



Antonio Galloni
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August 2013

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- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir Rosemary's Vineyard](#) Another impressive wine, the 2011 Pinot Noir Rosemary's Vineyard is a standout. From an own-rooted parcel planted in 1987, the Rosemary's is laced with beautifully focused aromatics, delineated fruit and fabulous overall balance. Cranberries, rose petals, crushed flowers and spices are all layered into the crystalline, pointed finish. A wine of rare distinction, the 2011 should also offer a broad window of prime drinking to age 10-12, perhaps longer. 94
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- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir Estate](#) The 2011 Pinot Noir Estate wafts from the glass with exquisite aromatics and weightless, articulate fruit. Bright, nuanced and wonderfully delineated, the 2011 is all about understatement. Clean, saline notes support the bright finish. The partial use of whole clusters works very nicely here. This is a drop-dead gorgeous wine from Brian Talley. 93
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- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay Rosemary's Vineyard](#) The Chardonnay Rosemary's Vineyard is the most backward and reticent of the 2011 Chardonnays. Minerality and structure dominate. Hints of jasmine, spice and exotic white fruit gradually become more expressive. The layered, beautifully textured finish is especially appealing. I can't wait to see where the 2011 goes over the next handful of years. 93
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- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir Stone Corral Vineyard](#) A deep, sensual wine, the 2011 Pinot Noir Stone Corral Vineyard wraps around the palate with serious density and depth. The style is one of richness and weight. Layers of dark red/blackish fruit inform the resonant finish. The Stone Corral will appeal most to readers who like more overt Pinots. 93
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- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir Rincon Vineyard](#) Savory herbs, licorice, graphite and dark red fruit all emerge from the 2011 Pinot Noir Rincon Vineyard. These clay-rich soils yield a powerful wine loaded with pure structure and muscle. I would give the 2011 another year or two in bottle to meld together, but it is impressive, even today. The 30% whole clusters are nicely integrated in this classy, impeccable wine. Stylistically, the Rincon Vineyard is a bit more overt and fruit-driven than the East Rincon Vineyard in this vintage. It will be interesting to see if that difference holds across future vintages as well, or if it is more a factor of the 2011 vintage itself. 93
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- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir East Rincon Vineyard](#) The 2011 Pinot Noir East Rincon Vineyard is the first wine to emerge from a small parcel within Rincon planted in 1984. Sweet floral notes meld into crushed red berries in a Pinot that is all about subtlety and understated grace. The use of 25% whole clusters adds perfume, lift and lightness. The style is a bit fleeting, but all the elements are in the right place. Pinot has a rare ability to be highly transparent with regards to site, and this is another great example of that. 92
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- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay Estate](#) The 2011 Chardonnay Estate, from Briam Talley's estate's vineyards in Arroyo Grande, is supported by gorgeous veins of graphite, crushed rocks and minerals. An intriguing wine, the 2011 stands out for its mineral-drenched energy and length, while more typical varietal fruit notes lie in the background. Layers of fruit continue to build as the broad shoulders fill out in a Chardonnay endowed with tons of personality and pure class. Best of all, the 2011 Chardonnay Estate is a fabulous value. 92
- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay Rincon Vineyard](#) A cool, implosive wine, the 2011 Rincon Vineyard will thrill readers who like vibrant, pointed Chardonnays. The 2011 is all about energy, poise and nuance, qualities it has in spades. The aromas and flavors are quite expressive, but ultimately, the Rincon is a wine of pure texture. Like all of the 2011s here, the Rincon really needs time in the glass to shine. This parcel is planted with own-rooted Wente clones. 92
- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay Oliver's Vineyard](#) The 2011 Chardonnay Oliver's Vineyard is beautifully focused and precise. Bright citrus notes meld into floral and spice overtones in a wine that impresses for its balance and pure class. All the elements fall into place nicely. Even though the Oliver's underwent full malolactic fermentation, it remains a focused, vibrant Chardonnay bristling with energy and drive. Still the Oliver's is wonderfully open and expressive, especially with time in the glass 92
- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay Monte Sereno Vineyard](#) The 2011 Chardonnay Monte Sereno Vineyard is a new wine from Talley. Here it is the wine's voluptuousness that stands out, although the cool growing season tempers those qualities to some extent. Coconut, lychee, mint and sweet spices all flesh out in this soft, inviting Chardonnay. It will be interesting to see how this bottling develops in future vintages. This debut effort certainly bodes well for the future. 91
- [Talley Vineyards Pinot Noir \(Edna Valley\)](#) The 2011 Pinot Noir (Edna Valley) is beautiful and intense in the glass. Smoke, tobacco, licorice and cedar are some of the notes that flesh out in this surprisingly rich, Chardonnay. The low yields of the year contribute to the wine's implosive, muscular personality. Deceptively medium in body, the 2011 packs a serious punch. This is a very serious wine for the money. 89
- [Talley Vineyards Chardonnay \(Edna Valley\)](#) Lemon, butter, spices, apricots, vanillin and spices all wrap around the palate in the 2011 Chardonnay Edna Valley. The use of 20% new French oak barrels adds an attractive sweetness but the cool nature of the year comes through in spades. 88
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