

# NOVEMBER 2023 CLUB SELECTION



## 2021 KOMPASSUS VINHO TINTO BAIRRADA DOC, PORTUGAL

João Pova is an ophthalmologist by profession but a farmer by passion. After realizing the unique potential of the soil, climate, and native varieties in the Bairrada region, João decided to change his profession, and has been making wines since 1991. Founded in 2005, Kompassus is a boutique winery, focused on producing outstanding, small-lot wines from autochthonous grape varieties. The name 'Kompassus' refers to the measurement between the row of vines which is 1.7 meters (new mechanized vineyards are about 3 meters). This specific planting was first used by the Romans, and with such a small space between the rows, makes it impossible to use any mechanized equipment, meaning everything must be done by hand. This smaller measurement allows a better use of light and helps control the plant's vigor.



The vineyards are over 70 years old, and tended using sustainable viticulture practices. The wines are produced in the traditional style of Bairrada, and are made by one of the top winemakers in Portugal, Anselmo Mendes, who employs completely organic production methods in the cellar. A blend of 70% Baga, 30% Touriga Nacional. Each variety was vinified separately, the grapes were cold-macerated and fermented with wild yeast. The Baga was aged in stainless-steel tanks, while the Touriga Nacional was aged in used 700L French oak barrels.



Brick red. Desiccated aromas of cherry, spiked with licorice and cured black olive. The palate is light and gamey, with flavors of dried strawberry, cranberry and plum. Lean yet complex, it shows some oxidation, the tannins are soft and polished, leading to a tight finish with plenty of spice and a hint of dusty earth.

Cellaring Recommendation: 2-4 years



## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

■ RETAIL: \$21.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$17.85



■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Garlic & Herb-Roasted Pork Loin with Crackling & Spiced Apple Chutney

# NOVEMBER 2023 CLUB SELECTION



## 2019 BALDASSARI *BENNETT VALLEY* SYRAH SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Baldassari Wines was formed as a business partnership in 2003 between Matt Michael, winemaker, and Dom Michael, his dad. The winery is named after Matt's maternal grandfather, Vincenzo "Jimmy" Baldassari, through whom Matt received his first introduction to wine and winemaking. An Italian immigrant with a long family history of home winemaking, he brought the family tradition with him to the US when he emigrated. So, when Matt graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Fermentation Sciences to pursue a career as a winemaker, establishing Baldassari Wines seemed the perfect way to honor their family winemaking history and custom.



Over the years, Matt has secured and nurtured long-term relationships with select growers throughout Sonoma County. This impressive bottling is 100% Syrah from the sustainably farmed Nolan Vineyard, located in the Bennett Valley, a tiny sub-appellation known for its volcanic soils and moderate growing season. This unique 3.5-acre site, which is exclusively Syrah was planted in 1996. It is owned and managed by Ken Hunt, whose attention to detail and respect for the land are second to none. Fermentation with native yeast for 22 days, in open-top fermenters (20% whole cluster). Aged in French oak barrels, 20% new.



Dark burgundy/black-red. Beautiful aromas of black and blue fruits, roasted peppercorns, and a hint of cured meats. The palate is rich and full, with flavors of blackberry compote, blueberry pie, and dark plum, punctuated with violet tones and a peppery spice. Great acidity balance with fine tannins and a wonderful, toasted caramel ribbon, winding its way through the long, fruited finish.



Cellaring Recommendation: 5-7 years



## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION

■ RETAIL: \$44.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$37.40



■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: Charred Eggplant with Burrata & Pomegranate-Walnut Relish

# NOVEMBER 2023 CLUB SELECTION



## 2021 BLUE FARM PINOT NOIR SONOMA COAST, CALIFORNIA

Founded in 2007, Blue Farm takes its name from the farmhouse at Anne Moller-Racke's home and vineyard in Carneros. Blue Farm is focused on creating Burgundian grand cru style Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays, and draws on Anne's 40+ years winegrowing experience. In 1981 Anne moved to Sonoma from Germany, where she worked with legendary winemaker André Tchelistcheff; for the following three decades, she farmed some of California's most celebrated vineyards. In 2001, Anne founded The Donum Estate, growing it into one of the top Pinot Noir producers in California.



Blue Farm began as a seven-acre vineyard divided into four blocks to create one complete wine, and remains committed to rigorous, precision farming coupled with traditional winemaking practices. Today, there are five Blue Farm vineyards that reach from Sonoma's Valley to its Coast, as well as the Russian River. Each site was carefully selected based on its unique characteristics—including soil, elevation, exposure, slope, and climate, all of which determine how a specific clone, or selection will perform.



100% Pinot Noir, the 2021 Blue Farm Sonoma Coast is a blend of Calera, 2A, Dijon 115, 667 & 777 clones from vineyards stretching the length of the Sonoma Coast. The grapes were picked and sorted by hand. Spontaneous fermentation was in a small open-top stainless-steel tank, for 20 days. The resulting wine was aged 15 months in French oak barrels, 25% new.



Deep ruby red. Scented with layers of cherry fruit and baking spices. The palate is creamy and rich, with flavors of warm cherry preserves, dusty plum and vanilla-kissed oak. Lots of vibrant acidity to balance the fine tannins. Elegant and ripe with a charming cherry cola finish. A lovely addition to any table—or cellar for that matter!



Cellaring Recommendation: 7-10 years

## RED CELLAR TRIO SELECTION



■ RETAIL: \$60.00  
WINE CLUB MEMBER: \$51.00

■ SUGGESTED RECIPE: : Beef Wellington