

WILLIAMS SELYEM

SPRING 2018 RELEASE

A note from all of us at Williams Selyem

As we turn the page on 2017 and look toward the future, we feel more grateful than ever to call Sonoma County home. The recent fires in NorCal have given us reason to reflect and appreciate what makes this area so special; it's not just the amazing wine and the stunning landscape, but also the people who have come together to form this tight-knit community.

As many of you know, the Estate was not damaged during the wildfires. Thankfully, we can also report our vineyard partners, and the wines from our 2017 harvest, were unaffected.

Though some areas were significantly impacted, not many wineries were affected, and even fewer vineyards. Less than a handful of the 425 wineries in Sonoma County reported structural damage. In fact, once the fires were no longer deemed a threat in our area we were back to business as usual in just a few days. It has been incredible to watch the community respond with such resilience and strength.



A view from the Estate just one week after the fires



Community members showing support for First Responders

A profound “Thank You” goes out to our First Responders. More than ten thousand firefighters, EMS professionals, law enforcement officers, city and county officials, and linemen arrived from all over the country to battle the storm and keep us safe. These First Responders are true heroes.

We also want to share our appreciation for you – our List Members. While news of the fires spread, we received hundreds of emails, phone calls, and social media messages from you. We thank you for taking a moment to think of us. Oftentimes, it was your lovely notes of concern and support that made our days brighter.

Gratitude has been a common theme these days for Jeni Wright, our Estate Concierge, whose family lost their home in the Coffey Park neighborhood of Santa Rosa.

“My husband Rollie and I have always been proud to say we live in Sonoma County, and the last few months have only reassured us just how incredible this community truly is.

We frantically left our home with our two young girls, our Boston Terrier, a laptop and one of our two vehicles. Just a few hours later we were shocked to hear that approximately 1,500 homes in our neighborhood had been leveled, including ours.

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Important Dates

MARCH 4

Close of Release

MARCH 12

Shipping Begins
Hot States

(AL, AZ, FL, GA, LA, NC, SC,
TN & TX - weather permitting)

MARCH 26

Shipping Begins - all other states
(weather permitting)

APRIL 6-8

Pickup Weekend Event at
Williams Selyem Estate Winery

APRIL 9-15

Pickups by appointment at
Williams Selyem Estate Winery
(unclaimed wine will be
shipped on April 17)

MAY 4-6

Pickup Weekend Event
at Millbrook Winery in NY

CONTACT US

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Jeni, Lily, Rollie and Piper Wright

We are heartbroken, but confident that with the continued support of our friends, family, coworkers, teachers, and even strangers we will come out of this even stronger than before. The best is yet to come!”

The rebuilding efforts have swiftly begun, with an intensity and fervor that can only come from a community

of people who truly love where they live. If you’ve ever visited this area, we’re sure you’ll agree it’s a place brimming with passion.

If you’ve never visited, or haven’t come to see us in a while, please do! A trip to Sonoma County is a great way to support the recovery efforts in the area. We would love to host you and your guests at the Estate for a tour and tasting.



The WS Hospitality and Sales & Marketing Teams

While you are here, we encourage you to visit the many other wineries and local restaurants, many of them award-winning. Stay in our beautifully appointed hotels, take in the views, and enjoy the shopping! Your support of the tourism industry is what keeps a destination like Sonoma County thriving.

How else can you help? If you are interested in making a monetary donation to support Sonoma County, one way to help is by donating to the Sonoma County Vintner’s Emergency Fund. Proceeds go toward the long-term recovery process of our county and for future disaster relief aid.

For more information and to make a donation, visit (www.sonomawine.com). Williams Selyem will match dollar-for-dollar for the first \$20,000 donated from our customers.

Again, from the bottom of our hearts we thank you for your kind words and continued support. Together we are Sonoma Strong.

PINOT NOIR

Elegant

2016 Central Coast Pinot Noir

\$39

SAN BENITO COUNTY

13.3% ALC.

The nose leads with aromas of plum and berries intermixed with crushed rocks. Notes of pomegranate are counterpointed with lively elements of orange peel and dried flowers. The entry is fat with a mid-palate lift of plum and flowers. The tannins are very tea-like, and carry on to the elegant finish with a touch of fresh acidity. An impression of minerals and earthiness is conveyed throughout the palate, adding intrigue and complexity. The palate is uniquely soft and chalky, and is filled with flavors of berry and mocha with a subtle toasted almond finish.

2016 Sonoma County Pinot Noir

\$39

SONOMA COUNTY

13.8% ALC.

Sourced from the Russian River Valley and the Sonoma Coast AVAs, the Sonoma County epitomizes elegance. Notes of strawberry and cherry are complemented by blueberry aromas. Hints of dried herbs and allspice combine with notes of Earl Grey tea. The palate mimics the nose with pretty strawberry and cherry flavors, and an added essence of plum. There is enough acidity to provide freshness all the way to the cherry stone sensation on the finish. This is a serious wine that is fruit-forward yet can definitely be enjoyed in its youth.

Medium-Bodied

2016 Terra de Promissio Pinot Noir

\$58

SONOMA COAST

13.6% ALC.

Planted in 2002 to cool climate Pinot Noir clones, Terra de Promissio continues to impress. Always a fragrant wine, the 2016 offering exudes aromas of dark berries and flowers, with a hint of kirsch and Lambert cherry. Cheerful on the nose, the fruitiness is matched with bright tones of mandarin orange and cedar. In addition, tobacco and soil-inflected notes add underlying depth. Broad and silky in the mouth, this wine delivers balanced tannin, acid, and fruit, and seems almost spherical on the tongue. Flavors of plum and citrus are backed by a tea-like tannin profile, and a delicate mineral lift. Within this wine is a fascinating interplay of earth and fruit, which should allow for a variety of food pairings.

2016 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

\$55

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

14.1% ALC.

The beautiful garnet color of this wine is alluring. Prototypical in its aromatic profile, the 2016 Russian River Valley leads with dried rose petals, potpourri, red cherry, raspberry, and notes of Ceylon tea. Additional aromas of dried orange peel studded with cloves mix with vanilla bean and cedar shavings to perfectly compliment the primary fruit characteristics. Robust and rich on the tongue, the wine seems to fill every square inch of the palate. Flavors of maraschino cherry, ripe berries, and dried herbs combine to make a powerful flavor profile. The tannins are quite refined and convey a sense of sap and tenacity. Another excellent wine from a great growing region!

2016 Olivet Lane Vineyard Pinot Noir

\$78

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

14.2% ALC.

Black cherry and musky herbs dominate the nose of this wine which comes from an old-vine Pinot Noir planting. A bouquet of violets softens the edges of the aromatics, while savory elements of anise and celery seed add another level of complexity to this dynamic wine. Enticing and comforting aromas of sweet cherry and fresh baked pie crust further add interest to the nose. The flavors are equally as exciting with notes of dark cherry and plum, with zesty acidity. Polished and seamless, the black tea-like tannins are wrapped up in a sappiness that exudes power and elegance at the same time. A streak of minerals in the middle palate gives way to a black cherry pit sensation on the finish.

Full-Bodied

2016 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

\$55

SONOMA COAST

13.9% ALC.

The 2016 Sonoma Coast highlights the wild side of Pinot Noir. This wine evokes the smells of walking a trail on the coast through a redwood forest. Notes of dried herbs and 'sous bois' mix with wild berry fruits and cedar. The aromas are further complexed with dried citrus peel, clove, and allspice. The palate typifies the coastal tannin profile with a robust finish of citrus peel, gravel, and stone. The structured and mineral-driven palate exudes flavors of cherry pit, flowers, and coffee.

2016 Westside Road Neighbors Pinot Noir \$72

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

13.7% ALC.

There is always a fineness to Westside Road Neighbors, and the 2016 does not disappoint! The nose starts out with red cherry, wild berries, and plum, and brightens up with notes of juniper berry, citrus, and redwood shavings. A brooding element lurks in the background and evokes thoughts of Asian spices. With time in the glass, the wine opens up with aromas of flowers and lavender. The wine is very focused in the mouth, and has a very protracted mouthfeel. Flavors of raspberry, cherry, and cranberry, with a smoked meat finish are interwoven in the palate.

CHARDONNAY

2016 Unoaked Chardonnay \$39

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 13.1% ALC.

The yellowish-green color hints that this wine comes from a cool climate. The aromas are like a basket full of peaches, quince, and Asian pears. The fruit fragrance transitions to an alluring jasmine perfume. The palate is wonderfully balanced with flavors of pear and yellow apple that give way to stone fruit with a floral lift. Round and persistent throughout, the wine finishes with a refreshing and delicate minerality. Chardonnay is a great mate to barrel fermentation and ageing, but this is an excellent example of richness without oak.

2016 Olivet Lane Chardonnay \$65

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 14.5% ALC.

Golden yellow apple aromas mix with notes of spiced pear and starfruit. The spiced pear and crushed rock aromatics are undeniably from the old Wente selection of Chardonnay to which the vineyard is planted. The palate is focused with flavors of yellow and green apple and a touch of quince. Well-structured in the mouth, the wine offers a talcum powder-like texture and a subtle finish of quinine. This wine will pair wonderfully with rich foods.

2016 Heintz Chardonnay \$65

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 14.3% ALC.

The vibrant yellow color is attractive and excites the senses. Hints of yellow apple and cardamom dominate the nose, with subtle notes of fresh-cut pineapple and vanilla bean layered underneath. Elements of wet stone and mango weave into the wonderful aromatics. There is excellent focus in the mouth, with flavors of pineapple, Gravenstein apple, and pear. A flavor and sensation of apple skin frames the richness of the mid-palate. The classic Goldridge dustiness captures the attention of the palate with a wonderfully broad and expansive finish. Another classic Heintz Chardonnay to enjoy now with fresh Dungeness crab.

GEWÜRZTRAMINER

2016 Late Harvest Gewürztraminer \$40/375ml

SAN BENITO COUNTY 9.2% ALC.

The rich color evokes visions of liquid gold. The exotic aromas give way to notes of poached pear, cardamom, and vanilla bean. Apricot and frangipane add another interesting layer to the profile. The classic Gewürztraminer nose of rose petals ties everything together and provides elegance and lift. On the palate, the wine immediately has great presence and mouthfeel, and is like an elixir. Balanced with just enough acidity, flavors of peaches and cream, and shortbread cookie come through on the finish. This is the perfect companion to a stone fruit tart with cardamom ice cream. Enjoy!

ZINFANDEL

2016 Papera Vineyard Zinfandel \$65

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 15.3% ALC.

The vibrant red color of this wine is electrifying! Gorgeous boysenberry and blackberry cobbler notes emerge from the glass. Hints of anise and well-worn leather add a dark and brooding component to the aromatics, while notes of lavender and violets keep the wine bright and fresh. Juicy throughout the length of the palate, the wine tastes of blackberry, boysenberry, and brambles. The licorice adds to a lingering finish and clings to the tongue. Structured, weighty, and refreshing, this wine can stand up to a multitude of food pairings.

2016 Fanucchi-Wood Road Zinfandel \$65

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 15.0% ALC.

The inaugural offering of the Fanucchi-Wood Road Zinfandel is nothing short of a blockbuster. Made from vines planted in 1890, this organically grown, dry-farmed vineyard is located near the town of Fulton in the Russian River Valley. Though mostly Zinfandel, the vineyard also has a small percentage of Alicante Bouchet and Petite Sirah interplanted, which provides amazing structure to this wine. Bursting with notes of boysenberry, the nose transitions to a dark hoisin sauce character. The unsurpassed elegance typifies this wine. In the mouth, berry flavors harmonize with well-balanced acid, and finishes with a hint of bitter cherry. While substantial in tannin, the polish and grain are outstanding and represent a classic offering from the Fanucchi-Wood Road site.

With many natural disasters in 2017 and changes in the tax policy, we understand and are sympathetic to the fact that there is a modicum of uncertainty as to what the future holds for many families.

In light of this, Williams Selyem has committed to not raising the retail cost of wine or shipping rates in 2018, despite increasing costs that naturally arise in the wine business.

Although it's a modest conciliation, we wanted to extend our gratitude for our very loyal and dedicated List Members. We thank you for your continued support!

2016 Vintage Notes - WINEMAKER JEFF MANGAHAS

The 2016 vintage was an excellent growing season, and started out as the previous four vintages; with a warm and dry winter. Above average temperatures and modest rainfall in the winter months brought a normal bud break in all growing regions. The main difference in 2016 was cooler temperatures in late February, and increasing rain totals in March that helped slow down vegetative growth. The net result was a slightly longer vegetative cycle, a slower grape maturation cycle, and therefore a later harvest compared to 2015. These events allowed for perfect maturation of the grape tannins and flavor development. Flowering happened under normal conditions with a slight cooling trend in May, which ultimately prevented blockbuster yields. Temperatures after fruit set were normal, but as veraison approached there were a few heat spikes that jumpstarted the ripening process.

Harvest started with pleasant weather on August 10 in the Middle Reach Neighborhood vineyards (Westside Road). Weather in late August cooled, and by early September temperatures warmed up and dry conditions prevailed. The result was our core harvest was completed under ideal conditions by end of September.

Overall, the wines from the 2016 vintage exhibit wonderfully polished tannins due to long and slow grape maturation on the vine.

Update on the 2017 VINTAGE

On October 8, 2017 Northern California experienced a firestorm that impacted the landscape of Sonoma County. Over 100,000 acres swiftly burned, including residential neighborhoods and businesses in and around Santa Rosa, the largest city in Sonoma County. Along the fire lines, local vineyards served as fire breaks to head off further devastation because the soil retains more moisture than surrounding woodland.

As you know, Williams Selyem sources fruit from many different growers from several regions, and we are grateful they were all spared from physical damage. We are also fortunate Sonoma County is an early ripening region. All of our fruit was harvested before the outbreak of fires, and was safely resting in barrel inside the winery away from the threat of smoke contamination. There appears to be no evidence that vines will retain smoke compounds, so we are expecting to produce the same superior quality fruit in all future harvests.



Ordering

- Online ordering is strongly encouraged! To access your allocation, use the customized hyperlink in the email we'll send to you on the opening day of the release. Or, sign into our website with your user credentials.
- Orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Allocations are not guaranteed; they represent the number of bottles available to you until the wine sells out (which is often before the last day to order). Please place your order as soon as possible for best order fulfillment.
- For bottles beyond your allocation, please use the wish list column. These requests will be filled, if possible, after the close of the release on March 4. You do not need to include payment for wish list wines; we will charge or invoice your account later if the request is filled.
- While online ordering is strongly encouraged, you may fax your completed order form to (707) 431-4862. If paying by check, please send via mail to 7227 Westside Rd, Healdsburg, CA 95448
- Order confirmations will be sent via email. Please verify your address!
- Faxed or mailed orders submitted without written payment will not be filled; phone and email orders are not accepted.

Shipping

- Wines will begin shipping on Monday, March 12 for orders shipping to (AL, AZ, FL, GA, LA, NC, NM, SC, TN & TX), weather permitting. Orders shipping to all other states will begin on Monday, March 26, weather permitting.
- Some states do not permit direct wine shipments, or they may limit the amount of wine we can ship to you. Please see the back of your order form for more details and shipping/handling fees.
- We require a shipping address where someone 21+ years of age will be available to sign for the package during regular business hours.

Wine Pickup

CALIFORNIA

- If you intend to pick up your wine at Williams Selyem Winery, select the "CA Pickup" option on your order. A minimum purchase of 6 bottles applies to this option.
- Our Spring 2018 Pickup Weekend will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 6-8, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at 7227 Westside Road, Healdsburg, CA 95448
- Winery pickups are available by appointment at Williams Selyem from April 9-15 between 10:00 AM and 2:30 PM. Please call or email at least one day in advance to schedule a pickup date: (707) 433-6425 or tours@williamsselyem.com
- Orders not picked up by Sunday, April 15 will be shipped at the customer's expense to the billing address listed on the order on Tuesday, April 17.
- If you would like All Ways Cool (707) 545-7450 or 55 Degrees (707) 963-5513, or Fitch Mountain* (707) 433-1247 to receive the order on your behalf, you must establish an account and coordinate shipment with that company directly. (*No account required, only prior arrangements with Fitch Mountain needed)

NEW YORK

- If you intend to pick up your wine at Millbrook Winery, select the "NY Pickup" option on your order.
- The Spring 2018 Pickup Weekend at Millbrook Winery will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 4-6.
- Daily winery pickups are available May 4 through July 31 between 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM, no appointment necessary. 26 Wing Road, Millbrook, NY 12545, (845) 662-WINE ext. 21, millbrookwinery@millwine.com, www.millbrookwine.com.