

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

Vol. 7, No. 30 | July 27, 2011

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Biweekly Publication

INSIDER SPECIAL REPORT: 2009 CALIFORNIA PINOT NOIR

California's hit parade of dazzling 2009 Pinot Noirs takes center stage this issue, with 39 terrific wines, including five that earned classic ratings, which are the Hot Wines on page 4.

The 2009 vintage is shaping up to be the greatest for Pinot Noir in California history, and that comes courtesy of perfect weather conditions. What makes 2009 so special is the number of outstanding producers and their offerings, which demonstrate the breadth and depth of the year, particularly in Sonoma.

—James Laube

BREGGO

Pinot Noir Anderson Valley 2009

92 points | \$38 | 2,183 cases made | Red

Pure, ripe, vivid and structured, this is full-bodied, with a mix of mineral, loamy earth, currant, dried berry, sage and cedar flavors. Very tightly wound, finishing with a wild berry aftertaste. Drink now through 2018.—JL

BREGGO

Pinot Noir Anderson Valley Ferrington Vineyard 2009

91 points | \$55 | 440 cases made | Red

Fresh, vibrant and concentrated, with snappy touches of blackberry and wild berry jam. This is medium- to full-bodied, turning delicate while retaining a complex, persistent, fruity aftertaste. Drink now through 2017.—JL