

2014 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

I've written elsewhere that, at least early on, my 2014 Pinot Noirs are among the best I've ever made. This is entirely due to a vintage that seemed to be chock full of goodies. While the warm weather at the end of the season gave sugars (and therefore alcohols) that are a bit higher than the last couple of years, the wines are wonderfully fresh and bright, with fine acidity and no hint of overripe flavors.

The 2014 Sonoma Coast is an interesting contrast to its 2013 counterpart. It has a slightly different mix of vineyards—the percentages are different every year—with less Hirsch and more Barlow than the 2013, and it shows with the tension and nerve in the wine, especially when first opened. While the 2013 was a bit brooding and "tight" when young (because if the relatively higher percentage of Hirsch), the 2014 is angular and high strung when first opened. The fruit is brigher and prettier than in the 2013, more red than dark. I like its energy.

165 cases