

BEAT the HEAT

A WARM WEATHER SURVIVAL WINE PACK SIX GREAT WINES TO HELP KEEP YOU COOL!

In recent days Monterey County has been experiencing some pretty warm weather, some are even calling it HOT. We have been enjoying these refreshing wines lately, and we thought we'd put them in a great value pack for your enjoyment.



Sale Price: \$99.00
 Wine Club: \$84.15
 Cellar/Quattro: \$79.50
 \$129.00 Retail Value

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

In order to better serve our members, we need to receive any new info and changes regarding your status (i.e., change of address, new credit card number, etc.) by the 20th of each month.

PLEASE NOTIFY US BY CALLING (888) 646-5446, Ext. 13.

Any information received after the 20th of each month will not take effect until the following month. Change of address updates, for the upcoming shipment, called in after the 20th, may be subject to a special handling fee.

VISIT US ONLINE

WWW.TASTEMONTEREY.COM

Mix & Match

ANY OF THE CURRENT OR PREVIOUS CLUB WINES TO RECEIVE 25% OFF 12 BOTTLES OR 20% OFF 6

PRIVATE RESERVE CLUB	PRICES EXPIRE 11/30/2020	REGULAR PRICE*	12-BOTTLE DISCOUNT PRICE*	6-BOTTLE DISCOUNT PRICE*
De Tierra Vineyards 2017 Russell Estate Merlot		\$38.00	\$28.50	\$30.40
August West 2014 Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir		\$45.00	\$33.75	\$36.00
Stokes' Ghost 2016 Petite Sirah		\$35.00	\$26.25	\$28.00
SEPTEMBER SELECTIONS	PRICES EXPIRE 11/30/2020			
Pierce Ranch Vineyards 2016 Petite Sirah		\$28.00	\$21.00	\$22.40
Sea Otter Sanctuary 2019 Rosé		\$24.00	\$18.00	\$19.20
Rocklin Ranch 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon		\$25.00	\$18.75	\$20.00
Pierce Ranch Vineyards 2018 Albariño		\$25.00	\$18.75	\$20.00
AUGUST SELECTIONS	PRICES EXPIRE 10/31/2020			
Nacina 2014 Pinot Noir		\$24.00	\$18.00	\$19.20
District 7 2019 Sauvignon Blanc		\$16.00	\$12.00	\$12.80
District 7 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon		\$20.00	\$15.00	\$16.00
Joullian 2018 Sauvignon Blanc Reserve		\$26.00	\$19.50	\$20.80
JULY SELECTIONS	PRICES EXPIRE 09/30/2020			
Big Sur Vineyards 2018 BSV White		\$30.00	\$22.50	\$24.00
Montoya 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon		\$17.00	\$12.75	\$13.60
Big Sur Vineyards 2016 Pinot Noir		\$32.00	\$24.00	\$25.60
Montoya 2018 Sauvignon Blanc		\$16.00	\$12.00	\$12.80

TO ORDER, CALL TOLL-FREE: 888-646-5446
 *PRICES LISTED REFLECT PRICE PER BOTTLE. NO OTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY.

TASTING MONTEREY

A WINE ENTHUSIAST'S MONTHLY JOURNEY THROUGH MONTEREY'S WINE COUNTRY



Missing our view?

Check out our live webcam while you sip on some Monterey Wine.

Fall Referrals



Refer a friend to the Monterey Wine Club, and after they join, you get a \$20.00 Gift Card!



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @atasteofmonterey

Winery Spotlight



De Tierra VINEYARDS

This quarter we hope you are pleasantly delighted by De Tierra's Russell Merlot. De Tierra Vineyards was founded in 1998 by Tom Russell. He began his wine journey with an organic grape-growing

operation in the Salinas Valley. Originally from Phoenix, Arizona, Russell found great success, as an agricultural professional, in California. He teamed up with friend and winemaker of Vignalta, Italy, Lucio Gomiero. The two began planning and developing an organic vineyard in the Corral de Tierra Valley. "De Tierra" meaning "of Earth," their breathtaking 40 acre farm sits south-west facing just 15 miles from the Salinas Valley. Today, De Tierra is owned by Dan McDonnal and Alix Lynn Bosch, who have continually produced quality wines, including the bottle you have at home now. The Russell Merlot is sourced from De Tierra's Russell Vineyard. It is located deep in the Corral de Tierra at the foot of Mount Toro between the Santa Lucia Highlands and the Carmel Valley in Monterey County. Using sustainable practices such as ladybugs and lavender to manage pests, Russell Vineyard is 100% organic. De Tierra operates their own tasting room in Carmel-by-the-Sea, where you can find the other four varietals produced from Russell Vineyard. Until then, you can enjoy your merlot right from where John Steinbeck called, "the pastures of heaven."



Let's *Wine* About it



Petite Sirah (*Peh-teet sear-ah*) was first found growing in France in the mid-1800's. Now, Petite Sirah is a fairly rare grape with less than 10,000 planted acres worldwide, most of them being in California. Typically, the wine presents a very deep color and full-bodied flavors such as blue-

Continued Inside

Reserve Wine Selections

DE TIERRA VINEYARDS - 2017 *Russell Estate Merlot*



Winery: De Tierra creates delicious, award-winning, and sustainably harvested wines to share from the unique terroir of Monterey County. De Tierra, as their name suggests, focuses on providing the best representation 'of the land'. Great wines begin in the vineyard, and it is their goal to translate the defining flavors of place into great wine!

Vineyard: The Russell Vineyard is located deep in the Corral de Tierra at the foot of Mount Toro between the Santa Lucia Highlands and the Carmel Valley in Monterey County in what John Steinbeck called "the pastures of heaven". There are five varietals grown at the Russell Vineyard: Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Riesling. The grapes grown at the Russell Vineyard are 100% organic and sustainable practices are used in farming. The Russell Vineyards uses owl hatches, ladybugs and lavender to manage pests, while avoiding herbicides and fertilizer through the use of cover crops, netting and fencing. This vineyard is run entirely on solar energy, and hand farming practices are used whenever possible.

Tasting Notes: Bright aromas of pomegranate, raspberry and orange rind meet with lively pinches of wild, dewy herbs and the hint of green peppercorns on the nose of this bottling. The palate offers ripe cherry alongside the snappier cranberry flavors, with herbs and strong acidity throughout.

De Tierra Vineyards
2017 Russell Estate
Merlot

Alcohol
14.0%

AVA
Monterey

Composition
100% Merlot

Aging Potential
6-8 years

AUGUST WEST - 2014 *Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir*



Vineyard: 2014 was a year where the California drought entered its third year and affected vineyards in different ways. At Peterson Vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands, the deer who live nearby didn't have enough of their normal diet, because of the lack of water, so they invaded the block closest to the Salinas River. This is the clone 115 section of Peterson, and the deer found plenty of healthy shoots on these vines. What was good for the deer meant quite a bit less fruit for Peterson. 2014's crop ended up being down 60% from 2012 and 2013, but the quality of the vintage was just as high.

Winemaking: They harvested three clones from Peterson in 2014, Dijon 115 and 777 as well as some Pommard. All three are represented in the 2014 Peterson Vineyard Pinot Noir.

Tasting Notes: The very fragrant, spicy nose is typical of this site, along with the delicate palate filled with savory and earthy flavors. There's also a toastiness to the 2014 Peterson which resulted from the high percentage of new oak they aged this wine in. The oak will integrate into the wine over the next several years, and they recommend a drinking window of 2017 through 2023.

August West
2014 Peterson Vineyard
Pinot Noir

Alcohol
14.4%

AVA
Santa Lucia Highlands

Composition
100% Pinot Noir

Aging Potential
6-8 years

STOKES' GHOST - 2016 *Petite Sirah*



Story: James Stokes was a British sailor who jumped ship in Monterey in 1833, passing himself off as a doctor with medicine stolen from the boat. Despite killing a significant number of patients, Stokes was appointed personal physician to Governor Jose Figueroa. Within a year, the governor was dead. Stokes' sons confronted him over his crimes and he ingested poison, falling lifeless at their feet. The adobe home in which Stokes lived still stands and every so often a man dressed in 1800s garb is seen climbing the stairs and passing through walls.

Winemaking: The Petite Sirah grapes in this wine were harvested at night in the southernmost reaches of the Monterey appellation, an ideal location for growing this dramatic, heart-stopping variety. Upon arrival to the winery, the grapes were crushed and fermented in small lots to extract the full flavors and tannin structure for which Petite Sirah is so well known. The wine was then pressed and racked at dryness for oak aging.

Tasting Notes: Inky and dark, this Petite Sirah is brimming with black cherries, blackberries and cassis flavors. Violet notes and hints of white pepper enchant while intense, jammy fruit stains the teeth. Stokes' Ghost is full-bodied with balanced tannins and a finish that lingers on the palate. This rich, deep wine is just what the doctor ordered.

Stokes Ghost
2016 Petite Sirah

Alcohol
14.0%

AVA
Monterey

Composition
100% Petite Sirah

Aging Potential
6-8 years

Cover Article Continued

berry, chocolate, plum, and black pepper. Petite Sirah is a distinct grape variety and is the offspring of Syrah and Peloursin, a varietal that is nearly extinct and found only in the French-Alps. While Pinot Noir is Monterey County's most popular red, Petite Sirah does grow well in warm areas such as Hames Valley as the area offers a "goldilocks" region; not too hot, not too cold. This style of wine is not necessarily made to age for too long, as you do not want to lose the acidity and rich fruit that it has to offer. Paired wonderfully with barbecue beef, burgers, eggplant, caramelized onions, or stuffed peppers, it is perfect September backyard wine. From our selection we highly recommend Stoke's Ghost and Pierce Petite Sirahs, they are great options when you want to enjoy this varietal.



WHAT'S ON THE WINE WALL

Odd Lot

A recent addition is the new vintage of Odd Lot. It is a 80% Petite Sirah 20% Petit Verdot blend from Scheid Vineyards. The grapes for this wine were sourced from the Hames Valley, very South Monterey County. Aged in French, American, and Hungarian Oak for months, this wine offers appeal to the palate, on the nose and to the eye. With a quirky comic-style label and a message on the cork, it's odd all around in the most pleasing of ways. The previous vintage of Odd Lot was a staff favorite at A Taste of Monterey and probably our biggest selling wine-by-the-glass selection in recent years. This new vintage is every bit as good as the last. It's big, bold, full in body, but surprisingly smooth. You can get in trouble with this wine as it's almost too easy to drink. The notes offer aromas of blackberry, ripe plum, juicy vanilla, and smokey oak. It is recommended to pair with beef short ribs, lamb chops, grilled eggplant, or aged manchego cheese. YUM. There is a good chance that if you try this award-winning wine, you might say the delicious taste is anything but odd.



Cheese Corner



MONTEREY JACK

Monterey Jack earns the rightful position as a true "American" cheese since it originated in the Mexican Franciscan friars of Monterey, California. Around the 1700s, these monasteries around the Monterey region were making a semi-firm, creamy, mild flavoured cheese from cow's milk which they aged for a little period. An American entrepreneur named David Jack realized its commercial value and started selling it all over California. The cheese came to be known as "Monterey Jack's" or "Jack's Monterey," eventually acquiring the name Monterey Jack.

The cheese is commonly used in Mexican and Spanish cuisine as its mild in flavor and melts really well. It's akin in taste and texture to Colby and Cheddar. Variants of Monterey Jack known as Dry Jack (aged version) and Pepper Jack (pepper spiced) are also quite popular. Monterey Jack is available across all grocery stores and supermarkets in the United States. Consider Pinot Noir and Riesling with Jack cheese.