



FALL 2021
WINE RELEASE &
NEWSLETTER

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



Fall is always an exciting time at Sojourn Cellars... harvest is around the corner, we are blending the previous vintage, and this year we are cautiously reveling in the reopening of our Tasting Salon and events, as the country bounces back. As we approach what is shaping up to be another exceptional harvest in Sonoma and Napa, we'd like to say THANK YOU for your support during the pandemic and also reflect together on the exceptional 2019 and 2018 vintages that compose the wines in our Fall Release.

February 2019 brought heavy rain and flooding to Sonoma County—particularly the Russian River Valley area—but because the vines were in their winter dormancy, it did not affect the crop. Spring had cool temperatures resulting in lower yields and gradual ripening of the grapes. Thanks to the extended growing season, the wines are full of flavor, fresh acidity and superb structure. 2019 was truly a remarkable year that may prove to be the standout vintage of the decade, with outstanding aging potential.

Our 2019 wines in this release are small production lots celebrating some of Sonoma's exceptional Pinot noir and Chardonnay vineyards. From the West Sonoma Coast, we highlight Reuling Vineyard, Riddle Vineyard and Ridgetop Vineyard. From the Russian River Valley comes Wohler Vineyard and the Russian River Valley appellation blend. These wines showcase an undeniable sense of place and complexity.

Patience was the name of the game for the 2018 Napa Valley harvest. The growing season was long and steady, with a warm July, cooler August, and no dramatic heat spikes. Early October was warm with dry breezes, allowing the grapes to hang on the vines longer and further develop flavors and complexity.

Our 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon from Oakville Ranch Vineyard (96 points) is "powerfully built" with "underlying elegance and grace," as stated by Virginia Boone of Wine Enthusiast Magazine. The Oakville (94 points) appellation wine blends Cabernet Sauvignon from Oakville Ranch Vineyard with two valley floor vineyards, producing a deep, lush wine with firm tannins and a silky texture. Both of these highly rated Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons will make rewarding additions to your cellar.

As we head into the last few months of 2021, we look forward to seeing friends and family and toasting together to a new year. We invite you to visit us in our Tasting Salon and outdoor garden in downtown Sonoma and at future events around the country. Thank you again for your tremendous support.

Erich Bradley
Erich Bradley
Director of
Winemaking

Randy Bennett
Randy Bennett
General Manager
and Winemaker



PACK YOUR “SUITCASE” FOR A TRIP TO REULING VINEYARD

Reuling Vineyard is located between Graton and Forestville in the Sonoma Coast appellation. Perched on a small hillside with gentle slopes at an elevation of 250 feet, the vineyard experiences cool marine influences converging from the coast, yet is exposed to the sun and afternoon heat, allowing the grapes to reach optimal maturity.

Planted in 2000 under the direction of Mark Aubert and Peter Michael Winery, Reuling Vineyard is comprised of 12.2 acres of Pinot noir (three clones comprise the blend—Calera and two different “suitcase” clones from the Vosne-Romanée region of Burgundy). There are also 2.2 acres of Chardonnay, planted with another “suitcase” clone from the Montrachet vineyard in Burgundy that Robert Parker of *The Wine Advocate* has dubbed “The Reuling Clone.”

The soils are composed mainly of Goldridge sandy loam that were formed by the decomposition of an ancient sandstone seabed. A combination of sand and loam with a smattering of clay in various blocks, it is well-draining and held in high esteem – ideal for growing Pinot noir and Chardonnay grapes of concentration and distinction.

Over the past 20 years, the fruit from Reuling Vineyard has produced some of the most critically acclaimed wines in the country. Sojourn crafts two unique wines from this vineyard that have recently received glowing accolades – 2019 Reuling Vineyard Pinot Noir (95 points) and Chardonnay (93 points).

At a Glance:

Pinot Noir Clones: La Tache, Romanée Conti, Calera

Chardonnay Clone: Montrachet

Rootstock: 3309

Planted: 2000

Soil Type: Goldridge fine sandy loam

What does “suitcase” clone mean?

The term “suitcase clone” was coined around 1964. Allegedly, a number of winegrowers and winemakers traveled to France and brought vine cuttings from legendary vineyards back into the United States, primarily in California and Oregon. Since the cuttings were often wrapped in wet newspaper and put inside a suitcase, they became known as “suitcase” clones.

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
PO Box 1953
Sonoma, CA 95476
Office: 707-933-9753
Fax: 707-940-0303

SOJOURN CELLARS FALL 2021 WINE RELEASE

PINOT NOIR

2019 Reuling Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Reuling Vineyard has a unique terroir that continues to fascinate us as winemakers. It is planted to three Pinot noir clones: Calera, and two "suitcase" clones from the Vosne Romanée region of Burgundy: La Tâche and Romanée Conti. Mark Aubert helped develop the vineyard and produced highly rated Reuling Pinot noir wines for ten years. Impressive and distinctive, this 2019 Pinot noir opens with complex aromas of earth and forest floor that lead to dark cherry, mushroom and truffle notes. Jeb Dunnuck writes, "Medium-bodied on the palate, it has a wonderful sense of tension, integrated tannins, a good spine of acidity, and just the classic cooler climate, elegant, perfumed style of this appellation front and center. It's well worth seeking out."

Rated 95 Points

2019 Ridgetop Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Ridgetop Vineyard is located in the remote coastal mountains along the northern Sonoma Coast. The vines produce miniscule yields with concentrated flavors, provocative aromatics, and silky texture as they struggle to grow. One of the fastest wines to sell out each year, this wine offers explosive aromas of red and tropical fruits and burnt orange overlaying a bold strength and complexity at its core. This wine is produced from Dijon clones 777, 667 and 115, which are desired for rich cherry fruit and generous, age worthy tannins. "More medium-bodied on the palate, it plays in the more elegant, seamless end of the spectrum, with light tannins and a beautiful finish." – Jeb Dunnuck

Rated 94 Points

2019 Riddle Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Riddle Vineyard is situated in a rugged section of the West Sonoma Coast at the top of a coastal ridge with a gentle slope. James Riddle gives each vine special attention, clipping shoots to the wires to maximize sun exposure and making several passes through the vines each vintage to orient clusters and create the best opportunity to produce exceptional fruit. Mt. Eden clone provides a foundation of robust berry flavors and rich, silky texture. Two additional clones, 115 and Pommard, balance out the 2019 single-vineyard bottling, adding complexity and length. It provides intriguing bramble berry fruit flavors, bright concentration and silky tannins.

Rated 95 Points



2019 Wohler Vineyard Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley

Wohler Vineyard is located in the heart of the Russian River Valley, just minutes from the iconic vineyards that originally established the Valley's global reputation for Pinot noir. This wine showcases the exceptional Russian River Valley terroir with its depth and silkiness. Clones 667 and 828 form the foundation, providing a rich, lush core. A touch of Wädenswil 2A clone adds focus and earthy aromatics. Jeremy Young of International Wine Report claims it as his favorite from the 2019 line-up and writes, "you should age for a decade even though you can open and enjoy this wine right now."

Rated 94 Points

2019 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

Our Russian River Valley Pinot noir captures the essence of this appellation as a world-class location for Pinot noir and the outstanding character of the 2019 vintage. It is a blend of several vineyards, with Wohler and Riddle vineyards comprising the core. In 2019, we included components from the famed Bucher Vineyard. Bucher provides additional layers of dark fruit, richness and depth. It adds another layer to the red fruit profiles and lush textures from Wohler and Riddle. The resulting blend offers freshness and balance with multiple layers of red and dark fruits, alongside earth and floral notes. Intriguing aromatics lead to a lush, silky texture.

Rated 94 Points

CHARDONNAY

2019 Reuling Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

2019 marks our third vintage producing Chardonnay from the famed Reuling Vineyard, located just off Highway 116 between Graton and Forestville. This wine is rich and distinctive. A unique "suitcase" Montrachet clone of Chardonnay takes center stage here, and, when combined with the exceptional growing conditions of 2019, demonstrates balanced acidity and rich, complex flavors in the finished wine. "Lots of baked apple, orchard fruits, baking spices, and toasted bread notes emerge from the 2019 Chardonnay Reuling Vineyard. A rich, medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced Chardonnay, it brings ample fruit yet stays grounded by a solid spine of acidity." – Jeb Dunnuck

Rated 93 Points

2019 Durell Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

Durell Vineyard has been the source behind some of the most sought-after Chardonnay wines in California history. We feel fortunate to work with two outstanding vineyard blocks that combine to make something special. Both blocks of 100% Old Wente clone Chardonnay were harvested at night and pressed to extract only the highest quality juice. This 2019 vintage wine is lively and exotic with rich flavors, complexity and focus. We fermented in French oak barrels to produce an expansive wine that illustrates the balance and exceptional character of the vintage.

Rated 94 Points

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2018 Oakville Ranch Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

Oakville Ranch Vineyard is a rugged 330-acre estate tucked into a rocky shelf overlooking Screaming Eagle and other icons of Napa Valley. It has become one of the most sought-after sites for world-class Cabernet Sauvignon by Napa Valley's elite winemakers. Wine critics have also begun singing its praises, including awarding the 2016 vintage a 98 point rating. These vines are farmed organically in red, volcanic soils on steep inclines. The vineyard excelled in the exceptional 2018 vintage and the resulting wine offers tremendous depth, finesse and aromatic intensity.

Rated 96 Points

2018 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

This blend of our generous and supple 2018 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon is dominated by Oakville Ranch Vineyard. Located in the hills among famous neighbors Dalla Valle, Pedregal and Backus vineyards, Oakville Ranch produces powerful, rich, structured wines. Cabernet Sauvignon wines made from two other vineyards along Skellenger Lane were blended in to add expressive fruit character and lush tannins. Each component of this blend spent 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 94 Points



VISIT US IN SONOMA OR VIRTUALLY!

The Sojourn Tasting Salon in downtown Sonoma now includes an outdoor garden. Our guided tastings feature flights of Pinot noir, Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon wines presented in a side-by-side format. 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.

You may also schedule a curated virtual wine tasting experience now for yourself or a group.





PAPPARDELLE WITH WILD MUSHROOMS & PORCINI VELOUTÉ

Makes 4 Servings

INGREDIENTS

Pasta Dough

2 ¾ cups flour – all purpose or 00
2 cups egg yolks
Water as needed
Pinch of salt

Porcini Velouté

3 cups heavy cream
1 cup boiling water
1 shallot, roughly chopped
1 tbsp canola oil
¼ cup dried porcini mushrooms
Salt & pepper to taste

Wild Mushrooms & Final Assembly

8 oz assorted wild mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
1 shallot, diced
1 garlic clove, minced
Salt & pepper to taste
2 tbsp Parmesan Reggiano
1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil

PREPARATION

Pasta Dough

In the mixer with a dough hook, add the flour and salt. Turn on and while running, slowly add the egg yolks, add water if needed. When a ball forms, turn off and take dough out and onto a floured surface. Begin kneading the dough for 3-5 minutes or until smooth. Dough should not feel sticky, or too soft. Using a dough sheeter or roller, such as KitchenAid, begin by dividing the dough in quarters. Use a rolling pin to flatten out each piece before putting it through the rolling attachment. Starting at the highest number on the roller, begin with 2 passes flouring after each pass. Gradually reduce the roller thickness until you're down to number 3. Flour your work surface and cut your sheet into 12" lengths. Roll each sheet up from the short side to create a cylinder (this will assist in cutting the noodles). Make 1" cuts through the cylinder until you've cut the entire roll, approximately 7 cuts or 8 discs. Unroll each disc and toss in flour to keep dry and separated.

Porcini Velouté

Reconstitute the dried porcini mushrooms in the boiling water. Let sit for one hour until softened. In a sauce pot over medium heat, add the canola oil, and sweat the shallots until translucent. Strain the water from reconstituted porcini and reserve. Add the

porcini to the shallots, sauté lightly. Add the heavy cream and reserved water to the pot and simmer for about 10 minutes. Allow to cool slightly and transfer the mixture to a high-speed blender. Blend until smooth and strain through a fine mesh strainer.

Wild Mushrooms & Final Assembly

In a large sauce pot, add 1 gallon of lightly salted water and bring to a boil. In a sauté pan over medium heat, add some olive oil, then add the mushrooms. Add the shallot and garlic, being careful not to burn or add color. Add 2 cups of porcini cream and simmer. Adjust the seasoning as needed. Add the pasta to the boiling water and cook for 2 minutes. Remove from the water and add to the sauté pan with the mushrooms and cream. Toss slightly and divide between 4 bowls. Finish with a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil and some grated parmesan cheese.



Recipe courtesy of Spencer Wolff,
Director of Food & Beverage at Layla
Sonoma, California