



2018 Failla Spring Release Tasting Notes

these wines will be released Tuesday, February 6th, 2018

Chardonnay

2016 Olivet Ranch Chardonnay, Russian River Valley (100 cases)

Bright candied lemon and fresh cut oats carry through the nose to the palate. With a silky texture and medium weight, the wine finishes with a bright snap of acidity. A mild vintage at our Santa Rosa property of cool mornings and sunny afternoons provided ideal ripening conditions, and the mostly neutral environment for fermentation and aging allows the freshness and purity of the site to show through. Drink now – 2020

2016 Estate Vineyard Chardonnay, Fort Ross-Seaview (200 cases)

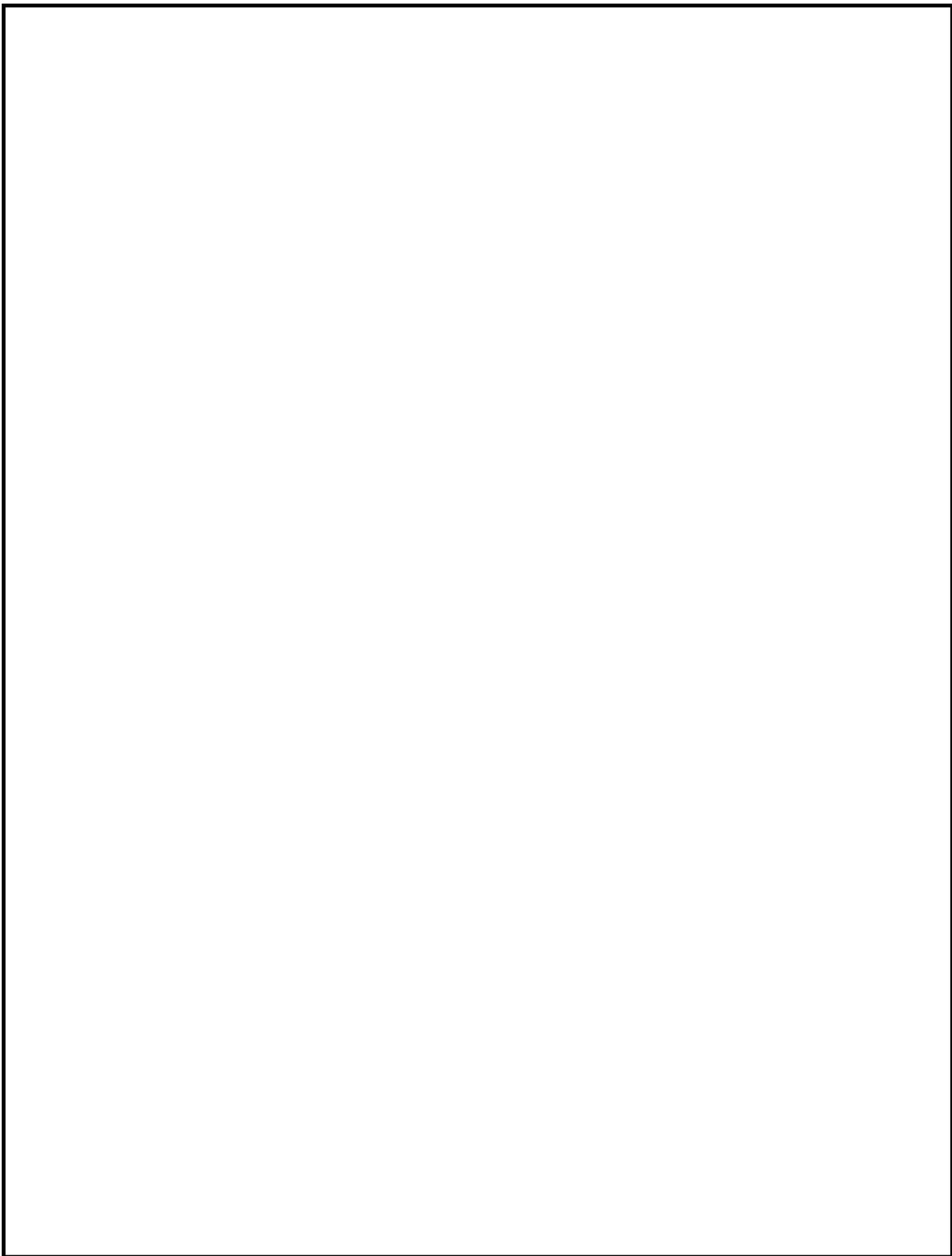
Always a wine of complexity, each additional year of vine age seems to add layers of weight and texture. Sea air and Meyer lemon jump from the glass balanced by a flinty mineral tone, notes of orange blossom and a lengthy finish. Aged for 11 months in 15% New French Oak, 30% Nomblot Concrete Egg, and 10% Stainless Steel. Bottled unfinned, unfiltered. You may want to consider grabbing a magnum or two and cracking it open on the beach with a bounty of oysters. Drink now – 2027

2016 Hudson Vineyard Chardonnay, Napa Valley (546 cases)

Never a wine lacking concentration, this vintage balances that richness with a sleek yet textured long finish. Spice, grapefruit pith, gun flint, cabin wood and subtle tropical notes carry the nose. The vineyard covers quite a bit of ground (200 acres), though our block is only a small parcel. Foggy mornings and warm Napa afternoons combine to ripen the fruit here evenly under the watchful eyes of Texas expat and vineyard owner Lee Hudson. Drink 2019 – 2025

2016 Haynes Vineyard Chardonnay, Coombsville (507 cases)

Never short on brightness or freshness, this vintage secures that legacy in spades. Vibrant lemon citrus tones, hedge flowers and hints of chalk dust lead to a textured yet razor-focused finish. Quite frankly this vineyard never ceases to amaze us with its beautiful fruit, lifted aromatics and elegant mouthfeel. Wines like this are proof that California Chardonnay is as legit as it comes. Drink now – 2028



Pinot Noir

2016 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir (5000 cases)

The 2016 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir shows generous aromatics of wild herbs and brambly fruit. Bright, focused and clean, flavors trend toward fresh blueberry, oregano and savory marmalade. With gentle structure and a sleek mid-palate, this is a wine for the dinner table. The vineyards represented in this bottling are a stellar representation of quality farming, mature vines and the distinct terroir of cool climates that are graced with soils, fog and sea that brings Pinot Noir to life. Roughly 30% of the wine in this bottle is estate grown and farmed. Drink now – 2022

2016 Olivet Ranch Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley (196 cases)

Crisp red fruits, Cascade hops, perfumed notes of sarsaparilla on the nose and balanced, mellow finish. A textbook example of Russian River Valley with restraint. 20% whole cluster fermentation adds some backbone and structure to a bright and focused wine. Drink now – 2025

2016 Keefer Ranch Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley (750 cases)

Broad notes of dark cherry, wild brambleberry and black licorice. The surly midpalate gives way to fresh herbs, salty notes and a delicious attack of acidity on the finish. Goldridge soils, classic Green Valley fog, and warm afternoons have long been the secret ingredient to the success of Keefer Ranch Pinot (and Chardonnay!) – that and picking at the right time of course! Drink now – 2025

2016 Pearlessence Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast (195 cases)

Pearlessence is absolutely the ‘little vineyard that could’ – 1.8 acres planted in one of the colder regions of Sonoma County have certainly provided the site with struggle! Never short on aromatics, the 2016 delivers in spades. Peppered strawberries, fragrant rose, Matsutake, cinnamon and numerous other clean savory notes abound from the glass. These striking aromas are followed by a palate of delicate tannins and a bright and incredibly long finish. Drink now – 2027

2016 Savoy Vineyard Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley (550 cases)

Wild berries and savory herbs dominate the nose and give way to cool red fruits and hints of white pepper on the palate. Bright finish and more integrated and elegant tannins than in years past. The mélange of clonal variety we work with creates a beautifully nuanced yet expressive wine. After four previous vintages working with Savoy we feel we are truly beginning to understand its potential and translate that into the glass. Drink now - 2027

Syrah

2016 Hudson Vineyard Syrah, Napa Valley (300 cases)

Dense aromatics of pepper, salted meat, black olive and hints of barbeque deliver a classic California expression of Syrah. Structured, yet smooth tannins set up the wine perfectly for roasted meats and stews. This is a difficult wine to keep your hands off if you (like us) are a lover of Syrah – though we suggest giving it a few years of down time or a solid 60 minute decant to unlock the myriad flavors that develop. Drink now – 2030

As usual there is not much to go around, and we have done our best to allocate wines fairly. Please contact me directly if you have questions – geoff@faillawines.com or via phone at 707-963-0530 x 211. The release will be live, and an email link will be sent to you on **Tuesday, February 6th, 2018 at 8:00am** to login and check you available allocated wines. Please respond quickly to ensure you receive everything you want. Magnums and 3L will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

