

EST. 2000

CITY VINEYARD

FINE WINE • CRAFT BEER • GOURMET FOOD

Silver Club September 2024

Tenuta Santa Maria 2023 Lepiga Soave Verona, Italy

About the wine: “We create wines of timeless elegance that offer a reflection of our land, invested with passion, respect for the vineyard, family expertise in the use of native grapes and traditional methods, and an understanding of innovative techniques.” So say brothers Giovanni and Guglielmo Bertani. Soave is a varietal white wine produced from the Veronese Garganega grape (100%), from low-yield vineyards and hand-harvested at different ripeness levels. A careful fermentation in stainless steel tanks is followed by stirring fine lees back into the wine over the aging process.

About the Region: Verona is the city that inspired Shakespeare and touches the heart of every person that visits. The Italian city of love is so beautiful and is steeped in a rich and wonderful history. Wines from Verona and the surrounding wineries include a wide variety... well-known names like Amarone, Valpolicella, Bardolino, and Soave, along with many lesser known, including Lugana and Valdadige. The splendid vineyards of the region are quite literally on the doorstep of Verona – located between the shores of Lake Garda and the Lessini mountains, and in the territory dividing the Po and Adige valleys.

Tasting Notes: On the nose, an aroma with hints of summer fruits, pears, peaches, herbs, almonds, and a generous minerality, with traces of toasted vanilla. The palate follows through with tree fruit notes, along with hints of lemon, stone, and honey. So much is going on here! It also has a body that makes it a great winter white!

Food Pairing: Noone loves seafood more than the team at CV, so this wine pairing is right up our alley! Think shellfish pasta, squid ink linguine, seared scallops, and lightly battered white fish. OMG!!! How do you feel about roasted cauliflower soup with a hearty glass (or two) of this luscious Soave? We say, “YES!!!!”

Anne Sarda 2022 Coteaux de Cabrerisse Languedoc Region, France

About the wine: Winemaker Anne Sarda and her team do their vineyard work by hand. Carignan vines, up to 60 years old, grow as bush vines at 500 feet altitude, necessitating hand harvest and producing low yields. The climate is dry, and the vines struggle in the

stony soils. It is a wild and rural landscape, yet beautiful and natural. No pesticides, herbicides, or irrigation are used. This 100% Carignan is lightly filtered prior to bottling.

About the Region: Languedoc is the best-value wine region in France, where viticulture is central to the economy and produces more wine than any other region in France. For many years, the Languedoc was known more for quantity than quality, but renewed interest in quality from independent winemakers have changed the landscape significantly. Languedoc has been called “the land of the proud peasant farmer.”

Tasting Notes: A pure rendition of the varietal, complete with bright red fruits like cranberry, strawberry, and raspberry, alongside a hint of cinnamon, wild herbs, and star anise. We picked up a hint of black pepper on the nose! There’s so much bright, red fruit in this wine, it’s a true delight to drink. We hate to even say it, as your friendly correspondent is personally offended by chilled red wines, but it has been recommended by some.

Food Pairing: Why would what was once a lowly French wine be the perfect food wine? Because of its medium-bodied style, it will go with big, bold dishes as well as lighter ones. The wine tends to act more like an ingredient when paired with food. Carignan is ideal with richer poultry dishes (turkey, duck), roasted pork, or even a meaty beef brisket. Hot tip pairing... spiced lamb kebabs!

Nugan Estate 2022 Riverina Stomper’s Cabernet Sauvignon Willbriggie, New South Wales, Australia

About the wine: The story of Nugan Estate spans over 80 years, three generations, and displays determination, passion, and grit. In 1938, Alfredo and Annelise Nugan fled Spain and migrated to Australia. As immigrants they brought with them aspects of European culture including the enjoyment of wine. Dedicated to their European family history, their wines embody a passion for traditional Italian winemaking techniques and styles. This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon is a part of the Personality Series, inspired by the culture and history that has been created through the years at Nugan Estate. Stomper’s is named after the vineyard manager, nicknamed Stomper because the whole building shakes when he walks in!

About the region: The Riverina is the largest wine producing region in New South Wales. It is a flat tract of land on the state's south-west plains. The region is 48,000 sq. mil in size! The main varieties grown in the region are Chardonnay, Shiraz, Semillon, and Cabernet Sauvignon. A characteristic of the climate is high growing-season temperatures. Autumn conditions favor the onset and spread of the fungus *Botrytis cinerea*, which can result in distinctive, sweet dessert wines! The region has very little natural rainfall, which requires irrigation to grow most crops.

Tasting notes: Flavors of blackcurrant and plum with soft tannins meld with subtle oak. Medium deep red color touched with violet. A reviewer who will remain nameless loved the dark fruit profile accompanied by light notes of vanilla and smoke. We’d love to hear your review!

Food pairing: We’re going back to mom’s dining room table and a standard there... meatloaf! Who doesn’t love meatloaf?!

