

# MAY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



## 2019 JEAN MARC ET ROMAIN PASTOU SANCERRE ROUGE AOC LOIRE VALLEY, FRANCE

The petite village of Sury-en-Vaux, north of the legendary Monts Damnés vineyard, is the secret home of the wonderful, character-rich wines of the Pastou family. For over 30 years winemaker Jean-Marc Pastou has been making the most strikingly honest, terroir-true Sancerre his few acres can produce.



The family's vineyards sit high up on the slope in the village of Sury, northwest of Sancerre, at the highest point in the village. Soils are a mix of sand, caillottes (small chalky stones) and flint. The older vines—planted by Jean-Marc, himself—benefit from this textbook terroir demonstrating Sancerre's characteristic raciness. The estate's Sancerre Rouge, a limited release, is positively exceptional. The theme that runs through all the Pastou wines is freshness, and we could not help but be floored by the energy of this remarkable bottling! Light in alcohol, pure in flavor and a great pair with just about anything you put on the table.



Made from 100% Pinot Noir from 30-year-old, sustainably farmed vines from a small plot grown on terres blanches, the chalky, mineral soils that define Sancerre. The grapes were hand-harvested, then fermented on indigenous yeasts and aged in temperature-controlled, stainless-steel tanks on fine lees. Bottled unfiltered so every bit of rubied fruit is expressed.



Complex aromas of red fruits and violet, mingled with white mushroom. The palate is bright and juicy, with flavors of ripe cherry and fresh strawberry with youthful tannins, great balance and a flinty mineral finish.



Cellaring Recommendation: 2-5 years

## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION



■ RETAIL: \$30.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$25.50

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Wiener Schnitzel with Lingonberry Preserves

# MAY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



## 2017 PEPPER BRIDGE 'TRINE' RED BLEND WALLA WALLA VALLEY, WASHINGTON

Owned and operated by three families—the McKibbens, the Goffs and the Pellets, Pepper Bridge Winery derives its name from the old military road from Fort Walla Walla to Fort the Dalles, which crossed the Columbia River at the Pepper family farm. This low-water crossing known as Pepper's Crossing, was later replaced by the old Pepper's Bridge in the 1800s. For over twenty years Pepper Bridge has been dedicated to establishing the Walla Walla Valley as an exciting new world wine region and are founding members of VINEA (the valley's sustainable viticulture program).



Norm McKibben began planting grapes in Washington State in 1989 and continued planting vineyards throughout the Walla Walla Valley in the 1990s. He established several famed estate vineyards: Pepper Bridge, Les Collines and Seven Hills—the latter recognized as one of the 10 great vineyards in the world by Wine & Spirits Magazine. In 1998, in partnership with Anheuser-Busch veteran Ray Goff, Pepper Bridge Winery was founded. A year later, third-generation Swiss winemaker, Jean-François Pellet joined the team, creating distinctive, terroir-driven wines with a focus on quality and commitment to sustainability. Pepper Bridge produces Bordeaux-style wines using traditional techniques, 100% French oak and 100% estate fruit from the Walla Walla Valley AVA.



A 'trine' is defined as a close group of three, and this wine pays homage to the families of Pepper Bridge: the McKibbens, the Murphys, and Pellets. It highlights the best of the estate vineyards and is a vintage-specific blend of Bordeaux's traditional five red grapes. The 2017 bottling is a blend of 42% Cabernet Franc, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Malbec, 9% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. Each lot was vinified separately and aged in French Oak, 41% New and 59% Neutral. Certified sustainable and Salmon Safe. 672 cases produced.



Dense aromas of dark berries, bramble fruit and sweet oak. The palate delivers marionberry, dark plums and black tea with a note of caramel and a hint of cinnamon.



Cellaring Recommendation: 5-7 years



## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

- RETAIL: \$65.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$55.25
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: :Texas-Style Barbecued Brisket

# MAY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



## 2019 I. BRAND & FAMILY 'BAYLY RANCH' CABERNET FRANC PAICINES, CALIFORNIA

Ian and Heather Brand founded I. Brand Family Wines in California's Central Coast in 2008. Ian's first winery job was with Bonny Doon Winery; then after four years as Assistant Winemaker at Big Basin Vineyards, he and Heather decided to launch a wine project of their own. I. Brand uses organic and sustainable farming practices tending to their 20+ year old vines. Ian strives to produce compelling wines from remote vineyard sites in the often-overlooked Monterey Bay area\*, with minimal interference to allow each wine to express itself and let its idiosyncrasies shine. In 2018 Ian was named the San Francisco Chronicle's Winemaker of the Year.



This bottling is 100% Cabernet Franc from vineyards located in Tres Pinot Creek—along San Andreas Fault Line—at only 800-foot elevation. A great locale for Cabernet Franc to exhibit Loire-like structure combined with the bright fruit befitting the California sunshine. The grapes were picked at moderate sugars and vinified whole berry (10% whole cluster) with spontaneous yeasts and a 20-day maceration in open top fermenters. It was aged 11 months on the lees in neutral barrels and puncheons. Naturally bright and low alcohol.



Juicy red summer fruit strawberry watermelon pomegranate fresh cut roses. Hint of peppery spice on the finish. Simply delicious! Enjoy with a slight chill. 500 cases produced.

*\* The Paicines AVA is south of Hollister in San Benito County. The drive down Hwy 25 from Hollister to King City parallels 101 to the west, but is a meandering two-lane road, much more remote, and traverses some of the most spectacular spring wildflowers displays we have ever seen.*



Cellaring Recommendation: 3-5 years

## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION



■ RETAIL: \$30.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$25.50

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: : Beef & Mortadella Meatballs in Tomato Sauce