



SOJOURN
CELLARS

OUR FALL 2018
WINE RELEASE IS HERE



As we begin the Fall 2018 Release and approach what looks to be another excellent harvest, we remember how fortunate we have been in the preceding months. Our vineyards and winery emerged unscathed from the October 2017 firestorm. An unseasonably dry winter gave way to a "Miracle March" of rain that kept us out of yet another drought. A good reserve of groundwater, in addition to warm summer temperatures, has blessed us with healthy vines and optimal crop loads.

At the core of the Fall 2018 Release is a quartet of 2016 single vineyard Pinot noir wines from the West Sonoma Coast and Russian River Valley – **Reuling, Riddle, Ridgetop and Wohler – each with a rating of 93 points or higher.** They display the hallmark Sojourn intensity of flavor and creamy mouthfeel, while showcasing their unique sites of origin. Not to be forgotten is the 2016 Russian River Valley appellation Pinot noir, which is one of the best we have made in recent memory.

2016 was also a stellar vintage for Chardonnay, as warm, but not hot, weather allowed for longer hang times and the preservation of natural grape acidity. The 2016 Durell

Vineyard Chardonnay is rich and expressive. The 2016 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay offers minerality and elegance.

The 2015 Sojourn Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon wines are in especially short supply due to uneven spring weather during flowering. While this affected the quantity of grapes, the quality is phenomenal: the 94-point 2015 Proprietary Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon brings together our best barrels from Oakville Ranch Vineyard and famed Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III. Our velvety 2015 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon captures the essence of this elite Napa Valley appellation and is delicious now, but will also reward cellaring.

We hope you enjoy our Fall 2018 Release wines. In the words of James Laube of *Wine Spectator*, these are "rich, plump and juicy...gaining depth and ending with a dense, persistent aftertaste." We hope you enjoy our Fall 2018 Release wines. Cheers!

Erich Bradley
Erich Bradley
Winemaker

Craig Haserot
Craig Haserot
Proprietor

"Life is but a Sojourn. Enjoy the best of it."—Plato

SOJOURN CELLARS FALL 2018 WINE RELEASE

PINOT NOIR

2016 Riddle Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Riddle is located in Green Valley near the town of Occidental, a rugged section of the West Sonoma Coast. Situated atop a coastal ridge with a gentle slope, this vineyard overlooks many of the iconic Pinot noir vineyards of the region. This immaculate site has a rich history of producing exceptional Pinot noir grapes. This wine showcases the signature Sojourn smooth texture balanced by ample structure for length and longevity. It provides intriguing bramble berry fruit flavors, concentration and silky tannins.

Rated 94 Points

2016 Ridgetop Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

One of our most remote vineyard sites, Ridgetop is located in the coastal mountains along the northern Sonoma Coast near Annapolis. Situated high above the Pacific where ocean breezes are ever present, the vines produce miniscule yields with concentrated flavors, provocative aromatics, and silky texture as they struggle to grow. Always a Sojourn fan favorite, this wine offers explosive aromas of red and tropical fruits and burnt orange overlaying a bold strength and complexity at its core. The texture is rich and supple.

Rated 93 Points

2016 Reuling Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Reuling has a distinctive terroir that continues to fascinate us as winemakers. It is planted to three unique Pinot noir clones: Calera, and two "suitcase" clones from the Vosne-Romanée region of Burgundy. Mark Aubert helped develop the vineyard and produced highly rated Reuling Pinot noir wines for ten years. An impressive Pinot, it opens with complex aromas of earth and forest floor that lead to dark cherry, mushroom and truffle notes. So young, and yet so complex. Wine critic Owen Bargreen calls this wine "an outstanding and graceful style of Pinot noir for Sojourn."

Rated 93 Points



2016 Wohler Vineyard Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley

Wohler Vineyard is located at the junction of Wohler Rd and Eastside Rd just minutes from the iconic vineyards that originally established the Russian River Valley's global reputation for Pinot noir. Clones 667 and 828 form the foundation, providing a rich, lush core. A touch of Wädenswil 2A clone adds focus and earthy aromatics. The 2016 blend resulted in a wine that *Wine Spectator* described as, "a supple, generous expression of fleshy plum, blackberry, anise and wilted rose flavors. This glides along, distinctive for the grace, harmony and completeness."

Rated 93 Points

2016 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

Our 2016 Russian River Valley Pinot noir captures the essence of this appellation as a world-class location for Pinot noir. It is a blend of three vineyards, with Wohler and Riddle vineyards making up the majority. In 2016, we also included components from the famed Pratt Vineyard located in the Freestone Hills. Pratt provides additional layers of dark fruit flavors in addition to depth and structure on the palate. It balances out the red fruit profiles and lush textures from Wohler and Riddle. The resulting blend has a firm, balanced structure and multiple layers of red and dark fruits, earth and floral notes. This Pinot noir exudes intriguing aromatics that lead to a lush, silky texture. It has medium-ruby color and is drinking exceptionally well right now.

Rated 91 Points

CHARDONNAY

2016 Durell Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

Durell Vineyard has been the source behind some of the most sought-after Chardonnay wines, and we feel fortunate to work with two outstanding vineyard blocks that combine to make something special. Our 100% Old Wente clone Chardonnay was harvested at night and gently pressed to extract only the highest quality juice. The wine is lively and exotic with rich flavors, complexity and smooth texture. We fermented in French oak barrels to produce an expansive wine that illustrates the balance and exceptional character of the vintage. Lisa Perrotti-Brown of Robert Parker's *The Wine Advocate* writes that the wine has "a lovely suggestion of silkiness to the texture and long finish with spicy notions coming through."

Rated 93 Points

2016 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

We source our most mineral-driven Chardonnay from two distinct blocks within Gap's Crown Vineyard, each providing key pieces to the wine. The Price Family Vineyards team farms Gap's Crown to the highest standards of quality and with exacting precision. Clusters are typically small and dense with prominent hen and chick berries, which presage intense concentration of flavor. This Chardonnay will appeal to both Francophiles and new-world Chardonnay fans alike. According to Dr. Rusty Gaffney of *PinotFile*, the wine exudes "fresh aromas of citrus, pear, and sea breeze. Discrete richness with juicy flavors of lemon-lime and grapefruit. Slightly creamy in the mouth, with a refreshingly upbeat finish."

Rated 93 Points

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2015 Proprietary Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

The 2015 vintage provided idyllic weather conditions in Napa Valley. Our Proprietary Cuvée exudes the concentrated and voluptuous character of Cabernet Sauvignon from the vintage. Blended from renowned Napa Valley hillside and valley floor vineyards, we produce a Proprietary Cuvée only in vintages when we can create a blend of exceptional quality and ageing potential. This wine showcases two exclusive vineyards – famed Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III in Rutherford and the exclusive, hillside Oakville Ranch Vineyard. The resulting wine is balanced and impressive. It possesses gorgeous red and dark fruit aromas that lead to flavors of dark cherry, earth and mouth-watering chocolate. Enjoy now or sock it away to enjoy for years to come.

Rated 94 Points

2015 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

Oakville Ranch Vineyard dominates the blend of our generous and supple 2015 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon. Located in the hills among famous neighbors, Oakville Ranch Vineyard sits at 1,400 feet overlooking Napa Valley. The sprinkling of clay over volcanic rocks, high elevation and western exposure combine to produce powerful, rich, structured wines. The lauded 2015 vintage provided ideal weather conditions for the grapes to ripen optimally under the care of esteemed organic viticulturist Phil Coturri. This wine spent nearly four weeks fermenting on skins to ensure that the tannins and fruit flavors were balanced. The resulting wine is rich and vibrant, offering vivid flavors of blackberry, raspberry, cassis and mocha.

Rated 92 Points



VISIT US IN SONOMA!

Sojourn Cellars has completed a four-month renovation of our popular Sonoma Square Tasting Salon. Enhancements include new wine country chic furniture and a wall mural that gives guests the feeling that they are tasting wine right in the middle of Gap's Crown Vineyard.

"The configuration of our Tasting Salon has always been akin to welcoming visitors into our home," notes Sojourn proprietor Craig Haserot. "With our recent renovations, the Salon is now more emblematic of the superior quality of our wines, and it allows us to create even more gracious and memorable guest experiences."



RIDDLE VINEYARD SPOTLIGHT

Few Sonoma County vineyards possess a history as rich as that of Riddle Vineyard. Italian immigrant Joe Morelli developed the property that is now Riddle between the years 1892 and 1900. Little did Morelli know that he was in possession of a land that would become renowned for great Pinot noir a few generations later.

Current owner James Riddle planted the 17.5-acre site to Pinot in 2008. Only six miles from the ocean and situated at 750 feet of elevation, Riddle often escapes the morning layer of fog. This increased sun exposure ensures ripeness and exceptional flavor and texture, while cool ocean breezes preserve the grapes' acidity. Each vine is tended with the utmost care by the Riddle Vineyard team and it shows in the finished wine.

This is Sojourn's third release of a Riddle Vineyard Pinot noir, and it has received a 94-point rating. It is a pleasure to drink and a true standout in the Sojourn portfolio. The wine consists of multiple clones that thrive in the site's Franciscan-series Goldridge soils. Mt. Eden clone, which was taken as original bud wood from a prominent vineyard planted along California's Central Coast, is the superstar and largest contributor to the wine. Each Pinot noir clone was vinified separately and carefully blended to produce a wine with more elegance and flavor than the sum of its individual parts.

PURCHASING OUR WINES

The best way to acquire our wines is to purchase them directly from the winery. Sojourn sells wine to our mailing list customers through release allocations. If you are not already a Sojourn list member, join now to get access to our wines.

Order Wine Online: www.sojourncellars.com
Join Our Mailing List: mailinglist@sojourncellars.com

CONTACT US

Tasting Salon

141 East Napa Street
Sonoma, CA 95476
707-938-7212
salon@sojourncellars.com

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 1953
Sonoma, CA 95476
Office: 707-933-9753
Fax: 707-940-0303



SALMON IN RED WINE WITH LEEKS AND PANCETTA

2 tbsp olive oil
12 ounces pancetta
2 leeks, cleaned, trimmed, and julienned
1 sprig each--thyme, parsley, basil, marjoram, tied together
1 bottle Sojourn Cellars Pinot Noir
8 fillets of fresh salmon, each about 6 ounces each, skin and bones removed
Sea salt
Fresh ground pepper
4 tbsp sweet butter
¼ cup fresh chopped parsley

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Heat a sauté pan and then add the olive oil. When the oil is at the smoke point, add the pancetta and sauté until golden brown and crispy. Add the leek and herb bundle, and cook until the leeks are translucent. Add the red wine and simmer until the wine is reduced by one half.

Season each fish fillet with salt and pepper to taste. Place the salmon fillets in the red wine reduction and place in the oven, for 3 to 4 minutes. With a wide spatula, gently turn the fish fillets over and cook 3 to 4 minutes longer, until the fish is just barely cooked through. (Total cooking time will depend on the size of the fish fillets.)

Transfer the fish to a platter and keep warm. Discard the herbs and place the sauté pan on top of the stove. Bring the wine to a rapid boil. Swirl in the butter. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper to taste. Remove from the heat, pour the sauce over the fish, and top with the chopped parsley. Serve at once. Serves 8.

Recipe courtesy of the Depot Hotel in Sonoma

NOTES FROM THE WINEMAKER – ERICH BRADLEY

2016 was a long, temperate growing season on the Sonoma Coast, ideal for ripening the highest quality Pinot noir. These ideal weather conditions defined the 2016 vintage. This was never more true than in the furthest reaches of the region in the rugged West Sonoma Coast. Our resulting wines are brimming with abundant energy and mid-palate depth, while maintaining laser-like focus. This is simply a stunning vintage to drink now or cellar for the next decade or more.

The four 2016 single-vineyard Pinots in this release are compelling and distinctive expressions of terroir: Wohler, Riddle, Ridgetop and Reuling. We've captured history in bottle. A few standout highlights for me come with both the Ridgetop Vineyard and Reuling Vineyard Pinot noir wines.

A visit to **Ridgetop Vineyard** in Annapolis is a half-day commitment, due to its remote location on the coastal range just south of the Mendocino County border. Thanks to the combined effect of its close proximity to the Pacific Ocean and an elevation of nearly 1,000 feet above sea level, the vines bask in sunshine at easy temperatures. The outcome in 2016 is a high-wire act of power and grace showcasing intense tropical fruit and luscious mouthfeel.

Reuling Vineyard in Forestville stands on its own in the lineup of Sojourn vineyards due mostly to its unique mix of Bourgogne clones Romanée Conti, La Tache and Calera, all of which celebrate the savory aspects of world-class Pinot noir. In most vintages, this site struggles to carry enough crop for the vines to be in balance. That was not the case in 2016. Pop open a bottle and put on your favorite guilty pleasure music. This wine will sing in beautiful harmony.