

BSS Wine Fam November 2021

Vajra 'Petracine' Langhe Riesling 2020

The G.D. Vajra winery was created in 1972 by Aldo and Milena Vaira, initially from vineyards planted by Aldo's father in 1947. The winery was named for Aldo's father, Giuseppe Domenico Vajra, because at the time Aldo was not old enough to establish the winery in his own name. Aldo's three children - Giuseppe, Francesca, and Isidoro - are all involved in the family winery operation situated in the village of Vergne.

Aldo took it upon himself to cultivate the first Riesling of Piedmonte in the high elevation hillsides of Fossati and Bricco Bertone. Aldo has been the pioneer of Riesling in Piedmont. An intuition born in the late 1970s and put into effect in 1985. The story of Riesling was born in Germany, and Vajra is adding its own unique chapter in Piedmont, Italy (a world-class region for famously delicious red wines made from the nebbiolo grape).

We chose this wine for a number of reasons. One; it's Vajra, a world-renowned producer. We love Vajra wines, and are confident you will also. Two; our excellent relationship with a specialty distributor allowed us to purchase basically our area's entire allocation. Three; riesling is a ridiculously food-friendly wine. With the holidays approaching, it will pair fantastically with multitudes of foods. Four; an Italian riesling is pretty rare. A Vajra riesling is a 'unicorn'. German rieslings have an inherent, unmistakable lanolin-like flavor component. Some say it reminds them of petrol, or a pencil's pink eraser. This riesling is more mineral-driven and racey, without the German 'rubber' trademark. Ready to drink now, or will age well for a good 10 years. Last, but not least, we're VERY excited to be able to offer this to you. Salute!

Monteti Caburino 2015

Red wine from Italy is what life calls for. This Tuscan red blend is 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Alicante and 25% Merlo, near the beautiful beach community of Capalbio on the Tuscan Coast just a few hours' drive north of Rome.

A glass pour showcases vivid and brilliant ruby red. Aromas of red currant, black cherry, jasmine, loamy soil, and Spanish cedar rise-up. Upon first sip, you may taste baked plums and a hint of tobacco. Following sips should uncover bitter baker's chocolate, delicate balsamic, and black cherry, carried by a smooth medium-full body and supple tannins.

Feel free to uncork this wine with no plan or intentions. It will take care of itself and you. Caburino loosely falls into the 'Super Tuscan' category, which we all could use more of. This wine drinks very well now, but it will last another 10 years in the cellar.

Hermann J. Wiemer Cabernet Franc 2019

Southwest France meets upstate New York. The Finger Lakes wine region has been producing world-class wines, mostly from German styles, dating back 150+ years. Wiemer has been hand making highly regarded wines since 1979, from their 90 acre vineyard on the western slopes of Lake Seneca.

Cabernet Franc ('Cab Franc') is a black-skinned grape principally grown for blending with Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in the Bordeaux (French) style. But not this one. What we have here is a scrumptious 100% Cab Franc wine, superbly drinkable and pairs perfectly with a plethora of food. With a little less alcohol than normal (12.5%), it's balance is remarkable and sips solo just fine. The easy going mouthfeel in on the lighter side of medium, making it oh so easy to gulp, (but take your time). Again, another food-friendly wine for your holiday spread, from us to you. Cheers!

Alma de Cattleya Red Blend 2018

Sometimes all you need is a Cali red blend. This red blend is exactly what we love about Cali. Sonoma County, specifically. This wine is crafted by one of our favs! A Colombian-born, French-trained winemaker, Bibiana Gonzalez Rave. Bridge Street Social had the pleasure of having her host a very entertaining wine dinner a few years ago. And we're proud to offer you a little piece of that experience, here with this gem.

Round and lush, this blend of 64% syrah, 14% merlot, and 22% cabernet sauvignon immediately greets you with a big hug. Layered, rich, and generous, this offers up loads of ripe blueberry and blackberry, peppery spice, dark chocolate, anise, and smoky herbs. The texture is plush, but tannin and acid provide structure and support to the opulent fruit.

We're confident you'll thoroughly enjoy this selection. With or without food, (we suggest 'with') this one can and will deliver maximum satisfaction. The Sonoma coast, with big help from Bibiana and her team, hit it out of the park again!

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Let's get to know one another, sharing pics & comments about all things wine! We'd love to see how you're enjoying some of your wine fam selections, food pairings, ugly sweaters... and we're sure other fam members would too. This is a private group, so no worries about spam or lurkers - wine fam only. We'll be posting cool stuff on here, so please join. See you on IG soon!