

2020 Spring Club Tasting Notes

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

Fermented and aged in stainless steel this is a true representation of the grape as there is virtually no winemaking intervention with this wine. Honeydew and white peach on the nose. Pear flavors and a tangy-ness that is reminiscent of childhood candy, like a sweet-tart or Lemonheads. This chardonnay offers a bergamot and grapefruit finish with a subtle minerality. Just in time for summer, this is your summer porch sipper!

2018 Grenache Blanc, Rossi Ranch Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Shannon's Cuvee"

This Rhone varietal has a hint of cinnamon toast from neutral wood barrels used. We avoided using new oak with this wine intentionally to let the delicate aromas show through. Flavors of early Summer peaches with a slight lime zest are highlights. Jeffrey Mayo says this wine is rich enough to be enjoyed with poultry and tart enough to be paired with a refreshing salad, which is why it will be perfect at your next Sunday Brunch. Only five barrels made!

2017 Pinot Noir, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Estate Bottled"

This is a classic Burgundian-style pinot noir. Winemaker, Mike Berthoud says the nose reminds me of a "freshly tilled vineyard," with vanilla cherry cola on the nose, and all the bright red fruits like cherry, cranberry, pomegranate. This wine is for those who are tired of pinots trying to be something they are not, it is a leaner style with tart cherry acidity. This is a cellar-worthy Pinot (3+ years), but if you must drink in the next year, it will only open up more with decanting. A scant 4 barrels from our Estate vineyard, Laurel Hill. If you like this wine, reorder quickly!

2017 Sangiovese, Unti Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley "Cuvee Helene"

If you are missing your visit to Northern California, the initial nose on this will bring you right back! Everyone agreed that it's like the redwoods after a Spring rain. Once the wine aerates for a moment, the aromas truly agree with the flavors on the palate. This is a properly ripe Sangiovese, that still has tart, tangy acidity with some fleshy red plum, Bing cherry, strawberry, raspberry notes. There is a mature, sexy finish, that begs for light, fresh, Summer tomato marinara!

2020 Spring Club Tasting Notes

2017 25th Anniversary Blend, Sonoma County, "Guillermo Cuvee"

2019 Harvest Fair - Gold Medal, Best of Class

It's a blend of Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, Sangiovese. It has a juicy and fleshy mid-palate with a cherry vanilla finish. The Sangiovese brings acidity, while the Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon offers a great tannin, and the Zin brings a big fruit finish! This blend is versatile, perfect for a Wednesday night meal, pairing nicely with any fare, from poultry or ribs to burgers or pizza.

2017 Cabernet Sauvignon, Delaney Family Winery, Sonoma County "Caitlin's Cuvee"

This is a Cab for those who forgot what Cab's should taste like. This is a typical deep soil, valley floor cabernet. Not too tannic, but also not too sweet and syrupy. Pine nettle and oak on the nose with subtle cocoa notes. On the palate, cassis, black currant, spicy oak components, with a hint of forest floor and camphor with a great 30-second finish!

2017 Mayhem, Red Blend, Sonoma County "Joey's Triplesticks Cuvee"

This wine beautifully blends all the characteristics of the varietals used. There is fruit from the Zinfandel, a delicacy from the Grenache, and the Petite Sirah brings tannin and depth. This is an old-world blend with nice oak, and a warm cobbler a la mode coming through on the nose. It's so fruity it's almost sweet in your mouth. This is a fruit bomb with just enough tannin to balance it out.

Total production 4 barrels

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

The first thing you notice on this wine is the stunning indigo color in the glass. There's a slight earthiness as the bottle is opened which dissipates quickly and more prominent berry aromas takeover. Mike Berthoud describes it as "strawberries in a saddlebag," on the palate. Clearly a very nice french oak notes with a gripping tannic finish that begs for food. We suggest enjoying this wine anytime within the next 5 to 10 years.

2020 Spring Club Tasting Notes

2018 Viognier, Calenderli Vineyard, Russian River Valley "Henry's Cuvee"

2019 Harvest Fair - Gold Medal

Are you tired of the ultraripe, over-floral, flabby viognier? If so, open this beauty up. This is a Condrieu style Viognier with mineral and citrus notes. This is refined and restrained, with hints of stonefruit and fig. The viscous finish is nutty, with a bit of creaminess, highlighting the nectarine and dried apricot flavors. You could actually hold on to this wine for up to five years - if you don't drink it first!

2017 Chardonnay, Laurel Hill Vineyard, Sonoma Valley "Reserve"

This wine is "FTB" or "Full Tilt Boogie," as our winemaker, Mike Berthoud says. From smooth Meyer lemon to a creamy hazelnut, there are no sharp edges to this wine! We pulled out all the stops for this wine. Harvested from the top 13 rows of our Laurel Hill Vineyard, only bilateral cordon trellised which limits the crop to 3 tons per acre producing richness and concentration. 100% French Oak barrel fermented, and barrel-aged, we used 50% brand new, 50% one-year-old oak. Full malolactic fermentation, aged Sur Lie Batonage (stirred on the lees), this is the perfect recipe for creamy softer acidity and a long finish. Suggested pairing: Seared Scallops and summer corn succotash.

2016 Zinfandel, Ricci Vineyard, Russian River Valley "Reserve"

Jeffrey Mayo says, "This may be the best reserve Zin we've made in the past 5 years."

This wine deserves a round of applause it's so good! It's delicious, balanced, with cedar and cigar box notes on the nose, with a jammy, fruity finish. This wine is made completely from free-run juice (the juice from the grapes before they are pressed). We used 40% new oak, half of that is American, and half French.

2016 Petite Sirah, Gould Family Vineyard, Sonoma County "Reserve"

2019 Harvest Fair - Gold Medal, Best of Class

Woah, big blueberry! This is a classic Petite Sirah. Dark fruits, gripping tannins, and now, with enough age it's fleshy and not overly astringent or bitter. This is a big wine that you don't need to be in a hurry to drink, but it's OH, so enjoyable now! This is a very balanced Petite Sirah, which will pair perfectly with a full bodied Asian inspired cuisine or French Bistro fare. Just 150 cases produced

2020 Spring Club Tasting Notes

2017 Cabernet Sauvignon, Delaney Family Vineyard, Sonoma County "Reserve"

This is the next step up from the regular Delaney Cabernet. You can tell these two are from the same vineyard, but this Reserve is the big sister. Harvested from the long rows on a knoll in the Delaney Vineyard. We dropped 50% of the crop so the vines focused all their energy on the grapes that were left. We used 50% new French Oak barrels. There is a smooth woodiness and Jeffrey insists it is reminiscent of chocolate-covered blueberries. The Reserve is made from specially selected barrels... you can taste why we picked them!