



Handy Hint: Cut out these notes and tape them to your bottle(s)!

Cellar Notes

July 2020

Cellar Selection - Under \$100

RED - 2015 Catena Zapata Malbec, Argentina - \$99.00

Ka-Bloooey! Ripe and rich with notes of blackberry, black and white pepper, Maduro cigar, fire-roasted beef and balanced with slate-like minerals and the fresh acidity that delineates each of the flavors. Its firm tannins make it an ideal match for grilled beef with chimichuri sauce! Enjoy today - 2030

97pts James Suckling - "Lots of blackberry and blueberry aromas with licorice, too. Extremely aromatic. Full-bodied, layered and deep. Superb richness and balance, at the same time. Really great."

97pts Robert Parker's Wine Advocate - "The 2017 Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino mixes grapes from 60% Altamira (Nicasia) and Lunlunta and shows a little riper than the pure Altamira from Nicasia vineyard. There is a note of raspberry that gives brightness to the aromas, and the palate is medium-bodied with fine-grained tannins and a fluid sensation that is quite remarkable for 2017."

Prestige Red - Under \$50

RED - 2013 Philip Mazzei Cabernet Sauvignon IGT, Tuscany, Italy - \$49.00

From Tuscany's best vintage in nearly two decades, the "Philip" Cabernet Sauvignon pays homage to Philip Mazzei, who wrote "all men are created equal", incorporated in our Declaration of Independence by his friend Thomas Jefferson. The wine is riveting, deeply hedonistic, and highly detailed. Created from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, it comes from 10-20-year-old vines grown on limestone and sandstone soils producing fruit of remarkably profound delineation. Ideal with rich, meaty dishes. Enjoy today - 2028.

94pts Robert Parker's Wine Advocate - "The 2013 Philip is dedicated to this family ancestor and represents a pure expression of Cabernet Sauvignon. The wine is dark and penetrating with evident oak notes, spice tobacco and dark chocolate. It shows dark consistency and rich concentration."

Collector Series - Under \$30

RED - 2017 Nada Barbaresco, Piedmont, Italy - \$29.95

Textbook Barbaresco at the best price we've seen in a long time. This 100% Nebbiolo red is noted for its firm tannins when young and its astonishing ability to age gracefully for a decade or more. Nebbiolo is considered the most "noble" Piedmont grape and thrives in this climate. It takes its name from the Italian word for fog, "nebbia." Feminine rose-petal, tobacco, lavender and dark pomegranate aromatics open to an intense palate of red plum, cherry, dried wild-strawberry, ocean minerality, burnt orange peel and bold, fine tannins. One of our tasters commented that it was "like drinking rubies". Try this with slow cooked pork roast. Enjoy today - 2028.

WHITE - 2018 Joseph Drouhin Chablis Premier Cru "Vaudon", Burgundy, France - \$29.95

From the second-highest ranking of Chardonnay vineyards in Burgundy, this beauty expresses steely green apple and lemony citrus curd aromatics. Flavors display fine and elegant yellow appleskin and mild chalk minerality with bright citrus leading the way toward the textured mouthfeel and long, crisp citrusy finish. Try this wonderful wine with lobster, crab, clams, or shrimp. Enjoy today - 2023.

Classic Series - Under \$20

RED - 2016 Gilbert Cellars "Left Bank", Horse Heaven Hills, Washington - \$19.95

This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (48%), Merlot (43%), Malbec (5%), and Petit Verdot (4%) comes to life with a fleshy palate of dark fruit and subtle earthy notes. Enjoy with good food, friends and lively conversation. Perfect with hard cheese or pasta dishes. Enjoy today - 2025.

91pts James Suckling - "Dark berries and subtle spices meld well on the nose. There's a very fresh and plush feel to the palate here with a sleek, fresh and linear drive. Blend of 48% cabernet sauvignon, 43% merlot, 5% malbec and 4% petit verdot. Drink in the next six years."

WHITE - 2018 Ruggieri Corsini Bianco, Langhe, Piedmont, Italy - \$19.95

This delicious white blend of Arneis, Sauvignon Blanc, and Chardonnay comes from Italy's northern district of Piedmont, translated from Italian as "foot of the mountains." Dried and dusky pear/lemon aromatics lead to a refined lime-lemon citrus and slate impression intermingled with jasmine and white tea notes. This wine would be amazing with full flavored fish and shell fish, especially crab and prawns. Enjoy today - 2020.

Award Series - Under \$15

RED - 2018 Nicolas Potel Beaujolais-Villages 2018, Beaujolais, France - \$14.95

Beaujolais is considered a very 'happy' wine. Displaying a forward nose of purple fruit, the easy-going Gamay grape here supplies a friendly boysenberry-ish plump textured palate. It is rendered more complex with crisp acidity, dried herbs and a clean, easy-tannin finish. Try with lighter dishes such as grilled chicken or mushroom risotto. Enjoy today - 2022.

WHITE - 2019 Alexandria Nicole Pinot Grigio 2019, Columbia Valley, Washington - \$14.95

Washington family-owned and operated, this refreshing white brings bright, fresh citrus with a zing of mandarin orange and light mineral notes to carry its delightfully light texture. Its quality is far and above most of the Pinot Gris wines we taste, and is lively enough to go well with spicy and unique ethnic cuisines such as Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Chinese, Korean and Southwestern dishes. Enjoy today - 2023.

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