



# Cellar Notes

September 2022

## Prestige Red - Under \$50

**RED - 2019 Faust Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley, CA - \$49.00** From the makers of the famous Quintessa wine of Napa Valley, this beautiful red captured our attention for its depth and complexity. Composed of 84% Cabernet Sauvignon, complemented with Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, the wine spent 20 months in 100% French Oak, 25% new. Deep, rich, and full-bodied, we found notes of dark cherry, blackberry and hints of mocha and tarragon. It's a real beauty, an ideal match for a red meat entrée, portobello mushrooms, or blue-veined cheeses. **95Pts-J. Suckling:** "Blackberry, blackcurrant, graphite and tar aromas. Crushed stone, too. Full-bodied, yet firm, fresh and bright... One of the best values in Napa appellation designated reds." **95Pts-W. Spectator:** "Lush, with boysenberry, plum and blackberry compote flavors liberally laced with licorice snap and sweet spice accents. ...For the hedonist crowd." Enjoy today - 2029.

## Collector Series - Under \$30

**RED - 2019 Los Vascos 'Cromas' Cabernet Franc Gran Reserva, Valle de Colchagua, Chile, \$29.95** - Operated by the Barons de Rothschild of France, this flavorful, intriguing red wow'd us with its elegance and finesse. 100% Cabernet Franc, aged 80% in French oak barrels, showcases its smooth dark berry fruit. It expresses subtle notes of freshly roasted coffee and dried fruits from the Santa Lucia single-vineyard source earning its 'Gran Reserva' status. To quote a prominent wine writer, Ashlee McRae, "Cabernet Franc is the lighter, laid-back, hippy father of the yuppie Cabernet Sauvignon. Its bright in personality, and soft in its embrace." You'll find it an excellent match for with chicken, white fish, and even quiche. Enjoy today - 2026.

**WHITE - 2020 Dumas Station Chardonnay, Olsen Vineyard, Yakima Valley - \$29.95** - Sensual, sophisticated, and balanced," was the response John felt from his first taste of this supple, well integrated wine. This 100% Chardonnay sourced exclusively from the highly regarded Olsen vineyard in Yakima Valley, was fermented in a combination of stainless steel and Austrian oak. Complimented by Malolactic fermentation ensured its depth and richness by gently softening the acidity and delivering a silky texture. With vivid fruit at the forefront, layers of subtle oak are well integrated resulting in a beautiful texture with a touch of tangy acidity. This will be an optimal match for lobster with butter, crab, seared scallops, butter chicken, grilled chicken with cream sauce, or grilled salmon. Enjoy today - 2025.

## Classic Series - Under \$20

**RED - 2020 - Miscreant "GobSMack'd" Red Blend - \$19.95** - Created in the fine tradition of the southern Cotes du Rhone red blends of France, this combination of 46% Syrah, 27% Grenache, and 27% Mourvedre, we were struck by this wine's elegant textures, good acid backbone, and very long finish along with gently puckery tannins. As you taste this, you'll sense the dark plum and pepper-like influence of the Syrah balanced against the slightly less profound influence of the lighter grapey influence of the Grenache and Mourvedre. Often matched with hearty stews like cassoulet, this will match well with heartier meals and a wide range of smoked meats. Enjoy today - 2027.

**WHITE - 2020 Misty Cove Gruner Veltliner, Marlborough, New Zealand - \$19.95** The famous white grape, Gruner Veltliner of Austria, here planted in New Zealand, really took us by surprise for its generous bright fruitiness and a lovely well-rounded texture that made us swoon! The wine from this grape is known for its ability to pair nicely with almost anything because of its distinctive herbal note and a white peppery twist. Showing flavors resembling light pink grapefruit, peach, and a touch of lemon grass, you could easily pair this with cold meats, salads, light vegetable dishes and fish or Asian-fusion style dishes. Enjoy today - 2025.

## Award Series - Under \$15

**RED - 2019 Watermill "Chances-R" Red Blend, Columbia Valley - \$14.95** - Here is a genuinely well-packed, fruit filled but easy-going red blend. Comprised of 34% Merlot, 18% Malbec, 16% Cabernet Franc, 14% Petit Verdot, and the balance of Cabernet Sauvignon and Carmenère, it comes across with vanilla, cherry, mocha, in an extremely flavorful, medium bodied quaffer with an extensive finish. A super treat for everyday drinking, medium-bodied reds tend to pair well with richly sauced dishes such as steak or even fish in a red wine sauce or with casseroles. Enjoy today - 2025.

**WHITE - 2021 La Valentina Trebbiano d'Abruzzo, Abruzzi, Italy - \$14.95** - Matt says, "Awesome!" Crisp, refreshing, and clean, we picked up flavors of citrus, stone fruit, and a touch of lime rind. This is a sophisticated white wine with a creamy texture, low in alcohol and with fruity notes of peach and even a bit of passion fruit. You'll find that this pairs well with hard Italian cheeses, seafood pastas, white pizza, roast chicken and even pesto! Enjoy today - 2024.

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