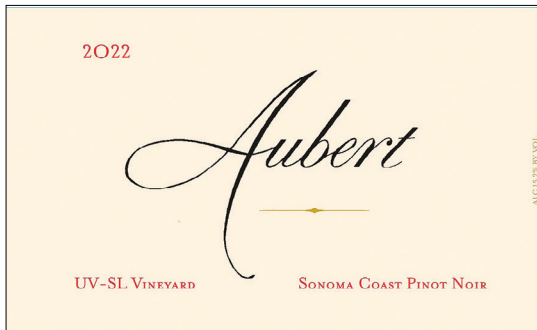


SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

Highly Recommended

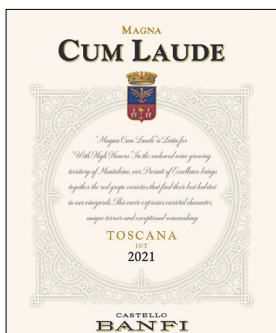
The issue's most impressive wines. Includes top-scorers and wines that represent optimal purchases based on their combination of score, price and availability.



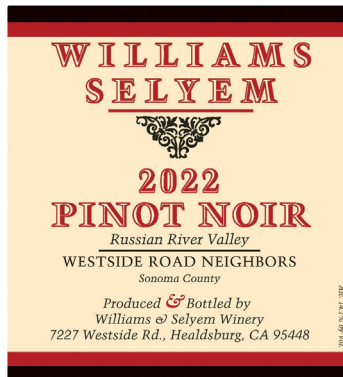
96 Aubert Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast UV-SL Vineyard 2022 \$100 CALIFORNIA An impressive wave of raspberry, boysenberry and mulberry fruit paste flavors cruises through, while singed anise, warm earth, black tea and briar hints fill in along the way. Displays richness and tension—not an easy feat in this vintage—and a long, sapid finish. Built for the cellar. Best from 2026 through 2038. 1,129 cases made.—J.M.



96 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Machado 2022 \$85 CALIFORNIA Offers a beautiful, steady stream of blood orange, bitter cherry and raspberry coulis notes stitched finely with subtle rooibos tea, singed sandalwood, dried anise and savory details. Feels pinpoint in focus, with serious length on the finish thanks to the nicely buried mineral tension. Drink now through 2038. 586 cases made.—J.M.



95 Castello Banfi Toscana Magna Cum Laude 2021 \$50 ITALY Tightly knit and supple, delivering black currant, blackberry, violet and graphite aromas and flavors. This harmonious red shows a well-integrated structure, with terrific energy and length. Though approachable now, this should really hit its stride in a year or two. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sangiovese and Syrah. Drink now through 2040. 7,500 cases made, 1,400 cases imported.—B.S.



95 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Westside Road Neighbors 2022 \$90 CALIFORNIA Bursting with mulberry, raspberry and boysenberry compote flavors, this red is supported by a juicy, slightly brambly structure, while licorice, hibiscus and dried rose petal notes fill in through the finish. Shows excellent energy for the cellar. Drink now through 2035. 1,488 cases made.—J.M.



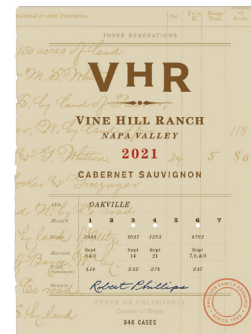
94 Bricoleur Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Founder's Block 2022 \$60 CALIFORNIA Sleek, fresh and racy, with raspberry, damson plum and cherry notes in perfect pitch. Offers mouthwatering savory and mineral streaks through the finish, showing a pretty pot-pourri echo at the very end. Drink now through 2034. 588 cases made.—J.M.



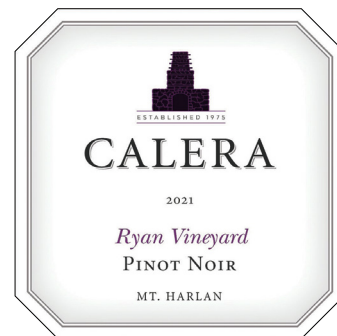
94 Feudi di San Gregorio Taurasi Piano di Montevergine Riserva 2016 \$76 ITALY Offering a dark and savory underpinning of cured tobacco, fresh earth, leather and iron notes, this focused red is also fresh and vibrant, with ripe, crushed black raspberry and mulberry fruit, plus hints of red licorice, espresso crema, graphite and milled pepper. Showing a core of taut, fine-grained tannins, this is still tightly meshed and dense after extended aging. Opens nicely in the glass and should shine with additional cellaring. Best from 2026 through 2036. 500 cases imported.—A.N.

Collectibles

Wines that will improve most from additional bottle age and that show the greatest potential to gain in value.



98 VHR Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville 2021 \$275 CALIFORNIA A deep well of gorgeous flavors—raspberry, boysenberry, mulberry and black currant preserves—sparkle in this red, with anise, violet and wood spice hints throughout. All of that is riveted to a terrific graphite spine running from start to finish, where a flash of cast iron peeks in. As the fruit lingers, a subtle echo of hibiscus provides a suave counterpoint. This encapsulates the best aspects of the vintage. Best from 2025 through 2045. 946 cases made.—J.M.



96 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Ryan Vineyard 2021 \$95 CALIFORNIA A packed red, with a core of mulled dark currant, black cherry and blackberry paste flavors that are dense yet defined, while singed anise, alder and warm earth notes fill in throughout. The rigid structure carries the finish, leaving a chalky, mouthwatering echo. With the fruit to match its matrix, this should be a beauty at its peak. Best from 2026 through 2040. 1,100 cases made.—J.M.



95 Kamen Cabernet Sauvignon Moon Mountain District Kashmir 2021 \$225 CALIFORNIA A rush of blackberry, black currant and boysenberry reduction flavors extend lengthily as notes of singed mesquite and alder, sweet tobacco and warm loam fill in. A flash of cast iron on the finish keeps this distinctive wine grounded. Best from 2025 through 2038. 550 cases made.—J.M.

94 Rutherford Hill Merlot Stags Leap District 2021 \$75 Plush, rich and well-built, this generous red offers red currant, dusty mocha, bay leaf and savory herb flavors. Finishes with polished tannins. Drink now through 2032. 365 cases made.—T.F.

93 Aperture Nomad Napa Valley 2019 \$150 Polished and nicely knit, offering blackberry and blueberry flavors laced with bittersweet chocolate and espresso notes as this builds richness toward refined tannins. Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2029. 209 cases made.—T.F.

93 Chimney Rock Elevage Stags Leap District 2021 \$120 Sleek polish meets great structure, offering red and black currant flavors highlighted by notes of espresso, tobacco and Asian spices. Builds toward medium-grained tannins. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Malbec. Drink now through 2032. 1,429 cases made.—T.F.

93 Rutherford Hill Merlot Napa Valley 2021 \$38 Supple and sleek, with elegantly layered red currant, toasty mocha and tarragon flavors that glide on a long finish. Drink now through 2031. 10,489 cases made.—T.F.

92 Whitehall Lane Merlot Napa Valley 2021 \$42 An expressive and multilayered version, showing handsome flavors of red currant and black cherry highlighted by mocha espresso and vanilla bean details before finishing with zesty tannins. Drink now through 2031. 3,985 cases made.—T.F.

91 Rutherford Hill Merlot Carneros 2021 \$75 Precise and a bit tightly wound right now, this red nonetheless offers handsome accents of currant, espresso and underbrush that gather tension toward medium-grained tannins. Best from 2025 through 2031. 435 cases made.—T.F.

91 Rutherford Hill Merlot Oak Knoll District 2021 \$75 This wiry red is sleek and taut with tension, offering currant, tarragon and smoky espresso flavors that build toward brooding tannins. Best from 2025 through 2032. 315 cases made.—T.F.

90 Neyers Left Bank Red Napa Valley 2021 \$55 Rather tight at the moment but well-structured and refined, with cherry and currant flavors accented by notes of underbrush and cedar as this builds tension toward wiry tannins. Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2025 through 2031. 932 cases made.—T.F.

90 Textbook Merlot Napa Valley 2021 \$27 Plush and easygoing, with zesty cherry, toasty spice and espresso flavors that zip along toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2030. 4,136 cases made.—T.F.

CALIFORNIA Petite Sirah & Blends

93 Prospect 772 Black Tie Charlie California 2021 \$30 Polished and deeply structured, with blackberry, sandalwood and candied orange accents that gather richness toward refined tannins. Petite Sirah and Syrah. Drink now through 2032. 420 cases made.—T.F.

93 Turley Petite Syrah Napa Valley Hayne Vineyard 2021 \$80 Broad-shouldered yet retains a sense of refinement, with brooding black cherry and red currant flavors that take on mocha, sandalwood and orange peel accents. Drink now through 2033. 600 cases made.—T.F.

91 Jeff Cohn Petite Sirah Napa Valley Old Kraft Vineyard 2021 \$65 A real bruiser, this red is potent yet retains a sense of balance and detail, with deep flavors of blackberry, dried cherry, licorice and espresso. Best from 2025 through 2033. 230 cases made.—T.F.

90 Caymus-Suisun Durif Suisun Valley Grand 2020 \$60 Polish meets potency in this red, which offers richly layered currant and raspberry flavors accented by espresso and fruitcake spices. Drink now through 2030. 23,700 cases made.—T.F.



JENNY WAGNER
Partner

90 Prospect 772 Petite Sirah Livermore Valley Big Nose Pete Casa De Viñas Vineyard 2021 \$48 Dense and compact, this red offers tightly wound flavors of black currant, tobacco and bitter chocolate that end with grippy tannins. Needs time. Best from 2025 through 2032. 71 cases made.—T.F.

90 Carol Shelton Petite Sirah Dry Creek Valley Florence Vineyard Florence Reserve 2018 \$40 A briary and slightly brooding version, with deep flavors of black cherry and currant that take on pepper, dried sage and tobacco accents. Drink now through 2030. 238 cases made.—T.F.

88 Bonterra Red Blend Estate Collection Mendocino County 2022 \$22 This red is appealing for its straightforward blackberry, plum and cracked pepper flavors. Petite Syrah, Malbec and Zinfandel. Drink now through 2032. 2,500 cases made.—T.F.

CALIFORNIA Pinot Noir

96 Aubert Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast UV-SL Vineyard 2022 \$100 See Highly Recommended, page 81.

96 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Machado 2022 \$85 See Highly Recommended, page 81.

96 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Ryan Vineyard 2021 \$95 See Collectibles, page 81.

96 Domaine de la Côte Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills La Côte 2022 \$155 This sports dark cherry, currant and raspberry fruit flavors that are mulled in feel, but kept taut and lively by a torrent of acidity, while sage, warm earth, white pepper, savory and flint notes bounce around. Overall a bit *sauvage* in feel, this is a compelling wine, but needs cellaring to tame it and allow it to stretch out. Best from 2026 through 2038. 368 cases made.—J.M.

96 Ferren Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Silver Eagle Vineyard 2021 \$90 This is a flat-out stunner, with a core of mulberry, damson plum and *griotte* that splays out beautifully, unveiling hibiscus and iris notes. A long, lacy mineral thread creates a deftly inlaid lattice, letting the fruit hold center stage while offering pitch-perfect balance and tension from start to finish. Drink now through 2036. 50 cases made.—J.M.

96 Kistler Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Cuvée Natalie Silver Belt Vineyard 2021 \$110 This is tightly coiled, displaying vivid pomegranate, cherry and boysenberry coulis notes wrapped around energetic acidity. The finish offers a flurry of iris, hibiscus, anise and apple wood accents, with a deeply buried flash of bramble. Shows lovely range, tension and length; this just needs some cellaring to meld fully. Best from 2026 through 2036. 900 cases made.—J.M.

95 Arista Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Mononi Vineyard 2021 \$90 A deliciously ripe red, with suave notes of raspberry, boysenberry and mulberry puree gliding through, inlaid with touches of hibiscus, rooibos tea, red licorice and apple wood. The long, sleek finish shows energy in reserve as the fruit drips over a subtle mineral note. Light-handed on the toast, this is gorgeous. Drink now through 2036. 396 cases made.—J.M.

95 Arista Pinot Noir Russian River Valley UV Vineyard 2021 \$115 This is vivid, with a torrent of raspberry and mulberry *pâte de fruit* flavors streaming through, laced with hints of violet, hibiscus, anise and bergamot. The long, racy finish carries it off with aplomb, with just a kiss of apple wood at the end, allowing the fruit to sail on unencumbered. Drink now through 2035. 412 cases made.—J.M.

95 Aubert Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast UV Vineyard 2022 \$100 Ripe and defined, offering a mix of raspberry, black cherry and boysenberry reduction notes scored with bramble, warm earth, menthol and sweet spice details. This impressive, well-structured version is holding back for now, with underlying energy and a solid finishing kick of fruit that should allow this to unfurl slowly in the cellar. Best from 2027 through 2035. 874 cases made.—J.M.

95 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills 459 2022 \$75 With notes of perfumed blood orange preserves and mulled kirsch leading the way, this stylish version's elegant, well-embedded acidity lets a backdrop of singed anise, savory and iris notes develop steadily, adding length and range through the finish. This is approachable but feels like it could easily cruise for a while. Drink now through 2037. 223 cases made.—J.M.

95 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan de Villiers Vineyard 2021 \$95 Offers a substantial core of lightly mulled black cherry and boysenberry fruit inlaid with ample structure in the form of lightly chalky grip, while singed anise, iris and black tea notes swirl in the background. The long finish smolders seductively. Best from 2025 through 2037. 1,000 cases made.—J.M.



MIKE WALLER
Winemaker

95 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Mills Vineyard 2021 \$95 A dense version, with a well-structured core of blackberry, black cherry and mulberry paste flavors that bring energy and tension, while apple wood, potpourri and rose hip notes flood through on the finish, adding length and range. The last echo is of a refined chalky minerality. Best from 2025 through 2037. 440 cases made.—J.M.

95 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Reed Vineyard 2021 \$95 This red is grippy, with singed earth, stem and briar notes running through its core of steeped mulberry and blackberry fruit, which unfurls slowly. The finish is fresh in feel, with a mouthwatering iron hint. Some patience is required, though, as this bristles with structure. Best from 2026 through 2038. 440 cases made.—J.M.

95 Cattleya Pinot Noir West Sonoma Coast The Goddess 2022 \$125 Beautifully ripe and showy, this is a "wow" wine, with a range of mulberry, boysenberry and raspberry coulis notes framed by licorice, apple wood and bramble accents. While the fruit gushes, a racy hibiscus accent helps keep the finish defined and focused. Drink now through 2034. 120 cases made.—J.M.

95 Domaine de la Côte Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Bloom's Field 2022 \$105 A juicy, well-built red, with a structured core of dark cherry and boysenberry fruit harnessed by streaks of wet stone, savory and tobacco, while bay leaf and sandalwood hints peek in on the finish. This is still tight, coiled and steely, but the energy is there for unfurling in the cellar. Best from 2025 through 2038. 925 cases made.—J.M.

94 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills 3D 2022 \$75 Racy and focused, with expressive, energetic notes of bitter cherry and blood orange *pâte de fruit* backed by singed black tea and warm earth accents, plus a touch of tobacco. Shows a sanguine echo at the very end. Drink now through 2035. 295 cases made.—J.M.

94 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Perilune 2022 \$85 Fresh and ripe, displaying blood orange and bitter cherry compote notes laced with sanguine, savory and sandalwood threads. Keeps its mouthwatering cut through the steady, lengthy finish. Drink now through 2036. 194 cases made.—J.M.

94 Bricoleur Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Founder's Block 2022 \$60 See Highly Recommended, page 81.

94 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Jensen Vineyard 2021 \$125 Stylish and perfumy, showing dried red currant, damson plum and cherry notes that glide through, with a mix of red tea, sandalwood and potpourri forming a backdrop on the lengthy finish. Offers sneaky length thanks to an echo of chalk dust. Drink now through 2037. 650 cases made.—J.M.

94 Calera Pinot Noir Mount Harlan Selleck Vineyard 2021 \$125 A charming set of potpourri, rose hip and red tea aromas streams along, backed by a sleek and flattering core of raspberry and mulberry *pâte de fruit*. Singed tea and warm earth hints flash on the finish, which is structured, though this tilts primarily toward generous and fruit-driven in feel. Drink now through 2037. 100 cases made.—J.M.

94 Domaine Della Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Earl Stephens Vineyard 2022 \$85 Ripe cherry, raspberry and kirsch notes form the core, which stays focused and energetic thanks to a spine of acidity running underneath. Singed apple wood and red licorice accents frame the finish as the fruit ripples on. Drink now through 2034. 300 cases made.—J.M.

94 DuMOL Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Wester Reach 2022 \$80 This succulent version is almost bouncy in feel, with perky acidity driving the core of gently mulled cherry, raspberry and boysenberry fruit. Shows a dusting of red tea and sandalwood on the finish, where the structure holds sway at this early stage. Cellar for maximum effect. Best from 2025 through 2036. 4,450 cases made.—J.M.

94 Dutton Estate Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Dutton Ranch Manzana Vineyard 2021 \$67 An enticing version, with a delicious core of steeped blackberry and mulberry fruit that seemingly won't quit, inlaid with anise, black tea and violet accents as this drives through the long, fresh and streamlined finish. There's a touch of toast, but the fruit wins out easily as it sails through. Drink now through 2034. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 192 cases made.—J.M.

94 Dutton Estate Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Dutton Ranch Thomas Road Vineyard 2021 \$72 An alluring red, with gently mulled blackberry, boysenberry and mulberry fruit flavors that glide through slowly, flanked by singed anise, violet and hibiscus notes. There's a subtle mineral twang buried too, and everything knits well through the finish. Hard to resist now, but there's energy for the cellar. Drink now through 2035. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 233 cases made.—J.M.

94 El Molino Pinot Noir Rutherford 2021 \$90 Delivers a lovely range of gently mulled blood orange, bitter cherry and raspberry coulis notes laced liberally with rooibos tea and sandalwood accents. At its core, the fruit shows richness, but the overall feel is lithe and elegant, with lingering tension on the earth-tinged finish. This is approachable, but there's no rush. Drink now through 2034. 602 cases made.—J.M.

94 Gary Farrell Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Lancel Creek Vineyard 2021 \$75 Bright and engaging, with bergamot, mulberry and boysenberry notes bursting forth, backed by flashes of potpourri, dried anise and black tea. An underlying mineral thread adds a pretty twang on the finish. Shows lovely cut and range. Drink now through 2032. 574 cases made.—J.M.

94 Hanzell Pinot Noir Moon Mountain District Ambassador's 1953 Vineyard 2021 \$130 Sports an old-school edge, showing *sous-bois*, warmed black tea and stem notes mixed with its gently mulled black cherry and raspberry fruit flavors. There's a long, chiseled feel on the finish, with savory and singed cedar echoes in the background. Offering range and character, this seems best suited for some cellaring. Best from 2025 through 2036. 50 cases made.—J.M.

94 Hanzell Pinot Noir Moon Mountain District The Sessions Selection 2021 \$78 This red is fresh in feel, with potpourri and incense notes in front of a core of damson plum, blood orange and bitter cherry fruit. Showing a chalky underpinning and a long, racy finish, this wine's clear objective is precision. Best from 2026 through 2036. 150 cases made.—J.M.

94 Martinelli Pinot Noir Fort Ross-Seaview Blue Slide Ridge Vineyard 2022 \$140 Plump up front, with mulled raspberry, red cherry and plum notes, this red opens slowly as it moves along, showing hints of chaparral, black tea and potpourri. Seductive in feel, with a toasty edge on the finish that melds wonderfully with the expressive fruit. Drink now through 2036. 290 cases made.—J.M.

94 Martinelli Pinot Noir Fort Ross-Seaview Wild Thyme Vineyard 2022 \$140 Distinctive, rich and caressing in feel, offering a mix of creamed plum and black cherry fruit laced with hints of sage, potpourri and black tea. The long finish shows a subtle mineral echo, with a licorice note draping over it all. Drink now through 2036. 185 cases made.—J.M.

94 Martinelli Pinot Noir Green Valley of Russian River Valley Bondi Home Ranch Vineyard 2022 \$85 This plays to ripeness, with the range to support it, offering a mix of raspberry and boysenberry coulis notes alongside a melted licorice accent, plus saffras and sweet spice hints. A brushstroke of licorice snap adds length and a bit of bling on the finish. This feels fancy. Drink now through 2034. 675 cases made.—J.M.

94 Martinelli Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Lolita Ranch Vineyard 2022 \$85 Stylish and high-toned, with pretty notes of cherry, damson plum and raspberry coulis that unfurl over a lacy structure, backed by a full-length drape of potpourri on the perfumed and mineral-tinged finish. Shows ample fruit and a sense of polish through the finish. Drink now through 2034. 257 cases made.—J.M.

94 Maxem Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Silver Eagle Vineyard 2022 \$100 This is ripe and showy, with a lush wave of vivid boysenberry and blackberry fruit that cruises through, picking up licorice snap, iris and violet notes along the way. Offers just enough underlying tension to pull it off—not easy in this vintage. Drink now through 2031. 295 cases made.—J.M.

94 Racines Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Cuvée 2021 \$60 Shows nicely coiled energy, with a core of black cherry, mulberry and plum fruit allied to racy acidity, which carries through on the iris- and anise-tinged finish. A subtle, smoldering earth accent hangs in the background, leaving a flinty echo. Drink now through 2033. 1,165 cases made.—J.M.

94 Racines Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Sainte Rose 2021 \$75 Steely in its focus, showing notes of rooibos tea, red currant coulis and blood orange zest, all flecked with a mouthwatering savory hint. The long, mineral-edged finish shows terrific precision. Drink now through 2034. 505 cases made.—J.M.

94 Racines Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Sanford & Benedict Vineyard 2021 \$100 This red throws off a fresh and inviting flourish of steeped mulberry, red currant and raspberry, while a backdrop of rooibos tea, singed mesquite and iris accents adds range through the finish. Shows generosity, with a matrix to match thanks to the steely spine buried on the finish. Drink now through 2033. 428 cases made.—J.M.

94 Rivers-Marie Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Bodega Thieriot Vineyard 2022 \$80 A plush, seductive style, with creamy boysenberry and mulberry compote notes leading the way. This is nicely toasty, with anise and licorice accents on the finish, but the fruit keeps the upper hand easily, while a late flurry of violet and black tea notes add range. Drink now through 2032. 375 cases made.—J.M.

94 Rivers-Marie Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Joy Road Vineyard 2022 \$60 Offering a zesty punch, this features red and black cherry paste flavors backed by a briar hint. The mouthwatering finish pulls in singed apple wood and savory notes that further fuel the fruit. Drink now through 2033. 405 cases made.—J.M.

94 Roar Pinot Noir Santa Lucia Highlands Rosella's Vineyard 2022 \$80 This red delivers racy, focused and alluring blood orange and raspberry coulis flavors that are accented by gently singed anise and cedar hints, with an underlying savory edge, all draped in a perfume of smoldering red tea. Drink now through 2033. 610 cases made.—J.M.

94 Rochioli Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Little Hill 2022 \$90 Ripe and seductive in feel, with creamy raspberry and mulberry fruit puree notes gliding through atop a silky structure, while black tea, incense, singed anise and warm earth accents fill in on the long finish. Shows latent energy. Drink now through 2034. 504 cases made.—J.M.

94 Saxon Brown Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Gap's Crown Vineyard 2021 \$75 A not-shy style, offering a lush, rolling wave of mulberry and boysenberry *pâte de fruit* notes that sparkle with anise, singed wood spice and black tea details through the long and generous finish. Leans on the toasty side but offers the cut to pull it off. Drink now through 2031. 167 cases made.—J.M.

94 Sojourn Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Wohler Vineyard 2022 \$59 Ripe and inviting, offering high-pitched hints of rooibos tea and potpourri out front before its core of juicy red and black cherry compote catches up. Then, everything melds nicely, with a backdrop of sandalwood and iris through the finish. Tilting toward toasty in style overall, this is well-built. Best from 2025 through 2035. 700 cases made.—J.M.

94 Wayfarer Pinot Noir Fort Ross-Seaview Wayfarer Vineyard Paige's Ridge 2022 \$125 Very enticing, with dark mulberry and blackberry compote notes that are both juicy and caressing, with suave black tea, sandalwood and licorice snap details swirling on the finish. For the hedonist crowd. Drink now through 2034. 60 cases made.—J.M.

94 Wayfarer Pinot Noir Fort Ross-Seaview Wayfarer Vineyard The Traveler 2022 \$150 Very expressive, with plump-edged mulberry, boysenberry and raspberry reduction notes inlaid with light apple wood, anise and iris details. Seamless acidity provides the support, while a late flash of potpourri gives this a nice finishing kick. Drink now through 2034. 150 cases made.—J.M.

94 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir Anderson Valley Savoy Vineyard 2022 \$110 An expressive version, offering vivid boysenberry and mulberry *pâte de fruit* notes that ripple with nice underlying tension, while rose petal, iris and dried bergamot notes fill in the background. Mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2033. 361 cases made.—J.M.

94 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Martaella Vineyard 2022 \$78 This pulls you in with its alluring core of mulberry, boysenberry and red licorice notes, all inlaid with briar, singed spice and apple wood accents, while a flash of potpourri through the finish offers lift. The racy underpinning bodes well for cellaring. Drink now through 2034. 805 cases made.—J.M.

94 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Rochioli Riverblock Vineyard 2022 \$170 Rich in texture, this red is detailed thanks to the nice energy rippling underneath its mix of red and black cherry, raspberry and mulberry fruit paste flavors, while iris, rose hip and anise notes sparkle throughout. The long, sleek finish offers a kiss of toast without intruding on the fruit. Drink now through 2032. 780 cases made.—J.M.

94 Williams Selyem Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Williams Selyem Estate Vineyard 2022 \$125 This enticing red bursts with mulberry and boysenberry pâte de fruit notes wrapped in thin strips of licorice and backed by a mix of apple wood, hibiscus and black tea. Drink now through 2033. 656 cases made.—J.M.

93 Auteur Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Gap's Crown Vineyard 2022 \$85 This red shows a core of well-steeped boysenberry, blackberry pâte de fruit and dark cherry compote flavors that knit together well, with accents of singed anise, apple wood, warm earth and wood spice fueling the finish. Offers nice underlying energy. Best from 2025 through 2032. 218 cases made.—J.M.

93 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills 2022 \$50 This is generous in feel, with a plump edge to its cherry and damson plum fruit compote notes, offering hints of tobacco, warm earth and singed herbs that stay in the background. The light-handed toast lets everything knit easily through the finish. Drink now through 2033. 6,836 cases made.—J.M.

93 Brewer-Clifton Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Hapgood 2022 \$75 Displays alluring, smoldering red tea and sandalwood notes out in front of elegant details of mulled blood orange, persimmon and raspberry fruit. Savory and mulling spice echoes linger on the finish. Drink now through 2034. 220 cases made.—J.M.

93 Calera Pinot Noir Monterey County Chalona Vineyard 2021 \$54 Alluring flavors of rooibos tea and gently mulled raspberry and blood orange are fully formed, carried by racy acidity and backed by subtle savory and chalk hints on the structured finish. There's a nice finishing kick of fruit. Best from 2025 through 2033. 200 cases made.—J.M.

93 Calera Pinot Noir Santa Cruz Mountains Muns Vineyard 2021 \$54 Backed by sleek acidity and lingering notes of tea, cedar and dried orange peel, this old-school mountain Pinot offers a washed-out brick color that belies its charming core of dried strawberry and cherry fruit. Only for fans of the style. Drink now through 2032. 425 cases made.—J.M.

93 Domaine Della Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Graham Family Vineyard 2022 \$85 Shows bright, fresh and almost piercing notes of cherry and raspberry preserves that are streamlined and racy in feel, with a gloss of singed vanilla and red licorice adding some bling to the pinpoint finish. Drink now through 2031. 300 cases made.—J.M.

93 Dutton-Goldfield Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Redwood Ridge 2021 \$74 Ripe and enticing, with alluring flavors of raspberry, mulberry and blackberry fruit suavely infused with notes of black tea and singed anise, plus a mesquite hint. Offers a fleshy feel but doesn't sacrifice tension through the savory and mineral-tinged finish. Drink now through 2033. 416 cases made.—J.M.

93 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Coopersmith 2022 \$70 An assertively ripe red, whose eye-opening burst of boysenberry, açai berry and linzer aromas and flavors is defined and energetic in

feel. Shows a backdrop of anise and bramble through the juicy, fruit-filled finish. Best from 2025 through 2033. 280 cases made.—J.M.

93 Merry Edwards Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Olivet Lane 2022 \$75 This bursts with juicy, bramble-laced flavors of boysenberry, cherry and raspberry coulis, while dried hibiscus, red tea and lightly singed anise details emerge on the finish. Offers a toasty frame, but ample energy keeps the fruit center stage. Drink now through 2033. 620 cases made.—J.M.

93 Gary Farrell Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Sanford & Benedict Vineyard 2020 \$75 Fresh, pure and silky in feel, offering a long, persistent beam of cherry and raspberry puree notes gilded with a black tea hint and a subtle mineral edge through the finish. This understated style is refined and sneakily long. Drink now through 2033. 213 cases made.—J.M.

93 Ferren Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Volpert Vineyard 2021 \$150 This is distinctive, with a frank *sous-bois* frame surrounding a core of mulled red and black cherry fruit. Potpourri, smoldering black tea and savory notes perk this up through the finish. The *sous-bois* note is overt enough to give this an old-school feel, but the underlying acidity is racy and fresh, so no rush. For fans of the style. Drink now through 2031. 30 cases made.—J.M.

93 Flowers Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Sea View Ridge 2022 \$100 An open-knit version, showing nice energy as its light, briary matrix holds a core of black and red cherry and singed wood spice notes together. Offers a zip of blood orange zest and a twang of minerality on the finish. Drink now through 2031. 750 cases made.—J.M.



CHANTAL FORTHUN
Winemaker

93 Foxen Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley Riverbench Vineyard 2021 \$64 This enticing version's range of rose petal, cedar, savory, bitter cherry and damson plum notes has melded nicely together, carried by fresh acidity that lends tension through the focused finish. Sneakily long. Drink now through 2033. 352 cases made.—J.M.

93 Frequency Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills DiPalermo Radian Vineyard 2022 \$69 Bright and pure, with a delicious burst of unadulterated mulberry and boysenberry coulis flavors that stretch out nicely, offering light briar and licorice hints on the juicy finish. Drink now through 2031. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 100 cases made.—J.M.

93 Innumero Pinot Noir Green Valley of Russian River Valley Little Boot Vineyard 2022 \$75 Hyper-ripe and showy, with lush boysenberry, mulberry and blackberry puree notes driving along, while black tea, graphite and licorice notes fill in. There's fresh acidity buried on the hibiscus-tinged finish, giving this needed lift through the finish. This bold wine will surely have its fans. Drink now through 2032. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 145 cases made.—J.M.

93 Kokomo Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Gopher Hill Peters Vineyard 2022 \$52 This is racy and fresh in feel, with raspberry and damson plum coulis notes coursing through on a tight beam of mouthwatering acidity, while blood orange zest and savory notes add to the feel of coiled energy. A textbook coastal Pinot Noir. Drink now through 2030. 600 cases made.—J.M.

93 La Crema Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Fog Veil 2021 \$65 Steeped boysenberry and mulberry fruit is succulent and focused in this vivid and fresh version, while light notes of anise, hibiscus and singed black tea fill in through the finish. Drink now through 2032. 1,401 cases made.—J.M.



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