



Cartograph Circle News: November 2023

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Hello

As we set our sights on our Thanksgiving meal, we're grateful for the fabulous community that envelops Cartograph. It's because of you that this journey keeps moving forward.

Harvest season was both interesting and tough. Alan will detail the challenges below; the short version is that most of them came from Mother Nature. We have two more harvest left: the olives! The pick for olive oil is happening today! And the pick for olives to eat will happen in early December ... unless good old Mother Nature hits us with a frost. See below for info about how you can get in on the pick.

In next month's newsletter, we'll share our 2023 highlights — both from the Cartograph world and from the amazing community that surrounds us.

NOVEMBER 2023

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HARVEST WRAP UP

If you read the last couple of newsletters, you'll remember that we were sitting on our hands when we should have been preparing for harvest and picking fruit ... while we were hearing all about how it was the "hottest summer on record." Clearly, western California wasn't playing along.

We were trying to stay positive, but as we moved into October we were wondering whether we were going to get the crop ripe before rain or frost clobbered us. There were a few rain showers, but not enough to really impact growers who were on top of managing their crop load. A quarter-inch of rain is really just similar to a heavy overnight dew. So we watched, and we waited. Some late heat helped push the sugars along, and the lack of frost meant we could wait it out. I think vineyards that were smartly farmed produced some of the best fruit I've ever tasted.

We are just now getting all the Pinot to barrel and tasting the soon-to-be-finished wines. We'll know the truth of this harvest in the spring — but right now it feels like the worry about our cold spring and very mild summer was misplaced, thanks to the continued-mild late summer and delayed start of winter. The Rosé and Riesling are almost finished fermenting and all those lots have wonderful aromatics and solid acid profiles.

All this is to say I wish we could have skipped the worry, but we are feeling really good about the 2023 harvest. And we're really excited that our newest addition to the portfolio, Cabernet franc, turned out beautifully. We can't wait to share it, but aren't quite sure yet when it will be ready for release. We'll keep you posted.

Cheers,

Alan



JOIN US FOR A PICK + SNEAK PEEK

Assuming that we don't get a frost before you read this, you're invited to pick some Cartograph olives! We'll provide the olive trees and the recipe to make your very own jar of brined olives — just let us know you're coming. Please note that this event will be happening at our new property in Healdsburg, not at the Cartograph Estate vineyard in Sebastopol. We'll give you a tour of the future home of Cartograph, and we'll definitely have sparkling and Pinot on hand to celebrate. #firstlook

- Date: Saturday, Dec. 9 (rain date: Sunday, Dec. 10)
- Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Location: Healdsburg, CA (address to be provided upon RSVP)
- [RSVP here](#) (20 spots available)



GIVING THANKS

Many of you know that both of our families have dealt with health challenges this year, and we've lost five dear people in the past six months. While we grieve these losses, we're also feeling joy in being here and present every day, surrounded by our

incredible community. We're looking forward to a quiet Thanksgiving full of grace, delicious wines and foods from the bounty of our own garden and local farms. May you too have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Here's our Thanksgiving menu:

- [2020 Gould Family Riesling](#): For enjoying during meal prep
- [2013 Brut Zero](#): For a toast to our amazing community: the Cartograph Circle, friends, family and our community heroes
- [2021 Estate 777 clone](#) and [2017 Cartograph Estate Pinot noir](#) for the meal:
 - Butternut squash soup with squash grown in the Cartograph Garden
 - Brined roasted turkey from Willie Bird, a local favorite
 - Mashed potatoes (all the potatoes we grew ourselves were eaten before Thanksgiving, so we'll get potatoes from a local farm)
 - Green beans with ginger and garlic: beans and garlic grown in the Cartograph Garden
- [2014 Starscape Pinot noir](#): The perfect finish, alongside pumpkin pie with whipped cream



END OF VINTAGE ALERT: Sparkling for the Holidays

The [2013 Brut Zero Sparkling](#) is 10 years old and showing its age and wisdom beautifully. This is a wine that celebrates brioche, apple skin and lush mouthfeel — still zippy, but the carbonation doesn't last as long, so we advise finishing your glass within 18 minutes (yes, we tested this).

We have just 10 cases left at the tasting room. We did move three cases to our library cellar at the new Cartograph property, where we'll pull them out to be enjoyed on special occasions



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 23: Tasting room is closed
- Dec. 1: Ring in the holiday season with a glass of sparkling and enjoy the tree lighting on the plaza at 6 p.m.
- Dec. 24 - 26: Tasting room is closed
- Dec. 30: Celebrate the new year with our 2013 sparkling and a preview of our 2018 sparkling
- April 26 - May 5: [AVFilm Festival](#)
- May 16 - 19: [Healdsburg Wine & Food Experience](#)
- July 19 - 21: [Out in the Vineyard Gay Wine Weekend](#)

Circle Member Only Events

- Dec. 9: Olive picking at the new Cartograph property
- Feb. 24: Winemaker Dinner at the Matheson in Healdsburg ([RSVP](#) to join waitlist)
- March 8: [Wild Up @ Green Music Center](#) (Use code CartographWC for a 15% discount, and please let us know if you can join us in the donor lounge for wine and small bites before the show!)
- April 21: Save the date for a spring release celebration in Healdsburg
- May 23: Save the date for a wine tasting event in St. Paul, MN



BACK TO WORK WE GO

The vineyard is prepared for winter and the cover crop is under a blanket of straw — with this recent rain, we'll watch for the tiny shoots to emerge. For us, it's back to the winery to taste everything in barrel and check on the wines quietly aging. Happy Thanksgiving!

Cheers,

Alan and Serena

Cartograph Wines

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