



UNCORKED BY THE SEA

Cellar Club October 2023



2019 Robert Mondavi Winery Red Wine -Napa Valley, California

Robert Mondavi Winery was founded in 1966 by winemaking pioneer Robert Mondavi, whose vision was to create Napa Valley wines that could stand in the company of the world's finest. It was the first major winery built in Napa Valley in the three decades following the repeal of Prohibition. The mission at Robert Mondavi Winery is to produce wines of elegance and complexity that are recognized globally for their exceptional quality," says Geneviève Janssens, chief winemaker at Robert Mondavi Winery. Nearly half of 2019's blend is sourced from the deep, well-drained soils of Oakville, which provides gorgeously dark, supple wines with fine tannins. Stags Leap District, Oak Knoll, Yountville, and Rutherford also find their place in the bottle, with the varying meso-climates and soils of these vineyards integrating seamlessly into a 100% Napa Valley blend. Deep in fruit and dark spice flavors, this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine made with 74% Cabernet Sauvignon plus Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot shows good ripeness, a velvety texture and handsome oak notes of cocoa, nutmeg, coffee and vanilla from the aroma through the finish. JS 93 PTS, WS 92 PTS, JD 91 PTS, WE 91 PTS

Pairings: Any Steak! Roquefort cheese and roasted sirloin with mushrooms, lamb, and cheeseburgers. Hard cheeses, too

2019 Brash Higgins Nero d'Avola- McLaren Vale, Australia

Brad Hickey first came to Australia in 2007 to work vintage with renowned South Australian winemaker, Chris Ringland. It was here the Aussies bestowed the bright-eyed and brash New Yorker with the nickname Brash Higgins, and where he met his partner and fellow vigneron Nicole Thorpe. Their 17-acre vineyard in McLaren Vale has been certified organic since 2017. The NDV is considered by many to be the premier Nero d'Avola in Australia. With a string of sensational releases under his belt, Brad Hickey has elevated this humble Sicilian variety to a new level in Australia over the years since his first release. Hickey makes his Nero in an authentic, Sicilian style - full of spice, tannin and energy. It's naturally fermented with wild yeasts in a bees-wax lined clay amphora. The constant search for freshness, drive and detail in this oft-times simple and smashable variety is what sets the Brash Higgins NDV apart. Dark ruby in color, with hints of black cherry, Indian spices and stem ginger. Orange peel also present which is usual in this wine. Reminiscent of a Negroni cocktail, angostura bitters and all. A pomegranate, bright dark raspberry and morello cherry mid-palate balanced by a refreshing sweet and sour red cherry acidity. The wine finishes with fine grained tannins. Decanting is always recommended for amphora wines"

Pairings: Antipasti, cold cuts, salami, lasagna, meatballs, pizza, as well as lamb, duck, and beef. Think hamburgers or baconburgers.