

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Gilbert Cellars 2023 Allobroges Red Blend

A new red blend from Washington's Yakima Valley, Gilbert Cellars 2023 Allobroges. I like the philosophy of Gilbert Cellars, making themselves "Yakima Valley's neighborhood wine garden – a hub for celebrations, connections, or scheming" where community comes first and no one drinks alone. They also are fifth-generation farmers with a deep understanding of the land, so wines are sustainable and as low-intervention as possible. The Allobroges is a blend of 50% Grenache, 35% Syrah, and 15% Mourvèdre, medium-bodied with notes of clove, blackberry, dark cherry, rose, tobacco, and filbert, with a little spicy verve at the end. Do you know what filbert is? I had to google it, it's hazelnut... I think they said it because it rhymes with Gilbert. Regardless, a classic and elegant blend for \$31.99 with that rich Washington fruit.

WINE PICK

Karavitakis 2024 Kompsos White Blend

A new white wine from Greece, more specifically Crete: Karavitakis 2024 Kompsos White Blend. The founder of Karavitakis, Nikos Karavitakis, wanted to create a white wine that would pair with almost anything, so he went in for the blend, all three native Greek grapes. The 60% Vidiano provides body and texture and a peachy character, the 20% Assyrtiko adds structure and lemony acidity, and the 20% Malvasia adds aromatic intensity and a floral note. On the palate, you'll get "intense aromas of pear, peach, lemon, pineapple, citron, lime, grapefruit, lemon and apricot. Herbal and hyacinth hints give a more interesting touch." A true food-pairing white wine for \$18.99. Try it with anything and let us know how it holds up. One Greek website called this "the most elegant white of the year," and if the Greeks say it, then it must be true...