

Wine Selections
By Club

2012 Cabernet Sauvignon
Platinum | Gold

2013 Carignane
Concierge | Gold

2012 Petit Verdot
Gold

2013 Merlot
Concierge | Gold

2012 Zinfandel
Forchini/Watson Vineyard
Gold

2013 Mourvèdre
Platinum | Gold

2013 Aglianico
Platinum

2012 Malbec
Platinum

2012 Zinfandel
Timber Crest Vineyard
Platinum

2014 Syrah
Platinum

2014 Due Amore
Concierge

2013 Zinfandel
Tre Torrente Vineyard
Concierge

2014 GSM
Concierge

2013 Barbera
Concierge

AMPHORA WINERY



IT'S TIME...

For a new vintage, and for a new format for our Wine Club tasting notes! The wine selections for all three of our club levels are listed together, so you can see what everyone is receiving this season. You'll find the discounted club prices on the last page, and while the discounts vary by club level, all of these wines are available to all wine club members (while supplies last, of course!).

At the time of writing, we are eagerly anticipating the arrival of harvest! **Véraison** (the 'turning', when the grapes begin to color and ripen in earnest) is well underway here in Dry Creek Valley, and every day brings us closer to the wonderful aromas and colors of 'crush'. **Autumn is a wonderful time to visit, and to catch a glimpse of the magic. If you can't make it to the winery, please raise a glass of Amphora wine from a vintage past, and wish us success in vintage 2018!**

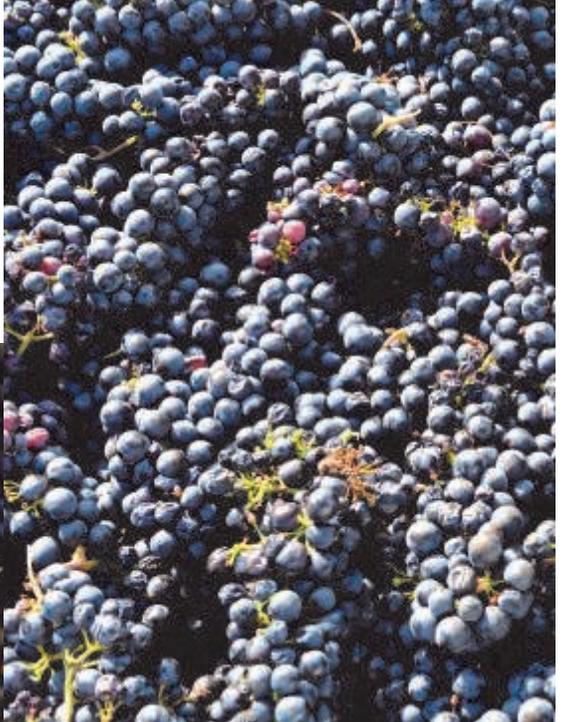
Thank you & Cheers!



2013 Barbera | Clarksburg

6 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2026

Our Barbera consistently shows a delicious combination of savory notes and dark fruit character. You'll find a hint of toasted brioche alongside flavors of baked cherry and pomegranate. There's a note of leather and herb that are Italianate, though the mouthfeel carries a nice brightness and moderate tannins. A particular vineyard character of clean loamy earthiness is evident in this wine, as it across the board in the varieties we source from it. It's very approachable now, but it has the character to reward a few more years in bottle.



2013 Aglianico | Clarksburg

5 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2028

Aglianico (pronounced ah-YAH-nee-koe) is an important Italian varietal originating in the south of that country (which explains why it is so little known!). This ruby-red wine is spicily aromatic, with notes of peppercorn and sandalwood that open to bright red berry and a core of dark fruit. It is medium-bodied, with fine-grained tannins, and a lively tartness that works brilliantly with a variety of dishes. The wine's flavors follow true to its aromas, and tend toward red fruit, with a leafy note on the finish. We believe this wine will age elegantly for years, and if you plan to enjoy it in the short-term be sure to decant it. Delightful pairings include pasta with red pepper flakes and olive oil, followed by roast lamb, beef or goat.



2012 Malbec | Bevill/Hart Vineyard

5 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2028

The Bevill/Hart Vineyard is situated a couple of miles north of the winery, on the east side rolling benchlands of the Valley. It consistently bears intense, concentrated fruit that we transform into a jam-packed wine redolent of black licorice, sour cherries and black tea. Its flavors enter with sweet cola, and go on to maraschino cherry and dark chocolate... and did we mention the intense black currant note? This 2012 is well-balanced, and beautifully aromatic, and the finish lingers. Consider this with lamb shanks braised with rosemary and lavender, or a savory stew.

2014 GSM | Dry Creek Valley

13 barrels produced |
enjoy now through 2025

Our Grenache-Syrah-Mourvèdre blend pays tribute to the wonderful (and **invariably blended**) wines of France's Rhône River Valley, and is becoming a favorite among staff and visitors alike.

Our second "GSM" is comprised of Grenache (40%), which provides a seductive strawberry fruit that wraps around a brooding, dark-noted core of Syrah (24%). The Mourvèdre (36%) seasons the blend with a woody spice. The result is a lovely synergy, a wine that is appealing right now, but that promises to reward a little bottle-age. The summery strawberry fruit makes it lovely to sip, but it can really shine with a wide range of food. One example might be lightly smoked pork tenderloin and cauliflower roasted with lemon and garlic, but follow your whims and imagination, and let us know if you hit upon a winning combination!



2013 Carignane | Forchini Vineyard

5 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2024

These 70+ year-old vines have sunk their roots deeply, and results in grapes full of character and intensity. Our 2013 presents a sweet cherry and red currant profile, with the slightest hint of cocoa, and a lively spiciness on the palate. This varietal was historically a part of the *field-blend* in the old Zinfandel-based vineyards, and was rarely found as a varietal wine.

Carignane shared a similar role in its homeland (France and Spain), but in recent years it has undergone a bit of a renaissance both here and abroad. Planted in the right site (such as this!), and treated with care, it can render a lovely wine with great character.

2012 Cabernet Sauvignon | Timber Crest Vineyard

4 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2028

This Cabernet (from grapes grown adjacent to the winery) shows an easy-going character typical of Dry Creek reds, while still presenting a classic varietal intensity. Its aromas open to blackcurrant, dark plum and just a touch of juniper berry. The flavor profile leans towards the deep and dark end of the fruit spectrum, with woody balsamic notes on the persistent finish. Winning food pairings for this wine lean towards grilled red meats and braised greens. Perfect for a rainy fall evening!



2012 Petit Verdot | Forchini Vineyard

2 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2028

Petit Verdot typically provides the “muscle” in Bordeaux blends, due to its ample tannins and deep color. Usually it is too overbearing to stand alone, but our rendition typifies a true Dry Creek Valley character with tannins present and accounted for, but not dominating the profile of the wine. This is a refined and balanced Petit Verdot: a sweet and creamy profile, with black currant and spicy baked-cherry notes backed up by subtly sweet oak tones. The mouthfeel is fine-grained and smooth, which is unusual in this inherently tannic variety, and it finishes well. Echoes of cocoa powder and black cherry go on and on...

2013 Merlot | Dry Creek Valley

6 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2026

If you've 'written off' this varietal, it's time to reconsider: our Merlot fruit grows immediately across Dry Creek Road from the winery, and consistently transforms into one of most aromatic, balanced, and enticing wines. Our 2013 leans toward a tart raspberry and red cherry character. Moderate, supple tannins provide a solid frame for the raspberry and cherry flavors, and the finish lingers with a touch of vanilla and cinnamon. Try this one with a roast pork tenderloin with a cherry glaze, or a chickpea and cauliflower tagine.

2012 Zinfandel | A. Forchini/Watson Vineyard

6 barrels produced |
enjoy now through 2024

Vineyard manager Andrew Forchini coaxes consistently beautiful Zinfandel fruit from this excellent hillside vineyard which looks down on Dry Creek Valley from the western slope. In the spirit of Old World field-blends, he **even includes in the "pick" a mysterious ten or so clusters of an unnamed** white grape from the a vine that stands conspicuously in the middle of this vineyard. The 2012 vintage yields a classic Dry Creek Zinfandel, with dark cherry/berry fruit and a whisper of licorice root. It is nicely ripe in character, and shows everything there is to love about Zin. Enjoy it with a homemade pizza, burgers, or a chickpea and spinach stew.

2013 Mourvèdre | Clarksburg

9 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2022

This bold Rhône varietal begs for a little patience: its initial aromas go beyond the fruit and flower realm, and into the earth, with scents redolent of forest floor and *herbes de Provence*. Some people are taken aback by its animality, and if you are one of them, we beg you to abandon this one as a 'cocktail' wine, and **enjoy it WITH FOOD. There you'll find another** dimension to this wine, one that can dovetail perfectly with *paella*, grilled sausages, or a fall BLT with a perfectly vine-ripened tomato. There those earthy notes shine in counterpoint to the flavors of stemmy red fruit, and end with just a touch of spice and minerality.

2012 Zinfandel | Timber Crest Vineyard

6 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2024

This is classic Dry Creek Zin from vines on the eastside benchlands about 600 feet from the winery. The varietal has been grown in this spot since the mid-19th century, and the vines are the original clones. The wine shows a delicious Dry Creek berry-dark fruit character against a background of tart cherry, with a hint of cocoa, dusty berry and dark plum. There is something about it that brings to mind the impression of being in the middle of an orchard of ripe stone fruit on a pleasantly warm summer day. Here in **Zinfandel country**, favored food pairings for the varietal range 'from soup to nuts'. One of our favorites is lamb, marinated in garlic, rosemary, olive oil, and wine—and grilled over vine prunings.

2014 Syrah | Dry Creek Valley

4 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2030

Our first stand-alone Syrah since the 2010 vintage, our 2014 is true to the spirit of this Rhône varietal: it is blue-black in color, with deep-noted aromas of blackberry, menthol and sweet spices embraced in a substantial core of black fruit flavors and firm tannins. This wine definitely has the heft and depth to age beautifully for years. For more immediate enjoyment, decant or aerate a bottle, and have it with smoked sausages, Duck *Confit*, *Cassoulet*, or braised shortribs. We invite you to dive deeply into our latest rendition of this noble Rhône varietal, and renew your enchantment with this most enigmatic of wines.



2013 Zinfandel | Tre Torrente Vineyard

4 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2026

Our Zinfandel from *Tre Torrente* vineyard consistently shows a different side of the varietal: in some vintages it tends toward the mineral and herbal, and this 2013 is no exception, as it presents a touch of sweet orange rind, and a hint of milk chocolate. (Remember those chocolate candies with the 'orange' sections?) The vineyard about a mile north of the winery, on Dry Creek Valley's eastside benchlands, and is comprised of classic red, rocky clay loam. The name refers to the three ephemeral creeks which flow through the property after winter rains. Give this one a little aeration, and consider it with sausages over polenta, or a mushroom risotto.



2014 Due Amore | Dry Creek Valley

4 barrels produced | enjoy now through 2030

Our *Due Amore* wine is winemaker Rick's special blend of two varietals in roughly equal proportion. In 2014, his imagination envisioned this marriage of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. The Cabernet lends linear structure, a core of dark fruit, and a feel of gravity. The Syrah component hangs on that structure like a tapestry of lush fruit, spice, and mystery. The result is a rich, complex, and intriguing red wine which will reward additional bottle-aging. Simmer something tasty in the slow cooker or dutch oven (beef stroganoff?), pull the cork from a bottle, and experience how this wine opens up over the course of a long evening. Then plan to get more—only four barrels were produced!

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Autumn 2018 Wine Selections Price List

	Retail	Concierge	Platinum	Gold
2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Timber Crest	55	41.25	44	46.75
2013 Carignane	35	26.25	28	29.75
2012 Petit Verdot	42	31.50	33.60	35.70
2013 Merlot	38	28.50	30.40	32.30
2012 Zinfandel Forchini/Watson	36	27	28.80	30.60
2013 Mourvèdre	32	24	25.60	27.20
2014 GSM	38	28.50	30.40	32.30
2013 Zinfandel Tre Torrente	32	24	25.60	27.20
2013 Barbera	32	24	25.60	27.20
2013 Aglianico	36	27	28.80	30.60
2012 Malbec	38	28.50	30.40	32.30
2012 Zinfandel Timber Crest	36	27	28.80	30.60
2014 Syrah	36	27	28.80	30.60
2014 Due Amore <i>In Short Supply!</i>	45	33.75	36	38.25

To order, please call us at 707.431.7767 or email us at jim@amphorawines.com. Many of these wines are exclusive to our club members and do not appear on our website, so call or email us today! Remember, Concierge and Platinum members receive shipping discounts of 50% and 25% respectively.