

	Retail	Savings
<b>\$39.00</b>	<b>\$41.00</b>	<b>5%</b>

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## 2017 Walter Hansel Estate Pinot Noir product-timed-pdf - Russian River Valley, CA - 94pts Vinous "Super Expressive Pinot Noir"

### Why We're Drinking It

**94pts Vinous** *The 2017 Pinot Noir The Estate Vineyard offers an intriguing combination of the raciness of the vintage, but with plenty of underlying structure and more than enough freshness to keep things in balance. Dark cherry, plum, spice and floral notes are all nicely delineated in this vibrant, super-expressive Pinot Noir from Hansel. I really like the energy here.*

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*This is a superb set of wines from Stephen Hansel. In my view, the Hansel Chardonnays and Pinots are quintessential expressions of the Russian River Valley. Best of all, these are some of the most fairly priced wines readers will find anywhere in the world. -- Antonio Galloni, May 2019*

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### Tasting Notes

The Estate wines are made to be fresh and drink earlier than the vineyard designate wines. The Estate parcel for Pinot Noir is at the northern most spot in the vineyard and is planted to the Rochioli clone.

**VARIETAL**  
Pinot Noir  
**ALCOHOL**  
14.00  
**SIZE**  
750ml  
**BLEND**  
Pinot Noir

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### The Story to Know

Walter Hansel was a lifelong wine enthusiast who had the vision to plant his estate's original 250 vines in 1978. Today, Stephen, Walter's son, has taken up where his father left off, pursuing his vision of producing world-class Burgundian-styled Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, all from the Russian River Valley.

Steve Hansel's friend, famed winemaker Tom Rochioli, helped him in the early stages of his wine education by inviting him to work a couple of harvests at the Rochioli vineyards. Steve performed his first solo attempt in 1996 out of his garage.

At Walter Hansel Winery, the emphasis is on low yields (a miniscule range from 1.5 to 2.7 tons/acre) for greater complexity. Since all their grapes are grown on their own property, they can exercise strict control in the vineyards, which are planted with 5 Pinot and 5 Chardonnay clones. Each clone was chosen for its specific acid and flavor variations.

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