

YEAR	WINE NAME	RATING
 2010	Calera Pinot Noir Central Coast	91
<i>The 2010 Pinot Noir is gorgeous. There is an immediacy to the fruit that is quite striking. Juicy dark berries, flowers and spices flesh out on the inviting finish. This isn't as compelling as the 2009, but it is awfully close. The only problem with the 2010 is going to be finding it, as production is down a whopping 50%. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2018.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir de Villiers Vineyard	96+
<i>The 2009 Pinot Noir De Villiers Vineyard, from vines planted in 1997, bursts from the glass with expressive, juicy fruit. Dark red berries, flowers, mint, spices and an orange rind follow, leading to a generous, inviting finish. The De Villiers is the only vineyard-designate Pinot made from fully de-stemmed fruit. It is a towering wine of incomparable class and elegance. Simply put, this is a stunning showing from Calera. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2024.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard	93
<i>The 2009 Pinot Noir Ryan Vineyard shows off layers of sweet tobacco, crushed flowers, leather, spices and dried cherries. The 100% whole clusters come through on the saline, floral-infused finish. Bottle age should help the stems to integrate and the tannins to soften. Ryan is Calera's highest altitude site. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir Mills Vineyard	95
<i>A deceptively medium-bodied wine, the 2009 Pinot Noir Mills Vineyard possesses stunning balance of fruit, acidity and structure, along with superb integration of the whole clusters. There is a mid-palate pliancy and richness to the 2009 that is simply breathtaking. The Mills is all about elegance. Hints of pine, menthol and chalk linger in the empty glass. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2024.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard	93
<i>The 2009 Pinot Noir Reed Vineyard is one of the more direct wines in this lineup. There is an exotic quality to the spice, orange peel and tobacco notes that is deeply intriguing, but in the end the fruit is more of a soloist than an orchestra. None of the Calera wines can be called straightforward, but the Reed is one of the most simple. Still, within the broader context of California Pinot Noir, it is fabulous – just not as fabulous as its stable mates! Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard	97
<i>The 2009 Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard is the biggest and richest of the 2009s. It boasts stunning depth in its dark fruit, licorice, spices and sweet balsamic notes. Layers of fruit totally saturate the palate as this utterly majestic Pinot opens up in the glass. The sheer depth and nuance of the Jensen is simply breathtaking. Readers will have to be patient, as the Jensen is very much built for the cellar. It is an American classic to savor and enjoy to age 20 and perhaps beyond. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2029.</i>		
 2009	Calera Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard	95
<i>Another highlight among these new releases, the 2009 Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard is made in a much more fruit-driven style than some of the other Pinots in this lineup. It boasts stunning depth and richness, but in the classic Calera style that never abandons a sense of structural finesse. Juicy dark berries, hard candy, flowers and herbs wrap around the rich, textured finish. This is yet another dazzling Pinot from Calera. Selleck is a site with a south/southwestern exposure. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024.</i>		

Readers who want to experience the finest Pinot Noirs being made in California should put Calera at or near the top of their lists. The 2009s are simply breathtaking in their beauty. I am not sure why I was so blown away by the estate's 2009s, as the entry-level 2009 Central Coast Pinot I reviewed last year provided more than enough clues as to the quality of the rest of the lineup. Based on that wine, I should have known what to expect. Congratulations to proprietor Josh Jensen and his entire team on these magnificent, utterly compelling wines. Organic farming, native fermentations and minimal racking are some of the choices that inform the Calera wines.. — Antonio Galloni

 2010	Calera Viognier Central Coast	88
<i>The 2010 Viognier is another fabulous entry-level wine from Calera. It reveals plenty of varietal nuance to match its textured, totally inviting personality. Total harmony and elegance are the main virtues of this absolutely delicious Viognier. Calera ages the Viognier in neutral French oak barrels. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2015.</i>		
 2010	Calera Chardonnay Central Coast	88
<i>The 2010 Chardonnay Central Coast is sourced from a variety of vineyard sites across central California. There is nothing fancy here, just a glorious glass of Chardonnay bursting with varietal expression and plenty of style. Gentle notes of spiciness from the French oak (10% new) linger on the finish. This is without question one of the very finest values in California Chardonnay. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2015.</i>		
 2010	Calera Viognier Mt. Harlan	91
<i>The 2010 Viognier Mt. Harlan, from estate-grown fruit, takes things to another level. Mint, white flowers, pears and peaches are some of the notes that emerge from this transparent, weightless wine. There is plenty of richness but no heaviness whatsoever in the glass. A beautifully chiseled finish rounds things out nicely. The Viognier Mt. Harlan was whole-cluster pressed and aged in French oak barrels with no rackings until it was prepared for bottling. This is a fabulous showing from Calera. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2018.</i>		
 2010	Calera Chardonnay Mt. Harlan	93+
<i>The 2010 Chardonnay Mt. Harlan shows the pedigree these hillside sites planted in 1984 and 1998 are capable of. This is a beautifully balanced, harmonious wine that captures the exuberant side of Chardonnay in its expressive tropical fruit, buttery notes and spices, while never losing its essential minerality, focus and drive. The 2010 shows fabulous freshness all the way through to the finish. I loved it. This is yet another great showing from Calera. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2018.</i>		
 2010	Calera Aligoté Mt. Harlan	88
<i>The 2010 Aligote is a fabulous wine for the money. Crisp green apples and white peaches are some of the nuances that emerge from this vibrant, intriguing wine. The Aligote boasts fabulous textural elegance and sheer finesse. Proprietor Josh Jensen crafts his Aligote from estate grown fruit. The wine is aged in French oak barrels and sees full malolactic fermentation. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2014.</i>		

These five 2010 whites from Calera are superb. The entry-level bottlings offer tremendous value, while the higher-end selections are every bit as compelling in their respective categories. These fabulous, unique wines are well worth seeking out. — Antonio Galloni