



# Garagiste

## WINE CLUB

[gar-uh-zheest'] noun - A French term used to describe independent, artisan winemakers crafting small batches of wine in garage-type settings and not yet discovered by the mainstream.

## Arbuckle Ridge

Owner & Winemaker: Scott Saunders

Location: Paso Robles, California

Established in 2017 by Scott Saunders, Arbuckle Ridge is one of Paso Robles' newest - and smallest - winery ventures with a future that looks rather intriguing. Scott is the son of Hearst Ranch Winery owners, Jim and Debi Saunders, who have certainly made a name for themselves with their award-winning wines and highly-desirable fruit grown at the Saunders Vineyard on the east side of Paso Robles. While Scott still works for his family's winery on a full-time basis, he is branching out with his own official brand of wines, Arbuckle Ridge, a passion project that is giving him creative freedom to craft single varietals and unexpected blends that capture the terroir and heart of the Saunders Vineyard property.

Growing up on his family's Paso Robles ranch, Scott was exposed to viticulture and winemaking from an early age. The magic of each harvest season drew him in, showing him the mysticism and intrigue of winemaking - both in the vineyard and in the cellar - and it became very clear that he was destined to follow in his family's footsteps. Scott has worked through practically every position at Hearst Ranch Winery, offering support in the vineyard, the cellar, the tasting room, and in sales. It is truly his passion, through and through.

Over the years, Scott has made several wines, but it wasn't until 2017 that he decided to make his first commercial vintage - a tiny allocation (150 cases) of Cabernet Sauvignon from Saunders Vineyard. The wine has already garnered rave reviews from Wine Enthusiast and Vinous, two of the industry's leading publications, indicating that this brand is certainly one to keep an eye on.

When it came time to name his winery, Scott looked to the dominating soil type at his family's vineyard - Arbuckle. Arbuckle is characterized as a magnesium-rich clay that is wonderful for moisture retention. The name is also a nod to Scott's winemaking style and his desire to express the site through authentic, balanced wines that are true to the terroir and the varietal(s).

Scott looks to his dad, Jim Saunders, winemaker Soren Christensen, and Marc Laderriere, Hearst Ranch's Director of Sales, as his mentors and biggest supporters along the way. Soren, who is the winemaker for Hearst Ranch and his own brand Anonimo, has extensive winemaking experience and has helped Scott fine-tune his own style - one that stands apart from the family winery. We look forward to watching the story unfold for Scott Saunders and Arbuckle Ridge, but in the mean time, hope you enjoy the rare first release from this up-and-coming producer.

## Arbuckle Ridge 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon

150 cases produced

Paso Robles

Arbuckle Ridge's inaugural release is this beautifully balanced 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon from the esteemed Saunders Vineyard in Paso Robles. Deep ruby red in color, this Cabernet exudes a pleasant oak character on the nose with complementing notes of blackberry, blueberry, vanilla and cola, along with an exotic hint of fruitcake. On the palate, this wine shows layers of dark berry and cherry preserve flavors with floral and spice complexities that fan out slowly on the back half. The wine finishes smooth, spicy, and quite long with soft and supple tannins. Aged in French oak. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Enjoy!

Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$36.00 / bottle

To order, visit the Wine Store at [www.GoldMedalWineClub.com](http://www.GoldMedalWineClub.com) or call **1-800-266-8888**

\*2 bottle minimum per wine, per order. Shipping and tax (if applicable) not included. Call for details.

