

Retail

\$27.99

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2017 Alma de Cattleya Sonoma County product-timed-pdf - Red Blend, Sonoma - 91pts. & Editor's Choice by Wine Enthusiast

Why We're Drinking It

This beauty was expertly created by Columbia born, French trained winemaker Bibiana Gonzalez Rave, whom many of you may recognize as the winemaker for Pahlmeyer. (previously Lynmar Estate too!) Her new Alma de Cattleya label is rapidly increasing in popularity with each cork pulled and are setting the bar for what can be achieved at each respective price level.

A blend of several methodically selected vineyard blocks centered around the Sonoma Coast AVA and focused primarily around sites positioned very close to the Pacific Ocean, this is a gorgeous interpretation of cool-climate, classic Sonoma Coast Pinot. Remarkably plump and velvety on the palate, this stunning Pinot covers your taste buds in ripe, penetrating fruit, layered in wild rose and violets. We strongly recommend a case or two, because a Pinot this good, at this price, certainly won't be available for long.

Tasting Notes

Pale ruby purple in color, the 2017 Pinot Noir opens with Bing cherries, tart cranberry, blackberry, violet and tobacco leaf aromas with tangerine peel nuance. Light to medium-bodied, it's fresh and soft in the mouth with crunchy red fruits and citrus accents, framed by soft, grainy tannins and juicy freshness to lift the finish. 1,600 cases produced.

VARIETAL
Red Blend
ALCOHOL
14.50
SIZE
750ml
BLEND
Red Blend

The Story to Know

Bibiana González Rave is the founder and winemaker of Cattleya Wines. Born and raised in Colombia and trained as a winemaker in France, she moved to California in 2007 to settle into making extraordinary wines. In her words: "Since my early teenage years, my dream has been to make wine. At a very young age I was fortunate enough to begin learning how to make wine in France. I trained myself while working with some amazing winemakers who showed me the importance of loving the land, how to respect the farming itself, and to focus on the many details that go into making each drop of wine in each and every bottle. While studying in Bordeaux and Cognac I learned the required viticulture, enology and microbiology ("wine science"); but most importantly, I was also exposed to the many rituals involved in winemaking—things like pruning, harvesting and bottling—that feel so special and meaningful each season."

While in France Bibiana worked in Côte-Rôtie (Domaine Michelle & Stéphane Ogier and Domaine Clusel-Roch), Alsace (Domaine du Scheidecker), Burgundy (Domaine Du Devevey), Cognac (Lycée Agricole de L'Oisellerie) and Bordeaux (Château Haut-Brion, Château La Mission Haut-Brion and Château La Dominique). She moved to Sonoma in 2004. She worked harvests in South Africa at Saronsberg Cellars as well as in California and France, working six harvests in three years at one point. In California she worked at La Crema, Peay Vineyards, Au Bon Climat and Qupé before Lynmar, where she was winemaker from 2009 through 2011. She then, Bibiana started her own vineyard and winery-consulting business, Rave Vines & Wines, produced a handful of wines under her own label, Cattleya, married Jeff Pisoni of the Pisoni Vineyard family, formed a winery with him called Shared Notes, secured new grape sources for her wines and signed on as winemaker for Jayson Pahlmeyer's Sonoma Coast Pinot and Chardonnay "Wayfarer" project. In 2016, her role at Pahlmeyer was expanded across all of the Napa Valley and Pahlmeyer winemaking. Cattleya is beautiful and delicate species of orchid, and the national flower of her native country, Colombia. It is the inspiration behind her label since it is one of the most challenging flowers to grow, a symbol of the beauty and rewards that come from hard work.

Ratings

"This is a great taste of the freshness of Sonoma without the sticker shock, showing freshly pressed red berries, vanilla and wet slate on the nose. It's light in density on the sip, so the flavors of cranberry, carnation, wet earth and brown spice sail effortlessly across the palate. *Editors' Choice*" - 91pts. Wine Enthusiast

"Nose with ripe blackberry and currant with notes of sage and mocha. Fruit carries to the palate with impressive layers of cherry, pomegranate, leather and toasted vanilla. Nice backbone with elegant structure and gripping tannins, this wine is still getting better and should continue to do so for a year or two and will go for several years after. Finish is long with nice fruit layers. Great wine of the price." - 93 Insider Points
