



HARTFORD
COURT

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95-97
POINTS

2014
STONE CÔTE VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Stone Côte Vineyard Chardonnay is actually a tiny parcel within the more famous and larger Durell Vineyard. Like most of these wines, indigenous yeast fermentations are encouraged, and the wine is 100% barrel-fermented and aged completely in French oak with the percentage of new oak generally ranging from the upper 30th percentile to 50% or so. This wine is a terrific example of Chardonnay, with a greenish hue to its light straw color and a stunning nose of tropical fruit, citrus oil and orange blossom. It is full-bodied, has great acidity and delicious up-front fruit. This will be a killer Chardonnay when released next year.

96
POINTS

2014
FOUR HEARTS VINEYARDS
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Four Hearts Vineyards Chardonnay is a larger cuvée of 1,285 cases that comes from relatively old vines for Northern California (planted in 1975). The wine is super opulent, offering terrific honeysuckle, orange marmalade and pineapple notes in a full-bodied, sexy, super-fresh, pure style. This stunning Chardonnay was aged in 43% new French oak and should drink well for 5-6 years.

94-96
POINTS

2014
FAR COAST VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Far Coast Vineyard Chardonnay comes across like a Grand Cru Chevalier-Montrachet from France. Great minerality, loads of citrus oil, apple blossom, white peach and tangerine notes are all present in this wine aged in 35% new French oak. The wine has stunning concentration, a broad, savory palate, and a full body; notes of tropical fruit emerge with further aging. This is another relatively small cuvée of about 12+ barrels of wine, or 310 cases. Drink it over the next 5-7 years.

93-95
POINTS

2014
FOG DANCE VINEYARD
GREEN VALLEY OF THE
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Fog Dance Vineyard Chardonnay is from a hillside vineyard in the very cool-climate Green Valley, not far from the little “hippie” town of Forestville. Aged in 38% new French oak, the wine offers a light gold color with a greenish hue, hints of tangerine oil, pineapple, white peach and citrus. This is rich, full-bodied and stunningly proportioned, and much like all the other Chardonnays, the oak is very subtle and nuanced. This is another tour de force in Chardonnay winemaking from winemaker Jeff Stewart.

91-93
POINTS

2014
SEASCAPE VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Seascape Vineyard Chardonnay is from one of the coldest vineyards in all of Northern California. On a ridgetop close to the town of Occidental, facing Bodega Bay in the Pacific Ocean, it is often the last to ripen – and sometimes as late as late October or November. A deep golden color, exotic tropical fruits, crushed rocks, and an almost saltiness characterize this rather nutty and strikingly Meursault-like Chardonnay that will be somewhat controversial compared to the more classic aromas and flavors of the other five offerings, but it is still a brilliant, somewhat idiosyncratic Chardonnay in the lineup of the Hartford Court wines. Drink it over the next 4-5 years.

92
POINTS

2014
THREE JACKS VINEYARD
GREEN VALLEY OF THE
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
CHARDONNAY

The 2014 Three Jacks Vineyard Chardonnay, a relatively small cuvée of about 340 cases, comes from multiple clonal selections, with 43% new French oak used. The result is a wine with striking wet-stone minerality that is reminiscent of a Grand Cru Chablis, a hint of tangerine oil and apple blossom, beautiful freshness, delineation and a medium to full-bodied, intensely saturated mouthfeel. This is a beautiful Chardonnay, and, much like the Stone Côte, probably capable of lasting 5-7 years minimum.

96
POINTS

2014
ARRENDELL VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

What is usually their finest Pinot Noir hails from Hartford’s oldest vines, planted with the Martini clone in 1975. The 2014 Pinot Noir Arrendell Vineyard is often not picked until after Halloween, as it is one of the coldest vineyards in the Russian River Valley. Its spicy, complex notes of allspice, sassafras, sweet black cherries and Asian plum sauce are exotic, fragrant and intense. The superb fragrance is matched by an exotic, silky, fleshy wine with dark berries (especially ripe raspberries and black cherries), soft tannins, and full body. This is a head-turning “wow” Pinot Noir to drink over the next decade.

94
POINTS

2014
FAR COAST VINEYARD
SONOMA COAST
PINOT NOIR

Another saturated ruby/purple wine is the 2014 Pinot Noir Far Coast Vineyard. This comes from a mountain ridge north of Fort Ross at a 1,000-foot elevation. Dense ruby purple, with notes of sassafras, forest floor, red and black cherries, raspberry and underbrush, the wine exhibits medium to full body and terrific texture and length. This is another 10-year Pinot Noir, but should be drinkable during that entire window of opportunity.

94
POINTS

2014
MACLEANS BLOCK
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

As for the 2014 Pinot Noir MacLean’s Block, this emerges from a gentle east-facing slope east of Occidental. Made from clones 67 and 777, the wine is a stunner, with notes of forest floor, white flowers, black cherries and raspberries. The gorgeous fruit follows through on the medium to full-bodied palate with impressive purity, texture and length. This wine should drink nicely young and keep for at least a decade.

94
POINTS

2014
MULDUNE TRAIL VINEYARD
ANDERSON VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The 2014 Pinot Noir Muldune Trail comes from a vineyard at the southern end of the Anderson Valley planted at an elevation of 1,600 feet. Again unfinned and unfiltered, this has a dense ruby/plum color that is more saturated than its two predecessors and notes of fresh herbs intermixed with wet gravel, blueberry, raspberry and pomegranate. It is medium-bodied, long, rich, and made from Dijon clones 115 and 777. This is a broad, savory, impressive Pinot Noir to drink over the next decade.



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93
POINTS

2014
FOG DANCE VINEYARD
GREEN VALLEY OF THE
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The 2014 Pinot Noir Fog Dance Vineyard comes from Dijon clones 115, 667 and 777 grown in another cold, windy area in the Green Valley, south of the old hippie town of Forestville. Soft, spicy, tart red cherries in addition to some plum, Asian spice, and forest floor are all present in this luscious, sexy, complex wine that offers up loads of fragrance, medium to full body and a heady finish. Drink it over the next 7-10 years.

93
POINTS

2014
JENNIFER'S
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The 2014 Pinot Noir Jennifer's is from a vineyard in the so-called Petaluma Wind Gap. This is from the Swiss 123 selection that is known as Wadenswil in Oregon. Very fragrant Volnay-like aromatics of strawberries and cherries are gently touched by some toasty oak. In the mouth, more apple notes emerge from this elegant, dark ruby, medium-bodied Pinot Noir, which seems destined to be consumed over the next 4-6 years.

92
POINTS

2014
MARIN
MARIN COUNTY
PINOT NOIR

Hartford Court's Pinot Noirs are also extremely successful, and of course, they make a bevy of them. I tasted eleven separate selections, all of them priced between \$50 and \$75 a bottle with the exception of the Arrendell, which comes from the oldest vines of the whole batch and sells for \$110. The 2014 Pinot Noir Marin emerges from that wealthy county on the western side of the Golden Gate Bridge, where few vineyards are located. Aged 17 months in 37% new French oak and bottled unfiltered and unfiltered, this comes from Dijon clone 828 and offers up the classic Burgundian notes of forest floor, pomegranate, plum, and smoky black cherries and strawberries. A Côte de Nuits-like Pinot Noir that is medium-bodied, but beautifully fruited and savory, it should be drunk over the next 7-8 years.

91
POINTS

2014
HAILEY'S BLOCK
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The 2014 Pinot Noir Hailey's Block (another Green Valley site) emerges from Dijon clones 114 and 777. Like its siblings, it is bottled unfiltered and unfiltered after spending 17 months in (in this case) 42% new French oak. An easygoing style of Pinot Noir, with lots of cocoa, sweet cherry and strawberry fruit, some fresh porcini mushrooms, and a round, juicy mouthfeel and finish, it should drink nicely over the next 5-6 years.

91
POINTS

2014
VELVET SISTERS
ANDERSON VALLEY
PINOT NOIR

The 2014 Pinot Noir Velvet Sisters emanates from another Anderson Valley site and is sourced from four separate clones – Dijon clones 115, 666, 777 and the Pommard selection. This wine displays notes of baked apple skins, pomegranate, black cherry and a hint of raspberry, with some floral notes as well as forest floor. It is rich, ripe, medium to full-bodied, and best drunk over the next 5-7 years.

HARTFORD

98
POINTS

2014
FANUCCHI-WOOD ROAD VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The 2014 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard Zinfandel also comes from nearly century-old Zinfandel vines, aged in 30% new French oak prior to being bottle unfiltered and unfiltered after eight months. This is as close to perfection as a Zinfandel can get, and interestingly enough, there is a little Petite Sirah in the blend, which may add to the blue fruit and floral character that this incredibly complex, multidimensional, magnificent Zinfandel offers. This is right up there among the greatest Zinfandels I ever tasted in Northern California, and literally must be consumed to be believed. Huge fruit, big, bold flavors, and an all-American style make for quite an expressive, exotic, super-concentrated and compelling Zinfandel. Drink it over the next 5-8 years.

96
POINTS

2014
HIGHWIRE VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The 2014 Highwire Vineyard Zinfandel comes from 100+-year-old vines, with half head-pruned and the other half on a trellising system. It spent nine months in 46% new French oak before being bottled unfiltered and unfiltered. This cuvée of 500 cases is absolutely sensational Zinfandel, just brilliant, with briary, black cherry fruit exploding from the glass. The wine is full-bodied, opulent and lavishly rich, with an extravagant concentration, purity and depth. This is about as good as a Zinfandel can be, so kudos to Don Hartford and winemaker Jeff Stewart.

96
POINTS

2014
DINA'S VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The 2014 Dina's Vineyard Zinfandel (350 case) displays loads of minerality compared to some of the other ones, with a huge concentration of black fruits, roasted Mediterranean herbs, spice box, licorice and some pepper and meat. This is a powerful, full-throttle Zinfandel to drink over the next 7-8 years.

95
POINTS

2014
HARTFORD VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The Hartford Vineyard, in the backyard of the Hartford home, is another century-old planting of head-pruned Zinfandels, and their lowest yielding old vines. Aged in 40% new oak for nine months prior to being bottled unfiltered and unfiltered, the 2014 Hartford Vineyard Zinfandel also shows great fruit, loads of black raspberries, black cherries, licorice, grilled herbs and a very Mediterranean full-bodied mouthfeel. Drink it over the next 7-8 years.

94
POINTS

2014
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ZINFANDEL

The 2014 Russian River Zinfandel is full-bodied, offering terrific black raspberry and black cherry fruit and peppery, earthy meatiness. Very lush, with well-integrated wood, alcohol and acidity, this is a beauty with a sensational texture and length. Drink it over the next 7-8 years.



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