

Mendocino County "Insider AVAs"



Mendocino AVAs

- Anderson Valley
- Cole Ranch
- McDowell Valley
- Redwood Valley
- Potter Valley
- Yorkville Highlands

Mendocino AVA "in crowd"

THE IX CROWD
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- Anderson Valley
- Cole Ranch
- McDowell Valley
- Redwood Valley
- Potter Valley
- Yorkville Highlands



Anderson Valley

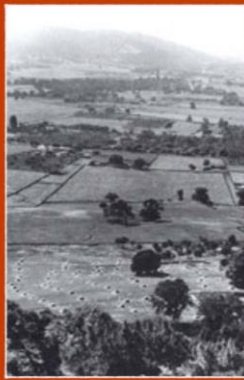


Photo: iStockphoto.com



Map Source: Anderson Valley Winegrowers Association <https://avwines.com/av-map>

Anderson Valley AVA




- Established in 1983
- 57,000 acres in the western "Deep End"
- Cool mornings and evenings with coastal and river influence
- Alluvial and clay soils in the valley; less fertile/acidic on ridges
- Red grapes: Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir
- White grapes: Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc, Gewurztraminer, Muscat, Sauvignon Blanc
- History extends back to 1850s, named for the Walter Anderson family
- Viticultural history began with Swiss immigrants in the 1860s
- First commercial winery built by Jon Pinoli in the 1910s




Photo: iStockphoto.com

Anderson Valley Wine Styles




2014
DRY GEWURZTRAMINER




ANDERSON VALLEY, MENDOCINO
Brut
Sparkling Wine
NAVARRO

Sparkling
Still
Late Harvest
Botrytized



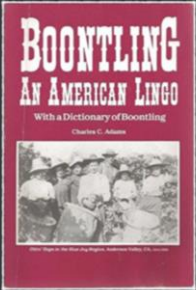
2014
PINOT NOIR



2014
LATE HARVEST GEWURZTRAMINER

Wine-Related Boontling

- Fratty shams
- Bahl
- Blooch





Wine-Related Boontling

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fratty shams | <input type="checkbox"/> Grapevines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bahl | <input type="checkbox"/> Good or of excellent quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blooch | <input type="checkbox"/> To chatter aimlessly |


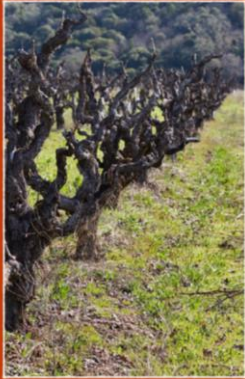
Source: Adams, J. (2011). The Poind Review

Cole Ranch AVA

- Established in 1983
- Smallest AVA in the USA
- 175 acres at 1400 - 1600 feet elevation
- Inland, surrounded by mountains
- Diverse range of soils from limestone to loam
- Red grapes: Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Zinfandel
- White grapes: Chardonnay, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc
- *Esterlina and Everett Ridge were sold by Sterling in 2016

Photo: WineAppellations.com


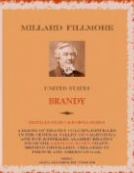



McDowell Valley AVA

- Established in 1987
- Originally planted between 1910 - 1919 by Buckman family
- 540 acres
- Further inland, with little coastal influence
- Gravelly and loamy alluvial soil, well-drained
- Rhone varieties
- Believed to have some of the oldest Syrah and Grenache vines in California (Gibson Ranch)


Photo: WineCollect.com

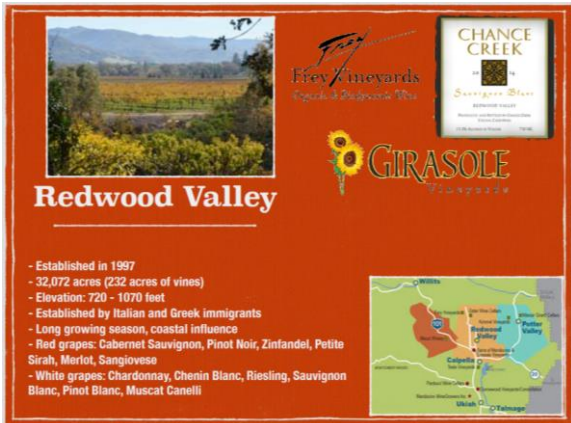
Redwood Valley AVA

Did someone say, "brandy?"

- Germain-Robin - founded in 1981
- 19 different grapes, including Pinot Noir, French Colombard
- A "presidential" favorite






Redwood Valley

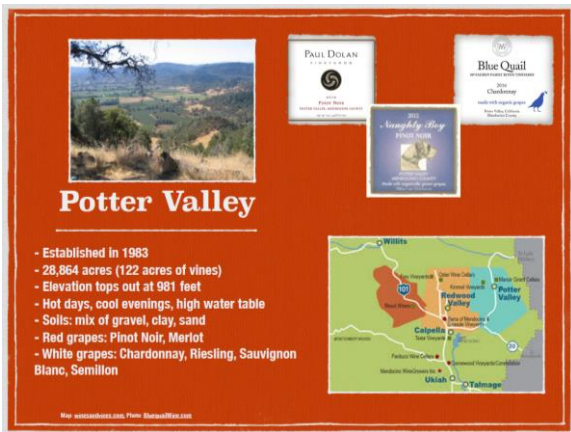
- Established in 1997
- 32,072 acres (232 acres of vines)
- Elevation: 720 - 1070 feet
- Established by Italian and Greek immigrants
- Long growing season, coastal influence
- Red grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Merlot, Sangiovese
- White grapes: Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Blanc, Muscat Caneli

A quick note on the recent fires...



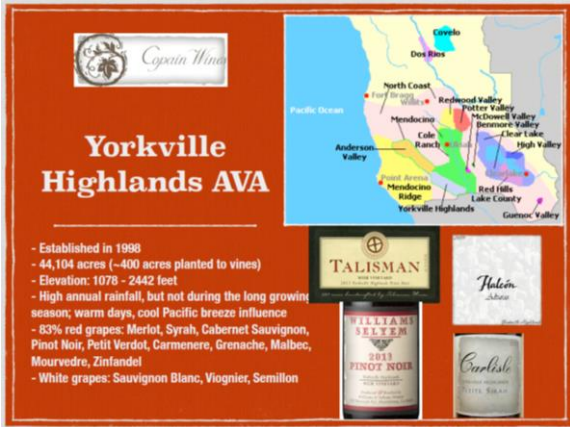
- This photo is from 11 October
- 75% of the harvest was complete when fires broke out 8 October
- As of 17 November, the final report from the Redwood Valley Fire notes:
 - 36,523 acres burned
 - 545 structures destroyed
 - 33 damaged

Image: WineDrinker.com



Potter Valley




- Established in 1983
- 28,864 acres (122 acres of vines)
- Elevation tops out at 981 feet
- Hot days, cool evenings, high water table
- Soils: mix of gravel, clay, sand
- Red grapes: Pinot Noir, Merlot
- White grapes: Chardonnay, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon



Cypress Winery

Yorkville Highlands AVA

- Established in 1998
- 44,104 acres (~400 acres planted to vines)
- Elevation: 1078 - 2442 feet
- High annual rainfall, but not during the long growing season; warm days, cool Pacific breeze influence
- 83% red grapes: Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Petit Verdot, Carmenere, Grenache, Malbec, Mourvedre, Zinfandel
- White grapes: Sauvignon Blanc, Viognier, Semillon

Any questions?



Mendocino County: "Outsider AVAs"



Notable Growers today



Steve Alden, Alden Vineyards
Author of AVA proposal



Vicki and Dan Dooling,
Mariah Vineyards

Pine Mountain – Cloverdale Peak AVA

- Established on November 28, 2011
- Elevation 1,600-3,000 feet
- Of 4,730 acres total, 310 are currently planted to vines
- Volcanic, gravelly loam soils; well draining



Some Colorful Pine Mountain History

- 1855 first recorded vineyard planted on Pine Mountain, on site of today's Tin Cross Vineyard



Some Colorful Pine Mountain History

- Most Wanted Black Bart aka the "Gentleman Bandit" pulled off at least 27 stagecoach robberies between 1875 and 1883

"He fancies himself to be a poet, leaving scraps of doggerel in the empty express boxes he has just robbed..."



Some Colorful Pine Mountain History

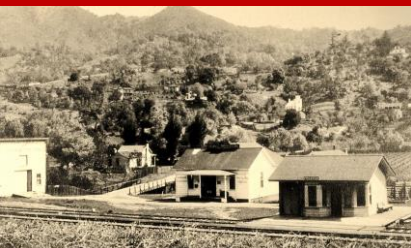
- The "Gentleman Bandit" turned out to be Charles Boles, who resided in posh Nob Hill in San Francisco – he was caught because they were able to trace a handkerchief he left on the scene.
- He served four years in San Quentin, when he was paroled for good behavior.



<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Black-Bart-Man-of-culture-led-secret-life-of-5358590.php>

Some Colorful Pine Mountain History

- In 1885, Madam Emily Preston founded a quasi-utopian community two miles north-east of Cloverdale
- At its peak, 150 individuals, who called themselves "Volunteers of Heaven" resided on the land of the "Preston Colony"



The "Preston Colony" had its own railway stop, school, hospital, and store.

Some Colorful Pine Mountain History

• Mystic and Faith Healer Emily Preston (1819-1909)

In 1871, Madam Preston saw "a brilliant light" and "something fell from her eyes" — from that time on, she could heal diseases. With her third husband, Attorney Preston, she retired to his Sonoma Food Ranch; her patients followed; the community grew.



Her treatments included: exercise, fresh air, mineral water, herbal tonics and medicinal spirits. She also prescribed blistering the skin to "pull sickness out of the body."

<https://prestoncolonysonomacountyca.wordpress.com/about/>



Madam Preston and her acolytes grew fruit trees, tilled vineyards, and produced medicinal wines, wine bitters and brandies that were sold all over the world. The *Russian River Flag* reported in 1875 that Preston Colony has "10,000 gallons of wine in its stores, and another 4,000 to be made." The 1889 harvest was 40 tons of grapes.

Notable Growers today

• Barry Hoffner owns Silverwood Ranch, home to Sonoma County's highest elevation vineyard. He grows grapes for Miro, Francis Ford Coppola and Imagery [Benziger Family Winery]



Notable Growers today

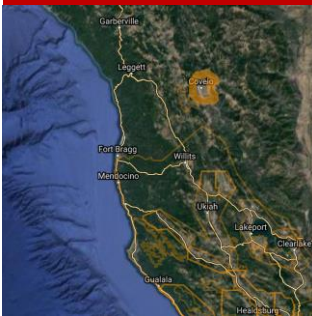
- Pine Mountain Vineyards' owner John Copeland grows predominantly Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc for Ampère, Enkidu Wines, Francis Ford Coppola, and Ispiri



"Grape farming at altitudes in excess of 1600' has its own set of challenges... but the fruit produced is highly concentrated with rich varietal character.... With the assistance of neighboring grape growers on Pine Mountain, I began the long process of application for a small area, high altitude appellation."
 -John Copeland



Covelo AVA



- approved February 16, 2006
- 45 miles north of Ukiah, in a bowl-shaped basin, blocked off from coastal influence
- in addition to its continental climate, it has very deep sandy clay soils
- has one of largest diurnal temperature changes in Mendocino
- currently only 2 acres under vine
- no commercial winery yet

Covelo AVA



Ralph Carter, author of at least 6 AVA petitions in CA; so far the ATF has approved Covelo, Dos Rios and Leona Valley (2008) near Los Angeles.

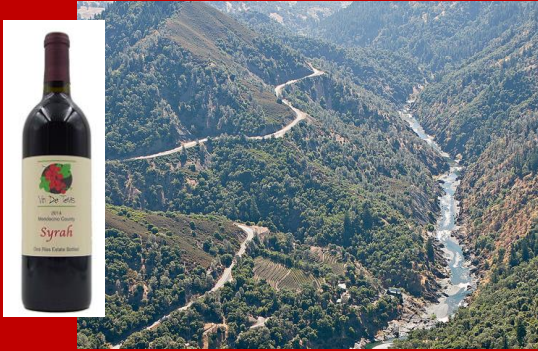
Dos Rios AVA



Eel River is a favorite site for whitewater kayaking or rafting.

- AVA located along Eel River and Middle Fork tributary
- established on November 14, 2005
- a mix of continental and maritime climate;
- vineyards on steep, infertile slopes, some see similarities to Hermitage or Côte-Rôtie
- one winery: Vin de Tevis
- currently 6 acres under wine
- main grapes: Cab Sauvignon, Cab Franc, Merlot and Zinfandel

Dos Rios AVA



<http://www.vindeteis.com/photos.html>

Any questions?



Taste-Along:
Anthill Farms Winery Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley, 2015



Meet Anthill Farms Winery:

Web Marquez(Virginia), Anthony Filliberti (Sonoma) and Dave Lowe (Kansas)
The three met while working as cellar rats at Williams Seylem in Sonoma



<https://www.anthillfarms.com/>

ANTHILL FARMS WINERY ABOUT VINEYARDS EVENTS PURCHASE JOIN US

We farm and make small lots of wine from California's North Coast, working only with vineyards we love and love.

PINOT NOIR

- 2015-2016
- 2017-2018
- 2019-2020
- 2021-2022
- 2023-2024
- 2025-2026
- 2027-2028
- 2029-2030
- 2031-2032
- 2033-2034
- 2035-2036
- 2037-2038
- 2039-2040
- 2041-2042
- 2043-2044
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- 2089-2090
- 2091-2092
- 2093-2094
- 2095-2096
- 2097-2098
- 2099-2100

CHARDONNAY

- 2015-2016
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- 2019-2020
- 2021-2022
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- 2099-2100

SYRAH

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<https://www.anthillfarms.com/>

*Here are my tasting notes for
Anthill Farms Winery Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley, 2015*

- ❑ 13.1% abv
- ❑ Aromas: Plum, blackberry, strawberry, blueberry, floral, a bit of spice (and just a bit of earthy funk)
- ❑ Palate: Great acidity, fruity flavors, fine tannins
- ❑ Flavors: Cherry, fruity, earthy (mushroom)
- ❑ Nicely balanced, good length

