

90 PINOT NOIR 2010 Fort Ross Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview • Sonoma Coast

Offers a firm, rustic backbone, dense and tight, with blackberry, raspberry, anise and spicy notes. This is young and chewy, ending with a persistent finish and vibrancy that suggests a long life ahead. Drink now through 2021.—J.L. April 2014

90 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2009 Fort Ross Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview • Sonoma Coast

Offers lots of smoky, toasty oak, with fruit to match, cloaking rich dark berry flavors that are intense, deep and persistent. Shows impressive purity, backbone and density. Needs time. Best from 2014 through 2023. 303 cases made.—JL SEPT 2013

90 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2007 Fort Ross Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview • Sonoma Coast - *Library Wine*

Offers deep, complex, focused plum, mineral and black cherry fruit that's supple and delicate. Full-bodied, ending with a subtle mix of flavors laced with saffron. Drink now through 2016. 344 cases made.—J.L. OCT 2011

92 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2005 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

92 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2004 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

91 PINOT NOIR 2007 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 PINOT NOIR 2005 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

91 PINOT NOIR 2004 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

91 PINOT NOIR 2003 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 PINOT NOIR SEA SLOPES 2010 Fort Ross Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview • Sonoma Coast

92 PINOT NOIR SYMPOSIUM 2003 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 CHARDONNAY 2009 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 CHARDONNAY 2004 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

93 CHARDONNAY 2003 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 CHARDONNAY RESERVE 2002 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

90 PINOTAGE 2004 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

91 PINOTAGE 2003 Fort Ross Vineyard, Sonoma Coast

18 EXCITING CALIFORNIA REDS: James Laube

New reviews of Napa Cabernet, Sonoma Pinot and more, each for \$50 or less.

The best values include a \$37 Fort Ross Pinot Noir 2007 (91 POINTS:), from the true Sonoma Coast, a 2007 Domaine Chandon Carneros Pinot and a \$30 Landmark McDowell Valley Grenache.

Online June 14, 2010 <http://www.winespectator.com/webfeature/show/id/42934>

TASTING HIGHLIGHTS: CALIFORNIA PINOT NOIR: James Laube

15 new California Pinot Noirs from some of the state's TOP PRODUCERS, and a rare outstanding California Pinotage.

Fort Ross made two EXCELLENT true Sonoma Coast 2005 Pinots.

I also liked Fort Ross's rare (for California) Pinotage, a grape from South Africa that is a cross between Pinot Noir and Cinsault; it has a little more tannic backbone than Pinot Noir, perhaps because these grapes are among the closest vines to the Pacific Ocean.

Online September 15, 2008 : <http://www.winespectator.com/Wine/Features/Premium/0,1197,4594,00.html>

A DISCOVERY ON THE SONOMA COAST: James Laube

Fort Ross Vineyard has found a groove. Wine lovers should pay serious attention.

I tried the new wines last week, informally during a visit with Linda and in blind tastings for formal reviews. The new wines are excellent, and the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are both modestly priced. The 2003 CHARDONNAY is intense, vibrant, clean and structured, with lively acidity and a mix of lemon, butterscotch and green apple flavors turning rich and creamy. The 2004 CHARDONNAY follows suit, with intense, vibrant, focused fruit. The 2004 RESERVE CHARDONNAY is a shade richer, very good, but I liked it less than the regular 2004. Both the 2003 PINOT NOIR and 2003 PINOT NOIR SYMPOSIUM are rich, complex and impeccably balanced. The latter wine includes four percent Pinotage. The 2004 PINOT NOIR Sonoma Coast is fragrant and delicate, while the 2004 RESERVE PINOT offers complex earth, spice and berry flavors that are expansive and chewy. The 2003 PINOTAGE is deep and flavorful and shows a touch more tannin than the Pinot Noir Symposium.

Fort Ross' lineup is impressive. The quality is terrific, the prices are more than fair and the case volume means the wines will be available, though I wouldn't wait too long. Online February 20, 2007

FORT ROSS IN THE NEWS



"These are impressive offerings from Fort Ross." Robert Parker, December, 2013

93 PINOT NOIR "SYMPOSIUM" 2010: The rich, meaty, dense, multi-dimensional 2010 Symposium tastes like a grand cru from the Cote de Nuits. Notes of forest floor, black currants, black cherries and smoky tobacco leaf are followed by a wine with beautiful fruit and a silky texture. Consume it over the next 5-7 years.

91 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2009: The 2009 Pinot Noir Reserve possesses a deeper color and ratchets up the level of concentration. Copious aromas of forest floor, spring flowers, sweet strawberries and cherries, roasted herbs and spice are found in this beautiful, expressive Pinot. It is ideal for drinking over the next 3-4 years.

90 PINOT NOIR 2009: The deep ruby-colored 2009 Pinot Noir reveals an outstanding bouquet of loamy soil, underbrush, red and black cherries, and a hint of oak as well as a medium to full-bodied mouthfeel and a velvety texture. **Drink this sexy Pinot** over the next 5-6 years.

93 PINOT NOIR 2010: Editors' Choice Released a year after their spectacular Sea Slopes bottling, this small production Pinot shows the elegance of the far Sonoma Coast, and also the ageworthiness of a fine wine. Dry and crisp, it has deep flavors of cherries, pomegranates and persimmons that are fresh and tart. It will have no trouble negotiating the next six years, growing earthier and more complex. MAR, 2014

93 CHARDONNAY 2011: Editors' Choice Coastal, cool-climate vineyard, this Chardonnay is gracefully mineral and acidic. It has all the tart, wet-stone tang you could want, along with intense quince, golden mango and Asian pear fruitiness. This lovely wine is worth every cent of its price. S.H. MAR, 2014

93 CHARDONNAY RESERVE 2011: Cellar Selection This is a big Chardonnay that's oaky & ripe with fruit. Flavors of cream, lees, toast, Mandarin oranges, apricots and stewed peaches all mingle together...

93 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2009: Classic Fort Ross this rich and textural. The flavors of raspberry parfait and cherry pie are spicy, honeyed and brightened by acidity.APRIL, 2013

92 CHARDONNAY 2012: "Best of the Year" issue: Unctuous, ripe in caramel and toasty aromas, deep golden in color but **completely crisp and balanced**. The nose is so overwhelming that the flavors take time to show. Once they do, it's a celebration of green apple and melon enveloped in complex minerality and a supple body. V.B. DEC. 2014

91 PINOT NOIR "SEA SLOPES" 2011: Generous black raspberry and mulberry with hints of baking spices...

95 PINOT NOIR "SEA SLOPES" 2010: Editors' Choice - Sold Out

94 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2007 - Library: A very beautiful wine that shows the exotic...

90 ROSE of Pinot Noir 2013: Vibrant, fresh...spicy herb, wild strawberry, a hint of watermelon mouthwatering quality. Dry and savory, savory, it also has some meat on its bones, a lovely go-to for meals of all kinds.

94 PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2009: Gorgeous wine complex aromas and flavors of strawberry and spices with hints of briny beef. Voluptuous mouthfeel. Very balanced tannins. All here.

91 PINOT NOIR 2010: Rich aromas of strawberries and cranberries showing some fresh mushrooms. Palate has some preserves and a long, big finish. This is a full-bodied wine showing nicely balanced acidity.

93 PINOT NOIR 2009

91 PINOT NOIR 2010: Its deep and very continuous themes of extracted cherries are accented by intriguing highlights of green tea and forest-floor spice, and, while still a bit grippy and tannic, it has more than enough fruity flesh on its ample bones. JUNE, 2014

91 PINOT NOIR "SEA SLOPES" 2012: Well-defined, ripe-cherry fruit is met in the nose by a nice dollop of sweet oak and hints of stony soil spice, and the same is true of the like-minded flavors that follow, but in both cases, the wine holds back just a bit. JUNE, 2014

91 CHARDONNAY 2012: Do not be concerned about the slightly hazy appearance of this deep, wonderfully well-filled Chardonnay for there is absolutely nothing amiss here. From its rich, mildly creamy aromas of ripe apples & pears to its like-minded, very long-lasting flavors, it is as clean as it is juicy, and generous fruit abounds at every turn. 7/1

91 CHARDONNAY 2011

PINOT NOIR 2010: ★★★★★ EXCELLENT Refined, elegant Pinots. Rich and ripely flavored; a full bodied, complex, lightly tannic wine, with good balance, and a firm, long finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of cherry, raspberry, plum jam, juniper, toast, nutmeg, and cooked beef.

PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2010: ★★★★★ 1/2 EXCELLENT - EXCEPTIONAL: The Reserve is more subtle and refined, with full body, good balance, a long flavor evolution on the palate, and a persistent finish, tasting of rosehips, cherry, raspberry, vanilla, toast, and oak.

PINOT NOIR "SEA SLOPES" 2012: ★★★★★ EXCELLENT Elegantly flavored (strawberry, cherry, raspberry, with vanilla and oak), full bodied. Very good balance and long finish. Excellent quality.

ROSE of Pinot Noir 2013: ★★★★★ EXCEPTIONAL Very fine quality: supple, rich, balanced; strawberry jam, watermelon, cherry, peach, rosehips, grapefruit aromas/flavors, a long, harmonious finish. **Terrific quality & value.**

PINOTAGE 2010: ★★★★★ EXCELLENT Rich and supple in style, this is a distinctly flavored Pinotage (plum jam, cooked meat, rhubarb, herbs), with overtones of vanilla, toast, and oak. Very long finish. Excellent.

PINOT NOIR RESERVE 2009: ★★★★★ EXCEPTIONAL Subtle, elegant...outstanding: rich, full bodied...

PINOT NOIR 2009: ★★★★★ EXCELLENT Subtle, elegant... fleshy and ripely flavored...

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