

# CELLAR MASTER WINE CLUB

June 2022

## 2019 Brendel Cooper's Reed Cabernet Napa Valley, California

Inspired by purity and edge, Brendel Wines pay homage to Napa Valley pioneer Leon Brendel. In the 1950s, Leon bought a small plot of land to make one variety, Grignolino, a grape that could only be found in northern Italy at the time. This vineyard was sold to Joe Heitz with the promise to always preserve a small amount of Grignolino, a commitment that McCoy and the Lawrence family continue to honor. Brendel's namesake serves as a reminder to keep intentions pure in making wine that stays true to the land, one's roots, and most importantly, oneself.

Brendel's inspiration draws from a creative outlet for a collective of winemakers. Heitz Cellar's Head Winemaker Brittany Sherwood and Associate Winemaker Aaron Huntsberger crafted the inaugural 2019 vintage of Brendel. Additional winemakers and special cuvées will be announced with future vintages.

Helmed by Brand Director Cassandra Felix, Brendel's wines are free of unnecessary ingredients, and made with organically farmed 100% Napa Valley fruit. In short, the winemakers let the soil do its job and the grapes speak for themselves, with minimal interference from budburst to bottle.

"Brendel is about breaking down barriers and drinking delicious wine without pretension. It stands for creativity and authenticity. It also serves as a reminder to have fun and stay true to yourself –with no regrets," Cassandra Felix says. "These wines pay respect to history while refuting the status quo, demonstrating the diversity of wine styles produced from Napa Valley soil. Our talented winemakers are applying historic techniques as they work with our organic fruit, making wines that are imaginative, expressive and approachable at the same time."

Having relocated to California last year from West Palm Beach, Florida, Felix is an Advanced Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers and brings nearly a decade of experience in wine and spirits to Brendel. Prior, Felix served as the head sommelier and beverage manager at the award-winning Flagler Steakhouse, located at prestigious resort The Breakers Palm Beach. As Brand Director for Brendel, Felix is the steward of this new venture established by the Lawrence family. Under her leadership, she is the creative vision behind their downtown Napa tasting bar opening this summer, working with Brendel's collective of winemakers to deliver a lineup of unique varieties that lends itself to a laid-back atmosphere.

This wine is a modern nod to history. Aged in large vessels sealed with reeds, ingrained with the wisdom of the past. This pure expression of Cabernet Sauvignon evolves with each sip and gracefully unfolds on the palate. A slightly bashful beginning leads to an exuberant end. Having just one glass will require some serious restraint.

Notes from [www.brendelwines.com](http://www.brendelwines.com)



**\$39.99/btl**

Member discount on additional btls **\$35.99/btl**

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## 2018 Elk Cove La Boheme Pinot Noir Willamette Valley, Oregon



Elk Cove Vineyards is one of Oregon's oldest and most respected wine producers. Founded in 1974 by Pat and Joe Campbell, their focus has always been to produce handcrafted, estate-grown wines that can rival the best in the world. Estate vineyards now cover nearly 400 acres on six separate sites in the Northern Willamette Valley. Steep south-facing slopes of Willakenzie, Laurelwood and now Jory soil types provide excellent drainage, which are the perfect environment to grow world-class wine grapes. Winemaker Adam Campbell joined forces with his parents in 1995 and now directs the production of outstanding Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Riesling and Pinot Blanc. The name "Elk Cove" was derived from the Roosevelt Elk, which roam nearby, and migrate into the valley each spring.

La Bohème Vineyard was planted in 1985 by selecting the very best vines from the original Estate Pommard plantings. Pat and Joe Campbell named the vineyard after the family who sold them the property – and their favorite Puccini opera. This picturesque vineyard overlooks the winery and the coast range mountains and rises to 800 feet, making it one of the highest elevation vineyard sites in the Willamette Valley. La Bohème was planted using cuttings from vines selected for small cluster size and intense flavors, hallmarks of the world's finest Pinot Noirs. They prune and cluster-thin La Bohème heavily to limit yields and to maximize ripening and flavor concentration.

All of Elk Cove's delicate Pinot Noir fruit undergoes the same gentle handling through a gravity flow system. This allows Elk Cove to achieve the elegance, texture and luscious quality that are the hallmarks of exquisite Pinot Noir. Fruit from the La Bohème vineyard is fermented in small, temperature controlled steel tanks, hand punched down twice daily then aged for ten months in French oak. The winemaking team then selects the very best barrels to represent the silky, lush flavor profile that exemplifies La Bohème Pinot Noir.

[www.elkcove.com](http://www.elkcove.com)

*"Dark garnet. Fresh red and blue fruit and floral qualities on the fragrant nose, along with a spicy topnote. Juicy and focused on the palate, offering sappy cherry, boysenberry and spicecake flavors that deepen through the back half. The blue fruit note drives a very long, smooth finish framed by supple, even tannins."*  
**Vinous 93 points.**

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