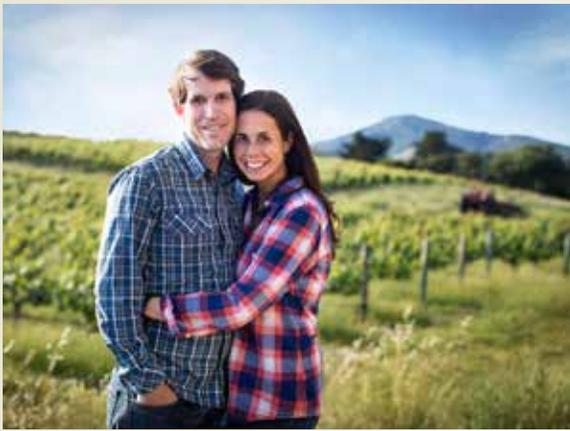


# Pinot Noir Press



## BELDEN BARNS

A boutique, family-owned winery and farmstead operation, Belden Barns crafts exceptional small-lot wines and gourmet food products from the heart of Sonoma Mountain.



Perched on the Northwest shoulder of Sonoma Mountain, Belden Barns is a true California gem. Owned by husband and wife duo Nate and Lauren Belden, this boutique, family-owned farm and winery produces exceptional - dare we say - *magical* wines from the estate's esteemed Steiner Vineyard. The storybook setting of Belden Barns includes beautiful, rustic 1880's-era white barns, a farm of sustainably grown, small-scale food products, a world-class vineyard, and a wishing tree in the form of a live oak, encouraging visitors to 'wish big' and believe in life's magical possibilities.

The story behind Belden Barns began in 2004 when Nate Belden spent a weekend away with friends in Sonoma wine country - it was a fateful trip for Nate as he was taken back to his rural upbringing and it instilled in him a revived desire to get back to an agrarian way of life. Nate was raised on a horse farm in Colorado, so agriculture had always played an important role in his life. After graduating from University of Colorado, Boulder, Nate put his rural dreams on hold in the name of a very urban finance career that eventually led him to San Francisco. But, the farming bug never left him, and when he stumbled upon an available farm on his wine country visit that fateful weekend, it was love at first sight. That property would one day become the home of

Belden Barns.

Nate's wife Lauren, on the other hand, did not grow up farming, but rather was born in New York City and is now a passionate brand expert. Prior to establishing a freelance branding and innovation career, Lauren worked for a number of advertising agencies and brand strategy shops, helping clients create products and experiences that transformed consumers from occasional brand users to passionate brand loyalists. Together, Nate and Lauren bring a unique set of backgrounds to Belden Barns and their 'magic' is certainly turning this entity into something very special.

Upon purchasing the property, Nate and Lauren went to work re-developing the existing Steiner Vineyard to bring it back to its historic standards. Originally planted by Dave Steiner in the early 1970's, the vineyard was once the source of grapes for highly acclaimed California Pinot Noirs. Today, Nate and Lauren grow Pinot Noir, Syrah, Grenache, Gruner Veltliner, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier. Fruit from the Steiner Vineyard is used for Belden Barns wines, in addition to highly discerning wine producers including Argot, Carlisle, Cold Heaven, Donelan Family, Eric Kent, Holdredge, and Morgado.

The winemaker for Belden Barns is  
*continued on back...*





...continued from front

Justin Harmon, a rising star in Sonoma winemaking who founded Argot Wines and is quickly making a name for himself with his award-winning bottlings. He is also the next door neighbor to Belden Barns and a talent Nate and Lauren are very excited to have on the winery team.

One of the unique attributes to Belden Barns is that it's about more than just ultra-premium wine. The Beldens wanted to create a family business that celebrated the totality of farmstead agriculture. After all, wine is to be enjoyed with food. To that end, they work

with another couple, Jenny and Vince Trotter, who manage their boutique farmstead operation, including a wide diversity of crops and animals.

Another important feature of Belden Barns is the wishing tree - a beautiful live oak in the heart of the vineyard that was inspired by wishes hung by Nate and Lauren's friends on their wedding day. The couple now encourages visitors to hang a wish in the tree during their visit to the property. They love hearing about all of the wishes made there that have (sometimes almost instantaneously) come true.

Nate and Lauren have created a magical experience with Belden Barns, and they are truly living out their dream. They are whole-heartedly dedicated to producing high quality products, while building a lasting family business. We are proud to introduce Belden Barns to our *Pinot Noir Wine Club* members. Enjoy!

## BELDEN BARNS 2016 PINOT NOIR Serendipity Block, Sonoma Mountain

Produced from the best pocket of the Belden Barns estate vineyard, the 2016 Serendipity Block Pinot Noir is distinct, complex and cerebral. Aromas of vivacious cranberry, red currant, and pomegranate enliven the senses while the palate brings a punch of red berry and earthy layers, featuring a solid frame of grainy tannins and plenty of freshness, and finishing with great length and depth. Aged 17 months in oak. 100% Pinot Noir. Enjoy now until 2024.

**93 POINTS**  
– Robert Parker's  
*The Wine Advocate*



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