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Trevor's

WineClub

Welcome to the Club

After leaving a career in Human Resources, I dove headfirst into the world of wine - a passion that quickly became a calling. I earned my Certified Specialist of Wine credential during COVID, then gained hands-on experience in a vineyard & tasting room. A stint in London for the Wine & Spirit Education Trust Level 3 pushed me to my limits, but I passed with renewed confidence. It's been a winding journey, with a few HR detours, but now I'm fully immersed in wine and loving every moment. Thank you for joining the club - I can't wait to explore this world with fellow enthusiasts like you!

Sincerely,



Ad Ripa

Santa Barbara County, CA

Justin Willett—winemaker behind both Tyler Winery and Lieu Dit—launched his newest label, Ad Ripa, meaning "to the shore" in Latin. A Santa Barbara native, Justin began his winemaking career in 2005 with the founding of Tyler Winery, focusing on Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from the Sta. Rita Hills. His work has always centered on sustainable farming, low-intervention winemaking, and a relentless pursuit of purity of site and varietal.

In 2016, Justin began exploring Bordeaux varieties and released his first Cabernet Sauvignon under the Tyler label. That experience deepened his interest in the region's potential for Bordeaux grapes and inspired the creation of Ad Ripa. This new label allows him to fully dedicate himself to the distinct terroir of Happy Canyon, located in the easternmost corner of Santa Barbara County. Happy Canyon's warm microclimate has made it a celebrated site for Bordeaux plantings, especially Cabernet Sauvignon.

***Hilary's Note**: "Many of the wines I've tried of Justin Willet's I've ended up loving. This Cabernet is no exception. While the Forever Red club won't be full of Cabernet Sauvignon, I thought it would be a great idea to kick off the first month with a recognizable grape that shows what Cabernet can do."*

Chateau de Pressac

Bordeaux, FR

This château has watched over the Dordogne River and hills of Saint Emilion for more than six centuries. In French history, its name was given to a grape variety that would later become known as Malbec, a noble Bordeaux varietal. Château de Pressac was founded in the Middle Ages, served as the site of the surrender at the Battle of Castillon, and still retains remnants of its original 27 towers.

In 1775, the château was sold and formally described as a wine estate. After a change of hands a few more times in 2012, Château de Pressac was elevated to Grand Cru Classé of Saint-Émilion, recognizing the excellence of its terroir, vineyards, and wines. The estate's 41 hectares encompass the three major terroir types of the appellation: limestone plateau, clay-limestone slopes, and silty clay-limestone foothills. Committed to long-term environmental stewardship, the château has implemented a comprehensive Environmental Management System to preserve its land for generations to come.

***Hilary's Note**: "With such rich Bordeaux history, beautiful architecture, and it being a fantastic wine there's no doubt I would include this wine to kick off our first Forever Red month. As we move into cooler months (fingers crossed) you'll find this is the perfect wine to get you in the mood. "*

WINES OF THE MOMENT

Cabernet Sauvignon

This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon comes from Happy Canyon Vineyard and China Blue Vineyard in Santa Barbara County. Fruit from these distinct sites offers a broad snapshot of Happy Canyon's unique terroir, balancing valley-floor richness with hillside vibrancy. Both vineyards are farmed organically.



This Cabernet leans savory and old-school in style, showing structure, freshness, and a touch of minerality. Dense dark-fruit notes—blackberry, black cherry, and cassis—lead on the nose and palate, supported by herbaceous tones and a subtle menthol backbone. The wine is medium-bodied, with fine, well-integrated tannins that reinforce its classic profile. This wine spends 22 months in ½ new oak barrels before bottling.

The Ad Ripa label is a distinct project from Justin Willett, offering a fresh platform for wines that emphasize purity, structure, and a strong sense of place. Each wine under the label speaks clearly and confidently of its origin.

Perfect Pairings: With its earthy, savory depth and solid structure, a mushroom Bolognese is a natural match for this Cabernet. For something more classic, a New York Strip or Ribeye will pair beautifully. If you want a fun cheese option, try it alongside a plate of aged cheddar, Manchego, or aged Gouda.

Bordeaux Rouge

Château de Pressac is the only Grand Cru Classé in Saint-Émilion to cultivate six grape varieties—each perfectly matched to its ideal growing conditions: Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Carménère, Noir de Pressac (Malbec), and Petit Verdot.



This cuvée features five of those Bordeaux grapes, led by Merlot (77%), supported by Cabernet Sauvignon (11%), Cabernet Franc (9%), Carménère (2%), and Malbec/Noir de Pressac (1%).

Expect aromas of black cherry, plum, chocolate, licorice, and leather, with subtle spice and menthol in the background. The palate is well-balanced, showing espresso, lavender, and cedar on the finish. Acidity, tannin, and alcohol are all in harmony, resulting in a wine that is rich, balanced, and genuinely impressive.

The fruit undergoes a long maceration (3–4 weeks), is fermented in concrete, and ages for 20 months—18 of those in barrel, with half of the barrels being new oak.

Perfect Pairings: With Merlot at its core, this wine pairs beautifully with savory poultry seasoned with rosemary, thyme, and garlic—herb-roasted chicken or duck is the move. Like our Cabernet, it would also shine alongside a mushroom bolognese.

Upcoming Pick Up Dates:

Thursday, November 19th - Pick Up Party at Mayo
Thursday, December 17th - Pick Up Party at Arcadia
Thursday, January 21st - Pick Up Party at PV

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