





Cellar Club November 2023

2021 The Calling Russian River Pinot Noir- Sonoma County, California

While the Russian River Valley is a large appellation with multiple climate zones and soil types, it is best known for cool-climate varieties, with Pinot Noir as the most celebrated. The grapes benefit from a reliable late afternoon flow of Pacific Ocean fog through the Petaluma Gap and along the Russian River Valley that ensures slow and steady ripening and the preservation of grape acidity. Today many of California's most highly regarded Pinot Noir vineyards are in the Russian River Valley. Jim Nantz, famed CBS sports commentator, and Peter Deutsch, founder of Deutsch Family Wine & Spirits, have created The Calling wines to quality standards for the Sonoma region with more than fifty 90+ ratings since their first vintage in 2012. These wines are a testament to the greatness that is possible when you follow your calling in life. This textural, medium bodied Pinot Noir leads with bright red fruits (Bing cherry, wild strawberry, red plum, raspberry) and baking spices (clove, nutmeg) aromatics on the nose. The palate is lush and round with vibrant and juicy red fruits, good acidity and silky tannins. 90 PTS WE

<u>Pairings:</u> These versatile, food-friendly wines pair well with salmon, tuna and other oily fish, mild sausages, turkey, duck, quail, pork and lamb. Fruit-based sauces or chutneys and mushrooms make a strong supporting cast. For your cheese board, select firm, moderately flavored cheeses like Gruyere, Gouda and aged cheddar.

2014 Terre Rouge Grenache L'Autre- Sierra Foothills, California

Terre Rouge means "Red Earth". This vermillion-colored soil is one of the hallmarks of our region. Our vineyards are in soils that are largely granite and volcanic-based. Winemaker Bill Easton is one of the original Rhône Rangers and pioneered the Rhône varietals in the Sierra Foothills in the late 80s. His wines are balanced and elegant, with complexity that develops as the wines age in bottle. The French call it élevage, which is "raising" the wine in the bottle before drinking. There is an art to this style of winemaking and there is great pleasure in drinking a wine that has just started to show what it will be. One of California's original Southern Rhône-style blends, L'Autre is hand crafted from varietals nurtured in the rocky terroir of the Sierra Nevada of California. It is luscious, elegant, silky, and complex. A slightly tawny color and extra spicy, meaty aromas make this appetizing blend of 75% Grenache, 17% Mourvèdre and 8% Syrah interesting to taste. It's medium-bodied, peppery and savory and is backed by moderate berry flavors. 91 PTS WE

<u>Pairings:</u> Grenache is magnificent with poultry, especially milder birds like turkey, chicken, game hen, and quail. This wine pairs well with the hearty comfort meals we like to cook in the fall that contain spice. Think flavorful stews, slow cooked meats, mushroom risotto...Pulled Pork sliders, Braided Short Ribs, Spaghetti with Veal Bolognese or Chicken Marsala.