

JANUARY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



2019 EL PETIT BONHOMME, JUMILLA DOP, MURCIA, SPAIN

Founded by Canadian-born Nathalie Bonhomme, Les Vins Bonhomme is a small artisanal bodega in the Valencia region of Spain. After leaving home at the age of twenty and moving to the UK for a spell, Nathalie's love of wine was sparked. Her passion for wine was further intensified while spending the subsequent two years in Cape Town, South Africa, and by her eventual move to Costa Blanca in Spain at the age of 25. Always wanting to produce her own wine and having learned a great deal about Spanish wine from the various producers she met, Nathalie banded together with some friends to create her eponymous wine label in 2007.

In addition to spearheading production at Les Vins Bonhomme, Nathalie also collaborated as the international export manager of the famed Dominio de Pingus in Castilla y León, and in 2020 joined forces with her husband, André Tremblay, at their boutique winery in the Rhône Valley (Le Domaine du Tix). Today, Nathalie splits her time between Altea in Spain, Mormoiron in France and Quebec, Canada—a truly international winemaker, if ever there was one!

This delicious red is a blend made from of 55% old-vine Monastrell (AKA Mourvèdre), 30% Garnacha and 15% Syrah from head-trained (bush) vines. The grapes were hand-harvested and given a pre-fermentation cold maceration, followed by a temperature-controlled fermentation for 2 weeks in small stainless-steel vats. The resulting wine underwent malolactic fermentation in 225L French oak barrels (Monastrell and Syrah), and in 300L American oak (Garnacha), for a total of 6 months in oak.

Rich aromatics of dark fruit and garrigue. The palate bursts with loads of red and black fruit and a touch of spice. This wine shows great structure and really over-delivers for the price. The long, layered finish comes to a charming close with fine-grained tannins.

MIXED AND RED SELECTIONS

- RETAIL: \$16.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$13.60
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: Dry-Rubbed Pork Roast

JANUARY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



2019 SOITO WINES ENCRUZADO, DÃO, PORTUGAL

Soito was founded in 2013 by two teachers—José Carlos and Sandra Soares—who were inspired to produce unique wines that mirrored their passion for the Dão region. The project started in Quinta do Soito with about ten hectares, of which seven are planted to vineyards, located in the town of Tibalde. The conditions there are ideal for winegrowing. Nestled between the Serras do Caramulo, Montemuro, Buçaco and Estrela Mountain ranges, the carefully tended vineyards are shielded from the wind, allowing for the full and even ripening of the grapes. Soito Wines' mission remains focused on sustainable wine production and promoting wine tourism in Dão.

A blend of 90% Encruzado and 10% Malvasia Fina, the grapes underwent vinification in temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks for three weeks. The resulting wine was partially aged in French oak barrels with bâtonnage for 4 months. Encruzado is native to the Dão, and is not widely planted outside of the region, even in Portugal. The wines it produces are often compared to fine Chardonnay from Burgundy and the new world.

Pleasing aromas of grapefruit peel, lemon zest and almonds. Very light on the oak, unlike many other Encruzados. More Chablis-like, in fact, with bracing acidity and fresh green apple and pear flavors. Crisp and refreshing with a beautiful wet flint mineral note and an interesting saline flourish on the finish.

MIXED AND WHITE SELECTIONS

- RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: [Cornmeal-Fried Shrimp with Butternut Squash Risotto](#)

JANUARY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



2020 DOMAINE LES GRYPHÉES CHÉNAS AOP CRU BEAUJOLAIS, FRANCE

Pierre and his wife, Cécile have been crafting serious Gamay in the village of Le Bois-d'Oingt at the southern end of Beaujolais, France since 1973. Their son, Guillaume, took over the winemaking in 2007 and is ambitious about expanding their vineyard holdings; currently, they farm about thirty-five acres of vineyards throughout Beaujolais. Domaine Les Gryphées is named for the fossilized seashells that crunch underfoot as one walks through the vineyards. This unique terroir, with its mineral complexity, sets its wines apart from other more rustic bottlings from the region. Chénas is one of Beaujolais' rarer crus, located between Juliéna and Moulin-à-Vent, and is the smallest Beaujolais cru appellation in terms of land. Domaine Les Gryphées has been making wine from this distinctive site since 2011.



The Gamay for this bottling comes from 60-year-old vines that are farmed sustainably, avoiding chemicals and adhering to organic practices whenever possible. The fruit was hand-harvested and whole-cluster fermented on indigenous yeasts in stainless steel tanks. The resulting wine was then aged in older foudres and was bottled unfiltered and unfiltered.



Inviting aromas of brambly red and black fruits, and dusty earth. The palate is vibrant with tart red fruit, ripe cherries, crushed violets and exotic incense. The juicy palate is soft and silken with balancing tannins on the fruit-laced finish.



RED SELECTION

■ RETAIL: \$24.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$20.40



■ [SUGGESTED RECIPE: Roast Chicken](#)

JANUARY 2022 CLUB SELECTION



2020 KIONA VINEYARDS CHENIN BLANC COLUMBIA VALLEY, WASHINGTON



John Williams and Jim Holmes became fast friends after working together at General Electric in the 1960's. Their mutual appreciation for wine led to the wild idea to plant a vineyard on an overlooked expanse of desert on the edge of town; locals thought they were nuts. In 1972, the pair bought land on Red Mountain, eventually planting their first vineyard in 1975. The rest, as they say, is history... Today, Red Mountain is heralded as one of the premier wine producing regions in the New World.



Kiona Vineyards now consists of five estate Red Mountain sites, all with their own distinct personalities and charisma. **Kiona Estate**—Red Mountain's pioneering vineyard planted in 1975, is also home to the most esteemed Lemberger planting in the western hemisphere. **Heart of the Hill**—situated in the very middle of the AVA, is known for its deep, brooding, and assertive wines. **Artz Vineyard**—Fred Artz's eponymous vineyard, is prized for producing wines of profound concentration, color, and character. **Ranch at the End of the Road**—nestled up against Red Mountain—has tremendous versatility and produces very pure and very concentrated fruit. Lastly, **Sunset Bench**—Kiona Vineyards' most recent acquisition, is located just west of the Ranch at the End of the Road vineyard.



Chenin Blanc grows exceptionally well in the Columbia Valley, where big temperature swings and ample sunlight ensure even ripening and vibrant acidity. Plummeting temperatures in late fall even allow Kiona to produce a Chenin Blanc Ice Wine in most vintages. Limited old-vine acreage (like Kiona Vineyards' plantings that date back to 1976) make Red Mountain Chenin Blanc highly sought after by producers and consumers alike. We are extremely pleased to be able to share this unique offering with our Wine Club.



A blend of 92% Chenin Blanc, 5% Chardonnay and 3% Semillon, sourced from the Kiona Estate (97%) and Artz Vineyard (3%); this wine was fermented and aged in a combination of stainless steel (92%) and new and "neutral" barrels for two months.



Layered aromas of stone fruit, honey, pears and garden flowers. Beautiful palate with flavors of white peaches, Bartlett pears and ripe yellow apples. A delightful, fruit-driven white wine with an ample finish and a mouth-watering acid backbone.

W H I T E S E L E C T I O N

- RETAIL: \$16.00
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$13.60
- SUGGESTED RECIPE: Vegetarian Pad Thai