

SCORE: 92

2015 Sojourn Cellars Gap's Crown Vineyard Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

14.6% alc., pH 3.47, TA 0.64, 768 cases, \$69. Release spring 2017. This vineyard is located on Roberts Road just above the Sangiacomo Vineyard yet the wines it produces are completely different. The base of the wine is clone 115 and 667, with small amounts of "828" that was whole cluster pressed and blended in for an overall total of 10% whole cluster. The 667 grown here produces very small berries and potent concentration so it is used judiciously. The vineyard typically delivers fruit richness, robust tannins and ample acidity and Erich must fight to tone the wine down. In 2015, tiny berries resulted in high levels of concentration. Clones fermented separately and aged separately before blending. Small amount of whole cluster. Open-top fermentation with native yeast and aged in French oak barrels, 50% new. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Moderately dark reddish purple color in the glass. Hi-tone aromas of purple berries, spice and earthy flora soar from the glass with swirling. A mid weight plus core of luscious boysenberry and blueberry fruits brings the palate to attention. Very juicy and sappy with slightly astringent tannins and a hint of oak, welcome textural fluidity, and finishing with lasting generosity. This one will stand up to a good steak.