

THE  
**BOARDROOM**  
Summer 2018  
Longboard 1 - Central Coast

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### **Deep Sea: Pinot Noir 2013**

*Rancho La Vina, Sta. Rita Hills, Santa Barbara - CellarTracker: 89*

This is the story of a young Santa Barbara sibling trio turned winemakers. Founded in 2007, Conway Family Wines focuses mainly on Pinots from local vineyards – and always with the coastal climate and environment in mind. Raised for 14 months in neutral, large French oak barrels, it shows classic signs of cherry, earth and a touch of vanilla. On a late-summer night, pair this delicate Pinot with grilled salmon, Vietnamese take-out or roasted chicken. By the way, if you're in Santa Barbara, check out the breathtaking view from their tasting room.

*Best: 2020-2023*

### **Paix Sur Terre: The Golden Road 2015**

*100% Monastrell (Graciano, actually), Yankowski Weeks Vineyard, Paso Robles - 95 cases  
Wine Enthusiast: 95 & Cellar Selection, Dunnock: 93, Parker: 91+, Vinous: 91*

There is no shortage of accolades for this Morastell (Graciano), not to be confused with Monastrell (Mourvèdre). That was exactly what many prominent winemakers in Paso did, resulting in a varietally incorrect – but still excellent – first vintage of this wine. Compared to Mourvèdre, expect a darker, more rich wine with prominent acidity, but softer tannins. Pair it with traditional Rioja/Spanish dishes such as chorizo, roast lamb and Serrano ham.

*Best: 2019 – 2030*

### **Villa Creek: Willow Creek Cuvee 2014**

*70% Grenache, 15% Mourvèdre, 10% Syrah, 5% Carignane - James Berry, Denner & Luna Matta  
Vineyards, Paso Robles - 400 cases - Wine Enthusiast: 95 & Editor's Choice, Parker: 93*

Villa Creek just never seems to disappoint, and their Willow Creek is a crowd favourite. In their typical style, 50% of the clusters were fermented whole and aged in large barriques. Expect plenty of blackberry, cracked pepper, violets and underbrush – and cellar it to reveal even more impressive depths. As Cris puts it, "It is a wine you will like now but love later!"

*Best: 2020-2026*

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**Justin: Isosceles 2009**

*94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc, 3% Merlot - Paso Robles - 385 cases*

*Tasting Panel: 95, Wine Spectator: 93, Vinous: 92*

Justin Vineyards' signature wine, this vintage's Isosceles Bordeaux blend of – almost – pure Cabernet is everything and more you'd expect from a Central Coast Bordeaux: Full-bodied and lush with red and black fruits and a long, persistent finish. It spent a full 24 months in mainly new French oak barrels. Serve with steak, roast or big game. This wine is at its peak right now, so we recommend enjoying it with friends or family – or at Christmas!

*Best: Now-2020*

**Linne Calodo: Sticks & Stones 2016**

*74% Grenache, 19% Syrah, 7% Mourvèdre - Willow Creek District, Paso Robles - 800 cases*

*CellarTracker: 94*

We welcome our new, exclusive producer, Linne Calodo, with their top-tier wine, the Sticks & Stones. 2016 saw California into its 6<sup>th</sup> year of drought. With Linne Calodo's dry-farming practices, this resulted in smaller, more concentrated berries bursting with flavour. Aged for 15 months in a 2,000L concrete tank and 2,500L French foudre (yes, that's enormous!), we get the pure, bright flavours of mainly Grenache, so expect lots of black cherries and ripe, red raspberries dusted in cinnamon and cocoa. Fun fact: The label is a charcoal rubbing of the vineyard soil – cool, right? Dive right in and enjoy now, if you can't wait!

*Best: 2019-2023*

**Epoch Estate Wines: Tempranillo 2014**

*90% Tempranillo, 5% Grenache, 5% Mourvèdre - Paderewski & Catapult Vineyards, Paso Robles*

*481 cases - Jeb Dunnock: 98, Parker: 93*

This historic winery has deep roots going back to the founding of California's first vineyards – and this sold-out Tempranillo is a perfect way to preview Epoch's portfolio. As Jeb Dunnock put it, "A total 'Wow Wine!' ... a candidate for the top expression of the variety in the United States." Aged for 20 months in mainly new, French oak, it's incredibly concentrated with loads of smoked earth, cedar, blackcurrants, chewy tannins and plenty of freshness. Try saving some for a next-day glass – I promise you won't be disappointed! Try it with spicy, yet elegant Mexican fare or BBQ and smoky dishes.

*Best: 2020-2035*

**CALIFORNIA**  
**WINE** APS