



Cellar Notes

December 2021

Prestige Red - Under \$50

RED - 2016 Clos du Bois 'Marlstone' Red Blend, Alexander Valley, Sonoma County, CA - \$49.95 - Now over 5 years from harvest, this Bordeaux-style red blend is expressing its delicious evolution displaying rich aromas suggesting cherry tobacco, cocoa, and ripe blackberry. On the velvety-textured palate we detected notes of licorice, baking spices, and subtle notes of vanillin from 22 months in small French oak barrels. Winemakers here have masterfully blended four of the traditional five Bordeaux varietals with 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Petit Verdot, 8% Merlot and 7% Malbec. Enjoy this beautiful Cab-based blend with heavy, fattier, saltier, and spicier steaks and lamb. Enjoy today - 2028.

Collector Series - Under \$30

RED - 2018 Two Vintners Zinfandel, Stonetree Vineyard, Wahluke Slope, WA - \$29.95 - Big, bold, and brassy, this hearty Washington red floored us with its forward, flashy personality. Aromas of black curant, ripe raspberry, pepper, and dark cocoa combine in the flavors that pack a whallop of goodness. Mulling spices not needed, they are all here in this combination of 83% Zinfandel/Primitivo and 17% Petite Sirah. Try this with grilled steaks, game, or roasted potatoes and dried herbs. Enjoy today - 2027. *93pts & "Editors' Choice" Wine Enthusiast* - "This producer always fully embraces the variety's ripe, fleshy side, and we see that here. It's a mixture of Zinfandel, Primitivo and Petite Sirah, with half brought in as a field blend. The aromas pop, with notes of fresh raspberry, cranberry and dried herbs. Full-throttle, rich, luscious red fruit flavors follow. For those looking for an unabashed big rich red wine that pulls no punches, this one is for you." + **93Pts Owen Bargreen**

WHITE - 2019 Côtes du Rôb Blanc, Viognier/Roussanne Blend, Gunkle Vineyard, WA - \$28.95 - We were introduced to this fantastic white by our wholesaler and immediately decided to use it in the club. A 50/50 blend of two historically southern French varietals, Viognier and Roussanne, you'll experience the peachy-nectarine aromatics of the Viognier along with the lemony acidity and supple richness from the Roussanne. A most impressive white from one of Washington's longstanding and highly respected winemakers, often referred to as the "Dean of Washington Winemakers", Rob Griffin. A great match would be Angel Hair Pasta with Basil Pesto, Yellowtail Sushi with Avocado, or Cod or Halibut with Beurre Blanc. Enjoy today - 2022.

Classic Series - Under \$20

RED - 2017 Valdecampaña Crianza, Ribera del Duero, Spain - \$19.95 From one of Spain's (relatively) newer production areas in the north-central part of the country, this 100% Tempranillo comes from the warm Ribera del Duero district. Tempranillo takes on a bolder flavor profile in the valley of the Duero River (the same river that runs into the world-famous Port wine region of Portugal). Happy plum and tobacco suggestions in the aromas lead to beefy blackberry and mocha-like flavors that arrive on soft tannins with rich textures. This wine pairs well with roast pork, chorizo and aged cheeses. Enjoy today - 2026.

WHITE - 2020 Prisoner "Unshackled" Sauvignon Blanc, California - \$19.95 - The Prisoner Wine Company acquires grapes from more than 100 vineyards throughout California's premier grape-growing regions. This unique combination of Sauvignon Blanc with a touch of Chenin Blanc delivers a poignant, crisp, and charming lift of lemony citrus along with subtle floral and fruity aromatics (not sweet) that give the wine impressive layers of enjoyment. It's bright and light flavor profile make olive oil based dishes like pasta with green pesto a good match, or try white fish or white meats including chicken, pork chop and turkey. Enjoy today - 2024.

Award Series - Under \$15

RED - 2017 Mas des Volques "ESUS", Duche d'Uzes, France - \$14.95 - This delicious red blend from France's southwestern Languedoc area is an excellent discovery. Delivering intense aromas full of blackberries with touch of mocha and leather, flavors arrive bringing medium-full bodied cherry and plum packed with complex and intense flavors. This most agreeable red blends Carignan, Cinsault, Syrah, and Grenache, pairing well with pasta, beef or veal, slow-roast lamb, stews, and meaty fish like grilled tuna steak. Enjoy today - 2023.

WHITE - 2020 Bertani, "Due Uve" Pinot Grigio/Sauvignon Blanc, Veneto, Italy - \$14.95 - This unique combination of Pinot Grigio and Sauvignon Blanc from the north of Italy is dry, medium-bodied, and assertive, with notes of peach, apricot, and grapefruit nicely balanced by a racy acidity. We especially liked its full fleshy feel and richly balanced flavors! Classic food combinations include chicken, pork chops and turkey, as well as softer more briny and sour cheeses like goat cheese, yogurt, and crème fraîche. Enjoy today - 2024

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