



Hello

February was dry, but our four inches of January rain plus the current warm weather mean that the flowers are blooming and trees are bursting with buds. The Cartograph Estate vineyard is pruned, and the vines are ready to release their new buds, too. We're placing bets that budbreak will happen within the first several days of March (see below). Be sure to scroll down to Upcoming Events so that you have the dates for the spring release window on your calendar!

MARCH 2020

[DRINK UP: END OF VINTAGE](#)

[FROM THE WINEMAKER](#)

[JOIN US FOR #LIBRARYFRIDAY](#)

[UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

DRINK UP: END OF VINTAGE

Every January, we do a comprehensive inventory of all the wines we have at the warehouse. In February, we taste through the older vintages to see how they've aged and assess where they are in their lifespan. And in March, we put out the word on end of vintage wines: the ones that are down to fewer than 30 cases remaining, and the ones we think you should drink in the next year. Here's the scoop.

Drink within the year:

- [2009 Floodgate Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2012 Roma's Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2012 Leonardo Julio Pinot Noir](#)

Low inventory:

- [2012 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir](#)
- [2013 Transverse Pinot Noir](#)
- [2013 Floodgate Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2014 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir](#)
- [2014 Starscape Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2014 Perli Vineyard Pinot Noir](#)
- [2015 Mendocino Ridge Pinot Noir](#)
- [2015 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir](#)

Shipping incentive: if you purchase 12 bottles (mixed case or a full case) shipping will be \$10 (use code Ship\$10).

Pickup incentive: if you pickup 12 bottles (mixed case or a fall case), we'll have a special gift for you at the tasting room when you pickup.





FROM THE WINEMAKER

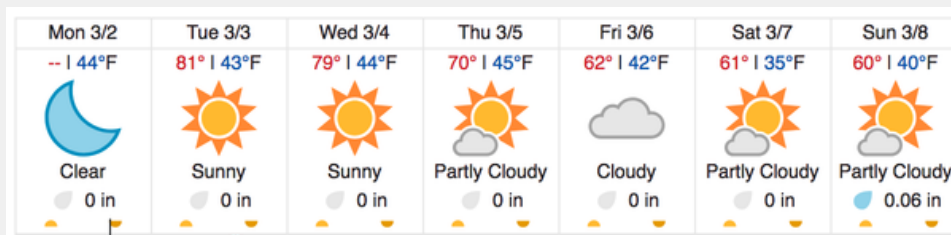
Pruning and Watching

While Serena and I were on our yearly whale-watching trip to Hawaii, we were also watching the weather back home ... and seeing that it was warmer in California than in Hawaii was a bit disconcerting for the first week of February. I'm not complaining; I'll take 70 degrees and sunny with whales breaching everywhere any day.

We also noticed that the long-term forecast called for a long stretch of dry weather, so we started the gears turning back in Sonoma County to get our crew into the vineyard to prune. We've been trying a few different canopy management approaches at the estate vineyard; this year was the first year we could finally say, "do it just like last year." Not having to train the whole crew to do something they hadn't done before meant that they could hit the ground running. Our experienced crew had the pruning done in two days and all the canes tied down in another two days. Everything looks great and very uniform across the estate property.

The first part of our winter was cold and cloudy, but not all that wet. As we moved into the new year, we got less than four inches of rain in January and literally nothing in February. Those drying conditions, combined with unseasonably warm weather, mean that we're watching closely to see when budbreak will begin.

Right now there's a tiny bit of swelling in a few buds, but we've got a ways to go before leaves pop out. I'd love to get well into March for budbreak to eliminate a few weeks of potential frost risk — but at least we've already passed the Feb. 2 date when we had budbreak in 2016. Fingers crossed that we can hold out for nice, mild weather when the vines are blooming. Sorry if you're stuck in the winter doldrums, but here's what the forecast looks like for us. Budbreak is coming!



Cheers, Alan



#LIBRARYFRIDAY

In our last newsletter, we unveiled #LibraryFriday and talked about how excited we are to open up Cartograph library wines for you this year. We had four great #LibraryFriday events in February, and we're excited to continue them in March. See below for details — and we're updating the tasting notes online, so you can take a look if you're curious about how the library wines are tasting.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Friday is #LibraryFriday!

- Friday, March 6: 2016 Saltonstall Vineyard Pinot noir
- Friday, March 13: 2013 Floodgate Vineyard Pinot noir
- Friday, March 20: 2016 Estate Vineyard Pinot noir
- Friday, March 27: 2015 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

Daily: Reserved Seated Tastings

- A reservation guarantees that you'll have a personalized tasting experience — and as a Cartograph Circle member, you'll get a special surprise when you make a reservation!

Saturday March 21: 2017 Cartograph Estate Clonal Wine Tasting

- Taste all four clones of Pinot noir from the Estate before we release the 2018 vintage in May

Here come the Spring Wines!

- **March 31 - April 10: Spring release selection window opens**
- Watch for an email on March 31 with all the details on how to make your selection for the spring release.

Green Music Center Shows

- Wednesday April 1: Bang on a Can All-Stars, Green Music Center
- Saturday April 18: Cantus, Green Music Center
- Join us in the donor lounge for Cartograph wines and small bites before each show and during intermission. [RSVP to Serena](#) if you plan to join us for either show.

Wednesday May 6: Winemaker Dinner, Chez Moi, Chicago

- Join us at [Chez Moi](#), one of our favorite restaurants in Chicago, for our third annual winemaker dinner: Four courses paired with Cartograph wines.
- Contact the restaurant at 773.871.2100 to make your reservation.

Release Party Dates: Watch your email for an invitation in April!

- Thursday May 7: Chicago, IL
- Monday May 11: St. Paul, MN
- Sunday May 17: Healdsburg, CA



BACK TO WORK WE GO

We'll keep you posted on budbreak. In the meantime, there's a pile of citrus at the tasting room — so if you're in town, stop in for navel oranges, juice oranges and Eureka lemons. We hope to catch up with you at the tasting room or one of the release parties this spring!

Cheers,

Alan and Serena



Cartograph Wines

340 Center St., Healdsburg, CA 95448 | (707) 433-8270

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)