

Wine Tasters and Dinner

By Lori Schoenlaub

ZD Wines is a family-owned winery in Napa Valley's Rutherford region, founded in 1969 by Norman Deleuze and Gino Zepponi with bottling beginning in 1974. The winery is best known for its **Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Cabernet Sauvignon**. Sustainability is central to ZD's philosophy; all estate vineyards are **certified organic**. Located on the Silverado Trail in Napa, this boutique winery offers wine tasting, cooking classes, food pairings, and private events.

Dinner started with a 2024 Sauvignon Blanc which is in its third vintage and of the Bordeaux varietal and a 2023 Chardonnay which is of the Burgundian varietal. Both white wines were excellent and paired well with the appetizer of tender braised pork cheeks lightly drizzled with honey mustard sauce.

Also served was a 2023 Carneros Pinot Noir which is 100% aged in French oak and very well balanced. Also served was a 2022 Cabernet Sauvignon, ZD's flagship wine blended with 12% petite Verdot and aged in American oak. The cabernet is an excellent wine and a favorite of our members. Both red wines paired well with a flat iron steak, seasoned fingerling potatoes, and vibrant chimichurri sauce.

Up next: Caymus and Cajun spiced salmon. Laissez les bons temps rouler.