



Blend	84% Pinot Noir 16% Chardonnay
Source	Napa Co. 68% Mendocino Co. 24% Sonoma Co. 8%
Alcohol	12.5%
TA	0.87g / 100ml
pH	3.02
Residual Sugar	1.26%
Bottle Size	750ml
Retail price	\$30.50
Production	8,400 cases

2000 BLANC DE NOIRS

Blanc de Noirs (white from black) is the counterpart of Blanc de Blancs (white from white). Made at Schramsberg from the red wine grape Pinot Noir, this is a delicious, fruitful, full-bodied sparkling wine. Schramsberg pioneered the Blanc de Noirs style in the United States, releasing the first such American sparkler in 1967.

Making a white wine from a red grape requires great care: handpicked fruit, early morning harvest, optimal fruit maturity and delicate pressing. A balance of bright flavors, crisp acidity and minimal tannins is achieved. Three years of yeast contact knits all the elements together in a mature, toasty style.

Blanc de Noirs presents layers of roasted almond, caramel, cherry and spice. The wine is especially appealing with lighter meats such as veal and pork tenderloin, caviar and smoked fish, risotto with chanterelles and vegetables, or cheese soufflés.

Hugh Johnson wrote in his Pocket Encyclopedia of Wine: "Schramsberg*** a dedicated specialist: California's best sparkling. "Blanc de Noirs outstanding." The 1992 Blanc de Noirs won a gold medal at the World Wine Championships; the 1996 and 1997 both won gold medals at the Orange County Fair.

THE 2000 VINTAGE

"The warm spring and summer of 2000 brought an early start to a long harvest. Napa began the vintage year on August 2nd. Fifty-six vineyards later, harvest commenced in Monterey on September 28th. Of these vineyards, thirty made their way into the 2000 Blanc de Noirs, a vibrant Pinot Noir based wine. This Pinot Noir sets the stage with just-ripened raspberries and strawberry yogurt, balanced by the crisp acidity of the Chardonnay. Twenty-six percent barrel-fermentation lends viscosity and honeyed notes to this wine.

Fresh fruit is spotlighted in the wine. Strawberry, raspberry and cherry aromas dominate the nose, accented by a delicious creaminess that carries through to the palate. The wine is deepened by the bottle-aged characteristics of caramelized apples and baked dough. A juicy, sweet and sour berry palate carries this wine to a satisfying, seamless and memorable finish."

Hugh Davies, Winemaker



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