WINERY OF THE MONTH

November 2026

Oliver's Real Food. Real People.®



BALLETTO



Oliver's is pleased to announce Balletto as the Winery of the Month for November

After the untimely death of his father in 1977, 17 year-old John Balletto relinquished college athletic scholarship offers to stay home and help his mother, Hazel, run their five-acre vegetable farm.

Determined to make their farm a success, through the 1980s and 1990s the Balletto family purchased parcels of land to gradually increase production. By 1994, the Balletto family had the largest vegetable farm in Northern California, growing 70 vegetable types on 700 acres.

Despite the success, John and his wife Terri could foresee challenges presented by California's growing water shortage and the economics of produce farming. Contemplating their future, neighbor Warren Dutton suggested they consider growing wine grapes, which are less water dependent. Seeing the potential of wine grapes, the Ballettos transitioned a small portion of their land to vineyards.



A few years later, the Balletto family weathered devastating El Niño storms and economic hardships caused by NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), which made the vegetable business increasingly untenable.

Determined to overcome the adversity, they resolved to grow wine grapes exclusively. They converted their crop land to vineyards over a three-year period, planting primarily Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, selling fruit to well-known vintners in Sonoma County.

After tasting the excellent wines crafted from their fruit by their customers, they decided to pursue winemaking under the Balletto Vineyards name. They saved the best ten percent of the grapes for themselves, and in 2001 created the first vintage of Balletto Vineyards estate wines from Russian River Valley. The first vintage yielded 391 cases of Chardonnay and 689 cases of Pinot Noir.

Today, they are still using their top 10% for their wines, though production and recognition have grown along with their success.

Wine of the Month November 2026

Balletto Pinot Noir – 2021 Russian River Valley



The wine opens with seductive dark fruit and spice and continues through a velvety mid-palate that maintains its balance with light tannins and acidity at the finish.

$21.99 +CRV
A BOTTLE

REGULARLY $34.99
SAVE $13.00

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Featured at Oliver's for November



Balletto Sauvignon Blanc– 2025 Russian River Valley

The aromas are graceful with a combination of limy citrus, mineral and a touch of classic Sauvignon Blanc earthiness. It's bright and savory, tart and surprisingly lush all in the same package.

$16.99+CRV a bottle, regularly $24.99



Balletto Teresa's Unoaked Chardonnay – 2023/24 Russian River Valley

Intensely bright with lifted citrus and mineral aromas that are offset with light savory tones to add complexity. Then comes the texture: pure balance and persistence. It's mouthwatering with refreshing acidity that contrasts its surprisingly robust full mouth feel.

$16.99+CRV a bottle, regularly $24.99



Balletto Rose of Pinot Noir – 2022 Russian River Valley

Savory aromatics lay the foundation for the delicate mineral, citrus and tropical overtones. Everything works together with the zingy brightness highlighting darker, savory tones. And then a spot-on, electrifying, freshness and texture take over.

$16.99+CRV a bottle, regularly $24.99

