



So many things are happening in August!

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Hello

It's August, and we've hit the ground running! We're bottling the 2018 Pinots, which is always an exciting (and somewhat anxiety-producing) process. We've also got a slew of events happening this month as we try to cram in as much as possible before harvest kicks off.

We love sharing Cartograph press mentions; here are a few of our recent appearances:

- [1winedude](#): Wine review
- [Wine & Spirits](#): Sparkling new wave (page 16)
- [Wine & Spirits](#): Leonardo Julio Brut Rosé
- [South Florida Reporter](#)

AUGUST 2019

[NEW FRIENDS NEW TASTES AT IPNC](#)

[FROM THE WINEMAKER](#)

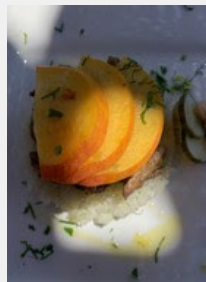
[FEATURED WINES](#)

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NEW FRIENDS AND NEW TASTES AT THE INTERNATIONAL PINOT NOIR CELEBRATION

We loved our experience at the 2015 [International Pinot Noir Celebration](#), so when IPNC invited us to McMinnville, Ore., to participate again this year, we jumped at the chance — and we had another amazing time. Here's a recap.

Day 1: After the morning's opening ceremony, we headed to [Brooks Wine](#) for a vineyard walk and seminar on American Viticulture Areas (AVAs). It was fascinating to see the differences in growth between the Pinot and Riesling at Brooks and our vineyard. And the scenery was spectacular — if you're headed to the Willamette Valley, put Brooks on your list and be sure to watch [American Wine Story](#) before you visit.



While we were at Brooks, Alan had the pleasure of being on a winemakers' panel about AVAs, which incorporated a blind tasting of wines from the five AVAs discussed. There's a lot of pressure around being able to identify your wine in a lineup, but we're happy to say we both nailed it.



As dusk arrived, we poured the 2016 Cartograph Estate Pinot Noir al fresco for the guests. It was great fun to hear people's reactions — especially the French producers who don't realize that Serena is eavesdropping on their conversations. Because we were pouring, we couldn't step away to do much tasting. Luckily for us, a lovely guest named Ian brought us tastes of wines that he thought were delicious. He had a great palate!

That evening, we hosted a wonderful dinner table and shared the 2016 Perli and the 2013 Floodgate Pinot. Our sommelier took great care of us, and we were able to taste about 15 wines from other producers.



Day 2: We began with an epic breakfast (they have the most enormous blueberries in Oregon) to prepare us for the Grand Seminar: “Chalonnaise – The 3rd Côte.” Serena developed a new appreciation for the Aligoté grape.



After the seminar, we hosted a great group of people for lunch on the lawn — a spectacular feast that made us wish we could nap afterward. Then it was on to the University of Pinot, where we listened to a discussion moderated by John Winthrop Haeger, author of *Riesling Rediscovered* (check out p. 333!), and tasted Riesling and Pinot Noir from five winemakers: three from Europe and two from the U.S. We discovered a brilliant Riesling from an Alsace producer, Domaine Valentin Zusslin.



During another al fresco tasting at dusk, we actually got to mill around and taste a number of wines. Then it was off to the Salmon Bake, a spectacular display with beautiful wild salmon roasted over a huge custom-built fire pit.

Day 3: As sad as it was to begin the last day of IPNC, there was no better way to kick it off than with the epic Sparkling Brunch Finale. Then it was a quick dash back to the dorm room (did we mention we stayed in the dorms?) to pack up before heading off to our final pouring: *Passport to Pinot*. A whole new group of folks attends this event, so we made many more new friends. Exhausted but smiling, with Pinot pouring out of every pore, we jumped in the car and headed to Portland to make our way back home.

Some of the wineries that stood out for us at this event, and whose wine we're looking forward to exploring further: Brooks Wine, Chehalem Winery, Domaine Serene, Elk Cove Vineyards, Maison Ambroise and Tyece Wine Cellars.



FROM THE WINEMAKER

Short and Sweet



In light of the lengthy recap above, I'll keep this brief: On our first visit to our estate vineyard after returning from IPNC we saw the very first bit of color. That was on on August 3rd. Perli Vineyard, up in Mendocino, entered veraison just a few days before that. This sets us up for a mid-September harvest in the Russian River Valley and Mendocino Ridge. Now we just watch the weather and stay on top of managing the canopy to keep everything healthy.

Cheers,

Alan



FEATURED WINES: SENDING OFF SUMMER WITH A STARSCAPE VERTICAL

Come taste with us at the Cartograph tasting room on Aug. 17 as we work our way through a Starscape (formerly known as Floodgate) Vineyard vertical:

- [2016 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2015 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2014 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2013 Floodgate Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2011 Floodgate Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Cartograph Circle members: Stay tuned for an email about the window opening for you to choose your fall release on August 20!

Aug. 10: [Experience the Cartograph Estate](#)

Aug 17: Featured wine tasting: Starscape Vertical

Aug. 25: Fall Release Party for Cartograph Circle members, RSVP required

Aug 30: [Friday Nights at the Schulz Museum: Peace, Love and Woodstock](#), Santa Rosa, CA

Sept. 14: Featured wine tasting: Russian River Valley Deep Dive

Oct. 5: Featured wine tasting: 2015 Pinot Noir Magnum release

Nov. 9: Featured wine tasting: Perli Vineyard Pinot Noir Vertical

Nov. 16: End of Harvest Lunch Celebration, Healdsburg; Details coming soon

Dec. 14: Featured wine tasting: Sparkling for your holidays

Get the most up-to-date info on our [events page](#).



BACK TO WORK WE GO

We've got the vineyards all dialed in, so we're just watching the grapes ripen ... and then things will heat up as we head toward harvest. We hope you'll join us Aug. 10 on our last Cartograph Estate walk of the summer so you can see what we're up to in the vineyard.

Cheers,

Alan and Serena

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