



# 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.

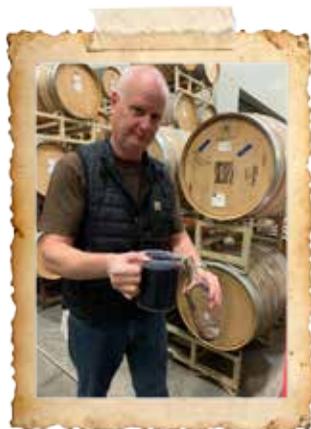
## Mengler Family Wines

Owners & Winemakers: Chris & Rita Mengler

Location: Sonoma County, California

Founded by husband and wife team Chris and Rita Mengler in 2014, Mengler Family Wines is an ultra-boutique winery located in Healdsburg in Sonoma County, California. The goal at Mengler Family Wines is to craft small batches of unique and compelling wines from top vineyards in the region, with the purpose of bringing the ultimate tasting experience to the market.

Chris began his career in the pharmaceutical industry, and after seeing much success over the year, he settled in the town of Healdsburg where he was surrounded by some of the most beautiful wine country in the state. It was only natural that he became interested in wine and the science behind winemaking, and he eventually started taking online winemaking classes through UC Davis. After earning his certificate, he worked a harvest before deciding to establish his own winery, Mengler Family Wines. Chris works exclusively with Sonoma County fruit and produces a range of wines including Chardonnay, Viognier, Dolcetto, Sangiovese, and his signature red wine, 'Rita's Block,' which is a true field blend of up to 18 different wine grape varieties.



Chris and Rita believe in working close to the land and handle all aspects of vineyard work and winemaking themselves, with help from family and friends - they do everything from pruning, trimming and leafing, all the way to harvesting the grapes by hand in the middle of the night. The couple only makes about 1,500 cases of wine per year, with each bottling designed to express the fruit and the terroir with minimal winemaking manipulation. All of the vineyards are 100% certified sustainable, showing Chris and Rita's commitment to being good stewards of the land and supporting practices that protect the soil, air and water - elements that breathe life, and ultimately flavor, into the grapes and wines they produce. They also use select American oak when aging their range of unique and compelling wines.

This month's featured wine, the Mengler 2017 Sangiovese, comes from the historic Alegría Vineyards in the Russian River Valley of Sonoma County. This site is part of the 1841 Sotoyome land grant, and based on public records, vines were first planted here in 1890. The vineyard is an incredible field blend with approximately 40 different varieties planted across the 26 acres. 'Alegría' is Spanish for joy and happiness, which couldn't be more fitting, as the growers hope that drinking Alegría Vineyard wines brings joy and happiness to your life.

We are happy to introduce Mengler Family Wines to our Garagiste Wine Club members and hope you enjoy this special selection. Cheers!

## Mengler 2017 Sangiovese

80 cases produced

Alegría Vineyards, Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

The Mengler 2017 Sangiovese was produced from the Alegría Vineyards in Sonoma's Russian River Valley and has classic flavors of this famous Italian varietal. Dark garnet in color, this Sangiovese offers mildly spicy aromatics with flavors of plum, blackcurrant and cedar with hints of lightly toasted oak. Dark fruit textures and soft tannins make this wine very versatile when pairing with food and it goes especially well with pasta dishes. Aged 20 months in oak. 100% Sangiovese. Enjoy!

Gold Medal Wine Club Price: \$39.00 / 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.

