

FORT ROSS

FORT ROSS-SEAVIEW · SONOMA COAST

~ KEY FACT SUMMARY ~

PHILOSOPHY

Fort Ross Vineyard & Winery was not conceived as a routine farming project but rather as a visionary endeavor with each decision made to increase the intensity and complexity of the fruit, with the goal of producing wine that combines luscious fruit, elegance, structure and balance reflecting the cool maritime terroir of the vineyard. We pride ourselves in not releasing our wine at set dates but cellar each wine until it is ready. Sometimes our portfolio can include wine from four different vintages. We use only our own Estate grown grapes.

OVERVIEW

With spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean less than a mile away, Fort Ross Vineyard is a necklace of 30 individual one-half to two-acre blocks climbing from 1200 to 1700 feet above sea level. Throughout the growing season, the property is almost always in bright sunshine during the day, yet subject to the tempering influence of the fog that hugs the coastline far below. Temperatures rarely drop below 55°F or rise above 85°F, the range in which grape vines are physiologically active. Fort Ross Vineyard was developed and planted by the owners, Lester and Linda Schwartz, and their small crew over a period of 10 years commencing in 1994. The vineyard produces well-structured, cool-climate Pinot Noir and Chardonnay (plus a little Pinotage) from their coastal mountain estate.

TASTING ROOM

In the Spring of 2012 Fort Ross Vineyard will open their new tasting room in their vineyard on the steep ridges of the Sonoma Coast. It will be the only public tasting room on the Sonoma Coast. There will be a spacious main tasting room with a large outside deck, both with expansive views of the sea and the forests, and a private tasting room for special tastings. There will also be a commercial kitchen for special food and wine events.

APPELLATION:	Fort Ross-Seaview AVA: Established in January 2012, based on proximity to the Pacific Ocean, altitude, steep slopes, cool, maritime climate and sedimentary soil types. Previously the 27,500 acres comprising the Fort Ross-Seaview AVA was the steep western sliver of the sprawling Sonoma Coast AVA.
GRAPE SOURCE:	All Estate Grown - Fort Ross Vineyard - Fort Ross-Seaview, Sonoma Coast
VINEYARD ACREAGE:	50 acres planted into 30 small vineyard blocks comprise the Fort Ross Vineyard
VARIETALS:	Pinot Noir 40 acres - 24 blocks Chardonnay 8 acres - 5 blocks Pinotage 2 acres - 1 block
FIRST RELEASE:	2000
ANNUAL PRODUCTION:	4,000 cases average production
WINEMAKER:	Jeff Pisoni 2009-Present
PROPRIETORS:	Lester and Linda Schwartz
WEBSITE:	www.fortrossvineyard.com