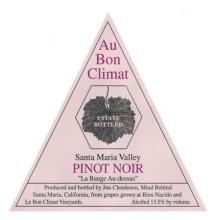


Jim Clendenen, the Mind Behind *Au Bon Climat*, is one of the founding winemakers in Santa Barbara County. He has been making benchmark wines under his own label since 1982. Although Jim owns his own vineyard, Le Bon Climat, at the Southern end of the Santa Maria Valley, he also sources grapes from many 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 "La Bauge Au-dessus" Pinot Noir

Santa Maria Valley, California

- "La Bauge au Dessus" translates colloquially as "the wild Burgundian party upstairs."
- The fruit for this wine is sourced from the two estate vineyards; Bien Nacido and Le Bon Climat both at an elevation of about 500-600 feet, with a south-west facing orientation and with clay loam soils. This wine is a blend of many different Pinot Noir clones.
- The fruit is fermented in open top tanks, with about 25% whole-clusters, and daily manual punchdowns.
- The wine is then transferred to French oak barrels, predominately Francois Freres, (about 50% new) and then aged for about 14 months.
- The wine is fined lightly with egg whites and then bottled unfiltered.