



Spring 2019 Wine Club Tasting Notes

2011 Blanc de Blanc, Sparkling Wine, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Reserve" \$60

Harvested early for higher acidity, this 100% Chardonnay is aged for six years on the lees to create fine mousse & small bubbles. This is proof that good wines sometimes take time. Aromas of bread dough, toast, and Meyer lemon; this smooth and zesty sparkling is our first Reserve Blanc de Blanc!

2016 Dry Rosé, Sonoma County "Ernest's Cuvee" \$30

A blend of 95% Grenache and 5% Syrah, this barely pink Rosé was left in contact with the skins for just two hours before being pressed. With lovely aromas of white peach & strawberries, the wine then follows with flavors of stone fruits, citrus and verjus. Stock up now, this is your summer porch wine!

2016 Chardonnay, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Estate" \$35

This was fermented in stainless steel, then we used 1 to 3 year-old French Oak barrels for aging. This medium-bodied Chardonnay offers toasted coconut and almond aromas. Flavors of ripe tropical mango and pineapple explode on the palate and a crisp lemon finish help keep it balanced.

2015 Vagabond, White Blend, Sonoma County "Shawn's Cuvee" \$35

A blend of 30% Marsanne, 30% Roussanne which add richness to the wine, 20% Gewurztraminer for a hint of sweetness and spice and 20% Sauvignon Blanc to brighten the finish. Bold and exotic on the nose with flavors of baked apple, apricot, mango, and orange blossom.

Gold Medal, Best Of Class, Sonoma County Harvest Festival

2015 Sangiovese, Unti Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley "Cuvee Helene" \$35

Everyone LOVES this wine, it will sell out fast! Ultra-ripe sweet cherries on the nose, with bright red fruit flavors, meld into a supple texture on the tongue. This is an opulent wine with a creamy mouthfeel that you can enjoy by itself, but it is going to be that much better with food! Serve with your favorite pizza, pasta, or fresh heirloom tomato salad!

2014 Gypsy, Rhone Blend, Sonoma County "Jessica's Cuvee" \$40

Cranberry, pomegranate, and some earthy aspects drive the nose on the special blend. This European style wine of 70% Grenache, 25% Syrah and 5% Mourvedre is high in acidity, which calls for food! Mike says, "This is the wine that people travel to the South of France to find!" Chef John has given a perfect food pairing suggestion, take a peek below the tasting notes!

2014 Carignane, Stone Ranch Vineyard, Alexander Valley "Old Vines" \$35

This vineyard was planted over 85 years ago and is, unfortunately, our last vintage as the vines were ripped out after the 2014 harvest... Get it while you can! Originally from Zaragosa, Spain, but grown throughout France & California, Carignane was traditionally used for blending as it adds color and depth. Flavors of red fruit with maple bar on the nose and earthy tannins on the palate, pair this with paella or a roasted chicken.

Gold Medal, Sonoma County Harvest Fair

**2015 Zinfandel, Ricci Vineyard, Russian River Valley "The Francis Reserve"
\$55**

Using only free run juice and never pressed, this is a big, rich, sexy Zin! It has aromas of cedar and cigar box and delivers huge flavors of ripe raspberry and boysenberry without being sweet. This is a nice departure from those big, overripe, sweet and jammy Zin's.

Gold Medal, Sonoma County Harvest Fair

**2015 Merlot, Los Chamizal Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Reserve, Meredith's
Cuvee" \$50**

Aromas of baked fruit and custard with sandalwood, cherry-vanilla and blueberries. The tannins are present on the palate, but soft and not drying. Winemaker, Mike, describes this Reserve Merlot as "Supple and completely rounded," Jeffrey Mayo jokes "That sounds like a hipster ordering coffee!"

2015 Meritage, Red Blend, Sonoma Valley "Carlo's Cuvee" \$40

63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Cabernet Franc and 13% Malbec. This is a classic Bordeaux blend with black fruit aromas, hints of olive and green peppercorn on the nose. On the palate, a restrained elegance makes this wine very European in style which begs to be served with steak or lamb. This is a very versatile and quite a great value.

**2013 Mayhem, Red Blend, Rossi Ranch Vineyard, Sonoma Valley
"Triplesticks Cuvee" \$40**

An unusual single vineyard blend of 60% Grenache, 30% Petite Sirah and 10% Primitivo. It has aromas of cherry vanilla cola from the French Oak influence and a bright boysenberry finish. A very unique blend combining power, fruit and finesse. Petite Sirah provides the gripping tannins, Primitivo adds a burst of berry flavors and Grenache for a long smooth and velvety finish.

2014 Cabernet Sauvignon, Berthoud Vineyard "Kayla's Cuvee" Sonoma Valley \$35

Dedicated to our winemaker's daughter and harvested from the Berthoud family vineyard, this is a beautiful partnership between two families. Reminiscent of a Cabernet Franc on the nose, this wine offers aromas of blueberries and cedar. You will appreciate how amazingly pure this wine is. There are some firm tannins on the finish which is expected from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon.

2015 Cabernet Sauvignon, Random Ridge Vineyard, Napa Valley "Reserve" \$65

A Winemaker favorite! From the top of Mount Veeder, this mountain fruit offers complex aromas of red fruits and dried herbs. On the palate, the density and power of the mountain fruit erupts into a stunning and sexy, yet traditional Cabernet. You will want to get multiple bottles of this so you can enjoy this now or feel free to cellar for 5-10 years.