

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Familia Falasco 2020 Hermandad Petit Verdot

Going with one of the Staff Picks this week, the Familia Falasco 2020 Hermandad Winemaker Series Petit Verdot. This is a seriously tasty, full, rich red wine. Petit Verdot is primarily used as a blending grape that adds body and color to Bordeaux-style red blends, but when crafted as a single varietal and done right, it can be extraordinary. This one is from Mendoza, Argentina, which is a bit of a surprise as it's not exactly the first place I think of for a Bordeaux grape... The Falasco family seems to be a pretty big producer in Argentina, making wine in Mendoza since 1939 and on their fourth generation now. Their winemaker series is the pet project of their winemaker to show less common grapes produced in distinctive styles. The Petit Verdot got 93 points, "Deep, glossy blue fruit with a nervy mineral tone, spices and violets. Impressively structured yet so fine-grained. There is polish and restraint alongside dense, muscular tannins. More dusty than gritty, with a lengthy finish. A powerhouse." It's a pretty solid example of what Petit Verdot can do for \$34.99.

WINE PICK

Triennes 2025 Rosé

It's fully Rosé season now, so I'm picking the Triennes 2025 Rosé. When we tasted and purchased this wine a couple of weeks ago, I didn't even realize the pedigree it had... "Two of Burgundy's greatest names – Jacques Seysses, founder of Domaine Dujac, and Aubert de Villaine, co-owner of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti – are the partners behind this pioneering property in Provence, northeast of Marseille and due east of Aix-en-Provence. Over the years, they have transformed this stunning 113.7 acre (46 hectare) site into one of the top wine estates in Southern France." That should be enough to make you want to try it right there. It is primarily Cinsault with some Grenache, Syrah, and Merlot added in, grown a few miles away from the Mediterranean coast. "A bouquet of strawberries and white flowers with hints of vanilla. Harmony and elegance on the palate with a fresh, mouthwatering finish. The essence of the Mediterranean in a glass." It's well balanced and way too easy to drink. I always say French Rosé is the best Rosé, and this \$19.99 bottle reinforces my opinion.