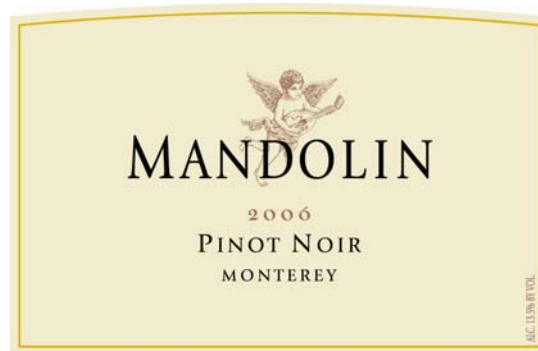


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A look back at my top 10 wines from '07



1. 2006 Mandolin Pinot Noir Monterey — This wine from the Santa Lucia Highlands in California's Monterey County was a new release and is about as young as you can get. It's infused with cherry candy and raspberry flavors that jump right out in the mouth; and as it lingers in the glass, other red fruits and even leather and spice notes are revealed. This reminds me of a great, and much pricier, Pinot Noir from Oregon that I fell in love with a few years back. But at half the price, just \$12 for the Mandolin, this is the steal of the year if you can find it. It should go with just about any dish, including salmon or barbecue.