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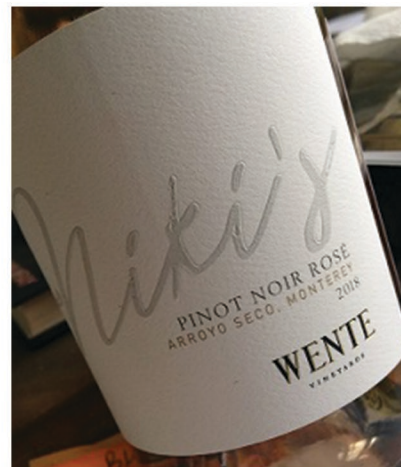
Wine of the Day, No. 467

Posted by Fredric Koeppel

WENTE
VINEYARDS

WENTE VINEYARDS NIKI'S PINOT NOIR ROSÉ 2018

The first rosé wine from California's 2018 harvest that I tasted is a winner. This is the Wente Vineyards Niki's Pinot Noir Rosé 2018, Arroyo Seco, Monterey, 100 percent pinot noir made all in stainless steel. The wine is named for Niki Wente, grape-grower and viticulturalist and cousin to Karl Wente, the winery's chief winemaker. The estate was founded in 1883 and is operated by the family's fourth and fifth generations. The wine is described as "small lot," but the number of cases produced is not indicated. The hue is very pale onion skin or what used to be termed, more colorfully, "eye of the partridge." Lovely, delicate aromas and flavors of peach and strawberry are permeated by notes of cloves, blood orange and heather with an undertone of red currant, bolstered by a hint of damp roof tiles; all of these winsome elements are elegantly etched by a pencil tip of graphite and a steely whiplash of bright acidity. 13.5 percent alcohol.



A superior rosé. Excellent. About \$30



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