

# The PICKS

## FEATURE WINE

### Pine Ridge 2022 Traveler's Series Cabernet Sauvignon

A Cabernet this week, this time from California: Pine Ridge 2022 Traveler's Series Cabernet Sauvignon, \$42.99 a bottle. If you're familiar with the name Pine Ridge, it's probably because we've carried their white blend for years, so it's due for us to try some of their other offerings. Pine Ridge is located in the heart of the Stags Leap District in Napa Valley, but the fruit in this bottle comes from beyond Napa and "marries our decades-long experience producing authentic Cabernet Sauvignon with our intimate knowledge of the variety's diverse terroir... Our relationships rooted in Napa Valley led us on a path to discover hidden gems in neighboring winegrowing regions, where high quality Cabernet may go unnoticed." So this bottle is a blend of all the best Cabernets they could find, 41% Solano County, 36% Sonoma County, and 23% Napa County. "On the palate, the wine reveals layers of juicy red fruits such as pomegranate and raspberry, which become more pronounced as the wine opens up. The addition of baking spices adds depth and complexity to the wine, while the firm yet well-integrated tannins and lifted acidity contribute to a long and intriguing finish. With its layers of fruit and firm tannins, this wine pairs exceptionally well with grilled meats, fire-roasted vegetables, and fowl cooked over an open fire. The Traveler's Series is a true testament to Pine Ridge's legacy, capturing the essence of Cabernet Sauvignon and the diverse terroir of northern California."

## WINE PICK

### Schild Estate 2017 GMS

We finally have some Schild Estate back in the store, and not just the Shiraz... try the Schild Estate 2017 Grenache Mourvèdre Shiraz (GMS), a big red blend from the Barossa Valley for \$19.99. We're fans of Schild around here. They have decades of experience and access to some of the oldest vines in Australia, in addition to being a very eco-conscious producer. "The GMS shows classic stylistic notes typical of the generosity of flavours that are purely Barossa. Through careful selection of the best fruit, this blend of 52% Grenache, 24% Mourvedre and 24% Shiraz was harvested from vineyards with an average age of 70 years. Juicy red berry old vine Grenache fruit presents itself on the front palate whilst the Mourvèdre and Shiraz provide structure, concentration and depth. Hints of white pepper, spice, and depth are evident with a soft tannin framework ensuring a supple, soft texture to finish." This is a fantastic bottle to pair with charcuterie, as it will hold up to but not overwhelm strong meats and cheeses. It is a 2017, so there is some nice age already on this bottle, so don't sit on it for too long -- drink soon and enjoy.