

© Château Feuillet

2022 VALLE D'AOSTA MOSCATO BIANCO CHÂTEAU FEUILLET \$35

f there was a show of hands for the word "Moscato" bringing to mind flowery, sweet dessert wines, you might expect quite the turnout. But Maurizio Fiorano's iteration from the cool, mountainous sites of the Valle d'Aosta appellation turns that notion upside down. Yes, the gorgeous aromatics—honeysuckle, lychee—certainly make an appearance. But grown almost half a mile above sea level, here they are tempered by high-elevation

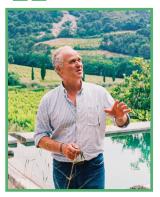


acidity and savory notes: pine resin, orange flower petals, freshly fallen snow. The wine is bright, lean, and decidedly dry. Opening the bottle on a lazy evening, alongside Japanese fried chicken and edamame, the company I was with reminded me of something particularly striking. "*This* is why people sit around tasting wine," they remarked. It changed the night in a way that was surprising and different, exciting and exquisite. I'm tempted to call this bottle a revelation. Cheers to finding a terroir-driven Moscato versatile enough to accompany a range of cuisines, and also perfect to simply sit and enjoy. —*Allyson Noman*

Pairs well with fried chicken, spicy garlic noodles, shrimp and pea risotto, or steamed asparagus.

2021 CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE BLANC "CLOS ROQUÈTE" FAMILLE BRUNIER \$66

e work with just one producer in Châteauneuf-du-Pape—the Brunier family—whose wines are so consistently spectacular it's no wonder that each bottling holds a special place in our portfolio. When the Bruniers bought the vineyards at Domaine La Roquète in the 1980s, they had



already established themselves as masterful vignerons at Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe. With expanded holdings came expanded offerings, and brothers Frédéric and Daniel took to replanting part of their new land with white varieties. The sandy soil here is scattered with the Rhône's famous *galets roulés*, imparting fresh minerality to a sumptuous cuveé: Clos Roquète. A testament to their multi-generational savoir faire in winemaking, the Bruniers demonstrate with style that Châteauneuf can produce world-class whites as well as reds. This blend of Clairette,

Roussanne, and Grenache Blanc—full of personality, stony freshness, and a hint of baking spice—is perfect for enjoying in the prime of its youth. *—Allyson Noman*

A leaner vintage, 2021 lended itself to blancs with a more marked minerality than is typical for Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Harvested on a sunny morning in late August, grapes from La Roquète turned out as elegant as ever: ripe with juicy stone fruit, a lovely bitterness, and more delicate aromas like jasmine and anise. Enjoy with anything from a goat cheese tart to a platter of prosciutto, or with a favorite white fish entrée—prepared amandine, perhaps? —Jane Augustine



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2022 VALLE D'AOSTA MOSCATO BIANCO Château Feuillet Valle d'Aosta	Moscato Bianco	6-year-old vines Sandy, alluvial topsoil, granite bedrock subsoil	Serve cold 48–52° F Decant optional	Lychee, marigold, pine Bright, crisp, aromatic	Drink now
2021 CHÂTEAUNEUF -DU-PAPE BLANC "CLOS LA ROQUÈTE" Famille Brunier Southern Rhône	35% Clairette, 35% Roussanne, 30% Grenache Blanc	Vines planted in 1987 Sand on red clay and <i>galets roulés</i>	Serve cool 50–54° F Decant optional	Orchard fruit, almond skin, clove Layered, lush, mineral	Drink now through 2028

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