

91 **Dierberg** \$42

Dierberg 2006 Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir

Finely integrated, this wine highlights the warm/cool dynamic of fruit grown in the rolling hills on the west side of the Santa Maria Valley, about 14 miles from the coast. The ripe fruit maintains a freshness and tartness like crisp red apple skin, melding into the fineness of sandy-textured tannin. It finishes bright and spicy, ready for roast arctic char.

(4,500 cases) Dierberg Vineyard, San Luis Obispo, CA

PINOTREPORT

SMART BUY!

"Great for the table..."

Dierberg Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley 2006

Medium ruby color; deep, spicy, red cherry aromas with some lavender notes; ripe, rich, deep cherry and spice flavors; herbal, lavender notes, complex and interesting; good structure and balance; long finish. Subtle, spice and herbal notes make this a very interesting Pinot to drink. Nice balance makes it a good player on the table as well.

4,958 cases made \$42 Score: 92



2006 DIERBERG VINEYARD Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley

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Sweet, optimally ripened, cherry-like fruit is accented with deft touches of milk chocolate, flowers and sweet spice throughout the considerable length of this concentrated and keenly focused young Pinot, and, if very well-balanced and so showy as to beg early drinking, this fleshy wine is built with a fine spine of silky tannins that bodes quite well for age. Drink it now if you must with the likes of a rare rack of lamb, but we are planning to set a few bottles aside for three or four years and suggest that you do the same thing. \$42.00

2006 Dierberg Vineyard **90** Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley

(\$42) Vivid red. Suave, spicy aromas of raspberry, candied cherry and smoky minerals, with a touch of white pepper adding complexity. Smooth in texture, with deep red berry preserve flavors framed by velvety tannins. Gains weight with air and finishes with deeper dark fruit qualities and lingering spiciness. Highly alluring and emphatically New World in style; this will work well with spicy or smoky foods.