



In each issue, the editorial team at *The SOMM Journal* will deliberate through wine submissions and release final judgment on select wines that garnered scores of at least 90 points. The “joury” will also occasionally feature an esteemed guest sommelier.

# Going Solo: The Single Vineyard

**ENROUTE** THROUGH CALIFORNIA, WE **TALLEY** OUR SCORES FOR SINGLE-VINEYARD PROJECTS THAT SET THEIR SITES ON SPECIFIC AVAS

*Huichica soils of clay, mixed sedimentary rock, and volcanic ash bring an earthy tone to the Amber Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir, part of EnRoute's single-vineyard series.*

PHOTO: ERICK MADRID

## Our Journey with EnRoute

**IN THE LAST EDITION** of the *Somm Jour*, we featured the Cabernet Sauvignons of Nickel & Nickel. In this issue, we delve into another Far Niente project, EnRoute, established in 2007 to show off the beauty and perfection of Pinot Noir from the Russian River Valley. EnRoute's single-vineyard program captures the essence of specially selected sites.

### **EnRoute 2018 Pinot Noir, Northern Spy Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$85)**

In the cool Green Valley sub-AVA just 10 miles from the Pacific, this vineyard is planted on the Russian River Valley's famous Goldridge sandy loam soils. Elegant from nose to palate, with black pepper-crustured Rainier cherries and dusty plum-skin tannins. Lovely floral notes of jasmine and underbrush are followed by cigar leaf and thyme on the finish. The palate has the feel of a silk jacket. **96**



### **EnRoute 2018 Pinot Noir, Marty's Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$85)**

Sitting on Goldridge soils on one of the steepest hills in the Green Valley, Marty's Vineyard is often fogged in. The nose offers bright, sunshine-filled pomegranate before a dramatic wave of cherry, dried flowers, and white pepper washes over the palate. The mouthfeel is preternaturally weightless: The liquid almost hovers. As it opens, the wine reveals cigar leaf and licorice. **95**

### **EnRoute 2018 Pinot Noir, Amber Ridge Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$85)**

Amber Ridge is EnRoute's warmest site, with a fog pattern that allows for three more hours of sunlight than its cooler vineyards receive 12 miles away. Luscious, like biting into a chocolate-covered cherry—the liquid slowly streaming out and saturating the mouth. Notes and aromas of beetroot, cinnamon, and sandalwood follow. **96**