

Decanter Magazine | August 2024



**2021 Rodney Strong
 Chalk Hill Chardonnay**
 Sonoma County

94 pts

“Bananas, Meyer lemon and pineapples accompanied by a lovely florality. Butterscotch flavours abound with just a hint of oak, as it was barrel-fermented in French oak barrels. There’s a key lime element that works well here, too, and a softness of texture that makes for an easy drinking experience.”

— J’nai Gaither

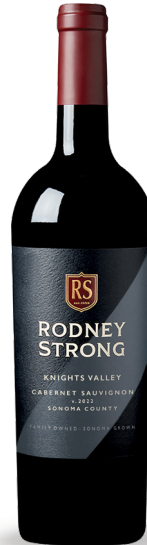


**2021 Rodney Strong
 Pinot Noir**
 Russian River Valley

96 pts

“Burgundian in style, the savoury flavours lead, followed by the fruit. The aromas and sensations in the mouth are akin to walking through a forest just after a rain. Then, the rich, brambly raspberry and blackberry flavours come to the fore. This should last many years.”

— J’nai Gaither



**2022 Rodney Strong
 Cabernet Sauvignon**
 Knights Valley

94 pts

“Blackberry fruit leather wafts from the glass but needs a bit of coaxing via a vigorous swirl. It opens a bit more on the palate, though, with a strong acid backbone and triple berry compote with a twinge of menthol that gives lift to the finish.”

— J’nai Gaither



**2021 Davis Bynum
 River West Vineyard
 Chardonnay**
 Russian River Valley

92 pts

“This Chardonnay comprises clones 4, 15, 72, 76, and 809 and has a clean texture but is not very aromatic on the nose. The palate, on the other hand, has racy acidity, a surprising peppery component, flinty minerality and then a parade of bruised green apples. A chalky undertone is woven throughout the wine that envelops it, giving it some heft. With 14 months of ageing in French and Hungarian oak barrels, it has a weightiness that will allow it to age for a few years.”

— J’nai Gaither



**2021 Davis Bynum
 Pinot Noir**
 Russian River Valley

90 pts

“A rich and ripe fruited Pinot Noir comprised of four different clones from the Russian River Valley. Aromatics of freshly crushed strawberries, candied raspberry and Bing cherry are met with a touch of dusty minerality. The palate shows ample ripe berries, notes of smoky clove and a mint-driven finish.”

— J’nai Gaither



**2021 Davis Bynum
 Dutton Ranches Pinot Noir**
 Russian River Valley

96 pts

“With clones 115,667 and 777, this is a truly elegant Pinot Noir whose fruit greets you first. It’s from Dutton Ranch, a highly regarded vineyard in Sonoma County. The myriad clones add dimension and surprise elements at every turn but also contribute, in my opinion, to its ageability.”

— J’nai Gaither