

# WINES | BONNY DOON VINEYARD

*Vini terrae faciles sunt*



Based in Santa Cruz, heartland of New Age thinking, dreaming and deferred transition to “adulthood,” Bonny Doon Vineyard has a not so surprising history of idealism and innovation. Founded in the bucolic hamlet of Bonny Doon in 1983 by Randall Grahm, Bonny Doon Vineyard is known for its strikingly original wines made from lesser-known (though no less “noble”) grape varieties, the so-called vinous Ugly Ducklings. Bonny Doon Vineyard made its mark on the world of wine with pioneering work in the exploration of Rhône varieties, innovative production techniques and very imaginative marketing that has at times, truth be told, been too clever by half.

Since the adoption of biodynamic farming practices in 2004 and in 2006, the radical slimming down of both product portfolio and overall case production (with a concomitant greater degree of focus and attention to detail), the wines of Bonny Doon Vineyard have evinced a more complex expression of varietal character, a more noticeable sense of organization and a greater degree of life-force. We invite you to share in our passion.

We are on a journey that began with “wines of effort,” wines that were pleasing, harmonious and provided a certain intellectual frisson. And yet, ultimately these wines were but steps along the evolutionary path, one that is unfailingly pointed in the direction of wines of *terroir*, wine the qualities of which transcend the winemaker’s complete control and leverages (to use dreadful MBA-speak) the intelligence of capital n, Nature, an intelligence capable of creating complexity and order unimaginable to our finite sensibility. We are *terroir* seekers, and our path presently brings us through the territory of wines possessing life-force, the ability to withstand oxidative challenge. The vitality is present in the wine; it is now a matter to polish and to refine and eventually to reveal the wine’s inherent *terroir*.



## WINEMAKING

We strive to make wines in a more or less oldfangled, unaffected manner, absent of flashy adornment, special FX, unnatural levels of ripeness and other trappings of winemaking “progress”. Our wines are moderate in alcohol, discreet in tannin extraction and have limited exposure to new oak. Most interesting to us is the idea of producing wines that are profoundly organized, by which we mean wines capable of expressing the personality and character of a given site. We follow Biodynamic principles because we believe they will help us produce wines, the quality of which transcends the winemaker’s complete control. Wine that speaks of place and not one that can be from anywhere or nowhere. Wine that articulates the special qualities of presence and persistence.

## VINEYARDS

**DEL BARBA VINEYARD**  
 Contra Costa | Dry farmed  
 100+ year-old vine mourvèdre & carignane.

**PEPELOUCHUM ESTATE VINEYARD**  
 San Juan Bautista | Our estate polyculture farm, recently planted pinot noir grapevines, olive trees, antique varieties pear, apple, plum, peach, and cherry trees, black and red raspberries, and assorted vegetables.

**BEE SWAX VINEYARD**  
 Arroyo Seco | Transition to Biodynamic® roussanne, grenache blanc and picpoul.

**ALTA LOMA VINEYARD**  
 Monterey | Organically farmed grenache.

**BIEN NACIDO**  
 Santa Maria | Syrah, farmed using Biodynamic® practices.

**BONNY DOON VINEYARD**

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## CIGARE FAMILY WINES

A complex and relatively functional family unit inspired by the wines traditionally produced in the Rhône Valley of Southern France; Le Cigare Volant and its vinous *confrères* pay homage not only to the wines of the celebrated appellation Châteauneuf-du-Pape, but to all forays into the world of the magical and unknown.



### VIN GRIS DE CIGARE

CENTRAL COAST | MEDITERRANEAN STYLE ROSÉ | 13%

**NOTES:** Our *gris* de Cigare is deliciously bright true *vin gris* (minimal skin contact) of filigreed fruit—bergamot, wild strawberry and maybe even a delicate trace of wintergreen. On the palate, sleek, salty, savory, mouth-watering aspect and a refreshing acidity. A wonderful persistent finish, extremely food-friendly.

**VINTAGE:** 2016: 49% Grenache 19% Grenache Blanc 13% Mourvèdre 12% Carignane 4% Cinsaut 3% Roussanne

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvest/sorted, indigenous yeast fermented in stainless steel tanks.

**VINEYARDS:** Alta Loma, Del Barba, Beeswax

### LE CIGARE BLANC



**NOTES:** Our white analogue of Le Cigare Volant. Color as pale as drying grass in mid-summer. Aromas of pears and other pome fruit, citronella, muskmelon, fennel, along with white flower and the unmistakable fragrance of beeswax (as per the vineyard namesake). Rich, yet elegant on the palate sporting refreshing acidity and a firm mineral backbone.

**VINTAGE:** 2013: 55% Roussanne, 26% Grenache Blanc, 19% Picpoul Blanc

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvest/sorted, whole-cluster pressing. Indigenous yeast fermented in 50% stainless, 50% experienced French oak puncheon and barrel for 8 months, 100% ML.

**VINEYARDS:** Beeswax Vineyard, Arroyo Seco, Monterey, CA

### LE CIGARE VOLANT



CALIFORNIA | FLAGSHIP RHÔNE RED BLEND | 13.5%

**NOTES:** Our flagship wine, launched in 1984, a classic red Rhône blend, and homage to CdP. A beautiful wine-dark, mulberry color, and a first nose of dark, cool loamy earth with suggestions of raspberries, Damson plums and cherry/chocolate. On the palate, it is sleek and racy

**VINTAGE:** 2012: 39% Mourvèdre, 33% Grenache, 26% Syrah, 2% Cinsault

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvested and sorted, indigenous yeast fermented, 15-20% whole cluster; 100% ML; aged 60% in 500 liter puncheon.

**VINEYARDS:** 33% Del Barba, 18% Bien Nacido, 17% Alta Loma, 11% Ventana, 7% Rancho Solo, 6% Enea, 5% Alamo Creek, 2% Wock and 1% Spanish Springs

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For tech sheets, accolades and all manner of fascinating material, please see:

[www.bonnydoonvineyard.com/trade-and-media](http://www.bonnydoonvineyard.com/trade-and-media)

## ESOTERIC WINES

2015 Picpoul

BEESWAX VINEYARD | ARROYO SECO, CA | 13.4%



**NOTES:** Impressively bracing natural acidity (no acidification was done), with echoes of the ocean. Beeswax Vineyard, in Arroyo Seco, is after all, only a hop, skip and jump away from the cool breezes of Carmel.

**VINTAGE:** 2015: 100% Picpoul

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvest/sorted, indigenous yeast fermentation, stainless steel

**VINEYARDS:** Beeswax Vineyard, Arroyo Seco, Monterey, CA



### Gravitas CALIFORNIA | BORDEAUX STYLE WHITE BLEND | 13.5%

**NOTES:** A wine of Gravitas demonstrates its stones, as it were, a pleasant quality of minerality, with a finish as persistent as a British bulldog.

**VINTAGE:** 2014: 54% Semillon, 43.5% Sauvignon Blanc, 2.5% Orange Muscat

**VINIFICATION:** Cold fermented in stainless steel

**VINEYARDS:** California



### A Proper Claret CALIFORNIA | BORDEAUX STYLE RED BLEND | 13.2%

**NOTES:** Lean, neither overly alcoholic, nor overly extracted. Silky notes of violets and textural elegance, in precision counterpoint to lead-in-the-pencil firmness. In the nose, a lovely suggestion of cedar and mint. The '14 version is a bit plusher and posher, with softer tannins.

**VINTAGE:** 2014: 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Petit Verdot, 22% Tannat, 9% Syrah, 7% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petite Sirah

**VINIFICATION:** Stainless steel fermentation, 100% ML, minimal oak application

**VINEYARDS:** California

Clos de Sibroy

CALIFORNIA | GRENACHE BASED BLEND | 14.5%

**NOTES:** Powerful fragrance, peppery and bursting with red fruit and flowers.

**VINTAGE:** 2014 "Cuvée Particulière": 75% Grenache, 13% Mourvèdre, 4% Syrah, 3% Pinot Noir, 2% Cinsaut, 1% Grenache Blanc, 1% Roussanne, 1% Counoise

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvested/sorted, indigenous yeast fermentation in individual lots, cold soaked, 30 day maceration, 100% ML before blending

**VINEYARDS:** 80% Alta Loma, 9% Del Barba, 6% Rancho Solo, 4% Ventana, 1% Camp Four



### I AM NOT DRINKING ANY \$%&\*#! MERLOT CALIFORNIA | MERLOT(+) | 13.3%

**NOTES:** Medium ruby color, with a lovely dusty aroma of fraise de bois, and licorice and gingerbread. Wonderful natural acidity, medium tannins and great persistence.

**VINTAGE:** 2015: 76% Merlot, 16% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot

**VINIFICATION:** Stainless steel fermentation, 100% ML, minimal oak application

**VINEYARDS:** California



### SYRAH LE POUSSEUR CALIFORNIA | SYRAH | 13.4%

**NOTES:** A strong mineral/earthy/bloody note, not utterly unreminiscent of Cornas. Anise/licorice characters that typify Syrah. On the palate, refreshing acidity, tannins well-resolved and remarkably savory with an exceptionally long finish.

**VINTAGE:** 2013: 100% Syrah

**VINIFICATION:** Hand harvest/sorted, 20% whole cluster fermentation, 1 month cuvaizon, aged 16 months in 500 liter puncheon and 10,000 liter wood upright

**VINEYARDS:** 63% Bien Nacido, 34% Alamo Creek, 3% Ventana