

## WINELETTER 146 SEPTEMBER 2009

# NEWZEALAND

24 OF NEW ZEALAND'S TOP PINOT NOIR HAWKE'S BAY'S ESK VALLEY WINERY FIRST OF THE 2009 SAUVIGNON BLANCS THE BEST OF BORDEAUX FOR UNDER \$40 GLENGARRY'S SEPTEMBER TOP10 CLEVER COCKTAIL CONCOCTIONS SEPTEMBER'S BRILLIANT BARGAINS HANDCRAFTED BEERS



delivery ontime, everytime gift packs for all occasions functions we cater for it all sale and return by arrangement glassware loan/hire wine, beer, spirits, riedel glasses advice on everything wine related monthly offers hot and exclusive! fun and education we're known for it; it's fun! credit accounts ioin us!

Ocotions

#### auckland

victoria park 118 wellesley st west 308 8346 herne bay 54 jervois rd 378 8555 ponsonby 139 ponsonby rd 378 8252 barnel 164 parnell rd 358 1333 newmarke 22 morrow st 524 5789 mission bay 49 tamaki dr 528 5272 250 dominion rd 623 0811 cnr wellesley st & mayoral dr 379 8416 cnr victoria st & elliott st 379 5858 takapuna cnr hurstmere rd & killarney st 486 1770 cnr clarence st & wynyard st 445 2989 remuera 400 remuera rd 523 1594 kingsland 467 new north rd 815 9207 164 garnet rd 360 4035

VGARRY

DN'T DRINK

AND DRIVE

thorndon 232 thorndon quay 472 7051 kelburn 85 upland rd 475 7849 courtenay place paramount cinema building 27 courtenay place 385 9600

dida's wine lounge & tapas 54 jervois rd 376 2813 dida's food store 54 jervois rd 361 6157

lengarry.co.nz

GLENGARRY



#### KELBURN 85 UPLAND ROAD

475 7849



Lee Martin, Manager at Glengarry Kelburn

You know it really is fun talking to Lee Martin, our store manager at Kelburn, in the capital; he's done so much in his two decades of liquor industry experience that there is no shortage of stories and information. I remember the Wineworks Central store at what was then the Britomart Bus Terminal where Lee started his career at the tail end of the eighties. It's been quite a career arc from the daily homeless and the nightly commuters through to the clientele at Kelburn, but it's no surprise that it would always resolve in Lee being behind a counter talking about wine. 'Clichéd as it sounds,' he tells me, 'retail really is my passion.'

He's managed retail stores in Perth, studied wine marketing at Roseworthy College and learned the ropes of winemaking and viticulture over two years at EIT in Napier. 'I did some vintages at Esk Valley,' he says, 'and then was stand-alone winemaker for Bradshaw wines, which was just a brilliant experience.' Not to mention a rewarding one - Lee won a Gold at the Royal Easter Show for his Cabernet Merlot, and picked up a Top Ten Cuisine gong for his Chardonnay.

However, when faced with the proverbial offer he couldn't refuse, the Capital beckoned, and Lee has worked selling and talking about wine in the corporate, grocery and on-premise spheres around Wellington. However, an opportunity to run 'Meredith's Store' was just the ticket - back to retail, back to talking to interested people about the wonders of wine. 'They're interesting as well as interested in Kelburn,' he stresses. 'I get people coming in who are keen to have malolactic fermentation explained to them, then I get students living twenty-five to a flat who want a \$15 wine.'

Lee also enjoys standing up in front of a group of enthusiasts and having those conversations, hence the burgeoning monthly wine club he's had running for just on a year. A bunch of amateur devotees retire to Caffé Mode over the road and listen, learn and drink, either at Lee's hands, or with a winemaker who may be passing through. 'People treat it as a good social night out: drink some good wines, learn a bit, relax a bit.' No wonder it's growing in numbers, then.

'Well, enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm, I guess,' he says brightly. Can't argue with that.

Jak Jakicevich

## MANAGER'S PICK LEE MARTIN

BROOKFIELDS Est 1937 Robertsom PINOT GRIS 2009

Brookfields Robertson Hawke's Bay Pinot Gris 2009 11273

\$17.90 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

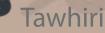
Was \$19.90

#### Fresh, fully flavoured and with that Alsatian mineral character that Brookfields aromatics all seem to have. It's got plenty of weight and character, which is a step up from a lot of Pinot Gris that's around, and it's interesting without being pretentious. Brilliant value, great with a spicy dish or two.

Sales enquiries: freephone 0800 733 505 freefax 0800 106 162 email sales@glengarry.co.nz

# S Fearless Buys

A monthly selection of delicious, dependable reds and whites where the palate, not the price tag, packs a punch



Awatere Sauvignon Blanc 2008

# was \$18.90 now \$14.90

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE New and exclusive to Glengarry

Confounding convention, I suggest that it is often a very good idea to judge a book by its cover and my entire case rests on Exhibit A from Tawhiri. M'lud. Assertive, attractive, bold words, no stylised wishywashy images, maximum impact with minimum fuss and pretension: the label absolutely reflects the wine within. Made exclusively for Glengarry, an Awatere Sauvignon of much style and finesse, surging forth with masses of flavour and finishing up with refreshing acid and addictive citrus notes. Smart, modern, cool.

# **Arrogant Frog**

Ribet Red Cabernet Merlot 2007

was \$19.90 now \$16.90 43966

BLANC 7008

SACRED HILL

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

'I've seen more intelligent things lying on their backs in the bottom of ponds,' Basil Fawlty once proclaimed, but he obviously hadn't encountered this very clever offering from a thoroughly modern winery. A pretty much even Cabernet/Merlot blend, conceived, created and executed with one thing in mind. (euros! NO!) Fruit, cynics. Only a quarter of the blend sees any wood; the fruit, from the sunny south of Gaul drives and shines throughout. Ripe, round and flavoursome.

OGAN

Red

## Sacred Hill Marlborough Vineyards Pinot Gris 2008

was \$21.90 now \$19.90 18447

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Cool fermented to retain freshness, and a bunch of daisies is a limp and stale offering in comparison. Bursting forth with the invigoration of a Marlborough spring morning, this aromatically asserts itself with spice, flowers and rushes of tropical fruit, while the palate carries all that with some weight, due to a little tricky lees stirring in the winery. While suggesting spring is around the corner may be a tad ambitious, this is the sort of wine that may indeed bring it on, even if it's all just in your mind, Frank.

## **Ti Point**

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 19034



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

In the old days, a winery produced a range of varieties from their estate vineyards, irrespective of the land's suitability to the varieties concerned. Thankfully, modern operators such as Tracy Haslam's Ti Point stick to their knitting on their home sites - in this case excellent reds from Matakana - and when she wants to make a cracking Sauvignon, like this one, she sources fruit from a top site in Marlborough. And we all get to share in the plunder. Neat, eh.

Waipara Hills At WAIPARA HILLS

chardonnay

## Chardonnay 2008

## CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 10323

A single-vineyard Waipara chardy for less then seventeen bucks? Well, I'll eat my red and black beanie. Grown behind the winery, perhaps the lowly price reflects the savings made on freight (being resourceful Cantabrians, the fruit probably just got off those vines and walked into the tank themselves). Brimming with baked apples and butterscotch, there's support and complexity from older oak, and a weight and gravitas that none of us deserve at this price. A real find; worth banging a bottle or two away, too.



\$16.90 yours



3

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Malbec and South America have proved to be a marriage made in heaven. From Chile to Argentina, the soil, topography and climate seem to produce beautiful, spicy, intensely-flavoured expressions of this variety. Hand-picked from 35-year-old vines, this infiltrates your senses with plums, dusty, exotic spices and wild flowers, all liberally distributed by the thick, succulent texture, right through to the silky finish.



was \$19.90 now

Marqués de Cáceres Rosé 2007 was \$23.50 now \$18.90

# CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

#### While the Rioja region is known for its meaty, savoury reds, let's not forget that treated tenderly, Tempranillo (with a splash of Grenache) can make a wonderful Rosé style wine. Ipso Facto. It just looks so inviting, all shiny salmon pink and blinding brightness of hue, while the nose and palate inveigle your senses with their red summer fruit tones and gentle touches of vanilla. A spike of minerality refreshes and inspires you to refill your glass ... well, it'd be churlish not to, Miguel...





Esk Valley Winemaker, Gordon Russell

The legions of Esk Valley admirers will notice a dramatic change in the presentation of the award-winning wines, the winery having undergone the first major rebranding in its twenty-one year history. Dominated by hand lettering on an uncluttered background, the new label echoes Esk Valley's own traditional handcrafted approach to winemaking.

2007's New Zealand Winemaker of the Year, Gordon Russell, has led the Esk Valley winemaking team since 1993 and is upbeat about the new branding.

'The new look is great, but it is certainly not at the expense of our wines. Esk Valley wines will remain true to their origins - unique, traditional, handcrafted. We will still be hand-plunging grapes, sourcing fruit from the same top-quality vineyards and pouring the same passion into every bottle we produce.'

The re-launch of Esk Valley under its new banner will also introduce three new wines, a Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Noir and Riesling, all from Marlborough.

'The approach for the Marlborough wines will be same as those of Hawke's Bay; we will apply natural winemaking techniques to make handcrafted wines that are food friendly,' says Gordon.

Esk Valley wines will be presented under two main categories; the Vineyard Selection range of elegant, intensely-flavoured, food-friendly wines, and the Winemakers range (previously known as the Reserve range), produced in small quantities from exceptional Hawke's Bay vintages.

Additionally, Esk Valley produces the ultra-premium The Terraces, in very limited quantities and only in outstanding years. Esk Valley's wine selections are, as always, beautifully made, exceptionally well-priced and a real pleasure to drink.

- 12833Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Marlborough Sauvignon 2009was \$24.50 now \$17.9012828Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Marlborough Riesling 2009was \$24.50 now \$17.9012829Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Hawke's Bay Verdelho 2009was \$24.50 now \$17.9012838Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Hawke's Bay Syrah 2007was \$24.50 now \$17.90
- 12832 Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008 was \$33.00 now \$26.90
- I2825
   Esk Valley Winemakers Range Merlot Malbec Cabernet 2007
   was \$68.00 now \$54.00

   12841
   Esk Valley The Terraces 2004
   \$158.00

ESK VALLE

Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2008

was \$24.50 now \$17.90 12819



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Classy and superbly priced. The blend consists of Bay View and Puketapu fruit, the former providing ripe tropical fruit characters, the latter mineral and citrus notes. The bouquet boasts tropical fruit, orange and a light seasoning of oak. Full bodied and beautifully integrated, the fruit is supported by buttery nuances and balanced by a swathe of citrus. An elegant wine with a lingering aftertaste. Great with food.



Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Hawke's Bay Pinot Gris 2008

# was \$24.50 now \$17.90 12826

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Hand harvested from company vineyards and fermented on both indigenous and cultured yeasts in a combination of seasoned oak barrels and stainless steel tanks. The well-defined pipfruit and peach aromas are embellished by floral notes and a hint of spice. The slightly off-dry palate reveals a rich vein of ripe fruit that is complemented by the suave texture and sensual mouthfeel.

Esk Valley Vineyard Selection Gimblett Gravels Merlot Cabernet Malbec 2007



NEW ZEALAND WINE

was \$24.50 now \$17.90 12813 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

#### CASE OF 12 UNLY \$17.40 A BUITLY

Each parcel was individually processed, fermented and matured in barriques for 12 months, then blended and bottled. The wine is full bodied and complex, with deep-seated and generous berryfruit flavours, hints of mocha and fine oak notes. The fruit is complemented by soft, ripe-tasting tannins that provide depth and dimension, suggesting that it's a good cellaring bet.





# was \$33.00 now \$26.90 12806

#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$26.40 A BOTTLE

If you have strayed from Chardonnay for other varietals, one sip of this will leave you wondering why you ever abandoned its vinous pleasures. A blend of fruit from a Bay View vineyard donating rich fruit characters and from Gimblett Gravels fruit providing backbone, mineral and balance, this is a poised, full-bodied wine with mineraledged stonefruit aromas and flavours wrapped in a slick, creamy texture. Excellent.



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DRAPPIER

BOLLINGER

ROSE

# Sparkling

A celebration of sparkling wines from across the globe to make every day a festive occasion

## Drappier Carte d'Or Brut NV

was \$59.00 now \$49.00 43501

# Superb Pinot-dominant champagne

90% Pinot in the blend ensures this is a wine of great presence, with a tiny touch of Chardonnay introduced to add a soupçon of extra charm and elegance. Or so they tell me. The website talks about 'stoned fruits' which is a tad indelicate, even in this enlightened age; but all's fair in liberty, equality and fraternity, huh Nicolas. Beautiful rose petal nose, said mulled out peaches and apricots displayed exquisitely on the palate, this is a direct yet refined expression that offers outstanding drinking, especially for the nominal entry fee.

# Ruinart

Blanc de Blancs Brut NV

# was \$144.00 now \$99.00 41502

## Champagne's oldest House, est. 1729

Ruinart is the oldest champagne house in existence, being established only a year after the legislation allowing the transportation of bottled wine was passed (as opposed to casks, which were of no use when moving champagne). This is very much a proud family house, with a tradition of producing fresh, expressive wines containing a high Chardonnay content. This Blanc de Blancs is one of Champagne's finest. Creamy and mouthfilling, a wine of substance with superb structure, vigour and charm.

# Bollinger Brut Rosé NV

# was \$168.00 now \$130.00 40810

Ruinart

## Seductive and sumptuous

I'll probably be shuffled off to a nice quiet room and given coloured blocks to play with for saying so, but do I detect a whiff of Christmas? Thirty-eight big dollars off the retail price? This is a seductive wine, from the fine minerality that interlaces the red fruit aromatics through to the sumptuous palate and bold, flavoursome finish. While Madonna probably fills her watercoolers with it, this is a wine that requires due consideration, and it will blossom beautifully if chef happens to pull a grand poulet from his pocket.

Saint-Meyland French Méthode Traditionnelle Brut NV





# CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Fantastic value French sparkling

Hailing from just outside the revered region itself, a mere sliver of geography means that this is sparkling wine rather than champagne. Fermented in the bottle and aged on its lees, it possesses all the benchmarks of greatness, with Pinot dominating the structure and Chardonnay delivering the deliciously soft and creamy middle.



Villa Jolanda Prosecco Brut NV was \$20.50 now \$16.90 61730

# CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Italian sparkler new to Glengarry

As we all begin to realise that the credit crunch-inspired handfuls of austerity we've been eating for weekend breakfast can cede their culinary prominence and we may start reinstating brunch back to its rightful place, this is the wine to do it with. Easing off with a puff of pink grapefruit and a whiff of exotic flowers, the palate is a pretty, peach-filled poppet, gently bubbling and soft and enveloping as the duvet 'neath which you consume it. Luxury? Necessity.

Allan Scott Les Joues Rouges Sparkling Rosé NV



was \$26.50 now \$19.90 17422 CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

# Marvellous Pink Méthode from Marlborough

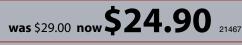
A stylish sparkling pink wine, made from a distinctive Pinot Noir clone and designed to augment any activities you may have forecast for the coming spring/summer. Vivacious but not frivolous, this has voluptuous raspberry and strawberry fruits and a palate that zings and sings, the flavours a tide of summer florals and fruits that will have you meadow-searching with much gusto. And a hot date.



Hardy's

Oomoo Sparkling Shiraz 2004





# CASE OF 6 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Try this with roasted pork

Few things are more Australian than sparkling Shiraz, and few Australian wineries have a better pedigree than Hardy's, so if you're new to the concept, this is a great place to start. Beautifully styled, this wine has all the power and punch of the variety; spice, scent and strong fruit characters, launched with extra verve on a vibrant, foaming mousse. Incandescently invigorating.



PinotNO

Comparing Pinot Noir regionally can be a tricky thing. 'Is Martinborough better than Central Otago?' Is Bach better than a piece of string? What we were looking for when we blind tasted over two hundred Pinots was to see what was the best available right now, what was most interesting, and what offered good value for money.

But you've listed them by region, the clever-clogs amongst you may rightly point out. Course we have! If there's a grape that nakedly tells the story of the land in which it is cultivated, it's Pinot Noir.

Many of you will know that in Burgundy, a single vineyard can have dozens of producers, each with their own row or two of vines, those vines producing wines that are slightly different in style, and often quality, from a wine produced from vines that are, literally, a stone's throw away.

Indeed terroir is (almost) everything when you're talking Pinot, and you only have to sample a couple of the wines from the list below (although we suggest you sample the lot) to see that regional differences exist, and that within our Pinot Noir-producing regions, sub-regional characteristics are now emerging.

Call Wairarapa wines Martinborough wines and you'll get a scythe in the spine, my friends! Enjoy. We did.



Lake Chalice Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

was \$24.90 now \$19.90 13583

'What branches grow out of this stony rubbish?' Eliot once intoned, and it is precisely because these prime Lake Chalice sites are stonedominated that the vines struggle and search for nutrients, and the grapes produced are concentrated with flavour and character. Golly. Fruit-first, savoury undertow, balanced and tasty.



ERVE REL

Matua Valley Shingle Peak Reserve Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008

was \$27.00 now \$19.90 14040

#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

With the headrush of a new winery born every minute, it's easy to forget that labels like Shingle Peak have been producing excellent Marlborough wines for over 25 years. Appealingly priced for a Reserve wine, this boasts a full palate laden with fruit, delivering maximum impact in a very satisfying style.



The Ned Marlborough Pinot Noir 2007

was \$25.00 now \$22.90 12256

#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE

Few winemakers understand the vagaries of Marlborough terroir like Brent Marris; he's been prodding at the local dirt since he was a kid. He describes the 268ha that make up The Ned site as 'providing the fruit variation and complexity that a winemaker can normally only dream of,' qualities that this Pinot Noir has in spades.



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$25.40 A BOTTLE

Wanna talk terroir? 'It's been a long search to find a vineyard site that I believed would provide the quality and variety of flavours I was looking for,' says Jules; hence only her second Pinot Noir in seven vintages. That's serious commitment. While this is weighty, intense, spicy and sweet, it has Jules' charm as a final flourish.



Saint Clair Pioneer Block 14 Doctor's Creek Pinot Noir 2008

# was \$36.00 now \$28.90 18401

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.40 A BOTTLE

Terroir dictates here. The Doc's Block in Blenheim brings exotic aromatics and ethereal qualities, while a portion of fruit from Awatere delivers the concentrated, supportive flavours, all wrapped around a superb structure. The fruittickled-with-spice-palate is fulsome & flavoursome.

Terravin Marlborough Pinot Noir **2008** 



was \$38.00 now \$34.00 13289

Serious style of Pinot from three sites on a steeeeep hillside in the Omaka Valley. Mike Eaton began as a Montana labourer over 20 years ago, so no stone unturned in his journey to unlock the secrets of the region's terroir, then. Bold, robust and firm, this is a wine of great presence and finesse.

> Mahi Rive Vineyard Marlborough Pinot Noir 2007

Mine Qinegend Rive Qinegend 2007 PINOT NOR MARAOROLOM MEW 2244.00



#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

The tiny Rive vineyard is a silty little Rapaura nugget that produces, the Bricknells say, some of the densest wines they make. With its exquisite layers of cherries, licorice and spice, this has the weight and power to ensure the propensity to age, but will more than satisfy the impatient at this juncture.







Central Otago 12-Pack 12 bottles of central otago's finest \$399 www.glengarry.co.nz





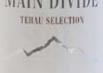


#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Two words: too cheap. It is a brave new world to make what is essentially an unwooded Pinot Noir and still have it come out with texture and presence to spare. Brimmingly bright fruit braided by supple tannins, the flavours are woody herbs, sexy spice and various berries delivered fresh to your door in zippy, vigorous fashion.

#### Main Divide Tehau Selection Waipara Valley Pinot Noir 2007

was \$38.00 now \$34.90



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$34.40 A BOTTLE

Only the second vintage of this Pinot, the fruit, from three different Waipara sites, gets a longish eighteen months in French oak. It's a more robust offering than some, muscular yet still very inviting, with some lovely smoky game and savoury characters that distinguish it from the rest of the wolverine pack.



Gladstone Pinot Noir **2007** 



#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE

#### Organic producer

Glad I took those Gaelic night school lessons before John Key cut the funding(!) Urlar means 'the earth' and this varietally authentic gem reflects beautifully the very soil from which the fruit was lovingly reclaimed. Unfiltered and minimally handled so that all its glories are on delicious display.



Dakins Road is sort of the Park Avenue of Wairarapa (as opposed to Martinborough) and this, Paddy Borthwick's tenth vintage of Pinot Noir, stacks up as one of the sub-region's best. A Burgundian style, with all the complexity, intrigue and brooding beauty that such an epithet suggests.

artineorough



## Russian Jack Martinborough Pinot Noir 2008



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Grown slightly south of Martinborough village itself, this ebullient little wine pays homage to an ursine Ukrainian (Russia, Ukraine, whatever) who cleared the scrubland back in the day, unwittingly unleashing the first stage of Martinborough's vineyard-producing capabilities. Russian Jack is a no-nonsense, vivacious, dogged style that is fetchingly flavoursome and pithily priced.



# CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Best sub-\$25 Pinot Noir, Cuisine

Ahh, the sonorous collision when value meets quality. Best Pinot Noir under \$25 say the gods at Cuisine, and we don't doubt them, sidled up, as this was, against a plethora of its contemporaries. Darkly red yet not over-extracted; indeed, the tannins are a subtle buffer against which the fulsome flavours ebb and flow with emotional clout.



THE OF NEW SEALASS

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE

Part of the pioneering Larry McKenna's Escarpment stable. Even if you're not a soil-sifting fanatic, that this is grown in the famous Martinborough alluvial terraces is significant. McKenna spotted the potential of that terroir 20-plus years ago. Without that vision, Martinborough may well still be serving scones and jam to Maui campervans. This, by the way, is excellent.

Palliser Estate Martinborough Pinot Noir 2008 was \$52.00 now \$39.90



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

## Benchmark Martinborough Pinot Noir

Difficult to communicate the profound impact this wine has had on the Pinot Noir playground, and it is still a benchmark, each release eagerly anticipated. Derived from a vintage whose mid-summer warmth produced excellent ripening conditions, this is monumental, complex and weighty, yet not without plenty of charm and intense fruit appeal.

## Top NZ Pinot 24-Pack all 24 nz pinot noir featured here \$648 www.glengarry.co.nz



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Sanigho

# First of the 2009 Vintage

Sauvignon Blanc is New Zealand's most important grape variety, accounting for more than 70% of our wine exports. Not surprisingly, each vintage is anxiously awaited by growers, winemakers and exporters alike, not to mention wine drinkers here and in far away lands. The good news is that regional differences in the 2008/09 season were considerably less marked than in recent years. Overall, the growing conditions were good.

Marlborough, with 90% of production, enjoyed near perfect conditions at harvest and delivered pristine grapes with intense aromatics, lovely concentration and ripe characters. Intense vineyard management ensured that cropping levels were maintained at 2008 levels, despite a significantly larger production area.

With New Zealand's second largest Sauvignon Blanc production, Hawke's Bay enjoyed an excellent growing season. Wineries report early varieties such as Sauvignon Blanc were harvested with good Brix levels and standout flavour and acidity. Volumes of all varieties increased, marking a return to normal levels after the frost-affected 2008 vintage.

Other regions, including Martinborough, Nelson, Waipara and Central Otago, also enjoyed good vintages. The 2009 wines may well prove to be a stellar year for Sauvignon Blanc, and we await their release with great anticipation.





# CASE OF 12 ONLY \$11.40 A BOTTLE

Deakin harvest Sauvignon Blanc from their Red Cliffs vineyard in north-west Victoria. While retaining the fresh, pungent characters associated with the variety, this Australian take on our premier grape is less herbaceous and leans toward tropical fruit.



# Villa Maria Private Bin Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009

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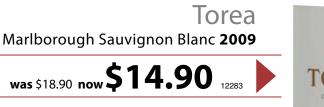
MARLBOROUGH

SAUVIGNON BLANC

now \$14.90

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

The Private Bin range offers consistency coupled with sharp pricing. This is blended from several Marlborough vineyards to capture the vibrant, zesty characters and deep fruit flavours that have made it the world's leading wine region for Sauvignon Blanc.



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

A great follow-up to the gold medalling 2008 wine. Classically-styled in the Marlborough mould, it has an explosive aromatic character alive with herb, passionfruit and citrus. Vibrantly fresh, it's the perfect match to ovsters on the shell.

#### Brookfields Ohiti Estate BROOKFIELDS Hawke's Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2009 AWKE'S BA was \$19.90 now \$16.90 11276 Ohiti Estat UVIGNON BLANC

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

With a stated goal of producing wines that match well with food, Peter Robertson has enhanced the soft tropical fruit characters that distinguish Hawkes Bay Sauvignon. The Brookfield style produces succulent, well-defined ripe fruit balanced by crisp citrus nuances.



Gunn Estate Sauvignon Blanc 2009 was \$17.90 now \$16.90 18082

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Winemaker Dennis Gunn has been part of Gunn Estate since the family established vineyards in 1983 to supply high-profile wineries. Their smart White Label Sauvignon is blended from selected vineyards that consistently deliver up quality fruit. Great value.

#### **Coopers Creek** Dillon's Point Sauvignon Blanc 2009



2009

#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

was \$22.50 now \$17.90 11896

The Dillon's Point vineyard in 2009 produced a superb crop of Sauvignon fruit. It is a vibrant, fresh style with well-defined aromas and flavours of passionfruit and tropical fruit underscored by lime nuances. A neatly balanced wine with a crisp, lingering finish.



Alan McCorkindale Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009

# was \$23.90 now \$19.90 10102

#### CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

This latest release from the maestro reflects the quality of the 2009 vintage. The first whiff reveals remarkable varietal intensity (gooseberry and passionfruit supported by herbaceous notes). The palate is dominated by pure fruit flavours that linger through to the fresh, zesty finish.





From a very old and distinguished Gisborne winery that's undergoing a transformation and a new lease of life (but more on that next month), this Sauvignon is so new, its being bottled as we go to print. We're picking one of the key descriptors will be 'fresh'.

10



Rediscover the wines of the lucky country with our pick of the best Aussies on offer

IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE AUSTRALIAN COOL CLIMATE





Yalumba y Series South Australian Shiraz Viognier 2007

was \$17.00 now \$12.90 29879

**CASE OF 12 ONLY \$12.40 A BOTTLE** Spiced with a little Viognier

Australia's oldest family-owned winery, Yalumba pioneered and set the benchmark there for Shiraz/Viognier wines. With its fragrant violet and apricot notes and subtle marmalade-like aromas, this has a lovely aromatic quality. Wonderfully fresh, with a rich fruit presence wrapped around a supple tannin structure. Amazing value.

#### Deen De Bortoli Vat 8 Shiraz 2007

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 20907

#### **CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE** *Quality Shiraz for under \$20*

The Vat 8 Shiraz is a multi-regional blend, with each parcel separately fermented, barrel aged, blended and minimally handled to preserve varietal integrity. The bouquet displays peppery plum and berryfruit aromas with spicy vanillin oak nuances. Richly flavoured, the plum & spice characters enhanced by a silky texture.



#### Torbreck Cuvée Juveniles Barossa Grenache Mataro Shiraz 2007

VAT 8

was \$39.00 now \$29.00 21018

#### **CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.50 A BOTTLE** 91/100 Parker, The Wine Advocate

Originally made for cult Parisian wine bar Juveniles, this is blended from Barossa Valley vines that are up to 150 years old. It is an unoaked, fruit-driven wine with a fragrant bouquet of spicy cherry, blackberry and mineral. The palate has a juicy, pure fruit quality with spicy undertones and a fresh, lengthy finish.



The Prodigal Son Shiraz Grenache Viognier 2004



#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Made by McLaren Vale's Geoff Merrill

Using McLaren Vale-grown Rhône varieties, this is a moderately complex red with berry, violet and nutmeg aromas. The Viognier component brings a lovely velvety texture, allowing the rich, dark fruit flavours to shine through. Well balanced and focused, it has a firm tannin structure that gives length to the finish.

Geoff Merrill McLaren Vale Shiraz Grenache Mourvèdre 2005	
was \$25.90 now \$19.90 22128	
<b>CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE</b> Classic Rhône blend with	SHIRAZ GRENACHE Mourvèdre
an Aussie twist	
Geoff Merrill is a larger than life character with a zest the wines he crafts are distinguished by their subtlety while not lacking in power or depth. The 2005 SGM is exuding nuances of berry, spice and earth. The silky-te	and finesse, s a deep red,



has well-defined fruit underpinned by a grainy tannin structure.

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

Taste the new vintage at Westmere over September

A single vineyard wine produced in limited quantities from some of the oldest vines in South Australia. The final blend is selected after extensive sampling of individual barrels to find the right balance. The 2007 is a beautifully-crafted wine, dark as night, with alluring aromas, rich, seamless flavours and a velvet finish. Superb.

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#### A monthly selection of affordable French wine from our extensive range

France

# The Wines of Alsace

a taste of

Situated in the north-east corner of France, the ancient province of Alsace has changed hands several times. The territory has been French since 1918, but a German influence still persists in the grape varieties grown and the varietally labelled wines presented in tall, fluted bottles. The varieties may be of Germanic origin, but Alsace wines are French in style.

Alsace is cut off from the rest of France by the Vosges mountain range, which helps to create the region's individual climate. The range provides a rain shadow and protects it from the influence of the Atlantic. Consequently the vineyards enjoy an exceptional amount of sunshine and very low rainfall. The plantings are dominated by the white aromatic varieties, Riesling, Pinot Gris, Gewürztraminer and Pinot Blanc.

There are two basic classifications; Alsace AC, which covers the whole region, and Grand Cru AC, which is restricted to about 50 classified vineyards. The white wines of Alsace are some of the greatest in the world. Their most distinctive attribute is that they are generally fermented to dryness while retaining fresh, fruity, varietal aromas, at the same time providing the body and authority to accompany a wide range of foods.

> Gisselbrecht Pinot Gris 2007 was \$30.50 now \$24.90

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Best vintage yet of our top-selling PG Located in the medieval city of Dambach-la-Ville, the Gisselbrecht family have been involved in the wine business since the 17th Century. Their 2007 Pinot Gris is impressive, making an excellent first impression with its complex aromas of spring blossom, crystallized fruit and hints of almond. Similar flavours flow through on the palate, which is stunningly rich and

elegantly structured, leading on to a lengthy, flavour-

filled aftertaste.



Louis Sipp Osterberg Grand Cru Pinot Gris 2004

was \$57.00 now \$49.90 46954

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

Superb Grand Cru from top producer

One of the very few family domaines that somehow manage to produce relatively large quantities of wine from a wide selection of Grand Crus vineyards. This Pinot Gris, from the Osterberg vineyard in Ribeauvillé, is considered by many to be the archetypal Alsatian expression of the variety. It is a glorious wine, with a complex bouquet dominated by stonefruit aromas combined with nuances of spice, smoke and toast. Bursting with deliciously ripe fruit, the elegant palate is perfectly balanced and as long as a wet weekend.



Alsace Pinot Gris has few rivals in the world of wine, and there is no better value example than this. It is a beautifully crafted wine with a lively, seductive bouquet packed with aromas of flowers, smoke and spice. The palate makes a fresh impression at first, then becomes round and very elegant. The emphasis is on ripe flavours adorned by floral and spice notes that are countered by orange and lemon peel. A great accompaniment to pan-fried poultry dishes.



Gewürztraminer is perhaps Alsace's most distinctive and popular aromatic wine internationally. This is classically styled to showcase

aromatic wine internationally. This is classically styled to showcase the variety's outstanding aromatic quality; the nose is full of exotic scents of lychee, rose petals, honey and spice. In keeping with first impressions, the palate is dominated by its deep-seated, spicy fruit flavours. Balanced and full bodied, it has a long, tasty, fresh finish. Well-suited to Asian cuisine and particularly well priced.

> Louis Sipp Pinot Gris 2005

Gisselbrecht



was \$38.00 now \$26.90 46966

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$26.40 A BOTTLE

Blended from hand harvested fruit selected from some of the best vineyards around the town of Ribeauvillé. The wine was cool fermented to retain freshness and varietal characters. The bouquet has alluring aromas of pipfruit entwined with citrus and honey, while the palate displays assertive ripe fruit flavours, spicy nuances and a silky texture.

ALSACE GRAND CRU W. GISSELBRECHT RUBLING RAND CRU FRANKSTEIN 305

Frankstein Grand Cru Riesling 2002 was \$46.00 now \$39.90 41213

### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

Beautifully aged and ready now

The wines of Frankstein have been famous since the middle ages and are much sought after. A classic and very traditional Grand Cru Riesling, this is golden in colour with flecks of green around the rim. The bouquet has intense, spicy pear and floral aromas supported by lemon peel and mineral nuances. A complex, deep wine, rather fleshy and full bodied, with a viscous character and a stack of floral notes on the palate that seem to last forever.

# Pasqua

AMARONE

PASQUA

a taste of

Established in Verona in 1925 by four brothers, Pasqua is today managed by the family's second generation, brothers Carlo, Giorgio and Umberto, and a third generation is already involved in maintaining the tradition of family ownership and management.

Pasqua's philosophy is to grow premium quality grapes and produce wines that express the unique characteristics of Italy's famed wine regions. Their innovative approach and dedication to quality has placed them among the top five privately-owned wineries in Italy.

Their wide assortment of wines, including a single vineyard range, classic appellations and regional selections, are quintessentially Italian, well-suited to food and offer exceptional value.

Besides owning 200 hectares of vineyards in the classic Veronese zones, Pasqua also purchase from selected growers to whom they provide technical support and ongoing supervision. In the 1980's the company established Cecilia Beretta, a vine research, development and production centre, which resulted in reduced cropping levels, the introduction of modern technology and the use of small oak barrels for fermentation and maturation.



One of Italy's true treasures, Amarone is produced from grapes dried in special racks for up to four months. Over the drying period the grapes lose about 30% of their weight, which results in a concentration of the sugar extracts. After fermentation, the wine is matured in barriques for 18 months. Exuding aromas of currant, blackberry, vanilla and almond, this is a wonderfully intense wine, the rich raisin fruit artfully embellished by hints of leather and enhanced by silky tannins. Masterful.

#### Intriguing, exciting and always stylish, smarten up your sideboard with the new breed of Italians

#### Pasqua Le Collezioni Montepulciano 2007 1.5Litre

MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO Destante d'Argen Terreto Destante d'Argen Terreto Destante La Calacient PASQUA

#### **CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE** Two bottles in one, double the fun

was \$25.50 now \$19.90 62473

At double the normal size, this is great value, very drinkable, and perfect for a gathering of friends. The medium-bodied palate is well balanced and has a generous robustness enhanced by the ripe, mellow tannin structure and flavoursome finish. Excellent with beef, lamb and game dishes, or seasoned cheeses.



#### Pasqua Lapaccio Primitivo 2007

was \$22.50 now \$18.90 66021

#### CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Southern Italian style

Primitivo is an indigenous variety which flourishes in the hot climate of southern Italy. It is a boldly structured wine with concentrated plum and black cherry aromas. The full bodied palate reveals intense, spice-seasoned plum flavours. This is an uncompromising, robust style; a touch rustic in character, but well balanced and constructed.





## Pasqua Night Harvest Pinot Grigio IGT 2008



## CASE OF 12 ONLY \$15.40 A BOTTLE

Consistently good drinking

From Italy's cool north-eastern district of the Veneto region, this was harvested early and in the cool of the night to maximise balance and fruit freshness. A bright, clean wine with spice-accented pear 13 and mineral notes and a hint of smoke on the nose. The light bodied palate displays fresh fruit flavours enhanced by nutty nuances and a lemon finish. Particularly food friendly.

# **MOUNT GAY**

30mL Mount Gay Eclipse Rum 15mL Mount Gay Extra Old Rum 10mL Cointreau 5mL Disaronno Originale Amaretto 30mL freshly-squeezed lime juice 10mL sugar syrup

Add all the ingredients to a boston shaker and fill with ice. Shake well and strain into a chilled, ice-filled, old-fashioned glass

# 92579 Mount Gay Eclipse Rum 1Litre \$44.90

92577	<b>Mount Gay</b>	Eclipse Rum	700mL	\$34.90
92564	<b>Mount Gay</b>	Extra Old	750mL	\$54.90
94305	Cointreau		500mL	\$44.90
94405	Disaronno	Amaretto	700mL	\$44.90

MOUNT GAY RUM

BARBADOS



50mL Cointreau 20mL lemon juice 30mL cranberry juice one orange

Carefully peel the orange & twirl the peel around a cocktail stirrer. Fill a Boston shaker with fresh ice and pour in all of the ingredients. Shake well.

Strain into a chilled Martini glass.



COINTREAU

holita

<sup>94305</sup> Cointreau 500mL \$44.90





Weka	Native Lager	330mL 4-pack	was	\$11.60	now	\$9.90	91339
Moa Original	Premium Lager	375mL 4-pack	was	\$31.60	now	\$29.90	91322
Moa Blanc	Premium Wheat Beer	375mL 4-pack	was	\$3 <mark>1.60</mark>	now	\$29.90	91324
Moa Noir	Premium Dark Lager	375mL 4-pack	was	\$31 <mark>.60</mark>	now	\$29.90	91323
Dux Brewing Co	• Dux Lager	330mL 4-pack	was	\$19 <mark>.6</mark> 0	now	\$16.90	91365
Dux Brewing Co	• Hereford Bitter	330mL 4-pack	was	\$1 <mark>9.6</mark> 0	now	\$16.90	91367
Dux Brewing Co	. Ginger Tom	330mL 4-pack	was	\$21.60	now	\$19.90	91366
Dux Brewing Co	. Norwester	330mL 4-pack	was	\$22.00	now	\$19.90	91368

# Each month, from the hundreds of wines submitted to us, the Glengarry Tasting Panel selects our top ten wines

GLENGARRY

Waimea Nelson Pinot Gris 2008

was \$23.90 now \$19.90 14916

#### CASE OF 12 \$19.40 A BOTTLE

An off-dry Pinot Gris with a distinctive aromatic quality hinting at candied fruit. A well weighted palate has concentrated fruit flavours nicely balanced by a touch of citrus.

#### Protos Crianza 2004

was \$45.00 now \$34.00 88073

#### CASE OF 12 \$33.50 A BOTTLE

A classic 100% Tempranillo with well integrated dark berry and toasty oak aromas. Ripe and full bodied, it displays blueberry and plum flavours supported by coffee and cinnamon notes.

Château de Lugagnac Bordeaux Supérieur 2006

was \$29.00 now \$24.00 42116

CASE OF 12 \$23.50 A BOTTLE

A beautifully structured Bordeaux displaying

seductive blackcurrant, cherry and hints of

spice, supported by cedary nuances on the

nose and palate. Superb value.



WAIMEA

pinot gris

Rockburn Stolen Kiss Central Otago Rosé 2009

was \$21.90 now \$18.90 12367

Nga Waka Home Block

Martinborough Chardonnay 2005

was \$35.00 now \$19.90

A complex barrel fermented Chardonnay with ripe stonefruit aromas and flavours supported

by the understated spicy oak. It has a biscuity

texture and a clean, fresh-tasting finish.

#### CASE OF 12 \$18.40 A BOTTLE

A fresh, lively, fruit-driven rosé abounding with raspberry and strawberry aromas and flavours. With spring on the doorstep, this is the perfect wine to enjoy with lighter seasonal fare.

OCKBURN Stolen Kiss

Brookfields Ohiti Estate 6

Hawke's Bay Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 was \$19.90 now \$16.90 11279

#### CASE OF 12 \$16.40 A BOTTLE

With fruit off the highly regarded Ohiti block, this popular Cabernet is packed with blackberry and cassis flavours supported by leather and coffee nuances, all at a bargain price.

BROOKFIELDS STREET, BAS Ohiti Estite CABERNET SAUVIGNO

Gold Label

Allan Scott Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009

was \$21.90 now \$18.90 17373

#### CASE OF 12 \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Exudes typical regional herbaceousness along with touches of ripe pineapple and guava, the intense fruit presence on the palate countered by a decent dash of citrus.









Wolf Blass Gold Label Barossa Shiraz **2007** 

was \$26.90 now \$17.90

A vibrant wine exhibiting lifted aromas of blueberry, blackberry and plum overlayed with smoky oak. Full and round, it has excellent depth across the palate. An absolute steal.

# Ada

Minotauro Rojo 2004

was \$29.00 now \$24.90 88023



An intense Spanish beauty with a bouquet of blackcurrant, cherry, black olive and spice. It's seductively concentrated, the pervasive fruit flavours supported by fine-grained tannins.



Johanneshof Medium Pinot Gris 2008

was \$33.00 now \$29.90

#### CASE OF 12 \$29.40 A BOTTLE

A well weighted, off-dry Pinot Gris displaying hints of Alsace. Ripe pear and honey notes grace the nose, the palate is concentrated and balanced. A versatile food wine.



PINOT CRIS





