

GOLD MEDAL  
WINE CLUB'S

# Pinot Noir Press



## LUCEÁNT WINES

This delicately crafted Luceánt Wines 2012 Pinot Noir from the Santa Maria Valley combines atmospheric conditions and sandy soils to develop its stunning character.



In the highly competitive duel for supremacy within the core of Pinot Noir producers, one vintner might just have something of an edge over his competitors. Luceánt Wines' Owner Kevin Law, 48, is such a person.

Law is the holder of a degree in atmospheric sciences with an emphasis on remote sensing and meteorology from the University of California Santa Barbara as well as a keen interest in geology that he has studied for many years.

"The two actually go hand in hand," informed Law during a recent interview. "With the Pinot Noir community's great emphasis on terroir-driven fruit, it's quite easy to see where the rains and wind play a major role in the soil's ability to handle the rootstock. There simply isn't a more transparent varietal that speaks of site or terroir than the almighty Pinot Noir."

Kevin Law became interested in wine while attending college. He managed a part-time job in an upscale wine shop where he was exposed to numerous wines from around the world. He decided on a wine industry career and began working for various wineries including Tantara Winery where he started as a cellar worker as worked his way into the assistant winemaker job.

After seven years, Kevin Law decided it was time to try it on his own and Luceánt Wines saw its first light of day. It was 2006 and Law bought the fruit from Laetitia Vineyard that was located in Arroyo Grande. He tried dealing with a number of varietals, but eventually was drawn to Pinot Noir.

"In 2010, I decided to truly devote myself to my brand by doing acreage contracts instead of tonnage," Law went on. "This locked down exact rows for my use and also the blocks and clones used. I was also able to adjust the farming by dropping fruit to intensify flavors."

A grand total of 70 cases of the first Luceánt Wines' release have mushroomed into around 2,000 cases of annual production. A number of spectacular vineyards have been added to the Luceánt Wines' portfolio, each one with distinctive characteristics.

Kevin Law had special praise for the harvest of 2012. "I felt I had a spectacular vintage in the works. Each Pinot Noir vineyard was beautifully expressive. Presqu'île Vineyard with its base of sandy soils was the most delicate, with rose hips and a suggestion of mint. For me it was one of my favorite vintages to work with. It was so soil driven and was paired

*continued...*



*continued from front*  
with near perfect weather conditions.”

Kevin Law doesn't expect to increase his production since he is his company's only employee. He feels that he can handle his present production level and continue producing extraordinary Pinot Noirs in the process.

He is totally dedicated to his adopted profession and has the high scores and medals to prove his commitment.

He summed it all thusly, "I love working with Pinot Noir. It comes with the rewards of choosing correct picking days, nurturing it along, and watching those flavors and aromatics develop beyond the barrel and a decade or more in bottle."



**92 POINTS**  
— *vinous.com*,  
Antonio Galloni

## 2012 LUCEANT PINOT NOIR PRESQU'ILE VINEYARD SANTA MARIA VALLEY

A big, deep flavored, Pinot Noir from one of the Santa Maria Valley's premier vineyards. The flavors are bold and pungent, with attractive savory overtones from the 75% whole clusters. Rose petal, sweet red berries, pomegranate and orange peel meld into the resonant, expressive finish. The tannins are soft and extend the finish to perfection. A stunning wine, from Luceant Wines, that will linger in your mind for a long while. 100% Pinot Noir. Pair with most lamb dishes to bring out richness. Also venison or duck for the more adventurous. Also a winner with English Stilton or fully flavored cheese such as creamy Chèvre or either Double or Triple Brie. Enjoy now and until 2022.

### RECIPES FOR PAIRING

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