



## 2020 STRATUM RED WINE SONOMA VALLEY

*Up and down the western slopes of Sonoma's Mayacamas Mountains lie rare deposits of volcanic soils brimming with energy and tension.*

*Through deep yet wide-ranging analysis of these elusive terroirs and the application of ultra-precision farming and winemaking, Hamel has captured a pure expression of these qualities in a new Cabernet Sauvignon blend.*

*In homage to the central role geologic exploration played in crafting this wine and in recognition of it being a singular expression of an expansive area, we call it "Stratum."*

### TASTING NOTES

Dark ruby swirling in the glass, the bouquet reveals dark cherry, plum and cassis, complemented by notes of violets, cedar and iron. Dark fruit flavors envelop a sanguine mineral core on the palate, framed by fine, supple tannins and a refreshing vibrancy. Balanced and classically poised, the wine shows an intricate, chalky minerality that brings flavor and persistence. Enjoyable in the near-term, the wine will continue to develop over the next 10 years.

**90 POINTS**

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

*"...understated scents of cassis, balsamic, dried herbs, coffee and meaty tones. ...medium-bodied with restrained, mineral-driven flavors and a refreshing finish."*

– Erin Brooks, October 2024

**92 POINTS**

**JEB  
DUNNUCK**

*"...fresh with mineral earth, fresh cherry, and red flowers. ... notes of fresh soil, black berry, and a bit of meaty richness, as well as ripe tannins and a clean finish with a savory edge."*

– Audrey Frick, July 2024

**VINTAGE:** 2020 | **APPELLATION:** Sonoma Valley

**BLEND:** 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot

**VINEYARDS:** 77% Nuns Canyon Vineyard, 23% Hamel Family Ranch

**FERMENTATION:** 56% neutral French oak barrels, 30% Stainless Steel tanks, 14% concrete eggs

**AGING:** 12 months in 72% neutral French oak casks, 9% new French oak barrels, 19% 1-year-old French oak barrels followed by 5 months in 100% concrete tanks.

**HARVEST DATES:** 8.31.20 – 9.19.20

**BOTTLING DATE:** 6.27.22

**PRODUCTION:** 1,987 cases

**ALCOHOL:** 14.3%



## CURRENT RELEASES

# CRITICAL ACCLAIM



2020 STRATUM  
RED WINE  
SONOMA VALLEY

92 PNTS

**JEB  
DUNNUCK**

*"...fresh with mineral earth, fresh cherry, and red flowers. Medium to full-bodied, it offers notes of fresh soil, black berry, and a bit of meaty richness, as well as ripe tannins and a clean finish with a savory edge."*

— Audrey Frick  
July 2024



2019 ISTHMUS  
RED WINE  
SONOMA VALLEY

96 PNTS

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

*"Bursting with Morello cherries, baked blueberries, charcuterie, fried savory herbs and peppercorn—complex yet open for business. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is concentrated and floral with persistent acidity, silty tannins and fragrant violet and graphite nuances on the long finish."*

— Erin Brooks  
March 2023



2018 HAMEL  
FAMILY RANCH  
SONOMA VALLEY

93 PNTS

*Wine Spectator*

*"...a blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon and 13% Cabernet Franc from alluvial soils in the Hamel Family Ranch Vineyard and was matured for 20 months in 46% new French oak barrels. Deep ruby, it has pretty scents of baked blueberries, red cherries and lilac with touches of dust and thyme. Medium to full-bodied, the palate is lifted and powdery with concentrated, mineral-driven fruits and an uplifted, refreshing finish."*

— James Molesworth  
June 2022



2019 NUNS  
CANYON VINEYARD  
SONOMA VALLEY

97 PNTS

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

*"...exceptional for its embrace of both the full, ripe fruit of California and the classic herbal touches of the Cabernet grape. Deep ruby, it offers generous waves of floral perfume—violet and lilac—with a core of blueberry and black cherry jam and wafts of tobacco, pepper, and graphite. The full-bodied palate embodies power and weightlessness, with ultra powdery tannins and refreshing acidity that draws out its fragrance. Its flavors are pure yet complex, and it finishes with haunting iron and violet character."*

— Erin Brooks  
March 2023