

MAY 2024 CLUB SELECTION



2022 DOMAINE ANDRÉ AUBERT 'LE DEVOY' ROUGE GRIGNAN-LES-ADHÉMAR AOC, RHÔNE VALLEY, FRANCE

This is yet another tasty bargain from Southern France. It is hard to believe the quality of this wine after looking at the price. It is a delicious, well-made, balanced blend of 40% Grenache-, 40% Syrah and 20% Carignan, that simply outperforms on every level. It is clean, flavorful, and very satisfying. It is a wine that is not only quaffable, but also serious enough to stand up to some pretty sophisticated foods. It walks that thin line between fine wine and fun wine, with complex flavors that are yummy and that bring a smile to one's face as it is sipped.



Nestled in the heart of the Rhône Valley, at the northerly tip of the Southern Rhône, lie the vineyards of Grignan-Les-Adhémars. Chances are you haven't heard of the appellation, few people have, but the wines are worth seeking out. It is not a new wine region—vines have been planted here since around 500 BC, in what was formerly known as Côteaux-du-Tricastin. The Aubert Brothers, Claude, Alain and Yves, assumed the family property in 1981 and have expanded the vineyard holdings to more than 280 hectares since then.



The nose is expressive with notes of dark berry fruit and a gentle, earthy mineral character. The palate is full, rich and smooth, with dark berry and cherry flavors along with some spicy, meaty qualities. The finish is long, textured and nicely balanced.



MIXED AND RED CLUBS

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



■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Grilled Skirt Steak with Garlic & Herbs

MAY 2024 CLUB SELECTION



2022 GRITSCH MAURITIUSHOF 'KIRCHPOINT' GRÜNER VELTLINER FEDERSPIEL, WACHAU, AUSTRIA



The Gritsch Mauritiushof winery is located in the town of Spitz, on the Danube, in the UNESCO World Heritage Wachau region of Austria. The estate was built in the 13th century and has an extensive winemaking tradition that dates back to its inception. Steeped in history, the property is now owned by the Gritsch family, who have been making wine there for over 200 years. Winemaker Franz Joseph Gritsch represents the seventh generation. The vineyards are steeply terraced, and therefore most of the work—from pruning to harvesting—must be done by hand.



100% Grüner Veltliner from Gritsch's Kirchpoint Vineyard, the grapes were carefully hand-picked and sorted. Gentle pressing, vinification in a temperature controlled, stainless-steel tank, and aging on fine lees followed. The result is a light and fresh white wine, with ripe citrus aromas punctuated by notes of chalky minerality. The palate is bright and full of flavors of pineapple, nectarine and lemon pith. The mouthwatering acidity is pleasantly balanced with a cool, refreshing minerality and a hint of spice on the finely tapered finish.



The Federspiel (literally "feather game") designation refers to the alcohol content, and delineates a wine with between 11.5–12.5% ABV.



MIXED AND WHITE CLUBS



- RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: King Prawns & Asparagus with Orange Mayonnaise

MAY 2024 CLUB SELECTION



2020 PODERE BRIZIO ROSSO DI MONTALCINO DOC TUSCANY, ITALY

Podere Brizio was established in 1996 by Roberto Bellini when he sold most of his stake in the Pieve di Santa Restituta property to Angelo Gaja. Bellini, who had managed Pieve di Santa Restituta since the 1970s, claims to have retained the finest parcels for himself in order to create Brizio. In 2001 Bellini completely renovated the old cellars, and in 2013 Bellini he sold the the estate to Alejandro Bulgheroni, owner of the Dievole winery in Chianti Classico. Bulgheroni decided to revamp and renovate the estate yet again, focusing entirely on Sangiovese under the watchful eye of Alberto Antonini, Italy's most lauded oenologist. Note that Bulgheroni also owns fine wineries in Napa, Uruguay, Australia and his native Argentina.



Located southwest of the town of Montalcino in rolling hills of 100-million-year-old rocky marl and limestone covered by marine sand and loam, Podere Brizio is a true gem of an estate. Farming is certified organic, and now is fully biodynamic as well. The vineyards are planted exclusively to Sangiovese Grosso, cultivated through massal selection from some of Montalcino's best estates. Only 11 of the estate's 33 hectares are under vine, with the remainder in olive groves, scree, garrigue and untamed fallow land that mimics the nature preserve that borders the estate. The winery is surrounded by some of Montalcino's best properties: Castello Romitorio, Maté and Ciacci Piccolomini, to name a few.



100% Sangiovese. Completely hand-picked, harvest took place over several weeks and multiple passes through the vineyards, grape selection was made both in the fields and at the cellar door to ensure optimum potential. The grapes underwent spontaneous fermentation with indigenous yeast, at cool temperatures, in stainless-steel tanks. The must saw an extended maceration and regular pump-overs, before being racked into 5,400L French oak casks, from noted cooper Gamba. The thick staves and tight grain of the wood require zero toasting, resulting in wines that are, according to Antonini, "authentic without being rustic, fleshy without being fat".



Classic aromas of dried red berries, dusty earth and savory herbs. The medium-bodied palate is dry and elegantly structured; spicy, with flavors of fresh cranberry, sour cherry and red plum. Silky with nicely rounded tannins and a pleasant, tart finish.



The coin on the label is the Pargagliola—minted in 1556—that Bellini bought at auction in the 1970s. It shows the she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus (a symbol of both Rome and Siena) with the writing "The Republic of Siena in Monte Ilicino." The name of the city we now know as Montalcino derives from the Italian for Mountain of the Ilex, or holly tree.



R E D C L U B

- RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: Sausage, Fennel & Ricotta Pizza

MAY 2024 CLUB SELECTION



2022 ARCA NOVA ALVARINHO VINHO VERDE DOC, PORTUGAL

Quinta das Arcas was established in the early 1980s by Esteves Monteiro, by expanding his family's viticulture business into a full-fledge winery. In 1985 he released his inaugural wines under the Arca Nova label. Throughout the following several decades, Esteves focused on sustainably advancing his winegrowing operation, while minimizing the impact on nature. In 2012, with about 200 hectares of vineyards in the Vinho Verde region, Quinta das Arcas launched its first wine from organically grown grapes. Located along the Atlantic coast in northern Portugal, Vinho Verde lies between the city of Oporto and the northern border with Spain. Vinho Verde translates to 'green wine', referring to the appearance of the region which is lush and green thanks to high precipitation and influence from the Atlantic Ocean. The area is mostly known for its light and refreshing white wines but also produces elegant and floral whites, rosé, reds, and sparkling wines in diverse styles. Wine has been produced in this region for over 2,000 years since the Romans brought vines to the area during the Roman Empire.

100% Alvarinho. The grapes saw a short skin-maceration, followed by a cold fermentation for 15-20 days in small stainless-steel tanks with native yeast.

Inviting aromas of fresh citrus with a whiff of freshly cut flowers. The palate is young, fresh and lightly textured, with tart flavors of pineapple core, passion fruit and lime zest. Refreshing and vibrant through the finish, which closes with bright acidity and a soft, saline, mineral note.



W H I T E C L U B

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

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Baked Feta with Honey, Chili & Parsley

