

Experience the Full Spectrum of Russian River Pinot Noir

SANTA ROSA PLAINS

Closest to Santa Rosa on the east side of the Laguna de Santa Rosa, some of the oldest vineyards planted in the 1880s, can be found here. Dotted with valley oaks, this neighborhood is the largest and can have the greatest daily shift in day to night temperatures. The neighborhood's defining clay-loam soils are the remnants of an ancient inland sea that drained to the Pacific.

MIDDLE REACH

Near southern Healdsburg, this area follows the contour of the Russian River and consists of sedimentary soils deposits from the river. The oldest Pinot Noir vines are here including Rochioli's West Block Vineyard and Bacigalupi's historic Chardonnay vines, included in the 1976 Paris Tasting. First to see the morning fog burn off, elevation and proximity to the river can have a moderating effect on climate.

EASTERN HILLS

Following the western edge of the Mayacamas range, this northernmost neighborhood has the least fog influence. Soils may be the most diverse within the Valley and are both volcanic and sedimentary. The western facing vineyards along the hills are exposed to warm afternoon temperatures and grapes tend to ripen earlier.

LAGUNA RIDGE

Defined by the ridgeline separating Green Valley from the Laguna de Santa Rosa, the smallest of the neighborhoods, consists of well-drained, uniform Goldridge loam series soils. South of the Russian River near Forestville, pioneering winemaker Joseph Swan was the first to plant Pinot Noir here in the late 1960s.

GREEN VALLEY

Just south of Forestville and north of Sebastopol, Green Valley is the only neighborhood designated as an official AVA. Following the path of the Atascadero Creek, it's a nest that cradles the fog resulting in a unique climate for growing Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Find the oldest Chardonnay vines in the Valley, planted by the Dutton family in the mid-1960s.

SEBASTOPOL HILLS

Spanning the coastal range, west and southwest of the town of Sebastopol, this area was once an ancient seabed with very uniform Goldridge soils. Planted exclusively to apples until the first vines were established in the mid-1990s. The coldest and most windswept neighborhood with limited frost concern due to the close proximity to the Pacific Ocean.

