

the wine trust

HERITAGE • TRADITION • CRAFT



Paul Lato Background

Owner: Paul Lato

Country: United States / California

Founded: 2002

Annual Production: 4,500cs

Description: In 2002, Polish-born Paul Lato left a successful career as a sommelier to pursue his dream of becoming a winemaker. With help from a number of California's top winemakers, his initial production totaled just 500 cases. In the years since, Lato has cemented a reputation as one of California's top winemakers – his wines are routinely showered with exceptional critical ratings and sell-out via mailing list.

Wine Notes – 2018 Paul Lato Suerte Solomon Hills Vineyard Pinot Noir

Paul Lato's story is as exceptional as his wines. Born in Poland, Lato was a successful sommelier in Toronto but harbored a dream of becoming a winemaker. After stints working for Jim Clendenen (proprietor of California Pinot pioneer Au Bon Climat) and as a cellar-rat at Bien Nacido, Lato began making his own wines in 2002. Fast forward two decades, a chance meeting with Robert Parker and fortuitously-timed help from Thomas Keller and Paul Lato Winery is now widely considered one of California's top producers of Burgundian and Rhone varietals, with a trove of critical accolades. Suerte Pinot Noir comes from the Solomon Hills Vineyard in the Santa Maria AVA. An extraordinary cool-climate site that is a favorite of restaurateurs Thomas Keller and Wolfgang Puck, Jeb Dunnuck has awarded this wine a 98 point rating, calling it "beautifully textured" and "stunning."

JEB DUNNUCK - 98 Points

Technical Specifications

Varietal Composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard Region:	Solomon Hills Vineyard, Santa Maria AVA
Production Volume:	320 cases
Vineyard Characteristics:	Certified sustainable, 18 yr old vines, ocean floor sandy loam, south/west facing gentle slope
Wine-Making / Vinification:	Hand-harvested 100% destemmed fruit 19-day fermentation in 2-ton stainless steel tanks using mix of native and select yeast, aged 6-10 months on primary lees, racked and returned to fine lees Aged 17 months in 60/40 new/neutral French oak, fined, 30ppm SO ₂ , 4 months bottle age
Alcohol / Volume:	14.1%
Residual Sugar:	0 g/L

JEB DUNNUCK

The 2018 Suerte Solomon Hills Vineyard comes from a great vineyard just west of Bien Nacido and spent 17 months in 60% new French oak. Lots of black raspberries, spiced cherries, salty sea breeze, flowers, orange blossom, and violet notes emerge from the glass, and it's beautifully textured, full-bodied, and incredibly sexy on the palate. It's stunning today yet will evolve for upwards of a decade.

98 Points

Prior Vintage Ratings for Seabiscuit Zotovich Pinot Noir

<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Jeb Dunnuck</u>	<u>Wine Advocate</u>	<u>Vinous</u>
2017	94 pts	96 pts (Brooks)	94 pts (Galloni)
2016	96+ pts	95 pts (Kelley)	95 pts (Galloni)
2015	97 pts	95 pts (Perotti-Brown)	93 pts (Galloni)
2014	96 pts	96 pts (Dunnuck)	93 pts (Galloni)
2013	97 pts	97 pts (Dunnuck)	92+ pts (Galloni)
2012	96 pts	96 pts (Dunnuck)	92 pts (Raynolds)