

# Wine & Cheese

## August 2022 Wine Club

We've brought our August club members two wonderful California wines! The white is 2021 Chenin-Chenin Blanc and the red is 2020 PETS-Petite Sirah, both from Vinum Cellars in the Clarksburg region of California.

Vinum Cellars was founded in 1997 by first generation California family winemakers Richard Bruno and Chris Condos in the Napa Valley, financing their dream on credit cards. Their focus was then, and remains, searching California's coastal vineyards and special microclimates in search of the best vineyards grown by the state's best growers. Each wine is hand-crafted from single vineyards and made with a small lot philosophy. From Coastal Chardonnay and Pinot Noir to Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, Vinum makes varietal wines from single vineyards and appellations throughout California. An environmentally conscious winery, Vinum Cellars works only with sustainable growers to create Eco-Friendly products.

The Chenin was created as a light-hearted poke at an emerging Chardonnay market which turned its back on Chenin Blanc. This wine was made from cool climate grapes, is stainless steel fermented, and aged for 9 months. This unique crisp white wine is made from the Chenin Blanc grape from an exceptional vineyard in Clarksburg, California. Part of what makes Clarksburg a special appellation is the cooling trend that comes in from the San Francisco Bay every day around 3:30 pm and sweeps the heat out of the valley floor which allows the grapes to maintain their natural acidity. This reverse cooling trend in that moderation (of heat) comes in the afternoon rather than the early mornings as it does on the coast.

PETS is the red counterpart to Chenin Blanc. Interestingly enough the winemakers decided to dedicate this wine to his dog, Tanker. The description of this wine was a metaphor inspired by the canine "dark colored, long legged, and bold". The wine is well structured and full bodied with elegant tannins allowing the flavors and character of the variety to shine through. The finish is rich with dark chocolate, blackberry, and creamy Tahitian vanilla.

Below is information on the wines. If you are a member of the red wine club, you'll be receiving the Margaret's Vineyard Merlot from California. Links to more info on the wines are also provided.

### **Vinum Cellars Chenin, Chenin Blanc, California 2021**

**Varietal Composition:** Chenin Blanc

**Vineyard Location(s):** Clarksburg, California

**Aging:** Stainless Steel

**Alcohol:** 12.5%

**Tasting Notes:** Citrus, honey, & melon aromas with honeysuckle, minerality & lemon on the finish

**Food Pairing:** Pair with our ***Apple Pecan & Pear Salad.***

**Cheese Pairing:** Pair with our ***Fresh Chevre.***

### **Vinum Cellars PETS, Petite Sirah, California 2020**

**Varietal Composition:** Petite Sirah

**Vineyard Location(s):** Clarksburg, California

**Aging:** French Oak for 2 years

**Alcohol:** 14.9%

**Tasting Notes:** Honeysuckle aromas with spice, vanilla, elegant tannins, & a chocolate finish

**Food Pairing:** Pair with our ***Italian Meatball Flatbread.***

**Cheese Pairing:** Pair with our ***Smoked Cheddar.***

Have a great month! **The Gang at Wine & Cheese**

