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2017 Pinot Noir

Appellation: California (60% Monterey, 20% Sonoma Co., 25% Clarksburg)

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Alcohol: 13.5% **TA:** 6.8 g/L **pH:** 3.45

Oak Regimen: 12 months in 20% new French wood. Balance in neutral oak.

Vintage Notes: 2017 provided ideal growing conditions for this early ripening varietal. Fairly good heat was followed by a cool snap during the later part of the growing season.

Winemaker Notes: "It slipped down my throat like the little Lord Jesus dressed in velvet pantaloons" is a 400 year-old quote attributed to the Carmelite nuns of Burgundy when they described the sensation of drinking wine from their Burgundian vineyards. This may or may not be legend, but I've paraphrased this quote for years to describe my feelings when I drink wine from this grape.

Tasting Notes: Find beautiful aromatics of cherry with a hint of sexy toasted oak. The flavors are lush and sweet with notes of black cherry, pomegranate, and strawberry. The acidity is well balanced and helps preserve the sensation of velvet well into the finish.

Award winning winemaker Adam LaZarre started Cycles Gladiator in 2005. LaZarre's philosophy: "I love producing really great wines that taste two to three times the price & knowing that every night someone is enjoying my wine."



12 & Counting
Since 2005, Adam's Cycles Gladiator wine was rated Best Buy a Dozen Times by WE

Quotes from Matt Kettmann

Central and South Coast Editor, Wine Enthusiast

November 2015: "This twist-top wine by Adam Lazarre is popular for good reason..."

July 2016: "There's excitement about the return of this rather iconic bargain brand to the market, and this bottling packs the goods..."

November 2016: "This wine and the entire brand often punch above their weight..."

