



2010 "Chico's Run" Pinot Noir, Doña Margarita Vineyard Estate Grown, Estate Bottled

Why "Chico's Run"?

This special bottling is named after my loyal English Springer Spaniel, Chico, who loves to run up and down the sloping plateau where the vines are planted. It is a barrel selection of two clones: 63% Dijon 115 and 37% of Pommard, which we feel truly represent the terroir and ageability of the Doña Margarita Vineyard.

The Organic Doña Margarita Vineyard

Dedicated to my late mother, this 20-acre vineyard is located between Freestone and Occidental, in the Sonoma Coast AVA. The cool breezes and drifting fog from the Pacific Ocean, six miles away, make it an ideal site for Pinot Noir. Planted in the European style of super-high density, with 2,340 vines per acre, the yields are low and labor is intensive; but the vines live longer and the grapes acquire better balance and greater concentration, as well as more elegance and finesse.

The Vinification

The grapes were harvested from September 30 to October 2. After lightly crushed and destemmed, they fermented in small stainless steel tanks. The wine was aged in premium French oak barrels, coopered by Rousseau from the forest of Bertranges. It was bottled, unfined and unfiltered, in August 2011.

Tasting Notes

This small bottling of *Chico's Run* displays a complex, intense nose that mingles black cherries, peat and sassafras with the earthy notes of forest floor and feralocity characteristic of this vineyard. The palate is rich and mouthfilling, with supple but firm tannins that give the wine a smooth finish while also promising a long aging potential.

Marimar Torres Founder & Proprietor

74 cases produced (in 9L units)

Suggested California Retail: \$48