

PEAY VINEYARDS

2012 SONOMA COAST PINOT NOIR

TASTING NOTES

The 2012 *Sonoma Coast* Pinot noir comes mainly from our estate vineyard with a few barrels from Campbell vineyard. The *Sonoma Coast* expresses all of the characteristics of our estate cuvées featuring the red berry, earthy, pine needle aromas you find in *Scallop Shelf*, *Pomarium* and *Ama*.

In the superb 2012 vintage this wine has a level of depth, age-ability and complexity that is quite surprising. Black tea and dried leaf aromas frame a tart strawberry rhubarb nose. The palate shows more youthful characteristics adding primary aromas of black cherry and brown spices. The palate has medium weight and breadth with moderate alcohol and quite good acidity. The fine, silky tannins provide structure for a very long finish. It can be enjoyed now though waiting until 2015 will allow the flavors to temper their exuberance and coalesce. It should drink well for at least a decade (or more) after release.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Clones: 115 (25%), 777 (21%), 828 (18%), 114 (11%), Swan (9%), 667 (6%), Pommard (4%), "Suitcase" (3%), Calera (2%), Mt Eden (2%)
Harvest dates: September 4th – October 21st
Aging: Aged sur lies in 27% new Damy, Mercurey, Ermitage, Meyrieux, and Cavin French oak barriques for 11 months. Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.
Production: 1350 cases
Technical Notes: 13.8% alc

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We farm our vines on a ridge on the northern West Sonoma Coast 4 miles from the chilly Pacific Ocean. A cool afternoon ocean wind, our placement in the coastal inversion layer, and our ancient marine soils allow us to produce wines of elegance, intensity and focus.

Peay Vineyards is a family-run business that we started from scratch in 1996. We planted the first 30 acres of our 51 acre vineyard in 1998 with the remaining planted in 2001 and 2008. We grow and produce Pinot noir, Syrah, Chardonnay, Viognier and Roussanne/Marsanne. 2002 was our first vintage. Our winemaker and – Nick Peay, the grape grower's wife - is Vanessa Wong, formerly winemaker at Peter Michael Winery.