

Jim Clendenen, the Mind Behind *Au Bon Climat*, is one of the founding winemakers in Santa Barbara County. He has been making benchmark wines under his own label since 1982. Although Jim owns his own vineyard, Le Bon Climat, at the Southern end of the Santa Maria Valley, he also sources grapes from many of the most historically significant vineyards throughout the Santa Barbara County and beyond. Jim specializes in crafting well-balanced artisan quality Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.



Au Bon Climat "Knox Alexander" Pinot Noir

Santa Maria Valley, California

- This cuvee is named for Jim Clendenen's son.
- This wine is selected from estate grown plantings at the Bien Nacido and Le Bon Climat vineyards both located in the Santa Maria Valley.
- Annually the Knox cuvee has 50% traditional California "selections massales" and 50% new Dijon clones. The blend includes from Bien Nacido Vineyard: Swan, Jackson, 115, 777, 667, 2A, and Pommard clones and from Le Bon Climat Vineyard: Mount Eden, 2A, and 667 clones.
- The fruit is fermented in small open top fermenters, which are punched down by hand twice a day.
- The wine is transferred to Francois Freres French oak barrels, about 75% new, and aged for 22 months.
- The wine is bottled unfiltered.