

# "Wine makes daily living easier, less hurried, with fewer tensions and more tolerance." - Benjamin Franklin

A note of Thanks to our Customers:

Luigi's considers wine to be an integral part of the dining experience. We continually strive to bring our customers the best offerings available from regions all over the world. We have selections from the United States (which includes California, Oregon, Washington, and New Mexico), Australia and New Zealand, Chile and Argentina, France, Germany, and of course Italy. We will bring new offerings from other regions as well as we continue to spread our "love of wine" to our customers and friends. Thank you for choosing Luigi's as your source for a wonderful dining experience!

# "Quickly, bring me a beaker of wine so that I may wet my brain and say something clever."

# -Aristophanes

A note about our wine list:

Because of our passion for Vino, we are serious about the wines we provide you. We are also passionate about the information we convey about those wines. We have attempted to bring you as much information as possible to assist you in making your decision. We have provided notes about many of the wines from professionsl resources such as *The Wine Advocate*, *Wine Enthusiast Magazine*, and *Wine Spectator Magazine*, as well as many of our own tasting notes to help you select the wine you are looking for. And please, don't be afraid to ask your server for assistance should you require it. Wine is not something to fear, but something to enjoy!

Reviews: *D*-Decanter, *WA* – The Wine Advocate, *WS* – Wine Spectator, *WE* – Wine Enthusiast, *V* – Vinous, *JS* – James Suckling, *JD* – Jeb Dunnuck, *PR* – Pinot Report, *WW* – Wilfred Wong, *ST* – Stephen Tanzer, *TA* – Tim Atkin

We constantly strive to make sure this wine list is an accurate representation of all the offerings we keep in our cellar. However, please understand that we may have vintage rollovers and occasionally may run out of some items.

# "Wine is the most civilized thing in the world." -Ernest Hemingway

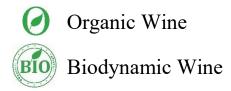
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# **Organic Wine and Biodynamic Wine**

Due to the interest many of our guests have shown in the past regarding "organic wine", we have chosen to identify those producers who are following the protocols established by the governing bodies in their respective countries that allow for these Organic and Biodynamic classifications to exist. They are displayed in the list as follows:



**Organic Wine:** The term "organic wine" refers to wine made from organically-certified grapes, and since 2012 the winemaking process has also been regulated under the term 'Organic Wine'. This means that they are grown WITHOUT the use of synthetic pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers. All of the bugs, weeds, and pests are managed using all natural substances, and the fertilizers used to nourish the vines are also 100% natural. For example weeds can be removed mechanically, and natural composts can be used as fertilizers.

Note: While the EU (European Union) has common standards for 'Organic Wine', each country can have their own unique standards for "organic".

In the U.S. for example, the U.S. Department of Agriculture can certify that a wine is organic. These bottles are labelled and sold as "USDA-Certified Organic". In order to be certified organic, the grapes have to be grown according to organic farming standards, and in contrast to the EU rules, the wine cannot have added sulphites.

**Biodynamic Wine:** Biodynamic agriculture is a holistic approach to farming that goes beyond 'organic'. It views the farm as a closed ecosystem, where nothing should be brought in from outside, and nothing wasted (the ideal farm is mixed use, with livestock providing manure for compost, but wine estates without livestock will purchase biodynamic compost).

While organic farming bans the use of synthetic products, biodynamics goes further by stipulating the use of eight 'preparations' to enhance the life of the soil. Minerals and herbs such as nettles and dandelion flowers mixed in water in very low concentrations are sprayed in the vineyards.

One important concept behind biodynamics is the belief that everything--the crops, the soil, the farmer, the universe - is interconnected. The sun, moon, planets, and stars all affect the growing of crops. Viticulturists growing grapes for biodynamic wine will try to balance the connection between the farmer, the vine, the earth itself, and the celestial bodies.

This may sound a bit unusual to some people, but it's a holistic form of agriculture that has become widely practiced in Europe, Australia, and the New World. Since its introduction in the 1920s, by Austrian philosopher Rudolph Steiner, it has become one of the most accepted forms of organic viticulture.

For a wine to be sold as "biodynamic", it must be certified by an organization such as Demeter or Biodyvin. Demeter certifies the majority of biodynamic wines, but a large number of French vineyards prefer to obtain the Biodyvin certification as well. To obtain certification, the wines must follow the viticulture and vinification rules established by these organizations.

# **Sparkling Wines by the Glass**

All Sparkling wines by the glass are 4oz unless otherwise noted

257	Gruet Demi Sec NV, New Mexico	7.00
254	Ruggeri Giall'oro Prosecco Superiore Extra Dry, Veneto, Italy	8.00
265	Nicolas Feuillatte Brut Reserve NV, Champagne, France	14.00

# White Wines by the Glass

All still wines by the glass are 6oz unless otherwise noted

Swee	eter Wines	
203	Leonard Kreusch (Saffire Selection) Riesling, Mosel Germany, 2020	7.50
513	Umberto Fiore Moscato d'Asti, Piedmont, Italy 2020	8.00
505	Banfi "Rosa Regale" Brachetto d'Acqui, Piedmont, Italy 2020	9.00
453	Cornale Lambrusco Mantovano Dolce I.G.T., Lombardy, Italy	7.00
Dry V	Whites and Rosé	

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124	Castello Monaci Kreos, Rosato Salento, Apulia, Italy 2019	8.25
106	Gemma di Luna Pinot Grigio, Veneto, Italy 2019	8.00
160	Spoken West Chardonnay, California 2019	8.00
107	Sonoma-Cutrer Russian River Chardonnay, Monterey, CA 2019	11.00
158	Allan Scott Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough New Zealand 2021	10.00

# **Red Wines by the Glass**

435	Achával-Ferrer Malbec, Mendoza 2019	10.50
475	Vietti Barbera d'Asti "Tre Vigne", Piedmont Italy DOCG 2020	10.50
368	Poggio Bonelli Chianti Classico, Tuscany, Italy DOCG 2019	10.50
303	Luigi Righetti "Campolieti" Valpolicella Ripasso Classico Superiore DOC 2019	11.00
304	Castello di Querceto Chianti Classico Riserva, Tuscany Italy DOCG 2018	12.50
430	Antinori Guado al Tasso "Il Bruciato", Bolgheri IGT 2020	14.50
611	Bookwalter "Readers" Merlot, Columbia Valley, WA 2019	13.00
633	Hahn SLH Pinot Noir, Santa Lucia Highlands, California 2019	12.00
412	The Four Graces Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon 2019	12.50
328	Purple Cowboy Trail Boss Cabernet, Paso Robles, California 2018	10.00
448	Textbook Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley California 2019	16.00

# **Dessert Wines by Glass**

511	Taylor Fladgate 10 yr Tawny Port, Portugal	30z	10.00
522	Taylor Fladgate 20 yr Tawny Port, Portugal	30z	16.00
507	Château Saint Vincent Sauternes, Graves, Bordeaux, France 2015	30Z	11.00
501	Fattoria del Cerro Vin Santo Sangallo, Tuscany, Italy 2016	30z	14.00

# Half Bottles (375ml)

Spar	rkling and White	
250	Piper-Heidsick, NV, Champagne, France	49.00
252	Taittinger Brut Réserve, NV, Champagne, France	55.00
Red	S	
469	Seghesio Zinfandel, Sonoma County, California 2017	31.00
332	Tenuta Caparzo Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2016	41.00
539	Silverado Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, California 2017	49.00
478	Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, Tuscany It. DOCG 2013	62.00
<b>38</b> 7	Shafer Cabernet Sauvignon One Point Five, Napa Valley, California 2018	95.00
Dess	sert Wines	
<b>50</b> 7	Chateau Saint Vincent Sauternes, France, 2010	39.00
506	Jackson Triggs Icewine Vidal, Niagara, Canada 2012 (187ml)	45.00
501	Fattoria del Cerro Vin Santo Sangallo 2012, Tuscany, Italy 2012	49.00
352	La Giaretta Recioto Classico della Valpolicella, Veneto, Italy 2005 (500ml)	55.00
500	Inniskillin Icewine Vidal, Niagara, Canada 2012	80.00
525	Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port 2009, Douro Portugal	89.00

# **Other Formats**

392	I Balzini White Label Colli della Toscana Centrale 2006	1.5 liter	145.00
495	"The Prisoner", Napa Valley, California 2019	1.5 liter	165.00
494	Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2013	1.5 liter	190.00
517	Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2017	1.5 liter	215.00
405	Mastrojanni Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2010	1.5 liter	280.00
321	Chappellet Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, 2005	6.0 liter	685.00

# **Champagne & Sparkling Wines**

# Half Bottles (375ml)

250	Piper-Heidsick, NV, Champagne, France	49.00
252	Taittinger Brut Réserve, NV, Champagne, France	53.00

# Full Bottles (750 ml)

### 257 Gruet Demi Sec, New Mexico NV

In 1983, the Gruet family was traveling through the Southwestern part of the United States, and while in New Mexico met a group of European winemakers who had successfully planted vineyards In Engle, near the town of Truth or Consequence, 170 miles south of Albuquerque. The land was inexpensive and the opportunity golden. In 1984, Gilbert Gruet, whose Champagne house, Gruet et Fils had produced fine Champagne in Bethon, France, since 1952, made the decision to plant an experimental vineyard, exclusively planted to Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes. His children, winemaker Laurent and daughter Nathalie, then relocated to the great state of New Mexico to begin their American wine making adventure.

### 260 Lovo Prosecco Rosé Brut Millesimato, Veneto, Italy DOC NV 38.00

This artisanal Rose Brut boasts beautiful notes of lilac, raspberry, dried mint, and crushed gravel. The color is sunset-perfect - bright and delicate. Hard to imagine a more quaffable aperitif!

# 254Ruggeri Giall'oro Prosecco Superiore Extra Dry, Veneto, Italy DOC NV44.00

The Ruggeri winery was established in 1950 by Giustino Bisol, whose family boasts a deeply rooted, centuries-old tradition in viticulture in the Valdobbiadene area. "A pleasant Prosecco with fresh, sweet-apple and summer-meadow aromas and flavors. Well-balanced froth on the palate and a touch of sour cream on the finish. Drink now." 91D

# 256 Schramsberg Brut Blanc de Blancs, North Coast, California 2015 67.00

Blanc de Blancs was the first wine Schramsberg produced in 1965 and was America's first commercially produced Chardonnay-based brut sparkling wine. Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs gained international recognition in 1972 when then President Nixon served the wine at the historic "Toast to Peace" in Beijing, China. It is 100% Chardonnay with a county composition of 54% Napa and 46% Sonoma.

# 265 Nicolas Feuillatte Brut Reserve, Champagne, France NV

Nicolas Feuillatte bought 12 hectares of vineyard in Champagne in 1972 and established Nicolas Feuillatte in 1976. Through the 70s and 80s the Nicolas Feuillatte brand grew, until in 1986 he made the decision to sell the to the Cave Vinicole de la Champagne cooperative, which acquired both his vineyards and his brand. It was a match made in heaven, as the brand has continued to thrive under its new ownership, mostly through innovation and high standard of quality. It is composed of 20% of the Chardonnay grape variety, for elegance and delicacy, 40% of Pinot Noir, for roundness and structure and 40% of Pinot Meunier for fruitiness. "Chalky in texture and fresh, this version features a hint of smoky minerality underscoring the flavors of ripe pear, candied black currant and lemon meringue pie. Drink now through 2018." 90 WS

### 75.00

#### Nicolas Feuillatte Brut Rosé, Champagne, France NV 263

"A lively sparkling rosé, with a bright, citrusy overtone to fruit-forward flavors of strawberry puree and black raspberry, showing accents of biscuit, walnut skin and gumdrop. Drink now through 2016." 91 WS

#### Taittinger Brut Réserve, Champagne, France NV 255

Champagne Taittinger was established in 1931 by Pierre Taittinger on the foundations of Forest-Forneaux, itself established in 1734 and the third-oldest wine producing house of Champagne. Taittinger is today proprietor of approximately 600 acres of vines among which are included parcels in the one hundred - percent rated villages of Cramant and Avize in the Cote des Blancs; and Bouzy, Mailly, Ambonnay and Verzenay in the Montagne de Reims. The Taittinger Estate is one of the three most extensive in the Champagne district, and the firm's major holdings in Chardonnay vineyards are the physical expression of the Taittinger philosophy and style.

#### 253 Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label, Champagne, France NV

Veuve Clicquot translates to the "Widow Cliquot". Born in 1777, Nicole Barbe Ponsardin married François Clicquot in 1798. Widowed at the age of 27, she took over her deceased husband's business. At a time when Europe was torn by war, she was shipping her wines throughout the world. The famous Yellow Label has come to be recognized throughout the world as a symbol of tradition, elegance, style in the art of living.

#### **Billecart-Salmon Brut Rosé, Champagne, France NV** 264

Billecart-Salmon is a medium-sized champagne house in Mareuil-sur-Ay, France. Founded in 1818 with the marriage of Nicolas François Billecart and Elisabeth Salmon, it is one of the few to remain family owned. "This is clearly one of my favorite rosé Champagnes out there. I love the freshness and clarity in the wine, from its light pink color to crisp acidity and minerally, chalky character on the finish. It's full-bodied and dense yet agile with amazing length and beauty. Refreshing and vibrant. As it warms, it gives you delicate pinot noir character like Aloxe-Corton or another excellent appellation. Drink now." 95 JS

#### Dom Pérignon Brut, Champagne, France 2012 258

"What a magnificent bouquet for this Dom Pérignon 2012! Pastry, a hint of smoke and autolytic notes provide a compelling counterpart to eager yet elegant aromas of citrus (lime, tangerine and kumquat) joined by those of fresh fruit, herbs, liquorice, and menthol. There is even a refreshing note of ivy. The palate is tense, vibrant, and very fresh despite its impressive density, which meets its match with an unending finish. This 2012 incarnates the very essence of Dom Pérignon with such a concentrated degree of intensity, along with a capacity for ageing, that it is surely destined for a second life in a P2 edition." 98 D, 97 JS, 97 V, 96 WA

# **Italian Red Wines**

# Southern Italy-Abbruzi, Puglia, Campania, Sicilia

# -Abbruzzo

#### 526 Marramiero DAMA Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, DOCG 2019

Marramiero has been growing vines since the turn of the last century, producing wines that can be easily recognized by the labels bearing the founder's unmistakable seal; the letters D and M

# 405.00

100.00

# 141.00

121.00

29.00

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intertwined in a root. DAMA is a line of wines that honors founder, Dante Marramiero, starting with the Montepulciano in 1994. The 2019 Dama Montepulciano d'Abruzzo is a glorious ruby red color with dark, brambly berry aromas enhanced by a touch of anise. It is rich and harmonious on the palate.

# 479Masciarelli Marina Cvetic Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, DOCG 201846.00

What happens when you try to force a wild montepulciano to wear the chains of the international style? You get something like Marina Cvetic, named for the winemaker's wife, who must be one hell of a woman. "Complex aromas of crushed black fruit, dried lemon peel, kalonji seeds and more if you linger. Full-bodied palate, where the intense fruit coats the medium-grain tannins on the center-palate and continues to push through the wall as the tannins firm up towards the end. The finish is already long and fruity and will only lengthen as the wine matures in bottle. Super quality here. Try from 2024" 94 JS

# -Campania

# 349 Fattoria Galardi Roccamonfina Terra di Lavoro, DOCG 2007

"Terra di Lavoro is one of Italy's icon reds, and the 2007 is yet another in a series of mindbending wines from the Murena, Celentano and Catello families. The 2007 Roccamonfina Terra di Lavoro announces itself with a blast of smoke, ash, red berries, flowers and minerals, all of which come together in a heady, exotic expression of Aglianico and Piedirosso, two of Campania's thoroughbred grapes. There is incredible clarity and nuance in the glass despite the wine's massive concentration. The 2007 is a very unusual Terra di Lavoro for its open, accessible personality and ripe, silky tannins, both of which are on full display." 97 pts WA

# 514 Fattoria Galardi Roccamonfina Terra di Lavoro, DOCG 2017

"There's a unique floral and herbal edge to this, in the form of peppercorns, aniseed, licorice and five spice; wait for this to open up in the glass (decanting suggested), and along comes a cohort of dark fruit in the form of dark plums, mulberries and blackcurrants. Dense and flavorful, yet wild and pretty tannins envelop the mouth, coating layers of dark fruit and painting them in colorful hues. It's full-bodied and full-throttle, but its beauty is understated and the acidity and fruit are playful and subtle." JS

# Central Italy- Tuscany, Umbria, Marche, Lazio

# -Carmignano

# 363 Piaggia Carmignano "Il Sasso" DOCG 2019

"If there is one estate that embodies the potential of Carmignano, Piaggia just might be it." Antonio Galloni. Dedicated to the estate's paternal figure Mauro Vannucci, the Carmignano Il Sasso (with 40,000 bottles produced) is a compelling blend of 70% Sangiovese, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc. "The 2019 Carmignano Il Sasso is flat-out stunning, lifting up with notes of spicy citrus offsetting sweet white smoke, raspberries, cherries and clove. This is silky-smooth and pliant, packed full of zesty red fruits and spices contrasted by cooling acidity. There's so much to like here, finishing intensely fruity yet also remarkably fresh and long. It's a "wow" wine and also a great value. The wine is refined for one year in second and third-pass barriques." 93 V. Piaggia is a practicing organic winery with integrated insect and disease control.

### 60.00

### 109.00

#### Piaggia Carmignano Riserva "Piaggia" DOCG 2017 419

The Carmignano Riserva is the flag ship wine of Piaggia, showcasing a modern interpretation of Carmignano's Sangiovese base blended with Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot. Aging occurs in French oak for 18 months and racked before bottling, with no fining or filtration. "The 2017 Carmignano Riserva is a bold, punchy wine. Super-ripe, red berry fruit, cedar, licorice, spice and tobacco all build in a sumptuous, flamboyant Carmignano loaded with character. The 2017 is a rich, heady wine yet it pulls that off with notable plomb and grace. This is such a gorgeous wine. Drinking window: 2022 - 2032" 94 V

# -Chianti

#### Fattoria L'Arco Chianti, DOCG Tuscany Italy 2020 460

Fattoria L'Arco is in Vinci, a small medieval village where the famous Leonardo was born, twenty kilometres to the west of Florence in the heart of the Chianti region. The estate covers approximately 200 acres. Half of these are vineyards which include vines of innovative varieties for the area, introduced over the years through some different experimental phases. "Intense deep ruby red colour. Interesting, strikingly fragrant and healthy fruit aromas of cherries and raspberries, followed by lighter more complex hints of liquirice and coffee. Velvety sweet tannin on the palate with a fruit aftertaste in the finish, making this a very lingering and extremely enjoyable wine"

#### 368 Poggio Bonelli Chianti Classico, DOCG 2019

"Here's a great, easy-drinking wine from beautiful Tuscany. The 2019 Chianti Classico is a full and generous wine with subdued aromas of toasted oak, espresso and baking spice. The tight palate offers prune, espresso and cocoa alongside assertive tannins that grip the finish. The wine is streamlined and elegant, but has intense fruit and oak spice in equal measure."

#### Frescobaldi Chianti Rufina Nipozzano Riserva, DOCG 2018 323

From one of the most historic wine producing families in Italy, the Frescobaldis. They have over 700 years and nearly 30 generations of family dedicated to the quality of their products. This wine comes from the Nipozzano Estate in the heart of Chianti Rufina. "A crunchy Rùfina mainly from 1970s Sangiovese vines with dashes of both local heritage and international varieties, too. Fermentation in stainless steel precedes 24 months in concrete and large, second-fill oak vats. Its bright scarlet hues mirror equally bright and deliciously savoury fruit. The compact palate provides coherent interplay between fruit and tannin with no sense of overripeness or oaky angularity. It's mouthwatering now, but resist so its texture evens out fully." 96 D

#### Castello di Querceto Chianti Classico Riserva, DOCG 2018 304

Querceto refers to the "little forest of oak" in which the winery is nestled. The François family, which settled in Tuscany in the 18th century, purchased the Castello di Querceto estate and began the production of Chianti in 1897. By 1911, the estate had already won an international enological prize. And in 1924 it was one of the 33 estates that founded the Chianti Classico Consortium. "Here is a fantastic value buy from the heart of Tuscany. A juicy red with berry, light balsamic and tile undertones. It's medium-bodied with light tannins and a formed palate. Savory and fresh at the end." 91 WA

Castello di Volpaia Chianti Classico, DOCG 2019 503



Castello di Volpaia is located in an 11th century village that bears the same name. It sits on a hilltop just north of the town of Radda in Chianti, 2,024 feet above sea level, in the heart of the Chianti Classico region. One of the most historical wineries of the region, Volpaia is owned by the Mascheroni-Stianti family and benefits from some of the highest altitude southern exposure

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30.00

38.00

40.00

# 45.00

vineyards of the area, delivering certified organic Sangiovese-based wines of finesse and elegance with a terroir approach. "The 2019 Chianti Classico is an attractive, mid-weight wine. Silky and beautifully perfumed, this mid-weight Chianti Classico is a terrific example of the lithe style that is so typical of Radda. Crushed flowers, mint, sweet red berries and tobacco linger." 91 V

## 636 Badia a Coltibuono Chianti Classico Riserva, DOCG 2017

2

There are few other wineries anywhere that have such an aura of vinicultural history as that of Badia a Coltibuono. In Europe, it is not too difficult to find wineries that have origins dating back one, two, three, even five centuries, but the edifice at Badia a Coltibuono has been watching over winemaking for almost a thousand years. Today, the Badia a Coltibuono estate in the Chianti Classico commune of Gaiole in Chianti is led by the fifth generation of family members: Emanuela, Paolo, and Roberto Stucchi Prinetti. "Aromas of flowers and fresh cherries with hints of lemon rind, following through to a medium body with lively, vivid fruit and an energetic finish. Compressed palate. Very refined for the hot vintage. From organically grown grapes." 94 JS

# 564 Antinori Chianti Classico Tenute Marchese Antinori Riserva, DOCG 2017 79.00

Marchese Antinori is produced exclusively from the finest, most highly selected grapes grown on the Antinori Santa Cristina, Pèppoli and Badia a Passignano estates in the Mercatale Val di Pesa zone in Chianti Classico. "A tight, fruity red with black-cherry and blueberry aromas and flavors. It's full-bodied with chewy yet fine-grained tannins. Love the polish and focus. Driven and linear." 94 JS

# 339Castellare di Castellina Chianti Classico Riserva Il Poggiale, DOCG 201983.00

Made from 90% Sangioveto, 5% Canaiolo, and 5% Ciliegiolo grown in the Il Poggiale vineyard, the grapes come from an elevation of almost 1,500 feet above sea level. The combination of high elevation and low yields results in a wine that manages to simultaneously show both restraint and layered richness. This classic red holds great aging capability. "Castellare make two Riserva: 'Il Poggiale' is a single-parcel bottling while 'Castellare di Castellina' is selected from multiple plots between 350 to 400 metres. Produced since 1979, this has discreet floral scents, fused with vanilla, tobacco and leather. There's plenty of substance to the palate, but it remains buoyant: dark forest berries are hemmed in by supple layered tannins. Satisfying right to the end, with a persistent finish of fennel and spice." 93 D

# -Maremma

# 378 Rocca di Frassinello Le Sughere di Frasinello IGT 2016

Rocca di Frassinello Le Sughere di Frassinello is a great value blend of 50% Sangioveto, 25% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Sauvignon (aged in French oak for one year). This wine boasts a proven track record for its consistent value and accessibility and can be counted on for both. "Wild rosemary, thyme and camphor aromas lead off, with concentrated flavors of blackberry and black currant. An iron edge sinks in as this unfolds to the long, staining finish. Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot." 93 WS

### 348 Val delle Rose Aurelio IGT 2016

95% Merlot 5% Cabernet Franc. Val Delle Rose boasts one of the most beautiful wineries in all of Tuscany and is impeccably and lovingly run by the historic Cecchi family. In 1996, Famiglia Cecchi purchased the Val delle Rose winery in the little village of Poggio la Mozza, which lies at the productive heart of Morellino di Scansano appellation. The Cecchi family has been a pioneer of the Maremma area, believing in the great potential of the wild area a few kilometers from the Medeterranean Sea. Val Delle Rose is now the biggest winery in the Morellino di Scansano appellation. "This is really hitting a sweet spot, with ripe, effusive cherry fruit setting the pace for

### 56.00

50.00

the succulent texture and well-integrated structure. Wild rosemary, thyme, cedar and iron notes play supporting roles as this red remains saturated and long. Merlot and Cabernet Franc." 93 WS

# 341Tenuta di Biserno Campo di Sasso Insoglio del Cinghiale IGT 201860.00

A gorgeous blend of 30% Syrah, 30% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 5% Petit Verdot. Set in western Tuscany, on the coast of the Upper Maremma, Tenuta di Biserno lies among the hills of Bibbona, a wine village bordering the more famous village of Bolgheri. "The vineyards of Bibbona and Bolgheri meet each other, reminding me of Saint Emilion and Pomerol," comments the winery's Founder, Marchese Lodovico Antinori, who has created some of Italy's most famed wines. "This is one of the most beautiful Insoglios I have tasted with lots of blue fruit, such as blueberries, as well as violets. Medium body and firm, silky tannins. Very fine and linear. Syrah, cabernet franc, cabernet sauvignon, merlot, and petit verdot." 93 JS

# -Montepulciano

# 335 Fattoria del Cerro Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Silineo", DOCG 2018 39.00

The name "Vino Nobile di Montepulciano" tells you two things about this acclaimed Italian red wine: that when it was first produced, centuries ago, it was meant to be served at the tables of the nobility; and that it hails from the ancient Tuscan hill town of Montepulciano. Vino Nobile di Montepulciano was designated Italy's first DOCG wine in 1980, in an attempt to protect its traditional status and ensure its high quality. Italian law requires that these wines be at least 70 percent Sangiovese grapes (known in Montepulciano as Prugnolo Gentile) and aged for a minimum of two years. The result is a rich, red wine with great depth of flavor and complexity, but still bright with notes of red fruit. "A medium-bodied red with plenty of sour and dried cherries on the nose, as well as cloves, musk and potpourri. Perfumed on the palate, too, with dried pine and spice. Ultra fine tannins and a fresh finish. Drink from 2021." 92 JS

### 310 Avignonesi Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, DOCG 2017

In 1309 pope Clement V transferred the papal residence from Rome to Avignon, France. In 1377, when pope Gregory XI moved the papal residence back to Rome, some noble families of Avignon left France to follow him. It was at that time, in Italy, that one of those families became known as Avignonesi - probably to simplify an otherwise difficult, foreign name. Soon the Avignonesi family separated into three branches which settled in Rome, Siena and Montepulciano. It is not known exactly when Avignonesi's cellars were built, but they are doubtless among the most ancient in Italy. Palazzo Avignonesi was built according to a design by Jacopo Barozzi (called Vignola) in the second half of the XVI century and it has always been the cellars' seat. "Certified organic and following the principles of biodynamic viticulture, this lovely red opens with enticing scents of camphor, pressed rose petal, forest floor and licorice. Smooth and savory, the linear, elegant palate delivers juicy cranberry, pomegranate, coffee bean and orange zest alongside taut but extremely refined tannins. Surprisingly fresh acidity for the hot vintage keeps it balanced. Drink through 2029." 93 WE and 93 JS

### 545 Dei Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, DOCG 2018

The Dei family produced their first wines from their estate in the heart of the historic appellation of Vino Nobile di Montepulciano in 1985. Now run by Caterina Dei, the estate has become one of the leaders in the region, producing lush, perfumed, fruit-driven wines that are exquisite expressions of the local Prugnolo clone of Sangiovese, blended with small amounts of Canaiolo, Mammolo, and Merlot. "Subtle but enticing perfume to the nose, offering cherry-based aromas that are tinged with bright, tangy spice. Full-bodied with a super intense bead of perfectly placed fruit and tannin. There's slight firmness to the tannin at the end, so wait a year for perfect integration. Beautiful quality here. Not overly complex, but such good winemaking. Best from 2023." 94 JS

### 52.00

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# Version 4.0- 6.22- Wineword27

# -Vino di Tavola, Super-Tuscans, IGT

# 541 Podere Sapaio Pappolo Toscana, Tuscany IGT 2019

Podere Sapaio is located in the Bolgheri wine zone of the Maremma, a territory that runs parallel to the Tuscan coast in the province of Livorno and which is named after the town of Bolgheri. The owner of Podere Sapaio, Massimo Piccin, purchased the estate in 1999 and planted his vineyards one year later. The estate produces just two wines for the international market: Sapaio and Volpolo, both of which are cabernet based Bordeaux blends. Massimo also makes one special wine for a friend of his, Paolo Pellizari (Bacco Selections), who happens to be our supplier/importer. This wine is called Pappolo and it is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. The wine is intense ruby red with blackberry, cherry, moist earth and vanilla notes. It is a modern and solid wine with great depth and an outstanding finish.

# 334 Ornellaia "Le Volte", Bolgheri IGT 2019

Le Volte has always been a great introduction to Bolgheri blends as well as one of the best producers in the region: Ornellaia. "This is very Mediterranean in character with sage and rosemary to the blackberry and tar aromas. It's medium-to full-bodied with medium, chewy tannins and a savory finish. Black-pepper undertones with cloves. Drink now." 91JS

# 462 Ruffino Modus, Tuscany IGT 2018

Modus was first produced in 1997 from grapes selected in the vineyards of the Tuscan Estates of Ruffino. It was not, though, a new wine in the real sense of the term. Ruffino had, in fact, been experimenting with the cultivation of non-traditional grape varieties on Tuscan soil since the eighties. The wine's base is Sangiovese, blended with the non-traditional varieties Cabernet and Merlot. Modus' label features a compass that artfully represents the meticulous balance of all the elements that came together to give this wine its distinctive character: vines, sun, fruit, soil, dedication and the passage of time 50% Sangiovese, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot

## 418 Tenute Sette Ponti Toscana "Crognolo", Tuscany IGT 2019

The estate of Sette Ponti lies in the heart of the Chianti zone, fifteen miles northwest of the city of Arezzo just past the village of San Giustino Valdarno. The name Sette Ponti, or "seven bridges," refers to the seven bridges crossing the Arno River on the road from Arezzo to Florence. Tenuta Sette Ponti's first release was the 1998 vintage Crognolo, named after a wild bush, Cornus, which grows on the estate. The blend of Sangiovese and Merlot from vines of an average age of 25 to 35 years yields a refined, elegantly stylish wine of fruit forward lushness. "Sweet berries, flowers and cedar on the nose. Some leather, too. It's medium-to full-bodied with lightly chewy tannins and a long, flavorful finish. Shows tension and brightness. Excellent structure. Drinkable now, but better in 2023." 94 JS

# 430 Antinori Guado al Tasso "Il Bruciato", Bolgheri IGT 2020

Guado al Tasso is a reference point property in the life and history of the Antinori family. Il Bruciato is a blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot and 15% Syrah. "I tasted the Guado al Tasso 2020 Bolgheri Rosso Il Bruciato from barrel, but the wine will hit the market in September of this year. Compared to the previous vintage, this edition is richer and slightly denser with nicely concentrated fruit. That extra textural support is a characteristic of this fortunate vintage. This accessible blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah offers tight mineral notes, toasted spice, almond and lots of dark, luscious fruit. To the palate, the wine exhibits softly caressing tannins" 93 WA

### 48.00

50.00

46.00

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## 644 Podere Sapaio 'Volpolo', Bolgheri IGT 2020

Podere Sapaio was born in 1999, after Massimo Piccin convinced his family to help him invest in the prized terroir of Bolgheri, creating a wine estate in what is one of Italy's most famed viticultural areas. Podere Sapaio now covers an area of 40 hectares, 25 of which are vineyards planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, and Petit Verdot; varieties that have made Bolgheri and its wines famous all over the world. Podere Sapaio's two wines total about 100,000 bottles per year, of which Volpolo Bolgheri DOC is around 80% and Sapaio IGT is around 20%. The wines are aged 14 months in French oak, both barriques and tonneaux, before the final blends are assembled. Volpolo is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (70%), Merlot (15%) and Petit Verdot (15%). "Wild nose of blackcurrants, rosemary and grilled herbs. Medium-bodied with lightly chewy tannins and bright acidity. Savory. Fresh finish. Delicious now, but will be even better in 2023." 92 JS

# 616 Frescobaldi Montesodi Toscana Rosso, Tuscany IGT 2016

Frescobaldi's story is strictly connected with the history of Tuscany. At the high point of medieval Florence, the Frescobaldis spread their influence as bankers, becoming patrons of major works in Florence, such as Santa Trinita bridge and the Basilica of Santo Spirito. Their patronage of art continued to wine. From Tenuta Castiglioni, where the family's 700 years of wine-growing history began, to CastelGiocondo on the Montalcino hills, to the timeless Castello Nipozzano, Frescobaldi's respect for Tuscany, the living land, cultivated in harmony with each individual terroir to cultivate wines, each with its own matchless personality. "This smooth, savory Sangiovese has aromas of ripe black plum, violet menthol and a whiff of forest floor. The velvety, full-bodied palate opens with ripe blackberry, Marasca cherry, baking spice and licorice before tightly knit, close-grained tannins show up and leave a firm finish." 93 WE- Editors' Choice.

# 470Tenuta dell'Ornellaia Toscana "Le Serre Nuove", Bolgheri IGT 201694WA110.00440Tenuta dell'Ornellaia Toscana "Le Serre Nuove", Bolgheri IGT 201995 JS110.00

A true 'Second vin' of Ornellaia, Le Serre Nuove dell'Ornellaia was first introduced with vintage 1997, resulting from the decision to carry out an even more rigid selection during the blending phase of the base wines which give life to Ornellaia. Produced primarily from the younger vineyards, the wine combines the pedigree of the flagship wine with freshness, accessibility and softness together with a structure, balance and intensity typical of the great terroir of the Estate. This wine is a remarkable performer year in and year out.

### 346 Luce Della Vite "Luce", Tuscany IGT 2013

In 1995, Robert Mondavi of California and Vittorio Frescobaldi of Tuscany joined hands to create an Italian wine of extraordinary quality. Their partnership was the first of its kind in Italy, and their premier offering was Luce della Vite. The name means light of the vine in Italian, and was inspired by the morning sunlight on the way from Florence to the renowned winemaking region of Montalcino. The Luce vineyard—adjacent to Marchesi de' Frescobaldi's Castel Giocondo estate sits at elevations of 1300 to 1500 feet, the highest vineyard site in Montalcino. "The beauty and polish to this are very impressive on the nose and the palate. Blackberry, blueberry and sandalwood character. Full body, ultra-fine tannins and an elegant finish. So crafted and fine. Drink in 2020. #38 Top 100 Italian Wines of 2016" 97 pts JS

# **302** Antinori Tenuta Guado al Tasso, Bolgheri, Tuscany IGT 2017 97 WA205.00312 Antinori Tenuta Guado al Tasso, Bolgheri, Tuscany IGT 2018 96JS205.00

The Guado al Tasso estate is located in the small but prestigious Bolgheri DOC, on the coast of upper Maremma, about one hundred kilometers southwest from Florence. This appellation has a relatively recent history. DOC Bolgheri was approved in 1994 and since then it has become an

### 69.00

85.00

internationally recognized reference point for the Italian and international winemaking arena. This region has traditionally been planted with Bordeaux varieties. Guado al Tasso is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and occasionally a small amount of Petit Verdot to best represent the complexity and elegance of the Bolgheri terroir. This wine has been produced since 1990 from vineyards on alluvial soils whose composition ranges from clay-sand to clay-loam with rocky deposits know as "scheletro". Notes typically found about Guado al Tasso include "This is the quintessential red blend from Coastal Tuscany..... offers beautiful intensity and purity, yet it also delivers balanced power and lasting persistence...... It is a proud Tuscan at heart."

# 338 Antinori "Tignanello", Tuscany IGT 2018

First made in 1971, Piero Antinori's Tignanello is one of the catalysts of the Super Tuscan revolution (Tenuta San Guido's "Sassicaia" was the forefather). "Tignanello is an object lesson in how to make Cabernet work with Sangiovese, the two varieties balancing and enhancing one another in admirable symbiosis" notes Daniel Thomases of The Wine Advocate. The wine is consistently one of the benchmark Super-Tuscans and is undoubtedly one of Tuscany's most historically significant wines. "This wine brought to mind precise imagery of tailcoats, striped dress pants, wingtip collar shirts and other gentlemen's fashion choices from the Roaring Twenties. Sporting a retro but classic personality, the Marchesi Antinori 2018 Tignanello is quite the dapper and jovial wine that hits the market just as much of the world is emerging from a dark chapter of lockdowns and coronavirus curfews. I love the optimism that springs bright with such clarity and detail from within this blend of Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. The 2016 vintage was a benchmark for sure, but I prefer the 2018, thanks to that tinge of nostalgia or emotion that is so deftly rendered in this cool, long growing season." 98 WA

# 489 Tenuta dell'Ornellaia Toscana "Ornellaia", Bolgheri IGT 2013

"The 2013 Bolgheri Superiore Ornellaia is an integrated and seamless blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot. Alex Heinz tells me that 2013 was a difficult vintage especially towards the early part of the growing season. It balanced out during the summer and allowed for steady ripening of fruit before the harvest. But 2013 was not as hot as 2011 and 2012 overall, and this edition of Ornellaia is beautifully tonic and shapely as a result. The bouquet is very developed in terms of aromas this year with beautiful notes of dark fruit, tobacco and spice. Those perfumes are just gorgeous. The mouthfeel is similarly intense with tannins that are still young, but are already silky and linear in nature. This vintage promises a long aging future." 96 WA, 98 JS

# -Montalcino

# 414 Pian delle Querci Rosso di Montalcino DOC 2019

Lighter-bodied and fresher (and easier on the wallet) than Brunello di Montalcino but often of very high quality is Rosso di Montalcino. Rosso di Montalcino is still made from the arid, infertile Sangiovese sites that produce Brunello, but it comes from younger vines. Rosso is traditionally released earlier, too, with only one year aging requirement, of which it must spend at least six months in oak—a testament to its accessibility as an everyday answer to Brunello. Pian delle Querci is owned by the Pinti family. The Pinti family have owned the estate for four generations. The estate is family run, with the great winegrowing experience of Vittorio Pinti. The wines are made using environmentally friendly practices.

# 481 Tenuta Il Poggione Rosso di Montalcino DOC 2018

The Il Poggione estate has been in existence since 1890, and has been owned by the Franceschi family since 1900. The company's winemaking operations are supervised by Dottore Piero Talenti, who imposes a meticulous three-part selection process – first in the vineyards, second after

### 280.00

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### 50.00

pressing, and again after fermentation. Piero's attention to detail in the winemaking process has resulted in the acclaimed Brunellos for which Il Piggione is renowned. "Bright red. Flint, ripe red cherry and sweet spices on the very ripe and forward but ultimately fresh nose. The sweet spice notes and a refined, austere mouthfeel are typical of the S.Angelo in Colle terroir. Closes juicy and fresh, with lively flavors of red cherry and more sweet spices, plus hints of underbrush." 91 V

## 551 Antinori Pian delle Vigne Rosso di Montalcino DOC 2019

The Antinori family of Florence, one of the world's oldest and most distinguished wine producers, has lived in Tuscany since the 14th century and celebrated its 625th anniversary as wine makers in 2010. "This is a serious Rosso di Montalcino with plum, dark-cherry and walnut aromas and flavors. It's medium-bodied with chewy tannins and a flavorful finish. Better in a year or two. Try after 2022." 92 JS

# 477 Le Ragnaie Rosso di Montalcino, DOCG 2017

Le Ragnaie is known for its elegant, terroir-driven wines that stand out in this Tuscan powerhouse category. The owner and winemaker, Riccardo Campinoti, acquired the property in 2002 and has expanded the estate to include 28 hectares covering three distinct parcels within Montalcino. The parcels Le Ragnaie and Petroso both are centered around the village of Montalcino and have the region's highest elevation vineyards and oldest winemaking history, respectively. "The 2017 Rosso di Montalcino shows pretty strawberry flavors laced with peppery herbs and earthy mineral tones. Saline minerals and red berry fruits saturate this gracious, feminine Rosso, while cooling acids add vibrancy. The finish is long, almost salty, and the 2017 is surprisingly structured for a Rosso, as notes of tart red berries and inner florals slowly fade. Don't make the mistake of falling for this wine's lightweight textures and ethereal feel; there are unseen depths here that only time will reveal." 93 V

# 357 Caparzo Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2016

Caparzo dates back to the end of the 1960s at the dawning of Brunello di Montalcino, when a group of friends, fond of Tuscany and of wine, purchased an old ruin with vineyards at Montalcino. The farm estate was renovated, modernized, and new vineyards were planted. In a short time, Caparzo made itself known in the Brunello market. In 1998, 30 years after the first rows of vines were planted, the farm estate came to a turning point when lisabetta Gnudi Angelini purchased Caparzo. With the help of her son, Igino, and daughter, Alessandra, she immediately carried out her objective: combining tradition with innovation to create a high-quality wine that is the expression of an excellent Territory. "Ripe, sweet cherry and raspberry fruit are accented by floral, mineral and wild herbs in this alluring red. A backbone of dense, dusty tannins provides support, and the ripe fruit returns on the savory finish. Excellent length. Best from 2023 through 2043." 96 WS

# 385 Le Gode Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2016

Le Gode is the quintessential classic producer in Montalcino. Apart from a few concessions to the modern world, such as stainless-steel fermentation tanks and a computer in the office, things are pretty bare-bones at this tiny azienda, which produces between 25,000 and 30,000 bottles annually. Not exactly large-scale production! Located in the north of Montalcino on the hill of Montosoli, Azienda Agricola Le Gode owns about 16 hectares, of which 6 are dedicated to the production of Brunello di Montalcino. Owned by the Ripaccioli family since 1960, it was Claudio's grandfather Ilano who laid the groundwork for the current production. Bottling their first official vintage of Brunello in 1995 Claudio and his family continue year after year to craft beautifully expressive, classic Rosso and Brunello di Montalcino. "A fascinating red with dried berries, cherries, smoked meat and dried flowers that follow through to a full body with a dense, layered fruit structure with

# 54.00

60.00

81.00

ripe yet firm tannins. The wood comes through now, but it's luscious and plush for the vintage. One of best ever from here. Try after 2024." 96 JS

- 508Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 201595 WA493Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 201695 WS
- 604 Altesino Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2017

Though the worldwide reputation of Brunello has encouraged a certain conservatism among Montalcino estates, Altesino has always been an innovative leader. The estate pioneered the technique of aging its IGT wines in small French oak barrels, limiting the time spent in oak to enhance each wine's personality. The resulting wines were a groundbreaking improvement over those produced by traditional methods. No longer overwhelmed by wood, they were able to display the unique characteristics of the fruit, with softened tannins and perfect balance. Altesino also was the first Montalcino estate to introduce the concept of "cru" wines, made with a special selection of grapes from a single vineyard.

95 JS

# 438 Fattoria La Gerla Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2013

The La Gerla property is situated at 320 metres above sea level, on the gentle slopes below Montalcino. This small wine estate has established itself as one of the great crùs in this territory in the heart of Tuscany, delineated by the Orcia and Ombrone valleys. "The 2013 Brunello di Montalcino is elegant, balanced and bright. The pretty luminosity of the wine's appearance helps to underline this positive impression. The bouquet is nuanced and layered with dried fruit aromas that segue to spice, tar and balsam herb. You get sassy aromas of licorice, tar and cola on the close." 94 WA

### 498 Uccelliera Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2015

"Andrea Cortonesi of Uccelliera shows real talent when it comes to highlighting vintage variation in his wines. His 2015 Brunello di Montalcino captures the exuberance and the ebullience of this sunny and warm growing season. However, the wine remains orderly, precise and very elegant nonetheless, with a pretty succession of aromas that play cautiously forward, building in intensity along the way. Dried currant and cherry cede to moist earth, rose petal and balsam herb. The wine's medium-weight body is supported by fresh acidity and well-managed tannins (36 months of oak aging). All of these moving pieces work in harmony." 97 WA

# 499 Mastrojanni Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2017

One of Montalcino's most historic brands located near Castelnuovo dell'Abate, Mastrojanni is today owned by the founders of Illy espresso coffee. The past decade has seen an impressive series of investments and improvements to quality. "Delicious and elegantly structured, this gorgeous red offers enticing scents of fragrant blue flowers, forest floor, wild berries and new leather. On the full-bodied palate, taut, fine-grained tannins provide finesse and a polished framework for ripe Morello cherry, crushed raspberry, licorice and the barest hint of mocha. Drink 2023–2029." 95 WE

# 390 Le Ragnaie Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2016

Le Ragnaie is known for its elegant, terroir-driven wines that stand out in this Tuscan powerhouse category. The owner and winemaker, Riccardo Campinoti, acquired the property in 2002 and has expanded the estate to include 28 hectares covering three distinct parcels within Montalcino. The parcels Le Ragnaie and Petroso both are centered around the village of Montalcino and have the region's highest elevation vineyards and oldest winemaking history, respectively. "A firm, linear style, featuring black cherry, black currant, licorice, iron and spice aromas and flavors. Though firmly structured and compact, there's an energy here and an overall balance that makes this red compelling. Ends with a terrific finish, evoking fruit, spice and underbrush accents." 96 WS

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### 125.00

110.00

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105.00

# 436 Ciacci Piccolomini Brunello di Montalcino "Pianrosso", DOCG 2013 128.00

Ciacci Piccolomini is one of the most sought-after producers in all of Italy. The Bianchini family was gifted its Brunello estate in 1985 by Countess Elda Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona, who had no heirs. This ancient estate has 35 hectares of superior holdings in the prized Castelnuovo dell'Abate zone, including the 'Pianrosso' vineyard (meaning 'red field,' a reference to the iron rich soils) and the 'Fonte' vineyard, which produces grapes for the Rosso di Montalcino. "Wildberry, fragrant purple-flower and crushed aromatic herb aromas mingle with whiffs of tilled earth and new leather on this dazzling red. The stunning, savory palate boasts remarkable finesse combined with an age-worthy structure, offering succulent black cherry, raspberry compote, licorice and tobacco alongside taut, refined tannins. It's impeccably balanced, with bright acidity. It's already tempting, but hold for even more complexity. Cellar Selection" 98 WE

# 540 Il Poggione Brunello di Montalcino, DOCG 2016

Tenuta Il Poggione was founded at the end of 1800 when Lavinio Franceschi, land owner from Florence, decided to visit the area after hearing the stories from a shepherd, who brought his herds around Montalcino during the winter. He fell in love with the landscape and the people who lived in that area, and decided to buy land and establish a grape farm. More than a century later, Tenuta Il Poggione has established itself as one of the most highly regarded wineries in all of Tuscany, making incredibly powerful wines for collectors and everyday drinkers alike. "Located in Sant'Angelo in Colle, the 2016 Brunello was aged for over 30 months in large French oak. The nose is exuberant with confectionary aromatics of kirsch, sweet herbs and lavender. The palate is energetic and fresh, with bright cherry fruit and oolong tea. This is a polished style with focus and clarity that lends itself to enjoyment in drinking these now, though this will not be one that tires easily." 96 JD

# 492 Altesino Brunello di Montalcino "Montosoli", DOCG 2016 97JD 195.00 604 Altesino Brunello di Montalcino "Montosoli", DOCG 2017 95WS 215.00

This small vineyard produced one of Italy's first "cru" wines. Located at the top of Altesino's vineyards is the prestigious Montosoli vineyard where ancient limestone soils with the 360 degree exposure combine to yield a Brunello of exceptional style and elegance. "Montosoli lies above the morning fog line, allowing for greater exposure to the morning sun, and was the first single vineyard designated wine in Montalcino's history with its first vintage in 1975. The 2016 takes all the components of the estate Brunello and is amplified with concentrated raspberry coulis, sage, and rose petal. Once again, there is tremendous consistency from the nose to the palate, though here the structure is compact and will need additional time for those who shy away from grippy, building tannins. Drink over the next 20 years or more." 97 JD, 97 JS, 97 WS

# -Umbria

## 422 Falesco Vitiano Rosso, IGT 2018

"This wine represents one of the best values in Italian wine, and I really can't imagine how the Cotarella family manages to get so much quality at this super competitive price. A blend of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Sangiovese, the Falesco Famiglia Cotarella 2018 Vitiano Rosso represents an ample production of 800,000 bottles. Indeed, most of the fruit from the family's Umbrian vineyard holdings end up in this production. This informal but elegant mid-weight red offers plenty of cherry fruit, spice and balanced touches of tobacco and spice." 89 WA

### 30.00

# Northern Italy- Piedmont, Lombardy, Tre-Venezie

# -Barbera, Dolcetto

#### Vietti Barbera d'Asti "Tre Vigne", Piedmont Italy 2020 475

The Vietti name is no stranger to those who know Piedmont wines. The history of the Vietti winery traces its roots back to the 19th Century and the wines are synonymous with quality. Ruby red color with mineral and vanilla notes. Medium-bodied, dry wine with a crisp acidity (perfect for the whole meal) and soft tannins. This Barbera is very well balanced, with a good complexity and a red cherry finish.

#### G. D. Vajra Barbera d'Alba, DOC 2019 360

The Barbera d'Alba DOC comes from ancient soils, traced to three different geological ages: Tortonian, Serravallian and Messinian. The resulting terroir produces a refined savory wine, charming and complex and easily combined with any meal. Great persistence and balance, with a velvet finish. Deep red color with purple hues refer to the sweetness of a dark fruit with refined elegance. Intense and rich on the nose, it is both fresh and harmonious: floral and fruity notes give way to hay, tobacco and spices. On the palate again fruits and graphite notes are rich and persistent.

# -Langhe and Alto Piemonte

#### Cascina di Mela Langhe Rosso "Parin", DOCG 2019 552

Cascina di Mela winery was founded in 1947 by Mario Pelassa, affectionately known as "Pa". The Pelassa family still owns the winery and associated vineyards today. Now, the brother team of Daniele (winemaker) and Davide (vineyard manager) produce 5 different wines from the Montà d'Alba winery. Montà is in the northern part of the Alba Commune and is separated from Barolo and Barbaresco by the Tanaro river. The winery is committed to sustainable farming and their vineyards were certified organic in 2015. "The 2019 Cascina di Mela Langhe Rosso "Parin" is a truly beautiful blend of 50% Nebbiolo and 50% Barbera. It has a ruby red color and violet shades. It is particularly harmonious with a pleasant taste of red berries and spice, elegance and persistence" – Winemaker's notes

#### Vietti Nebbiolo Langhe "Perbacco", DOC 2019 607

Vietti has long been an elite, reference-point producer in Piedmont but in recent years brothers-inlaw Luca Currado and Mario Cordero have taken major steps to further elevate the quality of their wines across the board. Vietti's Perbacco is made from Barolo-designated parcels that don't meet the qualitative standard for the estate's multi-cru Barolo Castiglione. Perbacco is for all practical purposes a Barolo, but because it its bottled two months earlier than regulations permit, the wine is sold as Langhe Nebbiolo.

#### Le Piane "Boca", Boca DOC 2010 320

The Boca wine region, in the province of Novara, is the most eastern and highest (420-520 m) in Piemonte, situated between the Sesia Valley and Lake Orta nestled in the hills of the Lower Alps. It is here, that an almost forgotten wine producing area was revived in the late 1990's when Christoph Kunzli, originally a Swiss wine importer, was introduced to the tiny and little known region of Boca by Paolo di Marchi, owner of the famous Chianti estate, Isole e Olena. Since then, Christoph has been producing some of the most natural and exciting wines found in the Piemonte: totally expressive and quite unique with a wonderfully elegant and fine profile. "Le Piane's 2010

# 38.00

44.00

### 55.00

95.00

# 18





Boca is once again striking. Translucent yet deep and wonderfully expressive the Boca shows just how expressive Nebbiolo and Vespolina can be here. Sweet red cherry, spice, tobacco and mint gradually blossom in a super-finessed yet deep wine with class and pedigree to burn. Tasted next to the 2011, the 2010 is quite a bit more reticent and in need of time in bottle. The classically austere style will hold considerable appeal to traditionalists. Over the last few months, the 2010 has developed nicely, but it still needs time. What a gorgeous wine it is. Drink 2017-2030" 95 V

# -Barbaresco

# 330 Elvio Tintero Barbaresco, DOCG 2016

Elvio Tintero makes affordable wines in Piedmont and the Barbaresco is the star. This fruitforward, easier-drinking expression of nebbiolo offers people a nice entry into the market, while also attracting the nebbiolo purist. You may know Marco Tintero for his sprightly Moscato d'Asti, but the man is a master when it comes to all things Piemontese. He even makes small batches of this radically inexpensive Barbaresco! The fruit comes from the Balluri cru in Neive, and Marco gives it the all-traditional treatment—two years in large, neutral oak, no fining or filtration—to preserve Barbaresco's best attributes: delicate floral overtones, baked-asphalt minerality, and a caressing elegance on the palate from start to finish. It can age for several years, but there is no need to wait.

# 373 Castello di Nieve Barbaresco, DOCG 2016

Castello di Neive and the surrounding 150 acre estate are owned by the Stupino family; siblings Anna, Giulio, Italo, and Piera. The Castello di Neive winery began when Giacomo Stupino, the family patriarch, capitalized on his experience as a surveyor and his knowledge of the area to purchase favorable vineyards and land whenever possible. In the small cellars of their family home, the Stupino's began their first wine production (including Messoirano, Montebertotto, Basarin, Valtorta, and i Cortini) and, over time, their acquired vineyards grew with the family's production and ambitions. In 1964 the family purchased the castle with its spacious cellars, along with more land and farmsteads in Santo Stefano and Marcorino. By 1970, Giulio and Italo oversaw the transition from tenant farming to direct management of the land, initiating production and export of Castello di Neive wines abroad. "Rose, violet, just-tilled vineyard soil and perfumed berry are just some of the aromas you'll find on this dazzling, fragrant red. The elegant, delicious palate is chock-full of elegance and flavor, delivering juicy Morello cherry, raspberry compote, cake spice and a balsamic note. It boasts fantastic tension and finesse, and will be even better with more bottle age. Gorgeous. Drink 2026–2036." 96 WE - #2 Wine Enthusiast Top 100 Cellar Selections of 2019

# Producer Note: Produttori del Barbaresco

The Produttori del Barbaresco, or the more technically accurate name Cantina Sociale dei Produttori del Barbaresco, is a true cooperative in the village of Barbaresco, in the Piedmont, Italy. Cooperatives are owned by the members of a group, in this case the growers, who typically would not be able to produce wine and market it on their own based on their very small holdings. However, with a unified front and a single winemaking facility, all the vineyard owners can benefit from the strength of the group; the cooperative. The Produttori del Barbaresco was established in 1958 by a local priest from the village of Barbaresco, who believed that the local grape growers had to band together to produce wine in order to survive. He gathered together nineteen small growers and founded the Produttori del Barbaresco, which has become a standard benchmark for cooperatives throughout the world of winemaking. The first few vintages were made in the church basement and today, the winery stands just across the corner from that location. The managing director of the winery today is Aldo Vacca, who has done a brilliant job of securing fruit from 56 different growers in Barbaresco (all of whom are members of the Produttori), representing 250 acres of the finest vineyards. Moreover, Vacca has maintained a wine making philosophy of using only large wooden casks (grandi botti) in order to craft a wine that truly represents the local Barbaresco terroir. More than

# 55.00

that, by favoring large casks over the small barrels that many producers find so appealing these days, each wine offers a special sense of place, especially the single vineyard offerings, so that the Asili Barbaresco tastes much different than the one from Rabajà or Montestefano. The winery makes wines solely from the Nebbiolo grape and there are three separate wine types: a Nebbiolo Langhe (Langhe is the larger zone where Barbaresco is located; Barolo is also part of Langhe), a Barbaresco normale, and the cru bottlings of Barbaresco (effectively the single vineyard wines), of which there are nine different vineyards bottled. What truly makes the Produttori del Barbaresco such an important producer is that it serves as a reference point for Barbaresco. Even if you prefer a riper, flashier, oakier approach when it comes to this wine, one has to look at the wines of the Produttori as the bottlings that define the classic style of Barbaresco.

# 437 Produttori del Barbaresco Barbaresco DOCG 2017 93WA, 93 WS

76.00

This is the Barbaresco Normale, which is typically blended from several of the different vineyard sites. "The 2017 Barbaresco, sourced from 100 hectares and 54 growers, was aged for 24 months in large oak casks. It offers layers of aromatics woven together with tar, forested earth, dried cherry, and sweet tobacco. The palate is ripe and pure, with raspberry leather, tea leaf, and blood orange. It is mouth-filling, with fruit that is long and persistent, fine tannins, and a lifted finish. Finessed and elegant, the 2017 is drinking beautifully now and will continue to drink well over the next 15 years. 2021-2036." 95 JD

**Asili Vineyard:** Aldo Vacca of Produttori di Barbaresco states that Asili is known for its elegance. "The vineyard is like a bowl, very protected and it gets very hot in the middle of the day. The wines have very fine grained tannins. And although they are very closed and tight in their youth, the wines of Asili open up with age to become the quintessential expression of finesse and elegance in Barbaresco."

69Ô	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2009	96 WA	105.00
474	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2011	96 WS	105.00
372	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2013	97 V	110.00
442	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2014	97 WE	110.00
490	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2015	96 WA	110.00
488	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2016	97 V	125.00
612	Barbaresco "Asili" Riserva DOCG 2017	95 V	135.00

**Ovello Vineyard:** "Ovello is the northernmost vineyard in the village of Barbaresco, higher on the sea level and dropping down to the river in a 300 foot, abrupt bluff. It is a relatively large area with a number of subzones with West and East exposure, all sharing a similar calcareous soils rich in clay. The extra clay and the cooler microclimate give the Ovello its exuberant and youthful quality in the fruit and its fuller body, which defines its distinctive personality. Explosive fruit on the palate and firm, sometime rough, tannins on the finish, these wines always bring a lot of joy to the palate and deliver powerful structure, that needs some years of bottle ageing to balance out."

684	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2009	94 JS	105.00
471	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2011	94 V	105.00
370	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2013	96 V	110.00
459	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2014	95 WA	110.00
685	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2016	97 WE	125.00
615	Barbaresco "Ovello" Riserva DOCG 2017	94 WE	135.00

**Rabajà Vineyard:** According to Aldo Vacca of Produttori di Barbaresco, Rabajà creates the most powerful of the Barbarescos. *"Rabaja and Asili lie on the same ridge, but Rabaja is east of Asili and it is farther away from the Tanaro River. The farther you get from the river, the soil becomes more compact, reducing fertility, but increasing and the river."* 

the intensity and body of the wine, with darker fruit and more tannic structure. It is less elegant and refined than Asili, but more robust and powerful."

410	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2011	95+ V	110.00
466	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2013	97 WE	110.00
431	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2014	97 WE	110.00
306	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2015	97 WS	110.00
425	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2016	98 V	125.00
614	Barbaresco "Rabajà" Riserva DOCG 2017	94 V	135.00

# -Barolo

#### G. D. Vajra Barolo "Albe", DOCG 2017 396

Vajra's Barolo Albe is "Barolo di Barolo", a Barolo blended from vineyards only in the Barolo comune. Fosatti, Coste de Vergne and La Volta all have different southern exposures and add distinct qualities to the wine, they yield a complex and rich Barolo that will age gracefully for another 3 to 5 years, but is a an absolute pleasure to drink now. In fact, not only is this our most approachable and open Barolo, but it is one of the vest values on our list for all categories. "This is one of the most accessible and trustworthy wines you can buy from Piedmont. Keeping in line with past vintages, the G.D. Vajra 2017 Barolo Albe opens to medium concentration and a very expressive or fruit-forward bouquet. This hot-climate 2017 edition shows a little more ripeness and roundness as is to be expected, but these results are a safe bet nonetheless. Cherry and raspberry aromas are followed by blue flower and pressed violets. Set this bottle aside for medium or longterm drinking." 93 WA

#### Vietti Barolo "Castiglione", DOCG 2017 449

With fruit sourced from various points within the Castiglione Falletto township, the Barolo *Castiglione continues on its promise to offer a solid drinking experience based purely on quality* Nebbiolo. This wine speaks more to the specific qualities of Nebbiolo, more than vineyard site. "There's such purity of fruit to this with both dried and ripe strawberries and citrus rind. It's fullbodied and structured with layers of ripe tannins that are fine and polished. Tight at the end. Give this two or three years to open and soften. Try in 2024." 94 JS

#### Pio Cesare Barolo, DOCG 2016 353

Pio Cesare has been producing wine for more than 100 years. The tradition began in 1881, when Pio Cesare started gathering grapes in his vineyards and purchasing those of some selected and reliable farmers in the hills of Barolo and Barbaresco districts. At Pio Cesare, there has always been a conviction that great wine can come only from the finest grapes and the winery's output has always been limited through adherence to the highest standards. Pio Cesare limits its production by using only the most mature and healthy grapes. The ripening of the grapes is carefully monitored and the harvest is rigidly controlled with each grape selected by hand. Today, the estate is managed by Pio Boffa, great-grandson of Pio Cesare. "Enticingly fragrant, this wine offers alluring scents of iris, rose, perfumed berry and wild herb. It's full bodied and elegant, delivering crushed raspberry, juicy Marasca cherry, star anise and orange zest set against a backbone of taut, fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced and lends intensity. Drink 2024–2036." 96 WE

94.00

### 130.00

# 21

342	G. D. Vajra Barolo "Bricco Delle Viole", DOCG 2012	94WS	128.00
439	G. D. Vajra Barolo "Bricco Delle Viole", DOCG 2015	95WE	135.00
308	G. D. Vajra Barolo "Bricco Delle Viole", DOCG 2016	98WA	139.00

"Aldo and Milena Vajra are among the quietest and most introspective of Piedmont's top echelon growers. It is the wines that do the talking here, and they do that ever so eloquently. The estate's continued focus on excellence throughout their entire range comes through in all of their releases. "From the Bricco delle Viole cru, or the vineyard most strongly associated with this historic estate, this is a versatile or "evergreen" wine that always delivers consistent results. The G.D. Vajra 2016 Barolo Bricco delle Viole sees fruit from a seven-hectare vineyard with high exposures positioned at 400 to 480 meters above sea level. This site shows characteristic Tortonian-era soils classified as Sant'Agata marl with fossils. These soils have an enormous capacity to regulate the ripening process, resulting in the longer growing seasons relished by the Nebbiolo grape. In a word, the profile here is classic."

#### 316 Damilano Barolo "Cannubi", DOCG 2016

The origins of the Damilano family company dates back to over a century ago, when Guiseppe Borgogno, the great-grandfather of the current owners, started to grow and make wine from his own grapes. "The Damilano 2016 Barolo Cannubi shows depth and a profound nature. This is the DNA of the Cannubi cru, maybe the most celebrated in the appellation with mildly compact, welldraining sandy soils (actually, a mix of 45% sand, 35% silt and 20% clay, to be precise). These conditions contribute to the dark concentration and the firm textural support found here. These assets are particularly apparent in this classic vintage. Dark fruit and dried cherry cede to earthy truffle and licorice. Of these various single-vinevard expressions, the tight tannins on this Cannubi definitely suggest a long drinking window. This wine is my favorite in this flight from Damilano, and this vintage of 40,000 bottles is distinguished by its sheer excellence." 97 WA, 98 JS

#### Domenico Clerico Barolo "Pajana", DOCG 2015 640

Clerico is one of the most respected names in all Barolo, and his wines are renowned for both winemaking of the highest quality and for exceptional character, deriving from outstanding vinevard holdings in four of the greatest crus of Monforte: Ginestra, Bussia, Pajana and Mosconi. "The Domenico Clerico 2015 Barolo Pajana opens to a beautifully saturated color with dark garnet and ruby highlights. Compared to the 2016 vintage that I tasted at the same time, this wine is more robust, structured and deeper. In some cases, I prefer 2016 to 2015, but this is one case in which the warmer vintage ushers forth a special and very attractive level of intensity. The bouquet is layered, multifaceted and fluid. Despite the many adjectives you could use to describe the bouquet, one thing does not change and that is the sheer intensity of this impressive Barolo Pajana." 96+ WA

# -Gattinara

#### Travaglini Gattinara Riserva, DOCG 2009 693 94 JS 670 Travaglini Gattinara Riserva, DOCG 2013 95 WE

Travaglini is a family-owned wine estate in the tiny Gattinara appellation within the Piedmont region. Established in the 1920s by Clemente Travaglini, the winery is Gattinara's most esteemed producer of traditional, limited-production wines from the nebbiolo grape. Travaglini wines are easily recognized by their distinctive bottle shape, featuring a unique curve that fits naturally in the palm of the hand and serves to catch sediment during decanting. Designed by a glassmaker to celebrate the excellent 1952 vintage, the bottle was so well received that family decided to keep it as their trademark.

# 135.00

# 156.00

### 110.00 110.00

# -Veneto

### 311 Allegrini "Palazzo Della Torre", IGT 2016

The Allegrini farm is based in Fumane di Valpolicella. The Allegrini family has been handing down grape farming and wine producing traditions in this small but important town in the Valpolicella Classico area since the 16th century. The techniques used for this wine's production are completely innovative and untraditional. Palazzo della Torre is made from traditional Veneto grapes. 70% of the grapes are vinified immediately. The remaining 30% are left to dry until the end of December when they are vinified and then refermented with the wine from the fresh grapes giving the wine an extra dimension of richness and body "A juicy and flavorful red with dried berries, chocolate and hints of walnuts and herbs, following through to a rich finish. Medium body." 92 JS

# 303 Luigi Righetti Campolieti Valpolicella Ripasso Classico Superiore DOC 2019 40.00

Located in Valgatara, in the depths of Valpolicella Classico, sits the family-run Luigi Righetti estate. Since 1909, when Angelo Righetti first earned a reputation as an outstanding winemaker, the family has focused on producing quality wines of distinction. Campolieti means "happy fields" and refers to the vineyards from which the grapes are harvested. Ripasso is one of the most unique winemaking processes; a basic Valpolicella is transferred into casks holding the grape skins left over from Amarone production. This blend of 65% Corvina, 30% Rondinella, 5% Molinara is a deep ruby red with an intense bouquet of fruit, jam and Mediterranean spices. A harmonic fullbodied taste that lingers on the palate.

# 634 Stefano Accordini Valpolicella Ripasso "Acinatico", DOC 2019

48.00

This estate winery has deep country roots: the founders have been share-croppers, then landowners and finally wine-makers. The company is led by Stefano himself helped by his wife Giuseppina and his two sons, Tiziano and Daniele. The family estate extends over 4 hectares situated in Negrar, the heart of Valpolicella, in a place called Bessole. The Valpolicella Ripasso is obtained by "re-passing" of the Valpolicella wine on the dried grape skins of Amarone, still warm and rich in sugar. The Valpolicella remains in contact with the pomace of Amarone for 10/12 days; during this period, a second alcoholic fermentation occurs. Ripasso method gives to Valpolicella wine a better structure and a lower acidity, it is more rounded and it is suitable for aging in barrels for 18 months.

# 601Tenuta Sant'Antonio Valpolicella Ripasso "Monti Garbi", DOC 201948.00

Tenuta Sant'Antonio has earned its reputation as a premium and progressive producer of Veneto DOC wines (Amarone, Valpolicella, Ripasso, Passito, Soave and Recioto della Valpolicella), as well as Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. Tenuta Sant'Antonio wines are made from 100% estate-grown fruit from its vineyards in Soave in the Val d'Illasi, and Monti Garbi, its 124-acre estate vineyard site in Valpolicella.

# Production Note: Amarone della Valpolicella

Amarone is one of Italy's treasured wines, not only because of the intensely flavored wines themselves, but also due to the fascinating production method that helps to create them. Amarones are produced in the Veneto region in northeastern Italy by the same producers who make Valpolicella, a light easy drinking red. Made from local varieties Corvina, Molinara, and Rondinella, winemakers were looking for a way to increase aromatic intensity, flavor profile, and age worthiness of their valpolicellas. In order to concentrate the natural sugars of the grapes, winemakers began drying their grapes after harvest, to remove water from the berries, while retaining sweetness and flavor (this process was originally used to make Recioto della Valpolicella, a sweet wine- the first Amarones

were considered mistakes, Reciotos that were allowed to ferment too long). Once this drying process (called appassimento in Italian) is complete (typically three to four months), the grapes have lost a third of their water and have shriveled to raisins. The grapes are then gently pressed and the must is fermented to dry, yielding a very intense, high alcohol wine. They are usually aged in casks or barrels for a minimum 24 months before being released. The resulting wines are usually big, rich full-bodied wines that tend to have flavor profiles of dark chocolate, dried fig and raisin, and earth and the wines should be paired with heartier fare like meat roasts or aged cheeses. Amarones usually require several to ten years of bottle aging before their flavors mature and the wines can continue to develop for 20 years or more.

# 408 Luigi Righetti "Capitel de' Roari" Amarone della Valpolicella, DOC 2017 71.00

Located in Valgatara, right in the heart of the Valpolicella Classico zone, the Luigi Righetti estate has been a family-run winery since 1909. Gian Maria Righetti is the fourth generation in the Righetti family to carry on the wine-making tradition. The name Capitel de' Roari refers to the various plots of vineyards where grapes are obtained for the Amarone della Valpolicella Classico. The vineyards, situated on the finest hills of the Valpolicella Classica, are well cultivated, limited in production and high in quality. Full bodied and rich with aromas of dried fruit, plums, black cherry and a distinct "earthy" note. The wine will continue to evolve in the bottle over the next 5 to 10 years.

# 603 Monte Zovo Amarone della Valpolicella, DOC 2016

Mature black plum, leather, cocoa and cooking spice emerge from the glass. The dense palate offers blackberry jam, star anise and black pepper alongside velvety tannins and the warmth of alcohol. The wine is not overt in its raisinated character, showing enough balance to be a great food wine.

# 366 Stefano Accordini Amarone della Valpolicella "Acinatico", DOC 2017 113.00

This estate winery has deep country roots: the founders have been share-croppers, then landowners and finally wine-makers. The company is led by Stefano himself helped by his wife Giuseppina and his two sons, Tiziano and Daniele. The family estate extends over 4 hectares situated in Negrar, the heart of Valpolicella, in a place called Bessole. This wine is medium-dark ruby color with smoke. baked berry and tar in the nose. Intense on the palate with youthful, rich, ripe black fruit, licorice and dried blackberry. Superb finish with great length.

# 318 Zenato Amarone della Valpolicella Classico, DOC 2017

The Zenato winery possesses a strong link to the richness of its local history and culture, and continues to develop this connection today. The estate is based in a territory that surrounds Lake Garda, with an extraordinary microclimate that allows for an optimal growing season. "Zesty, vibrant and exotic, the 2016 Amarone della Valpolicella Classico makes a serious impression with its unique bouquet of dried roses, lime zest, cherry sauce, plums and a dusting of crushed violet candies. It's silky and pliant in texture, motivated by juicy acids, with a mix of ripe strawberry, pomegranate and cranberry sauce, as balsamic spices and hints of almond come forward toward the close. There is so much going on here, as the 2016 resonates on wild berry fruit and sweet inner florals. This may be a more opulent expression of the vintage, but it's built to last, and sure to win a lot of fans." 94 V

# 325 Allegrini Amarone della Valpolicella Classico, DOC 2017

Perhaps one of the most consistent performers in the entire region is Allegrini's exceptional Amarone. "The Allegrini 2017 Amarone della Valpolicella Classico shows dark fruit and spice that all point to the hot and dry conditions of this vintage. The wine is balanced with a good amount of dark fruit intensity but no overtly jammy or baked fruit. That dense fruit wraps thickly over the palate, supported by backend aromas of charred spice and campfire embers. This is a

# 24

### 114.00

76.00

blend of 45% Corvina Veronese, 45% Corvinone, 5% Rondinella and 5% Oseleta with 120 days of appassimento." 94 WA

# - Lombardy

#### Cornale Lambrusco Mantovano Dolce, Lombardy IGT 453

30.00

# **American Red Wines**

# **Blended Wines**

#### 447 Ridge Three Valleys Red Blend, Sonoma County, CA 2019 46.00

"An engaging blend, well-knit and distinctive for its savory raspberry and cherry flavors that draw in bay leaf, Asian spice and smoked pepper notes. Tannins are ripe and briary. Zinfandel, Petite Sirah, Carignane and Mataro. Drink now through 2029." 93 WS

#### Guardian Cellars "Chalk Line" Red Blend, Columbia Valley, WA 2018 359 50.00

Jerry Riener was known around the Woodinville wine scene as the chemist, turned cop, who was almost always around to help with wine work. He was a graduate of the University of Washington (with a degree in organic chemistry) AND a graduate of the police academy. Jennifer Sullivan was a reporter for the Seattle times. Initial distrust (as is common with a cop and a reporter) eventually turned to love and a binding common interest; wine. So, they started a winery. Their initial release in 2005 (350 cases of Gunmetal, a blend of Syrah and Cabernet) was sold within a day. They now make 16 wines over two labels, Guardian and Newsprint, totalling around 9000 cases. "The "Chalk Line" red blend is comprised of 37% Cabernet, 33% Merlot, 30% Syrah.. Structured and polished, with generous blackberry, toasty cinnamon and mocha flavors that fan out on the lingering finish. Drink now through 2026. 1,500 cases made." 92 WS

#### Chappellet "Mountain Cuvée" Red Blend, Napa Valley, CA 2019 327



54.00 Blended from the traditional Bordeaux varieties, including Chappellet's own coveted estate grapes, the Chappellet Mountain Cuvée Proprietor's Blend builds on their decades of experience crafting great Napa County mountain-grown wines. A stellar Napa value, this blend of 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot, 10% Malbec, 8% Petit Verdot, 5% Cabernet Franc is made for more near-term consumption. "The 2018 Chappellet Mountain Cuvée strikes gold with a stellar effort. TASTING NOTES: This wine delivers what every wine lover desires in a picture-perfect Napa Cabernet. Its classic, up-front aromas and flavors of black fruit, licorice, and oak stay firm and long on the palate. Pair it with a juicy, well-marbled grilled ribeye." 92 pts WW

#### 371 The Prisoner Wine Company "The Prisoner", Napa Valley, California 2019 78.00

The Prisoner is a modern-day wine success story, launched by Orin Swift founder Dave Phinney in 2000. The Prisoner is a Zinfandel-based blend with the balance in Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah, Syrah and just a splash of Charbono. It was sourced from well-known vineyards such as Somerston, Solari, York Creek and Hudson. The wine was aged in a combination of French and American oak before bottling. This eclectic crowd pleaser has found a following from lovers of fruit-forward and jammy wines, but it has enough substance to please those who prefer their California reds a bit more structured. Not just a cocktail wine, this hefty red pairs very well with braised meats and barbecue.

# 319 Ridge Vineyards "Geyserville" Alexander Valley, California 2019

Ridge's history begins in 1885, when Osea Perrone, a doctor and prominent member of San Francisco's Italian community, bought 180 acres near the top of Monte Bello Ridge in the Santa Cruz Mountains. He planted vineyards and constructed a winery of redwood and native limestone in time to produce the first vintage of Monte Bello in 1892. The historic building now serves as the Ridge production facility. Though Ridge began as a Cabernet winery, by the mid-60s, it had produced several Zinfandels including the Geyserville. In 1972, Lytton Springs joined the line-up and the two came to represent an important part of Ridge production. "Dark garnet red with classic Geyserville nose of ripe black cherry and plum, gravel, wintergreen, and beautiful oak spice. Deep and sensuously layered with polished tannins, river-rock minerality, and a long finish." 94 pts and #24 Wine Spectator Top 100 of 2021 Blend: 71% Zinfandel, 19% Carignane, 7% Petite Sirah, 3% Alicante Bouschet

# 362 Ridge Vineyards "Lytton Springs" Dry Creek Valley, California 2018 87.00

"The 2018 Lytton Springs is a blend of 72% Zinfandel, 18% Petite Sirah, 8% Carignane and 2% Mataro. The nose is lush and open, with aromas of aniseed, red and blue berries, blood orange and earth plus touches of tobacco leaf and dried flowers. The medium-bodied palate combines intense, powerful flavors with a more ethereal, silty structure, and it finishes with loads of juicy layers. It's stunning straight from bottle but will have more to give with time in the cellar." 96 WA

## 345 Shafer TD-9 Red Blend, Napa Valley 2018

TD-9 is a proprietary blend that celebrates a bold move. In 1973, in the space of a few months, John Shafer went from riding morning commuter trains in Chicago to teaching himself to drive a TD-9 tractor in our Napa Valley vineyard. He'd never grown grapes or made wine in his life. He now leads one of the most acclaimed wineries in all of California. 56% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Malbec "The 2018 TD-9 Proprietary Red Blend is based on 56% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, and the rest Malbec. It's another balanced, charming, and impeccably made wine from this estate that has lively red and blue fruits, scorched earth, graphite, and licorice aromas and flavors as well as a medium to full-bodied, elegant style on the palate. It shows the more streamlined, focused style of the 2018 vintage and is going to evolve for 10-12 years." 93 JD

# **Cabernet Sauvignon**

## 328 Purple Cowboy Trail Boss Cabernet, Paso Robles, California 2018

Terry Wheatley, creator of Purple Cowboy wines, comes from a background rooted in the western life and a close-knit ranching family. Her husband and son were both champion rodeo cowboys. A breast cancer survivor, Terry co-founded Tough Enough to Wear Pink in 2004, the western community's grassroots campaign against breast cancer, with pink-themed fundraising events at rodeos across the country. Terry is also a long-time wine industry executive, founding her own wine company in 2008. It was there she created Purple Cowboy wines with a commitment to give back to the cause she founded. 100% of the profits from the sales of Purple Cowboy wines go to support Tough Enough to Wear Pink. The wine is comprised of 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, and 4% Petite Sirah. Beautiful aromas of dark Bing cherry and black currant are accented with a hint of cedar and vanilla. Rich and full-bodied with black fruit flavors and cigar box spice.

# 336 Educated Guess Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2020

Roots Run Deep Winery was founded in 2005 with the promise of producing unparalleled wine from the Napa Valley at prices everyone can afford. Grapes grown by the best producers in Yountville, Oakville, Rutherford and Carneros wine districts go into making these wines superb in quality and unmatched in value. Barry Gnekow, winemaker for Roots Run Deep Winery, is a

# 113.00

34.00

44.00

graduate of UC Davis and has over 30 years of winemaking experience. The unique label was designed to tell the story of how you can make an educacted guess in winemaking. It shows you actual winemaking formulas that are either induced or naturally occur during a specific winemaking process.

### 448 Textbook Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley California 2019

Located in Napa, CA, Textbook was founded in 2004 by industry veterans Jonathan and Susan Pey, and produces distinctive wines from coveted Napa Valley and Oakville vineyard sites. The Pey's European background led to Textbook's "bold-yet-balanced" winemaking style which has made Textbook an industry-leading producer of inspiring Napa Valley wines enjoyed by discerning wine consumers across the U.S. and abroad. "Our Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon comes from diverse sites situated across the valley. The cooler sites deliver brightness and grip and the warmer sites deliver generous fruit, intensity and color. Overall, we look for nuance and balance to this Napa Valley Cabernet. Classic and delicious in a very well-mannered way. 94% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Merlot." Wine Maker's notes

### 645 J. Lohr Hilltop Cabernet Sauvignon, Paso Robles, CA 2019

"As we taste J. Lohr's flagship wine year after year, we notice that it continues to grow in terms of mouthfeel, plushness, and strength of character. The 2019 vintage has a je ne sais quoi that's partly explained by red winemaker Brenden Wood's blending practices. Prior vintages incorporated Petit Verdot and Malbec, but this one gives voice to Cabernet Sauvignon at 99%.... one of the more widely available Cabs in American restaurants, and yet manages to be thoroughly enjoyable despite the large production amounts. Blackberry, violet, warm fudge and loamy soil aromas kick off the nose, and then the palate is enveloped in polished yet expansive tannins. Flavors of black currant, vanilla and anise float through the sip." 94 TP, 93 WE- Editor's Choice

### 646 Ride Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2020

Steve Wrubel, founder of Ride and Ridden Wine Company, has devoted much of his life to traveling the world with his camera. But he has always found himself drawn to the untamed nature of the American West and in 2019 he began a journey of documenting one of its last living legends – the rodeo cowboy. These artistic images became part of the inspiration for the company and they find themselves on the labels of the company's wines. "Ride", a 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from Napa Valley, is young winemaker Remington Jorgensen's debut wine. She joined Ride & Ridden Wine Co. from Alejandro Bulgheroni Estate, after an impressive series of stages at the likes of Château de Beaucastel, Rajat Parr's Domaine de la Côte, and Opus One. "Straight out of the gate, this wine overperforms for the price, from its inky black-carmine hue to its aromas of grilled meat, chocolate-dipped orange peel, and black plum. Juicy, vibrant, and teeth-coating yet focused, with notes of dusty cocoa, heather, and black olive. The deluxe mouthfeel is a smooth ride to the finish." 95 The Somm Journal

### 647 Ramey Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2016

David Ramey is among a distinguished group of pioneering American vintners who revolutionized modern-day winemaking and elevated California to the forefront of the international wine community. In California, David led winemaking for Matanzas Creek, Chalk Hill, Dominus Estate and Rudd Estate. In 1996, David and his wife Carla founded Ramey Wine Cellars with the vision of crafting classically styled, elegant and balanced wines that age beautifully. "This wine vastly overdelivers on its price point—a rarity in its category and peers. Made from grapes throughout the appellation, the majority from St. Helena, it blends in small amounts of Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec and Cab Franc. Turned earth, pungent tobacco leaf and currant define its savory, substantially structured elegance that offers room to age." 94 WE

# 27

### 87.00

# 66.00

77.00

#### Silverado Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2018 445

Nestled in the hills on the North West side of the Stags Leap District, Silverado Vineyards Winery has been a favorite wine country destination and home to some of the Napa Valley's mostrecognized wines for almost forty years. In 1981, Ron and Diane Disney Miller and her mother, Lillian Disney, established Silverado Vineyards to make wines from the historic sites of the estate the family owns. The winery was named in honor of the Silverado Vineyard, one of the first four in Stags Leap District to plant Cabernet in the 1960s. "From three of the winery's heritage vineyards—Mt. George in Coombsville; Silverado Vineyard; and Oakville Station, a historic site overseen by UC Davis—this melodic red (85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, and 1% Cab Franc) aged 18 months in 48% new oak (mostly French, with a smaller percentage of Hungarian and American). Following a perfume of mountain brush, dried violets, blackberry, and slate, the palate makes a bold and elegant state- ment; its reserved power and beauty show in notes of spiced cedar, sweet tobacco, and a melange of Italian herb-seasoned blue, red, and black fruit." 94 Wine.com Tasting Panel

#### Faust Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2019 648

A decade after the first release from his Quintessa estate, Agustin Huneeus felt the thrill and excitement of a new endeavor beckon. The underlying premise for all of the wines he has ever produced has been that great wines must be a reflection of a great vineyard. Faust is not. Instead, Faust is a tribute to Napa Valley's noblest grape—full-bodied, decadently rich and unctuous Cabernet Sauvignon. Faust also honors the legend of Dr. Faust, a scholar and respected man of society who was tempted by the Devil to seek new renewed passion and youth in exchange for his soul. The defining characteristics of Faust come from the backbone of fruit sourced from their own Coombsville Estate, complemented by grapes from hillside and cooler regions of the Napa Valley. "Blackberry, blackcurrant, graphite and tar aromas. Crushed stone, too. Full-bodied, yet firm, fresh and bright with a creamy, crunchy finish. One of the best values in Napa appellation designated reds." 95 JS

#### Reynolds Family Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2017 **468** 105.00

Reynolds Family winery's 9-1/2 acre home vineyard sits in the shadow of Atlas Peak, just south of Stags Leap, where it enjoys cool breezes from San Pablo Bay to the south. The growing conditions here are ideal for producing big, rich, complex wines. The vineyard was first planted it in 1996 using 'bench grafted vines' which were quite new back then. With bench grafting, the plants are raised at the nursery for one to two years before planting. This cuts about a year off the vine's development, allowing it to deliver usable fruit in its fourth leaf rather than its fifth. The estate is planted entirely to Cabernet Sauvignon. The 2017 Estate Cabernet is comprised of 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and 7% Merlot. Black garnet color. Aromas of black tea with cream, underripe strawberry, plum, leather, thyme, roasted sweet potato, and violet with a velvety, vibrant, dry-vetfruity full body and an even, elegant, long mocha, buttercream, and lemon pepper finish with firm tannins and heavy oak flavor. A bold, brooding, velvety Napa Cabernet with a long life ahead of it; cellar or decant.

#### Bella Union Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2017 355

Bella Union specializes in the art of blending Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. It was founded in 2012 by the partners of Far Niente and Nickel & Nickel, who, for more than 30 years, have been growing and making spectacular Napa Valley Cabernet. Bella Union is the natural next step in our evolution as Cabernet winemakers. "The 2017 Bella Union is filled with luscious aromas of cherry cola, anise, and baking spices. Tension is exhibited on the palate as this wine is both fruit forward and restrained. Black cherry, blueberry and other briary fruit flavors guide the wine's bright midpalate, finishing with hints of cocoa and resolved tannins." 95 WE - #74 of Wine Enthusiast's Top 100 Cellar Selections of 2020

105.00

### 91.00

# 331 Col Solare, Columbia Valley, Washington 2016

Col Solare is the partnership between two influential wine producers who are recognized leaders in their respective regions: Tuscany's Marchesi Antinori and Washington State's Chateau Ste. Michelle. From its inaugural 1995 vintage, Col Solare's mission has been to unite these two unique viticultural and winemaking cultures to produce a world-class Cabernet Sauvignon-based red wine from the very best Washington fruit. " Stunning stuff, and possibly the finest vintage to date for this wine, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon comes all from the estate on Red Mountain and is 94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Cabernet Franc brought up all in new French oak. Gorgeous notes of crème de cassis, toasted spices, white flowers, and subtle oak all emerge from this super-rich, concentrated, full-bodied Cabernet that stays perfectly balanced and elegant. It has plenty of upfront appeal and shows a soft, sexy profile, yet it has ample tannins, remarkable purity, and a great finish, all promising 20+ years of longevity. Hats off to the team for this killer wine." 97 JD

# 315 O'Shaughnessy Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2018

O'Shaughnessy Estate Winery sits at 1,800 feet on the heralded Howell Mountain appellation in the beautiful Napa Valley. Founded in 1996, the estate encompasses one hundred and twenty acres. Winemaker Sean Capiaux has overseen the planting of the vineyard and selected numerous clones of Cabernet Sauvignon and all seven of the historic Bordeaux varietals for this unique property. "This is such an outstanding wine at any price, but here we're talking about outstanding value as well. Notes of iron and crushed rock lead to a lengthy balance of juicy red fruit and clove. With small amounts of Merlot, Malbec, Saint-Macaire and Cabernet Franc, it shows a deft hand at blending, with lasting notes of black pepper and nuanced oak. Editors' Choice." 97 WE

305 Orin Swift "Papillon" Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, California 2019 125.00

Orin Swift Cellars, led by winemaker Dave Phinney, is a brand known as much for its creative and evocative expression of art on the front of the bottle as it is the bold, yet finessed styling within the bottle. Based out of Saint Helena, within the prized Napa Valley, Orin Swift features a portfolio of wines that appeal to a variety of senses. "The 2019 Papillon pours a neon crimson and settles into a dark core with a ruby rim—crimson through and through. Aromatically, the wine opens with powerful notes of blackberry, kirsch, coastal sagebrush and evolves into ripe pluot and roasted fig. An enveloping entry of grandeur, the palate reveals a more elegant side of the wine: black plum, blackcurrant, toffee and trace hints of sweet red vermouth, muddled mint, and orange peel. Polished, balanced and with an imagined sweetness, the wine closes with ripe but firm tannin and a mild drying character, capable of converting even the staunchest of Bordeaux-philes." Winemaker's Notes

# 411 Chappellet "Signature" Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2019 145.00

The "Signature" Cabernet Sauvignon has been Chappellet's flagship wine for more than three decades. It is a benchmark for the long-lived hillside wines of the Napa Valley; full of structure and ageing potential, yet seductively forward in its concentrated varietal character. The dry, rocky soils of the Pritchard Hill produce small, intensely flavored grapes. For Napa Valley standards, this is about as good as it gets for the money. "Always a smoking value that readers shouldn't miss, the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Signature sports a dense purple color to go with beautiful cassis and blueberry-like fruits as well as bouquet garni, spice, and obvious, rocky mineral-like aromas and flavors. Rich and medium to full-bodied, with notable structure and good acidity, it's going to keep for two decades in cold cellars." 94 JD

### 380 Caymus Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, CA 2020

Charlie and Lorna Wagner, with their son Chuck, launched this winery's legacy as a Napa Valley icon in 1972. This wine certainly needs no introduction. It may be one of the most well known of

# 145.00

### 115.00

all Napa Cabernets. Caymus has a signature style that is dark in color, with rich fruit and ripe, velvety tannins. This Cabernet offers layered, lush aromas and flavors, including cocoa, cassis and ripe dark berries.

# 388 Shafer Cabernet Sauvignon One Point Five, Napa Valley, CA 2019 185.00

Shafer Vineyards in Napa Valley, California, is an iconic family-owned winery, named one of the top 25 vineyards in the world by wine publication Wine & Spirits and "one of the world's greatest wineries" by wine critic Robert M. Parker, Jr. Since 1978 the Shafer family has produced wine in the Stags Leap District, one of the most highly-regarded winegrowing regions within Napa Valley. The small winery is managed by father and son team John and Doug Shafer. Elias Fernandez is winemaker. Shafer cultivates more than 200 acres of estate vineyards. "The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon One Point Five is a gem of a wine that readers will love to have in their cellars. Sweet cassis, violets, and graphite define the bulk of the aromas, and it's a classic Napa Valley Cabernet on the palate with its full-bodied richness, velvety tannins, and opulent yet balanced style. A blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, and the rest Malbec and Petit Verdot, raised 20 months in new barrels, it's going to keep for a solid two decades. There are 9,000 cases of this beauty made." 96 JD

461	Chappellet Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard, Napa CA 2013	98+ WA	340.00
465	Chappellet Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard, Napa CA 2014	99 WA	360.00
344	Chappellet Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard, Napa CA 2016	100 JD	430.00
496	Chappellet Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard, Napa CA 2017	96 WA	440.00
404	Chappellet Pritchard Hill Estate Vineyard, Napa CA 2018	98 JD	455.00

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For more than four decades, the Chappellet family has been crafting world-class wines from fruit cultivated on the steep, rocky slopes of Napa Valley's renowned Pritchard Hill. As one of the first wineries to pioneer high-elevation hillside planting, and one of the few remaining great family-owned Napa Valley wineries, Chappellet Vineyard and Winery has influenced generations of vintners. Throughout its history, Chappellet has also established an enduring legacy as one of California's most acclaimed producers of Cabernet Sauvignon.

395	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2004	97 WA	425.00
<b>39</b> 7	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2005	97 WA	370.00
398	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2006	96 WA	345.00
463	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2008	96 WS, 96 WA	365.00
464	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2009	98 V	390.00
629	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2011	96 WA	390.00
313	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2013	99 JS	434.00
317	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2014	98+ WA	434.00
420	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2015	98+ WA	460.00
450	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2016	100 V, 100 WA	475.00
546	Shafer Hillside Select, Napa Valley, California, 2017	98 WA, 98 JD	480.00
		1	1 1 2 2

"Shafer's flagship wine is the 2,000 case cuvee of Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon. Aged 32 months in 100% new French oak prior to bottling, it is one of the world's great Cabernet Sauvignons, and especially to fans of California Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine needs no introduction. It is, quite frankly, one of California's benchmark wines, exceptional in every vintage, and marked by characteristics that make it such: gorgeous dark inky color, intense and complex aromas of black currants, black cherries, charcoal, a multi-layered and fleshy mid-palate and superb opulence. The finish is always one to be remembered. It is a flamboyant wine that speaks of pure California." Wine Advocate

### 621 Bond St. Eden, Napa Valley, California 2008

Bill Harlan and his team make the BOND wines through long-term lease arrangements they hold with vineyard owners in a handful of top hillside sites in Napa Valley. The Melbury, Quella and Vecina vineyards are planted with 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. The St. Eden vineyard includes 5% Cabernet Franc that was recently grafted onto Merlot rootstocks, while the Pluribus vineyard includes 13% Merlot and 11% Cabernet Franc. "The 2008 St. Eden is one of the richest, fleshiest and best-balanced of the 2008s in the Bond portfolio. Dark red fruit, flowers, minerals and spices are some of the notes that take shape in the glass. The 2008 has the mid-palate pliancy that is less evident in some of the other 2008s here. There is plenty of focus as well, especially on the long, saline finish. Tar, smoke and licorice add the final notes of complexity. Anticipated maturity: 2018-2028." 94 WA

### 624 Bond Vecina, Napa Valley, California 2008

"The 2008 Vecina is a huge, strapping wine bursting with dark fruit, leather, licorice, smoke, minerals and tar. It possesses striking mid-palate depth and more than enough fruit to stand up to the firm, imposing tannins. Iron, graphite, smoke and minerals are layered into the dark, brooding finish. This is an impressive showing. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2025." 95 WA

# 432 Opus One, Napa Valley, California 2017 515 Opus One, Napa Valley, California 2018 99 JS

A joint venture established in 1979 by Robert Mondavi and Baron Phillipe de Rothschild, Opus One may be considered the most widely recognized California wine in the world. In 1981, a single case of the joint venture wine sold for \$24,000 at the first Napa Valley Wine Auction- the highest price ever paid for a California wine. Opus One is sold in more than 65 world markets and still commands premium prices.

# Merlot

# 611 Bookwalter "Readers" Merlot, Columbia Valley, WA 2019

The story of J. Bookwalter Winery is a story of family heritage, deep roots and a centuries-old commitment to the land. Ten generations of the Bookwalter family have been involved in American agriculture. But it was Jerry Bookwalter, generation nine and father of current company president John Bookwalter, who led the family into viticulture. "Aromas of stewed plum, baked blueberry, mocha, coconut and concrete. It's full-bodied with firm, creamy tannins. Plush and polished with a flavorful, rounded finish. This is extremely polished and rather flamboyant. Made partially in concrete eggs." 94 points JS

# 309 Januik Merlot, Columbia Valley, Washington, 2018

Since his first Columbia Valley harvest in 1984, acclaimed winemaker Mike Januik has led in Washington wine quality and innovation. Januik is dedicated to crafting high quality, limited release wines by working on a small scale with fruit from the state's best vineyards and concentrating on the details of winemaking, from fermentation through blending, that transform winemaking from a science to an art. "Ripe plum, baked blueberry, lavender, toffee and espresso on the nose. It's medium-bodied, round and plush with soft tannins and a plummy palate." 91 JS

# 322 Northstar Merlot, Columbia Valley, Washington, 2019

Northstar Winery, located in Walla Walla, Washington, is dedicated to the production of ultrapremium Merlot that will be considered among the world's best, showcasing the Columbia Valley's star grape variety. Well into his third decade as the winemaker, David "Merf" Merfeld produced one of the most promising Merlots of our judging as Northstar celebrates the 20th anniversary of its vinification facility south of Walla Walla. A pair of Walla Walla Valley vineyards — Anna

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### 525.00

### 575.00 575.00

48.00

54.00

68.00

Marie and Spring Valley — were blended with acclaimed Shaw on Red Mountain and Four Feathers near Cold Creek. Black cherry notes are joined by blueberry, chocolate and nutmeg along the way. Interestingly, Cabernet Sauvignon from Ste. Michelle's own Cold Creek Vineyard accounted for 24% of the finished wine, helping to polish the muscular tannins that get bathed in Marionberry juice. Rating: Gold medal – 93 points

# **Pinot Noir**

# -California

# 633 Hahn SLH Pinot Noir, Santa Lucia Highlands, California 2019 43.00

It was founder Nicky Hahn who suggested that the Santa Lucia Highlands be deemed a unique winegrowing district. In 1991, three years after he and fellow vintners made their appeal, the federal government approved the Highlands as an official American Viticultural Area (AVA). After the fruit for the SLH Pinot Noir is carefully sorted, it undergoes a three-day cold soak in open top fermenters. This 100% Pinot Noir is then aged for 11 months in a selection of French oak barrels. When the wine is ready to be blended, barrels are chosen that best exemplify the aromas, flavors and structure of the Santa Lucia Highlands. "This is a strong showing for a large production Pinot Noir. Mesquite-smoked cherry and light cola aromas on the nose cruise into a spicy palate of root beer and cinnamon that surrounds a cherry compote core." 90 WE

# 324 J. Lohr Vineyard Series "Fog's Reach" Pinot Noir, Arroyo Secco, CA 2018 55.00

Founded more than three decades ago by Jerry Lohr, J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines crafts an array of acclaimed wines from estate grapes. Still guided by Jerry today, this pioneering estate vineyard program is comprised of almost 3,000 acres of vines in Monterey County, Paso Robles and Napa Valley. "Bright ruby-red. Pungent red and blue fruit, succulent flowers and herbs on the nose. Primary bitter cherry and black raspberry flavors show good depth and pick up a spicy nuance on the back half. Shows firm grip and hints of licorice and sage on the persistent finish, which is framed by chewy, even tannins." 91 V

# 427 Walt Pinot Noir "La Brisa", Sonoma County, California 2018

In the world of Napa Cabernet, Kathryn Hall needs no introduction. Her impact in California's wine industry through Hall Vineyards has been felt since the 1970's. Walt is her maiden name and it is also Hall's Pinot and Chardonnay project. Walt celebrates Kathryn Hall's parents, Bob and Delores Walt, whose family dedication to viticulture remains the inspiration for their winegrowing efforts. LaBrisa is Spanish for "The Breeze," pays homage to the brisk coastal breees that cool their prized Sonoma County vineyards. "The 2018 Walt La Brisa Pinot Noir is richly endowed and lasting on the palate. This wine delivers excellent aromas and flavors of blue and black fruits with a hint of oak." -91 WW

# 485 Walter Hansel Pinot Noir "South Slope", Russian River Valley, CA 2018 93.00

This is an enviable winery run by Stephen Hansel with exceptionally high-quality Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs that he sells at modest prices, which speaks to his humility and commitment to serious wine consumers. "Medium ruby-purple, the 2018 Pinot Noir South Slope has gorgeous aromas of blood orange, cracked pepper, cranberries and red and black cherries loaded with earthy, amaro-like nuances. The medium-bodied palate is silky, fresh and uplifted, its concentrated fruits refreshed by loads of spicy accents, and it finishes long and detailed." 95 WA

# 608 Auteur Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley, CA 2019

Auteur strives for excellence to create pure, profound and authentic wines. Owners Kenneth & Laura Juhasz value the inherent traditions of the old world while integrating the freshness and

### 96.00

vitality of new world roots. "Rich, with a creamy texture to the concentrated plum tart, cherry pastry and cooking spice flavors. Deep, toothsome currents of forest floor emerge on the enveloping finish. 325 cases made." 94 WS

# -Oregon

# 412 The Four Graces Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon 2019

46.00

67.00

85.00

Steve and Paula Black began the pursuit of a dream when in 2003 they purchased the 110-acre vineyard located in the Red Hills of Dundee and created The Four Graces. The Four Graces is aptly named after their four daughters – Alexis, Vanessa, Christiana, and Jillian. Brother Nicholas is recognized on the Reserve as "Keeper of The Four Graces."

# 340Soter North Valley Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon 201850.00

Tony Soter's history in winemaking is nothing short of remarkable: he founded Etude in 1982 and built it to one of the cult wineries of California. In the mid-80s, he began working as a consulting enologist in the Napa Valley, assisting luminaries such as Araujo, Niebaum-Coppola, Shafer, Spottswoode, Viader and Dalle Valle. After years of mentoring and encouraging some of Napa Valley's most respected growers and winemakers, he ended his consulting roles to focus exclusively on Soter Vineyards and his family in his home state of Oregon. "This earns the 'Classic' designation with a spot-on mix of blueberry and purple fruit that fill the palate. Those fresh flavors are bounced up with well-matched acids and lightly earthy tannins, along with hints of cedar from aging in 10% new oak." 92 WE

# 326 Colene Clemens Pinot Noir "Dopp Creek", Willamette Valley, Oregon 2019 54.00

Colene Clemens was founded in 2005 by Joe and Victoria Stark with the express purpose of making exceptional pinot noir, and named the property in honor of Victoria's mother. Located in the western end of Dopp Road where the Chehalem Mountains converge with Ribbon Ridge, this 122-acre property was acquired in 2005 and first planted in 2006. "A vibrant, fresh and delightful pinot with wild raspberries, sliced mushrooms, lemon zest, fresh herbs, violets and peppercorns on the nose. It's medium-bodied with ultra-fine tannins and bright acidity. So elegant and transparent. Fantastic value. Drink now or hold." 94 JS

# 691 Illahe Pinot Noir "Bon Sauvage", Willamette Valley, Oregon 2019

ILLAHE, pronounced Ill-Uh-Hee, is a local Chinook word meaning "earth" or "place" or "soil". At Illahe, the goal is to make wine as naturally as possible from soil to bottle. Illahe is one of Oregon's few horse-powered vineyards; they utilize a team of Percheron draft horses to mow and deliver grapes to the winery at harvest. They work by hand on small lots with age-old techniques and materials. The focus is to grow and make quality Pinot Noir and white wines that express the vintage and their varietal characteristics. They don't use enzymes or additives. Some of the wines are made entirely by hand, with no electricity or modern mechanization. They use a gentle wooden basket press and age the Pinot Noir in French and Oregon oak. Bon Sauvage explores the wild side of the vineyard and winemaking at Illahe. Savory and dark fruited, it lives up to its name. Intensely aromatic forest floor and sweet black fruit set the stage for ripe black cherry, smoky minerals and herbs, all wrapped up in a long finish.

# 652 Argyle Pinot Noir "Nuthouse", Willamette Valley, Oregon 2019

Since 1987, winemaker Rollin Soles and viticulturist Allen Holstein have teamed up to produce world-class method champenoise sparkling wines, barrel-fermented Chardonnay, and silkytextured Pinor Noir from low-yielding vines that are winery farmed on some of the best hillside slopes and elevations. Argyle wines have received a total of 11 Wine Spectator Top 100 designations - more than any other winery in Oregon. "Supple and refined, with elegantly layered, expressive raspberry, fresh violet and baking spice accents that glide on the long, silky finish toward fine tannins. Drink now through 2030." 93 WS, 93 JS

#### Francis Tannahill Pinot Noir "The Hermit", Will. Valley, Oregon 2014 94.00 375



Francis Tannahill was founded in 2001 by Cheryl Francis and Sam Tannahill. Cheryl and Sam, along with Deb Hatcher and Bill Hatcher founded A to Z Wineworks together in 2002, subsequently purchasing the legacy winery Rex Hill in 2007. In addition to assisting with winemaking for A to Z and the now-boutique Rex Hill wines, they continue to make a select few Francis Tannahill wines each year. Their sole Pinot Noir offering, The Hermit, is an expression of the couples' own 5-acre vineyard in the Dundee Hills. This vineyard, called Pearl, sits on volcanic Jory soil and is Demeter-certified Biodynamic. "Pale to medium ruby-purple, the 2014 Pinot Noir The Hermit has a gorgeous warm cranberry, pomegranate and rhubarb-laced nose with hints of roses, forest floor, baking spices and sautéed herbs. Medium-bodied, the palate is elegantly styled yet explodes with perfumed fruit, supported by grainy tannins and a refreshing acidity, finishing long and spicy." 94 WA

#### Cristom Vineyards "Eileen" Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, Oregon 2015 115.00 343

Utilizing Old World winemaking techniques - whole clusters, native yeast fermentation, and gentle and minimal handling - Cristom handcrafts wines that are smooth, elegant and subtle. These characteristics have earned Cristom distinction among wine enthusiasts and industry leaders alike, including being named 'Best New World Red' by Decanter magazine." Pale to medium rubypurple, the 2015 Pinot Noir Eileen gives bold raspberry preserves and red currant jelly notes with suggestions of chargrill meat, truffles, forest floor and cedar. Medium-bodied, the palate delivers a solid backbone of grainy tannins and loads of freshness supporting the generous, muscular fruit, finishing with great persistence." 94 WA

#### Soter Pinot Noir "Mineral Springs Ranch", Will. Valley, Oregon 2017 443 129.00 "Beautifully fresh and complex with very fragrant, violet-like aromas, together with blueberries,



cocoa, red cherries, oyster shell, a swathe of fresh herbs and much, much more. The palate offers a very succulent, focused sense of power and a long, chiseled feel that carries blueberries and red cherries very long and very fresh. Try from 2023." 95 JS

# Zinfandel

#### Seghesio Zinfandel, Sonoma County, California 2019 424

The Seghesio family first planted Zinfandel back in 1895, and their Sonoma County blend continues to be a benchmark of quality Zin. The 2012 vintage saw a return to the long, warm and mild growing conditions that Zin loves. To manage the large crop that was produced that year, Seghesio managed their vineyards with extensive crop thinning and canopy positioning. Combining spicy, briary, and lush Zin fruit characteristics from vineyards in the Alexander and Dry Creek Valleys, this wine was aged for 10 months in 60% American oak barrels (15% new) and 40% in neutral French and Hungarian oak. It's 87% Zinfandel, with the balance composed of typical Zin companions Petite Sirah, Carignane, and a splash of Syrah. For good reason, Seghesio Zinfandel is often seen on Sonoma County wine lists.

#### Ridge Zinfandel "East Bench", Dry Creek Valley, California 2019 421

Ridge began as a Cabernet winery, and gained significant fame when the Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon achieved fifth place in the "Judgment of Paris" wine tasting in 1976. However, by the mid 1960s, Ridge had produced several Zinfandels, which have subsequently become Ridge's most prolifically produced wines and perhaps the spearhead of the Estate. "Fresh, almost pinot-like sensibility with the mouth feel. A beautifully spread wine that fills the palate, but

45.00

Version 4.0- 6.22- Wineword27

maintains freshness and brightness. Real purity of fruit here. Lots of black and red cherry. Citrus undertones. 100% zinfandel." 94 JS, 95 JD

## **Producer Note: Turley**

"Probably no one in Northern California has done more for the renaissance and resurrection of old vine Zinfandel than Larry Turley. He started Turley Cellars after selling most of his interest in Frog's Leap Winery to his original partner, John Williams. The Turley Cellars project was founded in 1993, and is now over 20 years of age. The great thing about Larry Turley is that he's quick to admit he's never met an old vine he's not fond of. As a result, they farm and buy fruit from 35 different vineyards, with some of them dating back to the late 1800s, long before Prohibition. There are at least 30-plus separate wines, and some super-talented winemakers have worked for Turley – first Ehren Jordan and more recently Tegan Passalacqua. I have praised these wines from the beginning and, to my surprise, older vintages of 10 to 15 years – much older than I generally recommend drinking Zinfandel – have aged remarkably well. While Turley's Petite Syrahs are probably 50-year wines, most of the Zinfandels are best drunk for their exuberant and robust fruit and personality in their first 8-10 years of life." -Robert Parker

# 444 Turley Zinfandel Juvenile, California 2020

"Though the vast majority of Turley's wines are single vineyard designates, Juvenile is actually composed of a variety of young vines that have been replanted in several of our old vine sites. We tag the vine when we replant it so as not to mix the brand new vine with its much older neighbors, then pick these young vines separately and make a distinct wine. The vines that make up Juvenile range in age from about 6-25 years, and we pull from 15 of our vineyards across California, including Hayne, Ueberroth, Pesenti, Salvador, and Vineyard 101." Winemaker notes

# 381 Turley Estate Zinfandel, Napa Valley California 2015

"This vineyard is special to all of us here at the winery; right in our backyard, it's what we see every day at work (and from the family home!) In 2006 we planted 6 acres of head-trained dryfarmed Zinfandel that compliments the original planting from ten years prior, all of which are certified organic." Notes from the Winery. "Plush and polished, with an elegantly structured core, offering black cherry and licorice aromas and focused raspberry and dark spice cake flavors. Drink now through 2024." 92 WS, 92 V

# 631 Turley Zinfandel Fredericks Vineyard, Sonoma County California 2014 110.00

"Beams of tannin and an overall dark flavor profile give the 2014 Zinfandel Fredericks Vineyard much of its distinctive, virile personality. One of the more structured wines in the range, the Fredrick needs time in bottle to soften. Even so, the Fredericks has developed beautifully over the last year. Intense red stone fruit, white pepper, mint and chalk notes, along with the signature mineral notes from these volcanic soils, give the wine much of its drive and overall focus." 93 V

# Syrah and Petite Sirah

# 402 McManis Petite Sirah, California 2020

McManis Family Vineyards is a grower and vintner of premium varietal winegrapes located in what is now known as the River Junction appellation. The McManis family has been growing grapes in this region since 1938. The 2005 Petite Sirah is my favorite wine in the McManis portfolio. It is just like blueberry jam. It's incredibly supple and lively for a petite, with ripe tannins, a decent complexity and notes of spicy oak and licorice.

### 29.00

# 80.00

606	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2011	96 WA	155.00
610	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2012	97 WA	160.00
399	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2013	95 WA	160.00
394	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2014	95 V	160.00
409	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2015	95 + WA	165.00
393	Shafer "Relentless" Syrah, Napa Valley, California 2017	94 JD	170.00

This wine honors long-time Shafer Winemaker Elias Fernandez and his relentless pursuit of quality. Sourced from a single ridgetop vineyard adjacent to the southern border of Stags Leap District, the grapes for Relentless are a proprietary blend of Syrah and Petite Sirah. "Shafer's Relentless project has been a huge success since the debut. Blending Syrah and Petite Sirah, aging it for a long time in French oak, and not compromising on any element of the winemaking process has put them at the top of the Rhone Ranger sweepstakes." Robert Parker

# **French Red Wines**

# - Bordeaux

# 649 Château Rosalcy LaLande-de-Pomerol 2018

Located in the village of Néac close to the centre, Rosalcy is a Lalande de Pomerol, whose vines grow adjacent to those of Château Tournefeuille. They are spread over three hectares of land located at the foot of a slope; A north-facing slope with clay-gravel soil that has proved a revelation in warmer years. The cabernets francs amd merlots really stand out here.

# 391 Château Lassègue Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2018

The picturesque road that winds from the bottom of Saint-Émilion towards Saint Étienne-de-Lisse passes by a beautiful 17th-century "Chartreuse" (Château), about 1.5 miles from Saint-Émilion along the Côte de Pavie, hidden behind a few trees and bearing the discreet sign for Château Lassègue. This superb estate in Saint-Émilion today is infused with new life thanks to the passions of two couples and their families: Jess Jackson and his wife Barbara Banke, California visionaries in the world of wine, and Bordelais Pierre Seillan and his wife Monique. The 60 acres of vineyards at Château Lassègue are bathed in sunlight from dawn through dusk due to a remarkable south/south-west sun exposure and are protected from chilly northern winds. The Chateau and the wine's label are both adorned with a vibrantly painted sundial, a reference to the estate's sunny aspect. "This is a young wine that is knitted down in flavour but it is not tight or difficult to navigate. You feel the breadth and complexity to the fruit, along with juicy powerful freshness, and the gourmet packing of liquorice and chocolate. These are big wines that are expertly balanced by slate and crushed stone minerality, giving balance and succulence." 95 JD

# 650 Clos Dubreuil "Anna" Saint-Émilion Grand Cru 2016



Benoît Trocard discovered the exceptional terroir of Clos Dubreuil in 2002. He then lived in Australia, and considered his professional future more in the Yarra Valley than in his native land. Fate decided otherwise! Starting from 1.5 hectares at the turn of the 2000s, the young winegrower patiently reconstituted the estate he intended to bring to life, investing each year in new equipment or in the acquisition of neighboring plots. Anna is named in honor of the winemaker's grandmother. Anna is not a second label. Rather, it is a wholly different expression of Clos Dubreuil's exceptional terroir and is more traditional in style, like Mémé would have drunk.

# 406 Château Cos-D'Estournel St.-Estèphe 2004

"A beautiful example of the vintage, proprietor Michel Reybier and his top-notch winemaker, Jean-Guillaume Prats, have fashioned an exceptional wine displaying a dense ruby/purple color as well Version 4.0- 6.22- Wineword27 36

# 60.00

95.00

# 125.00

as a sweet perfume of boysenberries, black currants, cherries, pain grille, roasted herbs, and licorice. Medium-bodied with impressive density for the vintage, sweet tannin, and outstanding richness and length, it should be at its finest between 2009 and 2020+. "--Notes from Wine Advocate #171. "Loads of currant and blackberry, with hints of Indian spices. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, caressing finish. Round and generous for the vintage." 94 pts WS

#### 350 Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste Pauillac 2005

"The brilliant 2005 Grand-Puy-Lacoste exhibits classic Pauillac aromas and flavors of creme de cassis along with stony/floral notes. Proprietor Xavier Borie has created a wine that should rival the brilliant 1982, 1990, 1996, and 2000. Full-bodied with sweet tannin and superb length (a 40+ second finish), the purity of this beauty's black currant fruit is something to behold. Anticipated maturity: 2013-2030." 95 WA

# - Burgundy

#### 337 Domaine Pierre Gelin - Fixin Rouge 2015

Domaine Pierre Gelin is the leading wine producer in the small village of Fixin (pronounced "Fees-an"). The family domaine was founded in 1925 by Pierre Gelin and is today in the hands of Pierre's grandson, Pierre-Emmanuel. Pierre-Emmanuel farms organically and works to minimize the impact on the environment in both vineyard and cellar. "Cherry jam and spice flavors reign in this succulent red. Features a solid edge of tannins, and all the elements dissolve on the lingering finish." 90 WS

## 333Domaine Pierre Gelin – Gevrey-Chambertin Clos de Meixvelle 2015187.00

"Moderate wood frames equally high-toned if slightly riper aromas though here the earth character is more prominent. The generously proportioned and exceptionally rich medium weight flavors possess a highly seductive mid-palate texture that contrasts with the moderately firm and robust finale." Outstanding- The Burghound

# - Languedoc-Roussillon

#### 351 Gerard Bertrand Chateau L'Hospitalet Grand Vin Rouge 2017

Former French Rugby Union player Gérard Bertrand is one of the most outstanding winemakers in the South of France. A biodynamic pioneer, he owns numerous estates among the most prestigious crus of Languedoc-Roussillon. Château l'Hospitalet is situated in AOP La Clape, among 1,000 hectares of garrigue, it benefits from an exceptional terroir. The wines are imbued with freshness from sea breezes, mineral depth and texture from the limestone soils and warm southern climate generosity. The vines are cultivated organically and biodynamically.

# - Rhone

#### 407 Domaine du Vieux Lazaret Chateauneuf-du-Pape, 2019

The origin of the name Vieux Lazaret dates back to the 18th century when there existed in the centre of the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape a hospice or Lazaret. This offered comfort and shelter for the poor and infirm, provided by the Lazarists, who were a silent order of monks founded in 1625 by St Vincent de Paul to look after the sick and the needy in the French countryside. They took the name Lazarists from the Priory of St Lazare in Paris, where the original order had been formed in 1632. The vineyards of Domaine du Vieux Lazaret are spread over 93 hectares (230 acres), split into 38 different parcels of vines throughout A.O.C. Châteauneuf-du-Pape. It is today amongst the largest domaines in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. "Ripe, sleek and captivating for its bright and forward display of cassis, cherry paste and boysenberry compote

#### 215.00

79.00

#### 79.00

65.00

#### 37

flavors. The finish is lined with red licorice and mulling spice accents, featuring a flash of roasted apple wood. This is for fans of the modern style. Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Cinsault, Carignan, Counoise, Terret, Picpoul, Muscardin, Picardan, Bourboulenc, Clairette and Roussanne. Drink now through 2034." 93 WS

#### 527 Château de Saint Cosme Gigondas, 2019

Chateau de Saint Cosme is the leading estate of Gigondas and produces the appellation's benchmark wines. Wine has been produced on the site of Saint Cosme since Roman times, evident by the ancient Gallo-Roman vats carved into the limestone below the chateau. The property has been in the hands of Louis Barruol's family since 1570. "The 2019 Gigondas reveals a deep ruby/plum color to go with a rich, powerful, medium to full-bodied and concentrated style that carries lots of classic dark fruits, ground pepper, and scorched earth-like aromas and flavors. This rich, dense 2019 will reward 3-5 years of bottle age and have two decades of prime drinking." 95 JD

#### 528 Château de Saint Cosme Châteauneuf-du-Pape, 2018



Famous for its full-bodied, seductive and spicy reds with flavor and aroma characteristics reminiscent of black cherry, baked raspberry, garrigue, olive tapenade, lavender and baking spice, Châteauneuf-du-Pape is the leading sub-appellation of the southern Rhône River Valley. Large pebbles resembling river rocks, called "galets" in French, dominate most of the terrain. This CDP is 50% Grenache, 30% Mourvèdre, 15% Syrah, 5% Cinsault. "Brilliant violet. Pungent red berry and cherry aromas are complemented by emerging floral and succulent herb nuances. Alluringly sweet and juicy on the palate, offering concentrated black raspberry, cherry and candied lavender flavors that deepen through the back half. Finishes supple, spicy and long, with lingering floral and cherry notes and gentle tannic grip." 93 V

# **Spanish Red Wines**

#### 467 Bodegas Atalaya "La Atalaya del Camino" Almansa 2016

"Inky ruby. Brooding and slow to open up. Aeration unveils powerful dark fruit preserves, licorice and candied violet, with suggestions of fruitcake and smoky minerals. A spicy note enlivens the chewy, concentrated cassis and bitter cherry flavors. Supple tannins build through a long, smoky finish, echoing the floral and licorice qualities emphatically. Give this youngster some age or a decent decanting. Drink 2019-2024."90+ V

#### 429 Marques de Murrieta Rioja Reserva, Rioja, Spain 2016

Marques de Murrieta is named after Luciano de Murrieta, one of the founding fathers of modern Rioja winemaking, who established the estate in 1852 in the world-renowned Rioja region of Spain. Today V. Dalmau Cebrian-Sagarriga, Count of Creixell, leads the family-owned company. With a vision of innovation and respect for tradition, Marques de Murrieta is rooted in strong, historical fundamentals that shape the vision and philosophy of this iconic Spanish brand. "Black olive and forest floor notes frame tangy black cherry and currant flavors in this polished red. Wellintegrated tannins and orange peel acidity support the supple texture. Balanced, in a savory style." 94 WA, 91 WS

#### 667 Alto Moncayo Veraton, Campo de Borja, Spain 2018

Bodegas Alto Moncayo is a winery located in the Campo de Borja D.O. It was founded in 2002 with the aim of turning it into a world reference for Garnacha wines of the highest quality, crafted from some of the oldest native vine clones in the area. The Garnacha grapes of Alto Moncayo undergo very strict vineyard selection, from vines planted as far back as the early 1900's through the 1970's. Only the most perfectly mature clusters are selected and carried in small crates to

# 89.00

96.00

#### 32.00

50.00

#### 62.00

#### 38

prevent crushing, where they are further sorted and selected at triage tables. "Brilliant purple. Intensely perfumed, spice-tinged black and blue fruits, vanilla, candied flowers and cola on the nose, along with a smoky element that builds with air. Broad and fleshy on entry, offering juicy cherry cola, blueberry and mocha flavors sharpened by a jolt of spicy white pepper. Strongly echoes the blue fruit and spice notes on the very long, focused finish, which features lingering floral and mineral flourishes." 93 V

# Southern Hemisphere Red

# Argentina

#### Achával-Ferrer Malbec, Mendoza 2019 435

Founded in 1998, Achaval-Ferrer is a team of friends who dream about great wines. Achaval-Ferrer is also a collection of old vineyards in beautiful places. They are committed to the production of wines that are expressive of their terroir. They are a small winery because this is the key to top quality. Low yields allow the vineyards to express their personality in the grapes. Low intervention winemaking allows the grapes to fully express their vineyard in the bottle. Each of their wines is a different expression of Malbec: The Mendoza Malbec is about varietal tipicity. Their Quimera blend is about Malbec as the key to complexity and balance. And their Fincas (Single Vineyards) are about how Malbec expresses different soils and microclimates. "Lifted baked blackberries, black olives and dark chocolate. A very round, smooth and fleshy center palate, filled with rich blackberry fruit and seamless tannins." 93 JS

#### 568 Kaiken Ultra Malbec, Mendoza 2019

Lauded Chilean winemaker Aurelio Montes traveled across the Andes to make these wines, just like the Kaiken bird does when it migrates. "Baked blackberry and plum aromas include notes of coffee and raisin on the nose. Spiky acidity lends texture to the medium-depth palate, while this tastes of blackberry and cassis before transitioning to chocolate and toast on the finish." 91 WE

#### El Enemigo "La Esperanza" Bonarda, Mendoza 2017 641

This project from winemaker Alejandro Vigil, and historian Adrianna Catena, aims to reach back in time to capture the era when European immigrants first settled in Argentina. These settlers sought to make wines as fine or finer than those of their old homeland. "Raspberry, currant and floral aromas stand out. The front side of the palate is jammy and opulent, while the backside softens and settles. Jammy berry flavors are big and fruity, while this Bonarda finishes easy and with lots of ripe berry fruit." 93 WE

#### Bodega Norton "Privada" Estate Reserve, Mendoza 2016 358

The Austrian businessman Gernot Langes-Swarovski bought Bodega Norton in 1989 after sensing the great potential of Argentina to influence the world scene. "Privada" was originally reserved for the Swarovski Family's private cellar. It was first released to the public in 2004 and has been one of the highest rated wines from the Lujan de Cuyo. "Concentrated dark fruit and chocolate mousse flavors are framed by firm tannins and acidity in this inky, muscular style. Sanguine notes fill the finish, complemented by plenty of dried beef and savory accents. Needs a good steak. Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Drink now through 2023." 91 WS

#### Achával-Ferrer Quimera, Mendoza 2018 642

Achaval Ferrer's 2018 Quimera is a blend of 60% Malbec, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, and 10% Merlot from the Uco Valley and Luján de Cuyo. A complex Bordeaux style blend with each variety making a contribution to the overall result. "Blackberries with black truffles and violets on the nose. Full-bodied and very tight with firm, silky tannins that give this

# 41.00

# 56.00

#### 39

77.00

#### 49.00

wine form and energy. Plenty of compressed and focused fruit at the end. Lots of blue fruit. Drink after 2024." 95 JS

#### Catena Zapata Argentino Vinevard Malbec, Mendoza 2019 643

Bodega Catena Zapata is one of Argentina's high altitude Malbec pioneers. The Catena family began making wine in Mendoza in 1902. Nicolas Catena, third generation family vintner, was one of the first to see the potential of Mendoza's mountain vineyards for producing high quality Malbec. "It feels like there was a big change in the 2019 Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino, a year with a vibrant palate and very clean and focused aromas and flavors. They fine-tuned the irrigation and viticulture, and that seems to have increased the precision of the wine." 96 WA-"This is made from over 100-year-old vineyards and offers blackberries with blue fruit and dark chocolate. Shows bark and black truffle undertones, too. Tight and more focused than in past vintages. The quality of the tannins is more precise and fine. Blackberries and black truffles at the end." 99 JS

## Australia

#### Mollydooker "The Boxer" Shiraz, South Australia 2019 314

This is the wine that started the Mollydooker craze back in 2004. Matured 11 months in American oak, 60% new. "Thick, with sink-vour-teeth-into-them tannins and powerful, ripe blackberry, huckleberry and blueberry flavors that show aromatic accents of allspice, Earl Grey tea, vanilla bean, milk chocolate and dried violet on the finish. Drink now through 2036." 92 WS

#### Mollydooker "Two Left Feet" Red Blend, South Australia 2019 550

This blend of predominantly Shiraz, with Cabernet and Merlot in the mix, has been and continues to be our favorite of the entry level Mollydookers. It typically exhibits intense fruit, in both aroma and on the palate, and has good structure and a long finish to boot. But what makes it the most impressive of the starters for Mollydooker is its wonderful balance. Perhaps a bit less intense than the Boxer and a touch more round and fuller than the Maitre'd, the Two Left Feet seems to find the best in common ground of the entry wines to the portfolio.

#### Mollydooker Red Blend "Enchanted Path", McLaren Vale 2012 683

"Dark and focused, expansive and juicy, with blackberry and black olive notes at the core. Offers hints of licorice and floral as the finish expands. Delivers ample depth, poise and expressiveness. Drink now through 2020. 1,327 cases made." 93 WS

#### Mollydooker "Carnival of Love" Shiraz, McLaren Vale 2018 656

"Mollydooker's 2018 Carnival of Love Shiraz is more red-fruited and structured than I expected, given the wine's stated 16% alcohol. Raspberries and cedar mark the nose, with hints of chocolate, espresso and baking spices. In the mouth, it's full-bodied, dense and powerful, with ripe but firm tannins supporting the bright berry flavors, then easing into a long, velvety and mouthwatering finish." 94 WA

#### Mollydooker "The Velvet Glove", McLaren Vale 2009 637

"The 2009 Velvet Glove is 100% Shiraz matured in American oak, 97% new. Very deep garnet purple colored, it gives intense warm blackberry, choco-mint, smoked bacon and marmite-toast aromas with nuances of coffee, roasted nuts and vanilla. Floral notes of violets and potpourri emerge after a few minutes. Very rich, very crisp, concentrated and full, there's a good backbone of firm, very fine tannins and crisp acid leading into the very long and layered finish. This is a very well balanced, structured wine that should begin to open-out with 2-3 years in bottle, drinking 2014 to 2024+." 97+ pts Wine Advocate

#### 40

#### 131.00

# 57.00

57.00

175.00

#### 105.00

# Chile

#### 651 Casa Lapostolle Cuvée Alexandre Cabernet Sauvignon 2019

Domaines Bournet-Lapostolle (DBL) is one of Chile's most dynamic and influential winemakers. The Lapostolle family began producing fine wine and spirits in France in 1827. In 1994, Alexandra Marnier Lapostolle, sixth generation family member, and her husband Cyril de Bournet, were one of the first to see the potential of Apalta Valley's terroirs in Chile for producing high quality red varietals such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenère and Merlot. The goal is simple; to create world-class wines using French winemaking philosophy and the superb terroirs of Apalta. "I was surprised by the varietal purity of the 2019 Cuvée Alexandre Cabernet Sauvignon despite being blended with some 9% Carmenere, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, which probably adds complexity and more Bordeaux character to the bottled wine. But it also has Chilean character, balsamic and round, with good acidity and pungent flavors. It fermented with indigenous yeasts and matured in French oak barrels for 16 months. It's quite classical." 92 WA

#### 384 Clos Apalta "Le Petit Clos", Apalta, Chile 2018

Le Petit Clos is intended to be a different interpretation of the Clos Apalta Terroir, using the mastery of blending that is the heart of the winemaking philosophy from the Domaines Bournet-Lapostolle. The 2018 blend is 53% Carmenère, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Merlot, and 3% Petit Verdot. "Opaque ruby. Ripe blueberry, cherry and cassis on the powerful nose, joined by a smoky nuance and a hint of vanilla as the wine opens up. Smooth, smoky and concentrated, offering black and blue fruit flavors complemented by suggestions of cracked pepper, mocha and licorice. Finishes sweet and impressively long, with a spicy jolt of cracked pepper, repeating smokiness and supple tannins coming in late." 92 V, 94 JS

#### 329 Viña Montes Purple Angel, Rapel Valley Chile 2018

Dark, full-bodied, and herbaceous with a spicy kick, Carménère has found great success in Chile, far from its birthplace of Bordeaux. Although Carménère once accompanied Malbec and Petit Verdot as a minor blending grape in Bordeaux, it is now virtually extinct there, though it has been thriving since the mid-nineteenth century in Chile. Originally mistaken for Merlot, it is now successful of its own accord and plantings continue to increase. It is bottled both on its own and as part of Bordeaux-inspired blends. "The 2018 Carménère Purple Angel by Montes is a blend of Carménère with 8% Petit Verdot from Colchagua, aged for 18 months in French oak barrels, fourfifths of them new. Rich purple in the glass with a garnet shimmer. The mentholated, thyme-infused nose delivers plum chutney and clear layers of white pepper and smoky wood. A delicate, juicy wine with good volume in the mouth; the lush feel and muscular but loose tannins run on to a finish of power and flavor." 93 V

#### 361 Casa Lapostolle la Parcelle 8 Vieilles Vignes Cabernet, Apalta, Chile 2015 182.00

Tucked away in the Colchagua Valley, near the town of Santa Cruz, the Apalta Valley was the place selected by a visionary in the 1910s who, using a unique French massal selection, planted this amazing vineyard. In 1994, Alexandra Marnier Lapostolle and her husband Cyril de Bournet discovered these hundred-year-old ungrafted Cabernet Sauvignon vines whilst visiting Apalta. The aim of La Parcelle 8 is to bring the finest expression of a Cabernet Sauvignon from their own vineyards. La Parcelle 8 has its origins in the Clos Apalta estate in the Apalta Valley, known throughout Chile for the quality of its red wines. 100% Cabernet Sauvignon "A brand new wine created by Andrea León and Charles de Bournet from a parcel of century-old vines directly planted in the poor soils of Apalta, this is a tribute to the French spirit of the winery that takes full advantage of the quality of Cabernet from the region. Complex aromas of blueberries,

#### 46.00

#### 145.00

blackcurrants, sweet spices and tobacco are followed by a good body, precise acidity, fine tannins and a liquorice aftertaste." 96 Decanter

#### Concha y Toro Cabernet Sauvignon "Don Melchor", Maipo, Chile 2019 451 205.00

Don Melchor, named after Concha Y Toro's founder, is among Chile's most-acclaimed wines and a Cabernet that belongs in every conversation about world-class interpretations of this singular varietal. Made from 181 lots covering 151 different vineyard parcels, it's a pure, refined expression of the Andes-cooled Puente Alto terroir. This is the third time that the blend has included all four Bordeaux varieties on the estate - it's 92% Cabernet Sauvignon, with 5% Cabernet Franc, 2% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot - and the wine is suitably nuanced and well balanced. "Very perfumed and aromatic with blackcurrant, sweet-tobacco and Spanish-cedar character. Full-bodied with ultra fine tannins that build on the palate and take the fruit and other flavors to an endless finish. More refined than the perfect 2018 and almost as compelling. Drink in 2023 or after." 98 JS

#### Clos Apalta, Apalta Chile 2018 367

"So aromatic and fresh with dried flowers, sweet tobacco and hints of straw. Red fruit, cloves and green peppercorns. Medium-to full-bodied with fine tannins that are very fresh and refined. Fine, silky and beautiful. Hints of minerals and granite to the dark fruit. Such gorgeous length and beauty. 64% carmenere, 18% cabernet franc and 18% merlot. Extremely long and poised. Cooler wine. From biodynamically grown grapes. Delicious to drink already, but another three to four years will make it even better." 98 JS

# **New Zealand**

#### 482 Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir, Central Otago, New Zealand 2014 82.00



Felton Road is a small, artisan producer of Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Riesling. Established in 1991 and Demeter-certified, Felton Road has quickly gained a reputation as one of New Zealand's leading premium, biodynamic wine producers. Their vineyards are some of the world's southernmost in latitude. The expression, "growing on the edge," has real meaning in Central Otago, with the lowest rainfall and lowest temperatures of any agricultural region in New Zealand. "A handy array of bright red berries, orange citrus rind, then toasty mocha oak spice, some darker red plum and mouth-wateringly sweet fruit aromas on offer. Very bright, just-ripe fruits, liquorice and cinnamon, this smells vibrant and full of life. The palate has a soft, supple and creamy core with a glossy, fluffy mid-palate; tannins fan out even and long, smooth, velvety and quite plush, gently musky. Good balance and approachability, concentrated and pure. Drink now." 94 JS

# **South Africa**

#### Raats Red Jasper, Stellenbosch, 2017 441

Red Jasper is a tribute to Bruwer Raats' late father, Jasper, who was one of Raats' founders and the viticulturist for nine years. This complex Cabernet Franc-driven Bordeaux blend shows blackberry and black cherry on the nose, along with the perfume and violets one would expect from an 60% Cabernet Franc wine. The blend is 60% Cabernet Franc, 31% Malbec, 7% Petit Verdot, and 2% Merlot

#### Kanonkop Kadette Pinotage, Stellenbosch, 2019 300

From the decomposed granite and Hutton soils of Stellenbosch comes this sayoury and deeply hued Pinotage. Stewed plums and blackberries are the primary fruit notes, but more interesting are the tertiary coffee and roasted hazelnut characters which add complexity and body. A blockbuster red.

229.00

## 36.00

38.00

#### 42

#### 376 Southern Right Pinotage, Walker Bay, 2019

Southern Right is re-defining Pinotage with this intense classically styled, clay-grown wine, packed with complex berry fruit, beautiful tannins and subtle wood spice. Full ripeness and the longer hangtime afforded by cooler sites, combined with the complex, more classic fruit aromas and structure resulting from clay-rich soil, make this wine a highly individual expression of South Africa's unique grape variety. "I might be getting older, but is this really the 25th vintage of the Southern Right Pinotage? If so, it's one of the best yet. Part of what Emul Ross calls the "Pinotage renaissance", it's a bright, subtle, red-fruited number with minimal oak, silky tannins and just a hint of supporting oak." 93 TA

#### 386 Raats Family Cabernet Franc, Stellenbosch 2014

Raats Family Wines is a boutique winery situated in the Polkadraai Hills area of Stellenbosch, South Africa. The Estate was established in the year 2000 and is considered a specialist in crafting world class and truly distinct wines from Chenin Blanc and Cabernet Franc from older vineyards. "A different take on the Bordeaux blend, with a high percentage of Cabernet Franc and Malbec, this is complex and intriguing. Great purity of fruit, combined with freshness, leafy characters and some fine tannins. Good acidity to finish. Elegant and refined – a very good Stellenbosch blend." 93 D

#### 605 Glenelly Estate Lady May Red, Stellenbosch 2015

Located on the southern slopes of the Simonsberg, Glenelly is owned by May-Eliane de Lencquesaing, Bordeaux doyenne and former owner of Chateau Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande. Struck by the tremendous potential of South Africa's terroir and the beauty of the country, Mme de Lencquesaing decided to embark on a French adventure on African soil. She purchased Glenelly in 2003, and subsequently planted 66 of the property's 128 hectares to vineyards. Lady May is Glenelly's flagship Estate wine. "Black fruit, lavender, pine needles, mushrooms, sandalwood and spice box on the nose. Full-bodied with firm, creamy tannins. Polished and ambitious with pretty wood. Still needs a little time to soften. A blend of 69% cabernet sauvignon, 13% cabernet franc, 11% merlot and 7% petit verdot. Sustainable. Drink from 2023." 94 JS

# White Wines and Dry Rosé

## Dry Rosé

#### 124 Castello Monaci Kreos, Rosato Salento, Apulia, Italy 2019

The Castello Monaci Kreos Rosato comes from the heart of Italy's rose production region of Apulia. This 100% Negroamaro is made in the "saignée method" which removes the juice from the skins after just enough contact to impart a rich pink color and clean berry flavor. "A slick nose of wet stone, papaya and watermelon starts off this well-balanced rosato. The flavors build on the palate, beginning with a melon tone that leads to crushed strawberry and blood orange. There's a gentle tannic grip and fresh acidity to house all the fruit, with a lick of peppery spice to add depth, while crushed cherry skins linger on the close." 90 WE

## Chardonnay

#### 160 Spoken West Chardonnay, California 2019

Jamey Whetstone moved to Napa Valley from his home in South Carolina in 1996. Simply captivated by the community, lifestyle, and culture of wine country, he found himself quickly growing roots. By 1998, he had begun his winemaking education at Turley Wine Cellars where he

# 90.00

67.00

#### 30.00

# 28.00

43

would remain in his apprenticeship until 2005. During that time, he spent a summer sabbatical working for the Seysses family at Domaine Dujac in Morey-Saint-Denis and laid the groundwork for Whetstone Wine Cellars, which he founded in 2002. The Spoken West Chardonnay is golden straw in color. Nose full of ripe pear and peach, floral jasmine, and hints of vanilla and toast. Delicious mouthful of pear and liquid minerals. Finishes long and fat with notes of pineapple and citrus peel.

#### 107 Sonoma-Cutrer Chardonnay, Russian River Ranches, Monterey, CA 2020 40.00

Russian River Ranches is a cuvée crafted from several estate vineyards, each contributing its own distinct personality. Pretty aromas of jasmine and rose petal give way to tropical fruits like pineapple and mango. Roasted hazelnut joins nougat and almond butter, finishing with a touch of lime and lychee. Medium-weight and clean with a wonderful acid backbone, the wine expands in the glass, offering up grapefruit, lemon, pear and kumquat with subtle vanilla bean and herbal mushroom. The lingering finish displays hints of minerality, along with apple, lime and a surprising kiss of strawberry. A market basket of aromas and flavors.

## 108Talley Vineyards Estate Chardonnay, Arroyo Grande Valley, CA 201953.00

The signature white wine of Talley Vineyards, the Estate Chardonnay represents a pure expression of the calcareous soils and cool maritime climate of the Arroyo Grande Valley produced in a classic old world style, incorporating barrel fermentation and aging. This bottling dates to the inaugural vintage of 1986 and was the first Chardonnay produced in the Arroyo Grande Valley. "Vivid straw-yellow. Fresh pear, lemon curd and melon aromas are complemented by hints of jasmine and salted butter. Silky and energetic in the mouth, offering juicy Meyer lemon, Anjou pear and buttered toast flavors and a spicy jolt of candied ginger. Finishes with subtle grip, a repeating floral note and impressive, sappy persistence. Drinking window: 2021 - 2027" 92 V

#### 104Januik Cold Creek Chardonnay, Columbia Valley, Washington 201858.00

Since his first Columbia Valley harvest in 1984, acclaimed winemaker Mike Januik has led in Washington wine quality and innovation. Januik is dedicated to crafting high quality, limited release wines by working on a small scale with fruit from the state's best vineyards and concentrating on the details of winemaking, from fermentation through blending, that transform winemaking from a science to an art. "The aromas are bright in notes of pear, spice and apricot. Rounded flavors follow on the palate, showing precision and detail. A tart finish caps it off." 91 WE

#### 181 Beringer Private Reserve Chardonnay, Napa Valley, CA 2019

No winery or vineyard more thoroughly embodies the timeless appeal and seductive flavor of Napa Valley than Beringer Vineyards, Napa's benchmark producer since the establishment of the vineyard in 1876. For many years the Chardonnay Private Reserve has been one of the benchmarks for California style. Made in a rich, lush style, with tremendous complexity and power, it is an unabashedly Californian take on Chardonnay. Barrel fermentation adds the vanilla notes and mouthfeel that have made this wine a classic. "The 2019 Chardonnay Private Reserve is certainly the richest and most opulent of the whites here, although it shows a fresher, less oaky, toasty character than older vintages (which I think is what they're looking for). Impressive stone fruits, white flowers, orange blossom, toasted almond, and a touch of minerality all define the bouquet, and this beauty builds nicely, offering full-bodied richness, a layered, opulent texture, terrific balance, and a great finish." 94 JD

## 120 Hartford Court Four Hearts Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, CA 2018 85.00

Hartford Family Winery was founded in 1993 as a result of Don and Jennifer Hartford's appreciation for the wines, the people, and the unique vineyards near their Russian River Valley

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home. Located in the Sonoma County town of Forestville, the winery is about 15 miles from the cool Pacific Coast. The Hartford Family makes wines under two marks, one of which is Hartford Court. Hartford Court bottlings are small lots of high-personality single vineyard Pinot Noirs and Chardonnavs that express the distinctive qualities inherent in each vinevard's terroir - the interplay of soil, slope, exposure and climate. " More brioche, honeysuckle, pineapple, and caramelized citrus notes all emerge from the 2018 Chardonnay Four Hearts Vineyards, which is beautifully balanced, medium to full-bodied, and textured on the palate. It shows the more supple, easygoing style of the vintage for Chardonnay yet still has beautiful freshness, good concentration, and a great finish." 95 JD

#### Talley "Rosemary's Vineyard" Chardonnay, Arroyo Grande Valley, CA 2017 96.00 110

Talley Vineyards is a family owned and operated winery that specializes in estate grown Chardonnay and Pinot Noir ideally suited for the climate and soils of the Arroyo Grande and Edna Vallevs. The Tallev's farming history in the area dates to 1948 when Oliver Talley began growing vegetables in the Arroyo Grande Valley. Guided by this legacy and a commitment to long term sustainability, Talley Vineyards focuses on attention to detail in all aspects of farming and winemaking operations. The goal is to produce distinctive wines of consistently high quality that best express the unique character of each of the Talley family's six vinevard sites in the two valleys. Overlooking the Pacific Ocean and surrounding Rosemary Talley's home, Rosemary's Vineyard is the coolest site at Talley Vineyards, has distinctive chalky shale soils and produces chardonnay marked by refreshing acidity. It produces the winery's most ageworthy and highly regarded wines. "The most shut down of the three Chardonnays, the 2017 Chardonnay Rosemary's Vineyard comes from a fabulous site in the Arroyo Grande Valley and was aged 15 months in 20% new French oak. Reticent notes of orchard fruits, white flowers, ovster shell, and crushed citrus all flow to a concentrated, rich, medium-bodied Chardonnay that's beautifully balanced, has a smoking sense of salinity, and delivers a great finish. Do your best to hide bottles for 2-3 years and it should cruise in cold cellars for over a decade." 96 JD, 95 V

#### Shafer Vineyards "Red Shoulder Ranch", Napa Valley, CA 2018 165

105.00 Shafer's single-vineyard Carneros-grown Chardonnay is produced from small-clustered clones of grapes selected for their low yields and distinctive flavors. Fermentation takes place within individual oak and stainless steel barrels using native yeasts. The wine matures on the lees for 14 months and since it undergoes no malolactic fermentation this Chardonnay retains a lively natural acidity. The vineyard is named for its Red-shouldered Hawks and other birds of prey, who play an important role in Shafer's natural farming practices. "This robust, full-bodied white holds its weight and pedigree remarkably well, offering an intensely flavored, richly layered experience that seamlessly provides freshness along the way. Apple, cinnamon and nutmeg are complemented by toasted oak and lasting structure." 95 WE

#### **Other American Whites**

#### Sleight of Hand Cellars "The Magician" Riesling, Washington State 2020 111 36.00

100% Riesling from the Evergreen Vineyard in the Ancient Lakes AVA in Columbia Valley, Washington. The vines have an average of 15 years and the wine is fermented in stainless steel. Only 750 cases produced.

#### 166 Chateau Ste. Michelle "Eroica" Riesling, Washington State 2021

Eroica is the result of a special partnership of German and American wine makers to craft an extraordinary Riesling from Washington State grapes. This is more than a blend of two estates, Dr. Loosen from the Mosel and Chateau Ste. Michelle from the Columbia Valley: It is an intermingling of Old World and New World philosophy and technique. Named for Beethoven's Third Symphony,

42.00

Eroica is truly a concert of Old World and New World Riesling. "The flagship wine from this joint partnership is almost idealized as a Washington riesling, a wine that's always about sunniness... smells of citrus with talc-like, tangy lemon-lime scents that carry through the wine with a breezy elegance, the flavors kinetic in their lightness and energy, the finish tangy and bright, for ovenroasted turbot." 92 W&S

# Whites from around the World

# **Italian White**

#### 106 Gemma di Luna Pinot Grigio 2020, Veneto, Italy

Clear white gold color. Fruity aromas of white peach and mango taffy with a satiny, crisp, dry-yetfruity light-to-medium body and a smooth, medium-length sweet yogurt, lime zest, and underripe strawberry finish with soft, fruit tannins and no oak. A friendly Pinot Grigio with elegant, plush fruit.

#### Tiefenbrunner Pinot Grigio, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy DOC 2020 115

34.00 Founded in 1848, the Tiefenbrunner Castel Turmhof Winery owes its name to the ancient castle known today as the home of the Tiefenbrunner family. The winery is in the hamlet Entiklar, in the town of Kurtatsch, which is in the South Tyrolean province of Bozen amid the awe-inspiring Italian Alps. The philosophy of the Tiefenbrunner family, in the vineyards and in the cellar, is to relentlessly improve the grape quality and to highlight the varietal character of each wine. "Aromas of honeysuckle, green apple and honeydew melon follow through to the juicy palate, along with a note of white peach. Tangy acidity lifts the rich flavors." 91 WE

#### ColleStefano Verdicchio di Matelica, Marche DOC 2021 113

"Made with organically farmed grapes, this delicious white opens with aromas of citrus blossom and white stone fruit. The tangy, medium-bodied palate offers a lovely depth of flavors that include juicy tangerine, lime, white peach, bitter almond and mineral. Crisp acidity brightens the rich flavors and carries through to the clean finish." 91 pts and Editor's Choice WE

#### 126 Tommasi "Le Fornaci" Lugana DOC, Lombardia-Veneto DOCG 2020 40.00

The small Lugana DOC has largely kept to itself over the years, but it has an impressively long history. Lugana is one of Italy's oldest protected wine growing areas; historians can trace cultivation of vinevards back to Roman times. The region attained DOC status in 1967 and is one of the few Italian wine regions that crosses over two regions, Lombardy and Veneto. And should you find yourself in northern Italy, the Lugana region is located on the edge of northern Italy's largest lake, Lake Garda, which radiates some of Italy's most stunning scenery. "This Lugana is dangerously delicious: melon and yellow fruit aromas are joined by a stony note, with intense, fleshy and vibrant flavours of cantaloupe melon, apricot, peach skin and even a touch of banana peel. Well balanced and delicious, with a long finish and a hint of mouthwatering salinity. Drink 

#### Broglia Gavi di Gavi "La Meirana", Piedmont DOCG 2020 109

This is the most representative and classic wine produced by the Broglia farm and it is for this reason that its label carries the name of the farm: Meirana. As a matter of fact, the very oldest document which states the origin of the name "Gavi" is preserved at the Record Office in Genova and mentions vinevards and chestnut woods on a spot called Meirana. This document dates back to 971 A.D. Therefore the grape-growing tradition of the Meirana began at the dawn of the history of the village of Gavi. "Very mineral base to this with lavender, coconut, fresh herbs and just

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#### 28.00

tinges of melon and citrus fruit. Full-bodied with a dense, almost thick, minerally texture and a long, saline finish." 91 JS

#### 170 Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio, Trentino Alto Adige DOC 2021

Santa Margherita was the first company to vinify the pinkish Pinot Grigio grapes as white wine. This dry white wine is pale straw-yellow in color. The clean, intense aroma and dry flavour with pleasant golden apple aftertaste make Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio a wine of great character and versatility.

#### **German White**

#### 203 Leonard Kreusch (Saffire Selection) Riesling, Mosel, 2020

Spätlese in German refers to "late harvest". The late harvest grapes are riper, contain more sugar, and produce wines that are rich and sweet. "Piesporter Michelsberg QbA is a beautifully fragrant, medium-bodied wine with upfront fruit that continues to develop on the palate. Made from Riesling and Müller-Thurgau grapes, hints of peaches and green apples are balanced perfectly with crisp acidity to provide a clean and fresh finish."

#### 112 St.-Urbans-Hof Riesling QbA, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer 2020

Although vineyards had belonged to the Weis family for centuries, Nicolaus Weis (vintage 1905, Nik Weis' grandfather) founded the winery in 1947. Today, the winery is run by Nik Weis, Nicolaus' grandson. They still employ time honored traditions which have been used in the Mosel and Saar Valleys for centuries, some of which date back to the Roman times. "A pure, wellsculpted, off-dry version, with persimmon, lime and slate flavors coating the palate. Hints of orchard blossom and herbs add to the complexity, making you reach for another sip. Drink now through 2024. 7,000 cases made." 91 WS

#### New Zealand White

#### 158 Allan Scott Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough New Zealand 2021

Allan Scott is synonymous with wine in Marlborough: he has worked every harvest since 1973 and is credited with planting some of the region's most famous vineyards, including the very first. In 1990, Allan and his wife Catherine established Allan Scott Wines as one of the first independent wineries of Marlborough. Since its inception, the winery has produced wines consistent in flavor and quality year after year while continually evolving to keep ahead of the changing demand of the market. "Strikes a terrific balance between mouthwatering acidity, fresh herbal notes of lemon verbena and thyme, and core flavors of Key lime, Meyer lemon, pineapple and tangerine. Gains momentum on the finish, where the flavors sing in harmony and complexity." 93 WS

#### 105 Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand 2021

Cloudy Bay was established in 1985 and its first Sauvignon Blanc was a turning point for the New Zealand wine industry - an iconic wine was born, people just couldn't get enough (and still can't) of this brave, clean, zingy, incredibly aromatic wine. New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc was launched, and Cloudy Bay propelled the grape variety and New Zealand into the limelight. For many, New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc has become the standard bearer for the variety and Cloudy Bay is its first ambassador.

#### 36.00

36.00

57.00

28.00

#### South African White

# 103 Buitenverwachting "Bayten" Sauvignon Blanc, Constantia 2021 32.00 Buitenverwachting was part of the original Constantia estate founded in 1685 by Simon van der Stel, the first governor of the Dutch Colony at the Cape. One of South Africa's premier estates, this beautiful farm is situated on the east-facing slopes of the magnificent Constantiaberg Mountain, just south of Cape Town and a few miles from False Bay. Today under the guidance of current proprietor Lars Maack, the winery has earned a reputation as the source of some of South Africa's most exquisite, mineral-tinged white wines. Buitenverwachting is a Dutch word that means "beyond expectation."

# **Dessert Wines**

# 513 Umberto Fiore Moscato d'Asti, Piedmont, Italy 2020 28.00 Umberto Fiore Moscato d'Asti is an aromatic semi-sparkling wine with half the carbonation of a typical sparkling wine. Extremely aromatic, with a famously complex perfume, Moscato d'Asti has a mild level of sweetness, counterbalanced by vibrant acidity. 505 Banfi "Rosa Regale" Brachetto d'Acqui, Piedmont, Italy 2020 35.00

- A unique red sparkling dessert wine. Aromatic with a hint of rose petals, raspberry and strawberry. Sweet with a hint of acidity for balance. A cheesecake with strawberry topping and a glass of this wine create a brilliant combination.
- **507 Château Saint Vincent Sauternes, Graves, Bordeaux, France 2015 (375ml) 39.00** *Gorgeous aromas of dried pineapple and apricot follow through to a full-bodied palate, with sweet fruit and a long, long finish. The wine has a fresh and crystalline vibrancy at the finish.*
- 506Jackson Triggs Icewine Vidal, Niagara, Canada 2015(187ml)45.00This richly textured wine displays fresh tropical aromas of papaya, mango and apricot. Bold fruit<br/>flavours balanced with fine acidity caress the palate and conclude with an exquisite silky finish.
- **501** Fattoria del Cerro Vin Santo Sangallo 2016, Tuscany, Italy 2016 (375ml)**52.00**This smooth, opulent meditation wine opens with aromas of acacia honey, cake spice and dried<br/>fruit. The honey note carries over to the enveloping palate along with notes of cinnamon and<br/>candied orange zest.
- **352** La Giaretta Recioto Classico della Valpolicella, Veneto, Italy 2005 (500ml) 55.00 The Recioto is a wine obtained from the same grape varieties as the Amarone (corvina, corvinona, rondinella), left to wither on wooden grids for a much longer period of time (until March), thus obtaining an optimum concentration of the must. It is a sweet wine, full-bodied, with a deep ruby red color and intense scents of cherry compote.
- 500Inniskillin Icewine Vidal, Niagara, Canada 2017 (375ml)80.00Inniskillin Icewine, recognized as one of the world's great wines, is truly winter's gift to wine<br/>lovers. Harvested at the pinnacle of Canada's crisp winter, the grapes are naturally frozen on the<br/>vine and picked when the temperature drops to -10°C. Only a few drops of luscious nectar can be<br/>squeezed from each bunch, which is then expertly guided through fermentation to achieve the rich<br/>and alluring specialty wine known as Icewine.

# Port

#### 511 Taylor Fladgate 10 year Tawny Port, Portugal

"It is my opinion that Taylor's tawny ports are the best of their type. When tasted against other tawnys, they all exhibit more aromatic personalities, greater fruit and ripeness, and a wonderful sweetness and length. The Ten Year Old Tawny is a personal favorite, as well as a great bargain among many ports." 93 WA

#### 522 Taylor Fladgate 20 year Tawny Port, Portugal

"On first taste, this was simply Taylor: big, concentrated and serious. It was all that and a bag of chips, but over a couple of day it also demonstrated far more elegance. It seemed arguably better balanced than the 10 year old Tawny this issue. Simply filling the mouth on first taste, this shows fine complexity for its age and it does everything else rather brilliantly. Succulent and inviting, it finishes with waves of concentrated flavors. The fruit remains lifted and and it has a bright, transparent feel. It is hard to resist, often seeming like a bit of an overachiever." 93 WA

#### 509 Quinta Do Noval Vintage Port 2000, Portugal

"A very fine young Port. Fascinating aromas of crushed fruit, tar and wet earth. Turns floral. Fullbodied, medium sweet, with chewy, velvety tannins and a long finish. Grips your mouth. A balanced and caressing Noval." 96 points **Highly Recommended-** Wine Spectator Magazine

#### 504 Fonseca Vintage Port 2003, Portugal

"Sporting an opaque, black-colored robe with dark purple trim, the 2003 Fonseca Vintage Port exhibits a nose of profound depth. Its sweet black mass of dark fruit and spice aromas leads to a character of immense depth, richness, and weight. Full-bodied, viscous, and almost impenetrable, this dense, backward port is powerful and exceptionally long in the finish. Possibly the most masculine Fonseca I've ever encountered, it coats the taster's palate with licorice, jammy black fruits, and notes of chocolate that last for over a minute. This blockbuster will require at least three decades to fully blossom." 96 points Wine Advocate

#### 502 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port 2003, Portugal

"The 2003 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port improved each time I raised it to my nose or mouth. It displays a black color and a salty, graphite-laced nose packed with sweet black fruits that is reminiscent of a stellar vintage of Chateau Latour. With air, notes of molasses, burnt sugar, spices, and jammy plums emanate from the glass. Full-bodied, hugely dense, immensely rich, as well as thick, this behemoth is also amazingly balanced and harmonious. Raisins, molasses, licorice, black cherries, plums, and a distinctive note of violets are found in its complex, seamless character. Its interminable finish reveals additional notes of chocolate, kirsch, red as well as black currants, dark cherries, and rose blossoms. Armed with exceptional power, depth, and purity, this Taylor will proudly stand shoulder to shoulder with the finest ever crafted by the Fladgate Partnership. Projected maturity: 2035-2060."

## 520 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port 2000, Portugal

"Among the most saturated blue/purple/black-colored examples of the vintage, Taylor's 2000 tastes like a young vintage of Chateau Latour on steroids. Aromas of graphite, blackberry liqueur, creme de cassis and smoke jump from the glass. Spectacularly concentrated and enormously endowed, with sweetness allied to ripe tannin, decent acidity, and layer upon layer of fruit and extract, this is the leading candidate for the port of the vintage. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2040." 98 points Robert Parker

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# **57.00** other

95.00

136.00

135.00

# 145.00