



WHAT THE PRESS IS SAYING ABOUT US

~ *Restaurant Wine*

2006 Sanchiotti Vineyard Pinot Noir - 4+ stars

2006 Freestone Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir - 5 stars

"These are beautifully balanced, finely flavored Pinot Noirs. The Sanchiotti bottling is truly excellent: very distinct in character, full bodied, and long on the palate, with intense fruitiness (plum, raspberry, cherry), with overtones of violet, toast, tobacco, and oak. The Freestone Hill is exceptional: a supple, full bodied, crisp, moderately rich wine, with complex flavors (plum, violet, blueberry, toast, tobacco), and a very long finish."

2006 McDougall Vineyard Pinot Noir - 4+ stars

2006 Devil's Gulch Vineyard Pinot Noir - 5 stars

"This winery produces wines with clear refinement, regardless of varietal. The McDougall is a full-bodied, crisp, well balanced wine with medium richness, and a long finish, tasting of plum, rosehips, pepper, and toast. The Marin bottling is exceptional: fine in both style and quality; a velvety textured, full bodied wine with subtle, elegant character, excellent balance, and a very long finish, tasting of plum, violet, cherry, nutmeg, and spicy oak."

2006 Rued Vineyard Chardonnay: "A supple, complex, finely flavored Chardonnay, with white peach, roasted nut, lemon peel, toast, and spicy oak aromas/flavors. Long finish...**4 stars.**"

~ *Burghound*

2006 McDougall Vineyard Pinot Noir: "A reserved, even discreet but elegant, pure and layered nose of violets, blueberry and red pinot fruit that offers subtle spice notes gives way to equally reserved, pure and detailed middle weight flavors that are well-balanced, nicely intense and deliver much better than average length. Stylistically, this is almost a hypothetical blend of 50% California pinot and 50% Beaune 1er as the reserve I mention extends not only to the quality of the tannins but also to the mildly austere finish that speaks of the Beaune. Lovely stuff and recommended if you enjoy your pinot in a more restrained style...**91 points.**"

2006 Devil's Gulch Vineyard Pinot Noir: "A gentle touch of wood frames ripe, pretty and layered aromas that feature notes of violets, blue and red berry fruits and a hint of underbrush that continues onto the delicious, round and forward medium-bodied flavors that possess solid mid-palate sap, all wrapped in a finish that delivers fine if not truly exceptional length. A lovely and relatively understated wine that is definitely worth considering...**90 points.**"

2006 Freestone Hill Pinot Noir: "A ripe and moderately spiced nose features notes of violets, plum and a touch of blackberry that is also picked up by the lush, round and notably rich medium-bodied flavors that retain a good sense of shape and overall balance. If the depth improves with a few years in bottle, my score will be conservative...**88 points.**"

2006 Sanchiotti Vineyard Pinot Noir: "This understated and notably elegant offering features ripe and complex fruit but here the fruit is less obviously so than its Freestone Hill stable mate. The medium weight flavors are delicious, detailed and finely delineated and there is an underlying sense of restraint yet the flavor profile does not use austerity to achieve this. In sum, while the finish is not as complex as the nose, I very much like the sense of balance and length here. Definitely worth a look...**90 points.**"

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "A slightly sweet and highly seductive nose of spice, sandalwood, fresh red berry fruit and soy notes introduces soft, round, forward and attractively textured barely middle weight flavors that possess an agreeable sappiness on the solidly dry finish. This offers lovely balance and aside from the relatively showy nose, is actually understated and refined plus there is no detectable warmth. In sum, this is pure and delicious without being obvious...**90 points.**"

~ *Wine Enthusiast*

2006 Freestone Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir: "The Freestone Hill bottling is one of Dutton-Goldfield's biggest and most powerful Pinot Noirs, and the '06 is nearly as stunning as the magnificent '05. It just explodes in the mouth with succulent

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cherry and raspberry pie, mocha and spicy anise and pepper flavors, with fabulous complexities from smoky oak. Terrific now, but the tannins will hold it for a decade...**94 points** and **Cellar Selection.**"

2006 McDougall Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Marked by rich acids and tannins, this is a youthful Pinot that needs brief time in the cellar, or decanting, to let it soften and mellow. The tightness doesn't prevent the massive cherry, black raspberry, vanilla, cola and Asian spice flavors from shining through. Give this high quality wine until the summer of 2009...**93 points.**"

2006 Rued Vineyard Chardonnay: "A broad structure of acids, oak tannins and minerals gives this wine the architecture to stand up to its vast richness. Exotic and powerful, it offers a blast of green apples, pineapples and mangoes, with a doughnut sweetness of vanilla and cinnamon...**91 points.**"

2006 Morelli Lane Vineyard Zinfandel: "...brings the same deft touch he displays with Pinot Noir to this lush, elegant wine. It has the structure of a gentle Merlot, but with the wild cherry and raspberry, date nut cake, cocoa, pepper and clove flavors that make it so distinctive and savory. This is consistently one of the best Zins from RRV...**92 points.**"

2006 Russian River Valley Zinfandel: "The wine is rustically spicy, peppery and briary, with sandpaper tannins, but hey, it's Zinfandel, not Cabernet, and it's a really good one. Dry and brawny, it shows rich wild berry, tobacco, tabasco and carob flavors, and will pair well with game, beef tamales or mushu pork...**90 points.**"

~ *Wine & Spirits*

2006 Devil's Gulch Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Grown on a hillside vineyard adjacent to Point Reyes, this wine has the briskness of fruit and fine acidity this cool site usually gives, though it's rounder in this vintage, a little plump in the middle. The red fruit is fragrant and pretty, part of the structural strength of the wine...**93 points.**"

2006 Dutton Ranch Chardonnay: "Fresh green pear and pineapple flavors run through this soft, rich wine. It carries its fair share of alcohol, enough to stand up to roast veal...**90 points** and a **Year's Best Chardonnay.**"

2006 Morelli Lane Vineyard Zinfandel: "Black cherry flavors deepen the middle of this wine, while lighter, sweet strawberry flavors brighten the edges. It's soft and round, a clean zin to serve with duck rillettes...**90 points** and a **Year's Best Zinfandel.**"

~ *Wine Spectator*

2007 Dutton Ranch Chardonnay: "Well-structured, with rich layers of creamy fig, melon and apricot, gaining depth and complexity on the long finish...**91 points.**"

2007 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "Starts out delicate and fragrant, with wild berry, raspberry and black cherry aromas, yet builds intensity, depth and complexity, revealing its depth of concentration...**90 points.**"

~ *The Wine News*

2005 Cherry Ridge Vineyard Syrah: "Garnet hue with a fuchsia rim. Shy clove and evergreen aromas with notes of red and black licorice. Rhone-like spiciness with cherry fruit, mint and Worcestershire sauce. Crisp, acidic finish with a lingering toasted nuance...**Top Ten Syrah.**"

2006 Rued Vineyard Chardonnay: "Brilliant yellow-gold hue. Fresh aromas of peach, sliced apple, cinnamon and new oak. Zaftig peach, apple and toasted oak flavors with just enough acidic structure to balance the rush of sweetness in the fruit-driven finish...**94 points.**"

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "Dense garnet hue. Classic pinot noir aromas of red raspberry, vanilla and wild cherry with secondary nuances of pomegranate and jasmine. Juicy flavors of red raspberry and black cherry with hints of cola. Silky tannins and impressions of red licorice in the raspberry-driven close...**93 points.**"

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2006 Devil's Gulch Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Black-garnet hue. Mixed aromas of black cherry, dark honey, cola and violets. Ample black cherry fruit and red licorice with a lick of mocha. Elegant finish with a lingering, toasted oak nuance...**93 points.**"

2006 Freestone Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Black-garnet hue. Earthy aromas followed by fresh cherry, vanilla, tea and glove leather scents. Tasty, juicy black cherry fruit and plum with well-integrated, combed tannins. Rich, lasting finish with caramel and mocha accents...**94 points.**"

2006 Sanchiotti Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Deep garnet hue with a feathered rim. Fresh plum and black cherry aromas. Round, supple red and black fruit with dusty, flinty mineral accents. Excellent length and weight with chalky black cherry fruit, charred oak and a spicy clove zing in the close...**93 points.**"

2006 McDougall Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Pale garnet hue. Exotic tea, orange peel and clove aromas. Tart cherry and tea flavors with flinty, mineral-like accents and supporting fine-grain tannins and crisp acids. Youthful, compact finish with a range of dried fruit and mineral notes...**90 points.**"

~ Robert Whitley, Whitley On Wine

2006 Sanchiotti Vineyard Pinot Noir: "The nose offers complex aromas of violet, black tea and black cherry, leading to a firm, balanced palate that still leaves the impression of youthful shyness, with firm tannins and hints of Asian spices on the finish...**93 points.**"

2006 Freestone Hill Pinot Noir]: ...beautifully balanced, with well-developed aromas and delicate nuances that are often lost in showier vintages. This Dutton-Freestone pinot shows complex red and black fruit, a lovely sandalwood spice scent, subtle leafy aromas, and length in the mouth that may surprise you. Better yet, it's likely to improve over the next few years as it loses its primary fruit and secondary aromas emerge...**91 points.**"

2006 Rued Vineyard Chardonnay: "...exhibits the classic Russian River aroma profile of lemon custard and brioche, with good richness and palate weight and mouth-watering acidity. The flavors linger on the palate, with hints of spice and vanillin that provide an attractive complexity on the finish. A very classy California Chard...**91 points.**"

~ Connoisseur's Guide to California Wine

2006 Morelli Lane Vineyard Zinfandel: "Contemporary Zinfandel has increasingly become more and more defined by alcohol and high ripeness, but here is a happy reminder of the heights that the grape can reach when it is not pushed to the limit. Dense, deep and absolutely loaded with classic berry-like fruit, this wine delivers all of the richness we could want and does so in a nicely balanced package without raisiny compromise. Its lasting finish shows a good spike of tannins and nary a trace of heat, and all signs point to a terrific future...**93 points.**"

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "Incisive ripe-cherry fruitiness governs all aspects of this very well-made youngster, while carefully fit oak provides a sweetening boost in richness from beginning to end. Medium-full-bodied and supple in feel with nicely placed acids providing brightness and bounce to its lengthy finish, the wine hints at refinement yet to come and will repay those willing to wait for a few years with a deep and well-polished Pinot Noir that tempts richness with grace...**91 points.**"

~ Dan Berger's Vintage Experiences

2006 Rued Vineyard Chardonnay: "Bright citrus/juniper fruit with astounding depth without oak or malolactic aromas apparent. About as complete a Chardonnay as you will ever taste. Should compare with the best of Burgundy...**Exceptional.**"

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2006 Devil's Gulch Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Traces of black pepper and violet amid some wild spice and forest floor notes. From an ultra-cool vineyard, it has perfect acidity for aging. Akin to a great Gevrey-Chambertin. Unique. Will be better in a year and will age 10+...**Exceptional.**"

2006 Freestone Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir: "Just a bit less exotic, with tobacco and Burgundy notes, traces of cumin and dried tarragon. An infant, but will develop...**Exceptional.**"

2005 Cherry Ridge Vineyard Syrah: "Deep boysenberry and loganberry fruit with pepper and real depth. One of the best Syrahs I have ever tasted, a wine that wouldn't be overpriced at \$75...**Exceptional.**"

~ *Quarterly Review of Wines*

2005 Cherry Ridge Vineyard Syrah: "Big, rich, plush, pure, elegant, well-concentrated, blackberry, white pepper and vanillin flavors...5 stars and Best of Show."

2006 Freestone Hill Pinot Noir: "Fresh, ripe, black cherry nose; plush, supple, elegantly knit, black fruit and nutty oak flavors...4 stars."

~ *Other Press*

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "The scent is rich with dark fruit, charcuteries, and spices, stable and barrel. The taste is round, rich and with silky, ripe, aromatic fruit, good balance and hints of strawberry, cranberry, flowers, cherries, cocos, wild strawberries and barrel...**92 points (++)**." ~ *Dina Viner (Sweden)*

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "...plum and creamy, cherry aromas. There is solid, bright red fruit on the palate, which offers grippy tannins and citrus zest on the lingering finish... 2 stars." ~ *San Francisco Chronicle*

2006 Dutton Ranch Pinot Noir: "An elegant, complex wine that has good acid but still manages to be juicy Aromas and flavors of black cherry, cherry, herbs and black pepper. Great balance. Long finish...**4 stars** and **Wine of the Week.**" ~ *Press Democrat*

2006 Freestone Hill Pinot Noir: "Intensely fruity with cherry, strawberry, and raspberry notes, this Pinot had moderate alcohol and beautifully integrated oak tannins...**Hot Pick, High End Red.**" ~ *Sommelier Journal*

Cherry Ridge Vineyard Syrah: "This stylish wine comes from a region better known for chardonnay and pinot noir. It is surprisingly light in body and texture, with enticing blueberry fruit, a hint of cake spice and impressively refreshing acidity...**Recommended.**" ~ *The Washington Post*

2006 Sanchietti Vineyard Pinot Noir: Top Thanksgiving Wine. ~ *USA Today*