

*Our goal with our club is to provide you a diversity of wine to showcase the styles of the world. This November we pack two delicate, lifted wines that lack the market penetration you'd expect given their broad likeability and easy-going engaging nature. White Rioja too often lives in the shadow of Red Rioja and Frappato is one of the great lighter-bodied red grapes of the world, and one of a handful of floral red grapes!*

# THE CELLAR D'OR WINE & CIDER



Wine Club • November 2022



*Florentino Martínez Monje*

## Luberri Zuri Rioja Blanco 2021

Key Words: Rioja, Spain 80% Viura / 20% Malvasia Stainless Steel Vinification Two Months Less Contact w/ Daily Battonage Vegan

Regions like Bordeaux, Saint Joseph, and Rioja have such strong associations with the production of red wine that their white production is routinely overlooked. Rioja Blanco is often a blend of predominantly Viura (Macabeo) and Malvasia, with smaller proportions of Garnacha Blanco (Grenache Blanc) and Verdejo. Flavor profiles can range from fresh fruited and slightly floral to broad and slightly oxidative but the wines always feel delicate. Like the reds, Rioja Blanco follows the quality/aging ladder of Joven, Crianza, Reserva, and Gran Reserva. Luberri Zuri is made in a fresher style. Look for notes of meadow flowers, light lemon, flecks of herbs, melon-apple, and dried fava beans. Pair with lightly-dressed creamy pasta, leek soup, white beans, herbed potatoes...

Rioja is located in north-central Spain along the Ebro River. The region was given new attention over a century ago when Phylloxera (an invasive root louse from America) ravaged the European vineyards causing folks to flock to areas where the root louse had yet to take hold. Rioja became home to a number of Bordeaux expats and the wines share Bordeaux-like qualities like higher extraction on the reds and extended oak aging on the higher-end whites and reds. Luberri Zuri has elegant, restrained, but supple fruit and no oak.



*Biscaris Family*

## Biscaris Frappato 2021

Key Words: Sicily, Italy 100% Frappato Biodynamic 6 Months Agins in Steel Unfined & Unfiltered Low Sulfite

Frappato belongs to a category of Italian red grapes that all exhibit floral aspects to their flavor profiles. It's not a formal designation but these grape include Frappato, Grignolino, Brachetto, Ruche, Freisa — and they all happen to be Italian in origin. Ruche and Freisa wear their floral notes more tightly, with compact fruit and tannin playing a dominant role, while grapes like Brachetto and Grignolino lean into playful fruit and brightness. Frappato, lands somewhere in the middle of this spectrum, showing soft red plum and cherry flavors, with pillowey wafts of flowers. Like many Italian grapes, Frappato comes from one single region (Sicily) and is practically non-existent outside of the country. Frappato's fruit character can resemble that of Pinot Noir, but with a touch more red plum and playful freshness and that distinctive floral feel. These display the ripeness and freshness of fruit grown near Mediterranean Sea and stand out in a country better known for robust, extracted, structured, earth-laden reds.

The family at Biscaris practices biodynamic farming. This includes the use of stinging nettle extract, quassia wood powder, chamomile, and valerian as natural insecticides. Biodynamic and organic does not denote funky, rather, care and attention to detail!

