

AUTUMN 2026 TASTING NOTES

WINE SELECTIONS BY CLUB

2021 Sangiovese

Gold | Platinum

2020 Malbec

Gold | Platinum

2018 Barbera

Gold | Concierge

2018 Merlot

Gold | Platinum

2019 Syrah

Gold | Platinum

2018 Aglianico

Gold | Concierge

2019 Petite Sirah

Platinum

2022 Zinfandel

Concierge

2021 Petite Sirah

Concierge

2020 Mourvèdre

Concierge

2021 Cabernet Sauvignon

Concierge

AMPHORA
WINERY



It's fermentation time!

That magical, aromatic transformation whereby grapes become wine will soon fill the cellar with wonderful aromas. This harvest is on track to be the earliest on record. As we write this in mid-August, some of our neighbors have already been harvesting for weeks! Amphora will begin harvest soon... We have a nice selection of big red wines in this season's assortments, including our first vintage of Sangiovese in nearly a decade. They'll be perfect with the hearty meals of Fall and Winter.

With gratitude from all of us at Amphora Winery, ***Cheers!***

2021 SANGIOVESE | KNIGHTS VALLEY

143 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2034

This is our first Sangiovese since way back in 2012, and our first wine from Knights Valley appellation, in northeast Sonoma County (Knights Valley is between Alexander Valley and Napa County). The hillside vineyard lies at about 1500 feet in elevation, and the soil is weathered volcanic deposits from the nearby Clear Lake volcanic field. The site has an amazing view of Mt. St. Helena (just 10 miles away), the highest peak in the North Bay, and the point where Sonoma, Napa, and Lake counties meet. If you squint your eyes, and add a few Italian cypresses to the scene, you might well imagine yourself in the Tuscan countryside. The wine is fairly big in structure, with ripe dark fruit aromas and flavors, complemented by dark toasty oak. There's Sangiovese's dried cherry note, and a hint of leather. *Bistecca alla Fiorentina*, anyone?

LIST PRICE 55



2020 MOURVÈDRE | CLARKSBURG

154 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2029

Mourvèdre often presents a wild range of flavors and aromas, with meaty and animalistic notes nestled amidst spicy aspects, and dark fruit underlying it all. The Clarksburg vineyard rendition features more of the sweet and spicy side of the spectrum. It greets you with lovely aromas of Darjeeling tea, with a hint of black pepper. The red berry flavors are juicy, and invite a second sip. The wine is medium in weight, with just enough tannic structure to carry it for a few more years, and to play well with food. Try this one with a mushroom-centric dish, or roast pork with a cherry glaze.

LIST PRICE 36

2018 BARBERA | CLARKSBURG

245 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2029

This is an elegant rendition of Barbera, with a little touch of the characteristic earthy terroir of this particular vineyard, and a black tea and tart red berry impression. In the old days, Barbera was prized for retaining nice acidity even in warmer growing regions, and this wine is reflective of that, with a bright a juicy mouth-feel. The medium weight and subtle tannins enhance its food-friendly nature. This wine could pair well with tomato-based dishes such as pasta in red sauce, or that classic of Autumn simplicity - tomato soup with grilled cheese sandwiches.

LIST PRICE 36

2018 AGLIANICO | CLARKSBURG

241 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2034

Enjoy Rick's take on this classic grape of southern Italy. This is a dark and juicy glass of wine, with a dark and brambly fruit character, and just hint of the balsamic aromas of a cabinetry shop. It is definitely a food wine, rather than an easy-going sipper. In this 2018 vintage, the aging in *amphorae* lends a decided "grip" to the mouth feel, and a stony finish. It would go well with everything from a chunk of *pecorino romano* cheese and olives, to roast venison, to a wintry lentil stew.

LIST PRICE 40



2019 PETITE SIRAH | DRY CREEK VALLEY

188 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2035

Rick's original inspiration to launch his Amphora journey was Petite Sirah, and his consistent style with this wine is ample, but never overbearing: abundant dark fruit flavors, and the structure to develop in the bottle for years to come. Aromas of violet, black peppercorn, and vanilla greet you, and are followed by ripe blackberry and dark plum flavors. A classic pairing would be a grilled rib-eye steak, but this is also enjoyable with rich, soft-ripened cheeses, or sautéed mushrooms served over creamy polenta.

LIST PRICE 46



2018 MERLOT | DRY CREEK VALLEY

130 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2034

Enjoy the quiet elegance of this wine, crafted from a vineyard just across Dry Creek Road from the winery. This wine greets you with very appealing aromas of raspberry liqueur and freshly fallen autumn leaves. In the mouth, this wine is round and full, and the dark fruit notes linger long after a sip. There are red fruit hints, too, as well as a subtle sweet spice. For fun, pour this wine (brown-bagged), for your friends who profess to dislike this varietal, and gauge their honest perceptions. Some winning food recommendations for this one would include roast ham with a fruit glaze, or grilled Portobello mushrooms brushed with a fruity olive oil.

LIST PRICE 55



2020 MALBEC | DRY CREEK VALLEY

109 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2029

Our first Malbec in a number of years comes from the gnarled vines in the vineyard immediately below the winery, along Dry Creek Road. It's aromas of mocha, leather and plum unreel to a delicious blackberry-black currant concentrate with a lush mouthfeel. This wine is immediately approachable, and the first sip invites the second... and a third. We suggest a food-pairing paying homage to Malbec's New World second-home Argentina. Perhaps chimichurri-grilled flank steak, or a wintry braise of lamb shanks seasoned with rosemary and lavender.

LIST PRICE 48

2019 SYRAH | SONOMA COUNTY

224 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2033

Our 2019 Syrah hails from the Fountaingrove District, one of Sonoma County's newest appellations (2015), and situated in the rolling hills northeast of Santa Rosa. The wine is lush and velvety, with sweet and creamy aromatics, blackberry and rhubarb fruit, and a touch of Rhône varietal meatiness. Don't rush this one. Enjoy it through a relaxed evening, and experience it unfolding. This wine definitely has the heft and depth to age beautifully for years. For more immediate enjoyment, decant or aerate a bottle, and have it with smoked sausages, Duck *Confit*, *Cassoulet*, or braised shortribs.

LIST PRICE 45

2022 ZINFANDEL | DRY CREEK VALLEY

127 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2034

This is classic Dry Creek Zin from vines on the eastside benchlands about 600 feet from the winery. The varietal has been grown in this spot since the mid-19th century, and the vines are the original clones. The wine shows a delicious Dry Creek berry-dark fruit character against a background of tart cherry, with a hint of cocoa, dusty berry, and dark plum. There is something about it that brings to mind the impression of being in the middle of an orchard of ripe stone fruit on a pleasantly warm summer day. One of our favorite pairings for this wine is lamb, marinated in garlic, rosemary, olive oil, and wine—and grilled over vine prunings.

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2021 PETITE SIRAH | DRY CREEK VALLEY

120 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2036

The Bevill-Wolcott vineyard is just “four driveways” south of the winery on Dry Creek Road, on the east side bench-lands. The Petite Sirah grapes from this site are consistent as clockwork: abundant dark fruit flavors, and the structure to develop in the bottle for years to come. Aromas of violet, black peppercorn, and vanilla greet you, and are followed by ripe blackberry and dark plum flavors. 2021 was a drought year, and brought us a relatively early harvest of nicely concentrated fruit.

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Upcoming Events

see amphorawines.com for additional info

September 12: **Harvest Wine Trail**

October 17: **Wine Club Harvest Party**

November 7-8: **Food and Wine Affair Along the Wine Road**

November 28: **Bubbles and Oysters**

January 17-18, '27: **Winter Wineland Along the Wine Road**

June 27-July 8, '27: **Amphora Wine Cruise, Greek Islands and Turkey**

2021 CABERNET SAUVIGNON | TIMBER CREST VINEYARD, DCV

70 CASES PRODUCED | ENJOY NOW THROUGH 2039

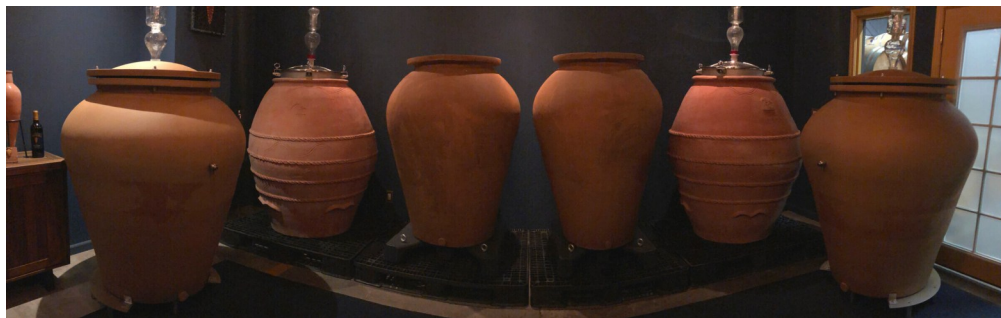
The Timber Crest Vineyard is our go-to for Cabernet Sauvignon that expresses the complex character of the varietal, while also showing the easygoing and approachable qualities so common in Dry Creek Valley red wines. Our 2021 greets you with a ripe cherry and black currant nose that seamlessly lead through to the finish. You might sense a hint of red licorice and mint alongside the dark fruit, and a dusty note, too. Summer puts us in mind of pork ribs, and lightly –smoked ribs (hold the sticky-sweet sauce!) with a rub of paprika and thyme could work superbly with this wine.

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AUTUMN 2026 CLUB WINES

	Retail	Concierge	Platinum	Gold
2021 Sangiovese	55	41.25	44.00	46.75
2020 Malbec	48	36.00	38.40	40.80
2018 Barbera	36	27.00	28.80	30.60
2018 Merlot	55	41.25	44.00	46.75
2019 Syrah	45	33.75	36.00	38.25
2018 Aglianico	40	30.00	32.00	34.00
2019 Petite Sirah	46	34.50	36.80	39.10
2022 Zinfandel	44	33.00	35.20	37.40
2021 Petite Sirah	48	36.00	38.40	40.80
2020 Mourvèdre	36	27.00	28.80	30.60
2021 Cab Sauvignon	65	48.75	52.00	55.25



To re-order, please call us at 707.431.7767 or email us at jim@amphorawines.com, as many of these wines are exclusive to our club members and do not appear on our website.

4791 DRY CREEK ROAD, BLDG. 6 | HEALDSBURG, CA | 95448
707.431.7767 | WWW.AMPHORAWINES.COM