featured flight of the month dry creek vineyards, sonoma, california \$40 per flight + \$20 per cheese pairing



The story of Dry Creek Vineyard and the Stare Wallace family isn't one of fairy tales. There is no corporate mogul writing checks every month, or a day job in a lucrative industry to fund the winery. Their story is this: one dedicated family working day and night for five decades to turn what many considered an idealistic pipedream, into a reality that revolutionized the California wine industry.

Kim Stare Wallace, whose father Dave Stare founded Dry Creek Vineyards, was literally raised among the vines in Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley. Throughout her childhood she watched as her father established the first new winery to be built in the region following Prohibition and champion Dry Creek Valley as a world-class winegrowing appellation. As a teen, Kim worked in the office, cellar and on the bottling line, as well as accompanying her parents on countless sales trips, business dinners and wine tastings. From the very beginning, she grew up with a passion and understanding of the wine industry. Despite her upbringing, Kim always swore that she would never work for the winery and began a career in the fashion industry after college. Ultimately, the pull of the family business was too great, and her father convinced her to come back to the winery as Director of Marketing in 1987. Kim's husband, Don Wallace, joined the winery managing ranch operations in 1990. In the mid-nineties, Kim and Don took on increased responsibilities, becoming involved in all decisions affecting the quality of the Dry Creek Vineyard experience and winery operations.

Today Dry Creek Vineyard is one of the last truly private, family-owned, iconic wineries consistently producing 90+ point wines. The second generation is firmly committed to a 'no compromises' philosophy producing world class, appellation-focused, varietal-defining wines.

### 2023 chenin blanc \$14|\$50



Dry Creek Vineyares are proud to have produced Dry Chenin Blanc each and every year since the family winery was founded in 1972. Extremely versatile and food friendly, it is the perfect aperitif and one of their most beloved wines.

Fermented in 100% stainless steel barrels, this beautiful wine is wonderfully bright and consistent vintage after vintage. At first swirl, aromatics of honeydew, white peach and jasmine spring forward from the glass with floral notes of citrus blossom, watermelon rind and pineapple. On the palate, the wine has refreshing flavors of peach, grapefruit and jasmine with hints of mandarin, cucumber and lemon curd. The mouthfeel is soft but inviting, with a lively acidity. This classic, Loire Valley-style wine is excellent when paired with fresh oysters, seafood, or just about anything!

91pts from Wine Spectator / 91pts from James Suckling

## 2023 sauvignon blanc 'fumé blanc' \$15|\$54



Since 1972, Dry Creek has produced Fumé Blanc — a wine at the heart and soul of their family winery. Modeled after the classic Sauvignon Blanc wines from the Loire Valley in France, this stainless steel fermented Fumé Blanc is crisp, balanced and immediately drinkable.

Aromatics of lemon, lime and grapefruit leap forward from the glass with both fruit and floral nuances of nectarine, peach, jasmine and orange blossom. On the palate, the wine is intense and bright with grapefruit, tangerine and passionfruit. Underlying minerality and hints of pineapple, guava and ginger contribute to this wine's refreshing, crisp finish.

90pts from Wine Spectator / 92pts from James Suckling

### 2022 old vine zinfandel \$29|\$104



78% Zinfandel/20% Petite Sirah/1% Alicante/1% Carignane

First coined by Dry Creek Vineyard in 1987, the term 'Old Vine' has special meaning to this family winery. Its vineyards remain the most prized and historic of all plantings in the Dry Creek Valley. Although there is no legal definition, they define an old vine vineyard as having vines that average more than 50 years in age.

For this bottling of Old Vine Zinfandel, the vines average more than 100 years in age. The 2022 Old Vine Zinfandel opens with enchanting aromas of black cherry, spiced plum and boysenberry pie, complemented by hints of white pepper, coriander, and toffee. On the palate, layers of blackberry and dried cranberry mingle with dark chocolate, espresso and marzipan, framed by subtle notes of cedar and damp earth. This wine is beautifully complex, with a concentrated core of dark fruit and well-structured tannins, offering depth and elegance in every sip.

Barrel aged 14 months in French, Hungarian and American oak; 28% new oak.

## 2021 cabernet blend *'the mariner'* \$35|\$126



66% Cab Sauv/17% Merlot/ 6% Cab Franc/6% Petit Verdot/5% Malbec

The Mariner is a powerful, yet elegant Meritage made in the tradition of some of the world's greatest Bordeaux blends. This wine is the culmination of years spent working with different vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley, including their own Endeavour property. The Mariner represents their vision to produce the finest Meritage wine from the Dry Creek Valley using the five noble Bordeaux varieties. The grapes for this delicious Bordeaux-inspired blend come from several of their most prized estate and hillside vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley.

At first swirl, the wine displays aromas of black currant, plum, black cherry and blackberry. Several more minutes reveal hints of tobacco, toffee and cinnamon. The palate has dark berry flavors along with earthy complexity and savory tones. It finishes with notes of mocha, herbes de Provence and violet. Good acidity will help this wine to age beautifully for years to come

Barrel aged 19 months in French and Hungarian oak; 39% new oak.

92pts from Wine Enthusiast / 95pts from James Suckling

# cheese & accontrement pairing

#### to accompany the Chenin Blanc

Etorki - Mauléon-Licharre, Pyrénées-Atlantiques

Smooth, supple and velvety pressed *pasteurized sheep's milk* cheese from the French Basque region

#### to accompany the Fumé Blanc

Cabriolet - Flanders, Belgium

Slightly aged *raw goat's milk* cheese with a natural rind, sweet and mild in front with a tangy goat finish

### to accompany the Old Vine Zinfandel

Botana Asiago - Swiss Alps

Alpine style *raw cow's milk* cheese is savory and balanced, the addition of local herbs and edible flowers to the washed rind adds harmonious herbal notes

### to accompany the Cabernet Blend 'The Mariner'

Montealva - Andalucia Spain

Similar to Manchego but made with the 100% *pasteurized goat's milk* this well aged wheel is savory, complex and perfect with rustic wines