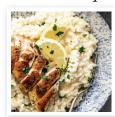
# Sarah's Vineyard WINE CLUB NEWSLETTER



## Winter Recipe Pairing



Winter in the vineyard is a time for the vines to shut down and receive some well-deserved rest for all their hard work this past year. During these colder winter months, the vines slow down and it's a good time for us to do some of the same. Preparing comforting dinners together at home and 'slowing down' to connect over a savory meal is exactly what our winter recipe pairing provides. Our proprietor Tim loves cooking as much as making wine and enjoys putting his spin on classic favorites. This simple recipe for Creamy Soubise with Thyme Rosemary Goat Cheese is adapted from Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French* 

*Cooking*, Knopf, 1970. Tim recommends serving this alongside roasted chicken and a glass of the 2018 Sarah's Vineyard Estate Madonne Blanc that is part of this wine club release. Enjoy!

#### Valentine's Dinner with Sarah's at Home



We are excited to offer a dinner-for-two to help make your Valentine's Day easy and special. Chef Mark's dinner creation includes charcuterie, a mixed green and beet salad, parmesan crusted salmon, and chocolate dipped strawberries which pairs wonderfully with our Estate Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, or your favorite S.V. bottles. Check your email for reservation and pickup details for this dinner-to-go plus Sarah's wines on February 13th. We are happy to help take the work out of your special dinner so you can relax and focus on loving the wine you're with!

# Members' Appreciation Week



We could not be more grateful for our fantastic members. This past year has been incredibly challenging for us all and we are so thankful to you for continuing to support us during this time. We have some great specials planned just for you during our next Member Appreciation Week. Be sure to check your emails in March for details about when we will be sharing these member exclusive offerings.

## Latest Press



With the current release of our new 2019 vintage in this wine club allotment, we are excited to share that our previous vintage of this wine, the 2018 Sarah's Vineyard Bentrock Vineyard Pinot Noir, just received 93 Points from Wine Enthusiast. We are equally thrilled that our recent summer release of the 2018 Sarah's Vineyard Muns Vineyard Pinot Noir, received 92 Points from Wine Enthusiast. While the great reviews are appreciated, what truly matters is that our members love our wines. Thank you as always for your support!

We only have a few cases of the 2018 Bentrock remaining before we are sold out – both wines are available at the SarahsVineyard.com online shop or by contacting us at the Tasting Room.

Wine Enthusiast, February/March 2021 Issue

93

2018 Sarah's Vineyard Pinot Noir, Bentrock Vineyard

92

Sarah's Vineyard Pinot Noir, Muns Vineyard

## Friends,

It's finally 2021! I hope you and your loved ones had a safe and healthy holiday season and are looking forward to what this new year will bring.

Even though the vines are resting from all their amazing efforts the past year, our vineyard team is still hard at work. During the winter months there is much to do in preparation for the upcoming 2021 vintage. Our estate vines are now bare and have entered their winter dormant phase. This period of rest and rejuvenation is crucial to the vine and allows it to store up the energy it will need in spring. During this time, we clean up the canopy by pruning back the canes and tying them by hand. By limiting the canes and shoots that each vine can produce, we control our yields and allow the vines to focus their energy on creating high quality fruit.

There is great anticipation for what these vines will bring us this coming year. I am a bit nostalgic right now as I look out over the sleepy vineyard. This was my 20th harvest here on this little grape ranch. I've seen a lot of summers and winters here. What started out as a hobby for me has become such an integral part of my life. A lot has changed in the past twenty years, but my desire to create the best wine I can from the grapes we grow with meticulous care has remained the same.

Cheers to a New Year and new vintage! While our Tasting Room remains temporarily closed, we are still here for your curbside pickups and shipping orders. We look forward to the day (hopefully soon) when we can come together again. We wish you health, safety, and all the best in 2021.



# MEMBERS' WINTER RELEASES





## 2018 Madonne Blanc, Estate

The S.V. Madonne Blanc is our take on the traditional white wines of the southern Rhone Valley. It is named for local Mount Madonna and is a marriage of California soils and climate to a classically styled blend of estate-grown, Rhone varieties. In the 2018 vintage, the final cépage was 51% Roussanne, 32% Grenache Blanc, 14% Clairette Blanche, and 3% Picpoul Blanc. In the vineyard, we worked hard to limit vigor to help the vines focus on fruit production. With no harvest time precipitation, we safely let the fruit hang well into the fall for full phenolic ripeness. We hand-harvested and whole cluster pressed the fruit from the home ranch on several pick dates in late September and early October. Fermentation took place in neutral French oak barrels. After the barrel fermentation, the wine was matured sur-lie in the same neutral oak cooperage for seven months, with lees stirrings every two weeks. The '18 Madonne Blanc displays a bright, floral, fruit-forward nature. Intended for early consumption, the wine's crisp golden delicious apple, Meyer lemon, pear and honeysuckle character with hints of vanilla and baking spice will pair wonderfully with lighter fare or our recipe for Creamy Soubise with Thyme Rosemary Goat Cheese.

Only 267 cases were produced | Tasting Room List Price \$30



# 2019 Pinot Noir, Bentrock Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills

This is the second release for Sarah's Vineyard with fruit sourced from the Santa Rita Hills. Located in Santa Barbara County, the Sta. Rita Hills is part of the larger Santa Ynez Valley AVA. The hills of the district run east to west, which allows cool ocean breezes from the nearby Pacific Ocean to enter the valley, providing fairly cool microclimates - perfect for growing top-flight Pinot Noir. In particular, the Bentrock Vineyard is just 10 miles from the coast and is a proven provider of exceptional Pinot fruit to many well-known labels. The Bentrock Estate lies on shale and diatomaceous soils, reminiscent of the chalky limestone throughout much of Burgundy. A resulting core of minerality runs through the rich cherry/plum character of the wine. Eleven months aging in French oak barrels, one quarter being new wood, added polish and length. The '19 Sarah's Vineyard Bentrock Pinot Noir is ever-changing in the glass and has a vast red fruit and floral presence with dark cherry, cranberry, and raspberry. On the palate, the fruit is complemented by spice, pepper, and a hint of vanilla with smooth, silky tannins. While this delightful Pinot Noir is versatile for pairings, some of our favorites are rosemary pork chops, grilled chicken with fettucine alfredo, or any cream-sauced pasta dish.

Only 215 cases were produced | Tasting Room List Price \$48



# 2017 Madonne, Estate

The Sarah's Vineyard 2017 Estate Madonne reflects its southern Rhone heritage through a blend of the region's traditional red varieties: 71% Grenache, 12% Syrah, 12% Mourvèdre, and 5% Counoise. Yields at harvest in our Rhone blocks were about average. We hand harvested the fruit during the last week of September and the first week of October. After destemming the whole berries, we fermented at low temperatures in small lot vats. Hand punch downs were used prior to pressing to French oak barrels for twenty months aging in primarily neutral cooperage to preserve the exceptional, complex fruit character of the blend. The '17 Madonne displays a vast fruit presence of dark cherries, blackberries, and raspberries on the nose. It is also showing delicate floral notes, along with hints of cinnamon and cocoa powder. The palate showcases raspberry, lavender, and violet components with savory notes of pepper and baking spices on the long finish. Pair with hearty braised short ribs, creamy mashed potatoes and roasted vegetables, or simply with blue cheese and your favorite charcuterie.

Only 351 cases were produced | Tasting Room List Price \$38



# WINE CLUB SHIPMENT CONTENTS

#### Sarah's Wine Club

- 2018 Madonne Blanc. Estate
- 2019 Pinot Noir, Bentrock Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills
- 2017 Madonne, Estate

#### All-Red Wine Club

- 2010 Pinot Noir. Bentrock Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills
- 2017 Madonne. Estate

#### All-White Wine Club

- 2018 Madonne Blanc. Estate
- 2017 Chardonnay, Tondré Grapefield, Santa Lucia Highlands

#### Pinot Noir Only Wine Club

• 2010 Pinot Noir. Bentrock Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills