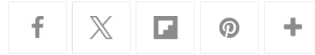


The 7 Best Pinot Noirs From Sonoma to Buy Right Now

Few regions around the world can touch what Sonoma does with the Burgundy varietal.

By MIKE DESIMONE AND JEFF JENSSEN



We have always maintained that some of the best Pinot Noir outside of its home region of Burgundy comes from cool climate areas like Sonoma County and especially the Sonoma Coast AVA, both of which are among the coolest wine-growing climates in the country. Carneros was once called the coldest region in California and has been prime Pinot Noir territory for years. The style here tends to be juicy with fruit flavors of strawberry and raspberry with notes of vanilla and orange peel. The Russian River Valley is situated in the county's northwest corner and is known for extremely elegant versions of Pinot Noir. Here we find flavors of dark cherry, red raspberry, violet petal, and dark chocolate with lifted notes of mint or eucalyptus.

We really enjoy visiting Sonoma and its laid-back wineries. It's got a totally different vibe compared to Napa and we highly recommend visiting when your travels take you to California wine country. We tasted through dozens of bottlings to come up with the seven best Sonoma County Pinot Noirs to drink right now. We hope you enjoy them as well.

Cobb Wines 2021 Coastlands Vineyard Old Firs Block Pinot Noir Sonoma County California



Former marine biologist David Cobb and former advertising executive Diane Cobb were considering retirement but instead planted the vines at their estate in 1989 close to the Pacific Ocean and a California redwood forest. Their son Ross worked at Williams Selyem in the late 1990s and in 2001 he harvested a portion of his parent's original plantings and produced 1,560 bottles of Cobb Wines Coastlands Vineyard Pinot Noir. Today the family makes wines from a variety of sites, and we really like the 2021 Coastlands Vineyard Old Firs Block. It has aromas of cranberry, red cherry, and cinnamon that open in the palate as flavors of pomegranate, cherry, candied orange peel, and brown baking spices.

