



## Wine Descriptions



**Wines with an \* Rated in Top 100 wines in Wine Spectator Magazine**

**Wines with a \*\* Rated #1 Wine of the Year in Wine Spectator Magazine**

**Wines with a \*\*\* 95-100 point Wine Robert Parker, Wine Spectator Magazine**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **Boniface “Apremont” Vin De Savoie 2012**-----St Andre, France

A fresh white, showing green apple and pear flavors that are lightly perfumed, with spice and savory herbal notes. Refreshing!

### **Choblet “Clos De La Fine” Muscadet 2009**----- Loire

Fresh and racy, without being too lean, with white peach and chamomile notes. The crisp acidity makes it a good match for seafood.

### **Laurent Kraff Vouvray Sec 2014**----- Loire

This is tightly focused, but also bouncy, offering ginger, persimmon, quinine and chamomile notes to lead the way, followed by pear eau-de-vie and green fig flavors. Long, mineral-edged finish. Very precise. **WS 92**

### **Principi Butera Insolia 2015**-----Sicily, Italy

A delicate but tasty white, with pear, almond and mineral notes. Medium-bodied, with a lingering aftertaste of sea salt.

### **Lechthaler Pinot Grigio 2015**----- Trentino, Italy

Rich, crisp and juicy flavors of Pear and Citrus mix with a hint of minerality in this balanced white, with a nice wash of refreshing acidity on the finish.

### **Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler Spatlese Riesling (Bernkasteler Badestube) 08** -Mosel, Germany

A deep, creamy style, with lime, apricot, herbal and bouillon notes that add complexity and a savory component, giving this great range and dimension, along with balance and harmony. There's a nice lingering finish. **WS 93**

### **Halleck Gewurtztraminer 2010**----- Sonoma

Full-bodied and well-endowed with classic litchi and spice tones, this wine has good acidity to go with its California level of fruit intensity. An amazing match for any of our Asian-styled dishes.

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **Davis Bynum "River West Vineyard" 2013** ----- Russian River

Rich, medium bodied, with lemon custard-like notes, crisp acidity, some minerality, and a judicious use of French oak with is prominent but not over-bearing . There is a greenish hue to its gold color, always a positive sign. More Chablis-like than a typical full-throttle Sonoma Chardonnay. A great value.

### **Foley Chardonnay 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Full-bodied, oaky but complex with limey citrus notes, fleeting minerality, and a long lasting creamy finish. A beautiful example of the full-on buttery oaky style, done with finesse.

### **Brewer Clifton Chardonnay 2011** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Very dry: A knockout Chardonnay blended from multiple vineyards, the 2011 Chardonnay offers up a pure, elegant and classy profile, with plenty of white peach and citrus blossom mixed with mineral, lemon and lime notes. This medium-bodied wine has solid mid-palate richness and crisp acids. **RP 90**

### **\*\*\*Peake Ranch (SMV) Chardonnay 2015**----- Santa Maria Valley

The 2015 Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay is a stunning value that offers classic Buttered stone fruits, toasted nuts and honeysuckle in a rich textured, balanced style, a terrific wine **94 JD**

### **Whitcraft (Presqu'ile) Chardonnay 2013**----- Santa Maria Valley

Rich, full bodied, w/ great acidity, & Meursault-like style combining citrusy tropical California fruit w/ minerality & subtle creamy notes on long lively finish.

### **Domaine Serene Evenstad Reserve Chardonnay 2011** -----Dundee Hills, Oregon

Sleek, silky and beautifully focused, with hints of lime blossom and clove accenting the pear and apple flavors, coming together on the graceful finish. Has intensity without weight, lingering appealingly **WS 93**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

**Paul Lato “Le Souvenir” (Sierra Madre Vyd) Chardonnay 2010**-----Santa Maria  
A gorgeous wine, focused and understated. It boasts striking, crystalline purity in a medium-bodied, attractive style: it is a model of restrained elegance. **RP 92**

**\*\*\*Ramey Chardonnay (Ritchie Vyd) 2013**----- Russian River  
Shows amazing vibrancy and purity of flavor, brimming with juicy, lemon-scented green apple, white peach and tangerine notes, enlivened by zesty acidity and a long, persistent aftertaste that maintains focus and depth. Drink now through 2020. V95 WS 94

**\*\*\*Kistler “Vine Hill” Chardonnay 2013** ----- Russian River  
From the vineyard in front of the winery, the 2013 Chardonnay Vine Hill Road Vineyard offers up the classic Old Wente clone style of white peach, white currants, honeysuckle, apple blossom, medium to full body, gorgeous purity and richness in a style similar to a Corton Charlemagne from Burgundy. Drink it over the next 4-6 years. **RP 96**

**Margerum’s Barden Fonte (Chard, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris) 2015**----S.B. County  
This wine is a delicious alternative to straight Chardonnay, with Pear and Tropical Fruit flavors, Creamy Brie and Toasty Brioche notes, vanilla and a wonderful acidity that lends length to the refreshing finish

**Pierre Vessigaud Macon-Fuisse 2011** ----- Burgundy  
A well-balanced, elegant, medium-bodied white Burgundy, showing apple, lemon and vanilla flavors, picking up a gentle mineral note on the finish.

**Guigal Condrieu 2010** -----Rhône  
Perfumed and intense, this wine boasts stunning minerality in addition to copious notes of honeysuckle, lychee nut and mango. A luscious, medium to full-bodied white wine. **RP 93**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

**Francois Mikulski Meursault 2006** -----Cote De Beaune

A rich, opulent style, exuding spice & toasted hazelnut aromas and flavors, with an underlying citrus presence. Exuberant, but balanced, with a spicy finish.

**Jean-Noel Gagnard Chassagne Montrachet "Clos De La Maltroye" 06** —Cote De Beaune

Both creamy and fresh, with a lush texture offset by lively acidity, setting the stage for ripe apple, lime, pastry and mineral flavors, which linger on the finish.

**Domaine Denis Corton Charlemagne (Grand Cru) 2005** -----Cote De Beaune

Intense aromas of honey, almonds, citrus and hints of flowers and on the palate fresh lime peel and white peach with a mineral streak. Long satisfying finish.

**Domaine Jomain Batard Montrachet 2007** -----Cote De Beaune

Mineral notes combine with lemony acidity, stone fruit, and the typical almost viscous texture of Batard Montrachet. Ends with a creaminess and long finish.

**Domaine W. Fevre "Les Clos" (Grand Cru) Chablis 2008** -----Chablis

Clean and focused, with apple, lemon, yellow plum and mineral notes riding a firm structure. This is balanced, showing a chalklike texture and a savory element on the finish. There's fine clarity and loads of power in reserve. This wine will benefit from decanting, as it needs aeration to show at its best. **WS 94 RP 96**

**Gonet-Medeville 1er Cru "Brut" Champagne NV** ----- France

A firm version, with an airy mousse and a light toast to flavors of black currant, oyster shell, lemon zest and sliced almond, backed by vibrant acidity. Lingers on the creamy finish **WS 92**

**Billecart Salmon Brut Rose Champagne NV (1/2 Btl)** -----France

A lovely rosé in an almost vinous style, with mouthwatering acidity and a fine, lacy mousse carrying appealing flavors of ripe raspberry, white cherry fruit, star anise, mandarin orange peel and honeysuckle. Lightly chalky on the lasting finish. **WS 93**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **Gosset Grand Millesime Champagne 2006** ----- France

The soft and creamy mousse of this elegant Champagne imparts a sense of finesse to the bright acidity, driving the flavors of baked plum, clover honey, preserved lemon and coffee cake. Ends with a subtle, finely textured finish. Drink now through 2026. **WS93 RP 94**

### **\*\*\*Dom Ruinart Champagne Blanc De Blanc 2004**-----France

With an impressive backbone of acidity, this is dense and powerful, yet harmonious overall. The fine, creamy mousse frames the wine with a silky texture, w/ honeysuckle, graphite & hazelnut notes lending fragrant accents to a rich palate of white peach, toasted brioche, lemon, and smoke. **WS 95**

### **Veuve Cliquot Grande Dame Champagne 2006**----- France

Very intense and complex on the nose, this is a full-bodied, round, rich and mouth-filling, but also refined prestige cuvée; it reveals a fascinating purity, precision and freshness. The finish is long and complex, and shows a spicy minerality. There are coffee beans, bread and toast aromas in the aftertaste. This comes highly recommended. **RP 94 WS 94**

### **Louis Roederer Cristal Champagne 2004**-----France

"It is a powerful, structured Cristal layered with considerable fruit. ...Readers who are willing to spend some time with the wine today will find a super-impressive, complete Cristal. ...the 2004 Cristal has come together beautifully and is shaping up to be a truly great, monumental Champagne." **RP 97**

### **Pence Ranch Pinot Noir 2015**----- Santa Rita Hills

Lively, fruit-driven with bright red cherry and herbal notes. Light- med bodied

### **Halleck "Hillside Cuvee" Pinot Noir 2008**----- Sonoma Coast

Elegant wine that tames the wild berry notes and earthy tones this wine presents by weaving them into a delicate tapestry of soft fruit and persistent but soft tannic structure, rendered lively through the long finish by great acidity.

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **Twomey Pinot Noir 2012**----- Russian River

Focused well-structured, typical Russian River fruit purity: black cherry and blackberry fruit enlivened by citrusy acidity, ending with a pithy edge that leads to a soft elegant finish.

**Roar Rosella Pinot Noir 2014** A seductive style, with fleshy plum, cherry, raspberry and floral notes. Maintains a graceful presence through the finish, gaining a little tannic flex on the aftertaste. **92 RP 93 WS**

### **Bergstrom (Silice Vyd) Pinot Noir 2013**----- Chehelam Oregon

Firm in texture, this lithe bundle of black cherry, raspberry, espresso and smoke flavors comes together with integrity on the harmonious finish. **WS 92**

**\*\*\*Paul Lato "La Suerte" (Solomon Hills) Pinot Noir 2011**----- Santa Maria Valley  
Burgundian, w/ sweet red fruits, flowers, mint & forest floor aromas and flavors, the 2011 Pinot Noir Suerte Solomon Hills Vineyard has fantastic purity and detail on the palate, with polished tannin and notable structure. **RP 96+**

### **Pisoni Estate "Pisoni Vyd" Pinot Noir 2010**----- Santa Lucia Highlands

A tempting style that teases with subtle black cherry, fresh earth, black tea and spicy nuances. Full-bodied, rich and concentrated, well-focused and persistent, ending with a smoky aftertaste. Should only get better. Best from 2013 through 2021.

### **Kistler Pinot Noir 2013**----- Russian River

Firm and focused, with a beam of dried berry, spice, loamy earth and red and black licorice that gains depth and richness, ending with a long, layered finish. Decant or allow some time to open up **WS 92**

## **RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES**

### **Calera “Selleck Vyd” Pinot Noir 2007** ----- Mt Harlan

According to Robert Parker, the 2007 Pinot Noir Selleck Vineyard is perhaps the finest Pinot ever made by Calera. This 4.8-acre vineyard planted in 1975 has a much warmer southwest exposure than some of the estate's other sites. This compelling Pinot Noir exhibits sassafras, black cherry, raspberry, plum, pomegranate, cedar, and underbrush aromas, leading to a full-bodied, ripe wine with beautiful acids, an intense underlying minerality/terroir character, and a long finish. A remarkable wine. **RP 98**

### **Falcone Syrah “Mia’s Vineyard” 2012**----- Paso Robles

Brimming with dark berry, black cherry and black licorice up front before tightening up and firming, this full-bodied red ends with a minerality that gives it a satisfyingly gripping aftertaste

### **Blair Fox Syrah “Fox Family Vyd” 2014**----- Santa Ynez

Medium to deep garnet-purple colored, the 2014 Syrah Fox Family Vineyard has a seriously peppery nose with underlying mulberries, stewed red plums and black currant jelly notes with a waft of charcuterie. Medium-bodied, elegantly played and with plenty of freshness, it has a chewy backbone and lingering pepper notes on the finish.

### **Alban Syrah Estate “Patrina” Syrah 2009**----- Edna Valley

It is a gorgeous, inviting wine laced with expressive aromatics and layers of supple, generous fruit. The radiance of the vintage is on full display **RP 90-93**

### **Stolpman Syrah “Hilltops” 2010**----- Santa Ynez

The 2010 Syrah Hilltop comes across as massively powerful yet compact. Its bouquet is expressive, where sweet white flowers and all sorts of minerals add considerable complexity and a higher-toned register to the fruit. A blast of dark raspberries and black plums frames the long, intense finish. **RP 92**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **\*\*\*Mollydooker “Carnival of Love” Shiraz 2012**-- Barossa Valley, Australia

Very deep purple-black in color, the 100% Shiraz, single vineyard 2012 Carnival of Love exudes fragrant notes of warm blackberries, creme de cassis and dried mulberries intermingled with a lovely dried herb undercurrent, lavender, dark chocolate and anise. With a nice structure of medium to firm rounded tannins and a lively acid backbone, this very big, full and rich wine has a very long finish. Drink it now to 2025+. RP 95 Ws 95

### **\*\*\*Torbreck Shiraz “Run Rig” 2005** ----- Barossa Valley, Australia

Torbreck's flagship is the 2005 Run Rig. Opaque purple/black in color, it has a kinky, exotic bouquet of fresh road tar, smoke, lavender, black pepper, game, blueberry, and black raspberry. Full-bodied and opulent on the palate, the wine is dense, packed, and unevolved. Decanting recommended. **RP98+**.

### **\*\*\* (100pt RP) Alban Syrah “Reva” 2006**----- Edna Valley

The 2006 Syrah Reva has off-the-chart richness and intensity. This thick, opaque-purple colored wine has notes of scorched earth, ground pepper, and blackberry liqueur intermixed with cassis, licorice, camphor, and tar. Spectacular in every sense, full-bodied and certainly not for wimps, this is a remarkably concentrated yet very nuanced and intense wine that should age for 20 more years. **This wine was also in the WS TOP 100 for 2010**

### **\*\*\*Alban Syrah Seymour 2005**-----Edna Valley

From a cooler year, the 2005 Syrah Seymour's Vineyard exhibits a more European personality than the classically Californian 2004. The 2005 reminds of a broodingly backward, dark purple-colored Hermitage from the northern Rhone. Aromas of scorched earth, creme de cassis, truffles, and graphite emerge from this cuvee. With remarkable density, structure, precision, and freshness as well as sensational equilibrium (despite its weight and intensity), it should be at its finest between 2012-2025+. **RP 96+ WS 94**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **Feudi Del Pisciotto Cabernet Sauvignon 2012**-----Sicily

Aromatic, with potpourri and sandalwood notes, this sinewy red blends dried currant, grilled plum, anise and bergamot accents. Balanced, but firm on the finish. This is a great value in an Italian Cabernet Sauvignon.

### **Anakota Cabernet Sauvignon "Helena Montana Vyd" 2007**-----Knight's Valley

The 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Helena Montana (100% Cabernet Sauvignon) exhibits an unmistakable minerality with a volcanic rock/burning ember/scorched earth component to its beautifully pure black currant fruit. Full-bodied, powerful and muscular with a boatload of tannin as well as fabulous concentration, this may turn out to be one of the longest lived wines ever made from Knight's Valley. **RP 92+**

### **Crossbarn Cabernet Sauvignon (From Paul Hobbs) 2014**----- Napa

This wine is composed of 92% Cabernet Sauvignon with 3% Cabernet Franc, 3% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley opens with spicy cassis and blueberry tart notions plus underlying bay leaves, cedar, pencil lead and smoked meat notes. Full-bodied, rich, concentrated and packed with black berry and spice box flavor layers, it has a firm backbone of grainy tannins and instills plenty of freshness on the finish. **RP 92**

### **\*\*\*Chappellet Cabernet Sauvignon (Signature Series) 2013**----- Napa

The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Signature from Chappellet, a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Malbec and the rest Merlot and Petit Verdot, is a stunner. Moreover, it's a pretty realistic value for a top-notch Cabernet from California. Of course, it's a great vintage and they've nailed it. Deep ruby/purple color, notes of blueberry, blackberry, with cassis, camphor and spring flowers, the wine is full-bodied, powerful (14.8% natural alcohol), layered with supple tannins and a long, long finish. This wine can be drunk now, or cellared for 25 or more years. **RP 96**

## **RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES**

### **Mount Brave Cabernet Sauvignon 2009** ----- Napa

This comes across as quite soft and lush for a Mt. Veeder wine. Dark red fruit, flowers, mint and crushed rocks are some of the notes that flow through to the intense, saline finish. I especially like the energy and drive here. **RP 92**

### **Cade "Howell Mountain" Cabernet Sauvignon 2014**----- Napa

Shows deft balance, offering a charming mix of spicy, toasty oak amid a core of red and dark berry, with touches of anise and herb. Slowly and gracefully gains momentum and depth. **WS 92 RP 93**

### **Opus One Overture Cabernet Sauvignon Multi-Vintage**----- Napa

An exquisite, complex, stylish wine, wearing a cloak of earthy, leathery tannins around flavors of mineral, currant, earth and blackberry. Gains intensity and shows its depth and concentration on the finish, which is long and detailed. A wonderful version of Opus drinkable sooner, at a significantly lower price point.

### **\*\*\*Mondavi Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2004**- Napa

A complex array of ripe, rich currant, anise, smoky oak and black cherry. Dense, concentrated and persistent, with great depth and focus. Ends with an amazingly long, richly flavored finish. Best from 2008 through 2018. **95 WS**

### **Quintessa Cabernet Blend 2009** ----- Napa

Aromatics of ripe plum, spice, currant and black cherry give this a complex scent and it's supple and elegant on the palate, with firm yet polished tannins that let the fruit flavors glide through. This wine will benefit from decanting to show its full potential.

### **Ramey "Jericho Canyon" Cabernet Sauvignon 2004**----- Napa

The 2004 Cabernet Sauvignon Jericho Canyon Vineyard has an inky dark ruby/purple color, a wonderfully sweet nose of espresso roast, fudge, blackberry, and cassis with a hint of incense & smoke. The wine is full-bodied, broadly flavored, opulent, & voluptuous, but definitely requires decanting. **RP 94**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

**\*\*\*Catena Zapata Cabernet “Nicolas Catena Zapata” 2007**-Mendoza, Argentina  
A blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Malbec, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. It delivers an enthralling aromatic array of pain grille, pencil lead, mineral, espresso, mocha, incense, lavender, black currant, black cherry, and blackberry. This leads to a full-bodied, powerful yet elegant effort with great depth and volume, precision balance, and a voluptuous personality. It conceals plenty of structure and will effortlessly evolve for many years. **RP 98!**

**\*\*\*Opus One 2013**----- Napa

The 2013 Opus One, a blend of 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Cabernet Franc, 6% Merlot, and the rest Petit Verdot and Malbec, is a beauty. Velvety textured, without a had edge to be found, notes of crème de cassis, blueberry, subtle wood and floral notes gently rise from the wine's dense purple color. Beautifully full-bodied and extraordinarily elegant and pure, this is certainly one of their great achievements over the last 37 years. The wine has an exquisite finish and can be drunk now or cellared for 25-30 years **RP 97+**

**\*\*\*Plumpjack Cabernet Sauvignon “Reserve” 2008** ----- Napa

The limited release 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Oakville is bluish/purple in color with a nose of blueberry liqueur mixed with creme de cassis, violets and spice box. Super rich, with velvety tannins, this full-bodied wine (100% Cabernet Sauvignon from the McWilliams Oakville Vineyard) displays impeccable balance, great richness, & a multi-layered mouthfeel and finish. Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon at its very finest, it should drink well for 15-30 years. **RP 98!**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **\*\*\*Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon “Insignia” 2012-----Napa**

One of the great Bordeaux blends made in California. A final blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Petit Verdot and the rest Merlot, Malbec and Cabernet Franc all from estate vineyards, was aged 24 months in 100% new French oak. It's a fabulous, classic Napa Cabernet Sauvignon. Inky purple to the rim, with notes of lead pencil shavings, incense, camphor, blackberry and creme de cassis, the wine is full-bodied, offering a multi-layered, textural, skyscraper-like mouthfeel, terrific purity, density and richness. All of this is achieved without a sense of heaviness or anything aggressive. This is a beauty to drink now and over the next 30 years. **RP 96**

### **\*\*\*Shafer Cabernet Sauvignon “Hillside Select” 2005 ----- Napa**

One of the world's great wines and profound expressions of Cabernet Sauvignon, is the 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Hillside Select. This wine spends more than 30 months in 100% new oak, and, year in year out, has been one of the most singular and profound examples of Cabernet Sauvignon in the world. It seems Shafer began to ratchet up performance during the 1990s, and the first decade of the 21st century has provided a treasure trove of either perfect or nearly perfect wines, including the 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2007 and more recently the 2010, 2012 and, in all likelihood, the 2013. The 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Hillside Select (about 2,000 cases produced) is another one of those “wow” wines, but it does it with a sort of measured richness and restraint and extraordinary subtle character, like the Gary Cooper of Napa Cabernet Sauvignons – authentic, tall, straight-boned, but substantial and worthy of introspection. Inky purple, with a classic nose of creme de cassis, licorice, a touch of vanilla and forest floor, the wine hits the palate with a gorgeous display of measured, but substantial fruit, body and intensity. Not a component is out of place, and the wine remarkably pure and persuasive. Combine great winemaking with great viticulture and a special terroir, and this is the result. Readers are in the presence of genius when tasting this wine. **RP 99**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **\*\*\* (100 RP) Lokoya Cabernet Sauvignon Howell Mountain 2012 -----** Napa

The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Mt. Veeder is as compelling a Cabernet Sauvignon as one could ever hope to taste. This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon from a high-elevation site boasts an inky/purple color, and smells of ink, blueberry liqueur, blackberries, black raspberries, mulberries, licorice, charcoal and camphor. With magnificent fruit richness, a layered, full-bodied mouthfeel, and incredible length, this seamlessly constructed 2012 should provide immense pleasure for 25+ years. Kudos to winemaker Chris Carpenter as he is clearly at the top of his game.

### **Frog's Leap Zinfandel 2013-----** Napa

An elegant style w/restrained berry fruit & attractive oaky finish framing the fruit.

### **Larner Elemental (GSM) 2010 -----** Santa Barbara County

Meaty, dark and rich, with loads of blackcurrants, licorice, ground herbs and pepper, this big, up-front and ripe effort is a classic California wine, with tremendous fruit purity

### **Palmina Nebbiolo (Stolpman Vyd) 2008 -----** Santa Ynez

This winery specializes in Italian varietals grown in our area and they do a great job at it. This wine shows dried cherries, crushed flowers and spices, and although deceptively medium in body, it possesses gorgeous underlying depth and richness. Hints of these flavors linger on the finish. As is typical with Nebbiolo, this is still a bit tannic, so decanting is recommended, but it quickly opens up to show the exceptional character described above. Compared to its Italian counterparts it represents an amazing value.

### **Recuerdo (Aliado) Reserva Malbec 2011 -----** Uco Valley, Argentina

One of the best Malbecs we have tasted, this is rich, dark and pure, delivering a juicy core of black cherry puree, cassis and licorice, followed by nuances of spice, wildflower and mineral. Fine and detailed.**WS 92**

## **RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES**

### **Linne Calodo “Slacker-Professional” GSM 2012**- Paso Robles

Very elegant and restrained for a paso GSM. The red fruits of Grenache dominate but subtle notes of herbs, chocolate and coffee bean add complexity.

### **Linne Calodo “Slacker-Stereotype Temp/Gren/Mour/Tanat 2012**-----Paso Robles

Big integrated wine. Deep purple garnet in color. Red/blue/black fruit that is well integrated, black tea underneath the fruit. Smooth and supple in the mouth with medium long finish.

### **Kaena Hapa Reserve Cabernet –Syrah Blend 2011**---Santa Ynez

Amazing over the top blend of Syrah and Cabernet. Rich, oaky, and chocolatey, if this is your style you will not be disappointed. It delivers everything you would wish for, but ask for it to be decanted as it needs to breathe to show all the richness it has.

### **\*\*\*Saxum “Broken Stones” (Rhone Blend) 2009** Paso Robles

The 2012 Syrah Broken Stones is a beauty. Made from 79% Syrah, 7% Petite Sirah and the rest Grenache, Mourvedre and Roussanne, it offers up full-bodied, decadent, yet incredibly pure notes of creme de cassis, smoked earth, pepper and violets. Seamless and silky, yet with a great mid-palate and notable tannin, it needs 2-3 years of bottle age and will have 15 years or more of overall longevity. **RP 97**

### **Gerard Seguin Chambolle-Musigny (Derriere Le Four) 2010**----- Cote De Nuits

Easy on the palate, elegant with soft berry notes and the clear influence of oak, well-matched to the fruit. After it opens up, this is a real crowd pleaser, smoothly expressive, with very pretty fruit.

### **Dom. Denis Bachelet Gevrey-Chambertin (Vielles Vignes) 03** ----- Cote De Nuits

A solid Gevrey, with bright cherry and earth notes, clean and polished.

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **\*\*\*Guigal Chateau Ampuis Cote Rotie 2010**----- Cote Rotie

The 2010 Cote Rotie Chateau d'Ampuis is an incredible effort that's made from 93% Syrah and 7% Viognier. Coming from the estate's top sites and aged 38 months in new oak, it has no problem standing beside the top three single-vineyard releases. Crème de cassis, vanilla bean, smoked meats and licorice all flow to a full-bodied, beautifully concentrated, structured Cote Rotie that needs another 5-6 years of bottle age, but will keep for 2-3 decades. **RP99**

### **Chateau Monbousquet 2000**----- St Emilion

Still youthful, this is a seductive, rich, generously endowed effort revealing plenty of spice box, herb, black currant, kirsch, espresso, and toasty oak characteristics in a decidedly modern, but opulent, fleshy style. **RP 93**

### **\*\*\*Chateau Canon la Gaffeliere (Grand Cru) 2000** ----- St Emilion

This is a triumphant 2000, flamboyant, super-concentrated, yet classic in proportions. Lavish notes of roasted espresso, melted chocolate, crème de cassis, toasty new oak and Asian spices jump from the glass of this sensationally perfumed, rather ostentatious 2000. It is enormously concentrated and pure, with low acidity and exquisite balance. Remarkably, in spite of its large size, viscosity, and opulence, it is fresh and delineated. Potentially the finest Canon-la-Gaffeliere made to date, this impeccably made wine will drink well between 2006-2022. **RP 95**

### **Masseria Altemura "Sasseo" Primitivo 2014** --- -- Salento, Italy

The 2014 Primitivo di Manduria Altemura delivers impressive results considering the soggy vintage conditions. The wine opens to soft lines and thick consistency with sweet tannins and plump, purple fruit flavors. This Primitivo sees a brief aging period in French tonneaux but is otherwise focused on portraying those luscious, primary fruit aromas without too many distractions. The mouthfeel shows some edginess with bright acidity and textural richness.

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

**Michele Chiarlo Barolo (Cerequilo) 2011** -----Piedmont, Italy

The 2011 Barolo Cerequilo is another spectacular offering from Michele Chiarlo, a producer who has a knack for making faithfully consistent wines no matter what the vintage conditions. What stands out here is the balance and the intensity of the fruit. Fragrant tones of dark fruit, dried cherry, liquid smoke, cola and licorice emerge from the bouquet in a steady stream. That continuous and unbroken flow of goodness segues to the palate. **RP 93**

**\*Travaglini Gattinara 2006**----- Piedmont. Italy

Has lots of dried flowers and very ripe fruits, with a Christmas pudding undertone. Full-bodied, with chewy tannins & a long, rich finish. A little Port-like, but rich and impressive. This is consistently delicious. **WS 91, #98 in 2007's Top 100**

**Ceretto "Brunate" Barolo 2000**----- Piedmont, Italy

A wine with plum, meat and chocolate aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, with big yet ripe tannins and a round, ultrarich finish. With loads of decadent and wild fruit, this is impressive and generous **WS 93**

**\*Sette Ponti Toscano Oreno (Super Tuscan) 2004**-----Tuscany, Italy

Fabulous aromas of ripe blackberry, cappuccino and toasty oak. Full-bodied, with masses of fruit and supervelvet tannins. Long and gorgeous. All there. Merlot, Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon. **WS 95 and #45 in 2006's Top 100.**

## RARE AND UNUSUAL WINES

### **\*\*\*Castello Dei Rampolla 2010 “d’Alceo”**

**Vinous Media 100 pts** Rampolla's 2010 d'Alceo is utterly spellbinding today. Impressive for its exceptional balance and pure finesse. Consisting of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot, everything is simply in the right place. A mix of blackberry, black cherry, cedar, tobacco and spice flavors runs up against dense, muscular tannins in this tight, linear red which is still silky, layered and unbelievably expressive. The 2010 d'Alceo is a thrill from the very first taste. Over the decades the Di Napoli family has made so many breathtaking wines, but the 2010 d'Alceo is something more than breathtaking, and that something more is hard to express with words. Decanting a must.

### **Sartori Amarone 2010**----- Veneto Italy

A great value at under \$100. This is accessible Amarone, fresh and balanced, with well-meshed tannins and flavors of damson plum, mulberry, forest floor, and cocoa powder. Showing well now but will benefit from decanting. **90 WS**

## SPARKLING WINES

### **Heidsieck Monopole Brut Champagne “Split” (187 MI)** -----France

Well-defined and energetic, with racy acidity driving flavors of fresh-cut apple, black cherry, candied lemon zest and a richer note of pear financier. Offers a fresh, minerally finish. **WS 91**

### **Nino Franco Prosecco “Rustico“** -----Italy

Wonderful typicity for a Prosecco, beautifully round without being sweet, but with a fresh crisp finish.

### **Michel Olivier Sparkling Cremant 2014** -----France

Great acidity and plenty dry, but with a pleasantly fruity aspect: this is an enjoyable sparkler for all occasions.

### **Roederer Estate (NV)**-----Anderson Valley

Sleek, impeccably focused and balanced, with floral apple, cinnamon & anise aromas and crisp yet supple lemon tart, cherry & spicy hazelnut flavors **WS 91**

### **Roederer Estate Rose (NV)**-----Anderson Valley

Crisp but supple, with floral citrus and peach aromas and layered dried cherry, almond and mineral flavors that finish with bold acidity. **WS 91**

### **Louis Roederer Brut Premier Champagne** ----- France

Firm and finely meshed, with hints of passion fruit and pineapple mixing with poached apple, almond pastry and fleur de sel. Mouthwatering and lightly smoky on the lingering, refined finish **WS 91**

### **Moet & Chandon “Brut Imperial” Champagne** -----France

An updated version of “White Star”, this champagne delivers delicious peach tones enlivened by wonderful lime-inflected acidity & grounding mineral notes. While still round and pleasing, the greater emphasis on acidity and regional typicity results in an outstanding Champagne at a very reasonable price point.

## SPARKLING WINES

**\*\*\*Moët & Chandon Dom Perignon Champagne 2004** -----France

There's a sense of tension paired with grace in this deftly balanced version, with a rich and smoky vein of minerality underscoring the flavors of poached apple, honey, sun-dried black cherry, w/hints of roasted almond, coffee liqueur and ground spice. **WS 95**

**2006:** A graceful, minerally version, w/ rich notes of smoke, mandarin orange peel and chalk that lead to subtle accents of crème de cassis, toasted almond, espresso and star anise on the fine, creamy mousse. Seamlessly knit, w/ citrusy acidity leaving a mouthwatering impression on the finish. **WS 95**

**Schramsberg Blanc De Blanc (1/2 & Full) 2008** Napa

Sleek and vibrant, with floral apple & lemon aromas & crisp, complex flavors of pear and yeasty cinnamon that linger toward the minerally finish **WS 91, WE 94**

**Gosset Champagne Brut Excellence NV** ----- France ----- **79.00**

Lovely combination of flavor and harmony. Loads of mineral- and spice-tinged fruit highlight this creamy, concentrated brut. It's dry, with tangy acidity and a lingering finish. **WS90**

**Veuve Cliquot Brut "Yellow Label" Champagne (NV)** ----- France

A classic: not showy, subtle in integrating citrus, yeast notes, & slightly racy acidity keeping the taste moving to a delicate & smoothly creamy conclusion.

**Taittinger Brut "La Francaise" Champagne (NV)**----- France

Toast, honey, peach and citrus flavors come together effortlessly in this balanced, elegant Champagne. The fine mousse adds to the textural component, ending on a refreshing note.

## SPARKLING WINES

**\*\*\*Krug "Grand Cuvee " Champagne (NV)** ----- France  
Rich, w/smoky hints of roasted almond & toasted brioche, this crystalline  
Champagne has a finely detailed mousse that carries the firm, citrusy acidity  
and flavors of patisserie apple, spun honey and tangy black cherry, accented  
by subtle, aromatic hints of cumin and clove, bergamot & chamomile. **WS 95**

## CHARDONNAY

### **Talley's Bishop Peak Chardonnay 2016** ----- Central Coast

Medium bodied, moderately oaked, with tangy pineapple, peach, and citrus notes leading to clean refreshing finish with hints of grapefruit. **VM 90**

### **Glen Carlou Chardonnay 2014**----- South Africa

This tasty white shows pear, fig and apple notes that are buttery, toasty and well-defined, lingering with a fresh edge on the finish. A great value for this lush, opulent style of Chardonnay.

### **Gainey Chardonnay 2015**----- Santa Rita Hills

Very nicely made, medium-bodied, with melon, citrus, apple blossom and a delicately buttery toasty note of oak on the finish.

### **San Simeon Chardonnay 2014** -----Monterey

A rich, mouth-filling wine with ripe tropical fruit flavors with complements of citrus and pear. The nose reveals bright fruit and oak toast with hints of vanilla and spice. Mineral notes express the rocky terroir of the vineyards.

### **Sonoma Cutrer (Russian River) (1/2 & Full) Chardonnay 2016**-----Sonoma

Intense, fresh and vibrant, with a core of citrus-laced green apple, melon and grapefruit. Full-bodied: long, clean finish. Moderate oak w/ hint of creaminess.

### **Talley Chardonnay 2015**----- Arroyo Grande

A wine of finesse & elegance, w/ intense vibrant fruit that's ripe & rich, with layers of toasty oak, honeysuckle, fig, and melon, turning subtle & polished. Not typical Central Coast style of big tropical fruit but more elegant. **RP 90**

### **Fess Parker (Ashley's Vyd) Chardonnay 2015**---- Santa Rita Hills

A rich Chardonnay graced with exquisite class. Layers of ripe, tropical fruit flow from this vivid, beautifully articulated version of California Chardonnay, which maintains balance & charm. The buttery French oak is rich but not excessive.

## CHARDONNAY

### **Tyler Chardonnay 2015**-----Santa Barbara County

A solid value in Santa Barbara County Chardonnay, The 2015 has ripe peaches and lemon curd notes with hints of almond tart and honeyed toast. The light-bodied palate delivers appealing freshness with a lovely savory edge and citrusy finish.

### **Point & Line Chardonnay (Sierra Madre) 2015** ---- Santa Maria Valley

Well balanced, with notes of citrus and cream playing out into a toasty finish lengthened by bright acidity.

### **Newton Chardonnay (Unfiltered) 2014** ----- Napa Valley

Framed by rich, buttery oak, the 2014 Chardonnay Unfiltered is rich and displays beautiful white peach, honeysuckle and tropical fruit, some nice, crisp wet pebble minerality in the background and a full-bodied mouthfeel. Deep, layered and complete, this is a big-time winner. **RP 93**

### **Mindego Ridge Chardonnay 2014** ----- Santa Cruz

One of the most distinctive wines being made in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Graphite, smoke, peach, mint and honey give it much of its exotic flair. Dramatic in its flavors and phenolic intensity, the 2014 is absolutely gorgeous. This is a stunning wine, although it shows the more extroverted, flamboyant side of what is possible in the Santa Cruz Mountains." – **Antonio Galloni, Vinous 94**

### **Kistler "Les Noisetiers" Chardonnay 2014**-----Sonoma

Wonderful focus on ripe, structured pear, pineapple and earthy citrus flavors, which unfold gracefully to reveal subtle flavor and textural nuances. Oak plays a small role, giving the wine a flash of smoke and toast. Lovely aftertaste, with hints of hazelnut that linger.

### **\*\*\*Leeuwin "Art Series" Chardonnay 2011** ----- Margaret River, Australia

Rich, ripe and generous, this is deftly balanced to lift the pear, mango, floral and spice flavors with gentle acidity. Comes together on the supple, seductive finish, showing tremendous depth and intensity without losing any charm **WS 96**

## SAUVIGNON BLANC

**Brander Sauvignon Blanc 2016 (1/2 Btl)** -----Santa Barbara County  
Intense, vibrant and clean as a whistle, with fresh quince, lemon-lime and freshly cut grass. Picks up a nice stony mineral edge on the finish.

**Brander (Mesa Verde) Sauvignon Blanc 2016** --- Santa Barbara  
Clean and crisp, with herbal and grapefruit notes that have a slightly creamy edge to them. A hint of terroir and natural yeast lends a unique character to this wonderful local wine, from one of the seminal figures in the local Sauvignon Blanc Wine scene.

**Brander Sauvignon Blanc "Au Naturel" 2015** -----Santa Barbara County  
Lemony, with a just-squeezed freshness that's intense and focused. The racy acidity gives this some zing, with pineapple, passion fruit, and citrus peel notes on the finish.

**White Haven Sauvignon Blanc 2016** ----- Marlborough, New Zealand  
Lemony, offering melon, peach, lemongrass and mango details that are ripe, fleshy and easily refreshing. Enlivened by racy acidity.

**Margerum "Sybarite" Sauvignon Blanc 2016** ---- Happy Canyon, Santa Ynez  
Intense, with a lip-smacking acidity, offering bright and refreshing lime, grapefruit and melon notes set on a medium frame.

**Babcock Sauvignon Blanc 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills  
The 2014 Sauvignon Blanc is a grassy, steely effort with plenty of citrus, lime and mineral qualities, It is medium-bodied, fresh and balanced, with lip-smacking acidity on the finish. A wonderful, refreshing wine. **RP 90.**

**Grgich Hills Fume Blanc (1/2 and Full) 2014** ----- Napa  
Bright and racy, featuring clear lemony flavors supported by sweet pea, lime zest, passion fruit and grapefruit notes. Appealing for its intensity and mouthwatering finish.

## SAUVIGNON BLANC

**Grassini Sauvignon Blanc 2016** ----- Happy Canyon, Santa Ynez  
Medium-bodied, crisp and refreshing effort, the 2016 Sauvignon Blanc has plenty of citrus, lime and grassy/herbal qualities to go with racy acidity on the palate.

**Cade Sauvignon Blanc (From Plumpjack) 2015** Napa  
Bright and refreshing, with a medium body, this wine has wonderful acidity and a great balance of herbal, green apple, citrus and mineral notes with a subtle toastiness and very slight creaminess that comes out on the finish and rounds out the wine

**Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2016**----- Marlborough , New Zealand  
Elegant, peppery white floral notes give way to mouthwatering Key lime and Meyer lemon flavors, lingering effortlessly on the intense finish.. **WS 90**

## FRENCH /ITALIAN WHITE

**Kris Pinot Grigio 2016** ----- Venezie, Italy ----- **32.00**

Clean and crisp with floral notes and flavors of lime, almond, and mineral, with gentle acidity enlivening the finish.

**Maso Canali Pinot Grigio 2016**-----Trentino, Italy

Delicious, with pear, melon, grapefruit, and lemon flavors. Unusually round and gracious for a Pinot Grigio, but still clean and crisp, with medium body and a fruity finish. The refreshing acidity of this wine works well with our seafood dishes.

**Giovanni Almondo “Bricco De Cilegie” Arneis 2013** ----- Piedmont, Italy

A truly wonderful Italian white, with minerality, citrus, floral notes, & the taste of honey without the sweetness. A rich toasty finish (not oaky). One of the best we have tasted. Confirming that, the story has it that the other Italian winemakers in the area rush to get a few bottles of this when it first comes out.

**Abbazia di Novacella Kerner 2016** -----Italy

Offers apple and floral notes, with hints of cream. Medium-bodied, with a compact, fruity palate and clean, tight finish, the expression of fruit is chiseled and pointed in its detail, and a persistent vein of minerality gives the wine focus & energy. **RP 89**

**Antinori Vermentino Bolgheri Tenuta Guado al Tasso 2014/15-** Bolgheri, Italy

A great wine for oysters and seafood this is a crisp white, showing floral, apple and grapefruit notes, with a hint of straw. There's intensity, yet this feels weightless. Soft finish, this can be a nice alternative to Chardonnay.

**Paul Thomas Sancerre 2016**----- Loire

Wonderful vibrant Sancerre, very crisp, with pure lemon tones, a hint of herbs and minerality and a finished enlivened by crisp but not bracing acidity

## FRENCH /ITALIAN WHITE

**\*Schlumberger Pinot Gris “Les Princess Abbe” 2010/11** -----Alsace  
Off-dry. Finely knit, with a vibrancy to the refined acidity that focuses the flavors of ripe peach, pear, guava and kumquat. Silky in texture, with a core of smoky minerality that pushes through on the lasting finish **WS 92 and Top 100 Wine**

**Dom Brocard Chablis St Claire 2016** ----- Chablis

A textbook flinty aroma gives way to green apple, lemon and mineral flavors in this white, which shows fine depth and richness, offset by vibrant acidity. Excellent length **WS 91**

## OTHER WHITE WINES AND ROSE

**Margerem Riviera Rose 2016**----- Santa Barbara County

A blend of 70% Grenache, 18% Syrah, 7% Cinsault, 4% Counoise and 1% Mourvèdre, the 2016 Riviera Rosé has a very pale salmon-pink color and nose of fresh strawberries, raspberry leaves and white pepper plus a touch of apple peel. Light-bodied, dry and with very delicate red fruit flavors in the mouth,

**Pojer e Sandri Rose 2016**----- Trento Italy

Delicious, great acidity, full flavored, w/bright strawberry, citrus, and mineral notes.

**Paco & Lola Albarino 2016** ----- Rias Baixas, Spain

This wine has a light bouquet with touches of fresh lime, apricot and a touch of chalk dust. The palate is crisp, taut on the entry, underpinned by green apple, pear and ginger notes; leading to a refreshing lemony finish.

**Fefinanes Albarino 2015** ----- Rias Baixas, Spain

Mineral, melon, and lemon zest inform the nose of this crisp, vibrant, savory offering. Although light to medium bodied, this wine has wonderful acidity which carries through the citrus and mineral notes to a long satisfying finish. The subtlety makes it a great food wine.

**Stephan Ehlen "Erdener Treppchen Kabinett" Riesling 2016** -----Mosel, Germany

This excellent Riesling starts with a slightly sweet wash of juicy acidity and fruit. Pineapple and peach flavors dominate and give way to a pleasant typical slightly petrol mineral character that gives depth and length to the finish, which gently echoes the initial fruit tones.

**Tatomer Riesling 2014**----- Vandenberg, Ca

Showing Riesling character, with lychee, mint and green herbs, the 2014 Riesling Vandenberg is medium-bodied, supple and possesses solid purity of fruit and a clean, refreshing style.

## OTHER WHITE WINES AND ROSE

**Leeuwin “Art Series” Riesling 2013**----- Margaret River, Australia

Possesses a lovely perfume of white peaches, lime cordial and honeysuckle with hints of jasmine and coriander seed. Light-bodied and dry with a great intensity of lemon-lime flavor in the mouth plus a hint of yeastiness, it finishes with very good persistence **RP 90**

**Laurenz Gruner Veltliner 2016**----- Austria

Basically dry but fruit forward, this wine exhibits a delicious wave of tangerine to start, followed by pineapple notes and an elegant dry mineral finish.

**Cambria Viognier (Tepesquet) 2016**----- Santa Maria Valley

A stunning Viognier, on the Stone fruit side with a wonderful balance of Apricot and Peach notes, subtle floral flavors, and great acidity, leading to a lingering finish that echoes deliciously the primary flavor components. Really well-done.

**Jaffurs Viognier 2015/16** -----Santa Barbara

Juicy, with apricots, peaches, mint and lime peel, with floral notes. All of the elements are beautifully woven together in this rich, textured Viognier that achieves remarkable harmony while avoiding heaviness with dried floral and fresh earth notes that lead to a spicy finish

**Carr Pinot Gris 2016** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Dry, but w/ round tropical notes, citrusy acidity, and grounding minerality to finish

**Blair Fox Vermentino (Fox Family Vyd) 2014**----- Santa Barbara County

A wonderful California version of the classic Italian varietal, the 2014 Vermentino Fox Family Vineyard offers up lovely citrus blossom, mineral and hints of melon. This is very well done, medium bodied, and refreshing.

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## MERLOT

### **Horse Heaven Hills Merlot 2014**----- Washington

Firm in texture, with dark berry, coffee and licorice flavors wrapped up in a nice oak treatment, which lingers pleasantly on the finish.

### **Tangley Oaks Merlot 2013**----- Napa

Full flavored, rich cherry, plum, & mocha notes, pleasing oak tone on finish

### **Rancho Sisquoc Merlot 2014**----- Santa Ynez

Supple and focused, with appealing black cherry and herb aromas and soft currant, cedar and spice flavors

### **Hall Merlot 2009**----- Napa

A gorgeous elegant Merlot with firm Cabernet-like structure but the tannins are smooth and integrated, letting the expressive and generous berry, currant, and chocolate tones shine through. This will benefit from decanting.

### **Duckhorn Merlot 2013**----- Napa

Solidly built, with a lively, focused core and aromas of dark berry and spice mixed with sleek flavors of cherry and licorice **WS 90**

## **CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC, AND MERITAGE**

### **Ancient Peaks Cabernet Sauvignon 2015**----- Paso Robles

Serves up a tasty mix of supple dark berry, savory herb, cedar and tobacco flavors. Supple in texture midpalate and at a good drinking stage now. Has the requisite tannins amid a mix of dried mocha notes

### **San Simeon Cabernet Sauvignon 2013**----- Paso Robles

Firm and spicy, with ripe earthy currant, berry and cedary oak flavors that are well-dispersed, and a slightly chewy but pleasantly tannic finish. Excellent value!

### **Rancho Sisquoc Meritage 2013**----- Santa Ynez

A nice local blend of the 5 Bordeaux varietals, with black cherry, smoky tobacco notes and a pleasing dash of oak bringing it all together on the finish.

### **Piattelli Cabernet Sauvignon (Grand Reserve) 2013**-----Mendoza, Argentina

Effusively fruity, with well-structured flavors of red plum, berry and hot stone that are amply spiced. Minerally components on the finish show savory notes and a pleasing bit of oak on the finish.

### **Franciscan Cabernet Sauvignon 2015**----- Napa

Offers up an enticing melange of sweet dark cherries, menthol, tobacco, incense, pencil shavings and graphite. This juicy, mid-weight Cabernet finishes with toasty vanilla oak notes, which linger pleasingly on the palate.

### **Baehner Fournier Meritage "V3" (C, M, PV) 2014** - Happy Canyon (Santa Ynez)

Although our area is not yet considered great for Cabernet/Merlot blends, which this is, the Happy Canyon area in the eastern part of the Santa Ynez Valley, is showing itself to be our area for these varietals. This one is elegant and French style, with clean black cherry notes, a slight minerality and hints of oak on the finish.

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC, AND MERITAGE

### **Daou Cabernet Sauvignon 2016---Paso Robles**

Deep garnet-purple in color, the 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon reveals a nose of crème de cassis, plum preserves, cigar boxes, and garrigue with dried herbs and sandalwood in the undercurrent. The medium to full-bodied palate delivers tons of ripe black fruits, licorice and dried herbs with a chewy frame and good balance.

### **Arrowood Cabernet Sauvignon 2012 ----- Sonoma**

Aged in a combination of French and American oak for two years prior to being bottled unfinned and unfiltered, this is a solid wine loaded with dark red fruit, mint, flowers, spices and licorice. It reveals good depth and concentration, along with a medium-bodied personality.

### **Buttonwood Cabernet Franc 2013----- Santa Ynez**

Great varietal character- Tons of spice notes entertain the nose on this bottling, from white pepper and dill to sandalwood and incense, all against a cranberry-fruit backdrop. The palate, framed by an impressive though not oppressive structure, shows a touch of pasilla chile and black pepper before riper boysenberry and cranberry arise in the midpalate. Rose petals, pencil lead, thyme and oregano add nuance. **92 WE**

### **Falcone Cabernet Sauvignon 2015 ----- Paso Robles**

From one of our best local winemakers (Rusack) on his own label, this young Cabernet has wonderful fruit concentration, with blackberry and currant notes, but also excellent structure and supple tannins leading to a long flavorful finish. Although this wine has enough stuffing to age for a few years, it is accessible and ready to drink now and shows beautifully with a little air time.

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC, AND MERITAGE

### **Louis Martini Cabernet Sauvignon 2014**----- Napa

The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley spends 18 months in a combination of 30% new and 70% used French and American barrels. It is another big boy at 15.4% natural alcohol. This wine, which was not yet in bottle, is fabulous, and there are 42,000 cases of it. The wine has an opaque purple color, a beautiful nose of blueberries, blackcurrants, licorice, camphor and graphite. The wine is full-bodied and multilayered on the palate with sensational richness and length. It should drink well for 20-25 years. **RP 93-95**

### **Freemark Abbey Cabernet Sauvignon 2012**-----Napa

An absolutely fabulous value is the 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa. This comes from multiple sources and there are 46,000+ cases of it. A stunning Cabernet Sauvignon and a classic example of Napa viticulture, this blend of 75.5% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Malbec, was aged just over two years in oak. Loads of sweet blackcurrant fruit, cocoa, a touch of toast, earth, and baking spice are all present in this wine that has terrific fruit on the attack and mid-palate, a full-bodied mouthfeel, no hard edges and a luscious, opulent, gorgeously pure style. **RP 93**

### **Jamie Sloan "Borific" Bordeaux Blend 2012** ----- Happy Canyon

Very Bordeaux-like, medium bodied, with clean lines that reflect a wonderful balance of fruit, acidity and tannins. Smooth and refreshing. Fantastic with food, and a great example of what our area is now capable of producing in the area of French Bordeaux varietals and blends.

### **\*\*\*Mt Eden's "Domaine Eden" Cabernet Sauvignon 2013**-- Santa Cruz Mountains

A real value, this has generous cedar, smoke and black fruit aromas. This translates effortlessly onto the palate with lots of youthful fruit, giving off a wonderful air of elegance with its impeccably long finish. **Decanter 98 pts**

## **CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC, AND MERITAGE**

### **Frank Family Cabernet Sauvignon 2013**----- Napa

A beautiful elegance can be found in the 2013 Napa Cabernet Sauvignon, a blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot aged 20 months in one-third new French oak. This is a good value for a Napa Cabernet. The color is a healthy dark ruby purple, the wine offers up beautiful blueberry and black raspberry fruit and is suggestive of a high-class Pomerol. The oak is pushed way to the background and the wine is medium to full-bodied with supple tannins and a long finish. **RP 91**

### **Lieff Cabernet Sauvignon "Auberge Road Vyd" 2009** ----- Napa

The Cabernet Sauvignon Auberge Road exhibits wonderful black currant, black cherry and kirsch-like notes intermixed with hints of licorice, cedar and spice box. Medium to full-bodied, elegant and pure with good equilibrium, this is a great value in Napa Valley Cab. **RP 93**

### **Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon 2012** ----- Alexander Valley

Notes of dill, herb and vanilla bean-scented oak lead to an elegant array of dark berry, herb, cedar, gravelly earth and underbrush flavors. The tannins cling a bit, but this is an enjoyable and approachable young wine, with a track record for aging.

### **Justin Isosceles 2014** ----- Paso Robles

Shows a measure of finesse and restraint given the size, which is big and expressive, offering notes of plum, blackberry, baking spices and cedary oak. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot. **WS 93**

## CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CABERNET FRANC, AND MERITAGE

### **Shafer Cabernet Sauvignon “One Point Five” 2013** -----Napa

The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon One Point Five is a stunner made from 95% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest other varietals. It is aged in 100% new oak, but you would never tell that given its richness of blackcurrant fruit, classic flowers and unsmoked cigar tobacco. The wine needs 3-4 years, as most 2013s do, and should be a 30-year wine. It is a beautiful baby, but bottle age will definitely unleash more subtleties and richness. This is a full-bodied classic that is superb. **RP 94+**

### **\*\*\*Plumpjack Cabernet Sauvignon 2014** ----- Napa

The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate, which is a blend of 96% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Petit Verdot, is a beauty. Bigger-boned and framed than many 2014s, with more structure, this is classic Oakville material, with an opaque purple color and a big, sweet kiss of graphite, blackcurrants, Christmas fruitcake and spice box. Full-bodied and opulent, with moderate tannin, this is a gorgeous wine to drink now and over the next 20 or more years. **RP 95**

## SYRAH/SHIRAZ

**Lafond Syrah 2013**----- Santa Rita Hills

A great value- Zesty and appealing, with focused yet easygoing blueberry, grilled herb and lead pencil flavors.

**Beckmen Syrah (Purisima Mountain) 2014** ----- Ballard Canyon

A fabulous value that delivers on all accounts, the inky colored 2014 Syrah Purisima Mountain (100% Syrah aged 16 months in 35% new French oak) knocks it out of the park with its ripe, decadent black fruits, barbecue smoke, licorice and smoked meat-laced aromas and flavors. Rich, fat and unctuous on the palate, with plenty of freshness and purity. **RP 92**

**Rusack Syrah 2013-14** -----Ballard Canyon

Fresh, vibrant, with zesty white peach & nectarine flavors that have an enticing floral scent and lingering aftertaste that reverberates w/ flavor. **WS 90**

**Tensley Syrah 2014**-----Santa Barbara County

Manages to pack in loads of fruit while maintaining a sleek, elegant structure. The core of wild berry and blackberry are juicy and vibrant, with hints of baking spices, cedary oak and loamy, pebbly earth. Long and firm on the finish, ending with fine-grained tannins **WS 93**

**opal restaurant and bar Syrah (by Jaffurs Winery) 2015** -- Santa Barbara County

Composed mainly of Syrah, with smaller proportions of Grenache, Petite Sirah and Mourvèdre, the 2015 Syrah offers up a medium to deep garnet-purple color and nose of crushed blackberries, black cherries, tar, black pepper and earth plus a suggestion of Indian spices. The medium-bodied palate is elegantly played with lively fruit, framed by chewy tannins and finishing with notes of dried herbs and pepper.

**Drew "Ornbaun" Syrah 2015**----- Mendocino

Refined, focused, elegant and restrained, with raspberry, fresh herb and white pepper flavors.

## **SYRAH/SHIRAZ**

**Larner Syrah 2011**----- Santa Ynez Valley

Showing some discrete oak in its dark berry, peppery and slightly gamy bouquet, the 2011 Syrah Ballard Canyon is medium to full-bodied, nicely balanced and textured on the palate, with plenty of character. Its acidity is nicely integrated and, in such a cool year, it has solid richness and depth.

**Mollydooker "The Boxer" Shiraz 2015** ----- South Australia

Rich and succulent, with spicy clove accents to the plum, apricot and fleshy black cherry flavors at the core. Sarsaparilla and smoke details emerge on the finish. **WS 90**

**Westerly "Cote Blonde" Syrah 2012**----- Happy Canyon

Shows ample power and finesse. Racy aromas of currant, licorice and smoke open to concentrated flavors of boysenberry, cedar & pencil lead, finishing w/ ripe but firm tannins. Syrah and Viognier. Best from 2017 to 2022. **WS 92**

**Ramey Syrah 2010**----- Sonoma Coast

Blackberries, smoke, tar, game & incense emerge from this inky-hued, huge, structured Syrah, combining the best elements of the house style! **RP 94**

**Ojai Syrah (Roll Ranch) 2013**-----Ventura County

The Ojai Syrah Roll Ranch is year-in, year-out, an outstanding wine. A pretty, charming and approachable example of this cuvee, the 2013 Syrah Roll Ranch offers a perfumed bouquet of black raspberries, ripe cherries, spring flowers and hints of sappy herbs in a medium-bodied, elegant and silky package that goes down far too easily. **RP 91**

**Sanguis "Misfit" Syrah 2011** ----- Central Coast

Extremely rich and a good value, 100% Syrah from Bien Nacido and John Sebastiano vineyards. Juicy berry, olive, peppered steak and hints of gaminess to go with a medium to full-bodied, rich, nicely textured style. There's bright acidity here, but it's nicely integrated and adds freshness to the finish **RP 92**

## SYRAH/SHIRAZ

**\*\*\*Jaffurs Syrah “Bien Nacido” 2013**-----Santa Barbara County  
Blackberries, crushed rocks, peppery herbs, violets and hints of salty minerality all emerge from the concentrated, full-bodied, beautifully layered 2013 Syrah Bien Nacido Vineyard. Aged 22 months in 24% new oak, this sensational Syrah has serious richness, yet never seems heavy, has building, fine tannin and a rocking finish. **RP 95**

**\*\*\*Melville “Donna’s” Syrah 2014**-----Santa Rita Hills  
The 2014 Syrah Donna's offers overflowing notes of olive tapenade, salted beef, licorice, black olive, peppery herbs and cured meats, with tons of ripe currants, fresh plum and smoked black cherry fruit. Full-bodied, elegant and seamless, with fabulous purity and persistence. **RP 97**

**Denner Dirt Worshipper (Syrah) 2012** ----- Central Coast  
The estate's Northern Rhone-inspired release and a blockbuster in the making, the 2012 The Dirt Worshipper Estate checks in as a blend of 95% Syrah, 3% Viognier and 2% Roussanne. It was fermented with 50% whole clusters and saw 20 months in 15% new French oak. It's a beautiful wine that has classy notes of cracked pepper, olive paste, bacon fat and sweet black raspberry fruit. These give way to a medium to full-bodied, elegant, seamless and youthful wine that has striking purity of fruit and plenty of fine tannin. **RP 94+**

**\*\*\*Shafer “Relentless” Syrah 2012** ----- Santa Ynez  
The 2012 Syrah Relentless is a blend of 89% Syrah and 11% Petite Sirah. In keeping with this amazing year, it's full-bodied, juicy, succulent, flamboyant, with blueberry and blackberry fruit galore, lots of glycerin and a massive mouthfeel, but no heaviness or astringency characterize this stunning wine. **RP 94-97**

**\*Two Hands Shiraz “Bella’s Garden” 2010**----- McLaren Vale, Australia  
Pepper, clove and plum flavors weave through dense dark cherry and roasted plum fruit, melding together smoothly on the complex and expansive finish. A big wine with depth and harmony. **WS 95, #3 in top 100.**

## SYRAH/SHIRAZ

**\*\*\*Saxum Syrah/ Mourvedre “Booker Vyd” 2010** -----Paso Robles  
From another of the great vineyards in Westside Paso Robles, the 2010 Booker Vineyard comes across as big, dark and brooding. Black fruit, game, licorice and tar are some of the many notes that take shape in this huge, intense Syrah-based wine. The 2010 was aged in 350-liter barrels, 60-70% new, all of which the wine handles beautifully. Layers of fruit continue to blossom in the imposing, expansive finish. The blend is 81% Syrah and 19% Mourvedre. This wine needs decanting **RP 94-96**

**\*\*\*Jonata Le Sangre Syrah 2008**-----Santa Ynez  
A rustic, gritty style, with expansive flavors and chewy tannins woven into the snappy, vivid dark berry, cedar, mocha and espresso notes, maintaining a dense, chewy profile through the finish **RP95**

## **ZINFANDEL**

### **Rancho Zabaco Zinfandel 2015** ----- Sonoma

Sleek and tart, showing modest cherry, plum and herb notes wrapped in vanilla-scented oak. Finishes tangy and bright.

### **Ancient Peaks Zinfandel 2015** ----- Paso Robles

A lively, zesty Zinfandel that offers charm and good structure, with blackberry, licorice and white pepper flavors. **WS 90**

### **Seghesio Zinfandel 2016** ----- Sonoma

Plump and loaded with rich, jammy fruit, this Zinfandel is a pleasure to drink. Bold accents of wild berry, spicy cinnamon and licorice glide dynamically toward plush tannins. **WS 93**

### **Turley “Juveniles” Zinfandel 2016** ----- California

A big, juicy, classic Zinfandel with a dark ruby/purple color, hefty power (15.5% alcohol), without a trace of heat or burn. It has loads of briary blue and red fruits, medium to full body, vibrant acidity, impressive purity & texture. A strong effort and one of the largest cuvées Turley produces. **WS, RP 90**

### **Turley “Hayne Vyd” Zinfandel 2009** ----- Napa

Turley’s flagship offering, the 2009 Zinfandel Hayne Vineyard is one of the top Zinfandels of the vintage. Super-rich black raspberry, black currant, pepper, crushed rock and floral aromas are followed by a deep, full-bodied, stunningly concentrated Zinfandel with superb purity and close to 16% alcohol. This powerhouse is atypically rich and concentrated for a 2009. **RP 92-95**

### **Ridge Lytton Springs Zinfandel 2013** ----- Sonoma

A blend of 74% Zinfandel, 16% Petite Sirah, 8% Carignan and 2% Mataro (Mourvèdre), the 2013 Lytton Springs is a sexy, plump and gorgeously rich effort that has lots of bramble, plums, violets and licorice on the nose. Medium to full-bodied, deep, rich and concentrated, it has a solid kick of tannin and will benefit from short term cellaring. **RP 92+**

## ZINFANDEL

**Day Zinfandel 2015 (from Ehren Jordan)** ----- Sonoma

Bold and rich, with a lively, structured core, plus black raspberry and pepper aromas, and ripe, zesty black cherry and sweet black licorice flavors. **WS 92**

**\*Hartford Court Zinfandel 2014**----- Russian River

Plump and fleshy, w/ dense core of focused tannins and lively acidity.

Aromas of ripe black raspberry, anise and licorice open to layered, slightly jammy flavors of black cherry, blueberry pie & smoky cracked pepper **WS 93**

## PINOT NOIR

### **Tolosa Pinot Noir Edna Ranch (1/2 Btl Only) 2015**-Edna Valley

Lean and delicate but well-structured, with cherry, herbal and toast aromas, and well-integrated tannins.

### **Bishop's Peak Pinot Noir (From Talley) 2016**----- Central Coast

Charming, with aromas of ripe cherry and plum. Sleek and understated on the palate, tilting toward watermelon and raspberry notes. A very well made wine, easy to drink and a good value.

### **Cloudy Bay Pinot Noir 2014**-----Marlborough, New Zealand

Pale to medium ruby-purple colored, the 2014 Pinot Noir has a very pretty, floral scented nose with notes of roses and violets over a core of cranberries, Bing cherries and pomegranate. Light to medium-bodied, the palate gives a wonderful intensity of perfumed red berries with just enough herbal and earthy lift, supported by finely grained tannins and harmonious acidity, finishing long. A great showing for Cloudy Bay! **RP 92**

### **Chamisal Pinot Noir 2012** ----- Edna Valley

The 2012 Pinot Noir is a beauty. Perfumed, up front and textured, it shows the vintage nicely with its spiced cherries, tar, crushed flowers and hints of licorice on the nose. Showing more floral notes with air, it exhibits great overall purity and texture. **RP 91**

### **Au Bon Climat Pinot Noir 2016** ----- Santa Barbara

Floral, perfumed and peppery berry aromas are medium-weight, delicate and easy-drinking. More like a young French Burgundy in its restraint and bright cherry flavors.

### **Chehalem Pinot Noir (3 Vineyards) 2015** ----- Willamette Valley, Oregon

Bright cranberry aromas lead to vibrant cherry and green tea flavors in this trim and snappy red.

## PINOT NOIR

**Cambria (Julia's Vyd) Pinot Noir "Clone 4" 2014** ----- Santa Maria Valley  
The 2014 Pinot Noir Clone 4 comes all from a single clone and the sandy loam soils of the Cambria Estate Vineyard. It spent seven months in 23% new French oak. There are notes of spice, underbrush, some sappy flowers, hints of sappy herbs and darker raspberry fruit in this medium-bodied, supple, beautifully polished, elegant and seamless beauty. It's incredibly high quality, and a solid value as well. **RP 91**

**Gainey Pinot Noir 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills  
A medium-bodied, lightly textured and pretty red that has lots of spice, plum, sweet cherries and candied violet aromas and flavors: it's solid and a very good wine in its price range.

**Foxen Pinot Noir 2015** ----- Santa Maria Valley  
Pale to medium ruby-purple colored, the 2015 Pinot Noir is scented of violets, cinnamon stick and Ceylon tea over a core of red cherries and raspberries, plus a hint of dried Provence herbs. The light to medium-bodied palate offers up a fantastic intensity of perfumed red berries supported by soft, silky tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing with a lovely herbal lift. **RP 92**

**Foxen Pinot Noir (John Sebastiano) 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills  
Spicy and complex, with lots of sour cherries, dried underbrush and crushed flowers, the 2014 Pinot Noir John Sebastiano Vineyard (aged 17 months in 50% new French oak) is medium-bodied, silky and polished on the palate. It has fine tannin and a clean, classy, balanced style that's already hard to resist. **RP 93**

**JCR Ranch "Estate" Pinot Noir 2012/14** ----- Santa Barbara County  
Medium bodied with bright cherry flavors and red fruits, along with toasty notes from the well-integrated oak. Full-flavored but still displaying the elegance of Pinot Noir.

## PINOT NOIR

### **Siduri Pinot Noir 2015** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Presents Pinot in a savory, herb-driven style, with dry, loamy tannins and darker berry fruit notes with hints of smoke. . This has a distinctive personality and subtle flavor nuances throughout. Medium-bodied, long finish **RP 89-91**

### **Hartford Court Pinot Noir 2014**----- Russian River

This red strikes a beautiful balance between moderately rich red berry, blackberry, subtle earth, spice & dried herb notes. Complex, graceful finish.

### **Point & Line Pinot Noir (John Sebastiano) 2015** --- Santa Rita Hills

Medium- bodied, both elegant and substantial, this features dark fruits with a savory herbal draping, grounded by herbal minerality

### **Westerly Pinot Noir 2012**----- Santa Rita Hills

Black cherry, cola and a very sharp camphor element power the nose on this bottling from the winery purchased in 2013 by Roger Bower. The minty character is laced throughout the palate too, with red fruits and a powerful acidity that keeps the tongue tingling for a very long time. **WE 92**

### **Drew "Gatekeepers" Pinot Noir 2014**----- Mendocino

A chiseled, medium bodied, energetic wine, featuring dark stone fruits, and dried floral notes along with loamy forest understory.

### **Ken Brown Pinot Noir 2014**----- Santa Barbara County

Soft red fruit tones mix with notes of violet and hints of spice, with a delicate touch of earth. Ken Browns always have a gentle finesse to them and great varietal typicity, making them a great match for our cuisine.

### **Rusack Pinot Noir 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills

The 2014 Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills Reserve offers classic notes of blood orange, wild strawberries and flowers in its medium-bodied, supple & elegant personality. The acidity is nicely integrated, & it has fine, polished tannins. **RP 92**

## PINOT NOIR

### **Far Niente's En Route Pinot Noir "Les Pommiers" 2014**----- Russian River

The producer's flagship wine, this is sourced from several Green Valley sites, including Amber Ridge and Manna. Both contribute a full-bodied wealth of packed-earth flavor in a generously layered, rich explosion of dark cherry, plum and pomegranate. Along the way, streaks of citrus and black tea provide exotic interludes. **WE 93**

### **Fiddlehead "Seven Twenty Eight" Pinot Noir (Fiddlestix) 2013** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Typical SRH black fruit and spice on the nose, this balanced medium-bodied wine rounds out on the palate with soft cranberry, black cherry and spices. Elements of earth and forest floor in mid-palate. Very satisfying mouthfeel as it opens up and leads to a long finish. Decanting is recommended.

### **Mindego Ridge Pinot Noir 2014**----- Santa Cruz

Rich, dramatic and full-bodied, yet with remarkable translucence, the 2014 takes hold of all the senses and never lets up. Violet, lavender, mint, dark spice and leather come together in a crescendo of aromas, flavors and textures that is hard to describe. Antonio Galloni, **Vinous 95**

### **Dragonette Pinot Noir 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills

Medium garnet color. Aromas of fresh cherry, cranberry, and baking spices. On the palate, the wine is medium bodied and smoothly textured, with complex red fruits (cherry, raspberry, cranberry, lingonberry) held aloft by notes of orange peel and sea shell. Bright, citrus-driven acidity provides energy and lift, and ripe, pliable tannins provide fine structure, giving a long, satisfying finish.

### **Peake Ranch Pinot Noir 2014**----- Santa Rita Hills

The entry level cuvee, and one that delivers the goods, the 2014 Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills comes all from the John Sebastiano Vineyard and was fermented and aged 16 months in 40% new French oak. It's another killer wine that gives up medium-bodied richness and depth as well as classy notes of crushed flowers, sweet cherries, strawberries and forest floor. Drink this elegant, silky and downright seamless Pinot Noir over the coming 4-5 years. **RP 93**

## PINOT NOIR

**Roar Pinot Noir 2015** ----- Santa Lucia Highlands  
Elegantly styled and medium-weight, featuring spicy berry and loamy earth flavors, with fine-grained yet firm & chewy tannins that sneak up on the finish.

**Roar Sierra Mar Pinot Noir 2014** savory, spice-driven, with lots of red fruits, currants and underbrush to go with a medium-bodied, elegant and nicely balanced style on the palate. **RP 92**

**Dierberg Pinot Noir (Estate) 2013**----- Santa Lucia Highlands  
The 2013 Pinot Noir Estate comes from the Dierberg Vineyard and saw 20% stems and aging in 25% new French oak. It's classic Pinot all the way and has an incredibly silky, seamless texture, textbook and perfumed aromatics (rose petal, sweet black cherries), and a balanced, harmonious feel that keeps you coming back to the glass. **RP 92**

**\*\*\*Booker's RLF Pinot Noir 2014** ----- Santa Lucia Highlands  
Sporting a deeper ruby color and offering up overflowing notes of black raspberries, toasted spice, sweet oak, forest floor and a touch of marine-like saltiness, this beauty is medium to full-bodied, sexy, seamless and layered on the palate, with a terrific finish. **RP 95**

**Babcock "Ocean's Ghost Pinot Noir- Babcock Vyd" 2014** ----- Santa Rita Hills  
Ripe, rich & full of raspberry, currant and cherry flavors, with notes of cocoa powder and spice. Sandalwood accents show on the fresh and juicy finish  
**WS 92 RP 94**

**Paul Hobbs Pinot Noir 2012**----- Russian River  
The dark ruby-hued 2012 Pinot Noir Russian River displays lots of blueberry, black raspberry and floral notes, a sweet, expansive, rich mouthfeel and excellent purity as well as texture. **RP 90-92**

## PINOT NOIR

### **Melville “M Block” Pinot Noir 2014**-----Santa Rita Hills

Red currants, dried rose petals, cured meats and savory herbs all emerge from the 2014 Pinot Noir Block M, which is medium-bodied, elegant and supple on the palate, yet has a solid kick of savory tannin **RP 91**

**\*\*\*Domaine Serene Pinot Noir “Evenstad Reserve” ‘10** Willamette Valley Oregon No 3 in WS Top 100. A vibrant, focused and deliciously complex red, offering raspberry, cherry, cinnamon, mocha and subtle sage notes rolling through the long and expressive finish. Deft. **WS 95**

### **Sea Smoke Pinot Noir “Southing” 2015** -----Santa Rita Hills

A gorgeous nose of spiced berries, violets, sous-bois, and a hint of vanilla. The flamboyantly flavored core of black raspberry & plum fruit is accented with spice and an undertone of earthy flora. With intense fruit flavor, yet still angelic, this wine has a soft and seamless demeanor, w/ oak adding complimentary seasoning & typically bright Santa Rita Hills acidity adding vibrancy. Decanting recommended to soften the still-firm tannins. **NYR**

### **\*\*\*Paul Lato “Wenzlau” Pinot Noir 2011** -----Santa Rita Hills

Beautiful all around, with thrilling raspberry, cherry, crushed rock, licorice and forest floor on the nose, the 2011 Pinot Noir C'est la Vie Wenzlau Vineyard flows onto the palate with a rich, full, yet ethereal texture, no hard edges & perfect balance between its fruit, tannin and acid. Structured & age-worthy. **RP 94+**

### **\*\*\*Calera “Jensen” Pinot Noir 2011** -----Mt Harlan

Beautifully complex, Jensen's 2011 Pinot Noir Jensen Vineyard offers a lively, fresh feel in its sweet cherry, strawberry, sappy spring flowers and subtle mint-driven bouquet. Medium-bodied, layered and seamless, it's an elegant and silky example of this cuvee to drink over the coming decade or more. **RP 93**

### **Kosta Browne Pinot Noir 2010** -----Santa Lucia Highlands

Offers ripe, generous plum, wild berry and blueberry fruit that's both tight and intense, yet shows a supple texture. Gains muscle & weight on the finish. **WS 92**

## PINOT NOIR

**Kosta Browne Pinot Noir “Gap’s Crowne” 2010** --Sonoma Coast

Broad-shouldered, very ripe and rich, with great intensity and concentration to the baked berry notes, mixing blueberry, wild berry, plum and raspberry. Ends with fresh earth, wilted rose and subtle berry flavors **WS 94**

## OTHER RED WINES

**Lapostolle Canto de Apalta 2010**----- Rapel Valley, Chile

A rich, smoky red, sporting dark cassis, grilled fig and macerated cherry notes to the iron, smoke and dark spice flavors that linger through the mocha-tinged finish. Carmenère, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah **WS 90**

**Honoro Vera Garnacha 2016** ----- Calayatud, Spain

Berry and cherry flavors mark this juicy red, with accents of herbs and smoke. Light tannins, with lively acidity.

**Juan Gil Monastrell (Mourvedre) 2015**----- Jumilla, Spain

Deep, bright ruby. Aromas of black raspberry, cola, oak spices and black tea. Musky and penetrating, offering spicy and almost sweet red and dark berry flavors that show a suave blend of richness and vivacity. Fine-grained tannins add grip to the long, subtly smoky finish.

**Numanthia “Termes” 2010**----- Toro, Spain

This expressive red offers blackberry, chocolate, toast and mineral notes, with firm, well-integrated tannins supporting a plush texture. Ripe yet focused, in the modern style. **WS 91**

**El Pedrosal Ribera Del Duero 2013**----- Ribera Del Duero, Spain

Smoky and tarry notes frame black cherry and leafy flavors in this firm, polished red, which has tart acidity & light, grippy tannins; great w/ food.

**Vina Tondonio Rioja “Reserva” 2004** ----- Rioja, Spain

Savory flavors of tea, mushroom and leather frame dried cherry and orange peel notes in this traditional-style red. Features a smooth, polished texture, with light tannins and bright acidity. Harmonious and graceful. **WS 90**

## OTHER RED WINES

### **Bodegas El Nido “Clio”(Cab/ Mourvedre) 2009**- Jumilla, Spain

The 2009 Clio is a blend of 70% Monastrell and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon aged in new French and American oak for 24 months. While the bouquet is ineluctably very oaky, there is clearly sufficient fruit to support it, so it retains freshness and clarity with copious black fruit and a hint of licorice. The palate is soft and plush in the mouth, caressing and velvety with a rounded, sensual, black cherry and sloe-tinged finish that you cannot help but fall for. It certainly disguises its 15.5% alcohol well. While it does not express its terroir, that is not the intention of Clio, and it is a delicious Jumilla red. **RP 90-93**

### **Bodegas Alto Moncayo (Grenache) 2015** ----- Aragon, Spain

Ripe, sweet fruit flavors of kirsch and mulled plum mingle with vanilla and cola flavors in this bold red. Round but energetic, with lively tangerine acidity and light tannins. **WS 90**

### **Bodegas Puerto Salinas 2009 (Cab, Mourv, Gren)**-Yecla Spain-69.00

Composed of 66% Monastrell, 19% Garnacha and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon aged for one year in both new and 2-year-old French oak, it displays an inky/purple color along with notes of road tar, melted asphalt, blackberry liqueur, camphor, graphite and forest floor. The wine is complex, full-bodied, rich and intense with terrific purity and wonderful overall balance. It is one more example of a wine that completely over-delivers. **RP 92**

### **\*Colome Malbec (Salta) 2014** ----- Calchaqui, Argentina

Offers zesty flavors redolent of kirsch, raspberry ganache, red currant and crushed red plum, with concentrated minerality midpalate. The finish lingers with hints of white pepper and chocolate nibs. **WS 92**

### **Catena Malbec 2015** ----- Mendoza, Argentina

A taut and muscular red, with focused flavors of plum tart, dried cherry & dark currant, backed by firm acidity. Chocolate nib notes emerge on the finish

## OTHER RED WINES

**Fess Parker's Hodge Du Podge Syrah Rhone Blend** ----- Santa Barbara County  
Mostly Syrah, this easy-drinking, lively blend displays black cherry, chocolate, vanilla, and anise notes, leading to a smooth finish.

**Consilience Petite Sirah 2013**----- Santa Barbara County  
A masculine, medium-bodied effort that has plenty of dark berry fruits, black pepper, crushed herbs and fresh earth in its nicely textured personality.

**Blair Fox Petite Sirah (Fox Family Vyd) 2014**----- Santa Barbara County  
A Terrific Petite Sirah with blueberry and blackberry flavors, a slight floral note, supportive but unobtrusive oak, & very refined tannins making this a joy to drink.

**Margerum "M5" (GSM, Counoise and Cinsault) 2015**----- Santa Barbara County  
Well done, with an elegant, complex array of red and black fruits and light oak, dried herb and cedary notes. Impressively delicate and gracefully balanced.  
Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Cinsault and Counoise

**Beckmen Cuvee Le Bec (GSM+ Counoise) 2015**----- Santa Ynez  
A blend of 43% Grenache, 35% Syrah, 14% Mourvèdre and 8% Counoise, the 2015 Cuvée le Bec has a medium garnet-purple color and is scented of cherry pie, raspberry preserves and spice cake with hints of potpourri, baking spices and black pepper. Full-bodied and decadently fruited in the mouth, the spicy red berry preserves flavors are well-framed by rounded tannins and just enough freshness, finishing long and peppery. **RP 90**

**Foxen Cuvee Jean Marie "Williamson-Dore Vyd" (GSM) 2013-14**----- Santa Ynez  
A Grenache-dominated blend that includes 24% Mourvedre and spent 22 months in 30% new large-format French and Hungarian oak puncheons, the 2013 Cuvee Jeanne Marie Williamson Dore Vineyard is fresh and focused, with medium to full-bodied aromas and flavors of black raspberries, licorice, tar, pepper spice and crushed flowers. Sweetly fruity, with good ripeness and notable tannin, it has outstanding potential and is an excellent example of Grenache from California. **RP 90**

## OTHER RED WINES

### **J Lohr "Tower Road" Petite Sirah 2014**----- Paso Robles

Rich, full-bodied, fruit-forward, rich blackberry and spice tones. Grounded by subtle earth tones and smooth but firm tannins. Hits the right notes many Petite Sirahs fail to get. Finishes with a hint of oaky Vanilla. Delicious & a great value!

### **Rangeland "Mistletoe: Cabernet/Syrah Blend 2012**-----Paso Robles

Loaded with dark plummy fruits, charcoal, licorice and spice, this beauty hits the palate with medium to full-bodied richness, fabulous purity of fruit and notable, sweet tannin. Very well-done. **RP 90**

### **Calcareous "Tres Violets" (GSM) 2014**----- Paso Robles

Black raspberry and licorice aromas open to plump and lively blueberry and smoky pepper beef flavors that linger. Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre **WS 91**

### **L'Aventure Optimus (Syrah, Cab, Petite Verdot) 2015**----- Paso Robles

Blended of 55% Syrah, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Petit Verdot, the 2015 Estate Cuvee sports a deep garnet-purple color and nose of fresh black currants, blackberries and cigar box with touches of cardamom, bay leaves, pencil lead and cloves. Full-bodied and built like a brick house, it has a solid frame of grainy tannins and plenty of freshness supporting the muscular fruit, finishing with lingering black fruits. Decanting highly recommended **RP 96+**

### **Tablas Creek Esprit Red (GSM +) 2014**----- Paso Robles

One of the few times where there's almost as much Grenache in the blend as Mourvedre, the ruby colored 2014 Esprit de Tablas is made from 40% Mourvedre, 35% Grenache, 20% Syrah and the rest Counoise, aged mostly in foudre. It reveals solid aromatics of garrigue, black raspberries, pepper and violets to go with a medium to full-bodied, bright, fresh style on the palate, underpinned by a core of black cherries, anise, black earth, plus a touch of underbrush. **RP 91-93**

## OTHER RED WINES

**Saxum Syrah/Grenache/ Mourvedre “Terry Hoage” 2010** -----Paso Robles  
Here in its first vintage, the 2010 Terry Hoage Vineyard bursts onto the palate with rich, dark fruit. The weight power and richness of Syrah comes through beautifully in the layered, sumptuous wine. Flowers, licorice, mint, tobacco and grilled herbs wrap around the finish. The 2010 boasts serious density and fabulous overall balance. It is terrific first effort. Ask us to decant. **RP 94+**

**\*\*\*Saxum “Broken Stones” 2009 (Rhone Blend)** - Paso Robles  
This muscle-bound red offers a firm backbone of mineral, loamy earth, spice and cedar, with blackberry, licorice and berry pie flavors folding in behind. We recommend decanting. **WS 95, RP 96**

**Makor Sangiovese (White Hawk Vyd) 2015**----- Santa Barbara County  
A staff favorite, this is light to medium bodied but full-flavored, complex, with notes of red fruit, spice, mineral and earth, great acidity, & Italian character married to California fruit. It works extremely well with much of our cuisine.

**Jaffurs Grenache 2014**-----Santa Barbara County  
Sleek and snappy, with floral raspberry and cinnamon aromas and delicately layered cherry and spicy grilled herb flavors.

## ITALIAN RED

### **La Valentina “Spelt” Montepulciano D’Abruzzo 2012** -----Italy

An opulent and bold wine with meaty dark tones of prune and plum followed by barbecue spice, tobacco and leather. What stands out most is the softness of the tannins and the velvety rich nature of the mouthfeel. **RP 90+**

### **Vignamaggio Chianti Classico (Prenzano) 2015** ----- Tuscany, Italy

This is rich and powerful, and matches a beefy structure with cherry, almond and briar flavors. The tannins are a bit assertive now, but should soften with time. Decant, as it keeps getting better and better with aeration. **JS 90**

### **Poliziano Rosso De Montepulciano 2015**-----Tuscany, Italy

100% Sangiovese, this red opens with ripe plum and cherry fruit, yet it also has a brooding side. Firm tannins provide support, while earth and iron elements add depth. This wine is a terrific value for the quality **WS 90**

### **Belguardo Serrata Toscana (Sangiovese, Alicante) 2011**----- Tuscany, Italy

Sangiovese and Alicante Nero. Embedded with fine tannins, this wine features a gossamer structure for its cherry, raspberry, tea and spice flavors. Firm, yet balanced and long, with an aftertaste of fruit and spice. Again you should decant this wine for maximum enjoyment. **WS 90**

### **Felsina Chianti Classico (1/2 and Full) 2013-14**-- Tuscany, Italy

Rich and sumptuous, boasting pure flavors of cherry and raspberry, matched to a juicy texture. There are plenty of tannins neatly folded into the overall structure, with hints of mineral and tea on the long, expansive finish. **WS 92**

### **\*\*\*Il Poggione Brunello Di Montalcino 2006**----- Tuscany, Italy

The 2006 Brunello di Montalcino is another superb Brunello from Il Poggione. The ripeness of the vintage meets a classic sense of structure as this bold, full-bodied wine opens up. The 2006 offers a decidedly more virile, masculine expression of Sangiovese. Dark cherries, tobacco, smoke and underbrush wrap around a wall of tannin as the finish builds to a majestic close. **RP 94**

## ITALIAN RED

**Canalicchio Brunello Di Montalcino 2006** ----- Tuscany, Italy

Ripe and juicy, with cherry, raspberry, rose and spice aromas and flavors, all playing out on the elegant frame. Delicate, favoring finesse over power, but w/tannins underneath requiring decanting to integrate. Mineral finish **WS 92 RP 94**

**Ornellaia "La Serre Nuova" 2010** ----- Tuscany, Italy

The 2010 Le Serre Nuove dell'Ornellaia shows off tons of concentration and sheer depth. Mocha, espresso, dark cherries and plums are some of the many notes that take shape in the glass. The 2010 is a decidedly powerful, virile wine endowed with considerable power. **RP 91-94**

**Luce Della Vite Toscana (Super Tuscan) 2008** -- Tuscany, Italy

Blackberry, black currant and spice flavors hold court in this polished, international-style red. The tannins are dense, yet matched by sweet fruit, and the finish evokes tobacco and spice. Merlot and Sangiovese. **WS 90**

**Allegrini Palazzo Della Torre 2010**----- Veneto Italy

The 2010 Palazzo della Torre is 70% Corvina, 25% Rondinella and 5% Sangiovese. It is air-dried until December after harvest. That brief appassimento shapes a delicious wine with loads of cherry and dark spice. A great value with the depth of concentration and length matching a wine double this price. **RP 90**

**Le Ragose Valpolicella 2009** ----- Veneto Italy

Offers up dark cherries, earthiness, tobacco, spices and worn-in leather with gorgeous inner sweetness and depth. Plenty of depth & long, resonating finish. Although slightly rustic, it's a tremendous value & a great bottle of Italian wine.

## ITALIAN RED

### **Le Ragose Amarone 2005**----- Veneto, Italy

The 2004 Amarone della Valpolicella Classico is a pretty, understated wine with lovely inner perfume in its sweet roses, raspberries, spices and licorice. The tannins remain fine and silky throughout, conveying elegance. The wine offers outstanding length as well as balance. Though not a blockbuster, the 2004 Amarone impresses for superb drinkability and balance. **RP 92**

### **Damilano “ Lecinquevigne” Barolo (1/2 Bottle) 2010**-----Piedmont, Italy

Still firm and tightly wound, offering a peek at the wonderful cherry, wild berry, floral and tobacco flavors. Still a little lean and dry, with noticeable tannins coming in on the pleasantly earthy finish, so we recommend decanting. With sufficient aeration it opens up and is a very enjoyable young Barolo. **WS 91**

### **Pio Cesare Barbaresco 2007** -----Piedmont, Italy

The 2007 Barbaresco is a gorgeous, inviting wine graced with exquisite dark fruit and a supple personality. Fine tannins frame the fruit through to the finish. The Barbaresco is already quite open and accessible, but the tannins remain a touch firm and there is enough freshness in the glass to suggest the wine will be even better in another year or two. This is a very typical 2007. **RP 92**

### **DiGresy Camp Gros Barbaresco 2004** ----- Piedmont, Italy

The 2004 Barbaresco Camp Gros Martinenga is large-scaled wine. This fresh, vibrant Barbaresco explodes from the glass with a gorgeous array of macerated dark cherries, spices, menthol, pine, minerals and toasted oak. The wine reveals superb depth and clarity, with awesome finesse. **RP 94**

### **Castello Dei Rampolla 2010 “Sammarco”** ----- Tuscany, Italy

**Vinous Media 100 pts** A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Sangiovese, the 2010 Sammarco tastes like biting into a combination of graphite, crushed rocks, smoke, violets, kirsch, lavender and sweet spices. The flavors are intense and concentrated, yet also incredibly nuanced. Firm tannins give the wine an extra kick of energy on the sculpted finish. In a word: magnificent! Best decanted.

## **BORDEAUX**

### **Cru Monplaisir 2015**----- Bordeaux

Light savory, thyme and olive hints mingle with an open-knit core of crushed cherry and red currant fruit. Shows a mineral edge through the finish. Offers good texture and subtle persistence. **WS 88**

### **Chateau Blaignan 2010**----- Medoc

A bright, fresh style, with a violet note leading the way for cherry and cassis notes. Reveals a lightly stony frame on the finish.

### **Chateau Mongravey 2013**----- Margaux

A gentle violet edge frames pretty red cherry and plum fruit flavors, with hints of lilac and black tea on the slightly trim finish.

### **Chateau Haut Beausejour 2011**----- St Estephe

A good mix of dark plum, raspberry coulis and red currant fruit flavors, with a high-pitched floral hint that weaves through the lively finish.

### **Chateau Pontet Canet (1/2 Btl only) 2003**----- Pauillac

Shows beautiful aromas of crushed berries and currant, with hints of mineral. Full-bodied, with lovely currant, licorice and mint. Long and caressing. Very refined and balanced. Another winner from Pontet-Canet **WS 93**

### **Chateau Fonbodet 2011**----- Pauillac

Solid, with a bolt of graphite running from start to finish, connecting the plum cake, blackberry coulis and briar notes. Delivers a streak of underlying acidity that carries through on the long finish.

## **BURGUNDY**

**Patrick Size Mercurey 2007** ----- Cote Chalonnaise

Dark cherry red color; exhibits a raspberry, cherry nose; on the palate vibrant cherry and red fruit notes, a hint of minerality runs through leading to a finish of medium length. All in all a very good value in Burgundy.

**Tollot-Beaut Aloxe-Corton Les Vercots 2001** ----- Cote De Beaune

Bursting with vibrant flavors, this impresses with silky texture & fat tannins. Full-bodied, w/crushed raspberries & cassis flavors, a pleasure from start to finish **WS 91**

**Chanson Beaune-Bastion 2005** ----- Cote De Beaune

If it's elegance and finesse you want, this red has it. A linear profile contains cherry, strawberry and currant flavors adorning the firm structure. It's balanced, and showing great integration at this time **WS 91**

**Domaine de L'Arlot "Cote De Nuits Village" 2008** Cote De Nuits

A great value in Burgundy, this offers bright blackberry/cherry & high-toned evocations of almond extract & herbal notes. Surprisingly creamy in texture yet also vintage-typically bright, it finishes with levity and lip-smacking savor.

**Alex Gambal Chambolle Musigny 2002** -----Cote De Nuits

Sweet spice and berry flavors are the hallmarks of this supple, refined red. Medium-bodied, with an intensity that builds to a long finish. Lovely balance and length. **WS 90**

**Dufouleur Fixin "1er Cru" 2006** ----- Cote De Nuits

Good depth of fruit, vibrant cherry and pleasant earth tones dominate now, but this wine will open up more with decanting. Clean finish.

## **BEAUJOLAIS, RHONE, AND OTHER FRENCH RED**

### **Chateau Puech Haut "Le Prestige" 2014** ----- Languedoc, France

A terrific value, the 2014 Languedoc Cuvee Prestige checks in as a blend of 55% Grenache and 45% Syrah that's brought up all in tank. It has tons of Mediterranean character in its sweet dark fruits, lavender, damp earth and peppery herb-laced bouquet. This gives way to a full-bodied, sexy, layered 2014 w/plenty of fruit, fine tannin & a hedonistic style that's hard to resist. **RP 91**

### **Domaine Du seminaire Cote Du Rhone 2014**----- Rhone

Offers juicy dark plum and blackberry notes, with sweet licorice and toasted spice details through the finish. A solid value in a crowd-pleasing style

### **Coursodon St Joseph 2010**----- Rhone

This winery style has solid underlying grip, which allows the muscular core of blackberry paste, briar and toasted anise flavors to drive along through a lengthy finish. A strong chalky edge is buried on the finish. **WS 92**

### **\*Dom Du Beurenard Chateauneuf Du Pape 2015 (1/2 Btl)**-----Rhone

A beautiful wine, with dark fig, warm boysenberry reduction and alluring creamed raspberry flavors streaming forth, accented by graphite, black tea and pastis. There's a healthy dose of singed apple wood through the finish, but it's well-embedded as everything pulls together. **WS 94**

### **Font du Loup Chateauneuf Du Pape 2014**----- Rhone

Medium-bodied, elegant, lightly textured effort that has the classic red fruits (strawberries, raspberries), spice & floral notes of the estate. Good ripeness, integrated acidity and a fresh, lively profile. Ideally suited to pair well with food.

### **Colombier Hermitage Rouge 2009**-----Rhone

The 2009 Hermitage is sensational. Abundant aromas of blackberry fruit, white chocolate, espresso roast and acacia flowers jump from the glass of this opulent, full-bodied, powerful Hermitage. With great intensity as well as silky tannins, this chewy, thick, well-endowed wine should evolve for 20-25+ years. **RP 94**

## DESSERT /PORT WINE

**Quady Essensia Orange Muscat 2014** -----California

Wonderful aromas and flavors to match, with lots of orange, nectarine, fig and tangerine flavors that are elegant and lively. **WS 90**

**Graham's 6 Grape Character Port** -----Portugal

Light and fruity, a ruby port with a slightly nutty character. Medium body and sweetness, with a light, silky finish

**Taylor Fladgate LBV 2011-12 Port** ----- Portugal

Very smooth and refined, a ruby port with notes of dried plum and raisin, caramelized cherry and hints of bittersweet cocoa on the finish.

**Yalumba Antique Tawny Port** -----Australia

Amber colored, sweet but not unctuous, this has vibrant almond, apricot & spice aromas & flavors, echoing rich notes of cherry & orange peel also. **WS91**

**La Vie Late Harvest Chardonnay 2009** ----- Santa Lucia Highlands

A wonderful treatment of Chardonnay, rich, with notes of fig, crème brulee, lemon, and pineapple in a wine that is sweet but not cloying.

**Jules Taylor Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc 2014** Marlborough, New Zealand

A delicious dessert wine that manages to concentrate wonderful sweetness without turning syrupy Hints of apricot, pineapple and vanilla form the main flavors and lead to a light but lingering aftertaste. Nicely done

**Carr Viognier Late Harvest (Santa Ynez) 2012** --- Santa Ynez

Rich honeyed notes of Apricot, Mango and Peach with a hint of stony minerality on the clean but lingering finish. Another great local effort.

**Saucelito Canyon Late Harvest Zinfandel 2014**-----California

Dark, intense blackberry and Cassis notes grounded by mild tannins and an earthy streak running down the middle which tames the sweetness and adds an interesting and complementary complexity.

## DESSERT /PORT WINE

### **Roxo Negrette 2009** ----- Paso Robles

An under-the-radar Paso winery that is making stand-out dessert wines. We chose this one because its flavor profile is so like a good vintage Port without the wait for it to age and integrate. Vibrant, with Cassis and Dried plum, a hint of nuttiness and of cocoa. Very good local Port.

### **\*\*\*Alvear Pedro Ximenez “1927 Solera”** ----Spain

The impressive 1927 Pedro Ximenez Solera, from a Solera begun nearly 80 years ago, boasts a dark amber color as well as an extraordinary nose of creme brulee, liquefied nuts, marmalade, and maple syrup. Huge and viscous, yet neither cloyingly sweet nor heavy, it is a profound effort priced unbelievably low. Although it can be drunk alone at the end of a meal, it is incredible with most chocolate desserts. **RP 96**

### **Ojai Riesling Ice Wine (Roll Ranch) 2014**----- Ojai

This wine has fantastic purity and definition with notions of peach, apricot and flower oil as well as a full-bodied, decadent palate that balances its sweetness and acidity beautifully. **RP 92**

### **Chateau Doisy-Vedrine 2003** ----- Barsac- Sauternes

Intense aromas of dried pineapple, apple tart, & pecan pie with honey. Full-bodied medium-sweet, lovely honey character and medium finish.

### **Selvapiana Vin Santo 2004**----- Tuscany, Italy

The 2004 Vin Santo del Chianti Rufina is a model of grace and elegance. Texturally finessed to the core, the 2004 emerges from the glass with layers of polished, perfumed fruit and fabulous overall balance. Hints of tobacco, light floral honey and mint add complexity on the impeccable finish. **RP, WS 94**

### **Warre’s 20 Year Tawny Port Otima** -----Portugal

Delicate, with caramel and spice notes, but good focus and length, leading to a creamy almond note on the finish. Elegant.

## DESSERT /PORT WINE

### **Donnafugata Ben Rye 2006----- Italy**

Very rich wine with lots of dried fruits, especially apricots, apples and figs. Full-bodied, sweet with loads of character, but not overly syrupy as it is very focused and clean. A wonderful dessert wine. **91-93 WS and RP**

### **Gould Campbell Vintage Port 2003 ----- Portugal**

Loads of licorice/berries on the nose follow thru to full-bodied palate, medium sweetness and masses of fruit. Long finish, layered. Tremendous value. **WS 95**

### **Far Niente “Dolce” Late Harvest” Dessert Wine ‘10-----Napa**

Lovely, with plenty of orange marmalade, nectarine and dried apricot flavors that display details of fresh herb, mineral, and custard. Gains momentum through the finish, revealing a dusting of powdered sugar. Sèmillon and Sauvignon Blanc. **WS 93**

### **Ornus Dell’Ornellaia 2010----- Italy**

This 2010 vintage, reflecting the cool, very slow growing season, appears quite “northern” in character but still very classic for Petit Manseng (the grape Varietal). There is abundant vibrant fruit on the nose, with notes of citrus, lemon zest, and minerally nuances. In the mouth, a generous sweetness is well balanced by the tangy acidity and the long-lived, mineral-edged finish. Sumptuous yet light on its feet, the flavors evoke honey, apple pie, vanilla and baking spice notes set in a creamy texture. Ample acidity keeps this clean on the finish. Like many of the best dessert wines, this isn’t just sweet but has the lively tangy flavor that great acidity provides. **WS 92+**

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