the PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Beaujolais Nouveau 2026

Well this is an obvious one... the 2026 Beaujolais Nouveau wines of course! We got in 7 different Beaujolais Nouveau wines this year, including three from a new producer. Well new to Nouveau; he's made a delicious aged Beaujolais for a long time. Anyway, as most of you know by now, Beaujolais Nouveau is the first wine made from this year's harvest of grapes. So the grapes in these bottles were harvested in the Beaujolais region of France (the southern tip of Burgundy) in late August, after which they went through a process called carbonic maceration, which simply means the fermentation was initiated by the presence of carbon dioxide. Then they're bottled and shipped around the world for release on the third Thursday of November. The grape is Gamay, which is like a cousin of Pinot Noir... light, very fruity, and so so easy to drink. It's always one of the best options for Thanksgiving as it's a party pleaser and pairs well with all of the foods on the table. Come, try one, try all, and stock up for your hosting needs this holiday season.

WINE PICK

Elk Cove 2025 Estate Pinot Gris

Well we've got the reds (and rosés) taken care of, so let's talk about a white... we have a new white wine arriving on Friday that I think many of you will appreciate, the Elk Cove Vineyards 2025 Pinot Gris. From Willamette Valley, it was named Elk Cove because the year the family bought the property, a herd of elk bedded down next to their new home. It's remained family-owned and run since. This is 100% estate-grown Pinot Gris made in the Alsatian style, meaning it's rich, it's full-bodied, it's fruity and has a touch a sweetness to it. This came off almost like a Vouvray to me. "The 2025 Pinot Gris Estate reveals quince, pear, silky, fresh nuttiness, bright, salty spice, and hints of pastis. Full-bodied, it has a silky, delicately creamy texture and good length." At $17.99, you can load up on a few for next week's festivities.