

Wine Spectator - Online

California Gems for \$30 or Less

New reviews of outstanding Pinot Noirs

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www.winespectator.com

Tasting Highlights bring the best of the past week's tastings of California wines to WineSpectator.com members.

California Pinot Noirs and Zinfandels lead this exciting group of wines attractively priced at \$30 or less. They offer plenty of incentive to experiment, stock up, or both.

For Pinot Noir lovers, this list includes bottlings from Alta Maria, Siduri, Fort Ross and Valley of the Moon.

ALTA MARIA Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley 2009 Score: 91 | \$28

A great value in affordable Pinot Noir. Fresh, snappy and vibrant, with a tight core of mineral-laced wild berry, blueberry, spice and gravel flavors. Full-bodied, complex and layered. Drink now through 2017. 1,660 cases made. —J.L.

Wine Enthusiast - September 2011 Edition

Steve Heimoff

www.winemag.com

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Editor's Choice

ALTA MARIA Chardonnay Santa Maria Valley 2009 Score: 90 | \$28