

FEBRUARY 2021 CLUB SELECTIONS

2017 DOMAINE DE LA VILLAUDIÈRE SANCERRE ROUGE AOC LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE



This family estate is surrounded by vineyards overlooking the charming village of Verdigny, and offers stunning views of the famous Sancerre hill. For generations the Reverdy family has cultivated this 15 hectare vineyard. Today Jean-Marie Reverdy manages the flourishing Domaine de la Villaudière with his wife, Catherine and their son Guillaume, now the winemaker. Their youngest son, Baptiste, also shares a love of wine, and plans to play his part in the family business when his studies are finished.



The Reverdy family strongly believes in tradition and managing their production with patience and respect for the land. They produce all three versions of Sancerre, blanc, rosé, and rouge. Most wine consumers think of Sancerre as exclusively white made from Sauvignon Blanc, but today 25% of the appellation is Pinot Noir. The Reverdy family's vines are now reaching the pinnacle of their quality potential after being planted 40 years ago. 50% is planted in clay-limestone soil locally referred to as "Terres Blanches" and the other 50% in dry, stony limestone soil called "Caillotes." The vines are pruned and trimmed appropriately throughout the year with extreme precision to ensure maximum fruit potential.



This wine is made with 100% Pinot Noir grapes carefully hand-sorted before going directly into tank for a few days of cold maceration before fermentation. During the beginning of fermentation, the must forms a super-strong solid cap which must be punched-down and mixed daily to ensure proper flavor and even fermenting throughout the tank, resulting in a light, fruity red wine. Once fermentation was completed, the grapes were pressed to tank to be aged on the lees for a few months before being filtered and bottled.



This wine has a sheer ruby hue with crimson highlights. It has a vibrant bouquet and flavors of red cherry, raspberry, rhubarb and cranberry, with a hint of violets and gentle tannins. This is an excellent iteration of Pinot Noir at an exceptional price!



MIXED AND RED SELECTIONS

- SUGGESTED RECIPE: Baeckeoëffe
- RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40

FEBRUARY 2021 CLUB SELECTIONS



2019 DOMAINE DES FORGES SAUVIGNON IGP VAL DE LOIRE, FRANCE

Back in 1890 Monsieur Pierre Robineau, a local grocer and draper, bought 2 hectares of vineyards. In 1945 his granddaughter, Helen, with her husband René Branchereau took over what had grown to a 7 hectare estate. By 1986 the estate had grown to 10 hectares of vineyards and was maintained by their son, Claude, the third generation winemaker, who established the winery as Domaine des Forges. Claude's son, Stéphane, joined in the family business in 1996, and Claude retired in 2013. Domaine des Forges is now in the hands of fifth-generation Stéphane and his wife, Severine Branchereau, who run the domaine with a jewel in their crown: They now have vines in the newly designated Grand Cru, Quarts de Chaume, one of the Loire Valley's finest appellations.



Domaine des Forges is situated in a beautiful corner of the Loire Valley. They produce exceptional wines from a range of different sites on both sides of the River Loire with an impressive 47 hectares of vines throughout the Coteaux du Layon and Savennières. The property is planted with Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, Gamay, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon.



This winery uses indigenous yeasts for fermentation and practices sustainable wine growing techniques throughout their vineyards. They allow the grass to grow between the rows to avoid erosion and improve the health of the soil. They use pruning techniques such as "ébourgeonnage," which is the removal of unwanted new vine shoots, and "effeuillage," which is the removal of old leaves, to promote proper fruit ripening. No herbicides or pesticides are used.



This wine is 100% Sauvignon Blanc produced from 25-year-old vines. The grapes were hand-harvested, carefully sorted and gently pressed. The must was cold-fermented in a temperature-controlled stainless steel tank and aged on its fine lees. The resulting wine was gently filtered prior to bottling.



This Sauvignon Blanc is fresh and focused. It shows refreshing aromas and flavors of tart citrus fruit, candied grapefruit, with hints of celery leaf and nettle. Enjoy!



MIXED AND WHITE SELECTIONS

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Pork Chops with Herbed Goat Cheese Butter and Green Beans

■ RETAIL: \$16.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$13.60

FEBRUARY 2021 CLUB SELECTIONS



2018 NEVER NEVERLAND RED SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Wonderwall Syrah was featured in our Wine Club in October 2019 and was a member favorite! So, imagine how excited we were when we found another tasty wine from Andrew Jones, the talented winemaker of that Wonderwall! Andrew is native to Ventura, California, and started working in a vineyard nursery when he was playing football at the University of Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. He went on to graduate with a major in Agriculture Business and a minor in Viticulture, which led him to work for a grapevine nursery based in Bakersfield, California. His job as a vine nursery fieldman took him all over California planning and planting vineyards with grape growers and winemakers. Andrew's growing connections in the industry over time have enabled him to acquire some of the best fruit from the best vineyard sites where he has been involved. He made his first wine in 2007 with Field Recordings, a project to produce wines that are his "expression of the places I've been and the people I've met." Andrew spends the majority of his time on the Central Coast and says he has stood in nearly every vineyard in the region, so he knows where to find all the hidden gems and relishes coaxing "soulful" wines from under-appreciated areas. Andrew sourced the grapes for this "Never Neverland" blend from the North Fork, Tommy Town, Alta Gaviota, White Hawk and Paradise Road vineyards in Santa Barbara County.



We tried this "Never Neverland" blend a couple months ago and have been waiting for the right time to schedule it for our Wine Club. We are thrilled to feature it this month! It is a blend of 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Petite Sirah, 10% Carignan, 5% Syrah and 5% Grenache. It was aged in 100% American oak, 40% new for 10 months.



This wine has a dark plum-colored core and purple rim. It is seductive with aromas of exotic spices, violets and dark fruit. The palate is full and round showing ripe blackberries, black plum, and cassis with hints of black pepper on the finish. This is a fruit-forward and well-balanced wine with gripping tannins. Sip slow and savor this one. Cheers!



RED SELECTION

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Eggplant & Porcini "Meatballs" in Tomato Sauce

■ RETAIL: \$16.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$13.60

FEBRUARY 2021 CLUB SELECTIONS



2019 KINERO "ALICE" GRENACHE BLANC PASO ROBLES, CALIFORNIA

St. Louis native Anthony Yount was studying agricultural finance at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo when he stumbled upon some very memorable wines in the tasting room at Denner Vineyards in Paso Robles. It was his 21st birthday. Four years later, he returned to the property for an internship, and after graduating in 2007, took a job working nearby for Cris Cherry's Villa Creek winery. Although Villa Creek was all about red wine, Yount developed a curiosity about white varietals, mostly to prove to his father that he could make interesting and balanced white wines that he could enjoy. When some Grenache Blanc became available, and Cherry offered some Roussanne from the famed James Berry vineyard nearby, Yount couldn't resist trying his hand at his own label. Thus, 'Kinero Cellars' was born in 2008, focusing on white Rhône varietals from prime vineyards in the foothills of Paso Robles. Yount still makes the wines for Denner Vineyards yet relishes in the creative freedom that his own label allows him. His Kinero wines benefit from early picking, the use of native yeasts and whole cluster fermentation in various vessels, including large Hungarian oak barrels and concrete eggs. While California Chardonnay, Viognier, Roussanne and Grenache Blanc can sometimes be masked with too much oak, Yount produces, vibrant and nuanced expressions of these grapes.



This 100% Grenache Blanc exhibits wonderful freshness due to the Templeton Gap District, one of the coolest and windiest pockets of Paso Robles, which helps maintain good acidity in the fruit during the summer heat. Yount ages the wine in a concrete egg for 5 months which "preserves the purity of the fruit while turning up the volume on the varietal character."



This wine is pale straw in color and has flavors of citrus, mandarin, yellow apple and ripe stone fruit. It is bright and refreshing with subtle minerality, mouthwatering acidity, and a lingering finish. Yum!

W H I T E S E L E C T I O N

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Grilled Lobster with Garlic-Parsley Butter



■ RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40