

BENEFITTING SEATTLE
TENNIS AND EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

15-Love A Grand Slam Wine Tasting

WINE
LIST



June 8

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Tasting Notes 15-Love

UK

Sparkling

Bolney Sussex Estate Blanc de Blancs Brut, 2013

Bolney Vineyards is one of the longest established English vineyards. They've been crafting award-winning wines in East Sussex for over 40 years. This "English Fizz" is made in the "traditional method."

This is a stylish vintage with very fine bubbles and high acid, yielding a clean, low intensity nose with citrus notes and delicate fruit flavors. The wine is clear, pale yellow in color and light bodied. Citrus and green apple on the palate lead to a clean, crisp finish. Utterly delicious and refreshing.

FRANCE

Sparkling

Amelia Brut Rosé

Cremant de Bordeaux

Sparkling wine from Bordeaux? Yep — they've been doing it for over 100 years. These sparkling wines are not as prolific as the still wines of the region and the "rules" are a bit looser. This means that these Bordeaux blends can be more creative than in other Cremant producing areas. The result is a sparkling rosé that is pretty darn interesting. Done in the traditional method from Cabernet Franc and Merlot, you'll find the Amelia is tight with persistent bubbles and an effervescence of strawberry mousse (Merlot), while still presenting as bright and crisp (Cabernet Franc). This is a stunning crowd pleaser.

White

Olivier LeFlaive Bourgogne Blanc Le Setilles, 2016

The aromas of white flowers, peach, grilled almond and lemon peel dominate on a mineral background. The attack is full and warm on the palate with a lively and greedy citrus finish. This is a stand out from one of the most consistent and best known producers of white Burgundy in France.

Tasting Notes 15-Love

FRANCE, CONTINUED

Red

Mystery wine, 2016

This marvelous blend of 80% Syrah and 20% Grenache is from Lesquerde and Saint Martin de Fenouillet (both in the northern part of the Roussillon), aged in older barrels and concrete tanks. The result is an exquisite wine boasting notes of ripe blackberry, black fruits, spice, dried garrigue and hints of luscious chocolate. This full-bodied beauty has a distinctive layered mouthfeel, blooming with sweet tannins and exceptional purity. 94 points Wine Advocate. Voila!

Crocus Malbec de Cahors L'Atelier 2014

Note: Old World vs New World Malbecs (vs Adobe Road Malbec)

Crocus is a partnership started in 2009 between internationally renowned winemaker and Malbec specialist Paul Hobbs and Bertrand Vigouroux, whose family has been producing wine in Cahors, France since the 1860s.

Paul's work with Malbec in Mendoza, Argentina brought worldwide attention to the variety and provided inspiration for new styles to emerge, while the Vigouroux family has 150 years of experience with Malbec in Cahors, where the grape has flourished since Roman times. "Crocus" is named after the flower that produces saffron.

Bright and floral nose, with rose petals, huckleberry pie, black plum skin and a hint of fresh cracked pepper. Expansive, juicy palate with huckleberry, raspberry and black cherry, finishing with a slate-like minerality. Weighty and well-structured, with chewy tannins.

Tasting Notes 15-Love

AUSTRALIA

Red

Shaw and Smith Pinot Noir, 2017

Cousins Martin Shaw, winemaker, and Michael Hill Smith, Australia's first Master of Wine established Shaw and Smith in 1989. They produce cool-climate wines from Adelaide Hills in South Australia. Shaw and Smith has developed a reputation as an artisanal producer of some of Australia's finest wines. We have the 2017 Pinot Noir.

This is a cool, elegant red, with a lucid, red cherry palate. Strawberry and sweet spice round out this elegant, medium bodied Pinot. Slightly herbal, nice and fragrant, it boasts a wonderfully juicy acidity.

Fortified Wine

Penfolds Club Tawny Port (also will have Grandfather)

The Penfolds Club Tawny is a delicious fortified wine. The wine shows aromas and flavors reminiscent of Portos from Portugal. One may not even recognize the difference and could be surprised that this wine is a New World effort. The wine's cream, prune, and rancio character—rancio is a recognized flavor descriptor that is often found in many Sherries—adds additional nuances that make the wine stand out.

Tasting Notes 15-Love

UNITED STATES

White

Benevolent Neglect, Riesling, Central Coast 2017

In the Pfalz style: This high acid wine is elegantly off-dry. It harmoniously balances the tension of sweetness and acidity as a result of the fruit slowly ripening on 45 year-old vines. This slow ripening fruit is nuanced with flavors of sweet honeysuckle and bright hints of tart under ripe peaches.

Rosé

Benevolent Neglect, Rosé, Sonoma 2018

Crisp, light, and refreshing, this his purpose made Rosé is the product of whole cluster pressing and comes mainly from the Mourvèdre and Carignan grapes. The fruit is picked early to make a bright wine that is the perfect pairing for the back patio and beautiful summer meals.

Red

Benevolent Neglect, Mourvèdre, Napa 2017

Vibrant and refined, our Mourvèdre displays , showing classic notes of black pepper, spice and rich dark fruits.

Adobe Road Beckstoffer Red Wine

Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer Cabernet Georges III, Malbec Melrose Vineyard, Napa Valley, Rutherford 2015

The aromas bring dark cherry, chocolate and huge ripe red fruits along with a floral outline of violets. On the palate the chocolate and berries gain intensity while being framed by medium tannins, vanilla and detail of smoke and spice. Ripe black plumb and rich molasses add complexity to the ultra-smooth finish of this magical 82 percent Cabernet Sauvignon and 18 percent Malbec blend. 93+ Parker (barrel)

Tasting Notes 15-Love

UNITED STATES, CONTINUED

RED

Benevolent Neglect, Syrah, Los Madres, Carneros 2016

Smooth, pure, and linear, with aromas of blackberry, mint, umami, spice, and has firm tannins that hold the fine structure together and a long, concentrated finish.

Adobe Road Malbec Beckstoffer Melrose, Napa Valley, Rutherford 2015

Note: Old World vs New World Malbecs (vs Crocus Malbec de Cahors L'Atelier 2014)

There's not much Malbec planted in Rutherford anymore. Almost everyone there has succumbed to the popular (and profitable) trend of growing Cabernet Sauvignon.

Everyone except for Andy Beckstoffer, that is. Andy lives on the Melrose Ranch and has a fierce devotion to farming small amounts of this unique variety. Luckily enough, Adobe Road was able to secure some of this fantastic fruit and they released the first (and only) 100% pure Malbec from this private vineyard to date.

Richly colored and textured, vanilla, violets and ripe blueberries fill out the aromatics. Dark fruit flavors persist into the palate; the rich mouthfeel is framed by dusty tannins, cocoa and juicy acidity. 95+ (Barrel) Robert Parker

Lawrelin Cabernet Sauvignon, Columbia Valley 2005

Who says New World wines don't age well? Not us. Legendary winemaker Kendall Mix has created a gem of a label with Lawrelin. Deep purple in color, the Cabernet Sauvignon has a deep nose, as you might well imagine — rusty and complex. Smooth and supple black currant, blackberry, French vanilla and coffee float across the palate. Cedar, earth and beautiful light oak tannins take you to a wonderfully long and languid finish. This wine is peaking right now.