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The 32 Best Pinot Noirs for 2026

WORDS: KEITH BEAVERS

ILLUSTRATION: SRISHTI BHAWAL

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Pinot Noir remains the ultimate litmus test for many winemakers. Celebrated for its translucent color and haunting aromatic complexity, this “heartbreak grape” demands precision in the vineyard and a gentle hand in the cellar. While its true home is the slopes of Burgundy, some of the world’s most compelling expressions are being defined by a conversation between the wines of its birthplace and the Pinot Noir vines in soils beyond the Côte d’Or.





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We conducted our annual exhaustive deep-dive, tasting hundreds of bottles to curate a list of the year's standout performers. This year, we tasted a range of American wines as well as bottles from the grape's home in Bourgogne. What struck us was how American Pinot Noir has come into its own. The beauty this grape has to offer shows itself in a new light in the soils of California and Oregon. We no longer need to compare our wines to those of the "golden slope." We can now celebrate wines from this grape individually and together.

Whether you are seeking an everyday glass that overdelivers or a rare, cellar-worthy bottle, you will find it here. From accessible gems you can chill down to wines that open up with breathtaking layers of complexity, these are the 32 best Pinot Noirs for 2026.





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Domaine Roy & Fils Quartz Acorn Vineyard Pinot Noir 2024



The Frescobaldi family brought centuries of winemaking history from Tuscany to the Willamette Valley. Here, winemaker Jacopo Canciani crafts delicate yet wonderfully expressive wines. This Pinot Noir from the estate's Quartz Acorn Vineyard offers deep notes of cherries, pepper, clove, and minerals. The palate is soft and tart, with subtle tannins framing the edges.

