

# PETER PAUL

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## WINES

### 2019 Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast Gravenstein Highway

After watching how well the 2018 performed, the 2019 season simply said “hold my beer.” This year provided almost flawless growing conditions across Sonoma & Napa County. There is much for you to look forward to, given the gifts nature provided (this does *not* happen every year – see 2020). The season saw just the right amount of early heat to acclimate the baby grapes, followed by a well-behaved temperature arc through the extended summer that laid the groundwork for balanced fruit maturity. The result was an outstanding harvest with distinctly deep colors and sensual flavor development. Thankfully, we wrapped up Pinot Noir and Chardonnay well before the fires in late October. 2019 might be a year we speak about for a long time. Good news too, in case 2021 tells 2020 to hold *its* beer.

### About the Wine

Sourcing grapes from several fine sites across Russian River and framed by our star in the Petaluma Gap, Terra de Promissio (TDP), this bottling was the culmination of painstaking barrel selection over many months during which we sought to achieve a balance between aromatic purity, graceful complexity, and a refreshing bright style of Pinot Noir. Of note, this was our fourth vintage with the TDP site, which has established itself as the undisputed backbone of our Pinot Noir program. This provides the unannounced gravitas in our Gravenstein Highway bottling. Minimal racking during its 14-month maturation in 20% New French Oak; bottled unfined in June 2020. Yes, facemasks were everywhere.

### Tasting Notes

Gravenstein Highway lifts our spirits with a brilliant, translucent scarlet color. The Russian River source provided notes of Bing cherries, lavender, roses, raspberries, black tea and remarkably, a hint of sweet citrus on the finish. Interestingly, the wine gets more expressive and layered with time in the glass. Mentions that’s probably the Terra de Promissio element giving sneaky depth and gravitas to the wine. Effectively the job of Pinot Noir in this style is to be *light* without being *simple*. As a testament to the vintage, we believe this bottling of Gravenstein Highway nailed it, perhaps even more so than the well-received 2018.

### Technical Data

Variety: 100% Pinot Noir  
Appellation: Russian River ~80%, Petaluma Gap ~20%  
Maturation: 100% French Oak, 20% new, 14 months  
Bottled Date: July 2020 (with lots of masks)  
Production: 542 cases (12 x 750ml)