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# CITY VINEYARD

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## Gold Club October 2024

### **Center of Effort Wines 2021 “Il Due” Rhone Blend Arroyo Grande, Edna Valley, California**

**About the wine:** The estate at Center of Effort has origins that date back to 1978 when it was originally The Lawrence Family Winery. Today the vision of owners is an established artisan winery that will maximize the estate’s potential and be unique within the beautiful Edna Valley. The name Center of Effort references a sailing term which is the point on the sail where forces come together and function as a whole. Through cultivation, artistic winemaking, and passion, these forces join to create a wine that is classic. This beautiful wine, Il Due (the two), is a Rhone blend of 75% Grenache and 25% Syrah. The winemakers identified the hillside vineyard as having just the right combination of aspect and low vigor soils to produce beautiful Rhone-style wines.

**About the Region:** A cool-climate AVA on California's Central Coast, Edna Valley doesn't have the renown of some of its neighbors, yet nonetheless produces exceptional cool-climate wines. Located in the south-western corner of San Luis Obispo County, the first vines were planted in the early 1800s, and winemaking remains popular today. The terroir in the valley is well suited to Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, both of which are renowned for their ability to produce fine wines in cooler climates. These two Burgundian varieties dominate plantings in Edna Valley vineyards, although Syrah is hot on their heels and producing very well-received, beautiful wines.

**Tasting Notes:** The winemaker says “Deep purple red in color. Dark aromatic tones of licorice, graphite, and boysenberry. The palate feel is full and ripe with cassis, luxardo cherry and cocoa dust.” We’re not sure what luxardo cherries are, honestly. We loved the rich, red & black fruits; raspberry, cranberry, and a little tart blackberry (maybe?). We loved the hints of vanilla and baking spice, and the absolutely luscious body. This wine is bolder than you might think from the garnet color.

**Food Pairing:** Your favorite writer loves Rhone blends. If you haven’t experienced them yet at CV, ask one of our great people to introduce you. And they are great food wines... think rich and smoky meats. OMG... Pot Roast would be delicious! But Rhone blends don’t necessarily need food... enjoy this one on the couch!

