



Hello

Big breath in: It's a new year, and there's light on the horizon as the COVID-19 vaccine rolls out. Breathe out. (Guess who started doing tai chi during the pandemic?)

FEBRUARY 2021

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LOOKING BACK WITH THANKS

While 2020 was difficult across the world, we are able to look back with gratitude — much of it directed toward you, for helping to keep our small business alive. With all the uncertainty that surrounded us over the past year, we tried to focus on helping to solve some of the many challenges facing our neighbors, colleagues and friends.

With your help, we contributed \$10,000 to our [1% for the Planet](#) partner, [Sonoma Land Trust](#). We also contributed more than \$18,000 to the [Redwood Empire Food Bank](#), the [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#) and Minnesota's [Second Harvest Heartland](#), to help alleviate food insecurity during the pandemic. With the tasting room closed, our team was able to spend time volunteering at the Redwood Empire Food Bank, too. We also continued supporting the arts by sending a check to our partners at the Green Music Center ... no need for wine donations when they can't welcome patrons. Thank you for your support, and please know that every bottle you purchase helps fund these important causes.



TASTING WITH US: IN PERSON & VIRTUALLY

While opening the Cartograph tasting room for indoor tastings remains elusive at this point, we do have in-person and virtual tasting experiences for you!

We reopened for **outdoor tastings** on Feb. 6. Book your reservation via our [website](#) or [Open Table](#) — we're limited to six reservations per day. We are offering a tasting flight of five wines, which you can also enjoy by the glass and by the bottle.

The pandemic is still very much a living, breathing dragon, so we'll continue doing **virtual tastings** via Zoom. We've had such a great time with these; it's definitely a different experience than tasting in person, but we've met wonderful people and had great laughs as well as epic failures (ask Serena about the first cheese and wine pairing she did, or Alan about his first Coravin demonstration). Luckily, people are very kind these days; all the mistakes became great sources of laughter, and we've truly made new friends. If you're planning to join us for a Zoom tasting, please allow two weeks' lead time for wines to be delivered to you beforehand.



Our current [personal virtual tasting](#) options appear below (we'll rotate in new tasting options through the spring and summer). To unlock a virtual tasting experience, just purchase the three bottles for that tasting.

Focus on Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

- 2018 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir, 2017 Cartograph Estate Pinot Noir, 2016 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir

Discover the Heights of Mendocino Ridge

- 2017 Green Ranch Riesling, 2018 Mendocino Ridge Pinot Noir, 2018 Perli Vineyard Pinot Noir

Exploring the Cartograph Estate

- 2018 Cartograph Estate 115 Clone Pinot Noir, 2018 Cartograph Estate Pommard Clone Pinot Noir, 2018 Cartograph Estate Pinot Noir

Each [tasting](#) is about 45 minutes long and is hosted by one of our Cartograph team members. When you purchase your wines, you'll receive an email invitation to schedule the date and time of your virtual tasting. We'll email you the link to your tasting before the scheduled date.

Answers to a couple of questions that we hear often:

If you want to do a virtual tasting but don't necessarily want to open or finish all three wines, we've got you covered. We have partnered with [Coravin](#) and are now using and selling their [Model Three wine preservation system](#). Or, open whatever you'd like, and we'll still plan to chat about all three wines so you have information about them.

If you'd like us to provide suggestions for a cheese and charcuterie platter to enjoy with your tasting, we'd be happy to send you our recommendations and links to purveyors we love.

For **large-group tastings** (10 or more tasters) or winemaker-hosted tastings for your company or other organization, please [contact Serena](#) directly at serena@cartographwines.com. And here's a shameless request: These large-group events have not only been a lot of fun, they have also been a lifesaver for our bottom line. If you know an event planner or someone who organizes group activities, we'd love an introduction.

And **#LibraryFridays** are back, virtually and in person! When the tasting room was open, we had a blast bringing out a library wine every Friday. For 2021, we'll be announcing the tasting schedule in advance and posting a video each Friday so you can hear Alan's impression of how the wine has aged and changed. If you're in the vicinity of Healdsburg, you can book a reservation for an outdoor tasting of that wine and any others you'd like to try. Check our Facebook page for the videos.



FROM THE WINEMAKER

In the winter months, we always get a bit of a break from the full-time job of nurturing the growing vines. Our attention shifts to the barrel room as the Pinot settles down to age and the Rosé and Riesling inch towards bottling in February. But after our first meeting with the vineyard team a couple of days ago, just like that we're back to full speed ahead. A lot needs to happen in the next few weeks!

We'll be planting new rootstock in March, and there's a lot of infrastructure work that we couldn't complete before the rains began last fall: trellis work, installing irrigation lines and weed removal are a few of our tasks. Then we'll prune the remaining established vines while also scrambling in the winery to get everything into place for Rosé and Riesling bottling. It feels good getting back into the swing of things after such an odd winter of isolation.

Cheers,

Alan



UPCOMING EVENTS

Happening now: 2016 magnum release

Lo and behold, it's already February, and we're going to release the [2016 magnums!](#) With the tasting room being closed and then suddenly re-opening, we delayed the announcement — but now we're ready.

Magnums give you twice the amount of wine to enjoy and share with your COVID bubble! You could also pick up a magnum to share with friends and family during the 2021 holidays, when it might be safe to dine together inside. Or send it as a gift to that friend who had a significant birthday during the pandemic but had to celebrate without you. Here are the new large-format wines:



- [2016 Cartograph Estate Pinot Noir](#)
- [2016 Choate Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2016 Perli Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2016 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2016 Transverse Pinot Noir](#)

Feb. 20, 7 p.m. PST Green Music Center Online: Kronos Quartet & Cartograph Zoom happy hour starts at 6:30p

We miss gathering with folks in the Green Music Center donor lounge before a show — so this month, we're going to do it online! Get your ticket to the show and email us for a link to our Zoom pre-show happy hour. Open whatever bottle you'd like, and let's say hello and catch up. Cartograph Circle members, we have tickets reserved for you, so let us know if you'd like one. (First come, first served — and speaking of serves, have you been watching the Australian Open? Go, Serena!!!)

Stop by and grab some citrus!

For locals, we'll have organic citrus in the tasting room for you to enjoy over the next three weeks: navel oranges, Valencia juice oranges and Eureka lemons, all from the organic Cartograph garden.



Spring release, April 2021:

Date TBD. Watch this space for details in March.



BACK TO WORK WE GO

We're looking forward to catching up with you in person on the patio or virtually via Zoom, and are especially looking forward to the day we can be together in person without six feet of distance between us. In the meantime, please stay safe. We greatly appreciate your support and thank you for being on this journey with us.

Cheers,

Alan and Serena