



2014

Wine Enthusiast

“A concentrated white peach element plays strongly on the nose of this coveted bottling, with touches of sea salt and a sharp tangerine-like edge. Ripe peach and cherimoya flavors show on the palate, but a crescendoing citrus-driven acidity cuts through the richness and allows more savory components like salt and smoked nut to blossom on the finish.” **93 Points: Excellent; highly recommended**

-Matt Kettmann, August 2017

PinotFile

“Moderate golden yellow color in the glass. Enticing aromas of lemon wafer, yellow apple, spice, white chocolate and crushed sea shells. Polished in the mouth with a sophisticated bearing, offering tastes of lemon creme, apple and vanillin and a pervasive thread of minerality in the background. Well-integrated acidity with adroit oak management.” **93 Points: Outstanding**

-Rusty Gaffney, April 2017

Santa Barbara News-Press

“Still (Sea) Smoking after all these years”

“It seems like only yesterday that Sea Smoke burst on the scene as one of the most exciting pinot noir producers in all of California. While they're not the new kids on the block anymore, their wines are still very much in demand, if not more so than they were at the outset. **Sea Smoke has established a credible seniority as a legacy producer.**”

2014 Sea Smoke Chardonnay

“A combination of Dijon and Wente clones that were originally planted on the property, these low-yielding vines produce a chard with an intense and appealing nose of citrus, mango, marzipan, white florals and hints of tangerine, orange peel and lightly brewed tea. On the palate, it's rich and full-bodied but focused on concentrated vanilla/lemon custard flavors with a sense of minerality (think wet stones in a pristine mineral spring) as well as orchard fresh peach and nectarine. Just the appropriate amount of oak gives it a pleasant spicy spin. **Perhaps the epitome and high point of what chard can achieve in Sta. Rita Hills. Very impressive and one of the top chards in all of California.**”

-Dennis Schaefer, February 2017

Wine Review Online

“The acidity in this wine presents more boldly than its tech sheet data suggests, and that’s a welcome bonus in this delightful wine. It’s quite tropical on the nose, with mango and pear joined by mild citrus and spice. The palate starts plush and creamy, but quickly resolves texturally in the finish, leaving the flavor impression promised by the aroma profile while watering your mouth. Lovely on its own, but with plenty of stuffing for seafood or chicken dishes.” **93 Points**

-Rich Cook, July 2017

2013

Wine Advocate

“**I was thrilled with these latest releases from Sea Smoke.**”

2013 Sea Smoke Chardonnay

“It offers similar orchard and stone fruits, brioche and white flowers. Its acidity, oak and fruit are all beautifully integrated. **One of the few whites from the region to really offer terrific texture and depth**, this gorgeous 2013 is full-bodied, layered and fresh, with classic precision and length on the finish. It too will have a decade of longevity.” **95 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character**

-Jeb Dunnuck, August 2015

PinotFile

“Moderately light golden yellow color and very slight haze in the glass. High class aromas of flint, steel shavings, lemon and butter. Sleek and refreshing, with a delicious infusion of peach, pear, lemon and grapefruit flavors brought to vivid expression with acidic verve. There is only a slight imprint of oak, and **the polished demeanor is sublime.**” **94 Points: Extraordinary**

-Rusty Gaffney, June 2016

2012

Forbes

“**Santa Barbara Chardonnay at its best.** The name refers to the fog that rolls up the Santa Ynez River Canyon from the Pacific Ocean and moderates the abundant sunshine streaming down on the south facing vineyards. The result is **a vibrant, cool-climate Chard that stands head and shoulders above most of its over-worked Santa Barbara rivals.**”

-Nick Passmore, November 2014

Wine Enthusiast

“This wine **from one of the appellation’s most coveted producers** smells fresh, with white flowers, slightly sweet white peach, lemon rinds and brie cheese rind. It’s laser-focused on the tart, somewhat bitter palate, and slowly unfurls into flavors of pomelo juice and lime pith, warming up toward cream the longer it is opened.” **92 Points: Excellent; highly recommended**

-Matt Kettmann, August 2015

Wine Lines Online

“The color is a deep straw shade. Despite the obvious weight of the wine, the aromas are delicate at first, **evoking comparisons to Grand Cru Burgundy.** Wisps of smoke and butter give way to perfumed flowers, white nectarine, and lemon curd. Most vintages of this wine express a saline minerality – the 2012 shows more wet river stone. The wine is full and palate-coating, with tremendous length through to the finish, where the buttered stone fruit lingers on and on. This is now a delicious debutante ready for her coming-out ball. Savor her now for her youthfulness, but be assured that she will continue to blossom over the next five to six years.” **92 Points**

-Glen Frederiksen, April 2015

2011

Wine Lines Online

“Clear straw in color, this charming white displays a rich bouquet of honeyed flowers, baking spices, butter poached pears, sweet lime, and a saline minerality. Full and broad in the mouth, coating the palate with lingering butter, spice, and pear fruit. **The trademark finish persists for over 30 seconds, and begs for the next sip.** This will undoubtedly continue to evolve over the next five to ten years, bringing a decade more of pleasure.” **92 Points**

-Glen Frederiksen, August 2013

2010

Wine Lines Online

“Dark straw color. The nose offers up a cornucopia of seductive scents — honey, toast, butter, spiced peach, white flowers and a hint of hazelnut. The wine delivers in the mouth, where the flavors of ripe stone fruit, honey and butter blend together seamlessly and follow through to the long, lip-smacking finish, adding a final note of crisp pear.” **94 Points**

-Glen Frederiksen, November 2012

Wine Enthusiast

“An exotic, candied style of Chardonnay, almost in a class by itself, this offers flavors including pineapple, brown sugar, lemon drop, ginger and vanilla cookie, honey, green apple butter and baked pear. Texturally, the wine is dry, crisp in acidity and minerally, with a tang to the finish.”

92 Points: Excellent; highly recommended

-Steve Heimoff, March 2013

PinotFile

“Stars Aligned for Sea Smoke in 2010”

“The 2010 Sea Smoke wines are extraordinary, the best I have ever sampled from this winery.”

2010 Sea Smoke Chardonnay

“A majestic, full-on California style Chardonnay. Aromas of lemon curd, butter brickle, and roasted nuts. Richly flavored with notes of citrus, baked pear, and toasty oak complimented by clean, crisp acidity. Sta. Rita Hills is not just Pinot Noir country, for its Chardonnays typically offer incredibly lush, chewy, hi-tone fruit backed by generous, defining acidity. For those who relish this style of Chardonnay, **it doesn't get any better.**”

-Rusty Gaffney, December 2012

2009

JamesSuckling.com

“Aromas of cooked apples, light vanilla and hints of oak. Full yet balanced with a coconut, ripe fruit and delicate peach and mango aftertaste. Layered and characterful.” **93 Points: Outstanding**

-James Suckling, January 2012

Wine Advocate

“The 2009 Chardonnay wraps around the palate with layers of rich, expressive fruit. This is a relatively large-scaled style for the appellation, but it works. French oak gives the Chardonnay volume and shape, but without being overbearing. **An intense, textured finish makes it impossible to resist a second taste.** This is a great showing.”

92 Points: An outstanding wine of exceptional complexity and character

-Antonio Galloni, August 2012

PinotFile

“Sea Smoke Cellars: California Cult Classic”

“Light straw yellow color in the glass. The nose offers reserved aromas of honeycomb, lemon pastry, sandalwood and a hint of mocha. Well-endowed with flavors of lemon curd, baked apple, roasted nuts and toasty oak. Creamy on the palate with integrated acidity and a dry, citrus-driven finish.”

-Rusty Gaffney, November 2011

2008

Wine Review Online

“This absolutely delicious, magnum-sized wine isn't easy to find in retail stores, but it's **worth the search**. It has wonderful flavors of pears, apples and a little tropical fruit. Partially aged in stainless steel tanks, the wine has subtle vanilla notes with balancing crispness.” **92 Points**

-Tina Caputo, January 2011