

HARTFORD COURT



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STONE CÔTE VINEYARD Sonoma Coast

2018 Far Coast Vineyard Sonoma Coast CHARDONNAY

2019 Four Hearts Vineyards RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

> 2018 Seascape Vineyard Sonoma Coast CHARDONNAY

2018 Fog Dance Vineyard GREEN VALLEY OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

2018 Sevens Bench Vineyard LOS CARNEROS CHARDONNAY

2018 THREE JACKS VINEYARD GREEN VALLEY OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY **CHARDONNAY**

2018 Jennifer's RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

2019 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY CHARDONNAY

2018 Far Coast Vineyard Sonoma Coast PINOT NOIR The 2018 Pinot Noir Far Coast Vineyard comes from a site not far from the Pacific Ocean, in the Sonoma Coast AVA, and it's one of the bigger, richer wines in the lineup in 2018. Deeper ruby-hued, with a stunning nose of ripe mulberries, Bing cherries, candied strawberries, spring flowers, and orange blossom, this is a spicy, medium to full-bodied, impressively concentrated Pinot Noir. Despite being from a cooler vineyard, it brings plenty of richness and sexy fruit, with a certain exotic character. I've always loved this cuvée (although I've always thought the Chardonnay was slightly more successful), but this might be the finest vintage I've tasted to date. Count me impressed. It's going to have 10-15 years of prime drinking. It's one of the finest Pinot Noirs in this report.

2018

full-bodied, concentrated style as well as complex lemon and orchard fruits, notes of chamomile, toasted almonds, and baking spice notes, flawless balance, integrated acidity, and a chalky, mineral-laced finish. This magical, thrilling Chardonnay will cruise for 5-7 years CHARDONNAY (probably longer) in cold cellars, and it ranks with the top handful of wines in the vintage.

Incredible purity, medium to full body, bright acidity, and a Chablis on steroids-like character all define the 2018 Chardonnay Far Coast Vineyard, which is beautifully concentrated and has loads of lemon and citrus fruits, bright acidity, and subtle toast, and spicy oak. It's a brilliant Chardonnay as well as a textbook example of this great (yet diverse) region.

Also from the Sonoma Coast, the 2018 Chardonnay Stone Cote Vineyard offers up an exotic,

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Another Russian River release, the 2019 Chardonnay Four Hearts Vineyard brings plenty of ripe tropical fruit as well as medium to full body, a supple, layered mouthfeel, nicely integrated acidity, and building spice, toast, and green almond nuances. It's another thrilling, brilliant Chardonnay from this estate. Drink bottles over the coming 5-7 years.

While the 2018 Chardonnay Seascape Vineyard comes from a cooler site on the Sonoma Coast, it brings solid ripeness levels in its tropical and honeyed citrus-like fruits as well as notes of baking spices, candle wax, white flowers, and chalky mineral nuances. With bright, integrated acidity, medium to full body, and a great finish, it comes together beautifully with time in the glass and will continue to impress over the coming 7-8 years.

Slightly more pear and honeyed peach fruits as well as honeysuckle, sappy green herbs, and a subtle sense of minerality emerge from the 2018 Chardonnay Fog Dance Vineyard, a more focused, elegant wine from the cooler Green River section of the Russian River Valley. The purity of fruit is spot on, I love its overall balance, and this crisp yet rich 2018 is going to keep for 5-7 years, if not longer.

I always seem to find a tropical slant in Chardonnay from Carneros, and the 2018 Chardonnay Sevens Bench Vineyard has it in spades, with ample pineapple, honeyed peach, pear, and toasted spice-like aromas and flavors. This is another balanced, rich, medium to full-bodied Chardonnay from this estate that's loaded with character. Drink it over the coming 5-7 years.

The 2018 Chardonnay Three Jacks Vineyard, which comes from the cooler Green Valley portion of the Russian River, offers a very clean, pure, complex style that's already a joy to drink. Notes of honeyed orchard fruits, spice, brioche, and floral nuances give way to a powerful, concentrated Chardonnay that has good acidity, plenty of mid-palate depth and richness, and a great finish.

More tropical fruits and exotic, honeyed flower notes emerge from the 2018 Chardonnay Jennifer's, a medium to full-bodied, textured, rich, and fleshy Chardonnay that has a touch of botrytis character, yet is clean, dry, and lengthy on the finish.

Readers looking for a pure, impeccably made Russian River Chardonnay should check out the 2019 Chardonnay Russian River Valley from Hartford Court. It has classic pineapple and honeyed orchard fruits, a rich, medium-bodied mouthfeel, good acidity, and subtle toasty, nutty background nuances. It's ideal for drinking over the coming 4-5 years.

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92 POINTS 2018 Hailey's Block Green Valley of the Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

2019 MacLean's Block Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

2018 Docker Hill Vineyard Mendocino County PINOT NOIR

2018 Arrendell Vineyard Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

2018 Jennifer's Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

2018 Land's Edge Vineyards Sonoma Coast PINOT NOIR

> 2018 Velvet Sisters Anderson Valley PINOT NOIR

2019 Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

2018 Sevens Bench Vineyard Los Carneros PINOT NOIR

> 2018 Marin County PINOT NOIR

The 2018 Pinot Noir Hailey's Block comes from a cooler section of the Russian River Valley (it comes from a small block in the Arrendell Vineyard) and it shows, with the wine offering a darker, more herbal, sappy style in its black cherry and mulberry fruits as well as candied violet, spice, and spring flower-like aromas and flavors. As with all these 2018s from Hartford Court, the palate is spot on, and it has incredible purity of fruit, flawless tannins, and a great, great finish.

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Flowery incense, sappy herbs, and sweet earth all define the bouquet on the 2018 Pinot Noir MacLean's Block, and this beautiful, layered, medium to full-bodied Russian River Valley Pinot has loads of framboise and darker berry fruits, subtle spicy oak, flawless balance, and a great finish. It's another incredible wine from this estate readers will absolutely love.

Coming from the northern part of California, in Mendocino County, the 2018 Pinot Noir Docker Hill Vineyard has a beautifully savory, complex, medium to full-bodied style offering ample framboise and darker cherry fruits, building, ripe tannins, flawless balance, and terrific, savory herb, earth, and spice-driven aromas and flavors. It's a brilliant wine in every sense.

Loads of Bing cherries, ripe strawberries, flowery incense, and sandalwood notes emerge from the 2018 Pinot Noir Arrendell Vineyard, another pure, rich, almost full-bodied Pinot Noir in the lineup. It certainly has Russian River Valley levels of fruit, yet there's not much cola character, and it has an incredibly floral, pure, vibrant style.

More mulberries, sour black cherries, bouquet garni, and a distinct yet subtle marine-like character all emerge from the 2018 Pinot Noir Jennifer's, a rich, beautifully balanced, incredibly singular Russian River Pinot Noir. This is another up-front, fleshy, already impressive 2018 from this estate that has the fruit and texture to shine today yet the class and balance to evolve for a decade.

The 2018 Pinot Noir Land's Edge Vineyards is another Sonoma Coast release from this great producer. Medium ruby/purple-hued, with an exotic bouquet of black cherries, blueberries, candied violets, and flowery incense, it hits the palate with medium-bodied richness, a juicy, racy mouthfeel, supple tannins, and a great finish. It will benefit from a year in bottle and drink brilliantly through at least 2030.

Coming from the Anderson Valley, the 2018 Pinot Noir Velvet Sisters has textbook savory, herbal, mineral style as well as wonderful darker cherry and exotic blueberry fruits, medium to full body, loads of floral and violet nuances, no hard edges, and a great finish. It's up-front and fruit-forward, yet it has plenty of tannins as well as remarkable purity and freshness. Drink this singular Pinot Noir over the coming 7-8 years.

Readers looking for an incredibly charming, delicious Pinot Noir that's going to deliver the goods should check out the 2019 Pinot Noir Russian River Valley from Hartford Court. Revealing a translucent ruby/plum color, it has a wonderful nose of spiced red and black fruits, candied violets, orange blossom, and incense. Medium-bodied on the palate, it's wonderfully balanced, with soft, supple tannins, nicely integrated acidity, and a great finish. Drink this beauty any time over the coming 5-6 years.

Coming from Carneros, the 2018 Pinot Noir Sevens Bench Vineyard has a spicy, black cherry, gamey style that offers medium to full-bodied richness, a round, beautifully textured mouthfeel, supple tannins, and outstanding length. It's already complex and hard to resist, yet it firms up nicely with time in the glass, and I suspect it has a solid 8-10 years of longevity ahead of it.

Coming from a region just north of the Golden Gate Bridge, the 2018 Pinot Noir Marin County should be a good value. Offering cool climate spice, sappy herbs, and forest nuances, medium body, supple cherry and strawberry fruits, and background oak, it's one textured, undeniably delicious Pinot Noir to drink over the coming 4-5 years.



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95 POINTS	2019 Hartford Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL	The 2019 Zinfandel Hartford Vineyard is cut from the same cloth yet seems to have a touch more purity and precision than the Highwire release. Blueberries, candied strawberries, toasted spice, graphite, and spicy wood notes define this beauty, and it's medium to full-bodied, with a wonderful sense of purity, ripe tannins, and a great finish.
95 POINTS	2019 Jolene's Vineyard Russian River Valley OLD VINE ZINFANDEL	The 2019 Zinfandel Jolene's Vineyard Old Vine is another beauty. Revealing a ruby/purple hue as well as a beautiful nose of ripe blueberries, red plums, flowery incense, and sandalwood, this outstanding red hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, a pure, elegant, layered texture, perfectly integrated tannins, and a great, great finish. It's already hard to resist, but I think it has the balance as well as the density to keep for at least 5-7 years, if not upwards of a decade if you're so inclined. There's certainly no need to delay gratification, though.
94 POINTS	2019 Highwire Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL	Lots of red and black plums, briary herbs, cigar wrapper, and candied violet notes emerge from the 2019 Zinfandel Highwire Vineyard, a juicy, medium to full-bodied wonderfully pure Zinfandel that's going to continue to offer incredible pleasure over the coming 5-7 years.
94 POINTS	2019 Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL	The 2019 Zinfandel Russian River Valley is a gem and certainly a great candidate for those looking for a great Zinfandel, or those interested in the style and quality of this great estate. Classic red and blue fruits, sandalwood, cigar wrapper, and candied violets dominate the bouquet, and it's medium to full-bodied, with considerable structure, good purity, and a great finish. It will have 8-10 years of prime drinking.
93+ POINTS	2019 Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard Russian River Valley ZINFANDEL	The 2019 Zinfandel Fanucchi-Wood Road Vineyard is a darker, slightly more earthy release that has darker berry and blue fruits to go with medium to full body, a structured, tannic mouthfeel, nicely integrated acidity, and a big finish. It's going to benefit from a year or two of bottle age yet keep nicely through 2031 if stored correctly.

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2019 WINBERRIE KNOLLS RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ZINFANDEL

2019

Dina's Vineyard

ZINFANDEL

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

One of the more up-front, perfumed Zinfandels in the lineup, the 2019 Zinfandel Dina's Vineyard boasts a ruby/purple hue as well as ripe strawberries, blueberries, cedary spice, and dried flowers. This complex, medium to full-bodied, incredibly charming, and satisfying effort is going to drink nicely for 7-8 years.

The 2019 Zinfandel Winberrie Knolls is a beautiful Zinfandel offering classic red plum and ripe cherry fruit to go with a complex array of sandalwood, flowery incense, and candied orange peel notes. Nicely textured on the palate, medium to full-bodied, and as supple and seamless as they come, this is a charming, pleasure-bent, undeniably delicious Zinfandel to drink over the coming 5-7 years.