Benovia Winery

2024 Fall Release

A Year of Balance: The 2022 Russian River Valley Vintage

The 2022 vintage in the Russian River Valley began just as the previous vintage had ended, with drier-than-average conditions and higher-than-average temperatures. The warm and dry winter coaxed the vines out of dormancy early, but the tender shoots were soon met with a few nights of freezing temperatures in the spring. Thanks to the diligent efforts of our vineyard manager, who worked tirelessly to protect the vines from frost, we experienced only minimal frost damage. We cultivated each block early and often to preserve the sparse soil moisture, ensuring that irrigation was applied appropriately. However, the continuing drought conditions led to smaller-than-average yields across all vineyards and varietals.

Despite these challenges, the growing season progressed with mild temperatures in May, June, and July, which were ideal for developing remarkable color, intense fruit, and optimal phenolic ripeness in the grapes. However, the season had its complications. A significant heatwave hit in September during the crucial ripening period, accelerating sugar accumulation in the grapes and necessitating quick decision-making during harvest. We effectively managed vine stress during this period, and we were able to maintain a balance between ripeness and acidity, a hallmark of high-quality wines in our region.

Overall, the 2022 vintage in the Russian River Valley will be considered very good, with the potential for some exceptional wines. Because we carefully navigated the challenges of the growing season, we could produce wines that balance ripeness with elegance, offering depth and concentration while maintaining acidity and detailed aromatics. These wines will age gracefully and provide many rewards with cellaring.

Cheers,

Mike Sullivan, Winemaker & Co-Owner

Fall Release Wines.

2022 La Pommeraie Chardonnay

2022 Tilton Hill Chardonnay\*

2022 Martaella Pinot Noir

2022 Tilton Hill Pinot Noir

2022 Three Sisters Pinot Noir

2022 Bella Una Pinot Noir

2022 Clonal Selection II Pinot Noir\*

2021 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon

2019 Blanc de Blanc

\*club only wines

Benovia 2024 Fall Release Tasting Notes

**2022 Tilton Hill Chardonnay\***

This is the second release for this single vineyard Chardonnay from our estate vineyard near Freestone. We are very excited about this vintage, that we feel captures the special characteristics of Chardonnay grown in the Sebastopol Hills neighborhood. This wine has exotic aromas of chamomile, Rangpur lime, green papaya, and fennel pollen. On the palate, the wine is laser-focused with flavors of white grapefruit and Asian pear.

$65 | Aging potential: 3-5 years | Production: 219 cases Source: Tilton Hill Estate Vineyard

**2022 La Pommeraie Chardonnay**

Focused aromas of lemon blossom are accentuated by candied ginger and mineral notes. Then, the vibrancy of the wine’s aroma is matched by its opulent texture and layered flavors of spiced apple, poached pear with a mineral-laden finish. Indigenous yeast fermentation in French oak barrels and extended aging of 16 months on lees has produced a wine with exceptional complexity.

$65 | Aging potential: 4-8 years | Production: 319 cases Source: Zio Tony Ranch

**2022 Martaella Pinot Noir**

Deep ruby in color, the vibrant raspberry, black cherry, and baking spice aromas almost leap from the glass. On the palate, the wine’s juicy mouthfeel is supported by pomegranate and ripe strawberry, building through the mid-palate to the fine grain tannins on the finish. An intriguing blend of power and restraint, this Pinot Noir is both savory and delicately sweet.

$75 | Aging potential: 3-7 years | Production: 275 cases Source: Martaella Estate Vineyard

**2022 Tilton Hill Pinot Noir**

Intense violet in color, this alluring and hedonistic wine has amazing extraction and purity of fruit focus. Vibrant fruit aromas of vine-ripened raspberry and boysenberry harmonize with rose potpourri and notes of forest floor. Heady aromas lead into equally lively flavors of mixed berry and white pepper. On the palate, the juicy red fruits complement the velvet-like texture and spicy finish.

$75 | Aging potential: 3-7 years | Production: 399 cases Source: Tilton Hill Estate Vineyard

**2022 Clonal Selection II, Pinot Noir\***

The 2022 Clonal Selection 2 comes from our Martaella Estate Vineyard and is a single clone of Pinot Noir, called the Hanzell Selection. This clone is distinctive because of its long cylindrical shaped clusters and its bright red fruit character and richness. We whole berry fermented 25% percent of this wine in 40% new French oak barrels. We remove one of the heads from the barrel, fill it with grapes, and then close it up for fermentation. This barrel fermentation technique gives us red wines with richness and a distinctive opulence.

$80 | Aging potential: 4-7 years | Production: 99 cases Source: Martaella Estate Vineyard 106 cases

**2022 Three Sisters Pinot Noir**

Almost ethereal aromatics of vine-ripened strawberry and pomegranate give way to East Asian spices of star anise and cardamom. The essence of plum, raspberry, and black cherry abound on the palate, and the smooth texture is formed by fine-grained tannins.

$90 | Aging potential: 5-9 years | Production: 74 cases Source: Three Sisters Vineyard Ft. Ross-Seaview

**2022 Bella Una Pinot Noir**

Mixed red and black fruit aromas mingle with baking spices, candied orange peel, and sandalwood. On the palate, the wine’s juicy mouthfeel is supported by the fine grain tannins on the long and persistent finish. An intriguing blend of power and restraint, this Pinot Noir is savory and delicately spicy. It is drinking great upon release but will improve with 5-7 years of bottle aging.

$90 | Aging potential: 5-7 years | Production: 208 cases Source: Tilton Hill Vineyard, La Pommeraie, Martaella Vineyard

**2021 Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon**

Our philosophy in making Cabernet Sauvignon was to take a back seat to the terroir of the place. This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon is exquisitely rich and decadent, with dark floral aromas and a layered bouquet of blackberry and cassis. The wine has tremendous richness, and the fine-grained tannin flow seamlessly across the palate with a lingering dark chocolate and spice-box finish.

$125 | Aging potential: 5-12 years | Production: 160 cases Source: Oakville Vineyard

**2019 Blanc de Blanc**

This 2019 Russian River Valley Blanc de Blanc is an Extra Brut with a dosage of only 0.20 g/L. It can be enjoyed by itself as an aperitif; it is also perfect with fresh oysters, Dungeness crab cakes or your favorite sushi. Aromas of lime blossom, ripe pear, and fig waft from the glass and are complemented by the fragrance of warm hazelnut and cream. With generous flavors of candied lemon and ripe apricot, the palate is rich and full on entry, with a savory and lingering finish.

$60 | Aging potential: 5 - 7 years | Production: 320 cases Source: Martaella Estate Vineyard

\*Wine Club only Wines

**Benovia Staff Spotlight**

**Welcome Back James!**

After a small break, we're very happy to have James back on Team Benovia! We'll let James speak about his time away, and his return.

After stepping away from my role at the winery, I embarked on an intense journey to pursue my MBA, which I completed in just over a year. Balancing up to four graduate-level courses at a time, I dove deep into the intricacies of business management and finance, equipping myself with the knowledge and skills to contribute even more effectively to our family's legacy. In the midst of this academic endeavor, I also took on the exciting challenge of planning my wedding with my wife, which led to multiple trips to her previous hometown of Bellingham, WA, the beautiful setting for our destination wedding.

Following our wedding, we made the decision to move back to Scottsdale, AZ, where we could be surrounded by friends and family, with our beloved cat, Shara. Despite the change in location, my commitment to the winery remains as strong as ever. I've returned to the family business as a Management Associate, a role that allows me to apply my freshly honed skills to support my grandfather, Joe, and our management team in shaping the future of our winery.

Though I'm based in Arizona, my presence at the winery is as active as ever. I frequently fly out to participate in key events, such as our open houses, Ambassador Events, and distribution meetings with some of your favorite restaurants. You might also spot me behind booths at wine festivals, where I enjoy connecting with our members and sharing our latest vintages. It's an exciting time for both me personally and for the winery, and I'm thrilled to continue this journey with all of you.

James Matwijkow

**New tasting Experience at the winery!**

Recently, we decided that we wanted to elevate your tasting experiences here at the winery! After partnering with a local cheese maker, Bohemian Creamery, our staff got together to meticulously pair a unique cheese with each wine on our menu! The cheese pairing is now included The cheese plate is now included with all tastings. So, if you haven’t been here to visit in a while, you should come by and try this new add-on to your Benovia tasting experience.

**Benovian Wine Club Cottages**

Experience Benovia as a club member by staying in one of our cozy vineyard retreats!

The beautiful Pinot Cottage welcomes up to 4 guests in its two en suite bedrooms featuring king-size beds. Surrounded by vineyards and just minutes away from world-class restaurants and attractions, this club-member exclusive accommodation is the ultimate Sonoma County getaway.

The Chardonnay Cottage welcomes up to 6 guests, with it’s three-bedroom layout, which includes two queen bedrooms, and a primary bedroom with an ensuite bathroom.

**Chardonnay Cottage Amenities**

Air Conditioning

Washer and Dryer

WiFi

Full Kitchen

1 King Bed with Ensuite Bath

2 Queen Beds

2 Baths

Coffee Maker

2 Baths

TV with Streaming Available

Steps from the winery

Outside Dining Space

**Pinot Cottage Amenities**

Air Conditioning

Washer and Dryer

WiFi

Full Kitchen

2 King Beds with Ensuite Baths

2.5 Baths, 1 ADA Accessible Fireplace

Hot Tub

Coffee Maker

TV with Streaming Available

Steps from the winery

Outside Dining Space

Club Member Rates are dependent on the Current Membership level

Top of The Hill Membership - 2 Nights Complimentary per year, $295 a night thereafter Winemakers Path Membership - $295 a night

Trailblazer Membership - $395 a night

All Stays will incur a $200 Cleaning Fee and a 12% Occupancy tax on the subtotal of the cleaning fee and nights stayed.

To book, please call

Brian Catlett

707-703-1648

**Upcoming Events**

**Sunday, September 29th**

Chicago Fall DTC

**Tuesday, October 1st:**

Denver, CO Fall DTC

**Thursday, October 3rd:**

Omaha, NE Fall DTC

**Friday, October 4th:**

Pella, IA Fall DTC

**Saturday, October 26th:**

Fall Release Party at BenoviaWinery

**Saturday, November 2nd:**

Tucson AZ, Fall Release Event

**Sunday November 3rd:**

Phoenix Fall Release open house

**Thursday November 7th**

San Diego DTC Event, Fort Oak

**Year Round Gifting**

It's never too early to start making your list of friends and family, clients, or co-workers. Show your appreciation with hand-crafted wines from Benovia Winery. Visit our website for all of your gifting needs.

707-703-1652

Contact teambenovia@benovia.com for assistance with gifting needs.