



***Food & Wine***

**“The Buyer's Guide to 75 of the Best California Wines”**

**Insider's Favorites - Pinot Noir**

“Sea Smoke, named after the fog that blows from the ocean through the Sta. Rita Hills in Santa Barbara County, **continues to garner acclaim for its complex, estate-grown Pinot Noirs.**”

*-Ray Isle, September 2016*

***Wine Advocate***

**“I was thrilled with these latest releases from Sea Smoke**, and when the region is chasing Burgundian-like ripeness and acid profiles, they continue to show it is possible to make rich, full-bodied and concentrated Pinot Noirs from the Sta. Rita Hills that are **a joy to drink.**”

*-Jeb Dunnuck, August 2015*

***Wine Enthusiast***

**“One of the appellation's most coveted producers.”**

*-Matt Kettmann, August 2015*

***Wine Advocate***

“At their best, the **Sea Smoke Pinots offer gorgeous textural richness, depth and personality.**”

*-Antonio Galloni, August 31, 2012*

***Wine Spectator***

**“A Region's Wine Stars Define Its Quality”**

Sea Smoke – “An important part of Santa Barbara's wine scene and **one of its ‘grand cru’ properties.**”

*-James Laube, March 2008*

***PinotFile***

“Sea Smoke Estate Vineyard has been considered **one of California's most exceptional vineyards.**”

*-Rusty Gaffney, March 2016*

***Forbes***

**“One of the most sought-after Pinot Noir producers in California.”**

*-Brian Freedman, December 2014*

***Wine Enthusiast***

**“One of the appellation's most celebrated vineyards.”**

*-Matt Kettmann, May 2015*

***Wine Enthusiast***

**“One of the appellation’s first superstar wineries.”**

*-Matt Kettmann, November 2016*

***Forbes***

“Some argue the plot of land that Sea Smoke grapes are grown on is **one of, if not the finest, plots in California.**”

*-Katie Kelly Bell, April 2015*

***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.**”

*-Dennis Schaefer, February 2017*

***The Tasting Panel***

**“The role model for California Pinot.”**

*-Andy Blue, June 2017*

***KQED Check, Please! Bay Area***

“When Pinot Noir is remarkable, there’s nothing like it. I have imbibed my fair share of great examples, but **Sea Smoke ranks among my most treasured tastes of Pinot Noir.** Hailing from a stunning hillside, fog-laden (hence the name) estate vineyard in the cool Sta. Rita Hills appellation of Santa Barbara, **Sea Smoke’s Pinots have garnered rave reviews for a reason.** They’re damn fine. I had the opportunity to visit the property a number of years ago and it is impressive.”

*-Leslie Sbrocco, September 2017*

***The SOMM Journal***

“These days, ‘cult’ California Cabernets are plentiful; not true of Golden State Pinot Noirs. **One of the most sought after of these rare birds is Sea Smoke.**”

*-Anthony Dias Blue, February/March 2017*

***American Wine: The Ultimate Companion to the Wines and Wineries of the United States***

**“Sta. Rita Hills AVA Superstars: Sea Smoke”**

“Arguably Sta. Rita Hills’ most sought after Pinot Noir”

*-Jancis Robinson and Linda Murphy, 2013*

***Newsday***

**“An ardent advocate for the Sta. Rita Hills.”**

*-Peter Gianotti, May 2015*

***Saveur***

“Victor Gallegos, the general manager of Sea Smoke, which has gained national renown in recent years, brought all three of the winery’s pinot noirs: **alluring, complex wines that have earned a cult following in California and beyond.**”

*-Georgia Freedman, March 2009*

*Wine Enthusiast*

**“America’s Best Pinot Noirs: We name the top addresses for the variety, region by region.”**

**“Sta. Rita Hills Elite Producers: Sea Smoke”**

*-Steve Heimoff, October 2013*

*Wine Spectator*

**“Top 100 Wines at a Glance”**

“Located in the Sta. Rita Hills appellation of Santa Barbara County, the Sea Smoke estate vineyard was planted in 1999. Each of the 11 wines produced from it by Sea Smoke and other wineries since the 2001 vintage have been **outstanding.**”

*-James Laube, January 2007*

*Food & Wine*

**“Wine Buying Guide 2008”**

**“Star Producers – Pinot Noir”**

**Top Five “Best of the Best”: Sea Smoke**

*-Jamal Rayyis, 2008*

*Wine Advocate*

**“One of the most promising of the new breed Pinot Noir specialists from the Sta. Rita Hills,** Sea Smoke continues to demonstrate a sure touch with this fickle varietal.”

*-Robert Parker, August 2006*

*San Francisco Chronicle*

“All the fuss about nearly unobtainable Sea Smoke Pinot Noir is justified because it’s **just plain delicious.**”

*-W. Blake Gray, December 2005*

*Houston Chronicle*

**“A California Central Coast ‘cult’ favorite.”**

*-Dale Robertson, February 2017*

*Wine-Searcher*

**“10 Most Wanted Pinot Noirs”**

“The only outfit with two wines in the top 10, an unsurprising reflection of the acclaim their fruit-forward wines have attracted from Pinot Noir lovers over the last decade or so.”

*-Tom Jarvis, May 2017*

*Food & Wine*

“Today, new vineyards are being planted everywhere—including those of the much-acclaimed winery Sea Smoke. **The Pinots were powerful and distinctive,** an impression no doubt enhanced by their rarity.”

*-Chip Brown, April 2008*

*D Magazine*

**“What to Drink Now: California Pinot Noir”**

“California’s Central Coast, where light breezes from the Pacific meld with cool morning fog, is home to some of the most exciting Pinot Noir wines in the state. **The wines of Sea Smoke offer texture, complexity, and a delicate touch.**”

*-Hayley Hamilton Cogill, November 2016*

*Into Wine*

**“50 California Central Coast Wines You Should Be Drinking Right Now”**

“Sea Smoke has created an allure with their wines.”

-Michael Cervin, July 2016

*Napa Valley Register*

“I stopped by to savor the **exalted** Sta. Rita Hills’ Sea Smoke, a wine with a reputation of a three-year waiting for its allocation.”

-Mira Advani Honeycutt, March 2017

*The Detroit News*

“Two words, ‘Sea Smoke,’ make students of Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and blanc de noirs sparkling wines sit up straight. Sea Smoke’s seriously allocated **world-class wines** are grown on biodynamically farmed hillsides above the Santa Ynez River in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA in Santa Barbara County. **Sea Smoke wines have had a cult-like following since the first releases in 2001.**”

-Sandra Silfven, August 2016

*Vail Daily*

“**Sea Smoke has been a sensation** since it premiered earlier this century. Sea Smoke makes highly collectible wines from its estate vineyard, including the Southing and Ten.”

-Kelly Hayes, January 2017

*Into Wine*

“Sea Smoke began Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in 1999, and has since established itself as **one of the premier producers in this region.**”

-Michael Cervin, May 2017

*Capital Gazette*

“**Just about everything from this Sta. Rita Hills producer is smoking hot.**”

-Tom Marquardt and Patrick Darr, July 2017

*The Wine Odyssey*

“**Sea Smoke’s pinot noirs have rightly enjoyed enthusiastic response from pinot noir connoisseurs and wine critics.** But I think its chardonnay is a gem, too.”

-John Foy, July 2017

*The Food, Drink & Travel Report*

“**This is a producer whose wines I look forward to tasting vintage after vintage.**”

-Brian Freedman, August 2015

*CityEats by Food Network*

**“Sea Smoke: Standout Pinot and Chardonnay from the Sta. Rita Hills”**

“Every once in a while, I taste a wine that makes me sit up a little bit straighter, that crystallizes and embodies everything I love about the wines from a certain part of the world. That’s what happened recently when I tasted three sample bottles of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Sea Smoke. The result is a line-up of wines that, though occasionally difficult to find, is **more than worth the effort to seek out.** They lift even meals that otherwise might be merely very good, to a level of noteworthiness that only a handful of special bottles ever help facilitate.”

-Brian Freedman, February 2013

### *Food & Wine*

#### **“Best New Winery”**

*-Richard Nalley, October 2006*

### *City and Shore*

#### **“Noir-Thrillers: California Begins to Catch – And Even Surpass – the World-Class French Pinot Noirs”**

“Last, but certainly not least, Santa Barbara County is another place in California where pinot noir grapes excel. Two wineries helping to maintain that reputation are...and Sea Smoke...while the Sea Smoke famous libations are higher priced (but worth every penny), extremely complex, and, I believe, will be even better after a couple years of bottle aging.”

*-Bob Hosmon, February 2012*

### *Gulf & Main*

#### **“If you see Sea Smoke on a label, you can insure the pinot inside will be impressive.”**

*-Gina Birch, December 2011*

### *Touring & Tasting*

#### **“Stunning Santa Barbara Wine Country”**

“Sta. Rita Hills—the de facto place for Chardonnay and Pinot Noir—includes heavy hitters like... Sea Smoke.”

*-Michael Cervin, July 2014*

### *The Colorado Springs Gazette*

#### **“Premium Pinot Found in California”**

“The Sta. Rita Hills in the western end of the valley have garnered special attention in recent years, with wineries like Sea Smoke producing **some of the state’s most individualistic wines.**”

*-Rich Mauro, March 2011*

### *Wine Minute Radio Spot*

“Sea Smoke Cellars. Located in the Sta. Rita Hills, Sea Smoke specializes in Pinot Noir. Small-production, high-quality, and **some of the best I’ve tasted.**”

*-Tom Simoneau, March 2008*

### *Santa Barbara News-Press*

**“Please stand in line so you can experience Sea Smoke at least once in your life.** Stupendous pinot noirs.”

*-Dennis Schaefer, April 2007*

### *Cuvée Corner*

#### **“The Pinot Files: Top Ten Central Coast Pinot Noir Producers”**

##### **#1 – Sea Smoke**

“Born in 1999, a culmination of many years invested in tireless research, Sea Smoke vineyard is a proprietor's (Bob Davids) vision of all things great about Sta. Rita Hills. **If you walk the vineyard, you get an instant sense of why it is so special.** Only the south-facing hillsides are under vine and diurnal temperatures are about as perfect as they come; ensuring long maturation process. In the vineyard, meticulously farmed, small batch, and an artisanal winemaking approach, yields wines of integrity, complexity and pure class.”

*-Ilona Thompson, May 2014*

***Wine Lines Online***

**“Sea Smoke, the Cult of Cool”**

*-Glen Frederiksen, August 2012*

***The News-Star website***

**“Beautiful Scenery, Wines in Santa Barbara County”**

“There are more than 100 wineries and several independent grape growing farms located in the county. **One of the most desirable vineyards growing grapes in all of the United States** is in the Sta. Rita Hills area of Santa Barbara County. It is called Sea Smoke.”

*-March 2014*

***PinotFile***

**“Sea Smoke Cellars: California Cult Classic”**

*-November 2011*

***Stratos***

**“The Next Generation of Cult Wines”**

“Named for the coastal fog that creates a unique microclimate ideally suited to its pinot noir grapes, **Sea Smoke crafts some of the most sought after pinots in the Golden State and beyond.**”

*-Chris Rubin, September 2007*

***Decor & Style***

“This up-and-comer located in the Sta. Rita Hills has reached shooting-star status almost overnight. But don’t expect it to burn up in the atmosphere. **It’s worth searching out.**”

*-Steven Mayer, April 2007*

***M Magazine***

**“My favorite label is Sea Smoke** – the pinot noir is amazing if you can find it.”

*-Janet Raasch, December 2009*

***AARP Magazine***

**“One of the area’s top wines.”**

*-Peter Greenberg, June 2009*

***Capital Time***

**“Subtle fruit and fine craftsmanship give Sea Smoke pinots their outstanding character.”**

*-Michael Muckian, October 2006*