



FALL 2023
WINE RELEASE
NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 20 Years of Crafting Memorable Wines



The majestic harvest season has started in Sonoma, with truckloads of grapes being delivered each morning. This is what we love and look forward to each year. Sonoma grape vines woke up later than normal this year due to cold temperatures and one of the rainiest winters ever. We even had snow on Sonoma Mountain. With plenty of water, the vines are healthy and balanced, setting us up for a successful 2023 vintage.

This Fall Release offers allocations of our most limited-production 2021 Pinot Noir and Chardonnay wines from spectacular vineyards in the Sonoma Coast and Russian River Valley, including Reuling, Riddle, Wohler, and Durell. 2021 was an exceptional vintage of the highest quality in both Sonoma and Napa thanks to idyllic weather conditions and meticulous farming.

We are also thrilled to introduce two brand new Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon wines, both from the 2021 vintage and both hailing from world-class vineyards on Atlas Peak. The highly acclaimed Stagecoach Vineyard is renowned for its history and for the exceptional wines it has produced over several decades. We are releasing a Stagecoach vineyard-designate wine as well as a stunning

blend, combining the power of Stagecoach with two other vineyards on Atlas Peak. These coalesce into an intense Cabernet Sauvignon reflecting the pedigree of this mountain terroir. With these two brand new wines, we introduce new label designs reflecting an elevated Sojourn look and feel. The new look is quite different; yet the winemaking and character of these new wines remain uniquely Sojourn, resulting from the same winemakers, same style, and same attention to detail we have been plying the past 20 years. We hope you enjoy these new Atlas Peak wines and the new labels.

There is more! We will soon break ground on the new Sojourn winery in the hills above the town of Sonoma. Both of us look forward to providing you a member's tour of the new winery when it is completed. In the meantime, please join us at the Sojourn Tasting Salon next time you are in wine country and continue to send us your wine loving friends. We look forward to sharing memorable wine tasting experiences with all of you.

Erich Bradley
Erich Bradley
Director of
Winemaking

Randy Bennett
Randy Bennett
General Manager
and Winemaker

Sojourn Cellars Fall 2023 Wine Release

PINOT NOIR

2021 Riddle Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Riddle is situated in the western Sonoma Coast at the top of a coastal ridge with a gentle slope near the town of Occidental. James Riddle gives each vine special attention, clipping shoots to the wires to maximize sun exposure and making several passes through the vines to orient clusters and optimize quality. Mt. Eden clone provides a foundation of robust berry flavors and a rich and silky texture. Clone 115 and a small lot of Pommard clone were blended in, creating layers of complexity in the 2021 vintage wine. It offers intriguing bramble berry fruit flavors, intensity and silky tannins that lengthen the finish.

Rated 95 Points

2021 Wohler Vineyard Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley

Wohler Vineyard is located in the heart of the famed Russian River Valley, within a short stroll to the historic Wohler Bridge. Two blocks of Pinot Noir clones 667 and 828 crown the vineyard and form the core of this wine. They run up a steep slope with well-draining Goldridge soils. A third block of clone Wädenswil 2A rounds out our blend. In 2021, we vinified the three blocks separately and blended them to produce our best vintage yet from Wohler, showcasing intense red fruit aromas, layers of silky structure, and a long finish. This wine offers perfect tension.

Rated 94 Points

2021 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

The Russian River Valley's gentle hills, climate and Goldridge soils are ideal for growing world-class Pinot Noir. We blended Pinot Noir from five outstanding vineyards to produce this distinctive 2021 vintage wine. UV Laguna Vineyard offers depth and intensity. Wohler provides red fruit and cola notes from its site adjacent to the river. Riddle, located in Green Valley, adds structure and complexity. Bucher, near Rochioli, adds rich texture and fresh fruit flavors. Reuling balances the blend with earthy notes and silky tannins. The result offers freshness and balance with layers of red and dark fruits alongside savory notes. Intriguing aromatics lead to a lush, silky texture.

Rated 92 Points

2021 Reuling Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Reuling Vineyard has a unique terroir that continues to fascinate our winemakers. Planted in 2000 under the direction of Mark Aubert and Peter Michael Winery, this vineyard is comprised of three unique Pinot Noir clones - Calera and two distinct "suitcase" clones from the Vosne-Romanée region of Burgundy. The vineyard benefits from cool marine influences converging from the coast yet is exposed to the sun on a gentle slope, allowing the grapes to reach optimal maturity. This 2021 Pinot Noir opens with complex aromas of berries, earth and forest floor that lead to intriguing dark cherry, mushroom and truffle notes.

Rated 95 Points

2022 Nightwing Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

This is our second vintage producing a Nightwing vineyard-designate Pinot Noir and we continue to be impressed by the vineyard. This vintage offers depth and nuance with additional structure and longevity. Nightwing is located at 1,200 feet elevation on a windy mountainside at the eastern edge of the cool Sonoma Coast appellation. It gets its name from the variety of winged creatures that come alive as the sun sets. Pommard clone, planted at the top of the vineyard, provides a deep, rich core and silky texture. Clone 115, residing lower on a steep slope, adds fresh red fruit flavors and structure.

Not Yet Rated



CHARDONNAY

2021 Reuling Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

Reuling Vineyard is 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 2021 growing conditions, demonstrates balanced acidity and rich, complex flavors in the finished wine. Reuling Vineyard is perched on a small hillside with gentle slopes at an elevation of 250 feet. It benefits from the cool marine influences converging from the coast, yet is exposed to the sun and afternoon heat, allowing the grapes to reach optimal maturity. Its extremely sandy Goldridge soil naturally stresses the vines, resulting in low yields and concentrated flavors.

Rated 94 Points

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2021 Stagecoach Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

As winemakers, we feel honored to work with these premier blocks within the legendary Stagecoach Vineyard. The vineyard is impressive in its natural beauty, soils, and character of the wines it produces. Originally planted in the late 1800s, this vineyard rises to 1,750 feet elevation on a mountainside and is described as “extreme terroir”. The rocky, volcanic, well-draining soils make the perfect growing conditions for Cabernet Sauvignon. We blended two blocks of Cabernet Sauvignon with a touch of Petit Verdot to create this wine that offers an explosion of dark fruits finishing with hints of cedar and graphite. The palate is bright with great acidity and expansive tannins. It is a collector’s wine from a renowned vineyard and an exceptional vintage!

Inaugural Release

2021 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 year after year. These two blocks have formed the Sojourn Durell Chardonnay since 2012. Both blocks of 100% Old Wente clone Chardonnay were harvested at night and pressed to extract only the highest quality juice. This 2021 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

2021 Atlas Peak Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

With the opportunity to make wines from premier blocks within Stagecoach Vineyard, we also decided to expand our journey and produce an Atlas Peak Cabernet Sauvignon. Our goal is to further showcase the terroir of this distinctive mountainside and the exceptional small vineyards that dot its landscape. To craft this 2021 vintage wine, we blended Cabernet Sauvignon and a touch of Petit Verdot from Stagecoach Vineyard with wines made from two impressive neighboring vineyards on Atlas Peak. The result is a robust Cabernet Sauvignon wine of depth and complexity. It exhibits aromas of cherries, plums and dark chocolate and offers a rich and lush mouthfeel with a long, silky finish.

Inaugural Release



EXCLUSIVE HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

- 🎁 **Magnums & Large Formats** set a dramatic tone at any table or event. They are available in limited quantities. Please contact us for current inventory.
- 🎁 **Create a One-of-a-Kind Bottle of Wine.** Etch a custom logo or unique message on a bottle of wine. Create your own private wine label.
- 🎁 **Virtually Guided Tasting Events** are available to our members. They are a great way to connect with friends, clients, colleagues and team members.
- 🎁 **Custom Wooden Boxes** filled with your choice of wines – boxes can be used for display, cellaring or handsome gift packaging. Fully customizable, call to place your order.



Stagecoach Vineyard

Reasons to Celebrate

Fall 2023 marks a very important milestone for us at Sojourn Cellars for several phenomenal reasons.

First, we are celebrating the 20th vintage of Sojourn as we release our 2021 vintage wines this year. We've come a long way from making 200 cases of Cabernet Sauvignon and welcoming guests to the Home Ranch deck. We now have a full collection of Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, and Sparkling wines from renowned vineyards to share with you. We are making wines the same way with the same team, true to our roots, and thanks to the support of our loyal members (like you), we have been able to expand our portfolio of single vineyard wines.

Secondly, we are celebrating the introduction of two new Cabernet Sauvignon wines from world-class vineyards in Napa Valley, including the renowned Stagecoach Vineyard and its impressive neighbors on Atlas Peak. With over 600 acres planted to vines, the Cabernet-focused Stagecoach Vineyard is the largest contiguous vineyard in Napa Valley. The rocky, volcanic terroir extends from Pritchard Hill overlooking Oakville to the western slopes of Atlas Peak. This legendary vineyard's rugged terrain first made history in the 1800s, when the bandit Charles Earl Bowles, aka Black Bart, robbed the daily stagecoach that traveled over its hills. We are thrilled to now make wine from this historic

vineyard and also to produce its sibling Atlas Peak Cabernet Sauvignon that combines Stagecoach with two neighboring vineyards.

Along with these two new wines comes a new fresh look for the Sojourn labels. These new wines are the first to showcase an elevated design that illustrates the journey our wines can take you on. They celebrate a moment in time while on your wine sojourn and represent the classic imagery and style of Napa Valley.

Lastly, we are excited to announce that we finally received permits to begin construction on our very own winery, a renovation of the old Ravenswood property. Current projections have us opening Fall 2024. The new Sojourn winery will give us complete control over our cellar operations, allowing us to further elevate the quality and character of the wines we produce. Equally as anticipated, the new winery will provide us with a picturesque hillside estate to host Sojourn members, where we can show you firsthand how we craft our wines. More information on this is coming in the months ahead.

We thank our oldest customers to our newest. We have been on this journey together and would not be here without you. We send our deepest thanks from our entire team here at Sojourn Cellars. Now, let's celebrate!

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

VISIT US IN SONOMA

The Sojourn Tasting Salon is located in downtown Sonoma. Our guided tastings feature flights of Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay 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 appreciate terroir-driven, artisanal winemaking.

Pan Seared Squab with Mushroom Duxelle and Jus

Pair with our 2021 Wohler Vineyard Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley.

Serves 4. Total prep time is 4 hours.

MUSHROOM DUXELLE

½ cup mushrooms, chopped	1 Tbsp white wine
1 oz shallots, minced	1 Tbsp butter
¼ tsp garlic, minced	½ tsp kosher salt
½ tsp soy sauce	½ oz canola oil

PREPARATION

1. Place a sauté pan on high heat and place canola oil in pan and heat until oil starts to smoke.
2. Add mushrooms and sauté for two minutes occasionally stirring mushrooms to prevent them from burning.
3. Add garlic, shallots and continue to cook for another two minutes.
4. Deglaze with white wine and reduce until a teaspoon is left in the pan.
5. Add soy sauce and thyme and reduce until a tablespoon is left in the pan.
6. Mix in butter and season to taste with salt.

CHICKEN JUS

5 ea rosemary leaves	1 large carrot, large dice
6 ea bay leaves	½ ea onions, large dice
1 oz garlic	6 ea chicken legs
2 stalks celery, large dice	24 cups chicken stock
1 cup white wine	1 Tbsp peppercorns
1 oz tomato paste	Canola oil

PREPARATION

1. In a large stock pot over high heat add canola oil and bring to wisps but not smoke. Add the chicken legs in a single layer. Let sit for 2 minutes without touching. Stir the meat to caramelize evenly on all sides.
2. Strain off excess oil and set the chicken legs aside.
3. Add the carrots and onions and caramelize.
4. Add the tomato paste and stir. Deglaze with white wine.
5. Return the cooked chicken legs and add the celery and chicken stock.
6. Bring to a simmer, skimming frequently to remove impurities that may cloud the jus.
7. Simmer for 2.5 hours. Add the garlic, thyme, bay leaf, peppercorns and rosemary in the last 20 minutes.
8. Strain through a fine mesh strainer.



SQUAB

1 per portion squab deboned and left intact (can substitute Cornish game hen or quail).

PREPARATION

1. Season squab with kosher salt and spread mushroom duxelles on inside.
2. Start from the thigh and roll into a tight cylinder.
3. Using butchers twine tie bird in at least 4 places so it does not open when cooking.
4. Season outside with salt and sear in a hot sauté pan on all sides.
5. Add 1 oz of butter to pan and baste squab until internal temperature of 135°F.
6. Take out of pan and allow to rest.

VEGETABLE PREPARATION

1. Take 6 ea small carrots and trim to 2 inches by ½ inch.
2. 6 ea pearl onions, 6 ea diced celery stalks.
3. In small sauté pan add a small amount of chicken stock and butter and cook carrots and onions until tender. Add 1 sprig of thyme, 1 clove of garlic and diced celery and heat through.
4. Cook until tender.

PLATING

1. Remove strings from squab and slice on a bias into 5 equal pieces and fan out in the center of a plate.
2. Add vegetables on the side and spoon jus onto plate.
3. Garnish with celery hearts.

Recipe courtesy of Danny Girolomo, Executive Chef
Wit and Wisdom, Sonoma

