

**WINE RECOMMENDATION**

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**Sonoma Creek****2005 Pinot Noir  
(Sonoma County)**

In the late 1800's what is now the Sonoma Creek property was a successful dairy operation. It later became home to pedigree horses and rodeos. It wasn't until 1978 that vineyards were planted. The first wine was released in 1989. In 2003 the Kautz family, owners of Ironstone Vineyards in Calaveras County, purchased the winery, adding prime Sonoma land to their vast holdings in both Lodi and the Sierra Foothills. In addition to Pinot Noir, Sonoma Creek produces Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Chardonnay.

Bright ruby with scarlet highlights, this gem of a wine, especially at \$14 a bottle, is delicately scented with ripe, height of season strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries. Violet, lilac, and magnolia tones bring an element of feminine charm, and the wine is rounded out with mocha and vanilla bean notes. On the palate this medium bodied wine is smooth, tingly, and taut, with bright fruit and floral tones. The finish is very slightly grainy, and is imbued with the essence of sweet raspberries. Enjoy with salmon with grilled mushrooms, pomegranate lamb, squash risotto, baked brie, or Jarlsberg cheese.

Reviewed January 14, 2007 by [Catherine Fallis](#).

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**THE WINE**

**Winery:** [Sonoma Creek](#)

**Vintage:** 2005

**Wine:** Pinot Noir

**Appellation:** [Sonoma County](#)

**Grape:** Pinot Noir

**Price:** \$14.00

**THE REVIEWER****Catherine Fallis**

Founder and President of Planet Grape LLC, a company committed to bringing the joy of wine, food, and good living into the lives of everyday people, Catherine is creator of the "grape goddess guides to good living," a series of books, television presentations, seminars, and e-learning programs. The fifth woman in the world to become a Master Sommelier, grape goddess Catherine Fallis is still very much down-to-earth.