

Domaine Eden

Technical notes

2011 Pinot Noir Santa Cruz Mountains

Yield: 1.5 tons per acre
Harvest: September 25th-October 28th
Numbers @ Harvest: 23.6 Brix
3.42 pH
8.5 grams acidity

Barrel Regimen - French Burgundy-1/2 new; aged 11 months in barrel
Bottling - August 2012; no fining or filtration

1,064 cases produced

About Domaine Eden

Domaine Eden is a nearby mountaintop wine estate purchased by Mount Eden Vineyards in 2007. It was founded and built by the late Tom Mudd in 1983, and was initially planted with the Mount Eden clonal selections of Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon, which evolved to include Pinot Noir from various Dijon and California selections.

The viticulture at Domaine Eden is approached with the same level of naturalness and sustainability as Mount Eden's estate vineyards. The soils here, however, are different from the estate's Franciscan shale so even though Domaine Eden is a mere mile away "as the crow flies", the wines express more varietal fruit with expansive mid-palate flavors than the soil-driven minerality of Mount Eden estate wines.

With the differences in vineyard character, the property inspired a new wine brand, Domaine Eden, which focuses on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from this special site and Bordeaux varieties from Mount Eden's larger home, the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Winemakers notes at release: Spring 2013

Just like 2010, 2011 started off late and remained so throughout the harvest. The significant event for 2011 occurred in early June when a winter-like storm seriously eliminated 60% of the flowers. Fortunately, the rest of the summer was cool but very good. Farming has its share of tragedy and silver linings.

This wine is wholly from Domaine Eden which provides an intriguing contrast to our traditional Estate Bottling. Separated by a mere mile, Mount Eden is east facing at 2000 feet with Franciscan shale soil whereas Domaine Eden is north facing at 1600 feet with Los Gatos Clay Loam soils.

The winemaking remains the same for both, i.e. moderate ripeness, native fermentations, high quality Burgundian barrels, sur-lie aging and no fining or filtering before to bottling. If you tasted the prior release, 2010, you had a chance to experience the incredible pedigree of this vineyard.

Forceful aromas of raspberry, strawberry, and pomegranate combine with a signature loamy earth on the nose. On the palate flavors of cherry-plum-blueberry are buttressed with high acidity and grip. The overall impression is of a wine that speaks of elegance with underlying energy. This is not only reflective of our style but of the historically small crop size.