



OUR SPRING 2019
WINE RELEASE IS HERE



IT'S BETTER TO BE LUCKY THAN GOOD

While we haven't (yet) found a way to control the weather here at Sojourn, we attempt to make our own luck by being compulsive planners and paying serious attention to detail. As we release our first wines of the 2017 vintage, no amount of planning could have prepared us for the 2017 harvest and subsequent wine country firestorm.

Although the vintage presented challenges for everyone in the area, we were rewarded for our diligence in the vineyards and in the winery with rich, concentrated wines that will age beautifully. Throughout the growing season our winemaking team was very active in the vineyards and monitored the weather closely. Erich, Randy and Matt were able to work diligently with our growers to achieve optimal ripeness in the fruit.

After surviving a very near miss at the winery as the firestorm ravaged homes just blocks away, the vintage provided grapes with an abundance of depth and flavor. We are fortunate that all Sojourn Pinot noir and Chardonnay grapes had been picked prior to the fire and were not impacted.

We are proud to bring you the Sojourn Cellars Spring 2019 Wine Release! This release features nine wines: five Pinot noir, two Chardonnay and two Cabernet Sauvignon. Our Pinot noir wines coming from the Sonoma Coast are particularly impressive this vintage. This includes our two flagship Pinot noir wines from Gap's Crown and Sangiacomo Vineyards. The 2017 Sangiacomo Vineyard Pinot noir once again delivers its signature lush, creamy texture, with dark red fruit and hints of forest floor on

the palate. Our 2017 Gap's Crown Vineyard Pinot noir continues to deliver concentrated layers of blue fruit and spice, with exceptional structure and balance.

The Walala and Rodgers Creek Vineyard Pinot noir wines are both forward and sexy this vintage, offering complex layers and depth. The 2017 Sonoma Coast Pinot noir offers rich character while expressing bright aromatics, lush entry, and a youthful freshness.

This release also features our 2017 Sonoma Coast and Sangiacomo Vineyard Chardonnays. These wines are fresh, lively and fruit forward, with citrus and apple aromas that leave your mouth watering and wanting more.

The Sojourn 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon from Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III in Rutherford is reminiscent of the luscious 2012 vintage, with a complex blend of dark and red fruit aromas and rich textures. Lastly, we are releasing the 2016 Home Ranch Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon. This wine is opulent and bold, with expressive blueberry aromas and hints of chocolate leading to silky tannins and a lingering finish.

We were so pleased to see many of you in our Tasting Salon and at various wine events around the country. We look forward to seeing more of you and your friends in 2019, and wish you all a Happy New Year from the team at Sojourn!

Erich Bradley
Erich Bradley
Winemaker

Craig Haserot
Craig Haserot
Proprietor

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

SOJOURN CELLARS SPRING 2019 WINE RELEASE

PINOT NOIR

2017 Gap's Crown Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Gap's Crown responded well to an early heat wave that kicked off the 2017 vintage. Tannins ripened optimally to build rich, plush textures to match the robust, layered flavors and dark cherry aromas. This wine is reminiscent of the 2014 vintage which was awarded the #35 ranking on *Wine Spectator's* Top 100 wines of 2016. It again offers a high level of concentration and excellent structure. Much of the concentration derives from the site's steep, windswept slopes and rocky soil that results in small berries and thick skins. The wine's expressive fruit is enhanced by 10% whole cluster fermentation, and its finish is long and complex.



2017 Walala Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

One of our most extreme sites, the Walala Vineyard's remarkable character stems from its 1,200 feet of elevation and precise farming by the Price Family Vineyards team. Its close proximity to the Pacific Ocean allows for long hang time and balanced acidity, while the elevation gives the vines ample sunlight in which to ripen. This 2017 vintage wine offers more depth and structure while retaining alluring tropical notes, rich character, and textbook Sojourn mouthfeel. This world-class Pinot noir is sexy and playful, while serious at the same time with exceptional aging potential.

2017 Sangiacomo Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Our flagship wine since 2004, the 2017 Sangiacomo Vineyard Pinot Noir once again reflects the Sangiacomo family's commitment to meticulous farming. The vineyard is situated on Roberts Road at the western base of Sonoma Mountain. The cool ocean breezes and fog of the Petaluma Gap provide for long hang times while allowing the grapes to retain their natural acidity. This vintage offers classic Pinot noir flavors with a touch of forest floor and earth coming from the Swan clone. A newly planted block of Mt. Eden clone provides additional layers of berry aromas and depth. Sangiacomo fans will adore the smooth, creamy texture of this vintage.

2017 Rodgers Creek Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

This wine is a favorite among industry insiders. Rodgers Creek Vineyard sits high on a ridge in the heart of the Petaluma Gap, one of the coolest and foggiest growing regions in Sonoma County, making the site well suited to growing exceptional Pinot noir. The wine's signature earth and mushroom characters shine in this 2017 bottling, thanks to the combination of unique soils and dominance of the Pommard clone. Bright red fruit, a smooth texture, and lengthy tannins complement the earthy characteristics, creating a complex wine that draws you in. Aided by 15% whole cluster fermentation, the 2017 shows impeccable balance and structure with medium weight.

2017 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

One of the best values in the Sojourn portfolio, the 2017 Sonoma Coast Pinot noir brings together eight unique lots from sites that deliver several of our single-vineyard designate bottlings. The Gap's Crown blending components shine through this vintage, with Sangiacomo, Rodgers Creek, and Walala comprising other key elements. It is a polished blend that offers robust flavors and exceptional texture. The 2017 vintage of this wine showcases the robust fruit and deep, concentrated flavors characteristic of the vintage. Multiple layers of dark and red fruit with hints of spice and earth lead to a long finish. At only \$39, this wine offers a tremendous value.

CHARDONNAY

2017 Sangiacomo Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

In 2017 we chose to split-pick our Sangiacomo Vineyard Chardonnay grapes, picking a portion prior to a heat wave and a portion after. These two distinctive components coalesced better than we could have hoped: one providing fresh acidity and bright fruit, and the other providing rich texture and tropical notes. The resulting wine has more complexity than previous vintages with layers of texture and a myriad of fruit flavors that are fresh and rich at the same time. The Sangiacomo family and their flexibility and meticulous farming were instrumental in this achievement. The finished wine offers citrus and apple aromas that leave your mouth watering.

2017 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay

We sourced our 2017 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay from top vineyard sites in the region – Sangiacomo, Durell, and Gap's Crown – with the goal of creating a cuvée that showcases the varietal's exceptional character across the expansive Sonoma Coast appellation. These diverse vineyards produced optimal fruit at lower brix in 2017 resulting in freshness on the palate and detailed aromatics. An alluring nose of stone fruit and yellow apple leads to rich flavors and an intriguing mix of depth and vibrancy. Refreshing and layered, the use of 30% new French oak adds richness and softens the texture without overwhelming the fruit. The wine is a great value at \$38.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2016 Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III Cabernet Sauvignon, Rutherford

The 2016 Napa growing season is being heralded as one of the top vintages with consistent high quality. Early spring rains delivered much needed water to reinvigorate vines affected by several consecutive drought vintages. The relatively even, moderate heat provided ideal conditions for color and flavor development. Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III produced lighter than normal clusters with small berries, and the resulting wine is marked by intense dark color, robust aromatics and excellent overall fruit character. Classic Rutherford Dust characteristics are present in the wine's dark cherry, earth and mocha flavor profile. This Cabernet Sauvignon makes quite an impression and will age very well.

2016 Home Ranch Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma Valley

Planted by Sojourn proprietor Craig Haserot in 2002, the Home Ranch Vineyard continues to deliver its signature opulent fruit character with the 2016 vintage. Built on a core of clone 337 Cabernet Sauvignon, the moderate weather in 2016 allowed the grapes to mature at an even pace and reach optimal maturity. Cabernet Sauvignon from a neighboring vineyard was blended to build additional complexity and structure. Explosive blueberry fruit aromas combine with classic cassis and mocha. Plush tannins glide through to a long finish. It is such a pleasure to drink in its youth, and it is also capable of graceful aging.



VISIT US IN SONOMA!

Sojourn Cellars has an elegant Tasting Salon located in the town of Sonoma. Our tastings feature flights of Pinot noir, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon wines, presented in a side-by-side format. Our comparative tastings allow guests to experience the nuances and distinctive qualities in our portfolio of vineyard sites from the Sonoma Coast, Russian River, and Napa Valley appellations. We encourage you to visit us in Sonoma as well as send us your friends, family, and business colleagues who will appreciate terroir-driven, artisanal winemaking.



BECKSTOFFER VINEYARD GEORGES III, RUTHERFORD, NAPA VALLEY

Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III, located in the legendary Rutherford growing region, is a reference point for world-class Cabernet Sauvignon.

This 300-acre parcel was purchased by Beaulieu founder Georges de Latour in 1928 and called Beaulieu Vineyard Number 3. It was the third vineyard developed by Georges de Latour, hence the name. The vineyard was home to BV's top Rutherford Cabernets made by the renowned winemaker Andre Tchelistcheff.

Wines from this vineyard achieved wide acclaim in the 1960's and 70's, establishing BV and Napa Valley's pre-eminence in the making of fine Cabernet Sauvignon. Purchased by Andy Beckstoffer in 1988, the vineyard has since been replanted using new Cabernet Sauvignon clones with tighter spacing and advanced trellising systems. This works to enhance both quality and yield. In 2009, 181 acres were placed under a land conservation easement that forever prohibits non-agricultural development there.

The vineyard's proximity to Conn Creek and the well-drained soils of the old creek bed combine with spectacular, western exposure to produce wines of richness and opulence.

This is one of Beckstoffer's premier Napa Valley vineyards, and the wines showcase the signature Rutherford Dust aromatic profile. The Sojourn Beckstoffer Vineyard Georges III Cabernet Sauvignon is a beautifully balanced wine with a silky smooth texture and flavors of dark cherry, earth and mocha.

VINEYARD STATS

Plantable Acreage: 251 Acres

Appellation: Rutherford, Napa Valley

Grape Varieties: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

Soils: Sandy loam with rock from the old creek bed

Location: Adjacent to the Caymus Winery between Conn Creek Road and Silverado Trail

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 twice per year. 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



HALIBUT PROVENCAL

1 tomato, diced
1 yellow onion, diced
1 red bell pepper, diced
1 tablespoon capers
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tablespoon thyme
1 tablespoon minced rosemary
½ cup Chardonnay
1 tablespoon olive oil
¼ teaspoon Kosher salt
1 bunch fresh chopped parsley
8 oz halibut (*if you don't have halibut, use a white fish of your choice; sea bass is a nice alternative*)

In a saute pan, add olive oil and place on medium heat. Add garlic and cook for 5 minutes: take care to not burn.

Add onion, red bell pepper, and capers. Cook for 6 minutes. Next, add tomato, thyme, rosemary, and salt – cook for 3 minutes.

Add wine and simmer for 12 minutes.

While the sauce is reducing, pan sear a 8 oz halibut filet in olive oil in a separate pan. Sear the filet for 3 minutes before flipping over and repeating on the other side.

Turn off heat on the Provençal sauce, add parsley.

Transfer the Provençal sauce onto a plate, and place the seared halibut on top of the sauce. Enjoy!

Recipe courtesy of Chef Kris Chavez, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar – The Domain, Austin, TX

NOTES FROM THE WINEMAKING TEAM

The 2017 vintage marked the end of a multi-year drought in California, with seasonal rainfall replenishing soils and releasing much-needed nutrients to vines that had been consistently stressed for several consecutive growing seasons. The rainfall also affected grape bloom, with yields being lower than average across many vineyards. The smaller berries and clusters provided above-average concentration and flavor across all varietals.

The 2017 wildfires in Northern California were tragic and destroyed many homes and structures. By good luck, most wine grapes had been picked prior to the outbreak of the fires. We were fortunate that all Sojourn Pinot noir and Chardonnay grapes were already in the winery and processed and were not impacted by the fires.

Pacing of the growing season was dictated by moderate heat through the spring and summer, with heat waves in late August and early September pushing most Chardonnay and Pinot noir to maturity with ease. Once the heat waves passed, moderate weather returned and provided ideal ripening conditions for Cabernet Sauvignon and cooler Pinot noir and Chardonnay sites.

Overall, the vintage provided wines with an abundance of depth and flavor that are showing nicely in their youth and are also showing great aging potential due to their enhanced structure.