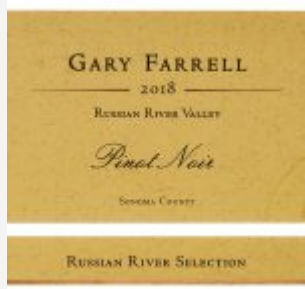


## Gary Farrell Vineyards & Winery Russian River Valley Russian River Selection Pinot Noir 2018

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



### Final Deductions

**VINTAGE** 2018

**GRAPE** Pinot Noir

**GEOGRAPHY** Not Europe

**COUNTRY** USA

**LARGER REGION** California

**SMALLER REGION** Sonoma County

**SUB REGION** Russian River Valley

### Rationale

Pinot Noir and the Russian River Valley are hand in glove synonymous across the five "neighborhoods" that form the great region: Sebastopol Hills, Green Valley, Laguna Ridge, Santa Rosa Plain, and the Middle Reach.

Located in western Sonoma County and named for the river that meanders through its territory, many Russian River Valley's vineyards are close to the Pacific Ocean. Given the cool temperatures and the favorable growing conditions that exist, Pinot Noir thrives. When you speak about the best examples of this grape in California, the conversation inevitably includes those from the Russian River Valley. Being close to the Pacific Ocean, temperatures are moderated by the marine influence, and the fog plays a critical role in both acid preservation and flavor, while the range of soil types results in varied flavor and structure profiles.

In 1982 - before the Russian River AVA even existed - Gary Farrell crafted his first Pinot Noir from fruit grown in the now-legendary Rochioli Vineyard. Today, the winery continues Gary's legacy and seeks out only the vineyards that possess a truly unique voice. The Russian River Selection bottlings are quintessential Russian River Valley wines blended from some of the region's top vineyards, taking advantage of varied climates and unique site characteristics--Rochioli and Bacigalupi (located in the Middle Reach), Toboni and Nonella (vineyards located in the Santa Rosa Plain) and Hallberg and Dutton (within the Green Valley sub-appellation.)

### Sight

**BRIGHTNESS** Day Bright

**CLARITY** Clear

**COLOR DEPTH** Light

**COLOR** Ruby

**RIM VARIATION** Ruby  
*Stained Tears: None*

### Structure

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** Dry

**ACID** Med+

**ALCOHOL** Med+

**TANNIN** Med+

**TEXTURE** Round / Smooth

**FINISH** Med+

**COMPLEXITY** High

### Aroma & Taste

**RED FRUIT** Cranberry • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Strawberry *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

**BLACK FRUIT** Black Raspberry • Black Cherry • Blackberry • Mulberry *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

**CITRUS FRUIT** Mandarin • Orange *Condition: Fresh, Ripe* *Part: Peel / Zest*

**FLORAL** Lavender • Fuchsia • Hibiscus • Rose *Condition: Fresh*

**GREEN VEGETABLE** Dark Leafy Greens

**OTHER VEGETABLE** Mushrooms (Brown) • Fennel / Anise • Radishes • Cola Nut

**HERBAL** Tea Leaf / Bergamot • Basil • Rosemary • Sage • Laurel / Bay Leaf

**OTHER SPICES** Sarsaparilla • Sassafras • Ginger Powder • Licorice (Red) • Chinese Five Spice

**ORGANIC EARTH** Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

**OAK AGING** Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

**OAK INFLUENCE** Blended Oak

**OXIDATION/NUTTINESS** Hazelnut • Almond / Marzipan • Walnut • Chestnut

**PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES** Partial / Whole Cluster