

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Flowers 2022 Pinot Noir

The feature this week is Flowers 2022 Pinot Noir. Flowers is a winery in Sonoma that specializes in Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, and they've been around and perfecting their craft for over 30 years. They farm organically and biodynamically from rugged plots on the edge of the "far" Sonoma coast, in their words "in the pursuit of crafting wines representative of time and place." I can't describe this wine better than the winemaker does: "This fine-spun Pinot Noir opens with fresh aromas of coastal evergreens and wildflowers. Hints of early-season cherries follow, macerated in warm spices (anise, cardamom, allspice) and layered over earthy sandalwood. Ripe yet tangy dark berries, wearing a little dust from the patch, star on a lightly textured palate, giving way to savory herbs, delicately tannic red tea, and a pop of salty sea beans. A fascinating play of light fruit and dark spice is finished with a bright squeeze of orange peel." This is a truly delicious Pinot Noir, well worth the price at \$55.99, which just so happens to be less than it is priced online!

WINE PICK

Villa Maria 2023 EarthGarden Sauvignon Blanc

Villa Maria 2021 EarthGarden Sauvignon Blanc from the Marlborough region of New Zealand, everyone's favorite. The name EarthGarden, as well as the label design, comes from the fact that wildflowers are planted amongst the vines to promote biodiversity and to replenish nutrients in the soil, creating not only a more conscientious wine but a more expressive one. This organic Sauvignon Blanc "has lifted aromas of citrus fruits, lime and grapefruit that leap from the glass. The flavours on the palate showcase fresh herbs, lemongrass and passionfruit. The intense fresh fruit concentration is balanced with zesty acidity and is perfectly thirst-quenching." At just \$14.99, this wine would make a great gift for Mom or just a tasty bottle to have on the patio all summer long.