

# **HIRSCH VINEYARDS**

## 'Top 100 Winery'

- Wine&Spirits Magazine 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023!

'California Pinot Noir's Top Terroirs of the Sonoma Coast' - Wine Spectator
'David Hirsch is one of the true pioneers of the Sonoma Coast' - Vinous
'The Seminal Pinot Noir Grower of the Far Sonoma Coast' - Wine&Spirits

'Meet our sustainable heroes' - Jancis Robinson

Year Founded: 1980

Region: Fort Ross Seaview, Sonoma Coast, California

Winemaker: Jasmine Hirsch

Owner: David Hirsch

Known for: Pioneers of the far Sonoma Coast

Cool Fact: The patchwork of vineyards stretches across several coastal hilltops and lies directly on top of the San Andreas Fault. Consequently, the diversity of soil types, exposure and climate is staggering.

-Sustainable, Organic, Biodynamic-

Perched on a ridge overlooking the Pacific Ocean at Fort Ross, Hirsch Vineyards is the birthplace of great Pinot Noir on the extreme Sonoma Coast. Hirsch Vineyards is comprised of 72 acres, divided into 67 individual farming blocks, corresponding to the dramatic and sudden changes in soil and aspect created by the Fault. This degree of fragmentation is unmatched even by the famously subdivided vineyards of Burgundy's Côte de Nuits. The vinevard has a fearsome diversity of soils, aspects, elevations and microclimates. This complexity defines our farming and winemaking practices: each block was individually developed and is now farmed, harvested and vinified separately. David Hirsch founded the vineyard in 1980 to grow fruit



and make site-specific wine. From the start, all efforts have been on the growing of fruit that makes wines profoundly characteristic of the site vintage after vintage. The wines from Hirsch Vineyards give the passionate drinker an experience of the clash of opposites meeting in nature and life: the edge of the continent washed by the sea; the aeviternal grinding of the North American and Pacific plates along the San Andreas Fault; the wet winters and dry summers caused by the ocean and desert climates; the dripping rainforest and parched

pastures; the contact and intermingling of cultures: Native American, Mexican, Russian, European; the change in rural economy from logging and ranching to winegrowing. In the wines of Hirsch Vineyards, you find a natural balance and consistency in the harmonious resolution of these opposites. This complex, unique site produces fruit and wines of unusual acidity and balance with a vintage specific concentration of Pinot Noir or Chardonnay fruit. These are wines to be enjoyed now or laid down for future consumption. We look forward to sharing our site and wines with you for many vintages and generations to come!



### 2021 Hirsch Vineyards Estate Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast



As with all the wines from Hirsch, the purpose of our Chardonnay is to bring you a profound expression of this unique vineyard site. Through our farming and winemaking, we strive to bring the acidity and minerality of the site forward, with fruit and oak playing a secondary role. With less than 4 acres of Chardonnay vines, production is very limited and 100% of the fruit is kept for the estate. 2021 was a cool vintage, resulting in a mineral, fresh and energetic expression of our Chardonnay. Drinkable and mouthwatering now, it will gain in weight and complexity with age.

<u>95 Points - Robert Parker</u> - "Precise and detailed despite its inherent generosity. The nose offers pure crushed apple, flint, dried hay and jasmine aromas. The medium-bodied palate features highly concentrated, savory and floral fruit. It has a luxuriously satiny texture, refreshing acidity and a long, nuanced finish."

<u>94 Points – Vinous</u> - "Fabulous. Creamy and yet also phenolic, the 2021 captures all the magic of this site. Dried herbs, orange peel, lemon confit, dried flowers, chamomile and a whole range of mineral notes all grace this super distinctive Chardonnay from the Hirsch family."

### 2022 Hirsch Vineyards The Bohan-Dillon Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast



### 'Most Popular Pinot Noirs in America's Best Restaurants' -Wine&Spirits Magazine

The Hirsch Vineyards Bohan-Dillon Pinot Noir is an affordable world-class wine that brings to your glass the full spectrum of the True Sonoma Coast. Precociously charming and utterly quaffable, this wine is produced using the exact same winemaking methods and with the same attention to detail as our other pinots, thereby ensuring a wine of great quality, traditional varietal character, and sense of place.

The 2022 Bohan-Dillon Pinot Noir is made from three West Sonoma Coast sites: the Hirsch and Hellenthal vineyards, situated contiguous to each other, and the Heintz vineyard. This is the second vintage of Bohan-Dillon to include fruit from the Heintz vineyard. We selected Heintz for the Bohan-Dillon due to its storied reputation and our faith in Charlie Heintz, a third generation farmer. The Heintz ranch is located about 20 miles south of Hirsch, just east of the town of Occidental. All three of these vineyards produce wines of character and personality, and together they result in a wine of great integrity and complexity.

This wine is fabulously approachable now, and can be enjoyed without decanting. Allow it thirty minutes of air upon opening.

<u>90 Points – Vinous</u> – "Soft, supple and easy-going, all of which make it a fine choice for drinking over the next handful of years. Succulent red berry fruit, kirsch, sweet spice and flowers are nicely pushed forward."



#### 2021 Hirsch Vineyards San Andreas Fault Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast



Over 40 years of farming and winemaking on the True Sonoma Coast, David Hirsch's accumulated wisdom has shown us that the dominant influence on our farming and winemaking is the San Andreas Fault, which lies just half a mile from the Hirsch Vineyard. The wine that captures the complexity and energy of this geologic phenomenon is our San Andreas Fault Estate Pinot Noir, the wine that David calls "the Hirsch Hirsch".

The San Andreas Fault is Hirsch's signature Pinot Noir and is crafted to represent the entirety of this multifaceted vineyard. The 2021 San Andreas has fruit from 34 distinct farming blocks. It is the flagship wine from Hirsch, and the wine that represents the summation of our complex vineyard.

<u>96 Points - James Suckling</u> - "So much fresh flowers with hibiscus and honey blossom. Dried citrus like lemon zest. Medium-bodied with fine tannins that are super integrated. Zesty finish. Lots of focus and beauty. The tannins are perfectly melted into the wine."

<u>94 Point - Vinous</u> - "Vibrant and super-complex, the 2021 screams with precision right out of the gate. Dark red-toned fruit, dried herbs, mint and sage are some of the many notes that take shape in the glass. The purity of the flavors here is so compelling."

### 2021 Hirsch Vineyards East Ridge Estate Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast



The East Ridge is one of the oldest and most unique sections of the Hirsch Vineyard. David Hirsch began planning the East Ridge in 1990. Beginning at an elevation of 1,600 feet, it slopes steeply into the eastern canyon. Fog gathers in the canyon at night, and during the day, cool ocean breezes circulate amongst the vines. However, it is often the first place the fog burns off in the morning, making it a relatively warmer site. Eighty percent of the old vines on the East Ridge are stricken with phylloxera, resulting in some of the lowest yields at Hirsch, and requiring intensive and meticulous vine-by-vine farming. The low yields contribute to a notable concentration of fruit in the East Ridge Pinot Noir. The phylloxera also devigorates the vines, inhibiting photosynthesis and slowing sugar accumulation. This combination of low vigor and low yields results in a wine of dark-fruited concentration tempered by elegance and naturally low alcohol. It is a masculine and structured expression of the Hirsch Vineyard, with fantastic concentration and energy.

A selection of the very best barrels from the finest and most expressive blocks on the East Ridge. Years of intense biodynamic soil care have helped restore vigor and energy to the old vines. In addition, the newer plantings on the East Ridge are now coming up on twenty years of age, and they are able to play a larger role in the blend. The result is wines of greater ripeness than in prior years, complimented by the dark fruit and notable tannins.

98 Points - Vinous - "A wild, exotic wine. Dark and mysterious, the 2021 possesses striking nuance and complexity. A wine of deceptive power and structure, the 2021 exudes class. There's plenty of tannin, but all the elements are so well balanced. Layers of vibrant fruit build over time, leading to a deep, explosive finish that is unforgettable. The balance here is magnificent."

### 97 Points - James Suckling



### 2021 Hirsch Vineyards West Ridge Estate Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast



"The wines of the West Ridge have a gentle, supple personality, and are, shall we say, romantic." – David Hirsch

The West Ridge is a north-south ridgeline, with the vineyards planted on the ridgetops. Predominantly comprised of very heavy, black clay, the soils are highly compacted, and act more like bedrock than typical clay. This inhospitable environment stresses the vines and inhibits vigor. It is one of our most challenging vineyard sites, yet produces wines that are ethereal, fragile and hauntingly aromatic.

The foundation of the West Ridge Pinot Noir is Block 7, planted in 1992 with cuttings David Hirsch took from the Mount Eden Vineyard in the Santa Cruz Mountains (read his complete history here). It is a true massale selection, with a diverse genetic makeup. The lineage of these plants can be traced back to Paul Masson, who brought Pinot Noir cuttings from Burgundy to California in the late 1800s. The genetic diversity of the plants imparts greater complexity to the wine, but also perpetuates the leaf-roll virus that came with the vines from Burgundy. This virus inhibits the ability of the vines to carry out photosynthesis and produce sugar. The result is wines that are more delicate, naturally lower in alcohol, and have extremely fine tannins.

<u>96 Points - Vinous</u> - "Magnificent. Soaring aromatics make a strong opening statement. Wild dark cherry, lavender, mint, spice and orange peel lend nuance. This translucent, wonderfully detailed Pinot has so much to offer. Time in the glass brings out layers of savory and mineral complexity. Like all the 2021s here, the West Ridge possesses mind-blowing purity and exceptional finesse."

<u>97 Points - James Suckling</u> - "Aromas of black berries with sliced strawberries, raspberries, spice and mushrooms. Medium to full body. Lots of blue fruits. So fresh and transparent with a crunchy and persistent finish. Some watermelon at the end."