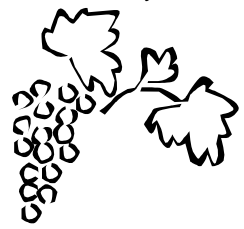


February 2005



WineGiftClub.com

The Internet's Premier Wine Gift Shop



The Grape Vine Newsletter

This Month's Wine Club Selections

Every month our Wine Club members receive one or two bottles of our featured wines. The wines you get depend on the membership you are enrolled in. If you are not yet a member, we invite you to join the fun. Happy wine tasting.

Sonoma County Wine Country

Sonoma Wine Country is one of California's most recognized wine producing regions, whose success is partly due to its Mediterranean-like climate - sun drenched days and cool, misty nights but also because it has eight different appellations. Each appellation has its own unique microclimate and distinctive soil conditions that together with world class wine makers, continue to produce award winning wines year after year. The grapes used to make our two featured wines this month were harvested from the Alexander Valley (Sangiovese) and the Russian River Valley (Chardonnay).

The rustic **Alexander Valley** is located just north of the quaint town of Healdsburg in Sonoma county, and boasts more than 30 wineries and over 260 vineyards. Alexander Valley gets its name from a Rocky Mountain trapper Cyrus Alexander, who planted the first grapes in the area in 1856.

The Alexander Valley received formal recognition as an American Viticultural Area in 1984, and includes both the valley floor and the hills to the east and west, encompassing approximately 75,000 acres, over 13,000 of which are currently planted to premium wine grapes. The valley is 20 miles long and varies in width from two to seven miles.

Winegrowing in the **Russian River Valley** is built on a long tradition that has recognized the potential of this valley's fog-cooled climate and well-drained soils for producing some of the finest wines in the world. Early-ripening varieties of chardonnay and pinot noir thrive in this distinctive climate.

The Russian River Valley, was named an American Viticultural Area in 1983. The largest appellation in Sonoma County, this rich appellation is 55 miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge and 30 miles from the Pacific Ocean by way of the Russian River. With 12,000 acres planted to wine grapes, the majority being Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, the appellation includes over 200 vineyards and 50 wineries. Its boundaries roughly follow the low-lying flat plain extending south and west of Healdsburg, following the Russian River as it turns toward the Pacific Ocean. The coastal hills at Guerneville mark its western boundary.

Foppiano Vineyards

Owner: Louis J. Foppiano

Winemaker: Bill Regan

Location: Healdsburg, CA

Foppiano Vineyards was founded by the Foppiano family in 1896, and is the oldest continually owned family wine estate north of San Francisco. The estate encompasses over 200 acres in the pristine Russian River Valley of Sonoma County.

Foppiano Vineyards was founded in 1896 by Giovanni Foppiano, a native of Genoa, Italy, who emigrated from Italy to San Francisco in search of gold. Because his search for gold was unrewarding, he purchased a working winery called "Riverside Farm" on the same land where today's Foppiano Vineyards stands today. Giovanni, with his son Louis, worked the vineyards and sold their wines to local Italian families and businesses in San Francisco's Italian North Beach District. In 1910, Louis purchased the winery from his father.

For the next eight years, Louis and his wife Mathilda, built Foppiano Vineyards into one of the area's most prosperous and prominent wineries in Healdsburg. Then Prohibition hit in 1919, but a clause in the Volstead Act allowed individuals to make up to 200 gallons of homemade wine for their own use. Foppiano Vineyards survived prohibition as Louis shipped tons of grapes to the east coast via refrigerated rail cars to feed home wine makers demands.

Louis died in 1924, leaving his winery and vineyards to his first son, Louis J. With the end of Prohibition in 1933, Louis J. started up winery operations immediately. In 1937 a new winery was built on the site of the old winery and Foppiano Vineyards became one of the first Sonoma wineries to bottle its own wines - bottling only red wines.

Foppiano Vineyards expanded in 1945 when Louis J. purchased the Sotoyome Vineyard, which adjoined the Foppiano Estate. In the 1990s, they created the Fox Mountain Label for their white wine varietals and in 1996, the 100th anniversary of the estate's founding, the family decided to produce only red wines under the Foppiano Vineyards label - the same as in 1896.



WineGiftClub.com

The Internet's Premier Wine Gift Shop



Wine Gift Baskets

Our wonderful collection of Wine Gift Baskets, Corporate Gift Baskets and Gourmet Food Gift Baskets are perfect for any occasion. **Customizable** - You can choose to include only reds, only whites, or a combination of red and white wines. You can even substitute bottles of our fine Private Label Wine (see below) with any wine gift basket we offer. We are definitely the most unique and complete Wine Gift Shop online!

Wine of the Month Club

Because California is widely regarded as the finest wine growing region in America and one of the best wine producing regions in the world, the vast majority of our featured wines are from **California's finest, boutique wineries**. Now and then, when our wine experts find an outstanding selection, we may feature wines from some of the best growing regions of Washington and Oregon. However, the vast majority of our featured wines are California wines - arguably the best wines in the world.

- **You pick the number of bottles** - Monthly Wine Club memberships can be either 1-bottle per month or 2-bottles per month.
- **You pick the Wines** - all red, all white, or a mixture of both red and white wines. **You pick the Frequency** - Wine Club deliveries can be Every Month or you can Skip Months between deliveries.
- **You pick the Duration** - Wine Club memberships range from 2 to 12 months in duration.
- **You choose how to pay** - you can pay monthly or prepay the wine club membership up front - it's totally up to you.

We give you all the choices - **You make all the decisions!** No other clubs can compare.

Personalized Label Wines

We have a great selection of wine label templates available on our website that you can use to create your very own Private Label Wine. Simply click your favorite label template and change the words. You can also take a digital photo, or create your own label design and email it to us. Either way, we will print professional quality labels and apply them to your choice of our fine private wine selections. **Minimum order - only 1 bottle!**

Our private label wines come in either red or white varieties and you can mix and match them as you please. You can even choose to substitute private label wines in any of our wine gift baskets!

Private Label Wines are perfect for Birthdays, all Holidays, Thank You, Congratulations, House Warming, Corporate Gifts and Promotional Items.

The Wine Store

We always purchase a few extra cases of the fine wines we send our Wine Club members, and the wines we include with our Wine Gift Baskets. While these fine wines last, we make them available to you in our Wine Store, at discount prices that you won't be able to resist. As a bonus, our Wine Club members can buy more of the wines they really enjoyed at these discount prices, while they are available. **Check it out NOW!**

Order Online fast & SECURE or call us toll free
www.WineGiftClub.com 1-888-840-2337



Fox Mountain
2002 Chardonnay
Russian River Valley

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Harvest Date: | September 2002 |
| Brix at Harvest: | 24° |
| Alcohol: | 14.5% |
| Grape Varietal: | 100% Chardonnay |
| Cases Produced: | 2000 |
| Release Date: | June 2003 |
| Wine Maker: | Bill Regan |
| Age: | Enjoy now or age up to 5 years |

Fox Mountain Chardonnay was made from fully matured vines on the family's Russian River Valley estate. This estate bottled Chardonnay is lush and creamy displaying juicy pears, pineapples and mangoes that are elegantly layered commanding a long finish. The slightly toasted oak compliments the blend to complete a nicely rounded package. Serve this wine chilled with your favorite light pasta dishes or shellfish.

Foppiano Vineyards - Founded 1896
Total Acres: 200 ● Acres Under Vine: 140
Varietals Planted: Petite Sirah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay,
Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir, Sangiovese
Tasting Room: Open 10:00 am to 4:30 pm Daily



Foppiano Vineyards
2001 Sangiovese
Alexander Valley

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Harvest Date: | September 6, 2001 |
| Brix at Harvest: | 25° |
| Alcohol: | 14.5% |
| Grape Varietal: | 100% Sangiovese |
| Cooperage: | 2-year air dried American oak barrels |
| Cases Produced: | 1600 |
| Release Date: | January 2003 |
| Wine Maker: | Bill Regan |
| Age: | Enjoy now or age up to 10 years |

The Foppiano Vineyards 2001 Sangiovese is a richly textured wine with an elegant blend of ripe red strawberries and black Bing cherries complimented by a smooth dousing of American oak. Firm ripe tannins add depth and finesse and tame this grape's notorious acid. The finish of this fine wine is long and lingering in the mouth.

The Sangiovese grape is a famous red wine varietal from Tuscany, Italy and is the main grape used to make the very popular Chianti blend.

Foppiano Vineyards - Founded 1896
Total Acres: 200 ● Acres Under Vine: 140
Varietals Planted: Petite Sirah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Chardonnay,
Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir, Sangiovese
Tasting Room: Open 10:00 am to 4:30 pm Daily