



CRU WINES

PRICE LIST
JULY 2021

Thanks for checking out the CRU Wines portfolio! Here you will find detailed information about the wonderful growers we are fortunate to work with. We continue to champion the most exciting producers in both the new and old world, and showcase a collection filled with new wave winemakers, as well as established heroes from iconic wine regions. While some are certainly well known and some fly under the radar, all spend most of their time in the vineyard with their hands in the soil. They share the understanding that any wine worth drinking is delivered by nature, so throwing in additives or stripping out naturally occurring flavours should be avoided. Put simply, minimal intervention winemaking.

CONTACTS

cruwines.com.au
orders@cruwines.com.au
accounts@cruwines.com.au

ACT

Justin Williams
0402 743 034
justin@cruwines.com.au

NSW

Simon Howland
0426 416 612
simon@cruwines.com.au

VIC

James Fillbrook
0423 879 785
james@cruwines.com.au

QLD

Gavin Butterworth
0478 472 738
gavin@wineagent.com.au

TAS

Ben Devereux
0401 459 535
bdevereux@cruwines.com.au

Sales Manager

Toby Parker
0478 772 322
toby@cruwines.com.au

Director

Peter Hasko
0419 787 778
peter@cruwines.com.au

Accounts

Maria Twomey
0411 453 838
accounts@cruwines.com.au

LUC shown includes WET and excludes GST

ABN: 95 600 696 624

Liquor License: LIQW880014568

It is against the law to sell or supply alcohol to, or to obtain alcohol on behalf of, a person under the age of 18 years.



AUSTRALIA	
Brothers at War // Barossa and Eden Valleys, SA	1
Patrick of Coonawarra // Coonawarra, SA	2
Maan Wines // McLaren Vale, SA	3
-OH Wines // Orange, NSW	3
NEW ZEALAND	
Kusuda // Martinborough	4
Clos Henri // Marlborough	5
Black Estate // North Canterbury	6
AUSTRIA	
Martin Muthenthaler // Wachau	7
FRANCE	
Michel Gonet // Champagne	8
Domaine de l'Ecu // Loire Valley	9
Domaine Charles Joguet // Loire Valley	10
Domaine Henri Bourgeois // Loire Valley	11
Domaine Schoffit // Alsace	12
Camille Thiriet // Burgundy	13
Frederic & Michel Magnien // Burgundy	14
Domaine de Beauverney // Beaujolais	14
Domaine Georges Vernay // Northern Rhone	15
Gabriel Meffre // Southern Rhone	16
Florian Mathieu // Provence	16
Gerard Bertrand // Languedoc	16
Bordeaux Chateaux // Bordeaux	17
GERMANY	
Josef Leitz // Rheingau	18
Julian Haart // Mosel Valley	19
Daniel Twardowski // Mosel Valley	20
Rudolf Furst // Franken	21
HUNGARY	
Kiralyudvar // Tokaj	22
ITALY	
Ca' Del Baio // Piedmont	23
Ettore Germano // Piedmont	24
Dal Forno Romano // Veneto	25
Ca' Del Sole // Prosecco	26
Matteo Braidot // Friuli	26
Edi Kante // Friuli	27
Skerk // Friuli	28
Sartarelli // Marche	29
Montenidoli // Tuscany	30
Il Paradiso di Manfredi // Tuscany	30
Tiberio // Abruzzo	31
PORTUGAL	
Aphros // Vinho Verde	32
SPAIN	
Raúl Pérez // Bierzo	33
Venta La Vega // Almansa	34
Familia Nin-Ortiz // Priorat	35
Finca Allende // La Rioja	36
La Rioja Alta // La Rioja	37
Barranco Oscuro // Granada	38
Cesar Principe // Cigales	38
USA	
Domaine de la Cote // Santa Barbara	39
Sandhi // Santa Barbara	40
Arnot-Roberts // Sonoma County	41
Hirsch Vineyards // Sonoma Coast	42
Matthiasson // Napa Valley	43
Evening Land // Willamette Valley	44
BIN ENDS	45

Brothers at War

Eden Valley // South Australia

Sustainable

* Halliday 5 Star Winery *

* 2021 Halliday Wine Companion Best Grenache *

Brothers at War Wines began in 2013 with a tonne of grapes and two brothers' vision to create world class wines with unique expression, using small parcels of exceptional fruit from some of the Barossa's greatest characters. While only in their 20s, Angus and Sam Wardlaw could be considered veterans of the winemaking game, having had access to the vast knowledge (and cellar) of their 'old man', David Wardlaw, a pioneer of Barossa winemaking. Then there's older brother Andrew, who started his winemaking career in the 90s and before long was producing some of the first natural wines in the region.

Picking up childhood friend Matt Carter (who has long performed the role of referee between the brothers), and Eden Valley vigneron Chris Alderton along the way, Brothers at War has grown into an award-winning wine label. Together, this group of family and friends are looking to the future, adding new varieties and styles to the Brothers at War portfolio and staking their own claim in wine, while keeping a family tradition alive (not without a few fist fights here and there!).

Single Vineyard Eden Valley Grenache 2018

99 points + 2021 Halliday Wine Companion Best Grenache

"From the 150+yo vines of the celebrated Stonegarden Vineyard in the Eden Valley. 50% whole bunches, 50% whole berries wild-fermented, matured in used French puncheons for 12 months. Beautifully articulated to throw all of the vibrant and pure varietal fruit on full display. A particular feature is the finish and aftertaste, an aspect seldom commented on with grenache."

Single Vineyard Eden Valley Mataro 2018

96 points, 2021 Halliday Wine Companion

"80+yo vines from the Pendee Farm vineyard in the Eden Valley. Wild-fermented with 20% whole bunches, 80% destemmed, plunged for 14 days, pressed to French hogsheads for 12 months maturation. Shows what old mataro vines can do if the grapes are respected and the winery skilled."

Single Vineyard Eden Valley Syrah 2018

96 points, 2021 Halliday Wine Companion

"80yo vines, 30% whole bunch, 70% whole berry, 3 weeks on skins, matured for 18 months in French oak (50% new). A perfect study in old vine elegance and harmony, the grapes picked when ripe, not overripe. Great pair (with its Shiraz sibling) deserving high praise."

'Nothing In Common' Eden Valley Riesling 2019

94 points, 2021 Halliday Wine Companion

"From 60yo vines near the township of Eden Valley. A wine stacked with varietal character and a sense of place, the lemon and lime fruits frocked with crisp acidity. I'd be happy to drink it tonight, pondering on the back label suggestion that 'it will benefit from delicate cellaring'."

2020	EDEN VALLEY RIESLING 'THE GRAPE GROWER'		6 X 750ML	\$14.51
2021	EDEN VALLEY PINOT GRIS		6 X 750ML	\$14.51
2020	OUR MUMS LOVE ROSE		6 X 750ML	\$14.51
2018	GSM 'SOME OTHER GUY		6 X 750ML	\$14.51
2019	SYRAH 'THE OLD MAN'		6 X 750ML	\$14.51
2021	EDEN VALLEY RIESLING 'NOTHING IN COMMON'		6 X 750ML	\$19.68
2018	EDEN VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'I'M ALWAYS RIGHT'	94 JH	6 X 750ML	\$19.68
2018	BAROSSA VALLEY SHIRAZ 'FIST FIGHT'	94 JH	6 X 750ML	\$19.68
2019	SINGLE VINEYARD EDEN VALLEY GRENACHE		6 x 750ML	\$53.00
2018	SINGLE VINEYARD EDEN VALLEY MATARO	96 JH	6 X 750ML	\$53.00
2018	SINGLE VINEYARD EDEN VALLEY SYRAH	96 JH	6 x 750ML	\$53.00
2018	SINGLE VINEYARD EDEN VALLEY SHIRAZ	96 JH	6 X 750ML	\$73.00

Patrick of Coonawarra

Coonawarra // South Australia

Sustainable

** 5 Star Winery ~ James Halliday **

During a decorated career spanning more than three decades, Patrick Tocaciu received international accolades while working as head winemaker for several major labels. His focus then switched to fulfilling a more personal goal with the establishment of the family owned and operated Patrick of Coonawarra in 2004. Patrick's eldest son, Luke, has now taken over the family business and continues to produce highly regarded wines from the famed Terra Rossa soils of Coonawarra. Only the highest quality fruit is utilised from their family owned and managed vineyards, ensuring an unwavering commitment to quality and delivering hand crafted wines with regionality and personality.

The guiding principle in both the vineyards and winery is that the most natural path from grape to glass will ultimately provide the best wine, and that the more natural solution to any challenge or issue gives the best chance of being able to produce wines well into the future. All winery waste is composted on site, and wildlife plays a key part in the health of the vineyard: a flock of guinea fowl live amongst the vines all year round cleaning up any bugs and pests, sheep graze through the vineyard, eliminating herbicide and fertilizer use and cleaning up the grass under vine, and bees are kept around the property. Native cover crops are grown to prevent erosion, suppress weeds and provide nutrition, and biological pest management is employed - such as wasps and beneficial bacteria application

Patrick of Coonawarra enjoyed great success in the 2021 Halliday guide, picking up a 97 point review for their flagship wine, the Grande Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2012, and were also in the 'best of the best' reds list of just 26 wines (which included just eight Cabernets). This is certainly among the finest Cabernet Sauvignon in the nation, and without question a contender for the best Cabernet Sauvignon from the Coonawarra region - especially when considering that the 2012 vintage has just been released, in peak condition, and is entering the first drinking window of it's long life.

Grande Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2012

97 points, Halliday - *"It is opulent yet well balanced, repeated tastings revealing a wine of great class with a long future."*

95 points, Q Wines - *"...a brilliant example of what Coonawarra does best. Eight years young... Brilliant! Just Brilliant."*

2020	P SERIES SAUVIGNON BLANC	Silver - RWS	12 X 750ML	\$11.61
2020	P SERIES FIELD BLEND ROSE	Gold - HWS	12 X 750ML	\$11.61
2015	P SERIES SHIRAZ	Gold - ASWS	12 X 750ML	\$11.61
NV	P SERIES SPARKING CHARDONNAY-PINOT NOIR		12 X 750ML	\$11.61
NV	P SERIES SPARKING CHARDONNAY-PINOT NOIR <i>piccolo</i>		24 X 200ML	\$3.42
2020	RIESLING 'TWO BLOCKS'	95 JH	12 X 750ML	\$14.73
2012	AGED RIESLING <i>TROPHY, Sydney Top 100</i>	95 HH	6 X 750ML	\$23.01
2010	BOTRYTIS RIESLING 'JESSIE'		6 X 375ML	\$24.51
2018	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'TWO BLOCKS'		12 x 750ML	\$18.81
2014	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'HOME BLOCK'	96 JH	6 X 750ML	\$27.09
2008	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'HOME BLOCK' MUSEUM RELEASE	96 JH	6 x 750ML	\$41.41
2012	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'GRANDE RESERVE'	97 JH	6 X 750ML	\$74.82
2015	SHIRAZ 'TWO BLOCKS'		12 X 750ML	\$18.81
2013	SHIRAZ 'JOANNA'	96 HH	6 X 750ML	\$27.09

Maan Wines

McLaren Vale // South Australia

Sustainable

Anthony, a winemaker by trade, and Matt, an international man of mystery, are cousins and the founders of MAAN. The two have a long history of making, selling and drinking quality wines from around the world. Their focus is on producing small batch, handmade wines that showcase the best that the McLaren Vale has to offer. The wines are approachable, affordable, accessible and most of all, exceptionally handsome, much like the founders. In the vineyard and winery things are kept as simple as possible. All fruit is basket-pressed, an old school method which ensures a soft press and treats the wine with a lot of finesse, then fermented with wild yeast and allowed only a touch of oak to retain freshness and fruit, and then finally bottled without fining or filtration.

Fiano 'Flirty Maan'

Gourmet Traveller Wine, Mike Bennie - *"There's an edginess to all Maan wines, but this, their textural white, is the most interesting and delicious. It's a fragrant white of medium weight and juiciness, lithe in the palate with fine, powdery edges and finishes with a starburst of grapefruity tang. Throughout the bouquet and palate there's strong green pear characters and saline notes too. It's punching so far above its weight. While it says 'mid-week' in price, it's way cooler than that, and should be poured for special occasions too."*

Rosé 'Sailor Maan'

Delicious Magazine, Mike Bennie - *"Rosé might be made for blazing hot days, but drink it now with gusto as a foil for the richer dishes of the cooler months. This gutsier rosé is sour-sweet in the best possible way, with rosehip-tea aromas chiming in. There's nice grip and pucker to the texture, which is great for cutting through fattier foods, or simply refreshing your palate."*

GMS 'Handy Maan'

Delicious Magazine, Mike Bennie - *"Grenache, Mourvèdre and Shiraz are blended in this lightweight but bright, crunchy and vivacious red wine. I imagine this with vindaloo dishes or similar, but I bet it would be an absolute treat with smokey-fragrant things from the tandoor. It's gorgeous!"*

2019	FIANO 'FLIRTY MAAN'		12 X 750ML	\$18.06
2019	GRENACHE ROSE 'SAILOR MAAN'	SOLD OUT	12 X 750ML	\$18.06
2018	NERO D'AVOLA 'HIT MAAN'		12 X 750ML	\$18.06
2018	SHIRAZ 'BUSINESS MAAN'		12 X 750ML	\$18.06
2017	GSM 'HANDY MAAN'		12 X 750ML	\$18.06
2017	GRENACHE 'DAPPER MAAN'		12 X 750ML	\$18.06

-OH Wines

Orange // New South Wales

Sustainable

The small regional appellation of Orange can lay claim to being one of Australia's most interesting wine regions. It is the only appellation based on altitude - beginning at 600 metres above seal level, to be precise. Fruit from any vines planted below this cannot be labelled as coming from Orange, but rather must adopt the more broadly used 'Central Ranges' designation. Because of such altitude (in fact, extending up to well over 1000 metres above sea level) Orange can be considered, by any measure, a cool climate wine region - despite being just over three and a half hours from Sydney. The region centres around the ancient volcano, Mount Canobolas, and as you might expect when ancient volcanic soils and cool temperatures combine with long sunshine hours, some truly delicious wines are made in the area. When the opportunity arose to work with our friends at Australia's first certified carbon neutral winery, we jumped at the chance, bottling two wines in the fine cool climate style that we love.

-OH Chardonnay

Fruit from two exquisite Chardonnay vineyards, one at 960 metres and one at 650 metres. Wild yeast fermented, partially in old French oak, six months on fine lees. The epitome of cool climate Chardonnay. Pristine pure fruit, fine minerality, elegance and balance.

-OH Shiraz

From a distinguished single vineyard at 650 metres above sea level. Wild yeast fermented, partially in old French oak, eighteen months on lees. Rich in texture, intense and deep in character. Vibrant dark fruit and dense, enveloping tannin.

2017	-OH CHARDONNAY		12 X 750ML	\$12.90
2016	-OH SHIRAZ		12 X 750ML	\$12.90

Kusuda

Martinborough // New Zealand

Sustainable

*excludes VIC

Tokyo-born Hiroyuki (known as Hiro) Kusuda trained as a lawyer and worked for Fujitsu, then the Consulate General of Japan in Sydney before giving it all up to pursue his other love, wine and winemaking. He went to Germany, learned the language, enrolled at Geisenheim and then emigrated to New Zealand to pursue both the Riesling and Pinot grapes – to which a third challenge, Syrah, has now been added. The choice of New Zealand in general and Martinborough in particular apparently came about through tasting the 1992 Ata Rangi Pinot Noir.

Hiro is a driven individual, totally focussed on seeking purity of fruit character in his wines. A key feature to achieve quality is the extremely meticulous if not fanatical sorting of the fruit, at harvest and especially on the berries before vinification. The Claremont Motel in Martinborough has Kusuda as their most important client during vintage as hordes of pickers pay their own way from Japan to say they've been able to work with one of Japan's most highly regarded winemakers and contribute to the quality! Some stay for two days, others for a month or more. It takes 2-3 days for 10-15 people to sort through one tonne of Pinot Noir, depending on the health of the fruit. From around 10-15 tonnes of fruit, the annual output is less than 1,000 cases. 70% of the tiny Kusuda production goes to Japan, where it has a cult following. The remainder is sold evenly in NZ, Australia and the UK.

Kusuda Pinot Noir 2018

From the high-density block (majority 7400 plants/ha) we started to lease in 2011 then purchased after the 2015 vintage. The weather changed in early summer to cooler days and then wetter in March. Challenging season but the extensive selection/sorting contributed to the purer style. 97% destemmed, cold soaked for 4 to 6 days. Fermented in open stainless-steel vats with pumping-over and hand plunging, total period of maceration 22 to 25 days. Aged in French (19% new) oak barriques for 15 months. Unfined and bottled with coarse filtration. Even more elegant than normal but the flavour intensity and the typical spiciness remain at the usual level.

96 points, Bob Campbell MW - *"The relatively pale colour of this pinot noir might trick you into thinking it's a light wine but don't be deceived, it has extraordinary power and length. A wine that's all about purity and subtlety. Cherry, fresh herbs and subtle spices. Reserve judgement until it has at least a few year's bottle age. (Cork)"*

Ranked: #1 of 21 2018 Pinot Noir from Martinborough

Kusuda Syrah 2017

Very low yield (less than 20hl/ha) resulted intensely fragrant yet elegant, linear shaped wine with obvious aging potential. 94% destemmed without crushing, cold soaked for 6 to 8 days. Fermented in open stainless steel vats with pumping-over and hand plunging, total period of maceration for 25 to 29 days. Aged in French (22% new) oak barriques for 22 months. Unfined and bottled after coarse filtration.

95 points, Bob Campbell MW - *"Delicate, edgy, supple syrah with violet, red rose petal, fresh herb, white pepper and subtle spicy flavours. The wine has great purity, power and an ethereal texture. Needs bottle-age to reveal its full potential."*

Kusuda Riesling 2019

From Boulders Vineyard on Martinborough Terrace (leased since 2017 vintage). Disease and insect pressure were high due to the higher temperature and able to harvest only one in four bunches (Botrytis affected bunches went into the late harvest wine). Harvested by hand with extreme selection. Whole bunch pressed, settled for 48 hrs with bentonite. Fermented in a stainless steel tank for 3 weeks. Bone dry but with plenty of citrus fruit backed up by ripe yet focused acidity.

95 points, Bob Campbell MW - *"Bone-dry riesling with lime-citrus, green apple, oyster-shell, mineral and a suggestion of wildflowers. A taut, high-energy wine with impressive purity and power. While it can be appreciated now it should develop well with bottle age."*

Kusuda Riesling 'TBA' 2018

97 points, Bob Campbell MW

"Delicious dessert wine with honey, honeycomb, dried apricot, wild rose, star anise, peach and pineapple flavours. An intense and powerful wine that can be appreciated now but has obvious cellaring potential."

2019	RIESLING	SOLD OUT	95 BC	12 X 750ML	\$48.81
2018	PINOT NOIR	SOLD OUT	96 BC	12 X 750ML	\$108.98
2017	SYRAH	SOLD OUT	95 BC	12 X 750ML	\$98.78
2018	RIESLING 'TBA'	SOLD OUT	97 BC	12 X 375ML	\$113.51

Clos Henri

Marlborough // New Zealand

Biodynamic

Clos Henri is a 96-hectare property purchased in March 2001. The natural, unspoiled land that Clos Henri sits upon drew the attention and admiration of the Bourgeois family who have been farming in Sancerre for ten generations. Historically a sheep station, the virgin land was untouched by the cut of a plough, fertilizers or much human interference. It was this pristine healthy soil that convinced Jean-Marie Bourgeois and his family that this vineyard would be unequalled in the area, and to start their art, passion and tradition anew in Marlborough. With every intention of maintaining the bio-friendly status of the land, the Bourgeois undertook a lengthy process of reviving the soil by planting nutrient rich legumes and crops to adjust the slight nutrient deficiencies their vines would need prior to the first plantings in August 2001. Planting only six hectares a year, the Clos Henri property will take 12 years to fully transform from farm to vineyard.

The site is unique in that it consists of several soil types – gravels and clays as well as sloping land and hillsides. The gravel is found in Renwick: it's this that contributes to the fame of the region's Sauvignon. The result of ancient rivers this type of soil provides wines with elegance and crispness. The second kind of soil is found in Broadbridge, a greyish-brown clay with ochre tints (indicating a high iron content), appropriate to the cultivation of Pinot Noir. Wines produced here are round with complex aromas and good length. The final soil in Clos Henri, a kind of yellow-grey clay, is to be found on the very steep slopes of Wither where the vines enjoy excellent exposure to the sun. All these soils have only been used for pasture and never exposed to insecticides, herbicides or any other form of chemical treatments. The Bourgeois family are committed to maintain the local biodiversity.

Clos Henri uses natural methods from the vineyard to the winery, practices dry farming and is a proud member of MANA: Marlborough Natural Winegrowers. The estate has been fully certified organic by the harvest of 2013. "We believe that natural wine-growing techniques paired with no irrigation, leads to true terroir expression in our varieties of Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir and produces fruit of the highest quality possible" says Damien Yvon, General Manager and Winemaker.

Sauvignon Blanc 2018

The Sauvignon is matured on the fine lees, and, to conserve the delicious citrus flavours, the wine does not undergo malolactic fermentation. So, Sancerre or Marlborough Sauvignon? Well, it has stunning aromatic complexity and harmonious mineral and fruit nuances as well as a purity and freshness that suggests good ageing potential. It combines gentle passion fruit and citrus blossom characters unusual in New Zealand Sauvignon blanc, with more leanness of texture and complex intensity in the citrus to passion fruit spectrum.

95 points, Bob Campbell MW - *"Unirrigated vines planted in Greywacke river stones. It's 10% barrel-fermented. Quite a rich, textural, and concentrated sauvignon blanc with gooseberry, capsicum, oyster-shell and a suggestion of passionfruit supported by lively acidity"*

Pinot Noir 2010 (museum release)

The Pinot Noir is made from hand-harvested grapes. Following a three-week maceration in stainless steel tanks, the wine is fermented in small half-tonne open fermenters with gentle hand plunging to enhance optimum colour and tannin extraction and subsequently matured in French barrels with only 30 % new oak and a light filtration prior to bottling. The style again is French; the primary fruit is suggestive of mocha and red berries, there's fruit concentration and roundness and delightfully harmonious tannins. It has texture and contours as they might say in France.

95 points, Bob Campbell MW - *"Tasted alongside the 2011 vintage this wine was more accessible with greater fruit intensity - it is clearly a better wine although the extra year in bottle may have helped. Red fruits including plum, cherry and a suggestion of raspberry with spice/anise and oak influence."*

Petit Clos

The Petit Clos wines are excellent 'mini-me's'. These are the younger vines of Clos Henri, made from similarly low yields. Stainless steel all the way for the Sauvignon, whilst the Pinot is aged in 9% new oak (very precise). The former tends towards the grapefruit and tangerine with a hint of lees for structural support, whilst the Pinot has vibrant red fruit and a subtle smokiness.

Ste. Solange is the name of the Marlborough church the Bourgeois family found to relocate to the vineyard site to act as cellar door and office. It has since become both Clos Henri's logo and undisputed heart. This small country church originally from the village of Ward, some 50kms south of Blenheim, was deconsecrated and put up for sale in 2001 by its parishioners. Built in the early 1920's from a New Zealand native timber, Rimu, the chapel was lovingly well kept and survived its move to the vineyard over both the Awatere River and the Wither Hills. The Bourgeois named the chapel "Ste. Solange" after their patron saint of the vineyards and in the memory of Henri Bourgeois's wife, Solange Bourgeois. Ste. Solange also acts as a tie to the Bourgeois' domaine in France and the logo by which it is recognized in Sancerre – the image of the pointed spire of the church in Chavignol, the village in which the estate is located.

2018	SAUVIGNON BLANC	95 BC	12 X 750ML	\$38.70
2016	SAUVIGNON BLANC 'PETIT CLOS'		12 X 750ML	\$23.22
2013	SAUVIGNON BLANC 'BEL ECHO'	95 BC	12 X 750ML	\$19.35
2015	PINOT NOIR	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	12 X 750ML	\$38.70
2017	PINOT NOIR 'PETIT CLOS'		12 X 750ML	\$23.22
2011	PINOT NOIR 'BEL ECHO'	94 BC	12 x 750ML	\$29.67

Black Estate

North Canterbury // New Zealand

Biodynamic

*excludes VIC

NZ Organic Wine Awards 'Winery of the Year 2017': Black Estate

"Black Estate's wines have caused more discussion amongst our judges than any other wines, leading to rather late nights on more than one occasion. Their wines are all sophisticatedly exclusive, from their four varietal Rose blend to their three unique Pinot Noir's. Each wine they produce adds complexity and depth beyond what you expect, when you think you have a complete understanding of the wine another layer unfolds and adds to the intrigue. Black Estate achieved more Gold and Silver medals than any other vineyard partaking in the 2017 awards."

Black Estate have certainly established themselves as one of the stars of North Canterbury recently. This comes as no surprise to those of us who have witnessed the team quietly working over the past few years to develop their three vineyards into some of the most delightful in New Zealand. Absolute passion for their land and dedication to their vines is behind every action taken by Nicholas, Penelope and the team. We're impressed more and more by every release, and are very happy to be able to offer these wines to the Australian market.

"We farm organically & with biodynamic practices to work with nature, rather than against it. If our land is naturally healthy and full of diverse life, we have healthier vines, producing fruit with quality and flavour that expresses its unique and true environment. Organics means we don't use any systemic sprays on our land, which would destroy the microbial life and ecosystems there. The land is the foundation for our vines, fruit and wine, so we want to look after it. Respect and care for land allows our vines to grow in natural balance, and also provides for generations after our time here. Offering wines to enjoy without any chemical residues is another motivation. We can all drink wine that nurtures us, rather than affects our health, and our team, who are close up, looking after each vine can also work care free of chemicals. We also use biodynamics, a practice which energises and inspires us. Rooted in Rudolf Steiner teachings, biodynamics teaches us to see each of our three vineyards in a holistic way. All elements that make up our vineyards are considered – how they interact and make one healthy, vital whole. The vines, fields, forests, animals, plants, soils, compost, people and the spirit of the place are equally important. When all considered, our sites can build their own sustaining natural rhythms." - Nicholas and Pen, Black Estate

Black Estate 'Circuit' Pinot Gris 2017

17.7/20, Andrew Graham, Australian Wine Review - "The Circuit range uses grower fruit and priced slightly lower than the Estate range. Some barrel ferment used here, helping to craft what is a succulent, gently textured style. There's a great balance here between soft acidity and gentle richness – it's restrained, faintly juicy, but never falls into flab or excess sweetness. It's just a fraction tight for immediate satisfaction (give it 3-6 in bottle), but still an archetype of how to craft rich-but-refreshing Pinot Gris. Would I buy it? In a heartbeat."

Black Estate 'Damsteep' Riesling 2018

94 points, Bob Campbell MW - "Rich, weighty chardonnay with white peach, grapefruit, ginger and brioche flavours, together with a seasoning of spicy oak. A silken-textured wine with subtle power. Very seductive."

Black Estate 'Netherwood' Chardonnay 2016

96 points - Bob Campbell MW - "Rich, weighty chardonnay with white peach, grapefruit, ginger and brioche flavours, together with a seasoning of spicy oak. A silken-textured wine with subtle power. Very seductive."

Black Estate 'Home' Pinot Noir 2016

95 points - Jamie Goode, Wine Anorak - "12.5% alcohol. From 1994 plantings, 4 hectares, 1841 vines/ha, wild ferment, 28 days on skins. A beautifully assured, complex, textural Pinot with warm, sweet cherry and plum fruit, with some nice savoury detail. There's a subtle green sappiness underneath the smooth, fine-grained fruit. It's fully ripe but also fresh and with nice integrated greenness. I really love the non-fruit complexity to this wine, and on the second day it's even more compelling."

2018	PET NAT 'NETHERWOOD'			12 X 750ML	\$39.99
2017	PINOT GRIS 'CIRCUIT'			12 X 750ML	\$20.22
2018	RIESLING 'DAMSTEAP'	SOLD OUT	94 BC	12 X 750ML	\$20.22
2018	CHARDONNAY 'YOUNG VINES'			12 X 750ML	\$23.78
2016	CHARDONNAY 'NETHERWOOD'	SOLD OUT	96 BC	12 x 750ML	\$49.42
2018	PINOT NOIR 'TREBLE'			12 X 750ML	\$23.78
2017	PINOT NOIR 'HOME'		94 BC	12 X 750ML	\$31.93
2016	PINOT NOIR 'DAMSTEAP'		19 RC	12 X 750ML	\$31.93
2017	PINOT NOIR 'NETHERWOOD'	SOLD OUT	95 BC	12 X 750ML	\$49.42

Martin Muthenthaler

Wachau // Austria

Organic

"Is it too soon to call Muthenthaler a legend? Probably. But I know where my money is. In the end, glory is a less inspiring attachment than purpose. On our vineyard walk, I asked Martin, 'Had you not lost your job, would you still be driving that truck?' He found that question silly: '100%.' Martin Muthenthaler never would have chosen this path and yet he found his way home. He truly loves what he does." - Brian McClintic MS

Martin Muthenthaler was a truck driver for Domaine Wachau for 20 years before he started making wine of his own in the Spitzer Graben valley in the famous Wachau region. Since 2006 he has been cultivating the 3 hectares of vines he inherited from his parents, making Grüner Veltliner and Riesling of outstanding balance and expression. The vineyards - all organic since the 2010 vintage - are planted on poor rocky soils at high altitudes. The Spitzer Graben is the coolest part of the Wachau valley, and temperatures are very cool even in the summer, which preserves the freshness and acidity of these classic white varieties while also resulting in significantly lower alcohol levels than other growers in the region - most Muthenthaler wines are at around 12%.

Martin works the steep vineyards entirely on his own, focusing on producing single site bottlings that convey the distinctive character of each vineyard. His parcels in the Bruck and Viesslinger Stern vineyards are some of the highest sites in the Wachau, and his mica-schist soils produce highly mineral and structured Grüner Veltliners and Rieslings. Martin decided not to join the Vinea Wachau - an association that ranks wines in accordance with sugar ripeness levels. Martin strives to make elegant wines that express a sense of place, and for him the ripest grapes don't always produce the best wines. All fruit is hand harvested by Martin, and fermented spontaneously with ambient yeast.

Grüner Veltliner 'Spitzer Graben'

The Spitzer Graben is a narrow valley situated in the Wachau region of Austria. This valley contains some of the highest and steepest vineyards of the Wachau. The rocky terrain yields distinctive and complex Grüner Veltliner and Riesling wines. This wine is a blend of Grüner from multiple parcels harvested across the Spitzer Graben valley.

Grüner Veltliner 'Vergelt's Gott'

Vergelt's Gott translates to 'blessings from God' - this cuvée came into existence after the difficult 2013 vintage when crop yields were dramatically affected after a sudden heatwave. This led to Michael's decision to blend a wine from the young vines of the highly regarded Schön and Bruck vineyards, which are planted on sandy brown topsoil and orthogneiss and mica-schist. The resulting blend turned out to be a classic and elegant expression of Grüner.

Grüner Veltliner 'Viesslinger Stern'

The Viesslinger Stern cuvee is Martin's flagship Grüner Veltliner. The grapes come from difficult to reach parcels of the highly elevated Bruck vineyard. Although Bruck is largely planted to the Riesling variety, there are also historic plots of old vine Grüner scattered across the vineyard. Some of these special Grüner vines were planted by Martin's grandparents and are even known by their own individual names. The 70 + year old root systems penetrate deep into the schist and orthogneiss rock producing a complex and focused Grüner Veltliner.

Riesling 'Ried Bruck'

The steep terraces of the Bruck vineyard are an ideal site for Riesling. The shallow topsoil ensures excellent drainage and enables the vines to dig deep into the schist and orthogneiss rock. This high altitude vineyard is kept cool by the winds blowing through the Spitzer Graben valley. This vineyard has long been recognised as a prime location for Riesling, with some of the vines being planted over 70 years ago. This Riesling is lean and juicy, with a lively acidity and striking minerality that is typical of wines that come from the Bruck vineyard. This wine is vinified in steel tanks to accentuate the freshness of this wine, and the short skin contact and long lees contact adds additional textural depth to this terroir driven Riesling.

2018	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'SPITZER GRABEN'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	90 WA	12 X 750ML	\$32.41
2018	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'VERGELT'S GOTT'		(93-94) WA	6 X 750ML	\$55.13
2018	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'RIED SCHON'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	96 WA	6 X 750ML	\$65.56
2017	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'RIED SCHON'		92+ WA	6 X 750ML	\$65.56
2016	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'RIED SCHON'			6 X 750ML	\$68.91
2017	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'VEISSLINGER STERN'		93+ WA	6 X 750ML	\$84.93
2015	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'VEISSLINGER STERN'			6 X 750ML	\$84.93
2015	GRÜNER VELTLINER 'DANE BEN' <i>skin contact single barrel</i>			6 x 750ML	\$78.22
2018	RIESLING 'RIED BRUCK'		92 WA	6 X 750ML	\$65.56
2016	RIESLING 'RIED BRUCK'			6 X 750ML	\$65.56
2017	RIESLING 'VEISSLINGER STERN'		95 WA	6 X 750ML	\$84.93

Champagne Michel Gonet

Avize // Champagne // France

Organic

Dating back to 1802, the Gonet family have been producing wine in Avize, in the heart of the Côte des Blancs, for over two centuries. Sophie Gonet and her brother Charles-Henri are seventh generation winegrowers who, with the expert hand of a young and talented winemaker, Antoine Gomérieux, have an adventurous flair for producing wines that express in perfect balance the typicality of their special terroir and the unique characteristics of each vintage. These are wines that, in our humble opinion, often outperform many of the famous (and much more expensive) big brands.

Gonet's vineyards span 40 hectares and contain some of the most coveted parcels in the entire region. The Grand Crus derive from the village of Mesnil-sur-Oger, a terroir famous for bringing tension, minerality and incomparable length to the Chardonnay. Here, Gonet shares illustrious company, with the likes of Krug and Salon a literal stone's throw away. The family's blends are bolstered with Chardonnay from Vindey, bringing freshness, and Montgueux, which adds body to the wines. Pinot Noir used for making a delightful Blanc de Noirs and Rose comes from a family plot nestled on the cool slopes of Fravaux in the Côte des Bar.

A walk through their vineyards shows a deep respect for nature, particularly when gazing at many of the neighbouring vineyards, which are void of life except the vine itself. Sadly, Champagne is all too often an atrocity of abused, unhealthy soils rich in herbicides, pesticides and vines muted with unnatural probiotic systemic treatments and excessive spraying. These elegant grower Champagnes are made with a most contentious intent and touch in both the vineyard and the winery. Fresh and vibrant upon release, the wines relax over time into complex, irresistible Champagnes; sublime expressions of the best of the region.

Blanc de Blancs 'Le Mesnil Grand Cru' 2012

The Blanc de Blancs Le Mesnil Grand Cru 2012 is Jancis Robinson MW's single highest rated grower Champagne from the 2012 vintage and, in fact, the the fourth highest rated Champagne of the vintage (behind Cristal, Cristal Rose and Comte de Champagne!):

18/20, Jancis Robinson MW - *"From the Mesnil-sur-Oger lieu-dit Les Hautes Mottes. Disgorged 4 February 2020. Very nicely balanced racy aperitif or food champagne. Amazing persistence and some real lacy, almost entrancing evidence of autolysis on the nose. Pure fruit. Just the ticket!"*

Blanc de Blancs 'Les 3 Terroirs' 2013

16.5/20, Jancis Robinson MW - *"Blend of wines from Vindey, Montgueux and Mesnil-sur-Oger. Disgorged 5 December 2019 with a dosage of 5 g/l. Pale bronze colour and beautifully judged dosage. No austerity! Some quite rich autolysis and a bone-dry, appetising finish. Nice hint of apple skin but nothing excessive. An excellent aperitif with depth of flavour."*

NV	BLANC DE NOIRS '6g.'	6 X 750ML	\$56.62
----	----------------------	-----------	---------

Village: Fravaux (Côte des Bar)

Base vintage: 2017

Time on lees: 3 years

Disgorgement: 4th November 2020

Dosage: 6 g/l

Style: Brut

2013	BLANC DE BLANCS 'LES 3 TERROIRS'	6 X 750ML	\$62.21
------	----------------------------------	-----------	---------

Villages: Le Mesnil (Côte des Blancs), Vindey (Côte de Sézanne), Montgueux

(Aube) Time on lees: 6 years

Disgorgement: 8th April 2020

Dosage: 5 g/l

Style: Extra Brut

2012	BLANC DE BLANCS 'LE MESNIL GRAND CRU'	6 X 750ML	\$75.24
------	---------------------------------------	-----------	---------

Village: Le Mesnil sur Oger (Côte des

Blancs) Time on lees: 7 years

Disgorgement: 4th February 2020

Dosage: 0 g/l

Style: Brut Nature

Domaine de l'Ecu

Muscadet // Loire Valley // France

Biodynamic and organic

"Muscadet fell out of fashion 20 years ago, but today it's all the rage, thanks to a handful of quality-conscious producers who are raising the bar. This is one of the top producers of the appellation, and the first to make a cuvee according to the terroir."
Decanter Magazine

"If Burgundy's Domaine Leroy made Muscadet, it would be Domaine de l'Ecu." - Matt Kramer, Wine Spectator - Wines of the Year

Many feel that Domaine de l'Ecu (along with a very small group of other domaines, of course) can be thanked for Muscadet's identity today. The domaine's influence can be attributed to three main factors. The first is the very early adoption of organic viticulture, well before it was fashionable to do so. The vineyards of Domaine de l'Ecu have been certified organic for over 40 years and certified biodynamic for over 20 years. Secondly, an unshakeable belief in the unique terroirs of Muscadet that inspired vinification and bottling based on soil type, as opposed to appellation blends. Thus was born the famed terroir wines from the subsoils of Gneiss, Orthogneiss and Granite. And, finally, unlike most regular Muscadet, the wines are aged sur-lie for 15-18 months, resulting in a texture and layered complexity that have come to define the unique style of Domaine de l'Ecu Muscadets, and set them apart from other wines in the appellation. In fact, some Loire cogni scenti have argued that Domaine de l'Ecu should be its own appellation - like Chateau Grillet, for example - due to the singularity of the wines.

Besides these factors, there are a series of non-negotiable 'house rules' that apply to all the wines at Domaine de l'Ecu: working the soils by hand, harvesting by hand, fermenting with indigenous yeast, avoiding pumping or racking of the must (only gravity), and minimal use of sulphur. All in all, it is a philosophy of "no make-up"; just true wines without adulteration or artifice.

In recent years, the domaine has seen a change of hands since celebrated owner and natural viticulturist Guy Bossard had no heirs interested in taking over the property. The estate is now run by a passionate, wine-loving gentleman named Frédéric's Niger. Fred is a very 'hands-on' owner and is dedicated to maintaining the greatness of the estate. Like Bossard, Fred is a fanatic in the vineyards, crops extremely low, and makes Muscadets that have remarkable depth, precision and age-ability. His passion and connection to the natural world guide his every move in the vineyard and cellar. He is present, observant and mindful, always with the goal of working in tandem with the forces of nature and never against them.

The four Muscadets made by the domaine receive very traditional fermentations - in subterranean glass-lined tanks, with subsequent lees-aging. There has been a move to reduce the sulphur dioxide levels in the wines, particularly since Frédéric's arrival, and less than 10 mg/l free sulphur dioxide is typical, a slightly lower figure than would have been typical under Guy's direction. The sulphites used are from an organic source, rather than the product of an industrial process, and they are sourced by Frédéric from Philippe Gourdon of Château Tour Grise.

In recent years, Fred has embarked on a compelling endeavour to craft a collection of Vin De France varietal wines fermented and aged in a combination of amphora and barrel, and sometimes amphora alone. He is particularly interested in the energy exchange between vessel and wine, and ultimately in how this energy is transmitted to those of us who have the pleasure of experiencing these vibrant, lively, pure expressions of soil and grape.

Chris Kissack, perhaps the foremost authority on wines from the Loire Valley: *"The grandes cuvées de terroir from Domaine de l'Ecu are classic examples of Muscadet, truly terroir-driven wines, and they would make an excellent, high quality (and yet great value) starting point for anyone wishing to get to grips with this large wine region. For those more familiar with the region, however, I am sure that the wines will remain regular buys. These are Muscadets which overturn the outdated view that this is a region for cheap-and-cheerful early drinkers. These bright, clear, minerally wines may well drink very well in their youth, but they also age in a very elegant fashion, and seeing out ten years in the cellar is something they will do with ease."*

2019	MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE 'CLASSIC'		6 X 750ML	\$24.21
2018	MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE 'GRANITE'		6 X 750ML	\$30.54
2015	MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE 'GRANITE'	<i>limited</i>	6 X 750ML	\$30.54
2015	MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE 'GNEISS'	<i>limited</i>	6 X 750ML	\$30.54
2019	ROSÉ DE CABERNET 'MUSE'		6 X 750ML	\$24.58
2018	GRENACHE 'TRINITY'	<i>Rhone Valley project</i>	6 X 750ML	\$23.28
2017	SYRAH 'NOBIS'	<i>Rhone Valley project</i>	6 X 750ML	\$20.67
2018	CHENIN BLANC 'MATRIS'	<i>amphora, zero sulphur</i>	6 X 750ML	\$67.79
2018	PINOT NOIR 'ANGE'	<i>amphora, zero sulphur</i>	6 X 750ML	\$67.79
2017	PINOT NOIR 'NEXUS'	<i>amphora, zero sulphur</i>	6 X 750ML	\$60.35
2017	MALBEC 'GERMINUS'	<i>amphora, zero sulphur</i>	6 X 750ML	\$49.17
2016	CABERNET FRANC 'MEPHISTO'	<i>amphora, zero sulphur</i>	6 X 750ML	\$56.62

Domaine Charles Joguet

Chinon // Loire Valley // France

Organic

"It's not only that Joguet makes good Chinon: it is that he is one of the rare vintners whose wines can be gripping aesthetically, spiritually, and intellectually, as well as sensuously." - Kermit Lynch

The wines of Chinon have long been celebrated. French humanist and native son, François Rabelais, sang their praises as far back as the sixteenth century. However, the distinction with which the appellation is regarded today is due in part to the legacy left by a more contemporary icon: Charles Joguet. This young painter and sculptor abandoned a budding art career to assume direction of the family domaine in 1957. He soon began to question the common practice of selling grapes to negociants, as his own family had done for years.

The Joguets owned prime vineyard land in between the Loire and Vienne Rivers, with some of their finest found on the left bank of the Vienne, just outside Chinon, in Sazilly. These very lieux-dits had been recognised for their character and defined before the Renaissance - some even date back to the Middle Ages. Variations in the soils of these alluvial plains were substantial enough to realize that he was sitting on what would be considered in other regions as premier cru and grand cru vineyards. To sell the grapes off or to vinify these individualised plots together would have been madness. Separate terroirs, he believed, necessitate separate vinifications. Over the course of his tenure, Charles took the risks necessary to master the single-vineyard bottling with an artistry that A.O.C. Chinon had never before seen. In so doing, he realised the true potential of the land.

Charles has since retired. Today, the eager and talented Anne Charlot Genet and Kevin Fontaine oversee the vineyards and the cellars. The team farm thirty-six hectares of Cabernet Franc. Closely adhering to the tradition of Charles, the domaine bottles nine different cuvées, handling each one as a unique terroir and microclimate with individualised care and attention. That ethic trickles into the cellars as well, where careful deliberation and experimentation bring about gradual change.

The wines are divided into two lines: 'precocious cuvées' and those for long-ageing. Precocious cuvées, like the 'Silènes', are made to be consumed young - within a few years of release. If premier crus were permitted in Chinon, Les Varennes du Grand Clos would certainly be considered one of them. Clos du Chêne Vert and Clos de la Dioterie are perhaps their greatest wines - certainly of grand cru quality - with excellent ageing potential. Those who are convinced that the best Cabernet Franc grows in Bordeaux may quickly transfer their allegiance to the Loire upon tasting these classic, appellation-defining Chinons. The purity of fruit, the exceptional delineation of aromas and flavours, the soulful reflection of terroirs, and the extraordinary seductiveness of the texture make the wines from Joguet second to none.

Chinon 'Silènes' 2015

15-16/20, Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - *"This cuvée has completed its malolactic fermentation, although there is clearly still a little residual carbon dioxide gas left over from the process. Aromatically it brims with fresh red fruits, red cherry and peony scents. It feels very fresh, bright and pure, with a lovely midpalate texture. A wine of lovely potential, for drinking early."*

Chinon 'Les Charmes' 2014

16.5/20, Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - *"From clay soils on the slopes above Anché, 1 to 1.2 metres deep, over limestone. "The vines are open and well ventilated", says Kevin. The élevage is in fûts for seven months, then it finishes in cuve. Bottled last week. A very pretty nose again, a trait that runs through the vintage at this domaine, with red cherry and perfumed cherry stone. A beautiful palate, cool, fresh and reserved, with a little silky suppleness to it, but more grip here too, more structure, the tannins coming in at the sides of the palate. A very pretty, classic style, perfumed, floral, but with a little roasted pip interest."*

Chinon 'Clos de Chene Vert' 2014

17-18/20, Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - *"This vineyard has clay and limestone, a yellow tuffeau known locally as millage. Superficially, the soils contain more sand than the other vineyards, although about one-third has clay and flint too. It is west-facing, and takes the sun in the evening. It tends to ripen well as a result. A sample drawn from barrel. The nose is perfumed again, with sandalwood this time, and a little peony too. It feels very ample in the mouth, with a supple texture, a pure, fresh and polished style leading into a textured and grainy end. Despite its full structure it has elegance, with a lovely finesse and quality to the tannins. It feels long, grippy, with violets, toasted almond and dark-chocolate finesse. Quite beautiful, balanced and fine."*

Chinon 'Clos de la Dioterie' 2014

17.5-18.5/20, Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - *"From the clay and limestone terroir behind the cellars. The élevage is partly in carrel, partly in cuve, and it is becoming increasingly lengthy, which Anne-Charlotte and Kevin feel is necessary for balance. Aromatically this is filled with dark toasted fruits, also touches of grilled almond, and it feels very pure. There follows a fresh, pure, supple and rather ample palate. It has a delicious texture, with grilled almond like the nose, also notes of toasted pips, underpinned with fresh, grippy and bright tannins. It rounds off into a very long finish, with a firm tannic length. It feels fresh, pure, with a textured finish laced with chalky fruit. An impressive showing, long and structured."*

2011	CHENIN BLANC 'CLOS DE LA PLANTE MARTIN'			6 x 750ML	\$47.79
2015	CHINON 'SILENES'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	16 WD	6 X 750ML	\$27.01
2011	CHINON 'LES VARENNES DU GRAND CLOS'		17.5 B&D	6 X 750ML	\$47.49
2014	CHINON 'LES CHARMES'		16.5 WD	6 X 750ML	\$52.90
2014	CHINON 'CLOS DU CHENE VERT'	<i>limited</i>	17-18 WD	6 X 750ML	\$78.97
2014	CHINON 'CLOS DE LA DIOTERIE'	<i>limited</i>	17.5-18.5 WD	6 X 750ML	\$82.70

Domaine Henri Bourgeois

Sancerre // Loire Valley // France

Sustainable

For wine lovers around the world, Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé have a place in their hearts as two of the finest dry whites. The Sancerre vineyards are spread over chalky, stony soils, rich in marine fossils. They lie on a series of southeastern facing slopes that, from a distance, form one large hill interrupting the flat waterways of the upper Loire. Pouilly-Fumé resides across the river on the other bank from Sancerre. Its main difference, aside from aspect, is the presence of flint in the soils, giving the wine its great minerality and smoky notes.

The Bourgeois family have been wine-makers in Sancerre for ten generations. Jancis Robinson MW in the Oxford Wine Companion describes Henri Bourgeois as “*meticulous growers, producing the best of Sancerre*”. Andrew Jefford describes Henri Bourgeois as a “*high quality Sancerre house that is run with deafening energy*” in his book, *The New France*. Put simply, Henri Bourgeois is consistently one of the best growers in Sancerre; they make beautiful wines that are highly awarded.

Jean-Marie Bourgeois and family have owned vineyards near the village of Chavignol since 1950. Today they farm 65 hectares of premium vines, enviably located among the best slopes of Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé. Domaine Henri Bourgeois operates an ethos whereby ultimate respect for the terroir is paramount, their generations of experience merges with the adoption of innovation and technology — to produce some of the finest wines in the region.

The wittily titled Petit Bourgeois misses appellation status by a gnat's whisker. This belt-tightening faux-Sancerre has undeniable typicity. La Vigne Blanche comes from vines grown on slopes separating the village of Chavignol from Sancerre, the terroir being an amalgam of clay and limestone chalk. Oak aged in barrel for five months on the fine lees, La Vigne Blanche is vinous with herbaceous notes of elderflower and ivy as well as a hint of kiwi fruit.

Henri Bourgeois ‘Petit Bourgeois’ Sauvignon Blanc 2018

Wine Enthusiast - “*A fragrant version, with grapefruit aromas and flavours, as well as hints of gooseberry and spice. Vibrant. Drink now.*”

Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - “*A cuvée sourced from various parcels of vines outside the Sancerre appellation, on a mix of terroirs. This has just been bottled. A fresh profile on the nose, very classic, with lovely purity, varietal but with a sense of class, box tree touched with a buttercream richness. The palate is fine, quite pithy, with an attractive substance, dressed with sage and herby energy, with a nice if somewhat grainy phenolic bite, and fresh acidity. A pretty wine.*”

Henri Bourgeois Sancerre ‘La Vigne Blanche’ 2019

Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - “*This currently rests in cuve and it is due to be bottled in six weeks. This immediately takes a big step up in terms of quality, compared to the Petit Bourgeois cuvée, with a precise, charged and more mineral character on the nose, although it remains varietally true. There follows a very focused palate, fresh and pure, with succulent substance and bright acidity. Supple, charming, with a correct finish, a wine of pretty tension and charm. Well done.*”

Henri Bourgeois Sancerre ‘Jadis’ 2014

96 points, Chris Kissack, thewinedoctor.com - “*The vines are located around Chavignol, some on Les Monts Damnés, some on La Grande Côte. The fruit was vinified in a mix of 300-litre and 600-litre barrels, the same barrels as once used for the Chêne Saint-Etienne cuvée, accounting for between 60% and 65% of the blend. The remainder was vinified in stainless steel cuve. It has been bottled unfiltered, although it has been lightly fined with bentonite. A beautiful purity on the nose here, a very elegant style, with sage, green apple and honeysuckle fruit. The palate, meanwhile, is very fresh, pure and cool, confident, supple, textured, energetic and fresh. It has a lovely tension, with a fine savoury grapefruit bitterness that appeals. This one needs time.*”

2018	SAUVIGNON BLANC ‘PETIT BOURGEOIS’		6 x 750ML	\$20.49
2019	SANCERRE ‘LA VIGNE BLANCHE’	92 WD	6 X 750ML	\$39.30
2014	SANCERRE ‘JADIS’	96 WD	6 X 750ML	\$78.64
2014	CHATEAUMILLANT ‘SOLISSIME’ (PINOT-GAMAY)	16.5 WD	6 X 750ML	\$20.49

Domaine Schoffit

Alsace // France

Organic

"No other single vineyard in Alsace comes close to Rangen for sheer force of personality, and if I was asked to nominate any vineyard anywhere in the world as producing "the ultimate terroir wine", Rangen de Thann would be it." - Andrew Jefford, Decanter Magazine

Bernard Schoffit is a brilliant pioneer in Alsace's greatest Grand Cru, Rangen de Thann. The domaine, started by Bernard's father Robert at 10 hectares, is situated near Colmar. 25 years ago, Bernard, then still very young, embarked on an ambitious program of buying land in Rangen, around the Clos St. Theobald. Totalling nearly 6.5 hectares, a good part of it had been abandoned because it was too steep to work. Through sheer determination and ambition, he has now reclaimed all 6.5 hectares. From these incredibly steep slopes, with incredibly low yields, he is making simply extraordinary wine from each plot he grows.

Bernard's gift for wine-making is not reserved only for his Rangen wines. In his vineyards near Colmar he practices the same rigorous approach to yields, and from a less than one hectare parcel of Riesling on Sommerberg granite, makes one of the most brilliant wines from that variety in all of Alsace. Low yields, very old vines, and Bernard's guiding hand produce wines that are all marked by the following characteristics: intensity, very pure varietal character, great concentration of fruit and richness on the palate, and perfect acidity to balance and carry this weight into a long and brilliant finish.

Chasselas Vieilles Vignes

From a small, .9ha parcel of Chasselas planted in 1940 on alluvial soils of gravel in Colmar. Entirely hand-harvested, fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks. The old age of the vines gives density and complexity to this dry Chasselas that generally contains, depending on the vintage, less than 3g/L residual sugar and around 5g/L natural acidity.

Riesling Cru Harth 'Tradition'

Viticulture was reported around the town of Colmar as early as the 9th century and the name Harth is first mentioned in official documents in 1259. This vineyard enjoys maximum sunlight until late in the evening thanks to its location at the exit of a valley, and its very draining soil which heats very quickly induces a regular and homogeneous maturation of the grapes. Riesling grown here is particularly expressive and mineral, with about 6g/L residual sugar and 7g/L natural acidity depending on the vintage, and is always marked by opulent fruit and a very ripe acidity.

Riesling Grand Cru Rangen de Thann 'Clos St Théobald' 2016

96 points, Anne Krebiehl MW, Wine Enthusiast - *"Both fresh lemon and lemon oil appear on the nose, with an added alluring notion of smoky nettle and fragrant citrus foliage. The palate is concentrated, powerful, searing almost with its freshness and impact. All the volcanic power and depth of the vineyard seems to explode into notions of zesty citrus here. Powerful is the word. The finish is dry and lasting. Drink now through 2040."*

Known all over Europe at least since the 12th century, the Rangen vineyard was first exploited by the monks of the church of Saint-Théobald, an important place of pilgrimage at that time. Rangen is a mountain of volcanic schiste, ideal for Riesling. Its stunning volcanic terroir, unique in Alsace, makes it a magical Grand Cru. But, among all of the Alsatian Grands Crus, it is also the southern most, has the highest elevation (culminating at 450m), is the steepest (up to 55 degrees), and everything contributes to heighten its powerful and mysterious aura. Incredibly hard to work, it is a very demanding terroir that has to be earned all year long. But when it receives the appropriate level of affection, it gives as a reward some of the top Riesling of the world: smoky, stony, mineral. Depending on the vintage, the final balance is usually around 7g/L residual sugar and 7g/L acidity, but its unique personality is always captivating.

Riesling Grand Cru Sommerberg 2013

93+ points, Wine Advocate - *"Coming from the top of the granite Eckberg (with Jean Boxler's parcels left and right and above), the 2013 Riesling Sommerberg Grand Cru displays a clear, bright, fresh and intense fruit on the nose with lovely lemon flavors. Full-bodied and rich, this is a creamy textured, round and elegant Riesling with an intense fruit of ripe and stewed apples, and a firm tannin structure. There are some bread aromas in the long finish from the long fine lees aging until September. The 2013 is still terribly young and should be aged for another five years, but it will shine for 10 to 15 years at last."*

With a 45 degree incline, the Sommerberg vineyard is one of the steepest vineyards in Alsace, making it so incredibly laborious to farm and harvest, that everything must be done by hand or horse plow. The vineyard faces south and the vines are grown at a very high elevation on granite, very mineral rich soils. One of the world's most famous sites for Riesling, Schoffit is able to produce an exceptional dry Grand Cru wine that generally contains, depending on the vintage, 6g/L residual sugar and 8g/L acidity, but in every vintage masterful balance and expression of great terroir.

2016	RIESLING CRU HARTH 'TRADITION'	90 WE	12 x 750ML	\$28.68
2016	RIESLING GRAND CRU SOMMERBERG	SOLD OUT	6 X 750ML	\$60.35
2013	RIESLING GRAND CRU SOMMERBERG	93+ RP	6 X 750ML	\$60.35
2016	RIESLING GRAND CRU RANGEN 'CLOS ST THÉOBOLD'	96 WE	6 X 750ML	\$64.07
2012	RIESLING GRAND CRU RANGEN 'CLOS ST THÉOBOLD'	95 WE	6 X 750ML	\$64.07
2012	CHASSELAS	90 WE	12 X 750ML	\$28.68

Camille Thiriet

Burgundy // France

Organic

Enough wine only to fill a few old barrels, made entirely by hand, foot and gravity in a small garage winery without electricity, from vineyards worked only by hand and horse. Bottling, labelling and waxing is also by hand. This is a new beat for Burgundy, and one of the most exciting projects we've come across in recent years.

Camille Thiriet met her partner, Canadian born Matt Chittick, while both were working at Domaine de Bellene in Beaune in 2011. After a few vintages with Steve Pannell in McLaren Vale, Matt is now at home as winemaker for Aubert de Villaine at Domaine de Villaine in Bouzeron. Camille, on the other hand, had only ever dreamed of making her own Burgundy. After spending time with Rajat Parr and Sashi Moorman at Domaine de la Cote in California, she returned to Burgundy and established Maison Thiriet in a little house across the road from the Chateau de Comblanchien (which appears on Thiriet's labels). A network of relationships established while at Domaine de Bellene with growers in more than 75 appellations allows Camille to source the very best fruit for her label from organic growers she knows and admires.

In 2016, the first release saw the production of four barrels of Bourgogne Blanc and three barrels of Cote de Nuits Villages. 2017 saw the addition of a single barrel of Bourgogne Rouge, and 2018 will introduce a Vézelay and a Volnay. Volumes will only ever be tiny - Camille has to move her wines out of tank or barrel when the next vintage comes along as she has capacity for only one vintage at a time, and needs to sell one year's produce to fund the next.

The wines themselves are beautifully pure, resonant examples of Chardonnay and Pinot. Fresh and penetrating with real energy. They are already poured by Aldo Sohm at Le Bernardin in New York, and at London's wine mecca Noble Rot, and we could not be more excited to introduce these to the Australian market.

Bourgogne Chardonnay 'Cuvee Confidentielle'

The name of the cuvée is a reference to the size of the plot, it is so small it's practically a secret. The vineyard is located in Meursault (Les Basses Gouttes) and the soil is clay and limestone based. The vines are now 30 years old and cultivated using lutte raisonnée. Only five barrels were produced in 2017, one of which was a new, from François Frère.

Cote de Nuits Villages 'Aux Montagnes'

A 50 year old organic vineyard located in Comblanchien. In 2017, only four neutral barrels of 228L from Rousseau and one 336 litre prototype cigar barrel was produced. There was no new oak used in order to better preserve the purity of the fruit.

Bourgogne Rouge 'Les Blanches'

Only one barrel and one feuillette were produced in 2017 (450 bottles) from this very small vineyard called 'Les Blanches' located in Pommard on mid slope, just above the village. The vines are 70 years old, organically grown, with all soil treatments (tilling, weed control) carried out by Camille's two horses – Obelix and Véga. The vineyard name refers to the high portion of limestone in the soil giving it a white appearance. 2017 was aged in neutral french oak to preserve the purity of the fruit. Fermentation was only 14 days with 30% whole bunches and native yeasts.

2018	BOURGOGNE BLANC 'CUVEE CONFIDENTIELLE'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	12 x 750ML	\$77.40
2018	VÉZELAY BLANC	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	6 X 750ML	\$90.30
2018	ARBOIS SAVAGNIN	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	6 X 750ML	\$90.30
2018	COTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES 'AUX MONTAGNES'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	6 X 750ML	\$77.40
2018	BOURGOGNE ROUGE 'LES BLANCHES'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	6 X 750ML	\$90.30
2018	VOLNAY 'LES GRANDS CHAMPS'	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	6 X 750ML	\$90.30
2017	COTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES 'AUX MONTAGNES'	<i>limited</i>	6 X 750ML	\$60.35
2016	COTE DE NUITS-VILLAGES 'AUX MONTAGNES'	<i>limited</i>	6 X 750ML	\$60.35

Frederic and Michel Magnien

Burgundy // France

Biodynamic and organic

Frédéric Magnien is one of Burgundy's native sons - the fifth generation of his family's winemaking dynasty. In the words of Burgundy authority Jasper Morris MW, "Frédéric Magnien is widely regarded as one of the shrewdest and sharpest young winemakers working in the Cote d'Or today... Having worked with his father after wine school, and then travelled to work with Pinot producers in California and Australia, Frédéric rejoined his father in 1993 and two years later created his own negociant label - which has proved one of the recent success stories in Burgundy. His talent lies in sourcing fruit from smallholdings from the best plots in the finest vineyards. In the winery, Frédéric adopts a hands-off approach as much as is practically possible, enabling each wine to display its individual vineyard origins." These wines are neither fined nor filtered prior to bottling, and are all from organic vineyards. At the family Domaine, named after Frédéric's father, much of the fruit from each vintage was historically sold. When Frédéric took control of both viticulture and winemaking, a significant step change occurred in both philosophy and resulting quality. All vineyards are now certified organic and the full crop each year is bottled at the Domaine. Again, fining and filtration are not employed prior to bottling.

Frederic Magnien Chambertin-Clos de Beze Grand Cru 2007

91-94 pts, Burghound, Issue #33: "This is much more sauvage and classic Gevrey in style with a lightly vegetal, warm earth and more evident minerality on the red and blue berry fruit infused nose that introduces rich, full and very cool, even restrained full-bodied flavors that possess excellent volume and powerful on the driving, serious, intense and explosive finish. This will need most of the next decade to arrive at its apogee. (Drink starting 2015)"

Michel Magnien Morey Saint Denis 1er Cru 'Les Millandes' 2011

90-93 pts, Burghound, Issue #49: "There is excellent richness to the stony, pure and firm medium weight plus flavors that possess the best overall depth and length of any wine to this point. A quality example of the appellation that is built-to-age. (Drink starting 2021)"

Michel Magnien Clos Saint Denis Grand Cru 2011

91-94 pts, Burghound, Issue #49: "A discreetly spicy and laudably pure nose of essence of red pinot fruit, cassis, spice, earth and a hint of exotic tea scents. There is a lovely richness to the refined and equally pure middle weight flavors that are supported by fine-grained tannins on the mildly austere but stylish, classy and length finish. (Drink starting 2018)"

Michel Magnien Clos de la Roche Grand Cru 2011

92-94 pts, Burghound, Issue #49: "An arresting nose of highly complex and intensely earthy nose features notes of smoke, game, spice and ripe red and dark pinot fruit aromas. There is excellent richness, size, weight and power to the large-scaled and well-muscled flavors that possess an interesting saline component on the refreshing yet altogether serious finish that delivers commanding length. A fine example of the appellation. (Drink starting 2021)"

2007	FREDERIC MAGNIEN CHAMBERTIN-CLOS DE BEZE GRAND CRU	6 x 750ML	\$376.96
2011	MICHEL MAGNIEN MOREY SAINT DENIS 1ER CRU 'LES MILLANDES'	6 X 750ML	\$139.31
2011	MICHEL MAGNIEN CLOS SAINT DENIS GRAND CRU	6 X 750ML	\$367.65
2011	MICHEL MAGNIEN CLOS DE LA ROCHE GRAND CRU	6 X 750ML	\$367.65

Domaine de Beauvernay

Beaujolais // France

Organic

Within the region of Beaujolais, ten villages (crus) are singled out as consistently producing the highest quality Gamay, and for having definably individual regional character. Julienas is one of these crus. Named after the Roman emperor Julius Caesar, the area has a 2000 year history of grape production. Its varied soil composition of sedimentary alluvial soils near the Saone River and the sandy granite of the sloping vineyards on the Beaujolais hills make for wines can range from light and fruity, to densely concentrated and powerful. The appellation has a continental climate with cool nights and warm days, and an extended ripening season thanks to the long summers providing optimum conditions for growing quality fruit. Typically Julienas wines are earthy and weighty, with a deep ruby-red colour and strawberry, violet, cinnamon, redcurrant and peony aromas. The wines can be powerful, and flavours of vanilla and spices can also emerge. Within Julienas, the village of Beauvernay is considered the single finest area of vines. Here the soils are entirely granite and ideally sloped, and many of the regions oldest vines can be found here. Established in 1838 by Joseph Gonon and still farmed by the same family today (now into the seventh generation), Domaine de Beauvernay cultivates a 12 hectare vineyard. Altitude, gentle slopes and granitic soils lay the perfect foundation on which to grow Gamay. All fruit is hand harvested, and then two cuvees are made with only the lightest guiding hand in the winery.

2015	JULIENAS 'TERROIR DE JUILLE'	12 x 750ML	\$24.77
2011	JULIENAS 'LIEU DIT BEAUVERNAY' VIEILLES VIGNES	12 X 750ML	\$32.41

Domaine Georges Vernay

Northern Rhone // France

Organic

Domaine Georges Vernay is widely regarded as the source of the greatest Condrieu - the reference for pure Viognier. Georges Vernay himself was instrumental in keeping the Condrieu appellation from extinction in the 1960s when there were only 8 hectares left under vine. The Vernays have worked tirelessly to promote Viognier and are largely responsible for its renaissance and modern global popularity. In their *Le Grand Guide des Vins de France*, Bettane and Desseauve write: "In recent vintages, both wines *Chaillées de L'Enfer* and especially *Coteau de Vernon* are some of the greatest dry whites in the world in terms of their development and their grace. The other big success, perhaps even more significant, has been the perfecting of the red wines. Now the two *Côte Rôtie* wines - *Blonde du Seigneur* and especially *Maison Rouge* - are amongst the most brilliant interpretations of the appellation."

In Condrieu, the cuvees are made from vineyards situated in Condrieu itself, the heart of the appellation, on south to southeast facing steep slopes, and all express the purest, most restrained expression of the Viognier grape. *Côteau de Vernon*, created in 1940 by Francis Vernay, is the reference amongst all Condrieu: 65 year old vines on decomposed granite locally called 'gore', is a wine of great personality and definition, and has on numerous occasion shown a remarkable ability to age. *Les Terrasses de l'Empire*, made from 40 year old vines is a great introduction to Condrieu, offering early approachability.

Côte-Rôtie is represented by two cuvees: *Maison Rouge*, a pure Syrah whose name refers to the small red house located at the feet of this impressively steep lieu-dit made of granite-rich soil and *Blonde du Seigneur*, a Syrah-Viognier blend which combines richness of flavours and a floral aspect.

Le Pied de Samson (Viognier, from just outside of Condrieu) and *Fleurs de Mai* (Syrah, from just outside *Côte-Rôtie*) constitute an ideal first step towards exploring this great domaine.

Condrieu 'Coteau de Vernon' 2015

100 points, Jeb Dunnuck - "One of the most singular, majestic Condrieu I've ever tasted is the 2015 Condrieu Coteau De Vernon. I wish I could pour a taste of this heavenly wine for every reader. White peach, white flowers, hints of citrus oil, and subtle minerality all flow to a thrilling pure, elegant, yet powerful wine that could only come from this incredible terroir. Long and silky, with nothing out of place, it's as good as Condrieu gets. The benchmark estate in Condrieu is unquestionably that of Christine Vernay, who pulls from the magical hillside of Coteau du Vernon located just behind her home. This is pure granite terroir and all three of her Condrieu come basically from this steep hillside. Christine prefers a slightly longer élevage on her Condrieu, with the 2015s being the current release. I'll review her 2016s next year. In addition to heavenly Condrieu, she makes a terrific set of Côte Rôtie."

Condrieu 'Coteau de Vernon' 2014

96 points, Wine Advocate: "Always the last to be released and possessing sensational purity and freshness, yet with tons of richness and depth, the 2014 Condrieu Coteaux de Vernon sports a medium-gold color as well as killer notes of orange marmalade, flower oil, toasted bread, brioche and crushed rock-like minerality. It's a big wine, yet stays gorgeously pure, fresh and focused, and is a quintessential Condrieu that every reader needs to drink more than once in their life!"

Condrieu 'Les Chaillées de l'Enfer' 2014

94 pts, Wine Advocate: "Noticeably richer and more textured, with buttered citrus, honeysuckle, crushed rock, brioche and sautéed peach notes, the 2014 Condrieu les Chaillées de L'Enfer is a rich, medium to full-bodied, impeccably-balanced effort that has more than a passing resemblance to its bigger brother, the Coteaux du Vernon."

Viognier 'La Pied de Samson' 2016

90 points, Jeb Dunnuck - "A terrific introduction for readers into the wines of Condrieu and the Vernay estate is the 2016 Collines Rhodaniennes Viognier 'Le Pied De Samson'. This cuvée comes all from higher elevation vines around the estate, and while it's classified as a Vin de Pays, it's worth noting these vines were once part of the Condrieu appellation (the reclassification occurred in 1986). Lovely notes of white flowers, white peach and hints of apricot all emerge from this beauty, which is medium-bodied, lively and fresh on the palate."

2016	VIOGNIER 'LA PIED DE SAMSON'		12 x 750ML	\$37.99
2015	CONDRIEU 'LES CHAILLEES DE L'ENFER'		12 X 750ML	\$141.90
2014	CONDRIEU 'LES CHAILLEES DE L'ENFER'		12 X 750ML	\$141.90
2015	CONDRIEU 'COTEAU DE VERNON'	SOLD OUT	12 X 750ML	\$183.18
2014	CONDRIEU 'COTEAU DE VERNON'		6 X 1500ML	\$366.36
2016	SYRAH 'FLEUR DE MAI'		12 x 750ML	\$37.99
2014	ST JOSPEH 'LA DAME BRUNE'		12 x 750ML	\$116.22
2013	COTE-ROTIE 'BLONDE DU SEIGNEUR'		12 x 750ML	\$116.22
2014	COTE-ROTIE 'MAISON ROUGE'		12 x 750ML	\$183.18
2013	COTE-ROTIE 'MAISON ROUGE'		12 x 750ML	\$183.18
2012	COTE-ROTIE 'MAISON ROUGE'		12 x 750ML	\$183.18

Gabriel Meffre

Southern Rhone // France

Sustainable

The story of the Gabriel Meffre Winery began in 1936, when Gabriel and his wife, both passionate about wine, created their 'Négociant-Vinificateur' business in Gigondas. More than 80 years later, the family business has built on its strong foundations and has established its reputation as a leading winery in the southern Rhone Valley. The Winery is deeply involved in sustainable development and social responsibility, being both Terra Vitis and CSR certified. A viticultural cousin of Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is one of the most acclaimed appellations of the Rhône, making big, bold wines that combine power and verve. Gabriel Meffre's Gigondas 'Saint Catherine' is a hand harvested blend of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre. A deep aubergine robe, an intense black-fruit nose of plums and dark cherry and a full, intense presence on the palate. A thread of garrigue (rosemary, thyme, juniper) spice runs from start to finish, which is long and generous.

2016	ROSE DE PROVENCE	12 x 750ML	\$15.48
2012	GIGONDAS 'SAINT CATHERINE'	12 X 750ML	\$29.67

Florian Mathieu

Provence // France

Sustainable

Native son of Provence, Florian Mathieu produces two delightful (and delightfully packaged!) rose that show the very best of the region. 'Esprit Azur' is drawn from the Coteaux d'Aix, and 'Pur Azur' from the heart of the Provence region. All combined conditions are gathered from this terroir to produce the most beautiful wines. The south-east exposure ensures regular and constant sunlight from the beginning of the day. Rocky mountains trap clouds and bring water to a particularly demanding soil. They also guide and moderate the strength of the Mistral wind, protecting the vineyard from wind damage and from disease due to humidity. The vines are situated on a clay and calcareous ground with a lot of rocks (calcite, quartz and sandstone). The characteristics of this very complex soil are similar to the terroir in Bandol. In order to preserve this extraordinary potential, Florian concentrates on quality viticulture, respecting the environment and nature. Talent, rigour, tradition and avant-garde techniques are the ingredients of this adventure, the expression of an art, motivated by a single one goal: quality. Grapes are picked by hand at perfect maturity and ripeness and are transported in small cases. There is a triage to sort the best grapes with destemming, gentle pressure with a membrane press and thermo-regulated vinification to extract aromatic flavours.

2019	MÉDITERANÉE ROSE 'ESPRIT ZUR'	6 x 750ML	\$18.52
2019	ROSE DE PROVENCE 'PUR AZUR'	6 X 750ML	\$28.27
2018	COTES DU RHONE 'HERITAGE'	6 X 750ML	\$17.37

Gerard Bertrand

Languedoc // France

Biodynamic

Gérard Bertrand is one of the most outstanding winemakers in the South of France, where he owns numerous estates among the most prestigious appellations of the Languedoc. Named in 2012 as the IWC Red Winemaker of the Year and Wine Enthusiast's European Winery of the Year, he is known locally as the 'king' of the Languedoc. Brought up in the Languedoc vineyards, Gérard Bertrand is committed to sharing the characteristics and exceptional diversity of each of the terroirs. Forty years of accumulated knowledge ensures that wines bearing Gérard Bertrand's signature have a unique style, driven by the desire to allow the individual terroirs of the Languedoc's most special sites to be expressed in each vintage. An absolute belief in, and commitment to, biodynamic and organic farming has seen Gérard become the largest owner of biodynamic vineyards in Europe. "His rise and rise to dominate the region through sheer quality is quite extraordinary." Jancis Robinson MW

2016	GRENACHE BLANC 'EXTRA BLANC'	6 x 750ML	\$15.48
2012	PIC ST. LOUP 'GRAND TERROIR'	6 X 750ML	\$19.35
2015	CHATEAU L'HOSPITALET LA CLAPE ROSE	6 X 750ML	\$28.68
2015	CHATEAU L'HOSPITALET LA CLAPE ROUGE	6 X 750ML	\$28.68
2011	CORBIERES CRU BOUTENAC 'LA FORGE	6 X 750ML	\$90.14
2012	MINERVOIS CRU LA LIVINIERE 'CLOS D'ORA'	6 X 750ML	\$321.08

Bordeaux Chateaux

Bordeaux // France

Various

Chateau La Mission Haut Brion

La Mission Haut-Brion was the top performing Bordeaux release from the 2014 vintage. It was awarded an exceptional 95-97 points en primeur by Neal Martin (who assumed responsibility for Bordeaux assessment at the Wine Advocate, following Robert Parker's departure). This was a higher score than any of the First Growths – which today are trading at significantly higher prices. La Mission Haut-Brion has been owned by Domaine Clarence Dillon, owners of Haut-Brion, since 1974. Despite the coming together of the two properties, Jean-Bernard and later Jean-Philippe Delmas, who oversaw the winemaking for both properties, managed to maintain La Mission's unique identity that has led to its wines attracting much critical acclaim. Situated close to the city of Bordeaux itself in the Pessac-Leognan region, La Mission sits on uniquely stony soil. The wine often displays rich, powerful and masculine flavours. The 2014 is a blend of 54% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 45% Cabernet Sauvignon aged in 55% new oak, it exhibits blueberries, toast, smoke, black pepper with profound minerality and gripping tannins. The 2014 vintage of La Mission Haut-Brion is a stellar effort. It surpasses the First Growths from the vintage, and promises both drinking pleasure and investment potential over the coming decades.

2014	LA MISSION HAUT BRION	12 x 750ML	\$544.58
------	-----------------------	------------	----------

98 pts – Tim Atkin MW *"One of the best young La Missions I have ever tasted, this is closer to the 2001 in terms of its blend than to the more Cabernet-dominated 2010. Silky, yet structured, with a shimmering mineral freshness, this is a thing of beauty. The tannins and oak integration are very fine, even at this early stage."*

96 pts – James Suckling *"The typicity of La Mission is really here. Aromas of iodine, oyster shell, currants and orange peel are evident. Full-bodied, tight and tannic with a muscular and toned texture that holds the wine down at the moment, but it's waiting to release its joy and true nature. Fine-grained. Give it until 2023."*

95-97 pts – Neal Martin, The Wine Advocate *"The Château La Mission Haut-Brion 2014 is a blend of 54% Merlot, 1% Cabernet Franc and 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, picked between 15 September and 8 October raised in 55% new oak. It has a very fresh and precise bouquet, not one that marches out the barrack in confidence fashion, but rather unfolds piece-by-piece in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with a structured and neatly placed opening: a little masculine for La Mission Haut-Brion at this stage, linear and focused, maintaining precision rather than aiming from power and roundness. This is a sophisticated La Mission Haut-Brion in the making, one that may actually surpass Haut-Brion as it is sometimes prone to do. The 2014 is a sterling success for Jean-Philippe Delmas and his team."*

2014	LA CHAPELLE DE LA MISSION HAUT BRION	SOLD OUT	12 x 750ML	\$131.12
------	--------------------------------------	----------	------------	----------

93 pts – James Suckling *"93 pts – James Suckling "Currant and flower aromas galore. Very aromatic. Full-bodied yet tight and dense on the palate. A solid core of fruit and savory acidity. Very long and pretty. Drink from 2021."*

2014	LE CLARENCE DE HAUT BRION	12 x 750ML	\$205.61
------	---------------------------	------------	----------

95 pts – James Suckling *"T93 pts – James Suckling "Love the sweet-tobacco and floral aromas to this with currant fruit as well. Full-bodied, solid and tight. Chewy tannins. A racy second wine of Haut-Brion with lots of tone and tension."*

Chateau Mouton Rothschild

2009	MOUTON ROTHSCHILD	12 x 750ML	\$2015.90
------	-------------------	------------	-----------

99 pts – Wine Advocate *"Deep garnet colored, the 2009 Mouton Rothschild gives up bold earthy notions of underbrush, tilled soil and fungi over a core of crème de cassis, plum preserves and Indian spices with a waft of camphor. Full-bodied with a firm, velvety tannin texture and packed with black fruit preserves and exotic spice layers, it has seamless freshness and a very long, decadently fruited finish. 2020 - 2060."*

2005	MOUTON ROTHSCHILD	12 x 750ML	\$2053.15
------	-------------------	------------	-----------

98 pts – Wine Advocate *"Deep garnet with hint of brick, the 2005 Mouton Rothschild is evolving into unabashed, flamboyant notes of Christmas cake, plum preserves, chocolate-covered cherries, eucalyptus and crème de cassis with beautifully fragrant wafts of potpourri, incense, Indian spices and cigar box. Full-bodied, the palate performs vinous pirouettes with dazzling exotic spice, floral and earthy nuances, framed by firm, grainy tannins and fantastic freshness, finishing very long and mineral laced."*

2011	PASTOURELLE DE CLERC MILON	6 x 750ML	\$90.14
------	----------------------------	-----------	---------

2016	MOUTON CADET RESERVE ST. EMILION	6 x 750ML	\$27.01
------	----------------------------------	-----------	---------

2016	MOUTON CADET RESERVE MEDOC	6 x 750ML	\$24.51
------	----------------------------	-----------	---------

2016	MOUTON CADET RESERVE GRAVES BLANC	6 x 750ML	\$24.51
------	-----------------------------------	-----------	---------

2016	BORDEAUX BLANC 'AMERICA'S CUP EDITION'	6 x 750ML	\$14.19
------	--	-----------	---------

2016	BORDEAUX ROSE 'AMERICA'S CUP EDITION'	6 x 750ML	\$14.19
------	---------------------------------------	-----------	---------

2016	BORDEAUX ROUGE 'AMERICA'S CUP EDITION'	6 x 750ML	\$14.19
------	--	-----------	---------

Josef Leitz

Rheingau // Germany

Sustainable

Under the direction of Johannes Leitz, Weingut Josef Leitz has earned the reputation of being one of Rheingau's top growers and moreover, one of the finest producers in Germany. Since taking over his family estate in 1985, Johannes has grown his holdings from 2.6 hectares to over 40, most of which are Grand Cru sites on the slopes of the Rudesheimer Berg. Once the home of some of the world's most sought after and expensive wines, the region fell to mediocrity in the years following the Second World War. Josi has made it his life's work to reclaim the intrinsic quality of his native terroir and introduce the world to the true potential of the Rheingau.

From the 2011 vintage, Leitz began to designate the pre-1971 parcel names on select bottlings, reviving the individual voices of 'Hinterhaus' (Rottland), 'Ehrenfels' (Schlossberg), and 'Katerloch' (Roseneck). He has also resurrected the once neglected site of Kaisersteinfels, which has become one of the most sought-after wines of the Rheingau. 'Der Kaiser' sits high, just beneath the forest line of the Rudesheimer-Berg, with a spectacular view overlooking the confluence of the Nahe and Rhein Rivers. The singular terroir on the westernmost point of the Rheingau is composed of quartzite, very old grey slate, as well as some iron-rich red slate and produces wines with incredible complexity and length.

In 2011 Johannes was recognised by the esteemed Gault Millau as 'Winemaker of the Year.' We could not be more excited to be a small part of the Leitz project. We believe that these are some of the finest white wines in the world.

Leitz 'Eins-Zwei-Dry' Riesling 2017

- 96 points, International Wine Challenge 2018
- Gold Medal, International Wine Challenge 2018
- Best German White Trophy, International Wine Challenge 2018

Leitz Kaisersteinfels Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2016

97 points, James Suckling - "What an amazing nose of wild flowers and herbs and what a dazzling mineral finish! Stunning raciness and concentration, the finish kicking the can not just down the road, but right out of the solar system. One of the most exciting 2016s in the Rheingau. Drink now and for many years to come."

18+ points, Jancis Robinson MW - "Most Riesling lovers will find the fragrance of ripe local fruit with a hint of butterscotch irresistible, and only a doubting Thomas might suspect an overload of opulence. Fortunately, Thomas is proven wrong once again, as this Grosses Gewächs manages a perfect balance between the juicy fruit of gooseberry and melon, stimulating acidity and full, yet muscular, body. Subtle nuances of minerality and herbs lift the Kaisersteinfels into the premier league of grand cru Riesling."

Leitz Roseneck Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2016

95 points, James Suckling - "Together with the ripeness and minerality the slight leesy funk gives this a dangerously erotic edge. Enormous power and vitality that charges through the long finish. Drink through 2040."

Leitz Magic Mountain Riesling 2016

93 points, James Suckling - "This minor masterpiece of raciness and minerality tops many GGs of this vintage. Wonderful white peach, apricot and floral aroma. Real concentration and a long filigree finish. Best through 2026. A blend of the steep sites with slate soils on the Rudesheimer Berg."

2018	RIESLING 'EINS-ZWEI-DRY'		12 X 750ML	\$21.24
2012	RIESLING 'MAGIC MOUNTAIN'	93 JS	12 X 750ML	\$38.53
2012	ROSENECK RIESLING GROSSES GEWÄCHS	95 JS	12 X 750ML	\$69.13
2012	KAISERSTEINFELS RIESLING GROSSES GEWÄCHS	97 JS	12 X 750ML	\$69.13

Julian Haart

Mosel Valley // Germany

Sustainable

"Not many wine careers can have started off on a more superlative level than Haart's, yet from my several conversations with him I am convinced that his perfectionism goes hand in hand with rigorous self-criticism that should preclude success going to his head."
David Schildknecht, The Wine Advocate

Based in Piesport, in the heartland of the Mosel Valley, Julian Haart is the young star of German winemaking. His wine education could scarcely have been more illustrious, working with Heymann-Löwenstein for a year, Emrich-Schönleber for two and a half years, Egon Müller for a year, and Klaus Peter Keller for three years. On his return to Piesport, he took over a small half-hectare plot in the Wintricher Ohligsberg, planted with century-old vines, followed by a hectare in the Piesporter Schubertslay, a unique plot with vines planted in 1904 on original rootstocks. Because it is so rocky, it escaped the Flurbereinigung of 1992, when vineyard holdings were rationalised, new roads built and an enormous amount of replanting was done.

The estate has grown to a little more than four hectares and this is, roughly, where Julian wants it to stay. Part of the joy of winemaking, for Julian, is doing everything himself, or with his wife Nadine, or with some friends. This is vineyard work, and winemaking, at the most human scale. Nearly everything must be done by hand – most of the vineyards are steep as hell and most of them are terraced. Even walking through them is a bit hazardous. His goal is to make superlative dry wines, but they are brilliant and elegant across the entire range. He is striving for vineyard expression rather than just fruit; fermentation is allowed to start naturally, and the cellar temperature is kept at a steady 20°C. Terroir shines through!

Julian Haart Piesport Goldtropfchen Riesling Kabinett 2019

95 points - Stuart Pigott, JamesSuckling.com *"Anything but a standard, playful little Kabinett! The licorice and tropical-flower character is married to very vibrant acidity and the merest hint of sweetness. Crystalline finish with great, lime-zest freshness. Drink or hold."*

Julian Haart Wintrich Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett 'Alte Reben' 2019 (white label)

98 points - Stuart Pigott, JamesSuckling.com *"Full of smoke and wild herbs, this is so succulent, but even more vibrant, with an unbelievably long and intense, crystalline finish for this 'light' wine category. Drink or hold."*
highest rated Kabinett of the vintage

Julian Haart Wintrich Grosser Herrgott Riesling Spatlese 2019

This is a brand new wine from the estate. Julian Haart: "We have been cultivating a parcel in the Wintricher Grosser Herrgott for four years. The quality was not ideal at first and we declassified the fruit into our JJ Kabinett. In 2019, the vineyard and the grapes looked ideal so we decided to produce a Herrgott Spatlese from it."

Julian Haart Rheinhessen Frauenberg Riesling 2019 (Grosse Lage - dry)

95 points - Stuart Pigott, JamesSuckling.com *"Funky and closed, this has quite some chalky power and a lot of lime freshness, giving it some serious drive at the long, focused finish. Better from 2021."*

Julian Haart Piesporter Goldtropfchen Riesling 2019 (Grosse Lage - dry)

93 points - Mosel Fine Wines *"... proves tight and zesty on the palate, but there is a great underlying structure and extract to balance the herbal and tart side in the finish. The aftertaste is bone-dry in taste and quite racy. This dry Riesling will require some patience in order for it to integrate all its elements, but the underling complexity is remarkable. 2024-2034"*

Julian Haart Wintrich Ohligsberg Riesling 2019 (Grosse Lage - dry)

94 points - Mosel Fine Wines *"... offers a captivating, complex, and flowery nose of grapefruit, grilled lemon, fresh pear, herbs, and quite a lot of spices. The wine is intense and packed with zesty fruits on the structured and compact palate. There is a lot of dry extract at play, which adds a feel of power and intensity to the experience. And yet this power is gorgeously balanced out by spicy and salty elements in the superbly engaging finish. This is an outstanding dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2034"*

2019	MOSEL RIESLING 'HAART' (dry)	<i>SOLD OUT</i>	12 X 750ML	\$28.58
2019	GOLDTROPFCHEN RIESLING KABINETT	95 JS	12 X 750ML	\$54.76
2019	OHLIGSBERG RIESLING KABINETT 'ALTE REBEN'	98 JS	12 X 750ML	\$106.90
2019	GROSSER HERGOT RIESLING SPATLESE		12 x 750ML	\$61.09
2019	FRAUENBERG RIESLING (dry - Grosse Lage)	95 JS	12 x 750ML	\$106.90
2019	GOLDTROPFCHEN RIESLING (dry - Grosse Lage)	98 JS	12 x 750ML	\$106.90
2019	OHLIGSBERG RIESLING (dry - Grosse Lage)	98 JS	12 x 750ML	\$116.22
2017	PIESPORT RIESLING (dry)	94 JS	12 x 750ML	\$42.84
2017	GOLDTROPFCHEN RIESLING SPATLESE	95 JS	12 X 750ML	\$51.03
2017	GOLDTROPFCHEN RIESLING SPATLESE*	95 MFW	12 X 750ML	\$69.66
2017	GOLDTROPFCHEN RIESLING AUSLESE	97 JS	12 X 750ML	\$73.38

Daniel Twardowski

Mosel Valley // Germany

Sustainable

"The name of Daniel Twardowski from the north of Germany, who is also based in Dhron, is another worth adding to the list of up-and-coming producers. He makes only späburgunder — pinot noir in German — reds from the 3.3 hectares which he started planting himself back in 2006. His sole wine named Pinot Noix has a uniquely aromatic, powerful yet crisp style. The extraordinary 2015 of this Pinot Noix was rated 96 points, placing Twardowski in the first league of German pinot producers. The Mosel is changing fast!"
Stuart Pigott for jameessuckling.com

Making Riesling on the Mosel is something most people do; of course, the region is famous for that. But Daniel Twardowski had something else in mind. As a wine merchant, he had developed a growing passion for fine French Pinot Noir which was not available in his homeland. Why, he asked himself, couldn't Pinot Noir grapes also thrive on the banks of the Mosel?

After extensive of experimenting and consulting with specialists, the right clones and techniques were identified. The result was a red wine that tasted just as he had dreamt it: homage to the great wines of Burgundy. The raven and the nut on the label remind us of his unconventional approach and what was unusual about this risky project. The birds were inspired to snatch nuts from an old tree on the edge of the vineyard. They let them drop from great heights onto the hard slate floor between the grapevines. And finally - crack - the inner seed lay exposed.

The single Grand Cru vineyard, Hofberg, is located in western Germany on a tributary of the Mosel, called Dhron by a village of the same name. Daniel has been planting special Pinot Noir clones here since 2006 on a little more than 7 acres on steep slopes with ideal exposures. All effort goes into making just one wine each vintage. The complex soil is reddish and traversed by iron oxides that lend the wine its typical minerality and a certain salty tone. Compared to the more southerly situated Burgundy region, the climate here is somewhat cooler. The result is a strong acidity as the backbone for the fruitiness and purity of the wine which is darker and more colour-stable than conventional Burgundy.

All processes are meticulous; selective harvesting by hand, ecological soil cultivation without chemicals and preparation and bottling done in the old French style - in a basket crusher without mechanical pumping. The pressing and preparation all take place traditionally, without filters and mechanical pumps. After two weeks, cool mash fermentation prepares the wine for maturation in French oak barrels from Rousseau du Francois Freres. Each barrel holds 225 litres with medium light toasting and two thirds are new. They are kept in a cool place under low must enrichment and alcohol levels between 12.6 and 13.3 percent are reached. After bottling with natural corks from Trescasas, the bottles are stored in the cellar for at least two more years. Based on the structure of the wine, there is further ageing potential for 10 years or more.

Though distinctive with their own characteristics, the five vintages from 2011 to 2015 all captivate the nose with their fresh berry and floral aromas; on the velvety palate, there is tension between finesse and richness coupled with the perfect balance between fruit, alcohol and acidity.

Daniel Twardowski Pinot Noix 2012

18 points, Jancis Robinson MW *"Medium-deep cherry red with tile-red highlights. The good news is that with only the second vintage of the Pinot Noix, Daniel Twardowski has already managed to hit the jackpot of hedonistic pleasure. The bad news is that with fewer than 800 bottles produced, not many people will be able to share it. A fast learner, Daniel has managed to curb the enthusiasm of the tannins to a structural support role, which allows the ripe cherry fruit to enter into a juicy alliance with ample acidity without getting ambushed by undue astringency. An astute employment of oak ageing adds some fine spices, while a gentle dusty notion reflects the ardoise (slate) connection."*

Daniel Twardowski Pinot Noix 2013

17.5 points, Jancis Robinson MW *"2013 was a challenging vintage which rewarded the patient who took a gamble on harvesting late. It is quite clear that Daniel Twardowski felt that this vintage was too delicate to allow oak-derived aromas to leave much of a mark, and the absence of roasted or smoky notes benefits the fruit, which in its richness is reminiscent of Black Forest gateau. A mere smidgeon of nutmeg is all the barriques were allowed to express. Great purity and invigorating acidity result in a truly energising Pinot Noir."*

Daniel Twardowski Pinot Noix 2014

17.5 points, Jancis Robinson MW *"Deep crimson. Subtle, intriguing nose that is very far from simple fruit. Very attractive mouth-filling and composed wine that seems to owe far more to vineyard than Weingut. Juicy and savoury. Not at all sweet. Already enjoyable but it should continue to evolve. Great balance and very refreshing with a long finish. Sophisticated."*

Daniel Twardowski Pinot Noix 2015

96 points, James Suckling

highest rated Späburgunder of the vintage

2015	PINOT NOIX		96 JS	12 X 750ML	\$172.10
2014	PINOT NOIX		17.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$172.10
2013	PINOT NOIX	SOLD OUT	17.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$157.20
2012	PINOT NOIX		18 JR	12 X 750ML	\$134.85
2011	PINOT NOIX		16.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$134.85

Rudolf Fürst

Franken // Germany

Sustainable

"Rudolf Fürst is an acknowledged Pinot magician in Germany...."
Jancis Robinson MW

"This 18 hectare estate in Bürgstadt is where some of the best Franconian wines are produced, especially the Burgundy style Spätburgunders (rightly regarded as the finest in Germany)."
Hugh Johnson

Arguably the grower of the finest Riesling in Franken, and the greatest producer of Spätburgunder in Germany, the wines of Rudolf Fürst have received critical acclaim both domestically and internationally. They are at the forefront of pushing the quality and reputation of Pinot Noir from Germany and proving that it can be considered among the best in the world. Located in the Franken, focusing on vineyards in Centgrafenberg. The wines show texture, body, fruit and structure that reflect strongly a Burgundian influence on the wines. Recent developments in the winery have been steadily improving the quality and complexity of the wines as the responsibility shifts from father to son.

Centgrafenberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2015

18.5 points, Michael Schmidt, jancisrobinson.com *"They like to express cool minerality in their Riesling (and Silvaner) at the house of Fürst and the hot summer of 2015 could not stop them from achieving that goal. Add an invigorating acidity and you have probably the most vibrant Riesling of the region. Green fruit is fresh and not too ripe, but lifted by the merest notion of residual sugar. Not lean, but taut."*

Centgrafenberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2014

93 points, Wine Advocate *"Pale yellow in color, Paul and Sebastian Fürst's 2014 Centgrafenberg Riesling trocken GG is very clear and subtle on the nose, displaying white fruit, flowery and herbal aromas. Lovely, pure, finesse-full and salty on the palate, this is a dry, straight, salty and almost weightless, but seriously complex Franconian Riesling. It has a very delicate raciness, and is one of Germany's finest and more age-worthy dry Rieslings that is excellent as a food wine. Mind you that this Riesling is made by one of Germany's greatest producers of Pinot Noir."*

2013 Centgrafenberg Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs

18.5 points, Michael Schmidt, jancisrobinson.com *"It was the Bürgstadter Centgrafenberg Spätburgunder 'R' (the 'R' since dropped by the estate) which many years ago convinced me that Germany could compete with the top Pinot Noirs of the world. Even if burgundy clones are used, the Centgrafenberg is never a burgundy copycat and has shaped a personality of its very own with that trademark composition of red berry fruit, spicy-smoky barrique aromas and a truly cool minerality. The 2013 differs little from its predecessors, thanks to the grapes picked à point to tame the exuberant acidity of the vintage while delivering perfect ripeness and great purity of fruit. It probably is the most elegant of Fürst's Grosse Gewächse, not as ostentatious as the other two, a gentleman of Pinot Noir."*

2013 Schlossberg Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs

18 points, Michael Schmidt, jancisrobinson.com *"I used to feel that the Klingenberg Schlossberg was a little more reserved in its expression of barrique ageing than the Bürgstadter wines. This year the roasted, spicy and nutty aromas seem a little more pronounced, possibly because the fruit of 2013 did not achieve quite the concentration of previous years. Of course there is still the juiciness of ripe berries, cherries and plums, but the fleshy part seems a little firmer and crunchier. The quality remains the same, but instead of the ample curves in 2013 we get a six-pack. Structure wins over seduction."*

2013 Hundsrück Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs

18.5 points - Michael Schmidt, jancisrobinson.com *"It's difficult to decide which fruit the seductive and eau-de-vie-like fragrance of the Hundsrück has missed out on, but if all this wealth of aromas comes from the vineyard, the masterful delivery of barrique aromas doesn't. The old adage that the best wines are made in the vineyard is only a half-truth, as at chez Fürst the contribution of the oak is expertly adjusted according to the needs and benefit of every individual vintage. This is why – even after a difficult two months before the harvest – the 2013 Hundsrück still shows the same finely poised balance between the taste of plums, blackberries and cherries and the oak-induced components of roasted nuts, smoky bacon and spicy sandalwood. It doesn't end there of course, as a salty and stony minerality has the final say in flavour matters. Structure, substance and complexity are even more guaranteed with two master winemakers working in tandem."*

2015	RIESLING 'PUR MINERAL'	16.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$35.39
2015	CENTGRAFENBERG RIESLING GROSSES GEWÄCHS	18.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$90.15
2014	CENTGRAFENBERG RIESLING GROSSES GEWÄCHS	18 JR	12 X 750ML	\$90.15
2015	SPATBURGUNDER 'TRADITION'		12 X 750ML	\$39.99
2014	SPATBURGUNDER 'TRADITION'		12 X 750ML	\$39.99
2012	CENTGRAFENBERG SPATBURGUNDER GROSSES GEWÄCHS	18.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$134.85
2012	SCHLOSSBERG SPATBURGUNDER GROSSES GEWÄCHS	18 JR	12 X 750ML	\$172.10
2012	HUNDSRUCK SPATBURGUNDER GROSSES GEWÄCHS	18.5 JR	12 X 750ML	\$235.41

Királyudvar

Tokaj // Hungary

Biodynamic

"My enchantment with Tokaji wine and its renowned place in the history of the wine world led me down a wonderful path to Királyudvar. Together with my family, I made a commitment to the Tokaj region and secured the company's first ten hectare parcel, which eventually led to our first vintage wine, the '98 dessert Aszú."

Anthony Hwang

Hungary's Tokaj had been a prestigious wine region for hundreds of years, but fell into neglect during the 20th century. After the fall of communism, numerous groups invested in rehabilitating this nearly forgotten region. The most sagacious of these investors was Tony Hwang. In 1997, he partnered with the region's most eminent winemaker, István Szepsy, and, together, they rebuilt the historic Királyudvar estate into possibly Tokaj's finest modern practitioner.

Tony Hwang's purchase of Királyudvar resulted from a visit to Budapest that year, when he drank a Tokaji Aszú recommended by a sommelier. The wine, with its profound identity and razor-sharp balance, made such an impression that Tony drove more than 200 kilometres the next day to Tokaj, where he discovered Királyudvar (pronounced Kee-RYE-oohd-var).

Just a few months after his visit, Tony purchased this estate, which for centuries had supplied Imperial wine to the Hapsburgs. The famed Tokaj winemaker Ivan Szepsy became Tony's partner, helping him rehabilitate the vineyards, while the château itself was rebuilt.

With time, Szepsy departed, and Tony assumed the reins full-time. Along the way, he was counselled by Noël Pinguet of the Loire Valley's greatest Vouvray producer, Domaine Huët, of which Tony is also a partner. Noël's collaboration would prove invaluable, particularly his advice to convert the estate to biodynamic viticulture.

Today, Tony is rekindling the legacy of this providential wine region. But he's not stopping there, having recognised, that Tokaj's historic grape varieties, with their viscous intensity and bright acidity, could produce world-class dry, demi-sec, and sparkling wines.

Kiralyudvar Tokaji Aszu 6 Puttonyos 'Lapis'

Sourced exclusively from Kiralyudvar's top vineyard, Lapis. Situated on a volcanic hill, this picturesque vineyard is comprised of rolling slopes and high terraces that reach elevations up to 230 meters. Below the terraces, early morning fog from the nearby Bodrog River creates a white canopy covering the lower vineyard during the autumn months.

95+ points, Stephen Tanzer, Vinous " (11% alcohol; 203 g/l r.s., 8.0 g/l acidity; aged for 24 months in Hungarian oak): Light orange. Racy if subdued aromas of tangerine, orange marmalade, ginger, flowers, spices and medicinal herbs. Almost painfully penetrating initially, showing terrific acid lift and energy to the super-concentrated flavours of apricot nectar and sultana raisin complicated by honey and toffee nuances. Tastes like more than 8 grams of acidity. Boasts outstanding honeyed density but a light touch and outstanding lift on the suave, gripping, palate-staining finish. Great cut. This knockout will go on a lot longer than I will, and I'd certainly wait at least several more years for the wine to absorb a bit more of its acidity."

19 points, Jancis Robinson "The colour of peach jam. Heady, glorious aromas: pecans dripping in baked-orange syrup, rye toast and hops, fig jam and hay. Sometimes, words fail. I find myself wondering if there is any point in trying to describe a wine that defies description. 'Intense' doesn't come anywhere near the nervous-but-exquisite energy and penetration of this wine. 'Piercing' doesn't really describe the electric volt of flavours that shudder through your body. 'Luscious' or any of the other sweetness descriptors don't describe the fierceness of the sweetness. It's too complex, and literally too beautiful for words."

Kiralyudvar 'Cuvee Ilona'

18 points, Jancis Robinson "Luscious, sweet, almost more like a Beerenauslese than a Hungarian wine, though there is a bit of Magyar fire here. Super tangy. Mandarin peel. SO easy to like!!! Even if not like the traditional Tokaji wines."

Kiralyudvar Furmint Sec

Tamlyn Curran "A vertical wine with fabulous geometric lines but there are indications that this will get richer and richer with age, those orange notes warming in marmalade, the spices shimmering with more and more intensity. Incredibly long, reverberating, insistent; a wine that simply won't let go. Like all truly top Furmint, this is a wine that unfolds its beauty as it warms – but it's so fascinating watching that process that I would recommend starting cold and keeping the bottle out of the fridge, tasting it as it warms and deepens."

2013	TOKAJI FURMINT SEC	SOLD OUT	12 X 750ML	\$34.27
2008	TOKAJI 'CUVEE ILONA'	SOLD OUT	6 X 500ML	\$83.18
2005	TOKAJI ASZU 6 PUTTONYOS 'LAPIS'	LIMITED	6 X 500ML	\$138.57

Ca' Del Baio

Piedmont // Italy

Sustainable

Ca' del Baio exudes a sense of youthfulness – probably helped along by Giulio Grasso's three energetic daughters: Paola, Valentina, and Federica. The azienda itself is not so young – four generations of winegrowers going back to Luigi Grasso, the great-grandfather of the youngest generation. Proud parents, Giulio and his wife Luciana have even more to be proud of, as their modern, 25 hectare estate is producing some very fine Barbaresco and a range of other wines that leave the competition struggling to catch up. The entire range has a sense of verve, freshness, and vitality that can't fail to impress the taster.

Giulio himself was recognised as 'Viticoltore dell'anno' - Winemaker of the Year - by Italy's famed Gambero Rosso (March, 2016). An incredible achievement for this humble man. They had this to say: "Giulio Grasso – founder of Ca' del Baio winery – is an authentic grape-grower, a man who lives the rhythms of nature and countryside practically in symbiosis with his vineyards. Although his productions ranges from red white wines to red of the territory, it his nevertheless his Barbaresco wines from the Pora, Asili and Valgrande crus that most deeply represent him, and above all, his ties to his land. He is transmitting these values to his daughters Paola, Valentina and Federica, who work with him in the winery."

The family's home and cantina are situated in Treiso. The cru Barbaresco vineyard holdings are divided among Treiso (Valgrande and Marcarini) and Barbaresco proper (Asili and Pora). Of the 25 or so hectares owned by the family, about 17 are in Treiso and the rest are in Barbaresco. Calcareous Marl predominates the soils; in some expositions they appear almost as white as snow thanks to all the lime and calcareous material present in the soils.

Farming is sustainable, using the methods known as 'agricultura integrata' – farming that is integrated with the environment and uses only minimal treatments, and only when absolutely necessary. Alcoholic fermentation usually starts spontaneously with indigenous yeast, except in rare vintages where the risks are too great – especially in wet vintages where botrytis infection is prevalent. Macerations are in the longish range – from 15 to 20 days, depending on the wine and the vintage. Sulphite and sulphur dioxide additions are extremely low – less than half the permitted amount. Elevage is primarily in botti grandi – large oval casks from Slavonian and Austrian oak. There is also some use of 500L tonneaux.

Ca' Del Baio Barbaresco 'Autinbej' 2017

93 points, James Suckling "A soft, fruity red with plum, walnut and lemon-rind character. Medium to full body and creamy tannins. Shows richness with tension."

92 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2017 Barbaresco Autinbej is a very pretty wine for drinking now and over the next handful of years. Dark red berry fruit, spice, leather, tobacco and cedar all build with time in the glass, giving the 2017 lovely textural richness and resonance. This is very nicely done."

96 points, Luca Gardini

Ca' Del Baio Barbaresco Cru Asili 2015

95 points, James Suckling "Classic aromas of tar and roses with spices, strawberries and some leather. Full body, round and firm tannins and a chewy finish. A beautiful and unique wine from a great vineyard."

Ca' Del Baio Barbaresco Riserva Cru Asili 2011

95+ points, Antonio Galloni "An absolute stunner, the 2011 Barbaresco Riserva Asili, emerges from the glass with a mélange of exotic, beguiling aromatics. Lavender, pine, rose petal, savoury herbs and melted road tar form a fabric of nearly indescribable beauty. Proprietor Giulio Grasso elected to leave the wine on its skins until the end of November. Power and finesse have never been so seamless here. Although just bottled, the 2011 Asili Riserva is a great wine in the making."

2020	MOSCATO D'ASTI '101'		12 X 750ML	\$20.86
2018	BARBERA D'ALBA 'PAOLINA'		12 X 750ML	\$21.26
2018	NEBBIOLO LANGHE DOC 'BRIC DEL BAIO'		12 X 750ML	\$27.94
2017	BARBARESCO 'AUTINBEJ'	93 JS	12 X 750ML	\$38.70
2015	BARBARESCO 'ASILI'	SOLD OUT 95 JS	12 X 750ML	\$55.13
2011	BARBARESCO RISERVA 'ASILI'	95+ AG	12 X 750ML	\$146.56

Ettore Germano

Piedmont // Italy

Sustainable

The Germano family has owned 6 hectares of land on the hill called Cerretta, near Serralunga d'Alba, in the heart of the Barolo area, since 1856. Great-grandfather Francesco, and thereafter grandfather Alberto, cultivated vines, producing a little wine but selling most of the grapes, as was the custom. Ettore, the son of Alberto, continued his father's work, also becoming skilled at grapevine grafting, and in the 1950s he started to replant the vineyards. He used vines that he himself propagated using 'massal selection,' with a vine density of at least four thousand vines per hectare, of the varieties typical in this region: Dolcetto, Barbera and Nebbiolo. In 1964 Ettore married Rosanna, and they continued to work the vineyards, buying additional neighbouring parcels of land.

In 1985 Ettore and Rosanna's son Sergio finished enology school at Alba and started to work with his family, starting to bottle small amounts of wine in addition to the wine sold in bulk to friends and private customers, and continuing to sell some of the grapes.

Fast forward to today, Sergio has developed into one of the most talented winemakers in Piedmont. Having all of his red vineyards situated within Serralunga, enables Sergio to make characteristically powerful, muscular and intense wines, that are the biggest, richest and most long-lived of all Barolo. Using what may appear to be very modern techniques (stainless steel is much in evidence), the driving force behind the wine making here is actually solid tradition. Fermentation is short, around 12-15 days, in open wooden fermenters and maturation is completed in a variety of barrel sizes (225 litres and upwards) made from up to two year old French oak.

The Barolos are mineral, earthy and complex with very finely grained tannins, and depending on the vineyard size, touches of cocoa and hints of violet can also be found. The Germano family is blessed with some of the very best vineyards, owning vines in Lazzarito (a true grand cru), Cerretta, Prapò and now, thanks to an inheritance, even the legendary Vigna Rionda, which many experts consider the single greatest Barolo vineyard of all. The single vineyard Barbera "Vigna della Madre" is produced in the same way as the Barolo but inevitably has brighter, blackberry, and coffee undertones while the basic Barbera is fresh, clean and enjoyable.

Ettore Germano Barolo Serralunga 2012

17 points, Jancis Robinson MW "Lustrous mid ruby with orange tinges. Spicy and with fine but subdued cherry fruit. Supple and ripe and with proper depth on the palate. The rich tannins are captured in the fruit. Elegant oak note on the finish."

Ettore Germano Barolo Prapo 2011

17++ points, Jancis Robinson MW "A shade deeper than the 2011 Serralunga with the beginning of orange tinges on the rim. Intense marasca and stones nose that pulls you right in. Real lift on the nose with top notes of spice, yet the palate is taut, compact and in need of age. A tannic structure built like a brickhouse, with the perfect dose of acidity. Austere for the moment and in need of further bottle ageing."

Ettore Germano Barolo Riserva Lazzarito 2010

18 points, Jancis Robinson MW "Germano only makes Lazzarito as a Riserva, hence its late release. 'The year in which it is not good enough make a Riserva I won't make a Lazzarito anymore.' 55 days on the skins! Beautiful lustrous mid ruby. Spectacular nose but holding back. Elegant palate weight and supple, tannins cling to the palate streamlining the pure fruit. Minerally. Wonderful acidity and breed, but takes an hour of aeration to bring it out."

2014	BARBERA		12 X 750ML	\$28.68
2012	BAROLO SERRALUNGA	17 JR	12 X 750ML	\$71.52
2011	BAROLO PRAPO	17++ JR	12 X 750ML	\$101.32
2010	BAROLO RISERVA LAZZARITO	18 JR	12 X 750ML	\$153.46

Dal Forno Romano

Veneto // Italy

Sustainable

Amarone is arguably the richest, densest and most powerful wine in the world, a veritable show stopper and without rival. Romano Dal Forno is known as Veneto's 'Grape King', the vanguard of modern Amarone. As such, we are delighted to offer the new releases of Dal Forno's Amarone della Valpolicella 2011 and Valpolicella Superiore 2011. These wines have scored 99 points and 96 points respectively from leading critic Andrew Jefford writing for Decanter, offering collectors superb quality in yet another lovely vintage.

Dal Forno's Amarone is a radical reinvention of one of Italy's most famous wines. It is impenitent, intoxicating and a provoking wine. Dal Forno uses extremely low yields and an austere selection process admitting only the most exceptional grapes. The 2011 displays classic notes of chocolate, dark berries and lavender and it has a very long life ahead of it. The global wine market has an insatiable demand for the world's greatest wines and Dal Forno's Amarone has been called the 'Petrus of the Veneto'.

Dal Forno's Valpolicella Superiore is consistently one of the highest quality reds from the north of Italy, and that is true of this vintage in particular. In fact, Antonio Galloni posits that "Dal Forno should really change the name of his... Valpolicella Superiore. This is really an Amarone for all practical intents and purposes, since 2002 made entirely from fruit that has been dried, albeit for less time than that legally required for Amarone." Dal Forno's Valpolicella Superiore simply offers a chance to own a pseudo-Amarone from the King of Amarone for less than a third of the price! It is hard to express how exceptional this wine is and it should be found in any fine wine lover's cellar. It is certainly the greatest Valpolicella that we have ever tasted.

There is such pride in the Dal Forno staple that if the vintage is not up to the highest standard then it is declassified, most recently in 2007. 2011 was blessed with a hot and dry summer ideal for these rich, ripe wines. Romano's son, Michele dal Forno states, "we're confident the wines made in 2011 will represent a milestone for many years to go." Both wines are made in tiny quantities – it takes seven vines to produce a bottle of Valpolicella, and an almighty ten vines to make a single, very special bottle of Amarone. Michele Dal Forno's rigorous selection and draconian standards make these incredibly concentrated, full wines very hard to come by; at most 1,500 cases are made in one year.

Amarone della Valpolicella 2013

98 points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate "The 2013 Amarone della Valpolicella Monte Lodoletta is my favorite wine in the retrospective, along with the amazing 2011, 2009 and 1996 vintages. This wine was released at the beginning of this year, and because Dal Forno skipped over the 2014 vintage, this is the only Amarone we will see for a while (until the highly anticipated 2015 is released). The 2013 vintage is characterized by a slightly more streamlined mouthfeel (which isn't saying much given the baseline enormity of these wines) with carefully etched aromas of black cherry, rum cake, dark chocolate and toasted espresso. The 2013 vintage was balanced overall without the sudden heat waves we saw in the summers of 2011 and 2012. The grapes finished a slow and steady ripening process over an extended growing season. The effect is graceful and focused. Put this bottle aside in your cellar for the decades to come."

Amarone della Valpolicella 2011

99 points, Andrew Jefford, Decanter "A black wine, and a velvet nose-box: pressed black fruits, seeping with fruit essences; smoke and cinders; herbal complexities; teasing floral notes, too, to lighten the tone a little. The alcohol level on the label might lead you to expect a gobstopper – so you'll be taken aback by the fine-milled elegance of this wine, by its disposition and organisation, by its fleet-footed elegance and freshness, even though its concentration, power and textural presence make it a wine of absolute authority. There isn't a trace of superfluous fat in the mid-palate – though it's tongue-coating, head-turning, inspiring: a gathering of sumptuous fruited energies. 'It's very difficult for my father to feel happy about any of his wines; he's very critical,' said Michele. 'But with this vintage, he didn't have anything to say.'"

Amarone della Valpolicella 2009

99 points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate "The Dal Forno family considered the idea of releasing their Amarone ten years after the harvest. If that plan had been implemented, this would be the vintage on the market now. The 2009 Amarone della Valpolicella Monte Lodoletta is a full and generous expression that delivers thick lines and robust flavors of dried blackberry, camphor ash, exotic cedar wood, licorice and tarry road pavement. This vintage saw average temperatures throughout the growing season with a few hailstorms along the way. Very dry weather led to some mild drought in July and August, with ensuing ripening and concentration of the clusters. I found this monumental wine to be irresistible when I first tasted it five years ago, and I consider it to have improved since then. This is one of the most complete and comprehensive vintages produced at Dal Forno, and it gives us an ample 360-degree view onto the might, brawn and potential of this icon wine from the Veneto. Its evolutionary track shows no sign of slowing down."

Amarone della Valpolicella 2008

98 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2008 Amarone della Valpolicella is compelling. With a little air, the tannins begin to soften, releasing a myriad of intense dark aromas and flavours. Bittersweet chocolate, cloves, violets, plums and blackberry jam cover every inch of the palate in a stunning, head-spinning Amarone that captures all of the best qualities of the year. When Romano Dal Forno's wines are on, there is nothing quite like them, and that is certainly the case here."

2013	AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA	98 WA	6 X 750ML	\$507.34
2011	AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA	99 AJ	6 X 750ML	\$507.34
2008	VALPOLICELLA SUPERIORE	94 AG	6 X 750ML	\$138.57
2005	VALPOLICELLA SUPERIORE magnum	95 AG	6 X 1500ML	\$288.31

Matteo Braidot

Friuli // Italy

Sustainable

Established in 1870, for six generations the Braidot family has slowly developed and evolved their family operation in the hills of Friuli, North East Italy. The cooler climate of this region is perfectly suited to producing fine whites and elegant reds.

Their Pinot Grigio is a perfect example of why the elegant whites from this region are so popular around the world. Fully de-stemmed before a very gentle pressing to extract the finest Pinot Grigio character, fermentation occurs at a very low temperature to preserve purity of flavour before being matured on fine lees for several weeks before bottling. Intense straw yellow in colour with coppery glints, The nose reveals tropical fruits and firm pears. Medium full in body, as is the hallmark of quality Grigio from this region, structured, savoury and with more-ish persistence.

2019	PINOT GRIGIO	12 x 750ML	\$17.51
------	--------------	------------	---------

Ca Del Sole

Prosecco // Italy

Sustainable

The area of Conegliano Valdobbiadene lies in hilly countryside situated 50 km from Venice and around 100 km from the Dolomites. Here vine-growing has extremely ancient origins, but the first written document linking Prosecco to this area dates back to 1772. Ever since the introduction of the D.O.C. in 1969, the historic production area has remained limited to just 15 communes. Two of these give it its name: Conegliano and Valdobbiadene, one being the zone's cultural capital and the other the heart of its production. Its position between the sea and the Prealps ensures a mild climate, with an average temperature during the year of 12.3°C and constant breezes, which allow the grapes to dry quickly after it has rained.

The area is characterised by frequent heavy showers in the summer, with average rainfall of 1250 mm. The hills stretch from east to west, so they have a south-facing slope – on which the vineyards benefit from excellent exposure to sunshine – and a northern slope, usually covered in woodland. The altitude varies between 100 and 500 metres and guarantees good differences between day - and night-time temperatures, so that the aromas develop well in the grapes. For over three hundred years, the Glera grape variety has found an ideal environment in these hills. It needs water, but this must on no account become stagnant: the gradient of the hills ensures that rainfall always drains away.

Ca' del Sole is in Soligo right in the heart of the region, between Conegliano and Valdobbiadene. A true passion, a modern pathway along a traditional road giving us two incomparable expressions: Prosecco Superiore Conegliano Valdobbiadene DOCG and Prosecco DOC Treviso.

The meticulous attention to the smallest details and the unrelenting efforts at every stage of our winemaking process make Ca' del Sole wines rich in fragrance and nuance. The secret preserved among these stunning hills is simple: love and respect for your own work and for your own land.

2019	PROSECCO TREVISO	6 x 750ML	\$16.39
NV	PINOT NOIR ROSE SPUMANTE	6 X 750ML	\$18.25

Edi Kante

Friuli // Italy

Natural

"Edi Kante is one of Friuli's few true superstar producers. It's great to see these wines finally getting the recognition they so richly deserve... The Kante style is defined by intense minerality and focus that places them alongside wines like the best Chablis in terms of weight and energy."

Antonio Galloni

The Carso district of southeastern Friuli, just outside of Trieste, is a unique micro-climate sandwiched between the Adriatic Sea to the south, the Alps to the north, the low hills of Collio to the west, and the Balkan peninsula to the east. The temperatures are cool at night and the grey limestone is everywhere and in abundance. In this near-perfect combination of climate and terreno, Edi Kante produces wines that are poised, solid, fresh, and brimming with the character of both the chosen grape and the stark limestone soil of Carso. The Kante style is born not only of his incredibly energetic, passionate, mad-scientist like personality, but also of the inherent characteristics of Carso and his deliberate decision to allow these characteristics to shine through rather than be dominated by wine-making technique.

Kante was born a contadino in this rugged area of northeastern Italy, at the crossroads of Italian, Slovenian, and Croatian culture today and historically at the crossroads of the Venetian and Austro-Hungarian cultures. Taking over from his father, Edi began to bottle the family estate's wines separately by varietal in the late 1980s. After experimenting with various styles, including being a pioneer of the orange wine movement, he settled on the direction he has followed for almost two decades: making pure, consistent wines that reflect their region, stand the test of time, and above all, provide a lot of pleasure at table. Kante ages his white wines for a year in older barrels, then six months or more in stainless steel on the lees, then bottles them unfiltered. All takes place in an incredible three-story cellar carved out of solid stone beneath his house. The ability of his wines to age and improve consistently is uncommon for Italian white wine, and he always has plenty of older magnums on hand to prove this point.

The most exciting part of Kante's production are his Selezione wines. Released in small quantities from select vintages, these are small lots that Kante has selected in the cellar and aged extensively in bottle before release. They typically have between 8 and 10 years of age upon release and can be drunk upon release or aged further.

Kante Chardonnay 2012

18 points, Jancis Robinson MW *"Creamy and slightly honeyed on the nose but the strongest impression on the nose is the chalky, dusty character that has some echoes of top-notch Chablis. There's just a touch of oak sweetness on the palate and the texture is deliciously creamy. Fine hints of orange and ginger on the palate. Great freshness and subtlety. A wonderful wine and likely to be GV going by the trade price."*

Kante Sauvignon Blanc 'Selezione' 2006

97 points, Antonio Galloni *"The 2006 Sauvignon Selezione shows why this variety is so at home in the Carso. Bright saline notes support the crystalline fruit in and intensely mineral, focused wine that captivates all of the senses with its fabulous class and complex, multi-dimensional personality. Crushed rocks, sweet floral notes and orchard fruit are woven into the haunting, mind-bending finish. Today, the 2006 is firing on all cylinders. **It is without question one of the greatest wines I have ever tasted from Friuli, maybe the greatest.** Readers who can find the 2006 should not hesitate. It is simply magnificent. Simply put, this is world-class Sauvignon Blanc."*

Kante Vitovska 'Selezione' 2006

95+ points, Antonio Galloni *"The 2006 Vitovska Selezione is stunning. Rich, honeyed, layered and voluptuous, the 2006 bursts out of the glass with tons of intensity and power. Lavender, hazelnuts, petrol, sage and a host of savoury notes appear later, adding dimensions of depth and nuance. The 2006 is a white wine with tons of structure, volume and pure resonance. With time in the glass, the 2006 begins to soften up nicely. There is no shortage of intrigue in this compelling, dazzling Vitovska from Edi Kante. Readers who want to experience the full pleasure the Kante wines can provide are going to have to wait at least a few years. Today, the 2006 is all about power. It is without question super-impressive, but very, very young."*

Kante 'Opera Viva'

Monica Lerner *"The 2000-2010 Opera Viva is a cuvee of ten vintages made from a blend of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Nero and Terrano. Because the blend is assembled from consecutive vintages, different stages of the wine age from three to 13 years in barrel. This unique system has created an intense and sophisticated wine that presents a 360-degree sense of wholeness and harmony. That's the plus side. On the other hand, it's impossible to make out varietal or vintage characteristics. In fact the wine seems youthful and aged, all at the same time. It shows a thick consistency with bright fruit, old spice and pipe tobacco."*

2012	CHARDONNAY	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$49.92
2012	SAUVIGNON BLANC		6 x 750ML	\$49.92
2006	SAUVIGNON BLANC 'SELEZIONE'		6 x 750ML	\$84.56
2006	VITOVSKA 'SELEZIONE'		6 x 750ML	\$84.56
MV	OPERA VIVA		6 x 750ML	\$84.56

Skerk

Friuli // Italy

Natural

"Skerk exemplifies the magical, quiet presence of the region. His wines and personality both showcase a steady persistence, carried on fine frame, with elegant aromatics, and savoury delicate palate... It is hard to describe the stimulation and life found in a glass of Skerk wine — they are simultaneously clean, and unexpected; at once pretty and yet carrying notes of meat; the palate persists through delicate frame full of sapidity and Italian 'salato'. These are wines designed to showcase tradition and elegance both."

Elaine Chukan Brown

Sandi Skerk's property is only 500m from the border of Slovenia in the Carso appellation of Friuli in the far North Eastern corner of Italy. Tasted out of context it is difficult to know what to make of the wines. However, upon meeting Sandi, seeing his vineyards, his cellar, and listening to his winemaking philosophy, it becomes entirely clear how special the wines are and what Sandi is trying to achieve by making them.

Like many in the Carso, their production is very small, totally natural and involves skin contact with indigenous white varieties. Friuli is a veritable feast of natural, artisan wine production where orange wines are the norm and wild yeasts used without question. Sandi produces some of the regions best; delicious textural wines with great personality, plenty of depth and friendly richness which makes them more approachable than some of the wines of his contemporaries.

Skerk remains organically certified, as he has been for nearly 15 years, but still refuses to mention it on the bottle due to his dissatisfaction with the weak standards allowed by the certifying bodies.

His entire process is natural, not because it is the trendy thing to do, but because it does not make sense to Sandi to make wine any other way. When asked about the style of winemaking that seems to be the trend in the Carso DOC, ie. long skin contact for the whites, Sandi talks about the great respect he has for his grandfather, who also made wine on the family's property, and about wanting to follow his technique. Making wine before it was common to use SO2 as a preservative, Sandi's grandfather used the technique of extended skin contact for his white wines. The tannins in the skins protect the wines from oxidation, allowing Sandi to use very little SO2 in his winemaking. Making wine naturally requires great care in the vineyards and the winery. Sandi is one of the great winemakers making natural wine well; his wines show impressive clarity, balance, and depth on the palate.

Skerk Vitovska 2015

Ian D'Agata, vinous.com *"Medium dark golden-tinged yellow. Apple cider and chamomile complicate ripe apricot, orange zest and botanical herbs on the nose. Enters fresh and linear, then becomes more complex with a savory edge to the herbal and citrus peel flavors. Finishes long with hints of quinine and wet stone. Only 11.5% alcohol and plenty of flavor."*

Skerk Malvasia 2015

Ian D'Agata, vinous.com *"Bright medium orange-yellow. Slightly muted aromas of white flowers, bergamot, and candied orange. Then bright and fresh, with a laser-like precision to the lime, crystallized lemon peel, white peach and aromatic herb flavors thanks to a noteworthy but harmonious acid spine. Finishes with an aromatic note of pepper and tropical fruit, plus an intriguing touch of dry herbs and earth tones. Closes in at 14% alcohol but manages to stay away from overdone and hot. Nice wine that grows on you, but of course, you have to like macerated orange-like wines."*

Skerk 'Ograde' 2015

Taking its name from the Slovenian word for "fences" the Ograde draws its fruit from hills that lie along the old Iron Curtain, roughly 230 meters in altitude. A blend of Vitovska, Malvasia, Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Grigio, this is an outright orange wine that shines in the glass with copper and amber intensity. It delivers a unique bouquet with elements of candied fruit and caramel, alongside softer shadings of beeswax, apricot confit and even a distant touch of crushed stone, button mushroom and rosemary essence.

Ian D'Agata, vinous.com *"Bright dark orange. Very intense lavender, rose water, crystallized apricot and ginger on the perfumed nose. Clean fresh and long, with flavors similar to the aromas and a steely backbone of acidity and youthfully chewy tannins that keep the mouth clean and wanting to drink more. As far as Italian orange wines go, this is a work of art. Only 13% alcohol."*

Skerk Terrano 2015

Monica Lerner - A pure expression of the local Terrano grape. Representing its own unique set of aromas, the bouquet is equally fascinating and wild. This offbeat wine charms the senses with wild berry, rose and an ample supply of freshly milled white pepper. Your nose almost twitches in reaction to those pure pepper smells. I love it. This is precisely the wine I'd want to reach for when looking for new and exciting tastes. The mouthfeel is lean, tight and acidic, but you have enough fiber here to pair with homemade fried chicken.

Ian D'Agata, vinous.com *"Bright purple-ruby. Perfumed aromas and flavors of candied blackberry, blueberry syrup but also a floral reminders of rose and violet. Very clean and fresh with long laser-like acidity and a bright fruitiness."*

2015	MALVASIA	6 x 750ML	\$49.17
2015	VITOVSKA	6 x 750ML	\$49.17
2015	'OGRADE'	6 x 750ML	\$49.17
2015	TERRANO	6 x 750ML	\$49.17

Sartarelli

Marche // Italy

Sustainable

"A very rare estate in Italy that devotes itself completely to just one grape, Verdicchio. The Sartarelli family have raised Verdicchio wine making to an art form, and nobody produces as many successful wines from the grape as they do. The Verdicchio Balciana is especially grand, undoubtedly one of Italy's twenty best white wines: made from late harvested grapes grown in a beautiful amphitheatre, this single vineyard wine is only ever made in the best years... It is the most Alsatian-like of Italy's white wines. Wine lovers should also try the Tralivio Verdicchio, which has improved by leaps and bounds over the last five years and is now one of the best Verdicchio wines made anywhere." Ian D'Agata, Vinous

Located in the heart of the Marche on the west side of the Esino river, Sartarelli encompasses 66 hectares of vines located 300-350 feet above sea level. With an average vine age of 33 years and soils that are characterized by calcareous and marl stone, owners Donatella Sartarelli and her husband Patrizio Chiacchiarini are producing wines that are very terrior-driven and classic to the Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi DOC.

Donatella and Patrizio firmly believe that the wine is made in the vineyard – to this end, they practice sustainable farming, only using pesticides when absolutely necessary and allowing grasses to grow in order to replenish nutrients into the soil. During harvest, they make multiple passes through the vineyards, taking only the fruit that is at its optimal ripeness. All of the grapes are soft pressed, with fermentation for the Classico and Tralivio being done in stainless steel and the Balciana and Passito in cement. No oak is used at all, allowing for the purity of the fruit to come through. The end result are artisan wines that are clean, soft, and layered with complexity.

Sartarelli Verdicchio Castelli dei Jesi Classico Superiore 'Balciana' 2017

97 points and Wine of the Year, Decanter 2021

96 points and Trophy for Best Italian White, IWC 2021

Sartarelli Verdicchio Castelli dei Jesi Classico Superiore 'Balciana' 2012

Ian D'Agata, Vinous "The world's greatest wines transcend the grape variety they are made from or even the place they are made. They offer the best possible expression that can derive from the combination of magical site, variety and human talent. For example, there are many Montrachets, but Leflaive and DRC versions are a step above anything else produced from those hallowed vines; there are many Pomerol or Merlot wines made all over the world, but what Pétrus achieves is quite unlike anything else anywhere. And though less famous and less well-known to the general public than some of the aforementioned great wine names, the same holds true of the Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico Superiore 'Balciana' made by the Sartarelli family in the Marche. Simply put, though there are some truly great Verdicchio wines (Villa Bucci's Riserva springs to mind), **no other Verdicchio is anything like Balciana.**

Luminous pale golden-tinged yellow. Aromatic nuances of sweet spices and dried flowers complement candied pineapple, crystallised ginger, lemon oil and marzipan aromas and flavours. Very pure and refined despite being a full-bodied, rich wine. Finishes very long, suave and with a refreshing floral lift. Outstanding wine that shows none of the heat-induced aromatic compression of many other 2012 Italian white wines. Best from 2018 - 2025."

Sartarelli Verdicchio Castelli dei Jesi Classico Superiore 'Classico' 2018

94 points, Decanter

2015	VERDICCHIO DEI CASTELLI DI JESI 'CLASSICO'	arriving October 2021	6 x 750ML	\$21.23
2017	VERDICCHIO DEI CASTELLI DI JESI 'BALCIANA'	arriving October 2021	6 x 750ML	\$51.66
2012	VERDICCHIO DEI CASTELLI DI JESI 'BALCIANA'	limited	6 x 750ML	\$49.17

Montenidoli

Tuscany // Italy

Natural

"Elisabetta Fagioli is the living metaphor of her land, and she greets you, as the land welcomes you, with a smile that testifies to her joy in extending you hospitality. She shares with you her vision of the world, and impresses you with the same quiet strength that millennial culture of winemaking possesses. And you accept her for the elegance of her eloquence and gestures."

Luigi Veronelli

Montenidoli is the hill of the little nests; higher up the slopes are the Triassic terrains, the oldest in Tuscany, rich with minerals for the red wines, whilst further down are Quaternary terrains on the slopes, where the calcareous sediments left by the Ligurian Sea feed the white wines and enrich their perfumes. The Etruscans were the first to discover this treasure and plant their vines, followed by the Romans and the Knights Templar. Elisabetta and family arrived in 1965 to see how they could capture the wonderful potential of the terroir.

Montenidoli's vineyards are organically grown. For fifty years no herbicide, insecticides or any other chemicals have been used. This is a microclimate brimming with life. The vineyards are aglow with fireflies by night and dancing with ladybugs by day. "We began to break up the clods of earth and make hummus, raising earthworms and also rabbits, for their precious manure. Now, we leave the hoeing to the roots of plants we sow in the vineyards, and till under each spring". Sulphur and copper are the only substances used to treat infection. And only if absolutely necessary, because sunlight and clean air are perceived to be the best medicine to make the vines healthy, strong, and resistant to disease and bad weather.

Work in the vineyard is vigorous and vines are monitored from the time the first buds appear in the spring, whereupon a preliminary selection of bunches is made. Before the invaiatura (or veraison) the grape bunches are checked. Grapes tend to reach optimal maturity between the end of September and the first week of October. The harvest is by hand, with an initial selection of bunches, which are laid flat in small baskets for their trip to the winery. The bunches destined to go into the various wines are divided up, destemmed, and set to macerate in chilled tanks. Only the white grapes destined to become Vernaccia Tradizionale are pressed and following the old tradition the must macerates at length with the skins and is pressed as soon as the fermentation begins, to extract the flavour of the terroir.

2018 CHIANTI COLLI SENESI 'IL GARRULO'

6 x 750ML

\$34.27

Il Paradiso di Manfredi

Tuscany // Italy

Natural

"The tiny Il Paradiso di Manfredi farm, run by three generations of a close-knit and delightful family, makes the most soulful wines in the entire appellation... In a day when there is so much doubt over the authenticity of Brunello, and question marks over whose dark and inky Brunellos are the result of blending or of the newest generation of Sangiovese super-clones, and when so many small and large producers over-extract and over-oak their wines in an attempt to be noticed by critics, it is refreshing to discover a winery like Il Paradiso di Manfredi. These distinct earthy and mineral Brunellos are the real thing; they are without doubt Brunellos for connoisseurs."

- Kerin O'Keefe in 'Brunello di Montalcino'

Il Paradiso di Manfredi is a tiny estate of 2.5 ha in the heart of Montalcino. In the 50s Manfredi worked for the famous Biondi Santi estate. In 1958 he bought Il Paradiso di Manfredi where there were more olive trees than vines and indeed in that period in Montalcino the olive oil production was higher than the wine production. Initially they were harvesting around 10,000 kg of olives each year but at the beginning of the 60's a big freeze destroyed all the olive trees and Manfredi decided to replant everything with vines. In 1982 Manfredi died, and Florio, Manfredi's son in law, decided to work on the estate full time. Florio had always been passionate about wine and helped Manfredi, but his main job hitherto had been as a maths teacher.

Il Paradiso di Manfredi today is one of the best expressions of traditional Brunello di Montalcino. Viticulture and vineyard rhythm is effectively biodynamic. Pesticides and weedkillers are eschewed, the waxing and waning of the moon determines activity in the vineyard and the winery. They hand-pick the grapes (yields are around 42hl/ha), the wild ferment takes place in concrete vats (no temperature control...) after which the wine spends 36/40 months in big casks of Slavonian oak (25/30 hl).

By law a Brunello di Montalcino may be ready for the market in January five years after the harvest. For Florio a Brunello is ready when... it is ready. Florio also produces a Rosso di Montalcino from the same vineyard, the only difference between the two wines is the period that it spends in wood (usually ten to twelve months). The wines are everything you hope for in great Sangiovese, displaying wicked wild cherry fruit along with notes of herbs, leather, liquorice, pepper and spice and nascent prune, tar and tobacco aromas.

2015 ROSSO DI MONTALICINO

6 x 750ML

\$71.52

2014 ROSSO DI MONTALICINO

6 x 750ML

\$71.52

2011 'TRENTENALE' BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO

6 x 750ML

\$153.46

2009 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO

6 x 750ML

\$153.46

Tiberio

Abruzzo // Italy

Organic

The story of Tiberio rings more like a new world tale than one from the old world of the ancient lands beneath the Majella and Gran Sasso mountains in Abruzzo. At 350 meters, twenty three miles inland from the seaside city of Pescara near the hillside town of Cugnoli, Riccardo Tiberio found an old plot of Trebbiano Abruzzese vines roughly 60 years old so impressive that he decided to change his and his family's destiny. He knew that Trebbiano Abruzzese vines were a rarity and not at all to be confused with Trebbiano Toscano and other similar-looking but altogether different varieties that had been mistakenly planted instead. As the export manager for a well known cantina in the region, Riccardo knew well what Abruzzo grapes could offer and what the modern world expected.

He made the plunge in 2000, purchasing the 8 hectare old vine plot of Trebbiano Abruzzese with 31 hectares of land suitable for his single estate wines. Guided by decades of personal experience and one of Italy's most renowned nurseries, Riccardo planted a selection of indigenous varieties matched to the different soil characteristics in the vineyard. Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Trebbiano Abruzzese, and Pecorino were planted. When Tiberio released its first vintage in 2004 the wine cognoscenti took notice of Tiberio's mineral whites and fruit forward reds.

In 2008, Riccardo Tiberio handed over the reins of the winery to his highly experienced children, daughter Cristiana and son Antonio. The role of viticulturist goes to Antonio while Cristiana handles the winemaking duties. Cristiana is a chemistry graduate and teaches college level winemaking chemistry and sommelier classes. She has an impressive list of training stints including Jacques Selosse in Champagne, Nicolas Joly at Coulee de Serrant, Egon Muller in the Mosel, and various producers in Chablis. In 2011 she took over all the winemaking duties and is now solely responsible for the wines made at the estate. You can assume from her resume that structure and minerality are key to her style.

Tiberio Pecorino 2015

93+ points, Ian D'Agata, Vinous "Pale yellow. Vibrant aromas of lime, lemongrass and minerals, plus a subtle floral quality, without the herbal qualities of most modern, very Sauvignon Blanc-like Pecorino wines and displaying a steely, focused character. Taut citrus and green apple flavors carry no excess weight and are complicated by a subtle anise quality on the long, bright finish. Tiberio's is a true benchmark Pecorino wine, but this happens to also be either the best or one of the best Pecorinos they've made in years."

Tiberio Trebbiano Abruzzese 'Fonte Canale' 2015

95+ points, Ian D'Agata, Vinous "Very pale luminous yellow. A precise, vibrant and scented nose combines lemon, tangerine, ginger, botanical herbs and lemon verbena, with noteworthy flintiness in the background. Offers a compelling scenario of rare precision, energy and size, displaying great lift and a penetrating quality to the focused flavours of lemon, lime, and crushed stones. A laser beam of lemony acidity carries through on the rising, piercing finish, which features outstanding clarity and cut, with repeating notes of lime and tangerine. This is the best Fonte Canale ever made; it's also **one of the best Italian white wines I have tasted in the last few years.**"

Tiberio Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2015

92 points, Ian D'Agata, Vinous "Good full ruby. Super-ripe aromas of red cherry, raspberry jelly, quinine and sweet spices with flinty notes emerging slowly with aeration. Bright and intense, with spicy red plum and luscious cherry-pie flavors nicely framed by lively acidity; 2015 was a warm year, but this wine stays fresh and dances nimbly on the palate. Finishes long with a fleshy mouthfeel, youthful chewy tannins and insidious sweetness (14% alcohol). This lovely entry-level Montepulciano d'Abruzzo offers a lot of wine for the money."

Tiberio Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 'Colle Vota' 2014

95 points, Ian D'Agata, Vinous "Sweet roses, violets and white pepper open first, before blossoming further to show ripe strawberries, mixing sage with mint and finally spiced orange. The purity of the 2014 is unreal, contrasting an attractive inner sweetness with zesty red fruits, minerals and bright acids, and yet remaining remarkably lifted and feminine, taking on a decidedly floral character toward the close. There's still youthful tannin, yet it's nearly masked by the Colle Vota's fruity and almost-exotic nature. **Is it Montepulciano or Grand Cru Burgundy - or maybe Château Rayas?** Licorice, ginger, clove, and a bitter tug of citrus are all found as this gorgeous wine slowly tapers off. The 2014 is already so enjoyable, yet I'll be checking back in on this beauty in another two years and expect great things. Only 2,800 bottles of the 2014 were made. The next vintage to be released will be the 2018 in the winter of 2021."

2018	TREBBIANO D'ABRUZZO	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$22.35
2018	PECORINO	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$32.41
2015	TREBBIANO D'ABRUZZO 'FONTE CANALE'		6 x 750ML	\$71.52
2014	TREBBIANO D'ABRUZZO 'FONTE CANALE'		6 x 750ML	\$71.52
2015	MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$22.35
2014	MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO 'COLLE VOTA'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$78.97

Aphros

Vinho Verde // Portugal

Biodynamic

To many wine shoppers, Portugal is mostly known for value whites and reds...and Port of course. Vinho Verde, for example, is a region that is synonymous with inexpensive, low alcohol thirst quenching white wines of the same name. Many people don't realise that there are red wines from Vinho Verde, let alone skin contact amphora aged whites and medieval-style field blends! Enter Aphros winery...

Starting in 2003, Vasco Croft set out to revive his family's semi-abandoned property in Casal do Paço, in the Vinho Verde region. The estate has been in the Croft family since the 17th century and covers a total of 20 hectares, including four hectares of vines and another four of chestnut orchards. A firm believer in Biodynamics (Vasco led the Waldorf movement in Portugal in his previous life as an architect), Croft immediately began converting the estate after he arrived, and the ecosystem is now thriving, with wild horses, sheep, and bees (the vineyard manager, Alberto Araújo, tends to the beehives). There have been small additions of parcels over the years, as production has slowly increased, and all the vineyards are farmed Biodynamically.

A truly fascinating aspect of the winery has been their research of medieval winemaking styles, and Vasco's drive to rely less on technology, which has led them to pursue the idea of making wine without the use of electricity. Their Phaunus wines (the focus of this email) are all made in this fashion. Grapes are harvested by hand, and crushed by foot. A manual vertical press is used and they were able to track down some old Talha amphorae from the south of Portugal for ageing. The amphorae are lined with beeswax, and a small amount of olive oil is used as a cap to prevent any voile from forming. There is no temperature control during fermentation or aging, and wines are bottled by hand. As head winemaker Miguel Viseu says, "This is how wine was made 1,000 years ago!"

Aphros Loureiro 'Phaunus' Pet Nat 2016

The Phaunus Pet Nat is all Loureiro, vinified in stainless steel with no added yeast or sugar. There is a short period of maceration, and disgorgement is after 5 months of ageing, with no filtration or fining. Super dry, refreshing and textured.

Aphros Loureiro 'Phaunus' Amphora 2016

The Phaunus "orange" is all Loureiro, with 8 weeks of skin contact and lees ageing in 1,300L clay Talha amphorae from southern Portugal. The wine has nice lift from the natural acidity of the Loureiro grapes, while the maceration and lees ageing give it texture and structure. As winemaker Miguel Viseu says, it's a wine 'made in silence,' with harvest by hand in the early morning, and no electricity used at any point in the process. A truly curious approach with a delicious result. Drink chilled, but not too cold.

Aphros Loureiro 2019

Aged four months on the lees, this is a really concentrated Loureiro, sleek and muscular with ripe, juicy citrus fruit, shimmering minerals and floral hints. Very long and limpid, with a trace of elderflower cordial sweetness to the finish, which becomes more pronounced over three days. It's more about the richness of the fruit, for this is a deftly balanced, dry wine; just not bone dry like the Daphne.

17 points, Jancis Robinson MW *"From the Lima subregion, home to this variety. Fermented in tank. Two months on lees. Bottled mid March 2020. Certified organic and biodynamic. Delightfully scented but not OTT: citrus, spring blossom, lightly herbal – the bayleaf referenced in the variety name (Loureiro means 'laurel') becomes more obvious as the wine warms in the glass. And even so a stony note that makes it more than just a pretty aroma. On the palate, again, beautifully scented and intense without overpowering you with perfume, and there's piercing lemon and lime fruit purity. High acidity but in balance to give a long and mouth-watering finish, with a very slight creaminess in the texture to counterbalance the crisp flavours in the mouth. One of the most piercing and elegant varietal Loureiro wines I can remember."*

2019	LOUREIRO	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$24.51
2016	LOUREIRO 'PHAUNUS' amphora/pet nat		6 x 750ML	\$34.27
2016	LOUREIRO-VINHAO 'PHAUNUS' amphora/range		6 x 750ML	\$34.27
2013	LOUREIRO-SAUVIGNON 'AETHER'		6 x 750ML	\$19.35
2011	LOUREIRO 'DAPHNE'		6 x 750ML	\$34.27
2012	VINHAO		6 x 750ML	\$22.91
2010	VINHAO 'SILENUS'		6 x 750ML	\$49.17

Raúl Pérez

Bierzo // Spain

Organic

Raúl Pérez Pereira is universally considered to be one of the world's most visionary winemakers. Since he produced his first vintage for his family's winery in 1994 at the age 22, he has been in the forefront of the conversation about what has been called "The New Spain", and variously lauded as the country's most talented, innovative and restless winemaker. In 2004, inspired by finding a number of ancient Mencia vineyards that had fallen into disrepair, he left his family business to strike out on his own, creating Bodegas y Viñedos Raúl Pérez. This quickly became the point of reference for both the Mencia grape and the Bierzo appellation, and he now maintains a dizzying array of projects not only in Bierzo, but also further afield in Leon, Rias Baixas, Ribeira Sacra and even Almansa.

He takes nature very seriously. His priority is to exert the minimum influence on the grape, observing every detail in the soil, each nuance of climate and grape variety, allowing the wine to express itself without touching it, without any additives to transform it, leaving each vintage to modify itself. This method of working leaves an unmistakable stamp on his wines, ideal for drinking from the moment they are put on the market but, after 15 or 20 years in the bottle, continuing to show character and freshness.

Raúl was named "Winemaker of the Year" by German publication Der Feinschmecker in 2014 and "Best Winemaker in the World" in 2015 by the French publication Bettane+Desseauve. In the February 2019 Decanter, Pedro Ballesteros MW wrote, "*Raúl Pérez is the archetype of the intuitive winemaking genius*", and asked "*Is this the world's best winemaker?*" Raúl would certainly not self-apply any of these superlatives. In fact, his genius is far exceeded by his humility and generosity of spirit. That humility comes through in his wines. These are not "winemaker" wines so much as they are unadulterated expressions of the villages and vineyards from which they hail. Rarely are more than 900 to 1500 bottles of Raúl's wine produced, and many of his labels are one-offs, highly lauded on release and then never to be seen again!

The **Ultreia** range was the first label produced by Raúl under his own name, and continues to present his finest expressions of Mencia and Godello each year. Ulteia is a latin word meaning 'we go further'. The vineyards for this project are all found in Raúl's home village of Valtuille in Bierzo. Wherever it occurs naturally, Raúl will embrace the unconventional: the Ulteia cellar has a particular strain of yeast in the atmosphere, which enables a flor to develop and insulate the wines, red and white, without the need for sulphur or technology. The five Ulteia reds are Mencia dominant single-vineyard field blends, from vines ranging from 40 to over 130 years old. A large range of other grape varieties, many still unknown, are co-planted with Mencia throughout the region. Fruit is hand-picked, whole bunch, wild yeast fermented and handling is minimal. All wines spend extended time on skins - normally 90 days or longer. Ageing is always in old oak. No sulphur is used during the winemaking process, save for a small addition just prior to bottling for some cuvees. Ulteia Rapolao and Ulteia Petra are the finest wines in the range, and represent the highest expression of the Mencia grape and of the Bierzo region itself.

Ultreia Petra Mencia 2015

From a distinct, tiny plot of 800 Mencia vines on slate soil that are over 120 years old, just 500 bottles are produced each year.

Ultreia El Rapolao Mencia 2015

El Rapolao is perhaps the most famous single plot in Valtuille. The ancient 2 hectare vineyard sits on a steep north-facing hillside with clay soil.

Ultreia La Claudina Godello 2014

From a tiny 0.3 hectare vineyard planted on sandy soil in 1995. One single fudre is produced each year. The ultimate focus here is on preserving acidity, as Godello can get blowsy and even a little sloppy if overripened. So this is picked on the knife edge of ripeness, and as such the resulting wine only reaches about 11.8% alcohol. Spontaneous fermentation occurs and, in the spring, a protective layer of flor develops. The 2015 remained in fudre for nearly two years before bottling without fining or filtration. The nose shows notes of rich butter, honey, toasted baguette, cherry blossom and a smoky finish. On the palate, Ulteia La Claudina has persistent and fresh acidity, with marked nuances of grapefruit. It is a very long white wine with the clear signature of Raúl Pérez.

Los Arrotos Del Pendon 2015

A truly unique wine in the Raúl Pérez stable. Made from an ancient two hectare parcel the native Prieto Picudo grape variety, growing at 900 metres altitude near León. No grapes are de-stemmed - this is whole bunch only. After a three month pre-fermentation maceration, fermentation occurs with natural yeasts in neutral concrete. This wine then ages for 24 months in 500L oak barrels. The most remarkable thing is that the wine is not touched during this time. Luis Gutierrez from The Wine Advocate - "*Raúl Pérez told me that the secret to tame this variety is to age the wine under a veil of yeasts à la Sherry or Jura, even though it sounds weird. I have heard of other reds aged under flor, but this is the first time I have heard that it not only helps to age the wine and protect it without the use of sulfur but also that it polishes the tannins (it polymerises them). There you go!*" The resulting wine is supremely intense, but also exceptionally clean. The flor that develops during ageing does an amazing job of protecting the wine, but does not impart any of its own flavours. It has meaty and smoky aromas, reminiscent of cassis, stone fruit, chocolate, violet and blackberry. It is an opulent wine in the mouth, very well formed, encompassing and textural with powerful acidity. This wine will evolve majestically over many, many years.

2014	ULTREIA GODELLO 'LA CLAUDINA'	94 WA	6 x 750ML	\$40.86
2015	ULTREIA MENCIA 'EL RAPOLAO'		6 x 750ML	\$83.70
2015	ULTREIA MENCIA 'PETRA'		6 x 750ML	\$83.70
2013	ULTREIA MENCIA 'VALTUILLE'	96 WA	6 X 750ML	\$83.70
2015	PRIETO PECUDO 'LOS ARROTOS DEL PENDON'	93 WA	6 x 750ML	\$40.86

Venta La Vega

Almansa // Spain

Organic

The 225 hectares of organic vineyards located at the foothills of the legendary mountains of Almansa known as El Mugerón are the largest single planting of the Garnacha Tintorera variety in Europe. This privileged location has abundant water and excellent soil, with a natural micro-climate that guarantees suitable conditions for organic production of the singular wines that collectively became Bodegas Venta la Vega Territorio Ecologico in 2016. The estate where Bodegas Venta la Vega is located includes more than 850 hectares of organic farm land in the mountainous limestone area of Almansa. Altitudes of 1200 metres encourage the creation of distinct, natural micro-climates that enable the land to be farmed using techniques that do not involve any chemical treatments or additives.

José Ángel Martínez from Envinata and Raúl Pérez from Bierzo are in charge of the winemaking. With two of the leading figures in the new and radical oenological movement in Spain at the helm, expectations should be very high! Garnacha Tintorera is the main protagonist at Venta la Vega, finding its greatest expression in 'Ternario', a limited collection of three progressively more evolved organic wines that are all based on the essence of this native variety that is widely appreciated today.

Venta La Vega 'Adaras Aldea' Garnacha-Syrah 2019

Certified organic and exceptionally packaged, this is Raul's most accessibly priced wine to date. Garnacha with a small addition of Syrah, aged three months in old oak. Vibrant, lifted fruit character and impeccable balance of acid and fruit intensity. Elegant, fresh, new wave Grenache at it's best.

Venta La Vega 'Adaras Calizo' Garnacha Tintorera 2019

Wine Advocate *"The young red 2019 Adaras Calizo was produced with Garnacha Tintorera grapes grown on the limestone soils where it can express Mediterranean character with good freshness. The abundant rain during the harvest presented plenty of challenges, but the wines have low alcohol (13.3%) and more freshness, expressing the variety. It fermented with part of full clusters in stainless steel and matured in concrete and oak vats for six months. It's juicy and fresh, relatively light for the variety, fruit-driven and very pleasant, with fine tannins, clean and easy to drink. Very drinkable."*

Venta La Vega 'Ternario 1' 2016

Wine Advocate *"The 2016 Ternario 1, a wine of a range of three produced with Garnacha Tintorera grapes, the most planted grape in the zone, but each from different soils. This comes from a 25-year-old trellised and ungrafted plot on clay and limestone soils with limestone mother rock. It fermented with some full clusters in stainless steel and concrete vats with a long maceration (one and a half months). The wine matured in a combination of concrete tanks (30%) and used barriques for ten months. This is the one with a younger and fresher profile and with more fruit character, a more serious version of the Adara Calcáreo, with very good drinkability and freshness. It's juicy and the tannins are quite polished, with the chalky texture of the limestone soils."*

Venta La Vega 'Ternario 2' 2016

Wine Advocate *"The second pure Garnacha Tintorera is the 2016 Ternario 2, from a large plot planted ungrafted 20 years ago. It fermented with a long maceration with part of full clusters and matured in used oak barrels for ten months. This is possibly the most classic of the three Ternarios, with a little more influence from the oak but with good freshness. It has some dusty tannins and spicy flavors, a little earthy. It has nice balance and it's easy to drink, but it should be better with food."*

Venta La Vega 'Ternario 10' 2016

Wine Advocate *"The 2016 Ternario 10 is also Garnacha Tintorera from a specific plot within the same vineyard that produces the Ternario 2. In this case, it fermented with full clusters in two oak vats with a long maceration and matured in 4,000-liter oak foudre and 500-liter barrels for ten months. This is the one with more complexity and depth, a more serious red. I'm surprised by how little rusticity the Garnacha Tintorera shows here and how well adapted it is to this zone of Mediterranean climate and limestone-based soils. It should be long lived, as it has enough concentration, stuffing and balance to age gracefully. Combining power with finesse, this is a surprisingly elegant Garnacha Tintorera, one of the finest produced in Spain so far. 2016 was a year that delivered fresh wines."*

2019	GARNACHA TINTORERA-SYRAH 'ADARAS ALDEA'	6 x 750ML	\$14.19
2019	GARNACHA TINTORERA 'ADARAS CALIZO'	6 x 750ML	\$17.00
2016	GARNACHA TINTORERA 'TERNARIO 1'	6 x 750ML	\$27.94
2016	GARNACHA TINTORERA 'TERNARIO 2'	6 x 750ML	\$33.34
2016	GARNACHA TINTORERA 'TERNARIO 10'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML \$37.99

Familia Nin-Ortiz

Priorat // Spain

Biodynamic

Ester Nin and Carles Ortiz met in 2007 at a biodynamic seminar in the province of Tarragona (Catalonia). Carles was a winegrower who had been selling organic grapes in Priorat for ten years and wanted to add extra value to his crop. By then, Ester, winemaker at Daphne Glorian's Clos i Terrasses in Gratallops, followed biodynamic principles and had been making her own wine, the red Nit de Nin, since 2003. This first encounter eventually led them to bring together their vineyards, efforts and lives. Now they are family with two children and a small company called Familia Nin Ortiz, S.L. that manages 13 hectares of vines. The ground floor of their home is packed with wooden vats, amphorae and barrels. There isn't a great deal of separation between their work and private life!

Familia Nin Ortiz is one of the few Spanish producers who are members of La Renaissance des Appellations, the biodynamic association led by Nicolas Joly (La Coulée de Serrant) with strict quality criteria for its affiliates. Ester and Carles also promoted a group of biodynamic producers in Penedès. Ester and Carles think of wine as an organic soil-yeasts-fermentation cycle. "Only a living soil creates the conditions to obtain yeasts capable of developing fully spontaneous fermentations" they say. They plough their vines with their four mules and pick grapes in late August, which is rather early for the area. Harvest dates are set based on pH levels —their 'top commandment' - and they never tweak with their wines. "Rectified wines are soulless wines," says Carles.

Planetes de Nin red is a blend of young Cariñena planted in coster (terraced slopes) with de-stemmed, amphorae-aged Garnacha also sourced from terraced vines. Part of the latter is also bottled separately as Planetes de Nin Garnatxes en Àmfora. This is the only fully de-stemmed wine made by Nin Ortiz, and is also the freshest and most approachable; it is fermented in wood containers and spends around seven months in amphorae.

The original Nit de Nit launched originally by Ester is a powerful, structured red with bright acidity and minerality which benefits from some cellaring. Grapes are sourced from Mas d'en Caçador, a 112-year-old vineyard planted with Cariñena, Garnacha and Garnacha Peluda (downy-leaved Garnacha). According to Ester, Mas d'en Caçador's greatest virtue aside from vine age is its cooling north-northeastern exposure.

Familia Nin-Ortiz 'Nit de Nin' 2013

96+ points, Wine Advocate "The 2013 Nit de Nin matured in 3,200-litre oak foudres for some 16 months, and wants to be an old-style blend of grapes from slope vineyards showcasing the typicity of Priorat. The full clusters from ancient vineyards fermented with indigenous yeasts and produced some 4,000 bottles that were filled in March 2015. I previously had the opportunity of tasting the wine just after being bottled and was somehow reduced and dizzy. Now it's a completely different story. The 16 months in bottle have polished the wine and the reductive character is completely gone. However, everything is subtler, it's not as explosive as when it is really young and shows its exuberance, there is a calmed beauty. The palate is always very refined with fantastic freshness and subtle minerality, pure and fresh, even if it's also very powerful. There are 3,200 bottles produced."

Familia Nin-Ortiz 'Planetes de Nin' 2013

93+ points, Wine Advocate "The 2013 Planetes de Nin is mostly Garnacha with some 35% Cariñena from a vineyard in Porrera that names the wine. The Cariñena was harvested at the end of August, and the Garnacha after the 20th of September. The wine matured in 2,850-liter oak foudres and 3,200-liter amphorae for some 16 months. I first tasted it one month after bottling and it was very closed because of the operation. I had the feeling that it was a superb vintage and wanted to give the wines a chance, so I waited until now to give it time to rest and breathe. Well, that reductive character has disappeared. Furthermore, they think they have found the cause for that reductive character in the wine—there was a deficiency in the soil of the Garnacha that they have fixed with a natural compost and the results are good. Anyway, back to the wine, this 2103 is superb indeed. The wine has also gained in depth and feels more Porrera, more austere. In this vintage they started with some full clusters (which in 2014 was increased to 100%) and the result shows in a "sensation" of freshness rather than in analytical data. The palate shows incredibly fine and elegant, refined with sleek tannins. There are 8,445 bottles produced."

2013	PLANETES DE NIN	6 x 750ML	\$56.62
2013	NIT DE NIN	6 x 750ML	\$108.77

Finca Allende

La Rioja // Spain

Organic

Miguel Ángel de Gregorio, one of the great revolutionaries pushing for modernity in Rioja, is the man behind this project. His idea was to regain the region's essence based on the great wines of yesteryear. From this point of view, De Gregorio is a staunch defender of terroir, starting from village wines up to the most renowned vineyards. All Finca Allende vineyards are in Briones and neighbouring villages on the right bank of the river Ebro. De Gregorio praises this area's northern exposure which gets less protection from the Sierra de Cantabria than vineyards on the slopes of the opposite bank. Red clay topsoils and gravel are Briones' archetype of Briones. The calcareous gravel substrate - a legacy of the ancient river course - allows roots to develop well into the subsoil and explains the minerality of the wines.

The flagship red and bearer of the winery's name, Finca Allende, is a 100% Tempranillo from the village of Briones, where the winery is located. It carries the house signature: ripe grapes, considerable concentration and a judicious use of French oak. Aurus is Allende's most ambitious card, inspired in the classic Riojas from the 1940s and conceived to withstand time. It is made from old Tempranillo and Graciano vines planted on calcareous clay soils over gravel and facing north to capture the fresh Atlantic winds. The range also includes two pago-style labels presented in Burgundy bottles. Calvario is a rich, deep red with seductive textures, explosive fruit and cellaring potential. The white Mártires comes from a vineyard with distinctive clay-loam that sets it apart from any other plots in the vicinity. A Celtic sanctuary once stood there and the chapel of the Holy Martyrs (hence the name of the wine) was built afterwards.

Finca Nueva is Miguel's second project in Rioja. He likes to call them his 'fun wines', ready to be enjoyed upon release, yet reflecting the region's styles and categories at far more affordable prices than the more serious Allende wines.

Jancis Robinson has described Allende Blanco as "the finest white Rioja I have ever tasted", while the Rioja Tinto and single vineyard wines have been given big kudos by the Wine Spectator, Tim Atkin MW, and Robert Parker's Wine Advocate (with several 98 point reviews for Calvario and Aurus).

*** Finca Allende is classified as one of the few 'First Growth' bodegas in Tim Atkin MW's definitive Rioja Classification, every year since 2015. ***

Finca Allende Rioja 2010

94 points, Decanter "It's hard to recall a better vintage of the 'entry point' Allende red, demonstrating the balance and poise of the year. Floral, nuanced and elegant with stylish oak, it has a stony minerality and the sweetness and purity of great Tempranillo. Drinking Window 2018 - 2025."

Wine Advocate "The 2010 Allende Tinto is pure Tempranillo harvested after October 18 from vines averaging 45 years of age in Briones, fermented in inox (including malolactic), aged for 14 months in French oak barrels (one-third new) and racked every four months before being bottled unfiltered and unfined. It displays a very ripe nose with notes of peach and violets, raspberries and morello cherries, with a touch of licorice and iron. The medium-bodied palate is round, the wood is perfectly integrated and the wine ends with precise flavors of violets. This is delicious."

Finca Allende Rioja 2009

Wine Advocate "The 2009 Allende is more expressive on the nose at this stage, with pure blackberry, briary, mineral and citrus notes. The palate is very well-balanced with fine, supple tannins and wonderful cohesion. To be frank, the 2009 puts recent vintages in the shade in terms of its elegance and poise. Outstanding!"

Finca Nueva Rioja Gran Reserva 2005

Wine Advocate "The classical and polished 2005 Gran Reserva is pure Tempranillo fermented in stainless steel after a six-day cold soak and aged in French oak barrels for two years. It's subtle and elegant, developed but not too much, with spices, tertiary notes, mushrooms, truffles and leaves. The palate is medium-bodied with fully resolved tannins and some acidity. An updated classic."

2016	FINCA NUEVA RIOJA ROSADO		6 x 750ML	\$14.19
2018	FINCA NUEVA RIOJA JOVEN		6 x 750ML	\$18.62
2010	FINCA NUEVA RIOJA RESERVA	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$37.99
2005	FINCA NUEVA RIOJA GRAN RESERVA		6 x 750ML	\$45.44
2013	FINCA ALLENDE RIOJA BLANCO		6 X 750ML	\$39.37
2010	FINCA ALLENDE RIOJA	limited	6 X 750ML	\$39.37
2009	FINCA ALLENDE RIOJA		6 X 750ML	\$39.37

La Rioja Alta

La Rioja // Spain

Sustainable

"Quite simply, these are some of the finest Riojas that can grace your cellar: complex, refined, classic but without compromising fruit intensity and to reiterate: wines that speak about where they come from." Neal Martin, The Wine Advocate

La Rioja Alta continues to be one of the benchmarks for traditionally produced Rioja. Established in 1890 at the same spot where their head office sits today, their three Reserva wine brands, Alberdi, Arana and Ardanza are named after the founding families, all three of which remain shareholders. The company still maintains traditional Rioja winemaking practices whilst embracing many of the new technological advances. It is unusual for a great bodega of Rioja to own vineyards, but La Rioja Alta own 360ha from which they can source top-quality grapes, resulting in excellent fruit and richness throughout their wines. Tempranillo dominates the plantings, complemented with a small proportion of Garnacha and Graciano.

La Rioja Alta deem their Gran Reserva 890 their greatest wine, making it only in the very best vintages - on average three times per decade. The ageing of the 890 is painstaking, tireless and lasts for 13 years with no expense spared. The Gran Reserva 904 is no less prestigious, being made as infrequently as the Gran Reserva 890 but in a different style - old oak rather than new, and aged for nine years. A number of critics prefer this more immediately appealing style. Wine Enthusiast in fact named Gran Reserva 904 as their number one wine in the world in 2016. Both the 890 and 904 are released ready to drink, but also have the proven ability to age gracefully for decades.

This year sees the first release of the Rioja Gran Reserva Vina Arana. More accessible in terms of price and style, but made with the same painstaking care and attention to detail. 2012 was marked by drought in Rioja until rains arrived in September, refreshing the vines and allowing the grapes to attain perfect ripeness with superb concentration of flavour. Aged in three year old oak for three years, followed by three years in bottle, the wine picked a Platinum Medal at the Decanter World Wine Awards upon release.

La Rioja Alta's Reservas receive similarly high praise. James Suckling placed Vina Alberdi second in his list of the world's Top 50 wines under \$50 (USD), and in 2015 a panel led by Tim Atkin placed Vina Ardanza as the number one Rioja in their Top 100 Spanish Wines publication. In 2014 Vina Ardanza was also Wine Spectator's highest awarded Spanish wine from any region.

Rioja Gran Reserva '890' 2005

98 points, Tim Atkin MW *"Made with grapes from some of the winery's oldest parcels in Brinas, Labastida and Villaba this really is one of the best 890s ever. Blending Tempranillo with 3% Graciano and 2% Mazuelo, it combines the grace and elegance of a great Musigny with the sweetness, focus and balance of a classic Rioja. Scented, complex and very long."*

98 points, James Suckling *"The aromas to this are stunning with dried strawberry, stone and fresh mushroom. Full body and very tight with incredible depth and structure. It goes on for minutes. One of the greatest ever? The new 1964?"*

19 points, Jancis Robinson *"A classic rioja. Endless sweet spices and very marked aromas of vanilla, coconut, nutmeg and cinnamon. Wood dominates, but that is the delicious soul of rioja. The palate is exciting: deep, long, elegant, delicate, complex, with great class. What delicacy and softness of the palate! Its scent never ends and is at a precious stage of maturity. Very impressive."*

Rioja Gran Reserva '904' 2011

96 points, James Suckling *"Lovely dried red fruit, such as plums with just a hint of prunes. Cedar, walnut and leather undertones. Full-bodied with lots of fruit, considering its age, as well as hints of smoke, tobacco, bark and black tea. Some balsamic at the finish. Traditionally styled with lovely results. Drink or hold."*

Rioja Gran Reserva 'Vina Arana' 2014

96 points, Jamie Goode, Wine Anorak *"Three years in barrel and three in bottle. This has amazing aromatics: sweet blackberry and black cherry fruit with dried herbs, tar and spice, as well as some hints of vanilla and coconut, and sweet tobacco, too. The palate is juicy and supple, but also quite profound, showing cherries, berries, spice, sweet herbs, some cedar and coconut from the oak, and a lovely sense of harmony and precision. It's a ripe wine, but shows such complexity and focus, with everything pulling in the right direction. I'm just so impressed with this wine: in its style - classical Rioja - it is just about perfect, and is beginning to enter a very long drinking window. So complex and layered and refined."*

Top 100 Wines of 2020, James Suckling

Rioja Reserva 'Vina Ardanza' 2012

95 points, James Suckling *"Traditional and beautiful in character with plum, balsamic, orange-peel and leather aromas and flavors. It's medium-to full-bodied with creamy texture and a long, intense aftertaste."*

Best Spanish Red of 2020, Decanter Magazine

2014	RIOJA RESERVA 'VINA ALBERDI'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$35.24
2012	RIOJA RESERVA 'VINA ALBERDI'		6 x 750ML	\$35.24
2012	RIOJA RESERVA 'VINA ARDANZA'		6 x 750ML	\$57.88
2014	RIOJA GRAN RESERVA 'VINA ARANA'		6 x 750ML	\$66.75
2011	RIOJA GRAN RESERVA '904'		6 x 750ML	\$110.22
2005	RIOJA GRAN RESERVA '890'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$254.82

Barranco Oscuro

Granada // Spain

Natural

Bodega Barranco Oscuro is an organic winery established in 1979 by Manuel Valenzuela. Instead of making wine in a popular region of Spain, Valenzuela took a gamble on the Sierra de la Contaviesa Mountains of southern Andalucía. He built a winery in the village of Alpujarra (about 30 miles southeast of Granada and 165 miles east of Jerez and Tangier) and started making incredibly unique renditions of Spanish and French grapes classified simply as 'Vino de España'. Manuel and his son are dedicated to organic and traditional farming, and so they use very little sulphur, no herbicides, pesticides or synthetic fertiliser.

Manuel is a man who is fascinated by everything, which goes a long way to explaining both the way he talks and the way he makes wine. He has built up a vast base of knowledge on subjects ranging from the relationship between wine and health to the numerous idiosyncrasies of the land itself (the conservation of which remains his first priority). Clearly not one to rest on his laurels, he also constantly experiments with different varieties and ever more unlikely plots of land to see what new results he can achieve. It is this sense of open-mindedness and an unquenchable thirst for knowledge that has led him to be such an accomplished wine maker.

And you would have to be accomplished to be able to make wine like his from this land, with its extreme weather conditions and range of temperatures, not to mention the boisterous population of wild boars who routinely ravage the plants. Instead of attempting to mitigate the effects these conditions could have on his wines chemically or mechanically, Manuel decided very early on to let himself be guided by the land and climate and try to champion it through his wines, as well as championing indigenous and almost obsolete varieties such as Vigiriega.

The vines are not treated with anything and in many places are simply allowed to grow how they naturally would, creeping over the rocky ground to shelter themselves from the wind instead of being trained up onto wires. Similarly, in the cellar, the grapes are allowed to ferment naturally without the addition of any yeasts or sulphur.

As a result, in taking advantage of - instead of fighting - the unique terroir and climate, Manolo produces wines with perhaps the most striking sense of place of any I have tasted. They have an incredible freshness and quite unexpected, intriguing characteristics, maintaining a lightness which belies their often hefty alcohol content (a number are around 17-18°), as well as being a departure from many of the other wines produced in the region which are consistently dense and heavy. It is often impossible to reconcile the flavours of some of the wines with the more usual characteristics of the grapes they are made from, such is the influence of the environment.

2001	BRUT NATURE	6 x 750ML	\$41.35
2013	SAUVIGNON BLANC 'SALVAJE BLANCO'	6 x 750ML	\$41.35
2012	VIOGNIER 'LA VI Y SONE	6 x 750ML	\$41.35
2011	TEMPRANILLO 'BO2'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2011	MERLOT 'EL CANTO DI MIRLO'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2010	PINOT NOIR 'EL PINO ROJO'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2010	GARNACHA 'GARNATA'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2010	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'LA FAMILIA'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2009	SYRAH 'RUBAIYAT'	6 x 750ML	\$48.80
2005	'1368'	6 x 750ML	\$61.46

Cesar Principe

Cigales // Spain

Biodynamic

Picasso had his brush. Heifetz had his bow. Ignacio Príncipe has his pruning shears. A virtuoso in the vineyard, he wields his sharpened blades like a sculptor. Blink and you'll miss it. Snap. Crackle. The hands blur. In less than 45 seconds, a voluptuous vine is pruned to its concentrated essence, three fundamental branches remaining to form a "seat" with enough strength and structure to hold the weight of a man should he need a place to rest. Now it is nature's turn. The less promising buds have been sacrificed for those more likely to produce glory in the glass. How does the winemaker know which is which? That's why it's called the art of winemaking. "I strive to unlock the magic of the vine," says Ignacio. Bodegas César Príncipe is located in Cigales, a small, fast-rising region just north of the wellknown Ribera del Duero. The cognoscenti know that Cigales winemakers like Ignacio are creating masterpieces from Tempranillo. Made from 60- to 70-year-old vines, his wines have true density, and they are certainly fit for the cellar. Yet they also offer harmony when young and immediate gratification. Intense fruit, lively acidity and pleasing tannin all come together to deliver maturity. Yes, this is wine making as it should be. Ignacio is a hands-on producer. Not every winemaker is as comfortable with his hands in the soil. But then, not every winemaker is an artist.

2011	TEMPRANILLO	6 x 750ML	\$39.99
------	-------------	-----------	---------

Domaine de la Côte

Santa Barbara // California

Organic

"Breathtakingly delicious and captivating..." Julia Harding MW, jancisrobinson.com

"This new project from Sashi Moorman and Rajat Parr is, even in its first vintage, a hallmark of California's achievements with this grape. Layer upon layer unfold: intense white-stone minerality, a subtle peppercorn-like spice, bergamot, wintergreen, plum and watermelon. Astonishing energy in this rare bottling." Jon Bonne, Top 100 Wines

"Sashi Moorman and Rajat Parr made some of the most epic, dramatically beautiful Pinots I have ever tasted in the Sta. Rita Hills, or anywhere for that matter. The wines are rich, potent and full of character. As always, the Pinots are done with a healthy amount of whole clusters. The 2018s were racked into tank before harvest 2019 and bottled in January and February of this year. I was utterly blown away by the 2018s, and you will be too." Antonio Galloni

Domaine de la Côte has, in a very brief period, established itself as one of California's top proponents of Pinot Noir. It is based on six vineyards - Pinot Noir only - on the western edge of the Santa Rita Hills. Planted at extremely high vine densities (one site is as high as 17,000 vines/ha), each vineyard has a unique geology, aspect, elevation, and microclimate. The complexity and diversity of these sites, even though they are in close proximity, is unique in California. From these vineyards the aim is to produce a distinct expression of terroir. The Domaine farms its vineyards organically and makes its wines with the philosophy of 'add nothing; take nothing away.' Fruit is picked early before any overtly ripe character can mask the personality of each vineyard, and the resulting wines naturally have a good level of acidity and a moderate level of alcohol - in most cases around 12.5%. The wines, which really are quite special, embody the philosophy of owners Sashi Moorman and Rajat Parr, which centres around freshness, vitality and balance. In Jancis Robinson MW's words, "these are wines that eschew the heavy-handed, overripe approach of so many Californian producers. They are beautifully elegant, always refreshing and effortlessly drinkable."

In Raj and Sashi's own words: "Domaine de la Côte is a collection of five vineyards in the far western reaches of the Sta. Rita Hills, seven miles from the Pacific Ocean. Here in Santa Barbara County, California, our vineyards negotiate a landscape narrated by faults and folds. In this moment of immense geologic upheaval, in a place remarkable for its rhythmic coalescence of wind, fog and sun, Domaine de la Côte presents a singular opportunity for engaging with Pinot Noir. We planted our vineyards in 2007, intent on comprehensively investigating the diversity of a south-facing hillside of marine sedimentary soils. To do so, we utilized California's heritage selections of Pinot Noir, planted with extraordinary density, and today we farm in the service of posterity and ecological stewardship. When making wine we equally consult memory and intuition. We make use of the whole grape cluster - its berries and stems - and ferment without additives or temperature control. We raise our wine in barrels assembled by a single cooper. The winery is a simple and collaborative space in which we can compose wines with clarity, detail, and, above all, authenticity."

Domaine de la Côte 'Bloom's Field' Pinot Noir 2018

98 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2018 Pinot Noir Bloom's Field explodes from the glass with a heady concoction of dark red fruit, herbs, licorice, rose petal and orange peel. Aromatically intense and finely cut, the Bloom's Field is an unforgettable wine. Everything is so vivid, so nuanced. Beams of acid and saline minerality wrap around the sculpted finish. The 2018 Bloom's Field is an epic Pinot that redefines what the Sta. Rita Hills is all about. Don't miss it."

Domaine de la Côte 'La Côte' Pinot Noir 2018

96+ points, Antonio Galloni "The 2018 Pinot Noir La Côte is a dark, somber wine. Huge swaths of tannin wrap around a core of blue and purplish fruit. Readers will have to be patient, as the 2018 is not at all forthcoming. This is an especially brooding, potent style. Time in the glass brings out hints of lavender, sage and dried herbs, but the 2018 is in no mood of showing all its cards right now."

Domaine de la Côte 'Pure' Pinot Noir 2019

Wine Advocate "The Pinot Noir Pure is a blend from multiple vineyards at the domaine, made in an infusion style without sulfur, additives, punchdowns or pumpovers. It fermented semi-carbonic in a closed bin, then was drained, pressed and put into big barrels. It's blended and bottled a year earlier than the other Pinots from Domaine de la Côte for an early drinking style. Sashi Moorman says, "Our other wines are whole bunches, but the Pure is always destemmed. We made the first one by mistake in 2016, because we had extra grapes from all the vineyards that we kept dumping into one tank. It's a great way to look at the fruit in its unmasked and unadulterated state. The wine isn't as serious as the other wines, but it's the most 'transparent' wine from the estate because of the way it's produced. Raj and I also know that doing this to other grapes, often times you end up with a not very interesting wine. So, this fruit, even with zero manipulation, the wine is quite impressive."

2019	PINOT NOIR 'PURE'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$63.70
2018	PINOT NOIR 'BLOOM'S FIELD'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$123.20
2018	PINOT NOIR 'LA COTE'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$154.50

Sandhi

Santa Barbara // California

Organic

"Breathtakingly delicious and captivating..." Julia Harding MW, jancisrobinson.com

Made by Rajat Parr and Sashi Moorman out of the Domaine de la Cote winery in the Sta. Rita Hills. The Sandhi label allows an exploration of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir vines throughout the Santa Barbara County terroirs. The Sta. Rita Hills wines benefit from fruit that doesn't make the cut at Domaine de la Cote, while the single vineyard offerings highlight the uniqueness of a handful of other sites in the appellation. Generally, the Sandhi wines are made to be pretty approachable upon release. Among other considerations, the Pinots in this range are mostly done with destemmed fruit.

The individual vineyards from which these grapes originate—some legendary, some new—have been exhaustively vetted for character, personality, and balance. Employing the wisdom and talents of people who know the vineyards, Sandhi is dedicated to making wines of finesse, minerality, acidity, structure and balance. Wine achieves power and beauty through the seamless integration of these qualities, and this is the inspiration for Sandhi. Wines exhibiting extreme ripeness, alcohol, oak, and other discordant exaggerations cannot truly express a specific vineyards terroir.

Sandhi Central Coast Chardonnay 2019

91 points, The Wine Advocate *"This was previously called 'Chardonnay Santa Barbara County,' but winemaker Sashi Moorman says they've begun sourcing fruit from other areas of California like San Luis Obispo County and the Santa Lucia Highlands, so this will be known by the wider Central Coast appellation moving forward. The 2019 Chardonnay Central Coast opens with touches of flint, stone and white blossoms with crunchy tree fruits and bright citrusy accents. The palate is much more open-knit at this early stage, fleshing out to yellow apples and honey in a silky texture with bright freshness and a long, delicate finish."*

Sandhi Sanford & Benedict Chardonnay 2018

95 points, Antonio Galloni *"The 2018 Chardonnay Sanford & Benedict is such a wonderfully complete wine that expresses all of the pedigree of this historic Sta. Rita Hills site. Sweet, perfumed aromatics and radiant fruit envelop the senses. Lemon confit, marzipan and white flowers are some of the many aromas and flavors that open in the glass. The S&B is the most forthcoming of the Sandhi Chardonnays. I loved it."*

Sandhi Sta. Rita Hills Chardonnay 2017

93 points, The Wine Advocate *"The 2017 Chardonnay Sta. Rita Hills was aged 12 months in used, 500-litre barrels and another six months in tank. It's youthfully shy on the nose, slowly giving up notions of saline, crushed shell, Greek yogurt and orange blossom with pie crust, Golden delicious apple, white peaches and notes of honey and hazelnut. Light to medium-bodied, it offers great balance of spicy fruit and mineral notions framed by tangy acidity and finishing long and textured. 1,038 cases were made."*

Sandhi Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir 2017

93 points, The Wine Advocate *"The 2017 Pinot Noir Sta. Rita Hills is made using fruit from the Domaine de la Côte vineyards (80%) with the rest from the Sanford & Benedict vineyard and was 100% de-stemmed and aged in neutral barrels. Pale to medium ruby, the nose slowly opens to pretty layers of spice and savoury fruit, with aromas of rose petal, sliced blueberries, warm Bing cherries, wild blackberries, peppered salami, amaro and raspberry jam. Light to medium-bodied, the palate gives up lots of spices and savoury notes with ripe, grainy tannins and seamless acidity, finishing long and nuanced."*

Sandhi Sanford & Benedict Pinot Noir 2013

92 points, Antonio Galloni *"The 2013 Pinot Noir Sanford & Benedict captures the personality of this site in its textured, enveloping personality. Layers of red and blue-fleshed stone fruits pretty pretty much bury the 100% whole clusters, while silky tannins add to an overall impression of suppleness. Underlying saline notes add energy and nuance in this impeccably, inviting Pinot Noir from Sandhi. 2018 - 2026."*

Sandhi La Rinconada Pinot Noir 2012

94 points, Antonio Galloni *"The 2012 Pinot Noir Rinconada is deep, layered and vibrant to the core. Dark red cherry, smoke, game, blood orange and sage meld together in a structured, intense Pinot that needs at least another year or two in barrel for the tannins to soften. This is an impressive showing."*

2019	CHARDONNAY 'CENTRAL COAST'		12 x 750ML	\$39.73
2017	CHARDONNAY 'STA. RITA HILLS'		12 x 750ML	\$51.21
2018	CHARDONNAY 'SANFORD & BENEDICT'	SOLD OUT	12 x 750ML	\$69.47
2017	PINOT NOIR 'STA. RITA HILLS'		12 x 750ML	\$51.21
2013	PINOT NOIR 'SANFORD & BENEDICT'		12 x 750ML	\$90.35
2012	PINOT NOIR 'LA RINCONADA'		12 x 750ML	\$90.35

Arnot-Roberts

Sonoma County // California

Organic

"For me, this is one of California's most exciting wineries. The wines are restrained and elegant, without any of the over-ripeness that many Californian wines display. They seem to possess a beautiful textural quality, with attractive fruit but also lovely balance." Jamie Goode, wineanorak.com

"Winemakers always search for nuance and complexity, but Roberts and Meyers take that quest to its extreme. 'Texture,' 'structure,' 'definition,' and 'control' are words that crop up again and again in my notes. These are wines stripped to their essence, all extraneous components removed to reveal the bare brickwork beneath. It's exhilarating..." Adam Lechmere, The World of Fine Wine, Issue 49

Arnot-Roberts Wines is a joint project of school-hood friends, Duncan Arnot Meyers and Nathan Lee Roberts. Since founding their winery in 2001, the duo has been one of the most progressive and revolutionary producers on the California landscape. Initially their focus was just on making great Californian wines, but when the cool 2005 vintage gave them wines in a more austere, high acid style than the region was used to, Nathan and Duncan reacted completely differently to practically everyone else in California – they loved them and decided to pursue lower ripeness levels and higher acidity in all of their wines henceforth. Their focus shifted to the best cool climate sites they could find, most of which were struggling to sell their fruit due to the obsession with high sugar levels that was pervasive at the time. Vineyards like Clary Ranch, Fellom Ranch, Luchsinger and Griffin's Lair are lauded today, but not long ago it was only Nathan and Duncan that wanted their fruit.

Winemaking at Arnot-Roberts borrows from both the old world and new. While each wine gets its own regime, the general technique is decidedly low-tech, and includes indigenous fermentations, little or no new wood, and whole-cluster inclusion for the red wines. Intervention is minimal - just a conscientious addition of SO₂ prior to bottling. Chardonnay is fermented in stainless steel and then aged in neutral wood - with a nod to the masters, Dauvissat and Raveneau. Syrah is fermented 100% whole cluster with submerged cap and pumping over - a la Gentaz and Juge, and then aged in barrels coopered by Roberts himself. His father, in fact, was a cooper and taught him the craft.

Arnot-Roberts Wines have shown that wine from California not only can shine at the table but can also express the individuality of the sites they come from. It can age and develop in complexity from post-bottle youthfulness to the glories of a fully mature and harmonious bottle and everything in-between. These are some of today's measuring sticks for those anywhere striving to produce great, interesting wine.

Arnot-Roberts Trout Gulch Chardonnay 2019

96 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2019 Chardonnay Trout Gulch is fabulous. Palpable energy and tension drive a core of crushed rocks, lemon confit, mint and white flowers. Intensely saline, tense notes really bristle in this magnificent Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay. The 2019 is naturally very young, but it is stellar. Dried flowers, sage, mint and dried herbs linger."

Arnot-Roberts Watson Ranch Chardonnay 2019

94 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2019 Chardonnay Watson Ranch is open-knit and seductive. Orchard fruit, chamomile, spice and dried herbs all meld together in a pliant Chardonnay that offers a striking mix of textural richness and energy. Watson Ranch is the southernmost vineyard in Napa Valley, a cool-climate pocket that yields a Chardonnay of real distinction..."

Arnot-Roberts Sonoma Coast Syrah 2017

93 points - Antonio Galloni "The 2017 Syrah (Sonoma Coast) is a gorgeous wine and a huge overachiever in its peer group. Bright red cherry and plum fruit, rose petal, lavender and spice abound in this super-expressive, pliant Syrah. The purity of the flavors is simply remarkable. Medium in body, gracious and beautifully perfumed, the 2017 is a rock-star wine."

Arnot-Roberts Clary Ranch Syrah 2017

96 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2017 Syrah Clary Ranch is striking. Deep and resonant on the palate, the 2017 has so much to say. Some of the angular edges and intense savoriness the Clary Ranch can show have been softened by the intense heat of the year. Silky, fine tannins wrap around a core of dark cherry, plum, lavender, spice and pepper. A Syrah of power and structural intensity, the Clary Ranch is incredibly distinctive, and that is in a lineup in which many of the wines are exceptional. 2017 is a superb vintage for the Clary Ranch Syrah."

Arnot-Roberts Montecillo Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2017

96 points, Antonio Galloni "A captivating wine, the 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Montecillo Vineyard shows just how magical this Sonoma site is. A whole range of floral, savory and earthy notes gives the Montecillo that trademark aromatic profile that is such a signature. Big tannins add energy as well as shape to a classically built Cabernet that delivers the goods, and then some. What a wine!"

2019	CHARDONNAY 'WATSON RANCH'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$66.86
2019	CHARDONNAY 'TROUT GULCH'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$74.69
2019	TROUSSEAU 'NORTH COAST'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$51.21
2019	SYRAH 'SONOMA COAST'		6 x 750ML	\$66.86
2017	SYRAH 'SONOMA COAST'		6 x 750ML	\$66.86
2017	SYRAH 'CLARY RANCH'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$98.16
2017	CABERNET SAUVIGNON 'MONTICELLO'	SOLD OUT	6 x 750ML	\$145.11

Hirsch Vineyards

Sonoma Coast // California

Biodynamic

Trophy for Best Pinot Noir - Six Nations Wine Challenge 2019

Number 1 Pinot Noir of 1479 blind tasted - Wine & Spirits Magazine 2018 'Top 50' Edition

"The Hirsch family's Sonoma Coast estate is undoubtedly one for the great vineyard sites in the United States." Antonio Galloni

"This was Pinot Noir of a kind I had never seen, and didn't expect to see, in California. Nor in Burgundy, for that matter... My impression was of Pinot flavour at it's most electrically alive..." Hugh Johnson, The World of Fine Wine, Issue 48

Hirsch Vineyards is recognised as one of the finest Pinot Noir vineyards in the New World, described by the Wine Spectator as a "California grand cru". Founded by David Hirsch in 1980, it is the oldest premium Pinot Noir planting on the True Sonoma Coast, providing fruit over the years to Williams Selyem, Littorai, Kistler and many others. In 2002, with a full understanding of his vineyard gained over nearly 20 vintages, Hirsch decided to build a winery and bottle the best parcels of fruit under his own label. There is huge complexity of soil and topography across the vineyard, with 67 individual blocks being picked and vinified separately each year. The process of farming to enable an early harvest has been honed over many vintages, ensuring terroir is never masked by ripeness, and delivering wines of refinement, grace and intensity of flavour without weight. Now fully biodynamic, winemaking has been decidedly hands-off from the outset, and the resulting Pinot Noir - more earthy, more savoury, and with a remarkable ability to age and develop in the cellar - are some of the most highly praised and sought after in the United States.

Hirsch Block 8 Pinot Noir 2017

96 points, James Suckling "The iron-rich soils of this single parcel deliver a strikingly spicy and seductively complex nose with a wealth of ripe red cherries and wildflowers in play. So much going on here. Fleshy and attractively juicy cherries on the palate. Very polished, long and defined tannins really impress. Drink or hold."

Hirsch West Ridge Pinot Noir 2017

94 points, James Suckling "There's a wealth of fresh, brambly red cherries and berries here with faint, grassy and forest woody notes, too. This is strikingly pure and vibrant pinot. The palate has a succulent, lithe, juicy and seductively fine feel with such pristine red cherries, delivered in an enlivened, focused mode. Fresh and powerful Pinot at just 12% abv. Drink or hold."

Hirsch San Andreas Fault Pinot Noir 2017

93 points, James Suckling "A homage to the great fault line near Hirsch, this pinot has a brambly, rich array of red cherries and some blue-fruit notes with fresh, sappy, forest aromas, too. The palate has plenty of punchy tannin and forthright, fresh, unwavering drive. Drink or hold."

Hirsch East Ridge Pinot Noir 2015

94 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2015 Pinot Noir Estate East Ridge is a dark, powerful wine – similar to the Raschen Ridge – but with a greater backbone of structure. Black cherry fruit, leather and spice are some of the many nuances that build as this powerful, dense wine shows off its bold personality. I would prefer to cellar the 2015 to allow some of the tannin to melt away. This is an impressive showing."

Hirsch Raschen Ridge Pinot Noir 2015

93 points, Antonio Galloni "The 2015 Pinot Noir Estate Raschen Ridge is one of the most flamboyant wine I have ever tasted from Hirsch. A rush of super-ripe black cherry, tobacco, spice and new leather fleshes out in a creamy, supple Pinot that captures all of the natural exuberance of the year. Silky tannins and voluptuous fruit add to the wine's considerable appeal. Even with all of its intensity, the 2015 retains terrific freshness and cut. Some of the Hirsch 2015s are subtle. That is not the case here. The Raschen Ridge is decidedly bold. It is also flat-out gorgeous."

Hirsch Reserve Pinot Noir 2014

17+ points, Jancis Robinson MW "Pretty tight nose but the palate has more expressive style with rhubarb and cranberry fruit and brisk acidity. Appreciably more concentrated than their San Andreas Fault bottling, and deserving of more bottle age to unfurl. Admirably ambitious in terms of longevity. Extremely pale crimson. Edgy, crisp, cool nose. Featherlight. Very 'In Pursuit of Balance'! Both fruity and floral. Still quite chewy and ambitious with a bone-dry finish."

2017	PINOT NOIR 'BOHAN DILLON'	12 x 750ML	\$79.38
2017	PINOT NOIR 'SAN ANDREAS FAULT'	12 x 750ML	\$92.94
2017	PINOT NOIR 'BLOCK 8'	12 x 750ML	\$126.85
2017	PINOT NOIR 'WEST RIDGE'	12 x 750ML	\$126.85
2015	PINOT NOIR 'EAST RIDGE'	12 x 750ML	\$137.29
2015	PINOT NOIR 'RASCHEN RIDGE'	12 x 750ML	\$137.29
2014	PINOT NOIR 'RESERVE'	12 x 750ML	\$137.29

Matthiasson

Napa Valley // California

Organic

In 2012, California had an effectively perfect year for grapes. The spring was dry, which meant few problems with mildew. The growing season was long and steady, without any erratic shifts in temperature or rainfall. No blasting heatwaves, no sudden cold spells, no flash-flood rains, no drought.

Steve Matthiasson, after holding his breath for months, allowed his mind to form around the potential hanging in every one of the dozens of vineyards he helped manage. This, he said to himself, could be the vintage of a decade.

And yet, as the clusters plumped on his clients' vines, ripening in such a way that would allow the wines to elaborate essentially on their own - wines that would perfectly express the vineyard, the climate, the terroir - his clients one by one told him to hold, to wait, to let the grapes ripen to their physical limit. These clients with whom Steve consulted were some of the most prestigious names in American wine. And after two consecutive cold years, they wanted 2012 to be a return to some former glory. Bigger and badder than ever. 15+% alcohol wines from the best of Napa Valley.

He would have to settle for making his own wines, under the Matthiasson label, the way he wanted. Visions of over-ripeness would dominate his roster of clients.

That lost opportunity in 2012 will likely not be repeated on a large scale. Over the past four years, there have been seismic shifts in the expectations of consumers. Minerality and acidity, words the average wine drinker would have scratched her head at in 2010, are now so commonplace as to border cliché. That's a huge win for the movement championed by Steve and Jill Klein Matthiasson.

Arnot-Roberts, Domaine de la Cote, Hirsch, Broc Cellars, Lioco, Scholium Project, Tyler Winery... The list goes on. Matthiasson is the touchstone among them all. Now long overdue, we are very excited to present the slate of Matthiasson Wines, each on its own terms.

Matthiasson Linda Vista Chardonnay 2017

Steve Matthiasson - "In 2011 we leased the old Chardonnay vineyard behind our house. The West Oak Knoll area where we live is one of the classic Chardonnay spots in Napa, going back to the 60s, when the climate here was considered too cool for full-bodied reds. The cool winds and clay soils here preserve zesty acidity and freshness, while the Napa sun provides richness and ripeness. For complexity, completeness, and balance, we achieve a diversity of ripeness by harvesting the fruit several different times during the ripening period. We whole-cluster press all of the grapes, settled in tank for 24 hours, then ferment and age the wine in seasoned French oak barrels. This year, since the wine was already very rich, we did no battonage (lees stirring). We allowed two-fifths of the barrels to go through malo-lactic fermentation. The wine was never racked, fined, or cold-stabilised."

Matthiasson Napa Valley White Wine 2013

17.5 points, Jancis Robinson MW "55% Sauvignon Blanc, 25% Ribolla Gialla, 15% Sémillon, 5% Tocai Friulano co-fermented, aged on lees without stirring. No malolactic fermentation. A sense of elegance, energy, and complexity with nuance. Mouth-washing acidity with a focus on freshness. Both delicious and pretty. Flavours of citrus blossom, bitter almond, and fresh melon. Accents of flint and oyster shell. Pleasant, lightly textural palate. Beautifully done."

Matthiasson Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

94 points, Decanter "A gentle mulberry note joins ripe, aromatic plum on the nose. In the mouth the fruit is ripe and warming, but has a wonderful streak of freshness and vivid grip. The decision to pick on a date that favours freshness over ripeness, and the restrained oak handling (just 20% new) have paid off completely. This is elegant and beautifully rustic at the same time. Has a touch of Merlot and Petit Verdot in the blend."

2017	CHARDONNAY 'LINDA VISTA'	12 x 750ML	\$46.44
2013	NAPA VALLEY WHITE WINE	6 x 750ML	\$39.99
2015	NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON	6 x 750ML	\$98.16
2014	NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON	6 x 750ML	\$98.16
2012	MERLOT 'RED HEN VINEYARD'	6 x 750ML	\$129.17
NV	SWEET VERMOUTH NO.2	6 x 375ML	\$59.04

Evening Land

Willamette Valley // Oregon

Biodynamic

"Evening Land produces some of the best Chardonnay in not only Oregon, but all of North America, and their whole lineup showcases the impressive winemaking talents of Rajat Parr and Sashi Moorman." International Wine Report

"We are, first and foremost, faithful stewards of the historic Seven Springs vineyard, planted by Oregon wine pioneer Al MacDonald in 1984. On this dramatic east-facing slope, in the iron-rich and rocky, volcanic soils of the Eola-Amity Hills, Al MacDonald undertook what would become one of Oregon's most recognised vineyards. Nestled against a forest of Douglas fir with views eastward to Mt. Hood and Mt. Jefferson, it is immediately evident to any visitor why Al chose this site." Rajat Parr, Sashi Moorman, & Ben DiCristina – Evening Land Vineyards

Seven Springs' eastern exposure ensures the vineyard awakens to the warmth of the morning sun. The vineyard's position opposite the windy Van Duzer Corridor, mitigates hot, sunny afternoons in the Willamette Valley with cool winds from the Pacific. As valley temperatures increase throughout the day, warm air rises, replaced by cooling winds flooding in from the Pacific through the Van Duzer gap and across the vineyard. This daily cooling, along with the eastern aspect, affords the grapes the luxury of extended time on the vine.

Since its inception, Seven Springs has been dry-farmed. The vineyard is LIVE certified and was converted to biodynamic viticulture in 2007 and is farmed biodynamically, encouraging a healthy and sustainable ecosystem in the vineyard.

Seven Springs is planted overwhelmingly to Pinot Noir, followed by Chardonnay, and Gamay. The oldest own-rooted blocks of Pinot Noir and Gamay are a testament to, and daily reminder of, Oregon's incredible history and potential. Benchmark Oregon producers have long sourced fruit from Seven Springs and the wines from this vineyard are the most decorated and award-winning wines in Oregon's history.

Evening Land 'Salem Wine Co.' Chardonnay 2018

92 points, Wine Advocate "The 2018 Salem Wine Co. Chardonnay has a nose of elderflower, pear, baker's yeast and lemongrass with touches of beeswax. The palate is medium-bodied with broad, savory flavors, bright freshness and a long, flavorful finish. This is made from younger vines a few hundred feet away from the older vines in Seven Springs vineyard, planted with a slight south-facing exposition."

Evening Land 'Seven Springs' Chardonnay 2017

93 points, Antonio Galloni "Light, glistening yellow. A highly perfumed bouquet evokes fresh citrus and orchard fruits, dusty minerals and white flowers, and a hint of chamomile emerges with air. Sappy, penetrating and energetic on the palate, offering Meyer lemon, pear, candied ginger and toasted brioche flavors that slowly deepen and spread out on the back half. Powerful and concentrated yet lithe in character, finishing with strong energy and lingering floral and mineral notes."

Evening Land 'Summum' Chardonnay 2017

95 points, Antonio Galloni "Brilliant straw-yellow. Fresh and energetic on the incisive nose, displaying fresh pear, nectarine and Meyer lemon scents accompanied by suave floral, saffron and chalky mineral flourishes. Silky and open-knit, offering densely packed yet shockingly lively citrus and orchard fruit, honeysuckle, oyster shell and saffron flavors that show superb tension and back-end lift. Finely delineated and lithe in character, finishing extremely long and seamless, with vibrant mineral cut and lingering floral and orchard fruit notes."

Evening Land 'Salem Wine Co.' Pinot Noir 2018

91 points, Wine Advocate "The 2018 Salem Wine Co. Pinot Noir has a nose of ripe red and black berry jam with touches of powdered sugar and spices. The medium-bodied palate has ripe fruits with a grainy, fresh frame and long finish."

Evening Land 'La Source' Pinot Noir 2015

94 points, International Wine Report "The 2015 La Source is a mineral driven and energetic Pinot Noir that thoroughly impresses in this warm vintage. The Dijon Clone La Source starts off with beautiful aromatics of black tea, black truffle shavings, peat moss and wild blackberry preserves all soaring from the glass. This has wonderful mid-palate range, as the wine beautifully unveils citrus rind and dark fruit flavours with earthy undertones. Exotic, and full of life, this outstanding wine will cellar marvellously for years to come."

2018	CHARDONNAY 'SALEM WINE CO.'		12 x 750ML	\$39.73
2017	CHARDONNAY 'SEVEN SPRINGS'		12 x 750ML	\$121.64
2017	CHARDONNAY 'SUMMUM'	SOLD OUT	12 x 750ML	\$145.11
2018	PINOT NOIR 'SALEM WINE CO.'		12 x 750ML	\$39.73
2015	PINOT NOIR 'LA SOURCE'		12 x 750ML	\$121.64
2015	GAMAY		12 x 750ML	\$39.73