

ARMIDA

WINE CLUB NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



Hello Armida Family!

Dear Friends,

Ah, Dry Creek Valley – our little slice of paradise where the grapes hang heavy with the promise of future gatherings and the soil tells stories older than time itself. It's a place where the sun smiles kindly upon the vineyards, and the fog whispers secrets to the old vines. Right in the heart of this Eden, you will find us, your pals at Armida Winery, raising a glass (or several) to the magic of wine, friendship, and the occasional bad dance move.



[photo credit: winegrowers of dry creek valley]

As the calendar pages flutter towards the end of April, we are polishing our glasses for a spectacular occasion – Passport to Dry Creek Valley. Mark your calendars for April 26th to 28th, because we're rolling out the red carpet for you, our dearest wine-loving compatriots. And because we hold our Wine Club members in such high esteem (you're practically royalty in our eyes), we are waiving the golden ticket fee for you and up to three of your partners-in-wine. That's right, saunter on in and enjoy the Armida experience on the house. If you're itching to roam Dry Creek Valley and sip from the cup of all it has to offer, mosey on over to Dry Creek Valley Passport for info about the event, and use promo code "clubmember2024" to save money on your tickets.

Now, let's talk about what's popping at Armida during this vino extravaganza. We'll be pouring the good stuff – Zinfandel, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and more!!! Single vineyard, old vine, dry-farmed wines, all babied with organic practices. It's like going back to the future, but with wine. For the adventurous, we will have vineyard walks, tours, and barrel tastings hosted by our wonderful production team.

But wait, there's more! Chef Megan Mesner, our culinary queen will be dishing out bites that'll make your taste buds sing. We're talking farm-to-table, people – straight from our estate gardens to your anticipatory mouths.

No shindig is complete without some tunes! DJ Noah Deeleez will be in the house (or rather, in the vineyard), spinning an all-vinyl set that will take you back to the golden age of soul, R&B, and hip-hop. Dust off those dancing shoes, because we're turning the vineyard into the grooviest dance floor in all of Dry Creek Valley.

So, dear friends, gather your wine tribe, slap on your best wine tasting attire, and join us for a weekend where the wine flows freely, the laughter is contagious, and the memories are ripe for the making. Let's celebrate our California SOUL, together.

Cheers to wine, to friendship, and to the undeniable fact that we have the best wine club members in the universe. See you at Armida!

With love and a splash of wine, Your Friends at Armida Winery

Featured Wines

2020 CHALONE VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

This wine from Pinnacles National Park's western edge, planted in 1960 at 1,200 feet elevation, thrives in limestone and decomposed soil. Expect aromas of lemon curd and apricot, flavors of peaches, pears, and toasted brioche, with a flinty texture and a refreshing finish reminiscent of biting into an Asian pear. Ready to enjoy now, it ages well for up to ten years. Pair with roast chicken, lobster tail, crab legs, or smoked turkey for a memorable meal!



2020 GAP'S CROWN VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Gap's Crown vineyard, named after the Petaluma Wind Gap, a unique cool climate in Sonoma County, preserves acidity and enhances fruitiness. Full malolactic fermentation transforms sharp malic acids into smooth lactic acids, creating rich flavors and textured layers. Perfect for pairing with dense fish, grilled veal chops, and late summer vegetables such as red peppers, corn, and squash.



2019 CHALONE VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

This wine comes from 13 rows of clone 667 Pinot Noir, situated at 1,200 feet elevation on the west side of Pinnacles National Park. We adore this esteemed Dijon clone from Burgundy, France, known for its compact clusters, resulting in deeper color and fine tannins. It boasts vibrant aromatics of plums, raspberries, and rose petals, with hints of candied spices. The flavors are rich and deep, showcasing ripe cherry and baked blueberry, complemented by a unique minerality from the limestone-rich Chalone appellation. The finish is long and sweet. Pair it with rare roast beef, mushroom risotto, or veal cutlets for a delicious meal!



2019 PARMELEE-HILL PINOT NOIR

Planted in 1994 just south of Sonoma, this vineyard benefits from its proximity to San Pablo Bay, about 10 miles away. The cooling winds from the bay contribute to thicker skins on the Pinot Noir grapes, resulting in a wine with deeper color and phenolics. This site exemplifies the potential of Pinot Noir in the cool climate of the southern Sonoma Coast. The Parmelee-Hill Pinot Noir brings aromas of lavender, cherry, and caramelized plums, with subtle hints of rosemary and sage. Its silky smooth texture and flavors of strawberry pie and fruit Danish culminate in a refreshing finish reminiscent of raspberries.



2019 "IL CAMPO" ESTATE RED WINE FIELD BLEND

We planted Il Campo ("the fields") in the late 1990s, honoring the Italian immigrants who shaped Dry Creek Valley's farming culture. Our six-acre plot features a blend of Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Carignan, and Alicante Bouschet, cultivated using sustainable farming practices rooted in the valley's history. Influenced by each year's unique growing conditions, our wines offer surprising complexity, with aromas of mocha, licorice, and cedar, and flavors of cranberry, blackberry pie, and dark plum. Enjoy it with grilled steak, pulled pork, brisket, or charcuterie!



2019 MAPLE VINEYARDS ZINFANDEL

Our flagship Zinfandel, Maple Vineyard, on Dry Creek Road's prestigious northern bench, boasts vines planted in 1910, rooted deeply in the valley's immigrant history. Unirrigated, these vines produce small, intense grapes with flavors of raspberry, blackberry, red plum, and black cherry. The finish is refined with integrated tannins and a balanced mix of savory and spice. This wine will mature beautifully over the next fifteen years, making it ideal for BBQ!



2019 TINA'S BLOCK ZINFANDEL

Tina's Block, the oldest section of Maple Vineyard, planted in 1910, has been sustainably farmed since. Originally Zinfandel only, it now includes about 20% mixed black varietals like Petite Sirah and Carignan, adding unique flavors. The sandy-loam riverbed soil allows deep roots to access nutrients and rainfall, resulting in a wine with substantial structure and aromas of blackberry, plum, anise, graham cracker, and black currant. Sweet raspberry pie, blackberry, and juicy cranberry flavors dominate the lush mouthfeel, with a ripe finish that softens with age. Enjoyable now and will continue to evolve over the next ten years. Pair with bold dishes like charred meats, sweet or spicy baby back ribs, and brisket.



2019 SHORTY'S BLOCK ZINFANDEL

Shorty's Block, a little over one acre, is a standout within Maple Vineyards' 27-acre patch of head-trained, sustainable Zinfandel. Nestled on Dry Creek Road's high bench land in Dry Creek Valley, it's been fondly dubbed the "spice block" for its blend of Zinfandel and Carignan, a tradition for over a century. While once used mainly for blends, its exceptional quality now earns it a solo bottling, yielding just over 200 cases. With a higher Carignan content (8%-10%), this Zinfandel leans towards vibrant red fruit flavors like raspberries and cherries, with softer tannins for a youthful touch. We recommend pairing it with light tomato sauces, chicken sausage, roast turkey, and sandwiches like Cubano and Muffaletta.



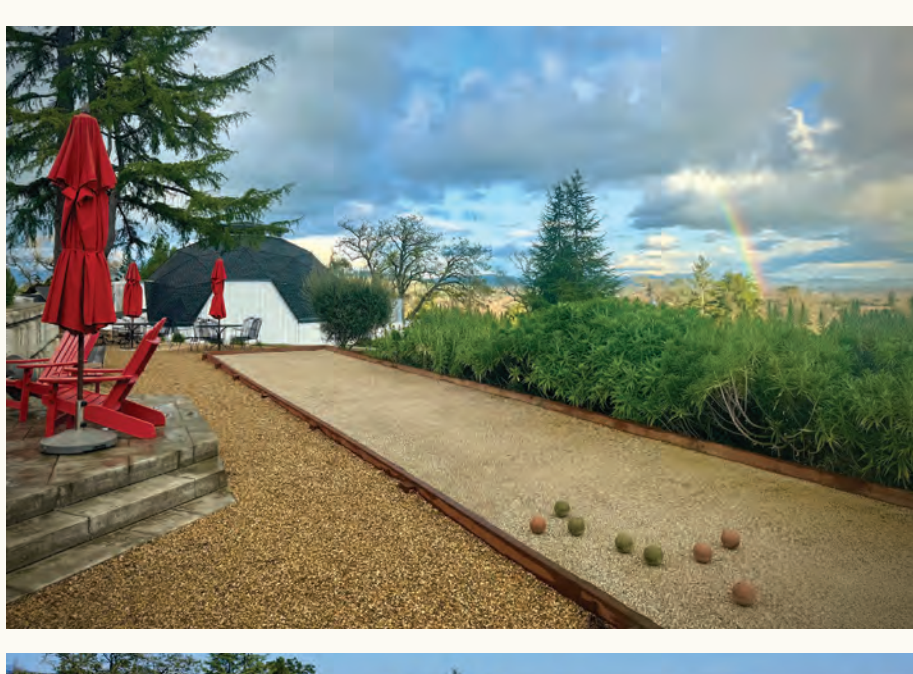
2019 GOLD MINE RANCH ZINFANDEL

Gold Mine Ranch's 3-acre vineyard, planted before the owner served in World War I, earned its name when he searched for precious metals on the property upon his return. Today, this century-old vineyard is dry-farmed and organically managed, using the owner's original techniques. The Zinfandel features sweet fruit, anise, peppercorn, and cola aromas, alongside bold cranberry, raspberry jam, and blackberry flavors. With a complex finish, this wine will continue to mature for another ten years.



2018 RESERVE POIZIN

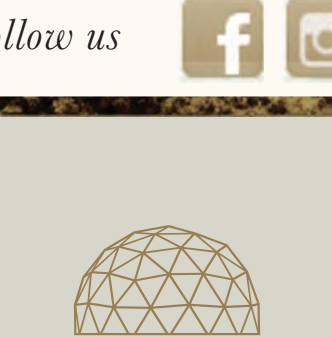
Our 2018 Reserve Poizin is deep black with bold blackberry, plum, and smoky oak scents. It boasts intense flavors of black-cherry jam, raspberry, and anise, wrapped in a comforting vanilla spice. With extensive oak aging, you'll notice hints of clove and smoke. It's approachable, well-balanced, and undeniably thrilling. Enjoy this potent Poizin carefully; it's The Wine to Die for!



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