

EXPLOR



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LA PITCHOUNE 2017 “LA BOMBE” CHENIN BLANC, MERRITT ISLAND, CLARKSBURG, CALIFORNIA

Inspired by a small family property in the South of France, La Pitchoune means “the little one,” in French. The name speaks to small production, small lots, and their philosophy that their small size is their greatest asset.

An artist, scientist, farmer, gourmet chef, and winemaker is what best describes the person behind the wines of La Pitchoune. What makes Andrew Berge so special is his understanding of the geography, soil, vines and the fruit that are the foundation of his wines. With a Masters degree in Agriculture, Andrew is more than a winemaker. His ability to comprehend, care and tend for the fruit as it matures on the vines allows him to have full control of the grapes long before they arrive at the winery and the actual winemaking begins.

This dry Chenin Blanc displays aromas of green melon, honeysuckle, and lychee underpinned by flint and a touch of freshly washed wool. Full of bright lemon notes, passion fruit, and a slight nutty finish.

Try pairing this wine with salads and lighter chicken dishes.

Only 9 barrels made.



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COSIMO TAURINO 2011 SALICE SALENTINO, PUGLIA, ITALY

The Taurino family has been growing grapes and making wines in Puglia for seven generations, but it was Francesco Taurino who started the family business after World War 2 to supply Italy and Europe with authentic Apulian wines. Later, his son Cosimo grew the distribution and brought the production to world-class levels with the collaboration of Severino Garofano, a renowned Apulian enologist. Today, the estate encompasses 80 hectares of vineyards planted almost exclusively to Negroamaro and Malvasia Nera grapes, both indigenous to the area of Salento where they are grown.

The wines of Cosimo Taurino express the particular terroir of Salento through the lens of their native varietals showcasing earthy, spicy, and red fruit driven notes and an authentic, rustic winemaking style. An added bonus of this particular bottling is it's age. At nearly 10 years old, this wine is currently drinking right at his peak.

Try pairing this wine with your favorite Italian red sauce based dishes.



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TENUTA DELLE TERRE NERE 2017 “FEUDO DI MEZZO” ETNA ROSSO, SICILY, ITALY

Tenuta delle Terre Nere is the achievement of over 30 years of passion and work in the world of fine wine. Hailing from an extraordinary location, Etna is described as an “island within an island” and is quite literally formed from the lava of Mount Etna. The estate’s philosophy is simple: given an extreme climate, in order to obtain the best and most consistent ripening, attention needs to be focused on the vineyard management of the estate. A level of work that is best described as aimed above all else at expressing the character of the varietals in their specific terroir.

Feudo di Mezzo is the largest Cru in the Etna appellation, a homogenous character, but with clear qualitative variations - much like one could say of Clos de Vougeot in Burgundy. From the Estates best parcels, it displays a dusky character with autumnal tones in its cedar spiced bouquet. Always the first of the Estate’s parcels to be harvested, Feudo di Mezzo is also always the one most ready to open up upon release and generously display its potential. This wine is supremely sil
It’s tannins suave, and it’s bouquet darkly debonair.

Composed of a blend of Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio from vines ranging in age from 50 to 80 years old planted in black volcanic ash and basalt at 650 meters in elevation.

Try pairing this deep, dense red with braised meats and game.



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