

BENZIGER. IMAGERY.
family winery ESTATE WINERY

Paradiso Club Newsletter
SPRING 2019

Dear Club Members,

Hello and happy new year from our Sonoma Mountain Estate! We hope that the new year is off to a great start and that 2019 will bring you lots of reasons to smile. Due to mild summer temperatures, our team wrapped up the 2018 Harvest later than usual – it nearly butted right up to the holidays! Our team enjoyed a relaxing but short break before it was time to get right back to work. I am so proud of the great wines we have coming your way, including the great line-up for you in this Spring Wine Club shipment.

We love visiting with our Club Members and hope you can make it out to the ranch this spring or summer to try all our new releases as well as some of our unique experiences at Benziger. Join us for our Seated Pinot Noir Tasting, "Taste of Terroir," which we launched this past Fall. It's a fun and educational side-by-side evaluation of de Coelo and other Benziger Estate Pinot Noirs. We also have some great events planned this year, including our complimentary Social Club get-togethers for Benziger & Imagery Estate Club Members. Remember- as a Club Member you get lots of great benefits at both wineries! Please be sure to check out our 2019 events calendar so you can save the dates and join us.

In the meantime, please enjoy your Spring Wine Club selections!

Cheers,



CHRIS BENZIGER





2018 ALBARIÑO

Silva Vineyard | Sonoma Valley

Alc. 14.2 % | T.A. .57 | pH 3.43 | 500 Cases

LABEL ARTIST Inez Storer | Inverness, CA

TASTING NOTES Full of sweet aromas of apricot and white peach, this Albariño has a beautiful brightness and a subtle effervescence. A bold white wine with spicy tones and a citrus edge that keeps the palate crisp and balanced.

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now

RETAIL: \$29 | CLUB: \$23.20



2018 ALEATICO ROSÉ

Serres Ranch | Sonoma Valley

Alc. 14.0 % | T.A. .51 | pH 3.24 | 450 Cases

LABEL ARTIST Nathan Haenlein | Santa Rosa, CA

TASTING NOTES Our 2018 Aleatico Rosé is truly a beautifully hued wine. Think soft, pink peonies with tantalizing rose petal aromas. Notes of strawberry cream and lychee fruit are framed with refreshing lively acid. Alone or with food, Aleatico Rosé is a palate pleaser.

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now

RETAIL: \$27 | CLUB: \$21.60



2017 FRANK JOHNSON SAUVIGNON BLANC

Dry Creek Valley | Sonoma County

Alc. 13.7 % | T.A. .68 | pH 3.12 | 508 Cases

TASTING NOTES Grown in the Dry Creek Valley, emerald green clusters of fruit become this vibrant Sauvignon Blanc. Lively citrus, gooseberry, and zesty pink passionfruit aromas and flavors are framed by a distinct minerality. A soft entry allows nuances of fresh grass and fruit to remain on the tongue, followed by a crisp, refreshing finish.

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now

FARM PRACTICE Certified Sustainable

RETAIL: \$26 | CLUB: \$20.80



SIGNATERRA

2017 WEST ROWS CHARDONNAY

Sangiaco Vineyard | Los Carneros

Alc. 14.1 % | T.A. .54 | pH 3.41 | 1244 Cases

TASTING NOTES The Sangiaco West Rows are located in the “sweet spot” of Los Carneros, away from the harsh Pacific Ocean coastal winds and near Sonoma Creek, benefiting from loamy soils. This evocative wine has inviting flavors of tangerine, juicy apple, and sweet citrus Bavarian Cream. Left on its lees, this wine has developed a creamy texture with a weighted body, without feeling heavy on the palate.

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now or cellar for 3-5 years

FARM PRACTICE Made with Organically Grown Grapes

RETAIL: \$34 | CLUB: \$27.20



2017 WHITE BURGUNDY

North Coast

Alc. 14.1 % | T.A. .67 | pH 3.43 | 1568 Cases

LABEL ARTIST Laura Plageman | Oakland, CA

TASTING NOTES Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc make up the heart of this voluptuous blend, lending bright acidity as well as mango, papaya, and pineapple notes. Pinot Meunier adds poise and a touch of spice for a lasting finish.

BLEND 48% Chardonnay, 37% Pinot Blanc, and 15% Pinot Meunier

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now or cellar for 1-3 years

RETAIL: \$32 | CLUB: \$25.60



2018 WOW OUI

Pine Mountain / Cloverdale Peak

Alc. 14.3 % | T.A. .60 | pH 3.16 | 1200 Cases

LABEL ARTIST Martina Nehrling | Chicago, IL

TASTING NOTES The 2018 Wow Oui is a blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Muscat Canelli which unite to create a fresh wine with abundant layers of pink grapefruit and floral aromatics. The fruit remains hanging until it achieves WOW factor flavors, then harvested and fermented in stainless steel to preserve its crisp acidity.

BLEND 95% Sauvignon Blanc and 5% Muscat Canelli

CELLARING RECOMMENDATION Drink now

RETAIL: \$27 | CLUB: \$21.60

Vintage Notes



2017: During winter and spring we had record-breaking rainfall - 75 inches. After the wet start the vines developed at rapid growth. We endured four heat waves before the berries fully changed color. We did not pull leaves around the fruit as we normally do, keeping the clusters shaded from the intense summer heat. The vintage finished late with overall fruit forward wines with nice acidity. All of our white varietals, and roughly 90% of our red varietals, had been harvested before the October fires.

2018: With ideal conditions during flowering and a cooler, dry year, yields were up and the quality superb. The large crop set resulted in our team making multiple thinning passes of the fruit leaving only that of the highest quality. Due to mild temperatures, harvest started two weeks later than in 2017. With only one rain event at the beginning of October and clear skies from then on, the fruit was able to have a long hang time to reach textbook maturity.

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