

MAY 2026 CLUB SELECTION



2022 SANS LIEGE SYRAH, LONG WAY HOME SAN LUIS OBISPO COAST, CALIFORNIA



Growing up in East Los Angeles, Curt Schalchlin didn't try his first wine until he was in college at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he majored in Business. It was through his part-time job during school at Trader Joe's that he discovered bottles from all over the world and his casual interest in wine tasting on the weekends turned into an eventual fascination and ultimately, his vocation. Later, Curt took the opportunity to help his friend McPrice Myers, who was starting his own winery. It was while working with McPrice and Russell From, of Herman Story and Barrel 27 wineries, that Curt first fell for Rhône varietals. A trip to the actual Rhône Valley in France and a conversation with Bernard Gripa—a third-generation grower in Saint Joseph—inspired Curt to start his own wine label and call it 'Sans Liege' which means "without allegiance" in French. In his words, Sans Liege is "a relentless search for independence. It is equally aligned with the freedoms of the New World and the heritage of the Rhône Valley but is careful not to hold too closely to either. Instead, I trust my intuition as to the microcosms of each vineyard site and vine to guide my work through each vintage."

The 2022 Sans Liege "Long Way Home" is 100% Syrah sourced from the Old Potrero and White Hawk Vineyards. The grapes were destemmed into 1.5-ton open top fermentors (with 30% stem return) and vinified with native yeast. Aged for 18 months in French oak: 18% new, 55% second fill and 27% neutral barriques. Aromatically lifted, it opens with notes of crushed blackberries, coastal sage, and cracked pepper, underscored by hints of smoked olive, violet, and a subtle marine salinity that speaks to its ocean proximity. On the palate, the wine is both savory and vibrant, balancing dark fruit with earthy undertones and a distinct mineral edge. Fine-grained tannins frame flavors of plum skin and dried herbs, while a bright line of acidity carries through to a long, peppery finish. This is a Syrah that leans into restraint and nuance rather than power—thoughtful, windswept, and deeply expressive of its coastal origins. 200 cases produced.

Cellaring Recommendation: 5-7 YEARS

RED CELLAR TRIO CLUB

- RETAIL: \$28.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$23.80
- **SUGGESTED RECIPE: Stuffed Eggplant with Spiced Beef & Pine Nuts**



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2023 ERIC BOIGELOT VOLNAY EZ BLANCHES BURGUNDY, FRANCE



Domaine Eric Boigelot is a family estate founded in 1918 in Burgundy's Côte de Beaune, with vineyards in Monthélie, Meursault, Volnay, and Pommard, and it is now run by Eric Boigelot and his son Charles. The vineyards are farmed sustainably, with HVE3 certification, caring for the vines and soils as naturally as possible while minimizing treatments and protecting biodiversity. Grapes are harvested by hand in small crates, and fermentation is done with indigenous yeasts.

The fruit for the Volnay "Ez Blanches" comes from a high-slope parcel above Clos des Chênes on limestone soils, yielding mineral-driven Pinot Noir. The grapes were hand-harvested, fermented with native yeasts, gently extracted, and aged in oak barrels for 12 months on fine lees, then six months in tank before a light filtration. Elegantly poised, this Volnay shows ripe red cherry, wild strawberry, and raspberry, with violet, rose petal, and a subtle earthy spice note. The palate is finely etched and nicely framed in oak, with silky tannins, lively acidity, and a graceful finish that leans toward the savory and slightly toasted.

Cellaring Recommendation: 10+ YEARS

RED CELLAR TRIO CLUB

- RETAIL: \$75.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$63.75
- **SUGGESTED RECIPE: Roast Bone-In Pork Loin with Potatoes**



MAY 2026 CLUB SELECTION



2023 CHÂTEAU MERE SAPERAVI ALAZANI RIVER VALLEY, GEORGIA



Founded in 2005 in Kakheti, Georgia by George Piridashvili, Winiveria began as a small marani (winemaking cellar) and grew into a major winery complex and resort at Château Mere. The estate produces wines from indigenous Georgian grapes using both traditional Kakhetian qvevri techniques and classic European winemaking. Château Mere is their signature line that was established in 2014, to promote and proliferate the appreciation of fine wines from Georgia. Saperavi is Georgia's flagship red grape and one of the world's rare teinturier varieties, meaning its pulp is also deeply colored, not just its skins. That gives the wines their inky color, firm tannins, bright acidity, and flavors of black fruit, spice, and often a savory, age-worthy depth. Its significance goes beyond flavor: Saperavi is central to Georgia's ancient winemaking identity and it has become the country's most important red export grape.

100% Saperavi, the grapes for this bottling were sourced from vineyards in Kakheti's Signaghi region, (at 400-500m) overlooking the Alazani River Valley, grown on black carbonate soils under minimal-intervention viticulture. The grapes were fermented on the skins in qvevri for one month and aged for a full year before release. Deep ruby-purple in color, it offers aromas of black cherry, plum, blackberry, dried herbs, and baking spice, with a subtle earthy, flinty edge. The palate is medium-bodied, marked by firm tannins, lively acidity, and concentrated dark fruit layered with savory spice and a touch of mineral grip, leading to a dry, structured finish with lasting notes of dark berries and earth.

Cellaring Recommendation: 5-7 YEARS

RED CELLAR TRIO CLUB

- RETAIL: \$22.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$18.70
- **SUGGESTED RECIPE:** Memphis-Style Dry Ribs

