

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Portugal Boutique Winery 2020 Boina Tinto

Once you see this picture, you'll know why I'm featuring this wine... Portugal Boutique Winery 2020 Boina Tinto. One of our distributors recently picked up a Portuguese wine importer for their portfolio, so she brought in several of really nice Portuguese wines for us to sample this week, and we ordered quite a few of them. This one, for obvious reasons, is the favorite. Now we've carried many Portugueses wines in the store for many years, but this one is a step higher in quality. It, like most Portuguese reds, is a blend of indigenous varietals: Touriga Franca, Tinta Amarela, Tinta Carvalha, Tinta Francisca and Souzão primarily. On the nose you'll get some strawberry and red fruit, and on the palate that fruit hits you strong up front, but it finishes surprisingly and pleasantly dry. "Balance prevails, combining fruit with a vibrant acidity and silky tannins, complex with a pleasant finish." It won't be here until Friday afternoon, but it's worth the wait at \$21.99 a bottle.

WINE PICK

Unsanctioned 2024 Pinot Gris

A fresh white wine to start your Spring with, Unsanctioned 2024 Pinot Gris from Oregon, \$19.99 a bottle. It's part of Jackson Family Wines, which while a large portfolio truly does honor place and stewardship, and each of their wineries is incredibly unique. While labeled as Pinot Gris, this is actually a little bit of a blend with 90% Willamette Valley Pinot Gris and 10% Umpqua Valley Sauvignon Blanc. Pinot Gris is actually the second-most grown grape in Oregon, and the Sauvignon Blanc just zests it up a little bit. This wine "is light on its feet with notes of peach, pear, lime, and a touch of honey. On the palate, the wine has vibrant acidity with a soft roundness." Unpretentious and extremely easy to drink, "it's crispy and juicy, ready to pair with good people and whatever's on the grill or at beachfront with sandy toes and briny clams." This will be a wine that will serve you well this Spring and Summer. Vacation in a glass.