

HARTFORD
COURT

ROBERT PARKER'S

The **WINE** **ADVOCATE.**

#174 - December 2007

96
POINTS**2006**
STONE CÔTE VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
CHARDONNAY

The **2006 Chardonnay Stone Côte**, a compelling Chardonnay with glorious notes of crushed rocks, white currants, nectarine, and white peach emerging from its superbly nuanced, full-bodied style. The wine has restraint, but effortless concentration and richness as well as impeccable balance. It is best drunk in its next several years of life.

91
POINTS**2006**
FOUR HEARTS VINEYARDS
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
CHARDONNAY

The two Chardonnays are both brilliant wines, with the **2006 Chardonnay Four Hearts** a multiple-vineyard blend exhibiting loads of tropical fruit, some poached pear, and apple marmalade notes followed by full-bodied flavors with subtle wood, nice, leesy, chewy texture, and a good finish with fresh acidity and depth. It is best drunk in its next several years of life.

93
POINTS**2005**
FAR COAST VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Far Coast Vineyard** is an exceptional Pinot Noir. Dark ruby in color, with a beautiful nose of rose petals, strawberry and cherry jam, forest floor, and peat moss, the wine also has an undeniably mineral character, with great fruit, terrific texture, and a long finish. This is a superb Pinot that should drink nicely for 5-6 years.

93
POINTS**2005**
ARRENDELL VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Arrendell Vineyard**, which is made from the oldest vines (32-year-old heritage Martini clone Pinot Noir), exhibits a Grenache-like kirsch liqueur and raspberry fruitiness. Elegant, with medium to full-bodied flavors, great fruit on the attack and mid-palate, and a savory, medium to full-bodied finish, this wine should drink nicely for 5-6 years.

92
POINTS**2005**
VELVET SISTERS
ANDERSON VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Velvet Sisters** from the Savoy and Falk Vineyards in Anderson Valley is a classic example of this area. Bluer fruits with copious notes of flowers jump from the glass of this dark ruby-colored wine. It is nuanced and elegant, with plenty of stuffing, but lovely balance and a feminine personality. Drink this wine over the next 4-5 years.

91
POINTS**2005**
SEVENS BENCH
LOS CARNEROS
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Sevens Bench** is a richer, fleshier species of Pinot Noir, with hints of spring flowers intermixed with black cherry and forest floor. Medium to full-bodied with good acidity, outstanding ripeness, and a long, layered finish, it is a beautiful Pinot for drinking over the next 4-6 years.

90
POINTS**2005**
HAILEY'S BLOCK
GREEN VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Hailey's Block** comes from Green Valley's Arrendell Vineyard, one of the coolest places for growing fruit in northern California. This vineyard, which is at a modest elevation, has produced a wine with medium ruby color, notes of cranberries, strawberries, and red currants with hints of pomegranate and earth. The wine has tart acidity, beautiful fruit purity, and a fragrant bouquet. It is definitely a cool-climate Pinot, but an impeccably well-made one. Drink it over the next 4-5 years.

90
POINTS**2005**
JENNIFER'S
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The **2005 Pinot Noir Jennifer's** comes from a vineyard in the well-known Petaluma Wind Gap, which is a funnel for winds coming off the Pacific and churning into the Russian River Valley. It is a very cold area, and the wine reflects that in its hints of sassafras, pomegranate, cherry, and strawberry. The wine is dark ruby, medium-bodied, with zesty acidity, and a heady finish.

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94
POINTS**2006**
FANUCCHI-WOOD ROAD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

A stunning wine is the **2006 Zinfandel Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard** (100-year-old vines in sandy loam soils). This dense ruby/purple-colored wine shows notes of black raspberry, sweet cherry, roasted herbs, pepper, and soil notes. It is full-bodied, powerful, with head-spinning levels of alcohol (15.8%). The wine has terrific purity and should drink nicely for 4-6 years.

94
POINTS**2006**
DINA'S VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

My favorite of this group, is the **2006 Zinfandel Dina's Vineyard** (15.8% alcohol). From another 100-year-old parcel of seven acres of head-trained, dry-farmed vines, this wine offers copious quantities of raspberry and blueberry fruit, a full-bodied, peppery, spicy personality, and oodles of glycerin and depth. It is a beauty and a superb Zinfandel.

90
POINTS**2006**
HARTFORD VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The **2006 Zinfandel Hartford** Vineyard comes from 92-year-old vines that are farmed biodynamically. A gorgeous briery, peppery, raspberry, and blueberry nose soars from the glass. The wine is deep ruby/purple-toned to the rim, full-bodied, and almost Pinot Noir-like in its delicacy and nuances, but the power and heady alcohol (15.9%) in the finish reinforce the Zinfandel's personality. Drink it over the next 3-4 years.