# SOJOURN CELLARS

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## SPRING 2025 WINE RELEASE NEWSLETTER

HANDCRAFTING MEMORABLE WINES SINCE 2002

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## SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

We have incredible news! This Spring Release includes four new Sojourn wines that we are thrilled to share with you, along with several of our most popular small production wines.

- 2023 Ueberroth Vineyard Pinot Noir
- 2022 Monte Rosso Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2022 Moon Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2021 Blanc de Blancs Sparkling, Sonoma Coast

In addition to our newest Pinot Noir, this release is headlined by our stunning 2023 UV Lucky Well Vineyard and Nightwing Vineyard Pinot Noirs, rated 96 and 95 points respectively. Our 2023 Petaluma Gap Pinot Noir is also featured, which is a blend of select barrels from Gap's Crown, Sangiacomo, Nightwing, and Ueberroth Vineyards.

Alongside the outstanding 2022 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon, we are showcasing two new Cabernet Sauvignon wines from the rugged Moon Mountain District located in the hills above Sonoma Valley. First is a single-vineyard wine from the legendary Monte Rosso Vineyard and the other is a blend of barrels from Monte Rosso and Desnudo Vineyards. These wines are distinct and balanced, offering robust flavors and exceptional structures. This release also includes two white wines from the Sonoma Coast. The fabulous 2023 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay is not to be missed. We only made 175 cases of it, so allocations are limited. The second white wine is our inaugural release of a Sparkling Blanc de Blancs, which is made from 100% 2021 vintage Chardonnay grapes and was disgorged last October after 30 months of tirage aging in bottle. It is dry and refreshing with complex aromas and delicate flavors. This Blanc de Blancs is a perfect wine to toast the Spring season with friends and to have on hand for celebrations to come.

Thank you again for your continued support of our artisan winery and for enabling us to make and share these new wines from exceptional vineyards. We hope to see you here in wine country or at an event near your hometown this year. Let us spoil you in the Sojourn Tasting Salon or on the road.

Cheers from Sonoma!

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## PINOT NOIR

#### 2023 Nightwing Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

Nightwing Vineyard 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. It is an impressive site with views for miles, however the meticulous farming is what really makes it a treat to see. The vineyard team attends each vine precisely to our specifications, and the result is a rich, robust wine with layers of complex flavors and textures. In 2023 we again blended Pommard clone from the hilltop and clone 115 from the steep lower incline.

Rated 95 Points

## 2023 UV Lucky Well Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

This is our finest release from Lucky Well Vineyard to date. The vines responded extremely well to the cooler climate of the vintage and longer hang time. The Pommard clone block again offered robust fruit flavors and richness that blended ideally with the structured wines we made from the Vosne-Romanée block. We split the Vosne-Romanée fruit into two ferments, with one destemmed and the other fermented whole-cluster. The resulting blend has layers of texture with a silky finish. This is a collector's vintage.

Rated 96 Points

#### 2023 Petaluma Gap Pinot Noir

Our blend from the Petaluma Gap AVA has become a crowd pleaser and favorite of the sommeliers we taste with. In 2023, we again blended blocks from Gap's Crown, Sangiacomo, Nightwing, and Ueberroth Vineyards, with a small percentage from Rodgers Creek rounding out the vintage. This wine has the depth and intensity typical of these vineyards, while offering a touch of restraint and elegance that pairs well with many foods. The aromas spring from the glass with red fruits and herbal notes, while the texture is refined and finishes with length.

Rated 93 Points



## *NEW* 2023 Ueberroth Vineyard Pinot Noir, Petaluma Gap

This is our inaugural vintage producing an Ueberroth Vineyard Pinot Noir. The vineyard is in a cool pocket of the windy Petaluma Gap allowing for longer hang times while retaining freshness and acidity. We have been working with Ueberroth since 2021 and it has impressed us each year, especially the block of clone 943 which forms the foundation of dark red fruit and rich texture. Pommard and Mt. Eden clones are blended in adding layers of complexity. This exquisite wine offers robust flavors of rhubarb and tart cherries with a silky texture.

Rated 95 Points

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

#### 2022 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

In 2022 we blended Cabernet Sauvignon from three distinct blocks to create this robust and generous Cabernet Sauvignon from the famed Oakville appellation, located in the heart of Napa Valley. Each component adds to the flavors and texture of the finished wine. It offers expressive fruit character and lush tannins with layers of dark red and blue fruit aromas with hints of cocoa and dried herbs. This Cabernet Sauvignon is rich and vibrant and can be enjoyed now, yet will age for 15+ years.

#### Rated 91 Points

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON

## *NEW* 2022 Monte Rosso Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Moon Mountain District

Monte Rosso is stunning in so many ways, including its views, landscape, soils, old vines, and above all, its heritage dating back to the 1800s. We consider it a privilege to make wine from this legendary vineyard with signature, volcanic Red Hill Loam soils and a long history of producing exceptional wines of depth and complexity. This 2022 vintage Cabernet Sauvignon is a powerhouse, offering rich texture and a combination of red and dark fruit flavors with notes of chocolate and cassis.

Rated 93 Points

## *NEW* 2022 Moon Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma County

This is our inaugural release of Moon Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon. Moon Mountain is located in the Mayacamas mountain range that divides Napa Valley from Sonoma Valley. Two lots from the renowned Monte Rosso Vineyard were blended with three blocks from Desnudo Vineyard. The final blend is 92% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Merlot. The resulting wine is elegant and balanced, offering depth and complex layers of flavors. Just 250 cases were produced.

Rated 92 Points

## CHARDONNAY

## 2023 Gap's Crown Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

2023 is a fabulous vintage for Gap's Crown Chardonnay. Two distinct Chardonnay clones were picked and fermented separately, then later blended to produce a balanced wine that showcases the potential of this extraordinary vineyard. The mild climate allowed us to achieve optimal ripeness while retaining fresh acidity. Each vine produced only a handful of small clusters with tiny berries resulting in concentrated flavors yet extremely low yields. Because of this, we were able to produce just 175 cases, and it is available to members only. It is a delicious wine with ideal structure and focus.

#### Rated 96 Points

## *NEW* 2021 Blanc de Blancs Sparkling, Sonoma Coast

We are thrilled to announce a brand-new Sojourn sparkling wine, our 2021 vintage Blanc de Blancs. Many of our members have enjoyed our non-vintage Sparkling Brut previously and we are happy to release this second Sojourn sparkling wine. This superb wine was made with 100% Chardonnay grapes from the Sonoma Coast. We finished the wine in an Extra Brut style, meaning it is dry and crisp with a slight dosage. It is an elegant, laser-focused expression of Sparkling Chardonnay from a cold micro-climate.

Rated 92 Points



## VISIT US IN SONOMA!

The Sojourn Tasting Salon in downtown Sonoma includes an outdoor garden and elegant lounge. 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 will appreciate terroir-driven, artisanal winemaking. We also offer curated virtual wine tasting experiences for individuals, groups and corporate events.

Email salon@sojourncellars.com, text 707.609.4302 or call 707.938.7212 to schedule a tasting.



## **UEBERROTH VINEYARD SPOTLIGHT - PETALUMA GAP AVA**

Keri Ueberroth entered the wine business 25 years ago when she and her family bought an old-vine Zinfandel vineyard in Paso Robles. She partnered with Turley Vineyards to turn that neglected pre-prohibition vineyard into a distinctive source for highly rated wines. After that experience, Keri sought out a new challenge, building something from the ground up. She gathered a team of world class experts to develop a special vineyard within the Petaluma Gap, growing extraordinary Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes.

Sojourn has been working with Ueberroth from the start, and the grapes have been previously showcased in our Petaluma Gap Pinot Noir and Sonoma Coast Chardonnay wines. With this release, we now introduce two new wines that illustrate the potential of this exceptional vineyard: our 95 point rated 2023 Ueberroth Vineyard Pinot Noir and 2021 Blanc de Blancs Sparkling wine, produced from 100% Chardonnay grapes.

## THE VINEYARD

Ueberroth Vineyard is located at the southern end of the foggy and windy Petaluma Gap region of the Sonoma Coast. Planting began in 2019 under the direction of grower Keri Ueberroth and vineyard manager Tyler Klick. The Ueberroth farming philosophy is to do their very best to take care of this planet. The vineyard is farmed sustainably and they hope to one day receive organic certification.

11 acres of Chardonnay clone 4 are planted on 1616c rootstock at the lowest section of the vineyard where the cold fog settles in. 40 acres of Pinot Noir are planted in the rolling hills of Diablo Clay soils on steep inclines. Sojourn's blocks of Pinot Noir clones 943, Mt. Eden, and Pommard are planted on 3309 rootstock. Each block has a slightly different aspect to the sun and offers up unique characteristics. This is one of the coolest sites we work with and the resulting wines are balanced and distinctive.

### 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 three distinct 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

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## IN THE VINEYARD

Spring represents renewal and rebirth. After months of cold weather, spring brings new growth and vitality with blooming flowers. In wine country, spring offers lush green hills, yellow mustard flowers, and bud break as the grape vines awaken and begin a new cycle of growth.

From January to June, the vines go through many changes as the new vintage begins.

#### January - February

**Pruning:** Vines are dormant and there isn't a lot of activity in the vineyards. Cover crops such as wild mustard and crimson clover are grown to provide vital nutrients and protect from erosion. Pruning is completed and the cover crops are mowed to add nutrients to the soil.

#### March - April

**Bud break:** The buds on the vines swell and burst open with new growth, marking the start of the growing season.

Frost protection systems are made ready for freezing spring mornings. Alarms are set and grape growers awaken during the night to initiate frost protection measures when necessary.

- **Sprinkler systems:** Water is sprinkled on vines from overhead to warm the vines at risk of frost damage
- Wind machines: Moving the air helps prevent freezing air from settling on the vines
- Heaters or smudge pots: Generate air currents to disrupt cold air from settling around vines

#### May - June

Flowering: The shoots develop and begin to flower. Flowering occurs when bunches of tiny flowers bloom from the new grape clusters. Grape vines are self-pollinating, so each of these flowers has the potential to turn into a single berry. Weather is critically important at this stage. If there is heavy rain, wind, or hail during flowering, it can severely diminish the crop.

**Fruit set:** The flowers drop their petals, and tiny green grapes emerge. Fertilized flowers develop into grapes. This is a key stage in the growth and determines the number and size of the berries. Suckering passes are made at this stage to remove short shoots and extraneous growth, allowing the vines to focus their energy on the strong shoots and clusters that will eventually produce the vintage's grape crop.