

CELLAR MASTER WINE CLUB

September 2021

2018 Gallica Grenache Rossi Ranch

Napa Valley, California



Gallica is nestled in the heart of Napa Valley amongst historic vineyards, coastal oaks, gardens and olives. Heritage Petite Sirah and Cabernet Sauvignon are rooted in gravelly Cortina soils ambling off nearby Sulphur Creek. The winery is a handsome barn, contemporary and fresh, standing side by side with weathered vines. They strive to practice lightly touching the land from the tending of the vines, thoughtful winemaking methods, to the simplicity of the packaging, Winemaker Rosemary Cakebread's vision for a wine of her own, eventually called Gallica, grew slowly.

Inspired by earlier work at prestigious properties in both Napa Valley and Bordeaux, wines were made and a new brand grew. The philosophy is a simple one: to craft elegant single vineyard wines farmed organically which accurately depict the site and the story of each unique vintage. Gallica makes Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Grenache, Albariño, Syrah and limited bottlings of estate Cabernet Sauvignon and Petite Sirah. The brand symbol is a tribute to the ancient rose, their aromatics, and enhancement to winemaking. They love what we do and are fortunate to call Napa Valley home.

The one hundred percent Grenache is sourced from Rossi Ranch in the heart of Sonoma Valley. Owned by Sandy Otellini and farmed by Phil Coturri, the fine clay loam soils, laced with light volcanic ash are perfect for growing this wondrously aromatic red grape. Notable for wild strawberry and nuanced with wooly thyme and wet stone, fermentation takes place in open top tanks. Burgundian in character and winemaking, with just enough stems to perfect elegant tannins. The soft ruby color is deceptive, there is grip and amplitude to these wines. California Certified Organic Farming.

Notes from www.gallicawine.com

"From an historic, certified-organic site, winemaker Rosemary Cakebread coaxes nutty, mineral-driven flavor and texture from this 100% varietal wine. Sage, strawberry preserve and oaky reduction combine around dried herb and sage, finishing in a sprinkle of white pepper." **Wine Enthusiast 94 points.**

CELLAR MASTER WINE CLUB

September 2021



2018 Château d'Aiguilhe Cotes de Castillon, Bordeaux, France

Acquired by Stephan von Neipperg at the end of 1998, Château d'Aiguilhe is one of the most beautiful estates in the Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux. The existing building, a sort of fortified farm, dates from the 13th century. Everything leads us to believe that the Aiguilhe seigneurie covered a very large tract of land in the Middle Age, encompassing several important fiefs. Located on the border between French-controlled and English-controlled areas during the Hundred Years' War, the Château played a major military role.

Today, the estates covers 111 hectares, of which 50 are devoted to winegrowing.

The vines (80% Merlot - 20% Cabernet Franc) grow uniquely on the upper part of the slope, where they find excellent natural drainage and south-facing sun exposure. The thin layer of relatively meagre clay-limestone and clay-silt soil covers a limestone substratum that provides wonderful water regulation. These natural advantages, combined with old vines, are conducive to producing powerful and mineral wines.

The estate is expertly managed by Jean-Patrick Meyrignac. It benefits from the tried and tested winegrowing methods used by Stephan von Neipperg at his Saint-Emilion estates: letting the terroir express itself fully, low yields and a very flexible approach to winemaking.

Notes from www.wine.com

"The purity of fruit to this is really attractive with blue fruit, blackberries and flowers on the nose and palate. Medium-bodied with fine tannin's, a solid core of fruit and a long, attractive finish. Drink in 2022 and on-wards." **James Suckling 93 points.**

"Austere, textbook limestone flavours given a plump mid palate by damson and black cherry fruits. Owned by Stephan von Neipperg. Drinking Window 2023 - 2036" **Decanter 92 points.**

"Readers looking for a beautiful Bordeaux that's not going to break the bank should check out the 2018 Château D'Auguilhe. Coming from the cooler Castillon region to the east of Saint-Emilion, this beauty offers a terrific perfume of ripe black raspberries, cherries, roasted herbs, sweet mulch, and spring flowers. It has a fresh, crunchy quality to its fruit, nicely integrated acidity, ripe yet present tannins, and the class to keep for 10-15 years." **Jeb Dunnuck 91 points.**

"Medium to deep garnet-purple in color, the 2018 d'Aiguilhe jumps up out of the glass with exuberant notes of plum preserves, Black Forest cake and blackberry pie, plus hints of potpourri, hoisin and forest floor. The medium to full-bodied palate has a soft texture and oodles of freshness supporting the mouth-coating black fruit preserves, finishing with loads of exotic spice layers." **Wine Advocate 91 points.**

 **THE WINE MERCHANT**
Serving Cincinnati since 1973!

Reg: **\$49.99/btl**

Member discount on additional btls: **\$44.99/btl**