

GOLD MEDAL WINE CLUB'S *Pinot Noir Press*



LA PITCHOUNE WINERY

This relatively unknown winery from Sonoma County made a huge splash in winery circles with its impressive vineyard-designated Pinot Noirs from celebrated nearby vineyards.



When an unknown winery can claim a major accomplishment from its very beginning, the story behind such a feat is worth repeating.

The winery in question is La Pitchoune Winery co-owned by Tracy and Peter Joachim Nielson and Frenchman Andrew Berge. For the record, La Pitchoune means ‘the little one’ in French and speaks to small production, small lots and the idea that its small size is the company’s greatest asset.

La Pitchoune Winery released its first wines in 2012, a smallish 200 cases that sold out quickly. A series of high scores and plaudits from wine industry periodicals virtually assured the fledgling operation of continued success.

It wasn’t all that easy to get started. For five years, Tracy Nielsen attempted to enter the wine business but was turned away by several possibles due to her lack of experience. A chance meeting with winemaker and entrepreneur, Andrew Berge afforded her the opportunity she had been seeking. Along with her husband, Peter, Tracy Nielsen cemented a partnership with Berge and has never looked back.

“He wanted out of his job at the time and I wanted in,” recounted Nielsen. “We saw eye-to-eye on several things and Andrew’s connections

made it all happen.”

Berge spends a lot of time in the vineyards developing terroir-driven vines and has connections to some of the finest vineyards in California. He is also a noted winemaker with a slew of medals and accolades that attest to his proficiency in the lab.

“Our vineyards are works of art unto themselves,” Berge commented. “They are painstakingly grown, patiently cared for and are allowed to reach fruition at their own pace. They attest to the true magic of the grape.” His Master’s degree in Agriculture from UC Davis is something that separates Berge from other accomplished winemakers. His quest is to change the public’s perception of California wines and of Burgundian varietals in particular. His wines not only resemble classic Burgundian reds, they actually are the classic California version of French Pinot Noir.

La Pitchoune Winery and its owners have developed a reputation for not being afraid of taking the risks necessary to produce world-class wines. By combining passion, art and science, La Pitchoune Winery ensures that each blend it releases is expressed to its fullest potential.

It is a great pleasure that we introduce La Pitchoune Winery to our *Pinot Noir Wine Club* members. Enjoy!

ABOUT THE WINEMAKER



Andrew Berge is a true renaissance man that wears many hats that include artist, scientist, farmer, gourmet chef, mountain climber and, of course, as his partners swear, master winemaker. The 37-year-old German born Berge holds an Agricultural Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota and a Master's in Agricultural Engineering from UC Davis, foster home to California's greatest winemakers. His love is classic red Burgundies (Volnay, Les Santenots in particular) and he is determined to produce the exemplary California Pinot Noir. He apprenticed in New Zealand (Rapura Springs) and in Sonoma County, California (Chasseur Wines under Bill Hunter). He also makes wines under the Spell Estate Wines label that has also earned him distinction.

LA PITCHOUNE 2013 PINOT NOIR

Fruit from California's oldest Pinot Noir vineyard makes this incredible, ruby colored perfection something to behold. The Van der Kamp single vineyard Pinot Noir shows sweet aromas of red berries, red florals and meaty aromas that are softened by cranberry, pomegranate and sweet floral scents which follow into the palate. The palate features notes of dark-red cherries, pomegranate, with an intermingle of asian spices, a kiss of oak and medium and well integrated tannins. Aged in new and old French oak for 11 months. 100% Pinot Noir. Try savory foods and hearty dishes for this one, the heartier the better. Only 102 cases made. Enjoy now until 2023.

93 POINTS

– *Wine Enthusiast*

93 POINTS

– *The wineguys.com*

90 POINTS

– *Wine Advocate*



RECIPES FOR PAIRING

Enjoy our extensive collection of recipes to pair with your favorite wines! Find these and many more recipes online at GoldMedalWineClub.com/Recipes.



PINOT NOIR DEMI-GLACE
REDUCTION SAUCE



ROASTED WALNUT BASIL PESTO
& SAUSAGE FLATBREAD

Instant!

**MEMBERSHIP
REWARDS PRICING***



La Pitchoune 2013 Pinot Noir

Van der Kamp Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain

Save 17% - 28% off the Winery Retail Price (\$58.00 /btl)

	2+ btls.	6+ btls.	12+ btls.
2-Bottle Members:	\$48.00	\$46.33	\$45.50
4-Bottle Members:	\$48.00	\$45.50	\$44.25
Charter Members:	\$45.60	\$43.33	\$42.04

ORDER ONLINE:
GoldMedalWineClub.com

CALL US: 1-800-266-8888



*Effective per bottle prices after Membership Rewards discount is applied at checkout. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included in above prices. Membership Rewards does not apply to Sale or Specials Wines.