

ERIN BROOKS

12th Nov 2020 | The Wine Advocate | November 2020 Week 2

On a cool, sunny day in late October, I had the rare opportunity to drive out to Coastlands Vineyard to taste a 35-wine retrospective at Cobb Wines. Located in Occidental just four miles from the Pacific Ocean, the estate was founded in 2001 by father-and-son team David and Ross Cobb. David planted the first vines in 1989, and these Pommard, Martini, Wadenswil and Mt. Eden clones are some of the oldest Pinot Noir vines on the Sonoma Coast.



This retrospective offers a unique perspective into three vineyards: Coastlands (including the Diane Cobb and Old Firs blocks), Rice-Spivak and Emmaline Ann. These are true coastal wines in style, light to medium-bodied, bright and juicy with savory and earthy elements always keeping the fruit in check. With the exception of a few challenging vintages, like 2014, the wines have aged gracefully. Recent vintages from Rice-Spivak are especially stunning, and the deeper, more earth-driven tones of Emmaline Ann strike a lovely contrast. Coastlands offers a bit more power across vintages, generally a touch weightier with bold, savory fruits. I've also included new reviews for the 2017 vintage, which have blossomed significantly in bottle since I first tasted them earlier this year. Cheers!

2017 Coastlands Vineyard
Old Firs Pinot Noir,
Sonoma Coast

94 Points

2017 Coastlands Vineyard
Diane Cobb Pinot Noir,
Sonoma Coast

94 Points

2017 Doc's Ranch Vineyard
Swan & Calera Selection
Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast

92+ Points

2017 Emmaline Ann
Vineyard Pinot Noir,
Sonoma Coast

94 Points

2017 Rice-Spivak Vineyard
Pinot Noir, Sonoma County,
Sonoma Coast

95+ Points