



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.

Carucci Wines

Owner & Winemaker: Eric Carucci
Location: California's Central Coast

Established in 2010 by Eric Carucci, Carucci Wines is a small-production winery crafting expressive and nuanced wines from exceptional cool-climate vineyards on California's Central Coast. Eric has a knack for finding these special vineyard sites and showcasing their unique character. Each bottle is his interpretation of a specific site. With the help of his wife Lindsay, Carucci Wines is growing in size and in popularity with plenty of local support and critical acclaim.

The route taken by Eric Carucci to establish his Central Coast winery is most certainly unique among the roles of successful California wineries. Eric is a San Diego native who did not grow up around the wine industry or wine in general. It was only after attending and graduating from Cal State San Marcos in 2006 with a business degree that he became interested in the wine industry and he made it his business to learn everything he could about it. His efforts eventually led him to a chance meeting with another San Diego resident who happened to own some vineyards in Sonoma County's Dry Creek AVA.

"The more I talked to this person, the more he convinced me to become involved with wine, so I decided to take his advice," Eric recalled. "It was then 2009 and I agreed to buy a half-ton of Merlot grapes and make wine from them in my parents' garage. The wine came out much better than I expected and I decided to get further involved." This brave decision was incredibly challenging for a person with no real formal training or experience with wine or winemaking, but he forged on, asking questions from professional winemakers he met along the way. "I guess this actually helped me, as I did everything from my own gut," Eric explained. "By doing so, I managed to develop my own style and I'm told it all worked out quite well in the end."

Carucci Wines' initial release came in 2010 - a whopping 75 cases! That number has grown slowly and is currently between 600 and 800 cases annually, depending on the specific vintage involved. The grapes for Carucci's wines are secured from exceptional vineyards on the Central Coast, within the cool-climate appellations of Sta. Rita Hills, Edna Valley, Los Alamos and Santa Maria Valley. These prized growing areas produce exceptional fruit and the cool climate makes the expression of terroir that much more evident in Eric's finished wines. "I don't think I could have achieved what I have without this combination of vineyards and climate working together," Eric finalized.

Eric and Lindsay recently opened a boutique tasting room for Carucci Wines in Los Olivos, a charming town in the heart of the Santa Ynez Valley of Santa Barbara County.

Carucci 2018 Pinot Noir

160 cases produced

Greengate Vineyard, Edna Valley, California

Crafted from the SIP Certified (Sustainability in Practice) Greengate Vineyard in the heart of the Edna Valley of San Luis Obispo County, the Carucci 2018 Pinot Noir is all about elegance and balance. On the nose, pretty aromas of violet and lilac greet the senses, followed by deeper, heartier touches of mulberry, exotic plum and fennel pollen. The palate offers a nice freshness with a harmonious blend of alpine strawberry, tangerine rind, dried herb and floral flavors that truly sing together and linger effortlessly on the finish. This limited bottling is sure to be a favorite. Aged in oak. 100% Pinot Noir. Enjoy!



Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$35.00 / bottle

To order, visit the Wine Store at 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.

