

# CELLAR MASTER WINE CLUB

June 2023

## 2015 Coniglio Cabernet Napa Valley, California

Charles E. Coniglio and Steven C. Coniglio founded Coniglio Wines in 2001. Their vision is to produce hand crafted single vineyard wines that reflect the uniqueness and express the nuances of Cabernet Sauvignon from each mountain district in the Napa Valley.

Charles Coniglio has wine in his blood, a second generation Italian-American, whose grandfather came to the United States in 1892 from Cerda, Sicily, one of Sicily's finest winemaking areas. Charles' passion for fine wines has been handed down from generations of Italian winemakers. Today, Charles along with his son, Steven, are working together to continue the family tradition of winemaking with Coniglio.

Steven Coniglio will collaborate on all aspects of the business from technical support to national sales and marketing.

Coniglio Wines has searched for vineyards that exemplify the best combination of site, soil, and viticulture from each of the mountain districts in Napa Valley. Cabernet Sauvignon is sourced from vineyards on Diamond Mountain, Spring Mountain, Oakville, Atlas Peak, and Howell Mountain. The Cabernet Franc is sourced from a vineyard on the valley floor north of St. Helena, and the Sauvignon Blanc is sourced from Pope Valley.

Like the rest of California, Napa Valley has had a very active and eventful geologic history. Over the course of 150 million years, the slow grinding of tectonic plates and robust volcanic activity have created the topography of the Napa Valley we know today. Due to the unique geographic position between the cold Pacific Ocean and the often hot Central Valley, a wide variety of climatic conditions exist within this small, contiguous area that are perfectly suited to producing a great variety of world-class wine grapes.

This Cabernet Sauvignon is from a respected and historic District, off the Silverado Trail. The wine has the structure one expects from mountain vineyards, yet it is approachable and enjoyable now. The aromas are packed with dark berries, spice and cassis. The palate is rich, yet balanced with smooth tannins and a lingering finish.

[www.conigliowines.com](http://www.conigliowines.com)



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\$64.99  
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## 2019 La Dauphine Fronsac Bordeaux, France

While the modern era of Chateau La Dauphine is quite recent, the estate is one of the older properties in the region dating back to the late 1600s. The beautiful French chateau was built in 1750. The property was owned at the time by Louis Dauphin, which is where the estate takes its name from.

The 53-hectare vineyard of Chateau de La Dauphine is planted to 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Franc. Though you also find a tiny, 1-hectare portion of the vineyard devoted to white wine grapes. Located on the top of the Fronsac plateau, they have an elevation of 60 meters, making them one of the highest points in the appellation. The terroir is clay, limestone, and sand soils on the plateau. At the bottom of the slopes, there is more sand, silt, and clay in the soils. The vineyard is planted to a vine density of 6,300 vines per hectare. On average the vines are 33 years of age.

Starting in 2012, Chateau La Dauphine shifted to 100% organic farming techniques. They earned their certification for organic farming in 2015. They are also experimenting with biodynamic farming on a 3-hectare parcel of vines, and plan to continue increasing the number of hectares that are managed using biodynamic farming techniques.

The wine of Chateau de La Dauphine is made in a completely modern, state-of-the-art facility in the Fronsac appellation. In fact, it currently offers the most advanced wine-making facilities in the entire commune as well as in much of the Right Bank. The semi-underground, circular vat room has 26 concrete vats that are placed around the sides of the building. This is in addition to the 16 stainless steel tanks that are also used for the vinification.

Each of the tanks is 50 hectoliters in size, allowing for the parcels to be vinified on a plot by plot basis. Malolactic fermentation takes place in French, oak barrels. On average, the wine of Chateau de La Dauphine is aged in 30% new, French barrels oak for 12 months.

[www.thewinecellarinsider.com](http://www.thewinecellarinsider.com)

*"From holdings largely located on the continuation of Canon-Fronsac's limestone plateau in the appellation of Fronsac, the 2019 de la Dauphine has turned out nicely, delivering notions of cassis, plums, licorice, spices and raw cocoa, followed by a medium to full-bodied, lively palate with powdery tannins and a bright core of fruit."* **Wine Advocate 91**



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