



## 2002

Arrendell Vineyard

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

PINOT NOIR

2002

2002

2002

Sevens Bench Vineyard CARNEROS PINOT NOIR

ANDERSON VALLEY

Seascape Vineyard

CHARDONNAY

Sonoma Coast

PINOT NOIR

VELVET SISTERS VINEYARD

95+

**93** 

HARTFOR

93

2002 Stone Côte Vineyard Sonoma Coast CHARDONNAY

Three Jacks Vineyard GREEN VALLEY CHARDONNAY

2003 HIGHWIRE VINEYARD RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

ZINFANDEL

2003 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ZINFANDEL

**93** 

2003 Dina's Vineyard RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ZINFANDEL



2003 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ZINFANDEL ROBERT M. PARKER, JR.'S The VOCATE

February 28, 2005

2002 Pinot Noir Arrendell Vineyard (325 cases.) From a cold sector of the Green Valley sub-appellation of the Russian River, the extraordinary nose of kirsch liqueur, raspberries, smoked herbs, game, and Asian spices is followed by medium to full-bodied flavors with superb purity, a fascinating texture, and a 60+ second finish. A compelling example of a Burgundian-styled Pinot Noir, it is no wimpy wine at 14.8% alcohol, and yields were a minuscule 0.86 tons of fruit per acre. This 2002 Pinot should drink well for 5-6 years, but who can resist it now?

2002 Pinot Noir Sevens Bench Vineyard (243 cases). It reveals a Côte de Nuits-like earthiness with forest floor, underbrush, Allspice, plum, pomegranate, and cherry fruit characteristics. Rich, savory, well-textured, super-complex, and totally different than the Arrendell cuvée, the Sevens Bench will also drink well for 5-6 years.

The fresh, vigorous 2002 Pinot Noir Velvet Sisters exhibits cola, raspberry, strawberry, and floral notes along with great ripeness, medium body, tremendous purity, and wonderful fruit presence. All of these Pinots were aged in 50-60% new French oak, and bottled unfined and unfiltered. Kudos to Mike Sullivan.

The most backward, with the highest acid level is the 2002 Chardonnay Seascape. From an extremely cold terroir, it possesses terrific acidity, a liquid minerality, and hints of orange zest intermixed with white peaches and honeysuckle. Produced from tiny yields (255 cases from a 5-acre vineyard), it should drink well for 4-5 years.

The 2002 Chardonnay Stone Côte offers rich aromas of lemon butter, wet rocks, pears, peaches, and honeyed grapefruit. As Mike Sullivan said, this cuvée is for Chardonnay lovers who enjoy the so-called stone fruits in their wines. Elegant, full-bodied, and rich, with fine acidity giving uplift to the aromatics and flavors, it should be consumed over the next 3-4 years.

2002 Chardonnay Three Jacks is the most flamboyant of this trio, exhibiting more tropical fruit (pineapples, oranges, and papaya) in a full-bodied, complex, extroverted style. Pure, rich, and long, this is a beauty to drink over the next 2-3 years.

2003 Zinfandel Highwire Vineyard (a 96-year old vineyard). This is another stunning effort revealing copious quantities of boysenberry, blueberry, raspberry, and cherry fruit as well as a striking minerality. Full-bodied and fruit-driven, it is an exquisite Zinfandel to drink over the next 5-7 years. 415 cases.

Dark ruby/purple-hued 2003 Zinfandel Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard. From a site planted in 1906, it possesses dramatic fruit in addition to a wonderful perfume of black raspberries intermixed with kirsch, loamy soil, and spice box. Deep, full-bodied, opulent, and elegant, this is another beautifully pure, flashy Zin to consume over the next 5-7 years. 464 cases.

2003 Zinfandel Dina's Vineyard (289 cases from a 95-year old site) boasts a deep ruby/purple color along with a sweet bouquet of raspberries, garrigue, kirsch liqueur, and Châteauneuf du Pape-like peppery licorice notes. Full-bodied, ripe, flinty, and elegant, with a French-styled personality, it, too, will drink well for 5-7 years. All of these Zinfandels possess alcohols ranging between 15.1% and 15.5%.

**2003 Zinfandel Russian River** (1,545 cases) is a great effort for the price. Made from various vineyards, all averaging 80 years of age, it exhibits a sexy, up-front, raspberry, blackberry, and spice box-scented perfume, huge body, a peppery component, and a large, seductive, luscious finish with no hard edges.

2002