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139 ponsonby rd
378 8252
parnell
164 parnell rd
358 1333
newmarket
22 morrow st
524 5789
mt eden
250 dominion rd
623 0811
city
cnr wellesley st & mayo
379 8416

city
cnr wellesley st & mayoral dr
379 8416
elliott st
cnr victoria st & elliott st
379 5858
takapuna
cnr hurstmere rd & killarney st
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LEE MORLAND, MANAGER OF GLENGARRY KINGSLAND, 467 NEW NORTH RD PH 815 9207

Sounding like he's just walked off the set of Layer Cake, Lee Morland is a Cantabrian who simply happened to spend 12 years in the UK. Doing a stretch that long in Blighty would sort you out, for sure, but Lee trekked frequently to Europe, "just sampling", he says wryly; particularly Spain, France (Bordeaux and the Rhône) and Italy, for there, as all good wineletter readers will tell you, the great wines of the world can be found.

This is all de rigeur for someone who proclaims a healthy interest in wine. Along with his tasting tours, working in a high-profile wine retail store gave Lee a great opportunity to get to know those European wines in context, an opportunity he clearly relished. "It was fantastic; it really is 'the world of wine' in the UK." But every silver lining has a cloud, and it became easy to lose touch with anything less than mainstream when it came to the wines of his homeland, particularly as the period while he was away saw such an explosion of small labels.

"It was quite a shock coming back: the industry seems to have grown considerably since I left," he comments. "I was working down in Queenstown before I went away and there was very little going on. I came back for a holiday when I'd been away about seven years and was amazed at the number of vineyards that had been planted there in that time."

All the more Riesling to tempt you with, though, because this misunderstood and under-appreciated wine is very close to his heart. "I really like the off-dry, lower alcohol Moselle styles," he divulges. He's also a big fan of Syrah, "I love the Northern Rhône ones, and am now catching up with and enjoying the Kiwi ones that are coming through."

Having returned late last year, Lee has plugged back in pretty quickly. In an area known

for its conviviality and community spirit, there is no shortage of customers who want to come by and share knowledge, and plug in to Lee's internationally-tinged expertise. Which could come in handy in a few months' time. "Yeah, well rugby days are already pretty big around here," he trails off, the implication clear. Looks like he'll be back explaining French wines to the English again, if only for a short while.



Jak Jakicevich

MANAGER'S PICK LEE MORLAND

Cloudy Bay PELORUS
MARLBOROUGH SPARKLING WINE 12122

WAS \$39.90 **\$29.90**



Cloudy Bay was one brand that was obviously big in the UK, and this is really enjoyable. It is quite Champagne-like, with that finesse and balance that only comes from the best sites and best winemaking, attributes Cloudy Bay clearly have to spare. Liking it a lot.

§ Fearless Buys

A MONTHLY SELECTION OF DELICIOUS, DEPENDABLE REDS AND WHITES WHERE THE PALATE, NOT THE PRICE TAG, PACKS A PUNCH

Gunn Estate WHITE LABEL Merlot Cabernet 2009

was \$18.90 now \$10.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$10.40 A BOTTLE

Great value everyday drinking

In a world groomed for instant gratification, all Jay-Z Gaga and here today, gone later today, to get a peek at a Gunn red under \$11 shows someone stocked a bit away for a rainy day. Well, it's July, and it's pouring. The Gunn MC has an inkwell tinge to its gorgeously intense berry aromas, while the palate is ripe and jammy to the point of smear. Mercy me but it's sweet and smooth in the mouth, with some good back-end structure to ensure the fruit doesn't get above its station. Easy, tiger.



was \$19.90 now \$16.90 11349

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

From a Hawke's Bay legend

Very toasty, quite meat-juicy on the nose and certainly more heady and serious than the dollars might suggest. Darkly coloured with excellent ripeness, she's flowers dipped in iodine, soft and sweet, but not in any way insubstantial. The tannins having opted out to allow the fruit to sing, get on board with proceedings in timely fashion, right near the impudently tight and tidy bottom. What a bloody brilliant little wine, he said.

CHAKANA



Chakana RESERVE ARGENTINE Malbec 2008

was \$22.90 now \$18.90 90145

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Steak & Argentine Malbec - perfect

Argentina and Malbec go together like John and Paul, Rod and Rachael...umm, complementary forces that bring out the best in each other. This is impressive; the colour alone would have you weep purple prose, the perfume so seductive if you tire of drinking your way through a case you can always dab it on. Tightly woven aromatics of deep berries, wood, coffee and leather so smooth you'll slip; the palate is rich, chewy and meaty/savoury with the berries getting inkier. Firm tannins define a seamless tapestry of texture.

Saint Clair

MARLBOROUGH Sauvignon Blanc 2010

was \$22.90 now \$14.90



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

At last count Saint Clair had made two hundred and three different vineyard expressions of Sauvignon Blanc and won two trophies for each one. Okay, the world will never have enough of exaggeration, as Orson Welles once thundered, but these guys are serious specialists when it comes to finessing Marlborough's finest. Even this, a more generic 'village' wine, has piercing varietal flavours, a wonderfully lush palate and an adorable price tag.





Lake Chalice

максывокои Chardonnay 2010

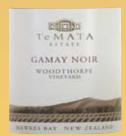
was \$19.90 now \$14.90 13531

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

A very appealing wine, this, with enough woodwork structure to support the peach bomb fruit characters and a full malolactic to ensure creaminess from every angle. There's a slight nuttiness that adds complexity without stretching the waistband to breaking point, all the riches within issuing forth in just the right balance and in an easy approachability that is very attractive.

Te Mata woodthorpe HAWKES BAY Gamay Noir 2010

was \$23.90 now \$17.90 1912



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Gamay Noir is - haven't you got to the French section yet? - the great grape of jolly Beaujolais, and this pours pink and frothy into your glass, its hues uplifting in themselves before you even succumb to the heady fragrances. Slightly earthy, it has a hedgerow column of fine fragrance that is offset by the boisterous, voluble sounds of the merrymaking ménage of raspberry and strawberry fruit. Fine fun.



Devil's Staircase

CENTRAL OTAGO Pinot Noir 2010

was \$24.90 now \$18.90 12386

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Having had seven or eight months in the bottle now this is, as they say, coming together nicely. Deliberately fashioned in a drink-young style; and that's not to damn it with faint praise, it simply means that you don't need to ooh and ahh over it too much. There is much to be enjoyed here; first class, ripe, plum-flavoured fruit, firmness of grip and seamless flow from go to devilish woe.



MOUNT **EDWARD**

THE DRUMLIN, THE FIRST MOUNT EDWARD VINEYARD

Mount Edward has spent much of its time just quietly going about its business, so it comes as a surprise to realise that the soil was first turned in the late 1990s. Official start date for the vision is well before that, too; as far back as 1981 Alan Brady had an instinctual notion that Gibbston Valley and Pinot Noir could very well be a match made in, well, earth, as it happens. Mount Edward is a continuation of that vision, another small but critical cog in the slow-turning Central Otago wheel of progress.

Alan took the plunge on the 30-degree downward-sloping Drumlin vineyard at Gibbston, and expanded holdings to include key sites in Cromwell and Lowburn. With the winery fully organic and most of the vineyards well down the same track, Mount Edward has taken the sustainable approach to winemaking that is the story now being told throughout Central. "We've gone down a process of trying to grow all our grapes to a certain method," says Duncan Forsyth, winemaker/owner of sartorial splendour and earthy mirth, "and I truly feel that's reflected in the wines."

Ahh, the wines. There are a few different "declassifications" as he refers to it, with the mainstay Pinot Noir complemented by the rather racy Earth's End and the recent addition to the portfolio, the Wanaka Road. "With Mount Edward Pinot we're delivering our house style, if you like," he says. "It's all about delicacy and finesse, and it's meant to be pretty. With the Earth's End, "the fruit comes from the same spots. We just get different expressions."

Which is what we have here: different expressions of different terroir, little sub-climates or microcosms or whatever term you prefer, showing through in the final wine because the fruit has been gently ushered from vine to bottle without too much interference.

This is clear in the Riesling, too, where place, provenance and pedigree

are all important. Whichever expression grabs your attention, you'll be in no doubt as to where it comes from, characteristics drawn deep from the soil that Alan Brady eyed all those years ago.

Mount Edward

CENTRAL OTAGO Pinot Noir 2009

\$39.90 12526

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

"We're not after a blockbuster or a Parker-bomb sort of thing" says Duncan; words like elegance and finesse tend to come to mind, underpinning his comments. Beautifully fragrant with cherries touched by violets and dampened with warm earth, pause... yep, Burgundy seems to be a reference, at least. There is core of earth and oak, the mineraltinged fruit seamlessly threaded around that heart, it softens to a perfect round and finishes long, touched by earth and intrigue.

MOUNT EDWARD INTRAL OTAG

Mount Edward

CENTRAL OTAGO Riesling 2008

was \$25.00 now \$19.90 12521

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Densely orchardically fruited, showing its Central pedigree, apricots, golden gueens and other stonefruit drip the zesty zip of citrus and a refined, defining mineral streaker. The palate is divine; sweetly honeyish then wondrously tight and lemony, the floral touches that were evident on the nose remain so, a hush of musk adds glamour to the clamour.

Mount Edward wanaka road CENTRAL OTAGO Pinot Noir 2008

was \$34.00 now \$28.90 12532



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.40 A BOTTLE

Conjoining with the Wanaka Road brand has given Mount Edward access to more vineyards, this here being that pudding's proof. Very reductive and French on the nose, there's great fruit on the palate, not weighty but seriously layered and interesting, seamlessly balanced, while the tannins are chalky and drying, perfectly present to keep the fruit from shaking out of its tree.

Mount Edward

MORRISON VINEYARD Pinot Noir 2009



was \$69.00 now \$59.90 12529



The third release of this stunning single vineyard wine, the winery says that the vineyard "grows a textural wine built around fine tannins and delicate fruit." Heady, fragrant, exotic, intense, brooding, with beautifully sweet, ripe fruit that opens out in a silken seduction tied to a sturdy structure, which the weight of the fruit needs to stop it from sagging. The long, long, finish, is still fresh and energetic, and knowing they only made a precious 150 cases? Yes, you must.

MARLBOROUGH AN EARLY PE AT JT'S NEW RELEASES

New vintage Sauvignon in July? Why not, if it's good and ready, would be the pragmatic Jules Taylor response. This, one of the first from 2011, is both very good and delightfully ready to drink. Always timely, she has combined its emergence with the release of two excellent wines from the 2010 vintage, the much awaited Pinot Gris and a new Pinot Noir of some complexity and breeding.



12457 JULES TAYLOR SAUVIGNON BLANC 2011 RRP \$25.90 \$19.90 WAS \$25.90 \$19.90 12454 JULES TAYLOR PINOT GRIS 2010 WAS \$36.00 **\$24.90** 12456 JULES TAYLOR PINOT NOIR 2010



NEW 2009 PINOT REL A BRILLIANT VINTAGE FOR THE CHARD FARMERS

Chard Farm have now seen off more than 20 vintages, and they say 2009 was "flash" so this Pinot Noir release from them, covering the full Chard Farm Pinot gamut is an event. Start with the delightful Rabbit Ranch and, um, bound your way up to the Tiger.

11167 RABBIT RANCH PINOT NOIR 2009	WAS \$29.90 \$23.90
11155 CHARD FARM RIVER RUN PINOT NOIR 2009	WAS \$32.00 \$28.90
11107 CHARD FARM MATA-AU PINOT NOIR 2009	WAS \$49.00 \$39.90
11166 CHARD FARM THE VIPER PINOT NOIR 2009	WAS \$71.00 \$69.90
11162 CHARD FARM THE TIGER PINOT NOIR 2009	WAS \$71.00 \$69.90
11106 CHARD FARM PINOT GRIS 2009	WAS \$27.90 \$22.90



Kidnapper Cliffs immediately impressed with their initial releases last year, so the next wave of wines is a welcome occasion indeed. Including the superb Cabernet Franc and the intriguing Solan Sauvignon/Semillon expression, the wines are individually numbered. If boutique is your thing, they don't come much more hand-crafted than this.

19068 KIDNAPPER CLIFFS SOLAN 2009 WAS \$36.90 **\$30.90** 19069 KIDNAPPER CLIFFS CHARDONNAY 2009 WAS \$46.90 **\$39.90** 19087 KIDNAPPER CLIFFS PINOTAGE 2009 WAS \$46.90 **\$39.90** 18996 KIDNAPPER CLIFFS CABERNET FRANC 2009 WAS \$46.90 \$39.90 19079 KIDNAPPER CLIFFS ARIKI 2008 WAS \$54.90 \$47.90

GISBORNE GREATS

GO IN THE DRAW TO WIN THE ULTIMATE WINE & FOOD WEEKEND IN GISBORNE*

*FOR MORE DETAILS GO TO WWW.GLENGARRY.CO.NZ/MATAWHEROCOMP

It's a delight to see the release of the company's first Arneis and its inaugural Viognier. The Italianate Arneis has proved to shine in sunny Gisborne; the best way to taste it is in situ, of course, so buy any bottle from the new Matawhero releases, and be in to win a divine weekend in the sun, surf and vines.



10760	MATAWHERO ARNEIS 2009	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90
10761	MATAWHERO GEWÜRZTRAMINER 2009	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90
10762	MATAWHERO VIOGNIER 2009	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90
10764	MATAWHERO SAUVIGNON BLANC 2009	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90
	BUY 6 BOTTLES OF THE SAUVIGNON & G	ET THE 7T	H FREE
10767	MATAWHERO CHARDONNAY 2010	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90
10766	MATAWHERO MERLOT 2009	WAS \$25.90	\$18.90



Atom of C



The damnable French and their wine: you'd think they invented the stuff. While the credit for that likely lies with the Romans, or the Good Lord himself if you really want to follow it back, there's no question that when it comes to being the benchmark, French wine is where the world begins.

It's not where it ends, of course: it seems just about every corner of the globe now has a little piece of dirt devoted to the vine (although Scott Base Sauvignon may take a while to thaw) and the world has grown up enough that wine regions across the planet hold their heads high without standing on the shoulders of the Gauls, to mix a few physiological metaphors.

But in the game of, 'well, you started it,' the French get the gong. With its myriad regions and sub-regions where a host of varieties flourished, that big piece of Western Europe had an almost unnaturally inherent head start when it came to propagation of the vine; their wine styles slowly took the world over, with varieties and expressions that everyone loved enough to make France the supplier to the world's tables.

And while the world has replicated, imitated and duplicated the beloved wines of Burgundy, Bordeaux, the Rhône, the Loire, Champagne (see, it's endless) and many times over made expressions as interesting as what the French produce, the original, the template, the blueprint, the genesis of great grape growing, winemaking and production started in France.

So if you want to start knowing more about what you drink, France is the beginning point. If you're already a French fan, well, we're preaching to the converted. Both of you, then, dive on in. It is a plunge of pure pleasure.

PhO/C

The Rhône twists and turns down the map in a sinewy slalom of picturesque villages and steep terraced vineyards, these clinging to the sides of the valley and offering up some of the greatest, purest expressions of Syrah (in the North) and blends that involve the great grape in mergers with others (Grenache and Mourvèdre, mainly) in the South that find no peer in the world.

The North is divided into communes for your ease of drinking pleasure (it doesn't take long to know your Côte-Rôtie from your St Joseph), while in the south, the mere utterance of the phrase Châteauneuf-du-Pape has everyone rushing for their rusticity descriptors. 'Animal' and 'barnyard' never tasted so good.

In between there are rushing red rivers of wondrous Côtes du Rhône wines, and, worth mentioning with all this crimson chat and purple prose, some whites of pure delight, be they the floral fragrances of a heady little Muscat Beaumes-de-Venise, or the headrush of lush apricot and crème frâiche that signals another wonderful Condrieu. If there's a 'something for everyone' region in 'something for everyone' France, the Rhône is it.

SOUTHERN RHÔNE



CHÂTEAU Mont-Redon Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc **2009**

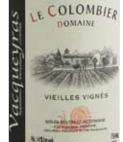
was \$62.50 now \$49.90 41376

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

Don't see a lot of this sort of thing around these parts, and our world is less shiny because of it. Look, they make white wine in Central Pinot Otago don't they? 'Zactly. Fruitily fragranced and fragrantly nuanced, there's a sleek minerality to its luscious curves – a ride in an open-topped roadster, you toadster. Exquisite.

DOMAINE Le Colombier VIEILLE VIGNES Vacqueyras 2009

was \$42.00 now \$34.00 45343



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$33.50 A BOTTLE

The wines of Vacqueyras only earned the right to their own appellation status in 1990, which is pretty recent in wine legislation terms. They are an intriguing southern style, and this one collects all the robust rusticity, meaty characters and dense blueberry flavours under its chipped tiled roof that one could possibly hope for.

90-93/100 Parker

25 FRENCH WINES FOR \$25

6-8PM THURSDAY 7TH JULY
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\$25 PER PERSON

BOOKINGS: SALES@GLENGARRY.CO.NZ

OR PHONE: 09-308 8397

Our very popular 25 wines for \$25 with a French twist. Come along and enjoy a selection of red and white wines from France. Held at our Victoria Park tasting room, this is a very popular style of tasting, so get in fast!

CÔTES DU RHÔNE

Jaboulet Parallèle 45 Côtes du Rhône 2008

was \$23.90 now \$16.90 45397



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Being French, and a bit concerned with terroir, at the 45th Parallel there is a monument (true!) that says: 'The South Starts Here'. Perhaps a tad bellicose in sentiment, this wine is, conversely, easy-going, a prosaic Syrah/Grenache blend of highly-concentrated red berry flavours deliciously lifted by subtle spices and pastoral herbs. Woodless but big-hearted, it's the sort of great value, great red that the Rhône's rep has been built on.

45398 JABOULET SECRET DE FAMILLE 2008

was \$24.90 now \$16.90

ORTAS



Les Vins de Vienne LES CRANILLES Côtes du Rhône 2008

was \$29.90 now \$21.90 41339

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$21.40 A BOTTLE

The Vins de Vienne chaps number four top-notch producers who come together under this umbrella to produce distinctive, great value wines from across the appellation. The Les Cranilles vineyard dates back to Roman times, yet this is a thoroughly modern take, all brimming fruit and sexy spiciness dusted with ancient earth.

> Ortas tradition Côtes du Rhône Villages 2008







CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE

70% Grenache, the remainder those workhorse Rhône varieties Carignan and Cinsault. This glides gaily down the gullet with gushes of Grenache fruit, sumptuous, almost monstrous bursts of juicy, ripe raspberries and darker berries, articulated with spice and truncated by finely-drawn acidic touches. A fine producer who underwent a brand change without losing any quality momentum whatsoever. Outstanding value, I might add. Which I did.



OTES DU RHÔNE

ABELLE - PARRE

CHÂTEAU Mont-Redon Côtes du Rhône 2009

was \$34.50 now \$24.90 41380



Succulent, earthy & robust

Mont-Redon is an historic estate whose steep vineyards are steeped in history. The terroir is among the best, their reputation and renown stretching back as far as the eye can see. And then a little more, just around the riverbend. Known for their Châteauneufdu-Pape, this is an exuberantly rustic Côtes du Rhône, robust yet still refined, offering more complexity and sinewy succulence than you'd expect at the price. Blessed with lashings of bright fruit amongst its earthy character, it delights now but will deliver into the years ahead as well.



NORTHERN RHÔNE



Yves Cuilleron Viognier 2009

was \$39.00 now \$29.00 41447

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.50 A BOTTLE

Mr. Parker calls Monsieur Cuilleron "one of the Northern Rhône's most brilliant winemakers" which is doubly delightful when you understand that Yves trained as a... mechanic. Spanners, works, etc. when in 1986 he took over the family vineyards and began cranking out (sorry) amazingly finessed wines such as this. Softly-styled, apricot and peaches meet subtle spice while acid freshness adds to the riches on offer.

Pierre Gaillard

Côte-Rôtie 2008

was \$102.00 now \$69.90 46840



Côte-Rôtie is one of France's greatest wines, frequently monumental, invariably hedonistically fragrant, or, as Parker puts it, "gobs of cassis fruit frequently intertwined with the smell of frying bacon, tapenade and smoke." Clears it up, then. PG uses plenty of new oak, which comes through as sweet spice, the fruits dark cherries darkened with dank earth. That said, it's a bright, not brooding style of some complexity and unrevealed enormity.







Paul Jaboulet LA CHAPELLE Hermitage 2007

was \$375.00 now \$265.00 45413

"An extremely thrilling nose," gushes Jancis, its concentrated aromatics running the gamut of tar and burnt earth through camphor (Parker's nose picks that up), Herbes de Provence (naturally enough) and bright bunches of black and red fruits. Thick and chewy, yet already seamless, its big fat belly encourages you to sink slowly in to fully appreciate the intricacies and complexities on offer from a wine that is, remarkably, barely beginning to unfold.

LSACE

This battle-scarred region of overwhelming beauty is responsible for some of France's most profound wines. While it shows its German influence, Alsace is as deeply French as their politicians' prevalence for peccadilloes. Where, say, Burgundian labels may take a bit of dissecting (is a Bandol something you pluck?) Alsace, with its clear promotion of grape varieties is welcoming in its simplicity.

But this doesn't preclude complexity; within this long and narrow land are many geological combinations, leading to the most stunning range of flavours, fragrances and textures you'll encounter anywhere. Indeed, terroir is hugely important here, not just because it's France – where so much emphasis is placed on such a nebulous concept – but also because varieties like Pinot Gris and Riesling so clearly show geographical provenance.

There is no one distinctive style, no one varietal expression. The new breed of energetic, talented growers and the old guard of exceptional ones are coaxing wines from the chalky soils that are unique and exciting, a renaissance and future vision that echoes what's happening in Spain and beyond. Don't go past Alsace. To do so would be to deny yourself some of the world's finest wines.

Gisselbrecht TRADITION **ALSACE Pinot Blanc 2009**

was \$26.00 now \$19.90 41248



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

A little Chardonnay-ness in the texture and profile here, a variety with which Pinot Blanc is often confused. This particular individual expression - and Willy G's wines are fiercely individual - is all about peaches, gardens of blossomy beauty conveyed on a palate of freshness and vigour, with an enviable balance of warmth and tartness.





Pierre Brecht

ALSACE Pinot Gris 2009

was \$31.00 now

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Quite the perfectionist, Pierre, known for producing small quantities of handmade wines from tiny, terrific terroir. This is a lively, ebullient style of Gris, streaking by with seductive pear, orange and quince characters, deftly dappled with spice and a toasted almond nuttiness. There's zest to impress, all delivered via a weighty, smoothlygroomed, purebred palate. Dauphin, a goblet?

Gisselbrecht TRADITION **ALSACE Pinot Gris 2009**

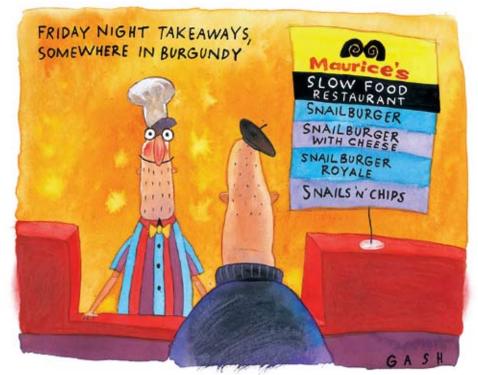
was \$29.00 now \$22.90 47007



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE

So opulent, and as similar to NZ Pinot Gris is as a tulip is to an orange grove. Right. It has that regional smokiness and minerality that helps to chalk it up in the complexity stakes, while the flourishes of flowers that dip and sway amongst the peaches are a delightful distraction. Nutty, creamy and powerful, it amplifies with white meat.







Josmeyer le dragon ALSACE Riesling 2007

was \$57.00 now \$44.00 46502

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$43.50 A BOTTLE

One of the proponents of biodynamism in the region, Josmeyer say they started picking for the 2007 vintage on the 1st of September, the earliest harvest date in a century and a half of winemaking. Still your hearts, climate change conspirators; Jean Meyer says it's the biodynamism that brings forward the ripening. Hmmm. A veritable orgy of spice and flowers, with apple and pear fruits doing the do with brushes of sage on a palate of almost lyrical textural tendencies. Dry in style, rich in body, a hedonistic experience.

Louis Sipp kirchberg ALSACE Grand Cru Pinot Gris 2008

was \$56.00 now \$49.00 46962



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$48.50 A BOTTLE

Named after the Kirchberg hill at Ribeauvillé, land that was first mentioned wine-wise back in 1328. Mr Sipp bought this tiny Grand Crus in 1975 and it was, until recently, known as Schlossberg. As befits a vineyard of such lofty status, this is an intensely flavoured and beautifully balanced wine, ripe, open and complex, with layers of fat fruit checked by a spine-tingling minerality and chalky earthiness. Were you to find a crayfish and introduce the pair, well, you wouldn't go back to work after lunch. How very French!



BUYGUNT

Blood, sweat, tears and ink are all spilled in great volume over this profound - and profoundly confusing - region, and while the difficulty of communicating its extraordinary intricacies and idiosyncrasies is one of the very reasons so much is written about Burgundy, the main reason, really, is that the wines produced from this stretch of vinous real estate are among the world's greatest.

The only simple thing about Burgundy is that if it's red it's Pinot and if it's white it's Chardonnay (pretty much), and from there it gets trickier. Hundreds of growers accessing tiny, tiny plots of land in a place where terroir is the best predictor of quality means knowing your vineyard and knowing your producer will stand you in good stead. Then, it's just a matter of knowing your wine.

So our job, through extensive experience tasting the wines, visiting the region and establishing relationships with key growers and negociants, is to bring you stunning wines across all price points; if you're a fan, you can continue to extend your knowledge, or if like many you're new to Burgundy, there are a number of great entry-point wines for you to get your head and your mouth around. Don't blame us if the introduction quickly leads to obsession.



DOMAINE Romanin TERROIR DE FUISSÉ Pouilly-Fuissé 2008

was \$35.00 now \$26.00 43732

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$25.50 A BOTTLE

Chardonnays from the southern part of Burgundy, may not have the cachet of, say, Môntrachet in the north, but neither do they have the price tag. Yet, as is clear from this thrilling expression, wines from the limestone soils of the Mâcon and from arguably its finest vineyards, those of Pouilly-Fuissé, can hold their heads high among the more noted cousins from the north. Deliciously buttery, this has that balance of strength and sensitivity that is so very attractive, and a pragmatic minerality combined with a hedonistic combination of honeysuckle, fruit and cream.

Gros Frère & Soeur HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS Bourgogne 2007

was \$56.00 now \$39.00 43141

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

The classic style of this domaine is clean, ripe and rich fruit; having top vineyards in the best appellations goes a long way to helping that objective become a reality. This vigorous Burgundy is like Pinot distilled to its essence: said bright but deeply flavoured red fruits, sweet fat cherries, a tannic presence that is supple, silky and exhorts the fruit onto higher things, and an oak presence which is that and no more, an unobtrusive but critical part of the overall picture. Masterpiece? Oh, Renoir, you exaggerate so...



Alex Gambal

CUVÉE LES DEUX PAPIS Bourgogne 2007



was \$68.00 now \$49.00 42361

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$48.50 A BOTTLE

Explodes with fruit, which some may consider a little vulgar and certainly non-Burgundian, but since when has Pinot Noir not been permitted to be ripe, fragrant and inspirational? Exactly. The fruits are summery strawberries and raspberries and lusciously juicy, which is good work from a vintage that went through every possible weather event before settling toward harvest dates. 20% new oak from this American real estate expert who found a new vocation, and with yields close to ideal, the fruit punches forcefully, the tannins gracefully surround them, and the palate is a river of succulent delight.

DOMAINE DE Bellene MAISON DIEU Pinot Noir 2007

was \$38.90 now \$29.90 42390



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE

Just across the road from the village of Pommard, this is one of those high-quality sites that for reasons of bureaucracy and idiosyncrasy just misses the appellation requirements and, thus, a stratospheric price tag. The vines date back nearly 100 years, the wine a gorgeously plush blend of robustness and delicacy, rude health and febrility. Earthy, bright-fruited, it boasts exotic spices and a succulent deliciousness.



Nicolas Potel

CUVÉE GERARD POTEL Pinot Noir 2007

was \$49.00 now \$39.00 43370

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

This is the last vintage Nicolas made before departing and setting up his own label, Domaine de Bellene. From a selection of vineyards in Volnay and Pommard, this is remarkably restrained and well balanced for a 2007, a vintage where many sought an unbearable ripeness of being. Fear not, however; there is still plenty of raspberry fruit, delivered in supple, succulent fashion in a wine that is all charm.

DOMAINE Vincent Girardin TERRE D'ENFANCE Santenay 2008

was \$48.00 now \$38.00 40480





CASE OF 12 ONLY \$37.50 A BOTTLE

From a maverick producer with eleven generations of winemaking in the family comes a Pinot from a commune so far south it has a Texan drawl, y'all. Bunches of lively cranberry and cherry fruit to crunch through, a sexy swish of violets then dustings of redolent earth and chalky tannins, all the things that make up great Burgundy. A superb satiny texture, smooth and undulating, with real presence and character from a man who knows his art from his craft and practices both.

Sometimes red tape and legislation can be a good thing. Be grateful the French moved to protect what is rightfully theirs - the wine regions and proprietal names famous the world over: Champagne, Cognac et al and, thankfully, Chablis.

In the 1980s rivers of inauthentic white averageness from all over the globe were bottled and labelled Chablis, some without ever having had a Chardonnay grape come near them, let alone a lifetime growing up in Kimmidgerian soil. Not now. That oyster-shelled terroir that is one of the key components in Chablis' unique profile is now protected by law, as enshrined and important to the wines as the marginal and northerly aspect of Chablis' location.

It's no surprise Michel Laroche favours a wardrobe of primrose sweaters; it is as cold here as Champagne, so even in ripe years there is a delicious leanness to the wines that fans of authentic Chablisean expressions praise to the heavens. Parker quotes Andrew Jefford's comment of Chablis that "its little basket of orchard fruits is often hidden beneath a pile of white stones." Fruit bombs? Not so much. True tastes of the terroir in which it resides? You bet. It rocks, literally.



DOMAINE Séguinot-Bordet Petit Chablis 2008

was \$31.00 now \$24.00 40472

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

It's a tad shallow to love the label but there's that traditional look to the parchment here that goes right to the heart of Francophile wine enthusiasts. Petit Chablis tends to come from the cooler spots which, with this wine, shows in a refreshing acidic edge to its manifold flavours and fragrances. Filled with apple and lime notes that crackle with energy and a Chablisean chalk tone that renders it far more profound than the price would suggest.

DOMAINE Séguinet-Bordet Chablis 2008

was \$36.00 now \$29.00 40473



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.50 A BOTTLE

Despite his family's Domaine dating back to the 1590s, Jean-François Bordet makes his wines in a modern style, obtaining a lusciousness from lees aging rather than oak: he's a stainless steel man through and through. This has the unique oyster shell/mineral quota ratcheted up on the nose, with piercing green apple flavours and a leesy richness that is very attractive, all of it utterly authentic. A true blue Chablis.



Dauvissat

Chablis 2008

was \$60.00 now \$52.90 43764

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$52.40 A BOTTLE

René Dauvissat is a legendary Chablis producer, his wines hailed by critics and enjoyed by a legion of devotees with a loyalty that rivals Lady Gaga's 'Little Monsters' and far better table manners. His son Jean continues the work of a family that have been tilling the tough ground since the 19th century. 'Only' a village wine, this is citrus-meets-wet-stone in a vigorous yet restrained style that expresses all that is great about the region.



In the 1860s Phylloxera began its lethal assault on Europe's vines, aided by the invention of the steamship

ean)ocais

It may just be that we've headed that much further south and so we're a little more sun-drenched than we were in Burgundy (to which the region is annexed, if you like), but these delicious wines are sunny in nature, with a natural charm and delight that is difficult to resist.

And why would you want to? That hauntingly perfumed Gamay Noir grape that fuels the flavour of the wines in question is unquestionably drinkable, displaying the cherry/berry profile of Pinot without the fuss of trying to work out which row the grower hoed to know whether the wine is good value or not.

Beaujolais adopts a similar appellation system to Burgundy, with excellent single-vineyard wines named on the label, and villages-appellation flag bearers providing good value while still showcasing what makes the region great. The producer with whom we are most associated is Georges Duboeuf. Known as the King of Beaujolais, his vineyard holdings, output and quality outstrip virtually all the other contenders put together. He is the man, these are his wines.

Georges Duboeuf

Beaujolais-Villages 2009

was \$24.00 now \$16.90 43934



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

With fruit sourced from vineyards across the appellation, don't be fooled into thinking this is generic and dull. It is vivacious, sexy stuff, far removed from the frothing frivolity that is Beaujolais Nouveau, yet its serious intent is far below that of claret navel-gazers. Meaty, fragrant and inordinately rewarding, yet priced as a throwaway gesture. Another of Beaujolais' charms, then: great value.





Georges Duboeuf Juliénas **2009**



was \$29.00 now \$24.00 43933



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

A number of producers deliver very good wines from the excellent Juliénas appellation, and Duboeuf's is one of the smarter ones. With the pedigree of a single vineyard wine, it exhibits the pure, clean berry flavours of Gamay Noir at an intensity that might surprise. A delight with roasted poultry, even game, should you be so yourself.

South

To clear up what we're referring to when we say the South of France, it's the area south of the Rhône and down to the sea and the bobbing boats of the Riviera where, viticulturally, the restrictions and minutiae of Burgundy and the Appellation Contrôlée system in general give way to a freedom around vine

We pull in the south-west too, where there are more specific appellations -Bandol, Madiran, Cahors – but we're mainly concerned with Languedoc, where flowing rivers of Vin de Pays wines, labelled with varieties that the less wellversed of us can understand and cultivated in the Provençal sunshine, blossom with bright flavours and approachable personalities.

There's serious stuff too, of course, and much of the Vin de Pays product is excellent; but somehow, after the sometime stuffiness of the Great Regions, down here it's a breath of air as fresh as that which blows the skirts up at Cannes.

Paul Mas estate NICOLE VINEYARD Chardonnay 2010

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 43987



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

This family have been landowners and rural denizens since the late 1890s, moving from general agriculture to viticulture and then extending their holdings through the generations. Considering the swathe of land under vine down this way, the 22ha Enclos de Nicole is almost Burgundian in its comparative diminutiveness. This is a Vin de Pays wine; easy, uncomplicated, with luscious, sun-ripened Chardonnay fruit and a carefree vigour and energy that is a refreshing delight, particularly when paired with a loose-limbed lunch.





was \$29.00 now \$24.90 41217

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

We're in the south-west here, a snifter's shot from Armagnac, and yet the wines from Madiran are distinctly, uniquely their own. The region was effectively pronounced dead but has seen a dramatic revival in the past few decades, and the grape to concern yourself with is Tannat - dark, sometimes fierce, intense and concentrated. This shows the other side of the Tannat coin, adding richness and character to those epithets to produce a mysterious, exciting expression of this corner of France. Put it on a corner of your sideboard and roast some boar.



Laroche de la Chevalière

SOUTH OF FRANCE Syrah 2007

was \$22.00 now \$16.90 48543

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

One suspects that while Chablisean Chardonnay can distract some vignerons for a lifetime, the debonair Michel Laroche wanted to play with some reds. Or maybe he just got tired of the cold and headed south to try out his shorts. Whatever the reasoning - and mostly it was to broaden the brand and keep up with international demand for his output - this is a sundrenched sucker, peppered with spice and lushly fruited, firm of grip but mostly gentle and approachable, one of those all-things-to-all-people wines. How very, amiably, South of France.

CHÂTEAU RIOTOR

CÔTES DE PROVENCE ROSÉ 2009

was \$34.50 now \$28.00 41478

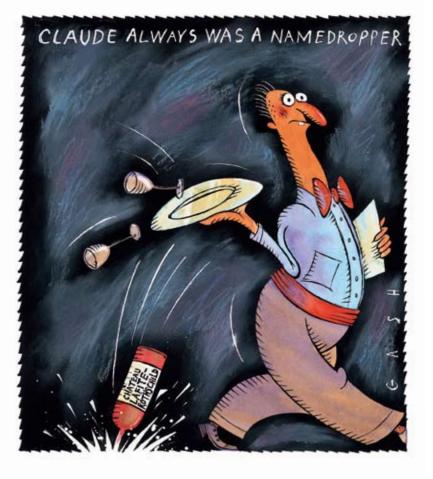
CASE OF 12 ONLY \$27.50 A BOTTLE

Down here, where the English summer and the French flee, you will find, frankly, the world's greatest rosé wines. The gutters gush with it of an afternoon (well, nearly), floods of fine French coral-tinged delights, ready to slake the thirsts of the influx of imports. But don't be thinking frivolity, chaps, for this is serious rosé, if that's not an oxymoron. Artfully constructed, showing great finesse and delicacy, with intense berry flavourings and a tingle of acid that'll flip your salmon on its ear in the most delightful fashion. (No, Hervé, fish don't have ears.)



48591 LAROCHE CHARDONNAY 2009

was \$22.00 now **\$16.90**





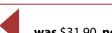
Summing up over 1,000km of river-fed wine region with more than sixty appellations is a Sisyphean task. So we'll avoid that and concentrate on the wines we have here from producers with whom we have long-established relationships and, so, been able to source exciting expressions from the key regions.

The producer whose name rolls off your tongue as easily as their excellent Vouvray, Bourillon-Dorléans, reminds us how rarely you taste good Vouvray and provides a great, weighty food white should you be TOC (tiring of Chardonnay). Exciting little toilers like Pascal Jolivet and the late, great and hirsute Didier Daguenau show that, patriotic as we are, Marlborough does not own the sole and exclusive rights to producing exciting styles of Sauvignon Blanc.

These wines still show French restraint - why throw away hundreds of years of vinous knowledge - but these chaps are a new breed of fearsomely talented and bravely pioneering individuals. This is so full circle we're all getting dizzy and, we swear, we haven't even lifted the lid. You should, though, for the Loire offers a quality/bargain metric that nowhere in France can match, frankly. These expressions taste like a million bucks, and cost a fraction of that.



Pascal Jolivet ATTITUDE Sauvignon Blanc 2009



was \$31.90 now \$24.90 41043

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24,40 A BOTTLE

Here's a man who pulls no punches and his wines are of a similar ilk, full of character and zest, as lively and lovely a Loire expression as you're likely to encounter as you row, row, row your boat gently down the lengthy stream. Sleek as a gunmetal Aston Martin and far more within budget, it's a modern take on Old France, still showing a mineral-derived Gallic edge, but paired with an intensity and density that is patently modern.

DOMAINE Bourillon-Dorléans

LA COULÉE D'ARGENT Vouvray Sec 2009

was \$36.00 now \$26.90 40977



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$26.40 A BOTTLE

Sec being dry, this shows good acid structure, and the wet cement character reflects the region's famous limestone soil beds (known as tuffeau, dear anoraks). Every time you drain a rich, complex and thrilling glass of this beauty you rue that more producers don't favour Chenin Blanc in our own land. Until they do, there's this delight.



Didier Dagueneau Pouilly-Fumé 2008

was \$107.00 now \$89.00 42742

Ninety nicker for Sauvignon Blanc? You must be bleedin' barmy. No, actually, but the man who made it lived on the edge, for sure, rest his soul. The legend lives on in the wine, the eponymous smokiness a curlicue that spirals above wet hedge, citrus and nettles in a concentrated explosion of flavour that is direct as it is rich. Indeed, this is fulsome as well as piercing, a deft combination.

SPINHS

92363 REMY MARTIN COGNAC V.S.O.P 700ML

WAS \$110.00 NOW \$88.99

Probably the best use of Ugni Blanc grapes in Europe. Cognac by law must be double-distilled in copper pot stills, then aged in barrels, VSOP for a minimum of 4 years. Complexity and class.

92215 PAINTAURAUD COGNAC XO 350ML

WAS \$162 NOW \$149.99

The average age of spirit in XO Cognac is 20 years plus; hence this is perfumed, heady, delicate yet powerful. Produced by a family whose skills and traditions go back to the 1700s.

92201 TARIQUET

VS CLASSIQUE 3-STAR **BAS-ARMAGNAC** 700ML

WAS \$71.00 NOW \$59.99

Armagnac, the AC rules allow a trio of grapes and distillation in pot. rather than column stills. Different, not inferior to Cognac, with all the craft the artisan approach delivers.

Sourced from the iron-red soils of

92088 DROUIN SÉLECTION CALVADOS 700ML

WAS \$64.00 NOW **\$49.99**

There are 200 apple varieties identified in Calvados for use in their apple brandy. First fermented into a dry cider, then distilled into an eau de vie, the category that includes Cognac and Armagnac.

92966 RICARD **45** PASTIS 700ML

WAS \$54.00 NOW **\$44.99**

Pastis, it's just so French, all zinc bar tops, choking down clouds of Gauloises and sipping the aniseed aperitif, debating de Gaulle and thinking of another... and Ricard 45 is as authentic as they come.

92965 PERNOD

700ML

WAS \$48.00 NOW **\$39.99**

Pernod emerged when absinthe was banned in France back in 1915, and took off in the 1950s. This'll be busting out all over on Bastille Day, as it should; the revolution couldn't be celebrated properly without it.

47500 DOLIN DRY VERMOUTH 750ML

WAS \$28.90 NOW **\$24.99**

A tiny, family-owned firm who still harvest by hand all the necessary ingredients to make this wondrous aperitif. And there are a few. Great for a Martini, but also on its own or with a dash of soda.



Dean,

With the vicious vagaries inherent in the population's palates, Bordeaux can fall in and out of favour. With the cruelty of Ma Mére Nature, the great wines of the great region can fall in and out of flavour, too. And yet, despite the paeans penned about plummeting quality and soaring prices we all come back to claret, don't we, because, in a way, it seems to be where it all starts for so many.

If you've enjoyed Cabernet, Merlot or, indeed, Cabernet Merlot, then it pays to know the rivers of great and merely very good wines that flow from within its much classified and over-discussed boundaries. The whites of Graves and stickily seductive Sauternes, when combined with the peerless pedigree of the world famous reds make this a region you cannot ignore, even if Burgundy flows in your veins and you think Margaux is the French chick in the local deli.

It bears remembering that good producers don't make bad wines, no matter what the year, and, secondly, that good producers can make wine that sells for \$40 or \$400. Value and quality are constants; your palate will tell you when you strike them. Our long-established relationships in Claret-Ville give us access to the very best, to wines that have tiny allocations and big hearts, and, overall, to a selection that describes better than words can why this region is so irresistible.

> CHÂTEAU Loudenne Médoc **2005**

was \$55.00 now \$39.00 46175

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

Being one of the greatest Bordeaux vintages of recent decades, the top wines reached skyscraping prices, soaring out of reach. The good news? The quality of the more generic wines reflects the vintage, but the prices do not. Take this gem from the Left Bank: deeply coloured and utterly unctuous, the sweetest of ripest fruits caress your tongue lovingly as it snakes across your compliant palate. Austere? Not here, bub. Perhaps being owned by a Cognac magnate means the château does 'rich and smooth' effortlessly.



was \$87.00 now \$69.90 44445

You get pulled in with the romantic notion of 'the garden in the little village' and being Pomerol, being highly Merlot'd, this smooth, rounded experience, warm and inviting with that sprinkle of (fairy) dust, completes the seduction. This is a second label for Petit-Village; Proprietor Christian Seely says his wines reflect "the spirit of place, (and are) expressions of the great terroirs." Arguably the best Pomerol wines come from the higher parts of the plateau, and guess where P-V lurk: top of the hill. Peek-A-Boo!



château Nicot Bordeaux 2007

was \$25.00 now \$16.90 41623

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

A relatively unknown chateau, Nicot has been under vine for two centuries. The 2007 is a supple, seductive wine, with a solid core of ripe fruit and curlicues of smoke (but no mirrors) elevating it to well above interesting. Plummy, concentrated and a darling little price, wouldn't you say?

CHÂTEAU Briot Bordeaux 2006

was \$24.00 now \$16.90 41262



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

This family-run property - the Ducourts have tended here for generations - is smack-bang in the Entre-Deux-Mers region, renowned for rivers of claret, much of it excellent quality and astounding value. Approachable, classic, with plums and blackberries given a gentle spice nudge, looped around a fine tannic structure. Kingly wine, knave's price.



BORDEAUX



CHÂTEAU Roustaing Bordeaux 2006

was \$26.00 now \$19.90 42115



Another Entre-Deux-Mers wine, another venerable estate claiming a history back to the Middle Ages. Slightly more pedigree than, say, Lord Archer, and far less stuffy. Once a white wine specialist, they replanted with red varieties in the swinging sixties and we're all the beneficiaries of that sage decision. Ripely fruited wine, a touch of florals and hillside herbs and a full, robust palate rounded out by ripe tannins.

снатели La Croix Bonneau Montagne Saint-Émilion 2007

was \$34.90 now \$24.90 41694





CASE OF 6 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

95% Merlot, as you'd expect in Saint-Émilion, where 400odd small landowners till the terroir with, mostly, terrific results. No big architectural statements here: farmhouses with claret-stained concrete floors are more the territory, and wines like this: fine, silky, with Merlot softness and Bordeaux backbone, and a surprising opulence.





CHÂTEAU Cantenac Brown BRIO Margaux 2004

was \$78.00 now \$59.00 42195

One of the most famous buildings on the Left Bank, Stephen Brook likens the Tudor folly to a Scottish Boarding School. Esteemed animal painter John Lewis-Brown, who had it built and held endless parties there, would likely have disagreed. A seductive wine with perfumed violets, lush blackcurrant flavours and a stylish, cedar-tinged finish. Much class in your glass for such a small ask.

44440 CHÂTEAU VIVENS 2005

46232 CHÂTEAU COUTET 2007 375ML

was \$77.00 now **\$59.00** was \$93.00 now **\$69.00**

Chantag

The word champagne connotes so many things: luxury, decadence, privilege, all in a sort of, those French, they know how to live, eh... kind of framework. Perhaps that's why they call it 'aspirational product'. How does that soulless term possibly describe all the other things champagne is?

We think of it as 'inspirational' thanks, a wine that as you hold the cool, heavy glass in one hand and gently untwist the cage seems to offer more promise than any other you can think of. Romantic? Well, forgive us, but isn't that the point? But Champagne is a region too, a distinctly and clearly defined appellation made under very strictly legislated processes from certain grapes.

Doesn't all that red tape suck the soul out of the final wine? Quite the opposite. From the Grand Marques, those brands producing sometimes millions of bottles annually, to the little 'farmers' with their thousand case lots, the rules, the grapes and the methods are the same. The differentials are terroir and the personality of the producer, for champagne transparently shows its pedigree and quality in every delicious, exotic and evocatively foaming glass. Live a little? Live a lot!

Charles Heidsieck Brut Réserve **NV**

was 89.90 now \$69.90 41522

In the late 1980s Charles deliberately held back their stock so that then winemaker Daniel Thibault could build up the company's reserve wines. His aim? To be able to deliver a 'standard' non-vintage champagne (and this is anything but) with a high proportion of reserve wines in its makeup ensuring consistently high quality. Balanced, layered and poised, this is a full-bodied style, intensely flavoured (pastries, vanilla, nuts) with a refreshing minerality and a profile that nudges it toward the prestige cuvée stakes. Daniel died in 2002; Régis Camus continues the fine work.





was \$83.00 now \$39.90 47320

Like Pol Roger, this is one of the few top-quality producers that is still family owned. The company has undergone a renaissance at the hands of Carol Duval-Leroy: in the past two decades she has transformed it into a house of quality, integrity and style. The Fleur de Champagne is the entry-level wine, its high proportion of Chardonnay reflecting the house's holdings in all the Grand Crus villages in the Côte des Blancs. This has stuffing and style, a full-bodied wine with a firm, affirming finish.

43500 DRAPPIER CARTE BLANCHE BRUT NV

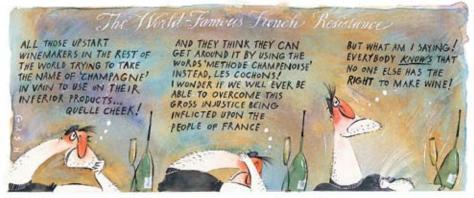
47211 MOËT & CHANDON BRUT IMPÉRIAL NV

49511 TAITTINGER BRUT RÉSERVE NV 48210 POL ROGER BRUT RÉSERVE NV

49810 VEUVE CLICQUOT BRUT NV

DUVAL-LEROY

was \$72.90 now was \$89.00 now was \$106.00 now \$69.90 was \$89.00 now \$69.90 was \$99.00 now \$74.90 CASE OF 6: \$69.90 A BOTTLE was \$99.90 now \$79.90 was \$326.00 now \$199.90



Parkling

Don't despair if you can't gulp goblets of champagne every day, France produces some brilliant méthode traditionnelle wines too. Wherever still wine is being made, you can guarantee someone is making a sparkling expression of the local grape as well. We have some great examples from some key French regions, wines that offer a different way to experience the expertise, wine styles, varieties and terroir of a particular area. They offer you the opportunity to have a goodly dose of French fizz at a price that shows your fiscal maturity while underscoring your desire to celebrate on a daily basis.

Arrogant Frog LILY PAD PINK Sparkling Rosé **NV**

was \$21.00 now \$16.90 43975

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Versatile pink sparkler

Despite appearances, this frog doesn't frolic frivolously, being the label of the renowned Jean-Claude Mas. Of course the imagery is playful, and the wine has a certain buoyancy and bounce, but there are some seriously seductive red berryfruits in there and a wonderfully persistent mousse, a sure sign of quality fruit and smart winemaking. It works as a great evening opener, an appropriate aperitif and it goes down well with dessert should you be so inclined. Which you just might be.





Méthode Traditionnelle Brut NV

\$18.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Made just outside the Champagne region, delivering the same varieties via the same method for a fraction of the price. When compared to sister wine, the Saint-Meyland Brut, it's slightly drier, but it exhibits the same hallmarks of quality. With its exquisite sense of balance and harmony, Brut de Charvis is crisp and deep as a summer river, with white flower and brioche characters and an inescapable mineral freshness.



Brilliant Barcains

BY THE BOTTLE OR BY THE CASE, WE HAVE THE MONTH'S BARGAIN BUYS



De Bortoli DB

FAMILY SELECTION Merlot 2008

was \$19.90 now \$8.90 20922

Mid-winter warming red



Emeri

Sparkling Sauvignon **NV**

was \$19.90 now \$9.90 20502

Bubbliz & Sauvignon together... Perfect



Montes classic **CHILEAN Malbec 2009**

was \$19.90 now \$12.90

Classic, easy to drink Malbec



from top Chilean producer



SAUVIGNON BLANC WARLEGROUGH NEW STALANS

Sherwood ESTATE STRATUM Riesling 2008

rrp \$18.90 now \$9.90 15522

Great value Riesling Try it, you'll be surprised



Dusky Sounds Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$19.90 now \$8.90 12531

At this price, how can you go past it?





Clifton Road Chardonnay 2009

was \$14.90 now \$9.90 18008



Made by a Hawke's Bay Chardonnay master



Crusher Road Sauvignon Blanc 2010

was \$14.90 now \$9.90 13525





Gagliardo Barbera d'Alba DOC 2007

was \$38.00 now \$19.90 62754

Italian red from the home of the great Barolo



Three Paddles Chardonnay 2010

was \$19.90 now \$14.90 15850

Fruit-driven Martinborough Chardonnay

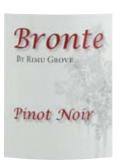


Waipara Hills 2008

SOUTHERN CROSS Pinot Gris

was \$29.90 now \$12.90 10318

End of vintage clearance



Rimu Grove

BRONTE Pinot Noir 2008

was \$29.00 now \$16.90

At this price grab as much as you can



Margan HUNTER VALLEY

Rosé shiraz saignée 2010

was \$21.50 now \$14.90 21811



Hunter Valley rosé



DIDA'S

JUNIPER-SPICED VENISON CARPACCIO WITH SWEET SHERRY SAUCE

RECIPE BY DIDA'S HEAD CHEF, VINCENT MARSHALL

INGREDIENTS (SERVES 4)

200g VENISON FILLET20g JUNIPER BERRIES20g BLACK PEPPERCORNS

20g ROCK SALT

5a FRESH THYME, DE-STALKED

50mL PEDRO XIMÉNES SWEET SHERRY SAUCE

BABY WATERCRESS TO GARNISH

TOAST THE JUNIPER BERRIES, PEPPERCORNS, ROCK SALT AND THYME IN A DRY PAN UNTIL FRAGRANT.

TRANSFER THE TOASTED INGREDIENTS DIRECTLY TO THE KITCHEN BLENDER AND BLITZ UNTIL A SMOOTH POWDER IS ACHIEVED.

SEAR THE VENISON FILLET IN A HOT PAN VERY QUICKLY TO COLOUR ALL SIDES BUT LEAVING IT STILL VERY RARE

ROLL THE FILLET IN THE SPICE MIX AND WRAP TIGHTLY IN GLAD WRAP, PLACE IN THE FRIDGE AND ALLOW TO CHILL COMPLETELY.

SLICE VERY THINLY AND ARRANGE ON THE PLATE. DRIZZLE WITH THE SWEET SHERRY SAUCE AND GARNISH WITH BABY CRESS. SERVE IMMEDIATELY.



TASTY TIP

FOOD TIPS FROM DIDA'S GM, LIZ WHEADON



BRIE vs CAMEMBERT are white rind cheeses, made in similar ways, but in their original forms both distinctive and different. Camembert is derived from it's namesake in France and always comes in small rounds, while Brie – from the region of Brie – comes in large rounds. Unlike French wine, the names Brie and Camembert are not protected, resulting in the confusing appearance on the market of large rounds of Camembert and small round of Brie from other parts of the world.

PEDRO XIMÉNES SWEET SHERRY SAUCE



Vincent often waxes lyrical about Pedro Ximénes-style sherry being one of his favourite cooking alcohols, so no surprise that he suggested we mention this remarkable sauce made from the very thing that lights up his, um, glazing pans. This product is a total find, harnessing all the intensity of the Palomino grapes from which it is made and concentrating them into a thick glaze – don't need too much – for chicken, pork ribs and, should you feel inclined, for making your own foie gras. Exquisite.

56704 PEDRO XIMÉNES

EL MAJUELO SWEET SHERRY SAUCE 350mL \$29.90

TASTINGS & EVENTS

7:00PM THURSDAY 14TH JULY DIDA'S VICTORIA PARK, 118 WELLESLEY ST

VIVE LA FRANCE

COME AND CELEBRATE BASTILLE DAY AT VICTORIA PARK

Our annual Bastille Day occasion where we celebrate all things French with Dida's canapes and a selection of French wines. Limited spaces. \$45 per person.

Bookings: phone: 0800 733 505 or online: www.didas.co.nz

7:00PM WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY DIDA'S TAKAPUNA, 178 HURSTMERE RD

FRENCH CUISINE COOKING CLASS

Learn how to cook traditional French cuisine with Dida's Head Chef Vincent Marshall, matched with our fabulous French wines. Limited spaces. \$45 per person.

Bookings: phone: 09-489 4728

BRIE DE MEAUX

Appellation controlled since 1980, Brie de Meaux is the very top of the Brie pyramid, its fluffy crust and creamy, runny centre the cause of oohs and ahs the world over. Only made in large rounds, it takes 25 litres of milk to make one wheel of Brie de Meaux. It is the balance of creamy and sweet with a slight fermentation note that makes this 'the King of Cheeses' as it is known in France. The end result is nutty, often herb-tinged and reasonably strong in flavour. It goes very well with champagne (the regions for their production are close) and also with the Merlot of St-Emilion.

YOU'LL FIND THE BRIE DE MEAUX AT DIDA'S FOOD STORES IN HERNE BAY, TAKAPUNA AND VICTORIA PARK

56190 BRIE DE MEAUX AOC

100g **\$6.90**

DIDA'S FOOD STORE

54 JERVOIS RD HERNE BAY PH 361 6157 178 HURSTMERE RD TAKAPUNA PH 489 4728

DIDA'S WINE LOUNGE & TAPAS

54 JERVOIS RD HERNE BAY PH 376 2813 54 VICTORIA ST DEVONPORT PH 445 1392

DIDA'S FOOD STORE & WINE LOUNGE

VICTORIA PARK

118 WELLESLEY ST WEST PH 308 8319



DIDA'S WINE LOUNGE









a taste of tall

PASQUA 1.5 LITRE BOTTLES
PERFECT MID-WINTER FARE

Pasqua LE COLLEZIONI Merlot 2010 1.5L MAGNUM



PASQUA

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 66095

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

We've been importing these fabulous Pasqua magnums and selling them most successfully for twenty years now, and the demand (bless you) shows no sign of letting up. A warming winter wonder from the sun-drenched vineyards northeast of Verona, it is soft, full-bodied and genially approachable. Set it down on the linen between a big basket of bread and a bewitching bowl of pasta and watch your night expand.

Pasqua LE COLLEZIONI Montepulciano DOC 2010 1.5L MAGNUM

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 62491

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

A DOC wine, so this delivers quality, volume and value in one hefty whack, its contents that delightfully earthy/fruity Italian indigenous beaut, Montepulciano. A weighty, fruit-forward fellah with a slice of the savoury to ensure epicurean enhancement of no small measure. A convivial package that encourages celebrations Silvio-style! Pass the olives, Olive, there's a love.

BIG ITALIAN WINES THEY COME TO LIFE WITH FOOD









- 60441 ANTINORI SANTA CRISTINA TOSCANA IGT 2008 was \$24.90 now \$17.90 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE
- 62405 **CECCHI VINO NOBILE DI MONTEPULCIANO DOCG 2006** was \$37.00 now **\$24.90** CASE OF 6 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE
- 62647 **FONTANAFREDDA** PAPAGENA BARBERA D'ALBA DOC 2004 was \$48.00 now **\$29.90** CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE
- 60475 **ANTINORI** TIGNANELLO TOSCANA IGT 2006 was \$161.00 now **\$125.00**



was \$24.90 now \$18.90 88060

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Our top-selling Spanish red try it & see what all the fuss is about

What makes this our biggest selling Spanish wine? It can't be that it's easy to pronounce... it's not, especially after a paella or two. It's very modern, very fruit-driven, which is a great deal of its charm. Made by that maverick maestro, Alvaro Palacios, it's also versatile, being great to sink into after a long, cold, grim day, but comes alive with a plate of something sexy.

Marqués de Cáceres Crianza 2007

was \$26.90 now \$19.90 87995

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

No.1-selling Spanish wine in the US

The Americans flock to this like be-winged insects to flickering, fiery things; a sure swig and you'll get why. It's a gettable wine, no disrespect to, oh, you know, Sarah Palin insomuch as it is a most reputable producer delivering a Rioja of most chuggable proportions. Great with meat, great at a meet and greet and, as Sarah will tell you, a Crianza is also something you put business cards in. Yip, roll on them elections.



a taste of







Marqués

- 88013 **SOLAR VIEJO** COSECHA 2009
 - was \$20.00 now **\$16.90** CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE
- 87761 **HITO** RIBERA DEL DUERO 2008
 - was \$34.90 now **\$24.90** CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE
- 88061 PALACIOS REMONDO LA MONTESA RIOJA 2007 was \$36.90 now \$24.90 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE
- 88073 PROTOS CRIANZA 2004
 - was \$45.00 now \$39.90 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE



a taste of Stralio

REDISCOVER THE WINES OF THE LUCKY COUNTRY WITH OUR PICK OF THE BEST AUSSIES ON OFFER

GEOFF MERRILL

McLAREN VALE MAVERICK

James Halliday describes him as 'impish' and 'exuberant' even. One look at that fine set of moustaches and you'll gather Geoff Merrill is no wallflower. His eponymous label has been delivering vinous greatness since 1980 (what was the facial hair like back then, Lordy!) from some key sites in key regions in South Australia.

His brand's icon is the scales of justice, his motto 'the perfect balance' and the wines, through elegance and a subtle - rather than showy - delivery of flavour, show a harmony and, yes, balance that can only come from great fruit, great sites and, as the Jimmy Watson trophy in 2005 would suggest, great winemaking.

Another key plank of the Merrill brand is the aging of wines prior to release, so that when they arrive to your panting, impatient palate they are primed, ready to go and perfectly poised. Maverick, pioneer and a bit of a dag he may be, but Geoff Merrill's wines are civilised, sumptuous and seductive, as gracious an addition to any table as 18th-century pewter candlesticks and Pippa Middleton.



MCLAREN VALE Shiraz 2007

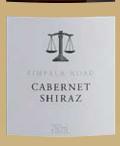




CASE OF 12 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE

The big dry in 2007 meant very low-yielding vines, delivering not just concentrated flavours in the fruit and thus intensity in the resultant wine, but also slightly different flavour profiles than usual. Exciting times and exciting wines all round. This is a seamless expression, 20 months in oak supporting the rich ripe fruits and the tightening rein of tannin, all integrated in a wondrous textural weave. Seduction by stealth.





Geoff Merrill PIMPALA ROAD MCLAREN VALE Cabernet Shiraz 2006

was \$25.90 now \$18.90

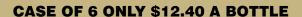
CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

An exquisite nose of ripe, deeply fragranced berries and superb touches of spice is just the beginning, while a floral touch adds surprising femininity to the aromatics. The palate is so silken that Marco Polo would've made a road out of it, flowing seamlessly from front to back, leaving a lasting impression of excellence and little indentation on your bank balance.

Mount Hurtle

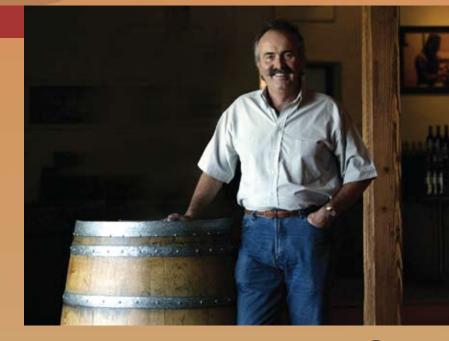
Grenache Shiraz Mourvèdre 2008

was \$16.90 now \$12.90 22152



While the notion of a heatwave may seem welcome as we shiver in July, it made 2008's vintage a challenging time for the winemaking fraternity. Hurtling over the hurdles, GM delivers an extraordinary amount of wine for the asking price. A spicy little soldier with a fusillade of red berries balanced by some superb savoury notes.





Saltram PEPPERJACK BAROSSA Shiraz 2009



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Saltram's Nigel Dolan, who also makes the extraordinary Metala, knows his way around a Shiraz vine, as witnessed by another superb vintage of what has almost become a byword for bewdy Barossa Shiraz. Wondrous characters of mocha/coffee and dark chocolate silken up the lively berries and bright peppery spice, all of it coming together in a display of richness that is opulent but never vulgar.



Chapel Hill the Parson's Nose

MCLAREN VALE Shiraz 2010

was \$23.90 now \$19.90 21257

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Thickly juicy, regionally spot on, varietally authentic. In a vintage where the parson's prayer helped usher in excellent weather conditions, the resultant wine is jammy, deeply-flavoured and lusciously textured, with great structure, firm tannins and sensuous tendencies that are decidedly non-religious in nature.

Rosemount Traditional MCLAREN VALE Cabernet Blend 2010

rrp \$42.90 now \$19.90 26528



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

100% McLaren Vale fruit, a Cabernet-dominant blend with smidgins of balancing Merlot, and Bordelaise favourite Petit Verdot for 'inky florals'. Energetic in style, it skips along with bright, breezy fruit in a silky, seductive Merlot fashion, supported by Cabernet spine with an nth-degree push by the PV. Substantial, elegant, delightful now.



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EACH MONTH, FROM THE HUNDREDS OF WINES SUBMITTED TO US, THE GLENGARRY TASTING PANEL SELECTS OUR TOP TEN WINES

1 /

Akarua

CENTRAL OTAGO PINOT NOIR 2010

was \$39.90 now \$34.90 10216

CASE OF 12 \$34.40 A BOTTLE

"I want to stamp my mark on Central Otago," says winemaker Matt Connell, and this, his second vintage is a savoury-tinged, spicy, brightly-fruited delight that suggests he's well on his way.

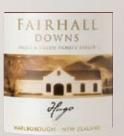


Pairhall Downs HUGO
BARREL FERMENTED Sauvignon 2008

was \$29.90 now \$24.90 1225

CASE OF 12 \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Hugo says you go... and get yourself lots of this rare and wonderful, almost Sauvage-style treat with its wild ferments, wild fruits and depth of flavour and texture. Perfect with food.



3

Sacred Hill WINE THIEF
HAWKES BAY Chardonnay 2010

was \$33.90 now \$24.90 18526

CASE OF 6 \$24.40 A BOTTLE

With a complexity and weight that far outreaches its pragmatic pricepoint, this is a concentrated and complex treasure, with powerful citrus fruit, a surge of minerality and intense flavours.



Lake Chalice

MARLBOROUGH Sauvignon Blanc 2011

was \$19.90 now \$14.90 13533



No surprise to see Gambo & Co with one of the first of the new season's vinos; no surprise to see it in the Top10 either. A consistently impressive, intensely varietal, punchy, flavoursome drop.



5

Clearview RESERVE HAWKES BAY Chardonnay 2009

was \$45.00 now \$32.90 1131

CASE OF 12 \$32.40 A BOTTLE

One of the country's great Chardonnays, from out by the beach at Te Awanga where the flavours are a law unto themselves, lending the peachy richness depth and complexity, all unleashed with much aplomb.



Seresin
MARLBOROUGH Chardonnay 2008

was \$32.00 now \$24.90 1868

CASE OF 12 \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Talk to the hand... hand-picked, handmade, barrel fermented, full malolactic. A bigger style than many Marlboroughs, with a French whiff of gunsmoke, a zesty citrus flicker, and a rich power and charm.



7

Brookfields SUN-DRIED
HAWKES BAY Malbec 2010

was \$25.00 now \$19.90 113

CASE OF 6 \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Made Amarone-style, where the grapes are laid out to dry in the sun, resulting in intense, concentrated flavours of ultra-ripe plums and boisterous berries. Exceptional, stunning.



Saltram MAMRE BROOK BAROSSA Shiraz 2008

was \$29.90 now \$17.90 2683

CASE OF 6 \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Meaty, beefy, big and bouncy, the babbling brook is pretty much the byword for Barossa brilliance, these days and, oh my, where did you get that price? Massive flavours, minimal charge.





Vavasour

MARLBOROUGH Chardonnay 2010

was \$24.90 now \$18.90 12

CASE OF 6 \$18.40 A BOTTLE

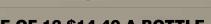
For nigh on two decades the Vavasour family name has lent itself to these elegant, mineral-streaked, almost French-style Chardonnays, wines, such as this, of sheer class and great appeal.



10 Kaiker

ARGENTINE Cabernet Sauvignon 2007

was \$19.90 now \$14.90 90613



CASE OF 12 \$14.40 A BOTTLE

This high-impact, low entry fee, muscular Argentine red is a must-have for anyone preparing to bed down for the winter with some savoury food and a thick book. Beautiful, broad and brightly flavoured.



PIPER # HEIDSIECK

Ongoing extravaganza since 1785



48118 CUVÉE BRUT NV

48162 CUVÉE BRUT+JAIME ICE BUCKET

48124 ROSÉ SAUVAGE

48122 VINTAGE BRUT MILLÉSIMÉ 2000

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WAS \$78.00 NOW **\$54.90**

WAS \$99.00 NOW **\$74.90**

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