oak.

Cases Produced: 268

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