



# EMERITUS VINEYARDS

*Estate Grown Pinot Noir*



**KEITH HAMMOND**  
**WINEMAKER**

As the winemaker for Emeritus Vineyards, rising star Keith Hammond builds on the traditions of his three predecessors, all of whom he honed his craft working alongside, to create terroir-driven wines of unparalleled elegance and integrity.

Born and raised in Sonoma County, Keith fell under the spell of wine in college, when a chance encounter with the founder of Copain led him to join the winery in 2005. "Copain opened my eyes to Sonoma County wine, and especially to Pinot Noir. I found a sense of identity in my roots that led to my love of winemaking." In 2007, Keith joined Emeritus Vineyards. Under the mentorship of Winemaker Don Blackburn, he began refining his craft, finding inspiration in the physical and philosophical aspects of winemaking. "Don instilled in me a love for wine's history and its place in our culture. He taught me that winemaking isn't a job, it's a calling." After Don's passing, Keith spent six years working alongside Winemaker Nicolas Cantacuzène before joining Inglenook as cellar master, where he had the opportunity to learn from Philippe Bascaules, the managing director of Château Margaux and Inglenook. "Philippe cemented what I'd learned at Emeritus—that wines can shine when made in a graceful and restrained style."

In 2017, Keith returned to Emeritus Vineyards as assistant winemaker alongside Winemaker David Lattin. In the years that followed, David and Keith forged a collaborative partnership as they worked to further refine their vineyard-driven approach to winemaking. When David stepped away from day-to-day winemaking, Keith was chosen as his hand-picked successor. Having spent nearly 15 years learning the Emeritus way, Keith brings an invaluable continuity of wisdom to his role as he continues to explore the extraordinary character of Hallberg Ranch and Pinot Hill. "For me, the mark of a great Pinot Noir is its authenticity—its identity should be undeniably linked to the place it was grown. Achieving that is a life-long endeavor, with the goal of making better and better wines every vintage."

When Keith's not making wine, he loves to explore new places, new wines, and new food with his wife, Amber.