



ARTISTRY IN WINEMAKING SINCE 1982

EIGHT YEARS OF FE CIEGA PINOT NOIR

2001 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

94 points Wine Enthusiast “A gorgeous wine that impresses for its early charm, complexity and ageability. It’s delicious now, with the flavor of a black cherry and cassis tart sprinkled with cinnamon and vanilla, wrapped in a smoky-sweet buttery pie crust. Feels super in the mouth, soft and elegant, while a trace of earthy tannins in the finish will protect it in the cellar.”

88 points Wine Spectator “Intense, with ripe wild berry and blackberry fruit and cedary oak shadings, this is a deceptively muscular young wine that finished with a long, complex aftertaste. Drink now through 2007.” J.L.

2002 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

93 points PinotReport “Medium-deep purple ruby color; very deep aromas of earth, barnyard, mineral, reduced cherry fruit, and spice; big, full, lots of earthy flavors with a core of black cherry, pepper and spices, moderately tannic, good structure and balance with a long finish. This Pinot is tannic and deep, with a lot of potential for a patient cellarer; it’s also very well balanced now and great for a hearty meal.”

91 points Wine Enthusiast “Similar to Longoria’s Mt. Carmel bottling, but trades a shade of opulence for greater tannins and an earthy, tobaccoey note beside the cherries, mocha and oak. Rich and complex, with firm acids and a silky texture. Serious Pinot Noir. Editors’ choice. S.H.

89 points Robert Parker’s Wine Advocate “Exhibits smoke, chocolate, barbecue spice, and cherry cola-like aromas. Medium-bodied, heady, and tasty, it should be consumed over the next 3-4 years.”

2003 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

94 points PinotReport “Medium-deep ruby color; deep earthy, black cherry aromas with a hint of pepper and spice; big, full, black cherry and earthy flavors with pepper and spice notes, moderate tannins, good structure and balanced; long finish. For me, this is the best Pinot Rick Longoria makes each year – it’s deep and expressive of the terrific Fe Ciega Vineyard that he developed in the Santa Rita Hills.”

92 points Wine & Spirits “This pinot seems to capture the scent of the chaparral surrounding the Fe Ciega vineyard in its spicy, green herb scent, and the cool desert sands in the feel of the tannin. The succulent fruit retains its freshness as the primary oak fades with air, the aromas opening to a beautiful, lasting desert flower scent. Drink now through 2007 with smoky barbecued salmon.”

2004 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

95 points Wine Enthusiast “Firm in acids, with some tannins, yet not at all hard. This is a magnificent, masculine Pinot Noir. It floods the palate with cherry pie, cola and mocha flavors, Asian spices and a sweet, smoky, buttery phyllo pastry quality. So technically perfect, with such structure, it seems guaranteed for the cellar. Drink now through 2010, but who knows how long it will last.” Editors’ Choice. –S.H.

2005 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

95 points Wine Enthusiast “You’d never guess the power from the pale color. A multi-clone blend, it impresses from the first sniff, all pureed ripe cherries and strawberries, leading to a dramatically fruited, fresh, pure and vibrant mouth feel. Should hold and improve for a decade.” Editors’ Choice – S.H.

90 points Tanzer Newsletter “Medium red. Sexy red berry aromas exude a primal quality, with cracked pepper and cinnamon qualities adding complexity. Spicy raspberry and bitter cherry on the palate, picking up lightly bitter tannins on the back. Gains sweetness with air, finishing with refreshing berry skin snap and impressive length.” Josh Reynolds

2006 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

92 points Wine & Spirits “Rick Longoria planted the Fe Ciega Vineyard in 1998 close to the Pacific at the cool western end of the Santa Rita Hills. This sixth release from those vines feels plump and rich in its youth with a texture like ripe Volnay. Firm, grainy tannin frames the generous flavors of black cherry, while a refreshing streak of acidity keeps it nimble. Cellar for a year or two and then pour with a bavette steak seared rare.” Joshua Greene

89 points Wine Spectator “A big, rich and somewhat raw-textured youngster, with complex, concentrated, dense wild and blackberry fruit, ending with a long, persistent finish. Drink now through 2011.” J.L.

2007 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

93 points Wine Enthusiast “This is a Pinot you have to use your judgment on concerning ageability, because it’s too young now. It’s very jammy-fruity in raspberries, cherries, bacon and cola, with sweet, smoky oak not yet integrated. But it’s a beautifully structured, balanced wine of great integrity, and should develop in the bottle. Best after 2011.” Cellar Selection. S.H.

91 points Stephen Tanzer’s IWC “Bright red. Highly aromatic bouquet displays scents of red and dark berry preserves, cherry skin, anise and dried rose. Deeply concentrated raspberry and cherry flavors are firmed by fine-grained tannins and pick up a suave, spicy character in the glass. The anise note resonates on the long, spicy, focused finish. I’d hold this one for a few more years.” Josh Reynolds

2008 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega

91 points Stephen Tanzer’s IWC “Vivid ruby. A highly perfumed bouquet displays scents of black raspberry, rose and sexy oak spices. Sweet and expansive in the mouth, offering sappy red fruit and floral pastille flavors and a bit of white pepper. Exotic and spicy, with outstanding finishing cling and length.” Josh Reynolds