

2022 DRY RIESLING, CENTRAL COAST

We think this new vintage of our Central Coast Dry Riesling is a worthy successor to the much-touted 2021. Fruit from our own Estate Riesling vineyard as well as a vineyard in Monterey County provided us with quality fruit to produce a compelling, food-friendly bottle of wine. As is our custom, we cold-pressed the fruit before fermenting the juice and ageing the wine in stainless steel, thus preserving the light-and-lovely Riesling aromas and flavors.

Notes of fresh apple and melon, a hint of lemon/lime, and a touch of minerality are evident, while a smooth texture guarantees an early approachability. Riesling is the go-to wine for all manner of seafood (fish, crabcakes, fresh oysters), but it also pairs beautifully with a spicy Indian curry.

ALCOHOL 13%
VINEYARD 92.5% La Estancia, Monterey County and 7.5% Claiborne Vineyard, Edna Valley AVA
HARVESTED Sep 26-28 and Oct 4, 2022
AGING 100% Tank Fermented and Aged
BOTTLED Apr 5, 2023
CASES PRODUCED 412
RETAIL PRICE \$27



2021 RUNESTONE PINOT NOIR

We've talked before about the superb quality of the 2021 vintage of Pinot Noir, and our barrel-select, trademarked Runestone Pinot is a prime example of this. At harvest, the fruit from each vineyard block is fermented and aged separately. Then, after tasting each barrel in the cellar, our Winemaker Zack Geers prepares trial blends of eight barrels each that we taste together, selecting the blend that best exemplifies the qualities we look for in our Runestone Pinot Noir: flavor, elegance and ageability.

In our 2021 Runestone, aromas of raspberry tart, brown sugar and sweet oak give way to ripe red fruit, cherry-and-berry flavors and an elegant finish. This Pinot Noir will enhance any dish of lamb, pork, veal or duck. It is also delicious on its own right now, but will develop beautifully over the next five to seven years.

ALCOHOL 14.1%
HARVESTED Sep 17-21, 2021
VINEYARDS 28.5% Twin Creeks Estate Vineyard, 28.5% Greengate Ranch & Vineyard, and 43% Spanish Springs Vineyard
CLONES 943, Pommard, 114, and 667
AGING Barrel Aged in 43% New French Oak for 10 Months
BOTTLED Aug 31, 2022
CASES PRODUCED 166
RETAIL PRICE \$64



**Premier Cru Members will also receive a bottle of 2022 Dry Gewürztraminer and 2021 Classic Pinot Noir.*

2022 CHARDONNAY, SPANISH SPRINGS VINEYARD

Our Chardonnay from this cool, coastal vineyard has always been a Cellar Club favorite; our supply always seems to disappear in just a few months. In the style of a French Chablis, this un-oaked Chardonnay boasts a remarkable balance of ripe fruit and vibrant acidity.

Aromas of citrus and jasmine give way to flavors of pear, cantaloupe and lemon curd. The mouthfeel is fresh and the finish is long. Try this Chardonnay with Camembert cheese, mushroom pizza with white sauce, or grilled swordfish, and be sure to pick up a few extra bottles before our supply is exhausted!

ALCOHOL 13.4%
HARVESTED Sep 29, 2022
VINEYARDS 100% Spanish Springs Vineyard
CLONE 96
AGING 100% Tank Fermented and Aged for 7 months
BOTTLED May 16, 2023
CASES PRODUCED 166
RETAIL PRICE \$36



2021 STRAWBALE RED

We all welcome the return of the blend we call "Straw Bale Red", a popular wine we created some twenty years ago to honor our unique, pioneering and eco-friendly wine cellar, with its walls composed of stuccoed bales of rice straw. Our aim has always been to create a pleasant, versatile and affordable wine for everyday enjoyment. While Pinot Noir is the dominant grape in this blend, the presence of some Syrah adds an interesting note.

You might detect flavors and aromas of olive tapenade, mixed berry pie, crushed pepper and baking spices. The tannins are firm and ample, especially in the finish. Pair this with hearty stews, burgers and roasted autumn vegetables, and be sure to stock up on this latest vintage before it disappears.

ALCOHOL 13.9%
BLEND 80% Pinot Noir and 20% Syrah
HARVESTED Sep 20, 2021
VINEYARDS Twin Creeks Estate Vineyard and Orcutt Road Ranch
AGING Barrel Aged in 100% Neutral French Oak for 10 Months
BOTTLED August 31, 2022
CASES PRODUCED 166
RETAIL PRICE \$32



RECIPE: Pumpkin Chili

'Tis the season for all of your favorite pumpkin foods and recipes! Cozy up by the fire with this delicious Pumpkin Chili paired with our Chardonnay or Strawbale Red blend! We suggest you make it a day ahead to allow all the flavors to meld.

Ingredients:

6 tbsp Olive Oil	1 tsp Dried Oregano
3lbs. Lean, Boneless Pork, cut into 1/2 " cubes	1 tbsp Cumin
1 lg Onion, minced	1 tbsp Brown Sugar
2 Cloves Garlic, minced	Cayenne Pepper to taste
1 Yellow Pepper, diced	Sea Salt to taste
1 14 oz can Beef Broth	2 c Roasted Pumpkin, pureed
2/3 c Cream Sherry	2 c Black Beans, cooked
1 14 ½ oz can Stewed Tomatoes	Garnish: Shredded Cheddar Cheese, Toasted Pumpkin Seeds and Sliced Scallions
5 tbsp Chili Powder for the flavor	

Preparation:

1. Heat 2 tbsp oil in a large pot, brown pork in batches over medium-high heat. Once pork is browned on all sides, reserve.

2. Add onion, garlic and pepper to the pot; saute until onion is transparent, about 5 minutes. Stir in broth, sherry and tomatoes.

Add spices, cayenne pepper and salt to taste; stir well. Add pumpkin puree, stirring until smooth. Add black beans and browned pork. Bring to a simmer, stirring occasionally for 45-60 minutes. Best to make a day ahead to allow flavors to meld.

3. Garnish with cheddar, scallions and toasted pumpkin seeds



CLAIBORNE &
CHURCHILL
WINERY



FALL 2023

Cellar Club News

Greetings all! Welcome to the Fall Edition of the Claiborne & Churchill Cellar Club Newsletter. We are excited to release our four new wines, but before we describe them we thought you might like to know how this year's harvest is shaping up. Well, as you probably suspect, last year's extremely wet Winter and a cooler-than-expected Spring have delayed the growing season by several weeks. Thankfully, here in the Edna Valley we have had warm weather of late, which encourages steady cluster growth and ripening. We expect to be bringing in fruit by the third week of September, and the outlook is for bountiful yields and high quality. We look forward to welcoming the 2023 wines next Spring!

We wish all of our Cellar Club members a lovely autumn and a pleasant holiday season. We hope our wines contribute their share; remember the Icelandic adage in the inscription on your bottle of Runestone:

Vin skal til vinar drekka "Wine should be drunk with friends"

-- Clay & Fredericka Thompson

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