



UNCORKED BY THE SEA



CellarClub June 2021

2018 Chateau de Rouanne Vinsobres Rouge- Rhone, France

Château de Rouanne is a historic estate with a 12th century medieval castle, situated on a classified Roman site located in the southern Rhône Valley. The name of the estate comes from "Rugius", which is said to be the name of the original Roman owner. Château de Rouanne is located in the appellation of Vinsobres, which was established in 2006. One of the more established Rhône villages promoted to its own 'Côtes du Rhône Villages' appellation, Vinsobres produces uniquely styled Rhône Blends based on Grenache and Syrah in its relatively cool and elevated vineyards. Deeply perfumed and dazzling, this is a new project by Louis Barruol of Château de Saint Cosme in Gigondas. A blend of 50% Grenache, 40% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre, the 2018 Vinsobres features an intriguing mix of herbal, floral and fruity notes on the nose, with scents ranging from bay leaf and lavender to violets and purple raspberries. It's medium to full-bodied, silky and fine on the palate, with a finishing touch of licorice. It's a great debut—showing complexity and elegance, not raw power—from the property's new owner, Louis Barruol of Château Saint-Cosme in Gigondas. WE 93 PTS, WS 91 PTS, RP 91 PTS

Pairings: The red-fruit character of this wine makes it a great choice for tomato-based dishes such as ratatouille, while the richness of the Syrah pairs with lamb, venison or beef. Other pairings are anything on the barbeque, chicken, chili, pizza, game, sausage, truffles, and grilled tuna.

2018 LaFond Pinot Noir- Santa Rita Hills, California

Lafond is Pierre Lafond's second winery, with its first crush in 2000. The winery is surrounded by 100 acres of vineyards. The natural environment and the marvelous vistas enhance the experience. The winery and vineyards are located in the western end of the Santa Ynez Valley in the Sta. Rita Hills. Proximity to the ocean favors this area with cool breezes and a climate marked by warm days, cool nights and a long growing season. The Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir is a blend of seven different clones grown on two contiguous vineyards. Winemaker Bruce Mcguire balances fruit from Lafond Vineyard and Burning Creek Ranch to create a distinct and nuanced wine. This wine benefits greatly from about an hour of decanting to allow the concentrated aromatic and flavor profiles to fully open up. The 2018 Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir is a deep ruby color. Delicate aromas of raspberries and violets combine with mild notes of cherry cola. Stewed Bing cherry, truffle and dried lavender complete the palate. WE 92 PTS

Pairings: This light-bodied red wine has strong tannins, and can easily stand up to smoked meats, game birds, or teriyaki salmon. It is also ideal with casseroles or stews like beef bourguignon.