



2017 VINTAGE OFFERING

CLOS DE LA TECH

Our goal is clear: To Make the best Pinot Noir in the New World



CLOS DE LA TECH

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS



Premier Pinot Noir

Our winemaking method is faithful to that of Ouvrard, the winemaker who brought prominence to Romanee-Conti in the 1830s.

It is truly “methode ancienne,” including handpicking, foot crushing, native yeast fermentation and no filtering. The theory is to bring our special fruit to the bottle without manipulation. With these methods, one can easily taste the difference between the vineyards and their unique expressions of terroir.

TJ Rodgers

2017 Growing Season

Winter rains came in heavy and provided much needed relief from preceding five years of drought. Rains continued into the spring, fueling healthy and robust canopy growth. Summer was peppered with heat spikes, culminating Labor Day weekend when temperatures reached into the triple digits. Fires plagued the state far and wide, setting a short-lived annual record for most acreage burned, subsequently surpassed by 2018 and 2020 wildfire seasons. The only fire to directly impact the Santa Cruz Mountains, the Bear Fire, began on October 16th, after we had completed harvesting the vineyards, thereby having no affect on the vintage.





2017 Winemaking Experiments

FERMENTATION TEMPERATURE: This test is for higher and lower temperature during fermentation to see if we get better/worse extraction.

Results:

- a. Domaine Valeta like lower temperature fermentations as it helps reduce the astringency in the A blocks.
- b. Domaine Lois Louise like higher temperature fermentations and we get full extraction and we see excellent balance.

FERMENTATION OF MIXED CLONES VS. MONO CLONES: This test is for seeing if the wine that comes from a mono clone fermentation is better than the wines that comes from a mixed clone fermentation.

- a. Tank 1. Clone 667
- b. Tank 2. Clone 777
- c. Tank 3. Clone 115
- d. Tank 4. Clone 667, 777, 115

Results: This is the most controversial experiment because the score are so close. But, all in all, mono fermentations are the winner. We have implemented this practice with the 2017 vintage as a SOP.

VM Rodgers, Owner/Winemaker
October 25, 2017

Our Three Vineyards



DOMAINE DU DOCTEUR RODGERS (DDR)

Domaine du Docteur Rodgers (DDR) is our flagship vineyard surrounding our house in Woodside, California —the San Francisco Bay wine-growing region. The vineyard is one acre, close-planted with 4,149 vines per acre. Today, half of the vineyard has been replanted in a super-dense “Goblet” format with our preferred Dijon 828 clone at a record density of 6,132 vines per acre.

DOMAINE VALETA “SUNNY SLOPE” (DV)

Domaine Valeta “Sunny Slope” (DV) is on the next mountain just southwest of the fabled Ridge Monte Bello Vineyard in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It faces the San Francisco Bay at 2,300 feet above sea level. This 3.5 acre vineyard produces our most delicate, fragrant Burgundian wine with beautiful perfume.

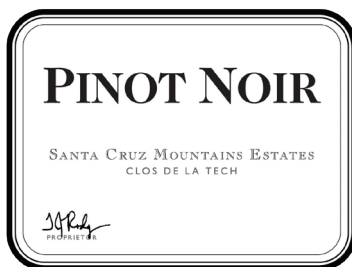


DOMAINE LOIS LOUISE (DLL)

Domaine Lois Louise (DLL) consists of vineyards “Twisty Ridge,” “Côté Sud” and “Santa Cruz Mountains Estates,” all facing the Pacific Ocean. DLL surrounds our gravity-flow winery built in 2012 with three 300-foot caves designed by TJ Rodgers. The topography is steep hillside with an average grade of 35%. It requires a one-of-a-kind tractor (designed and built for TJ), lowered by cables and controlled with a joystick, to traverse vertical and horizontal slopes.



2017 Vintage Offering



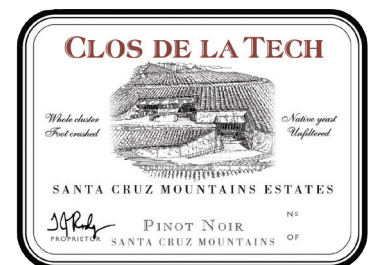
PINOT NOIR

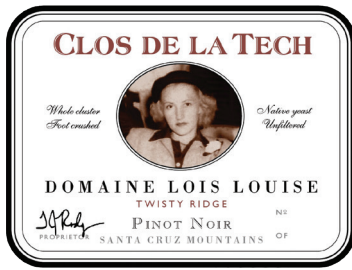
Clos De La Tech uses a portion of our Santa Cruz Mountains Estates wine under this alternate label for on-premises trade accounts. Designed for by-the-glass offerings at fine dining restaurants nationally.

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS ESTATES

Santa Cruz Mountains Estates Pinot Noir combines wine from the mountain vineyards—Domaine Lois Louise and Domaine Valeta—making this a very complex wine. The flavor delivers a touch of nostalgia, transporting you to old world France. The vineyards' locations are extremely steep, ranging from 1,700-2,300 feet above sea level.

Surface area: 40 acres planted to vine





DOMAINE LOIS LOUISE TWISTY RIDGE

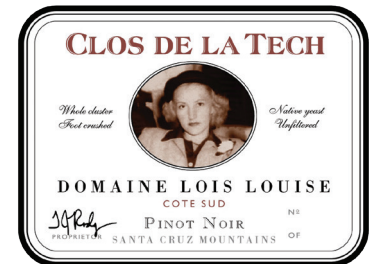
A deeply colored and extracted wine with great aging potential. The 18-inch clay-loam topsoil and cold windy weather of Twisty Ridge produces a “big red wine.” – Ronn Wiegand Twisty Ridge resides at the top of DLL and points directly toward the Pacific Ocean. The vineyard is very narrow and must be farmed by hand. The wine is intense, youthful, and both richly fruity (blueberry and blackberry) with light oak and a persistent aftertaste.

Surface area: 3 acres planted to vine

DOMAINE LOIS LOUISE CÔTÉ SUD

This immediate neighbor of Twisty Ridge produces Pinot Noir with a “blow away” bouquet. The bouquet is intense and refined, with cherry, blueberry, black tea, toasty oak, cedar and vanilla aromas. The palate is fleshy, full bodied and balanced — long on the palate and persistent on the finish. The vineyard resides at the top of a long, steep south-facing slope, which increases warmth in an otherwise very cool environment.

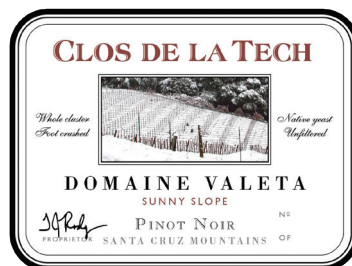
Surface area: 4 acres planted to vine



DOMAINE VALETA SUNNY SLOPE

Upon sipping Domaine Valeta Sunny Slope, you are met with an exotic flavor full of quality and exuberance. This 2,300-feet above-sea-level vineyard is located just west of fabled Ridge Monte Bello, with snow occurring each on the occasional winter. We call Domaine Valeta Sunny Slope our delicate, fragrant Burgundian wine.

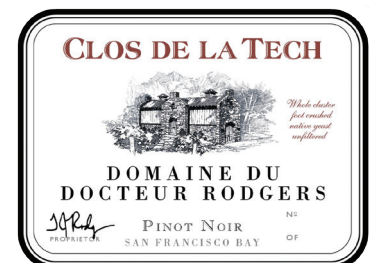
Surface area: 3.5 acres planted to vine



DOMAINE DU DOCTEUR RODGERS

Domaine Du Docteur Rodgers vineyard is located at TJ and Valeta Rodgers' residence in the San Francisco Bay AVA. The wine is made in an on-site farmhouse winery that evokes images of Vosne-Romanée and the magic of Romanee-Conti. The following note is from the first sommelier to hold both Master of Wine and Master Sommelier titles, Ronn Weigand, “the aroma is intense, ripe, and very distinctive (cherry, blueberry, cooked meat, eucalyptus, mint)—just excellent. Outstanding quality.”

Surface area: One acre planted to vine





COOPERAGE

Francois Frères barrels from the Bertrange forest, France

PINOT NOIR CLONES

113, 114, 115, 777, 667, 459, 828, 943

All of our premier Pinot Noirs are

hand harvested, foot crushed, made with native yeast, gravity-flow winery, and bottled unfiltered