

2020 Fall Club Tasting Notes

2018 Sauvignon Blanc, Indian Springs Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "George's Block"

This is the perfect wine for a summer heatwave! With a ruby red grapefruit nose that carries through on the palate, it finishes with slight river rock and mineral characteristics. This is a Sancerre-style wine that is lean, crisp, tart, with high acidity. Enjoy this with oysters or a refreshing salad dressed with a tangy vinaigrette.

2018 Chardonnay, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Estate"

This is our flagship white wine harvested from our Estate Vineyard, Laurel Hill. It is always tank-fermented, then finished in two to three-year-old French oak barrels giving this wine a hint of toasty and vanilla characteristics. This vintage offers delicious mid-palate notes of candied lemon peel and a tart, fresh finish of citrus and stone fruit - think white peaches and nectarines. Clean, crisp, and very food-friendly!

2018 Viognier, Calenderli Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Henry's Cuvee"

Gold Medal Winner Sonoma County Harvest Fair

This is a Gold Medal winning wine, but definitely not your stereotypical Viognier. We've barrel fermented and aged in neutral oak (two to four-year-old barrels) to let the characteristics of the actual grape shine a bit more. Complete malolactic fermentation gives this wine a creamy and smooth texture. This medium-bodied wine has notes of honey and apricot on the mid-palate, a nice creamy finish with a hint of butter.

2017 Gewurztraminer, Off-Dry, Kunde Ranch Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Rita's Cuvee"

According to our winemaker, Mike Berthoud, "time has been kind to this wine." Aged in stainless steel, we leave a little bit of residual sugar giving just a hint of sweetness. It has bold flavors of apples and cinnamon with a slight tangerine rind finish. We suggest pairing this crisp wine with spicy food, but it's very popular for Thanksgiving dinner - *so stock up now!*

2017 Pinot Noir, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Reserve"

Only 5 barrels made! Harvested from our Estate vineyard, the juice was in 60% new oak and 40% 1-year-old oak. Cherry and cranberry aromas meet you upfront which leads you to a wonderful lingering toasty finish. This is a fresh pinot that is cellar-worthy or if you want to enjoy this now, bring out your decanter and pair with duck, turkey, or cornish game hen.

2016 La Zingara, Red Blend, Sonoma Valley "Kim's Cuvee"

Pull out the pasta and red sauce for this Super Tuscan Style wine. 80% Sangiovese from the Kunde vineyard, 20% Syrah from our winemaker, Mike Berthoud's, vineyard. It has light red fruits like raspberry and cherry on the palate from the Sangiovese while the Syrah gives it a lengthy finish with medium-weight tannins. This is the last of the 2016 vintage so don't miss out!

2017 Zinfandel, Ricci Vineyard, Russian River Valley "Karen's Cuvee"

Gold Medal Winner Sonoma County Harvest Fair

Only 8 barrels made! Planted in 1951, these old vines produce low yields with concentrated flavors. You will notice that the 2017 vintage has more black pepper flavors than our average Ricci Zinfandel. This gem has a creamy and nutty aroma, with a spicy, and jammy fruit in the mid-palate and a 20-30 second finish.

2017 Zinfandel, Jewell Family Vineyard, Russian River Valley "Amanda's Cuvee"

This is a new vineyard to the Mayo Family portfolio of wines. Located in a hotter area of the Russian River Valley, this Zinfandel brings much riper fruit flavors, like boysenberry and blueberry. With just five barrels made if you like this, you should snag more while you can!

2015 Meritage, Red Blend, Sonoma County, "Carlo's Cuvee"

Gold Medal Winner Sonoma County Harvest Fair

This wine will surely have you saying, "Oh, that's delicious!" 70% Cabernet, 20% Malbec, 10% Cabernet Franc, this is a classic Bordeaux blend. With black fruit aromas, hints of olive and peppercorn on the nose, there is a restrained elegance that makes this wine very "European" in style. Even after two years and barrel and 3 years in bottle, it still begs to be served with steak or lamb. Less than 30 cases left!

2017 Cabernet Sauvignon, Laurel Hill Estate, Napa Valley

Courtney exclaims, "I am actually shocked at how approachable this NAPA Cab is!" This is a 100% Cabernet that is in honor of Diane Mayo who wanted nothing more than to plant red grapes on her estate. Unfortunately, the property is too cool for Cab Sauv, so instead, we sourced these grapes from three different vineyards in Yountville. The heat of the Napa Valley brings us a soft, fleshy, and very ripe cabernet.

2017 Cabernet Sauvignon, Random Ridge Vineyard, Napa Valley "Reserve"

This is a typical high elevation, mountain Cabernet. These vines are planted in volcanic soils which lead to tiny berries from very stressed vines. The root systems travel 20-30 feet underground searching for water and nutrients which produce small berries that have a higher skin to juice ratio. This results in gripping tannins with sage and Herbs de Provence aromas and flavors of red currants. The 60% new oak which brings out a savory vanilla finish. Both Mike and Jeffrey agree, "That's a really nice wine."

2017 Malbec, Hollister Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain, "Katie's Cuvee"

If the 80's glam band Warrant came out with a wine... this would be it. You'll be singing "She's my cherry pie!" The gorgeous inky purple color catches your eye immediately like a wing-tipped eye and glossed lips. Floral aromas flood your nose as if it were an Aquanet hairspray cloud at a club show! Cherry pie and vanilla flavors follow quickly hitting every high note you hear in a power ballad. Relive the 80's with a glass of this.

2017 Malbec, Hollister Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Mountain, "Reserve" "Brandon's Cuvee"

Double Gold Medal Winner Sonoma County Harvest Fair

Only 150 cases produced! If you take the free-run juice from the 2017 Malbec, add it to 100% new oak barrels, the result is much more intense. This wine has incredible gripping tannins, with all the amazing fruity and floral notes. This is a Bordeaux varietal that we love is one you'll see for years to come!

2017 Zinfandel, Ricci Vineyard, Russian River Valley "Reserve"

Double Gold Medal Winner Sonoma County Harvest Fair

Pepper, spice, cedar, and cigar box notes on the nose. Our Reserve Zin made completely from free-run juice (the juice from the grapes before they are pressed). This is delicious with a jammy, fruity finish. We used 40% new oak, half of that is American, and half French.