

**FAMILY-OWNED FREEMAN VINEYARDS & WINERY** is a leader in the movement to produce balanced, elegant, cool climate California wines. Winemaker Akiko Freeman combines her innate Japanese sensibility with high quality fruit from our own vineyards and from a few, select growers - both in the rugged Sonoma Coast and in the coldest reaches of the Russian River Valley - to create Pinot Noirs of delicate refinement and beauty that have consistently received world-wide acclaim.



*“(Akiko) brings a keen aesthetic sense to the wines she makes with her husband Ken”*

—ROBERT PARKER

*“I find it the closest to the Burgundy style of all Sonoma pinots I’ve tasted, with a velvety richness very close to wines from the Cote d’Or. If you’d never tasted a pinot noir in your life, this is what it’s supposed to taste like.”*

—BLOOMBERG BUSINESS WEEK

*“Ken and Akiko Freeman are both card-carrying Pinot fanatics. They launched Freeman Winery to produce singularly elegant Pinot Noir and, boy, have they achieved that goal... The Freeman team has really dialed in on a beautiful, focused style of Pinot.”*

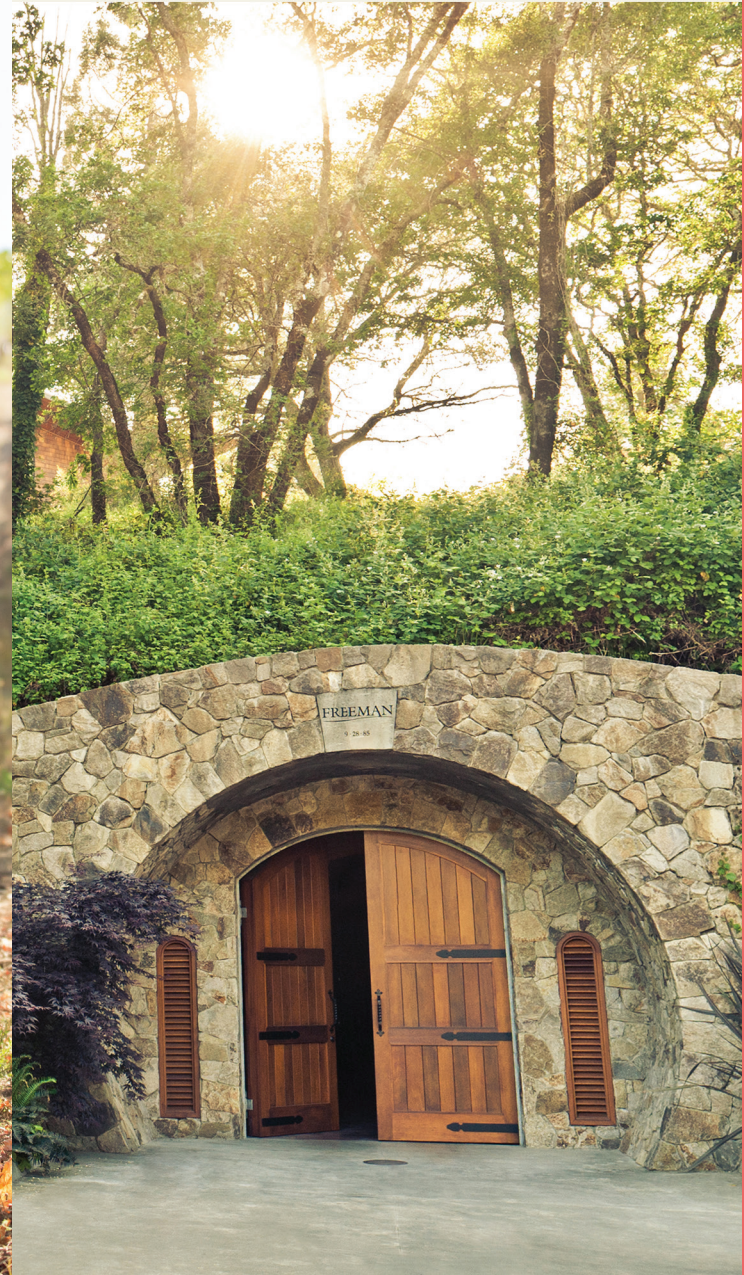
—PINOT REPORT

*“They strive for a balanced, elegant style – and succeed”*

—USA TODAY

*“Cerebral and refined, a wine to drink over dinner”*

—FORBES

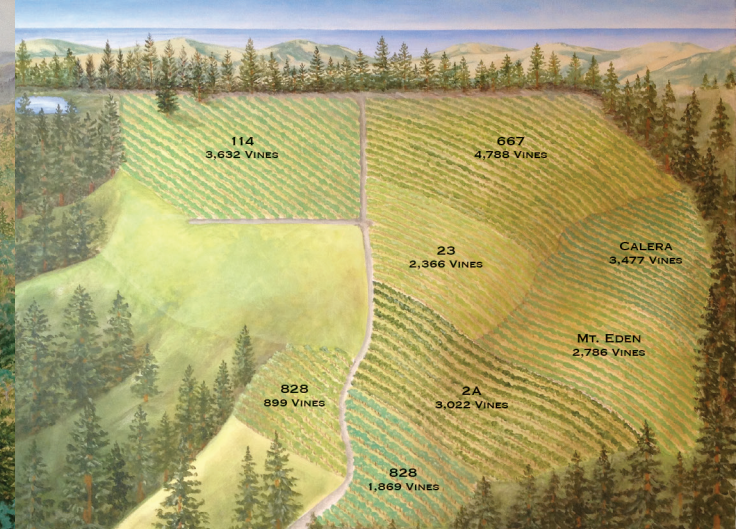


Special, guided winery visits are available on a limited basis. To schedule a tasting by appointment, please contact us at [info@freemanwinery.com](mailto:info@freemanwinery.com), or by phone at (707) 823-6937.

**FREEMAN VINEYARD & WINERY**

1300 MONTGOMERY ROAD + SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472  
707-823-6937 + [FREEMANWINERY.COM](http://FREEMANWINERY.COM)





**KEN AND AKIKO FREEMAN** always knew that estate vineyards would be central to their vision for making truly distinctive Pinot Noir, and they quickly determined that the cool, rugged reaches of far western Sonoma County would be their ideal location. Here, up against the Pacific coastline, steep hillsides, fog-shrouded valleys and crisp ocean winds force wine grapes to struggle in order to achieve ripeness, while building complexity and character.

The Freemans established their winery west of Sebastopol in 2001, and then set out to acquire two exceptional vineyard properties to complete their vision. The first, eight-acre Gloria Estate Vineyard, is adjacent to the winery at the cool, western edge of the Russian River Valley AVA, planted in 2006. Then in 2007, Ken and Akiko purchased the Freeman Ranch, four miles closer to the Pacific. Here they planted the 14-acre Yu-ki Vineyard, with a Sonoma Coast designation.

These two vineyards, with their perfect combination of soil, climate and elevation, are now in full production, and they will be the focal point of Freeman's estate wine program going forward. Akiko Freeman and her team are in a position to oversee all stages of wine growing and winemaking, from clonal selection and farming to cellaring and blending. This affords the opportunity to express a vision unique to Freeman: elegant, small-scale California Pinot Noir from the hands of a woman, imbued with a formal, Japanese aesthetic. These are wines like no other.

## **GLORIA ESTATE VINEYARD** *Green Valley of Russian River Valley, Pinot Noir*

**THE GLORIA ESTATE VINEYARD**, named for the fortuitous hurricane that first brought Ken and Akiko together, lies next to the winery in the coolest, westernmost part of the Russian River Valley AVA, just ten miles from the Pacific Ocean. Gloria's steep eight acres are 400 feet high and face southeast, located in the first of a series of ridges and mountains that comprise the rugged terrain of the Sonoma coast. The site is ideal for Pinot Noir, with steep hillside drainage, Goldridge sandy loam soils, and a sunny climate moderated by cool blankets of fog.

Gloria's six blocks of Pinot Noir are planted to the Swan, Pommard, 115, Calera and Martini clones, each picked and fermented separately. The farming is committed to sustainable agriculture with a focus on organic practices whenever possible. Here, challenging weather and sheer terrain make for low yields of only two to three tons of small, concentrated grapes per acre, which in turn are responsible for Gloria's signature nerve and complexity.

Each bottle of Freeman's Gloria Pinot Noir bears the shaded Japanese character "kagayaku" on its label. This is the symbol for "Glory," or "Shining" - an apt description for the essence of this magnificent vineyard.

## **YU-KI ESTATE VINEYARD** *Sonoma Coast, Pinot Noir*

**FREEMAN WINERY'S YU-KI VINEYARD** is situated just five short miles from the Pacific Ocean, above the town of Occidental, at an elevation of 1,000 feet. The terrain is sharp and rugged, the climate is cold and windy, and here grapes must struggle to survive. Yu-ki is situated on the Freeman Ranch, part of a primal, forested landscape that includes spectacular stands of first and second growth redwoods. The Freeman family has donated 22 acres of this arboreal habitat to the Bodega Land Trust, to be preserved in its natural state forever.

In 2008 the Freemans planted Yu-ki with eight cool-weather-loving clones of Pinot Noir, on a sharply raked slope facing predominantly southeast. They have farmed it with organic methods ever since. Vines plunge down the hillside in neat rows, maximizing the benefits of the site's sandy loam soils. The farming is nearly vertical, usually hands-off, always mindful of water, cover crops, pest control and overall vine health. In this weather, on these slopes, yields are low: just one or two tons per acre. The berries are small and the flavors are intense, sparked with bracing acidity. This is farming on the edge.