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Wines by the glass

| | Glass | Bottle |
|---|---------|--------|
| SPARKLING | | |
| Le Colture, Prosecco (D.O.C.) Italy | \$9.95 | \$46 |
| Taittinger, Champagne, France N/V | \$16.50 | \$98 |
| ITALIAN WHITE GRAPE VARIETALS | | |
| Santa Cristina, Pinot Grigio, Cortona 2014 | \$9.95 | \$38 |
| Salidini Pilastrri, Falerio, Marche 2014 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Cavit, Moscato, Trento 2015 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Pra Brothers, Soave, Veneto (D.O.C.) 2015 | \$11.95 | \$45 |
| Marchesi Di Barolo, Gavi, Piedmont 2014 | \$9.95 | \$40 |
| OTHER REGION WHITES | | |
| Merlin's Barrow, Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand 2015 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Prum, Essence Riesling, Germany 2010 | \$9.95 | \$38 |
| Domaine Gayda, Chardonnay, France 2014 | \$9.95 | \$38 |
| Oyster Bay, Chardonnay, New Zealand 2013 | \$12.95 | \$48 |
| La Follette 'North Coast' Chardonnay, California 2013 | \$14.95 | \$50 |
| BLUSH | | |
| Midsummer Cellars 'Yolo County' Grenache Rosé California 2015 | \$10.95 | \$42 |
| Domaine Gayda, Flying Solo, Rose, France 2015 | \$9.95 | \$38 |
| ITALIAN REDS | | |
| Salidini Pilastrri, Rosso Piceno, Sangiovese, Marche 2014 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Barba, Montepulciano, Abruzzo 2011 | \$10.95 | \$42 |
| Lis Neris, Cabernet Sauvignon, Friuli 2013 | \$11.95 | \$45 |
| Pra Brothers, Valpolicella Superiore, Veneto (D.O.C.) 2014 | \$12.95 | \$48 |
| Fontanafredda, Briccotondo Barbera, Piedmont (D.O.C.) 2012 | \$12.95 | \$48 |
| Pio Cesare, Nebbiolo, Piedmont (D.O.C.) 2013 | \$15.95 | \$56 |
| Luce Della Vite, Lucente, Tuscany 2014 | \$17.95 | \$62 |
| OTHER REGION REDS | | |
| Cono Sur, Reserva Especial Cabernet Sauvignon, Chile 2012 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Punto Final, Malbec, Argentina 2015 | \$8.95 | \$36 |
| Domaine Gayda, Syrah, France 2013 | \$9.95 | \$38 |
| Chateau Ste. Michelle, Merlot, Washington 2013 | \$10.95 | \$42 |
| Luc Pirlet, Pinot Noir Reserve, France 2014 | \$11.95 | \$45 |
| Vieux Gachet Lalande de Pomerol, Bordeaux France 2012 | \$12.95 | \$48 |
| Quivera, Dry Creek, Zinfandel California 2012 | \$16.95 | \$60 |

Please note that vintages on the wine list are subject to change without prior notice.

Half Bottles

1) Adelsheim, Pinot Gris, Willamette Valley, Oregon 2014 (W.W. 91pts.)

\$23

The principal white wine of Oregon. Adelsheim Vineyard was one of the very first producers of this variety outside of Europe. The wine serves up aromas and flavors of dried peach skin and lively mineral notes. On the palate, it is crisp and lively.

2) Domaine Alexandre Ellevin, Chablis 2012

\$36

A lovely pale yellow with hints of white gold Chablis wine balanced and in harmony with a beautifully floral, discrete and fresh nose. It is light and delicate wine with a smooth mineral palate of subtle green apples, vivid citrus, firm acidity and a lively fruity finish.

3) Rickety Bridge, Late Harvest Chenin Blanc, Franschhoek 2014

\$36

Concentrated flavors result in an intense, layered wine in which decadent fruit flavors of dried apricots and honeyed peaches are matched with cleansing acidity.

4) Charles Deloire, Pouilly Fumé, Loire 2014

\$40

Appearance is a pale straw yellow, on the nose there are intense aromas of grapefruit and white flowers. The flavors are light-to-medium-bodied with crisp acidity, bright citrus flavors and flinty minerality.

5) Marchesi De Frescobaldi, Castelgiocondo, Brunello Di Montalcino 2008 (W.S. 90pts.)

\$57

A ripe, warm red, with cherry, plum and baked earth notes backed by woody spice accents. The focus narrows on the finish, where the dusty tannins reign. Offers fine, spicy length.

6) Hirsch Winery 'San Andreas Fault', Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast 2011 (W.E. 90pts.)

\$60

The San Andreas Fault is Hirsch Vineyards' signature pinot noir and is crafted to give the drinker a complete picture of this complex vineyard. The 2011 San Andreas Fault has fruit from 27 distinct farming blocks within Hirsch Vineyards, more than any wine produced from this site. The signature wine from one of the finest vintages they've ever seen at Hirsch Vineyards. A wine of elegance, intensity and fantastic ageability. 100% estate, 100% Hirsch.

7) Luce Della Vite, Luce, Tuscany 2010 (J.S.98pts.)

\$85

This is clearly the greatest Luce ever. A wine with currants and blueberries with hints of flowers and spices. A full bodied red with with lots of chocolate, berry and vanilla character. Chewy. Juicy. Better in 2015 to soften and come together. Fabulous blend of 45% sangiovese and 55% merlot.

Magnums (1.5 Litre)

- 8) Ruffino, Riserva Ducale Oro-Gold, Chianti Classico, Tuscany (J.S. 91pts.)** **\$150**
Lots of dried berry, orange peel and ginger aromas follow through to a full body with chewy tannins. Tangy finish. Rich and delicious.
- 9) Beni Di Batasiolo, Barolo, Piedmont 2010 (W.E. 93pts.)** **\$155**
This opens with a beautiful Nebbiolo nose of red rose, red berry, earth and mineral. The elegant palate delivers bright, juicy, wild cherry and raspberry flavors layered with mineral, white pepper, clove and licorice. Firm but refined tannins and fresh acidity make this surprisingly approachable now, but it will be even better after 2016.
- 10) Serge Mathieu, Cuvée Prestige, Brut, Champagne N/V (W.E. 91pts.)** **\$160**
Creamy apple fruit, toast, pears, medium in body with a white pepper finish. 67% pinot noir and 33% chardonnay. (aged for four years on lees).
- 11) The Prisoner Wine Company, The Prisoner, Napa Valley 2013 (W.S. 91pts.)** **\$170**
Bold and stylish, with dark cherry, toasty oak and black pepper aromas and briary, dense flavors of blackberry, espresso and grilled anise. The tannins tighten on the finish. Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah, Syrah and Charbono. Drink now through 2021.
- 12) Banfi, Brunello di Montalcino, Tuscany 2010 (J.S. 95pts.)** **\$230**
Fabulous aromas of dried rose petal, orange peel, oyster shell and hints of dark fruits. Full body, very fine tannins with a mineral, berry and orange-peel and Tuscan-dust undertone. A structured, salty, savory finish. Better in 2017.
- 13) Jordan, Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley 2010** **\$240**
Has a smooth, silky structure that showcases the delicacy of the vintage. Elegant aromas of cherries and plums open to a soft, silky mouthfeel boasting a spectrum of red and black fruit flavors with a hint of spicy oak.
- 14) Maison Louis Jadot, Beaune Premier Cru Anniversaire, Burgundy 2012** **\$250**
The release of the 2012 vintage (a year of small yields and extremely high quality), offers a celebration of Beaune's premiers crus. This blend is based on a number of different climats, whose names are featured on the front label. This wine is deeply colored, and shows notes of dark berries. Its tannins are fine grained and silky, showing the hallmark complexity and richness of Beaune's premiers crus.
- 15) Marchesi di Barolo, Barolo, Cannubi, Piedmont 2011 (R.P. 92pts.)** **\$252**
The 2011 Barolo Cannubi is distinguished by great intensity and integrity of fruit. Dark blackberry, spice, leather and tobacco form a united aromatic fruit. The wine shows vigor, power and a rich mouthfeel that lasts long on the palate.
- 16) Orin Swift Cellars, Papillon, Napa Valley 2012 (W.S. 92pts.)** **\$276**
A rich and creamy textured red, this fans out to offer a complex mix of dark berry, graphite, cedar and loamy earth, gaining depth and persistence on the finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Malbec.

- 17) Luciano Sandrone, Barolo Le Vigne Piedmont 2006 (R.P. 96pts.)** **\$415**
Sandrone's 2006 Barolo Le Vigne possesses awesome balance as intricately woven layers of aromas and flavors come together in the glass. The 2006 is an especially powerful Le Vigne boasting a solid core of floral, red fruits supported by firm yet elegant tannins. This, too, shows the considerable drive and focus that is the hallmark of the vintage. The wine's overall balance is impeccable.
- 18) Luciano Sandrone, Barolo Cannubi Boschis, Piedmont 2006 (W.A. 97pts)** **\$430**
The tell-tale strawberries and intense red fruits of Cannubi are framed in an opulent nose. In the mouth, this has a tighter and richer structure, with loads of red and black fruits, balanced by velvet tannins and fresh acids – this is a wine to age and wait for. The finish seems to go on forever. A classically styled Cannubi that needs time that will amply reward the patient!
- 19) Joseph Phelps, Insignia, Napa Valley 1998 (I.W.C. 92pts.)** **\$750**
With complex aromas of black cherry, plum, chocolate, currant and toasty oak, the wine displays layers of flavor and richness that disguise its power and longevity. Beautifully crafted and balanced, the 1998 Insignia reflects a new level of quality from both the vineyards and the growing regions.
- 20) Caymus, Special Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 1997 (I.W.C. 93pts.)** **\$900**
Opaque, with deep ruby-red edges, even the sight of this wine is enticing. Very deep, rich cassis fruit, enmeshed in a smoky, mineral background, dominates the nose. Pure cassis extract is also present on the palate; a sweet entry yields to a firmly tannic, yet generous and amazingly long finish. Fine grained tannins give a serious texture to the wine. A rich, smoky spice character emerges in the aftertaste. A very complete, unctuous wine. Muscular and intensely concentrated, it nevertheless manages to display perfect balance.

Sparkling & Champagne

- 21) Gloria Ferrer, VA de VI, Carneros N/V** **\$59**
Offers abundant aromas of ripe apple, Asian pear and Bing cherries amid enticing yeasty tones. On the palate, rich flavors of ripe peach, Meyer lemon, fresh berries and vanilla join with creamy textures in a lasting finish. 89% Pinot Noir, 8% Chardonnay, 3% Muscat.
- 22) Antica Fratta Franciacorta, Essence Nature, Italy 2009** **\$73**
Straw yellow in colour with golden hues. The nose shows perfume with hints of spices and dried fruit. Full and complex on the palate, with an intense, balanced, long finish. 70% Chardonnay and 30% Pinot Noir.
- 23) Veuve Clicquot, Ponsardin N/V (W.S. 91pts.)** **\$110**
You can't lose with this classy wine. The refined apple, grapefruit and dough aromas follow through on the palate. Creamy and lively on the finish.
- 24) Laurent Perrier, Brut N/V** **\$119**
A bright, mineral-driven Champagne that offers a creamy mousse and flavors of green pear, anise, spiced nut and candied lemon zest. A note of sweet smoke lingers on the moderate finish.
- 25) Piper-Heidsieck, Brut, Champagne 2000 (W.S. 93pts.)** **\$175**
An opulent, energetic bubbly, this has a concentrated essence of vanilla, honey, apricot and citrus notes, with a long finish. The firm structure offsets its richness.
- 26) Ruinart, Rose, Champagne (W.S. 92pts.)** **\$210**
A pretty rosé, harmonious and lithe, with flavors of dried strawberry and smoke carrying on a fine bead and intermingling with the accents of toasted almond, ground anise, pastry and dried apricot. Fresh and focused, presenting a lasting finish of smoke, ripe fruit and rich pastry.
- 27) Dom Perignon, 2003 (W.S. 94pts.)** **\$320**
Displays rich aromas of honey, brioche and hints of vanilla. Though round and sumptuous, there is bright citrus, peach and a focus on the finish that retains its elegance, freshness, finesse and complexity. With air, it becomes more textural, with a ginger notes and a distinctive mineral streak.
- 28) Veuve Clicquot, Brut Champagne, La Grand Dame 2006 (W.S. 94pts.)** **\$340**
Bright and graceful, this seamlessly knits a subtle streak of smoke-tinged minerality with flavors of almond financier, poached pear, candied kumquat and crème de cassis, focused by vibrant acidity and a refined, creamy mousse.
- 29) Krug, Grande Cuvee, Champagne (W.S. 94pts.)** **\$400**
Beautifully aromatic and inviting, with grilled nut, incense and graphite notes, this vibrant Champagne is finely knit and harmonious, expanding on the palate and delivering flavors of toast, lemon meringue, orange blossom and clover honey. The long finish features lots of exotic spice details.

Vino Bianco/Old World White Wines

- 30) Beni di Batasiolo, Chardonnay, Langhe, Piedmont 2013** **\$36**
Intense straw-yellow color, limpid and brilliant. Very rich bouquet with suggestions of tropical fruit, citrus, grapefruit, honey and vanilla. In the mouth it is balanced, wide-ranging, dry with a breath of fan-shaped aroma perceptible to the nose.
- 31) Château Saint-Pierre, Rosé, Provence 2014** **\$36**
Powerful nose, white peach with spicy notes, evolving towards candied apricots, guava, exotic fruit. Great fullness in the mouth, a rich wine with great character, excellent aromatic length typical to the unique terroir of Château Saint Pierre.
- 32) Hugel, Gentil, Alsace 2013** **\$36**
Bright, silvery sheen, pale green color, fresh, lively and youthful with an elegant aspect. Attractive, flattering bouquet, open and forthcoming, quite aromatic, scented, floral and fruit-driven: cardamom, lemon balm, rose, lime blossom, cherry blossom and sweet almond.
- 33) Minuty M, Rosé, Provence 2015** **\$36**
A magnificent wine of pleasure, the aromatic harmony of grenache and cinsault offers some notes of peach and candied orange. The mouth is fresh and round. Blend: Grenache 50%, Cinsault 40% and Syrah 10%
- 34) Vietti, Roero Arneis, Piedmont 2014** **\$40**
Pale sunshine yellow color with fresh floral, citrus and melon aromas with hints of almonds. An unoaked, dry, medium bodied white wine with crisp acidity, the Arneis is well-balanced, elegant wine with good complexity and a lingering finish.
- 35) Terredora, Loggia della Serra, Greco di Tufo, Greco 2013** **\$45**
Aromas of Granny Smith, stone fruit and citrus carry over to the palate along with nectarine, yellow peach and mineral. The palate is balanced by racy acidity and finishes on a bitter, nutty note.
- 36) Casa Rojo, La Marimorena, Albarino, Pontevedra 2015** **\$50**
Pale yellow colour, with a beautiful shiny and greenish hue. Herbal aromas, scents of citrus, and clear notes of apple and pear. Fresh and fruity in the mouth, balanced acidity, round and structured.
- 37) La Poussie Sancerre Blanc, Loire 2015** **\$55**
Light yellow. Flinty aromas of apple, orange blossom and wet stone. Tactile and a touch rough-grained, with chalky minerality giving definition to the classically dry sauvignon blanc flavors of lemon zest, herbs and quinine. Tightens up on the back of the palate, finishing with good lift to its stony flavors.
- 38) Domaine Weinbach, Riesling, Clos des Capucins Cuvee Theo, Alsace 2012** **\$60**
Outstanding. Real class and elegance here, and excellent concentration. Perfect Riesling character with lemon, white fruit and minerality. Some apple on the palate. Long finish. Drinks very well even on its own.
- 39) Mario Schiopetto, Pinot Grigio, Collio 2014 (J.S. 92pts.)** **\$60**
A flinty, mineral white with pear and green apple skin. Full body with bright acidity and a clean finish. This is a pinot grigio with wonderful subtlety and finesse.

- 40) Domaine Delorme et Fils, Pouilly-Fuisse ‘Sur la Roche’, Maconnais 2013** **\$63**
Coming from a 40 years old vineyard, ideally situated on the south east faced slope near the rock of Vergisson. This cuvée is brought up in stainless steel containers and some years effects a short passage in oakwood barrels. It offers a bouquet of scents of flowers and you will be charmed by its elegance and its typical mineral character.
- 41) Vie di Romans, Piere, Sauvignon 2013 (J.S. 93pts.)** **\$60**
A multidimensional white with sliced apple and papaya character. Full body, bright acidity and a long and flavorful finish. Minerally and tangy. Some gooseberry flavors as well.
- 42) Eric Forest, Les Crays, Pouilly Fuissé 2014** **\$63**
Straw yellow color. Aromas of sun-ripened apples and honey. Classic Pouilly-fuissé with a aftertaste of pineapple and passionfruit held in check by a nice acidity.
- 43) Antinori, Cervaro Della Sala, Chardonnay 2014 (W.A. 94pts.)** **\$65**
Luminous yellow with greenish highlights, shows toasted aromas along with notes of citrus and tropical fruit and lightly buttery sensations. Fresh and savory on the palate, it is long and persistent as well.
- 44) Charles Deloire, Pouilly Fumé, Loire 2012** **\$70**
Appearance is a pale straw yellow, on the nose there are intense aromas of grapefruit and white flowers. The flavors are light-to-medium-bodied with crisp acidity, bright citrus flavors and flinty minerality.
- 45) Bitouzet-Prieur, Puligny-Montrachet 'Les Levrons', Burgundy 2013** **\$120**
Gold-coloured with a bright green reflection. The nose exhibits aromas of white flowers in its youth and evolves towards almond, and hazelnut with a hint of green apple, pear, and lemon. The palate expresses buttery and honey flavours with mineral notes.

'New World' Whites

- 46) Rickety Bridge, Rose, South Africa 2013** **\$36**
Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz. Tones of strawberry, Turkish delight and candy floss dominate the nose and palate with an elegant spicy finish. The full palate is supported by easy natural acidity.
- 47) Rickety Bridge, Paulina's Reserve, Chenin Blanc, South Africa 2015** **\$38**
Aromatic honeysuckle, grapefruit and paw paw with subtle oak spice. A rich, well balanced palate showing complex layers of ripe pear, honey and melon which fill the mouth.
- 48) Au Contraire, Chardonnay, Russian River 2014 (W.E. 93pts.)** **\$42**
This is a pretty, floral and balanced wine, elegantly austere in preserved lemon, yuzu and grapefruit, with richer overtones that build on the medium-body toward the lengthy finish. A wine made for the table, it'll pair well and widely, though it can also stand deliciously on its own.
- 49) Qupe, Bien Nacido Y Block Chardonnay, Santa Maria Valley 2014 (W.E. 91pts.)** **\$48**
One of the first releases since Charles Banks invested in Bob Lindquist's pioneering brand, this wine shows Japanese apple, lemon blossoms, lightly browned butter and a touch of tropicality on the nose. Still a bit wound up, the wine conveys potential length, with green-apple skins, nectarine flesh, cement-like minerality and a chive herb lift.
- 50) Quivira Dry Creek Sauvignon Blanc, Sonoma 2014** **\$55**
The wine melds Old World style Sauvignon Blanc with the New World. It's round and plump, yet finishes with cleansing acidity. Notes of herbs and some signature grassiness are apparent on entry, flowing into flavors of tropical fruits, lime and gooseberries.
- 51) Landmark Overlook Chardonnay, Sonoma County 2013** **\$60**
The 2013 Overlook Chardonnay has a bright, medium gold color with complex aromas of ripe pear, meyer lemon, sage and lemon curd. On the palate flavors of quince, pear blossom, apricot, and piecrust are balanced by lively citrus notes completing this refreshing wine.
- 52) Qupe, Bien Nacido Vineyard Hillside Roussanne, Santa Maria Valley 2011 (V 92pts.)** **\$82**
This is the best white wine that Qupe makes and by far the most expensive to make, but the results are worth it! Whole cluster pressed and fermented and aged exclusively in one year old Francois Frères Burgundy barrels. Aged a total of 18 months, the rest year on the lees in one year old barrels, then racked and aged the last 6 months in neutral wood.
- 53) Darioush, Signature Series Chardonnay, Napa Valley 2012 (W.E. 90pts.)** **\$88**
Citrus and orange blossom waft from the glass followed by plump minerality, Meyer lemon and crème brûlée, wrapped in restrained oak. Fruit sources range from Carneros to Mount Veeder and Oak Knoll, providing a well-balanced range of flavor and tension.
- 54) Tamber Bey, Chardonnay, Deux Chevaux Vineyard, Sonoma 2014** **\$90**
This *Signature Series* wine delivers a very rich nose that mixes brioche, candied peach and white chocolate. The mouthfeel is full-bodied, with a creamy texture that is the result of the barrel fermentation and lees stirring. Flavors include salted caramel, white flowers and a little bit of nutmeg spice. The wine finishes with long notes of fresh pear, hazelnut and white peach.

- 55) Nickel & Nickel, Medina Vineyard Chardonnay 2014** **\$105**
Medina shows lovely fruit that is complemented by subtle, floral notes. The wine expands on the palate with a sense of coating mineral qualities that persist through a long finish.
- 56) Peirson Meyer, Charles Heintz Vineyard, Chardonnay, Sonoma 2012 (W.A. 95pts.)** **\$113**
This exotic effort displays lots of flinty minerality along with notes of orange marmalade, mango and citrus blossoms. Savory and full-bodied with terrific delineation and texture.
- 57) Far Niente, Chardonnay, Napa Valley 2014** **\$115**
The 2014 Far Niente Chardonnay opens with light tropical aromas alongside melon, juicy citrus and a layer of toasted oak and mineral. The silky entry introduces bright melon and citrus notes complementary to the nose, then progresses to a creamy, structured mid-palate. The long, mouthwatering finish has bright acidity with lingering citrus, toasted nuts and wet stone flavors.
- 58) Williams Selyem Heintz Chardonnay, Russian River 2014 (V 92pts.)** **\$215**
The 2014 Chardonnay Heintz Vineyard is the richest and most overt of these Chardonnays from Williams Selyem. Then again, Heintz is a site that naturally yields oily, textured Chardonnays, which is exactly what readers will find here. Scents of orange blossom, butter, spice, candied lemon peel, apricot jam and French oak flesh out on the sweet, enveloping finish.

Rosso
'Old World'

59) Banfi, La Lus, Albarossa, Piemont 2013

\$40

Deep ruby red color. On the nose fresh fruity aromas with notes of red fruits, cherries and prunes jam, well integrated with notes of vanilla and licorice. On the palate it's velvety, full-bodied and harmonious, with gentle tannins.

60) Chateau Des Jacques, Moulin-à-Vent, Beaujolais 2012 (W.S. 91pts.)

\$50

Moulin-à-Vent wine is widely referred to as the King of Beaujolais and is considered to be the region's most Burgundian cru. Following harvest, a portion of the grapes is destemmed before the wine is vinified in closed vats with pumping over. 80% of the wine was aged 10 months in oak barrels, 30% new. Rich yet elegant floral, black fruit and spice aromas introduce the dense, structured palate with ripe fruit character and supple tannins. 100% Gamay.

61) Heretat Oller Del Mas, Bernat Oller, Spain 2013

\$50

Intense red colour. Clean aroma, fresh with touches of plum, red fruits and vanilla. Balsamic, spiced and a bit toasted. On the palate the wine is fresh, acid, fruity and spicy. To point out the nicely integrated oak, tannins and acidity

62) Banfi, ASKA, Rosso, Bolgheri 2013 (J.S. 92pts.)

\$54

Aromas of blackberries, stones and lavender. Full body, tight and firm tannins and a fresh and clean finish. Hints of toasted oak and biscuit. Chocolate, too. Banfi continues to make excellent reds in this appellation. A red that is fascinating to drink now but will better in 2016.

63) Mazzei, Fonterutoli, Chianti Classico, Tuscany 2013 (W.E. 90pts.)

\$55

Made with Sangiovese and 10% other varieties, this offers scents of dark berry, purple flowers and a whiff of allspice. The firm palate delivers black cherry, toasted oak, espresso and white pepper alongside fine-grained tannins.

64) Ruffino, Modus, Tuscany 2011 (J.S. 91pts.)

\$60

A red with blueberry and blackberry character, plus hints of licorice. Full body, chewy tannins and a walnut, berry and dark-chocolate aftertaste. Very extracted but outstanding.

65) Antinori, Marchese Chianti Classico Riserva, Tuscany 2013 (W.S. 93pts.)

\$65

An intense ruby red with purple highlights in color, the aromatic gamut of the 2013 Marchese Antinori ranges from ripe red fruit, with perceptible notes of wild cherries and cherries under spirits to tobacco, leather, and spices. The initial palate sensations are very soft with an excellent balance between tannins and acidity. The finish is richly flavorful and pleasurable and is quite lasting and sustained.

66) Planeta, Santa Cecilia, Nero d'Avola, Sicily 2010 (W.E. 92pts.)

\$68

Santa Cecilia opens with the aromas that define the Nero d'Avola grape. There are touches of almond and Bronte pistachio, followed by blackberry, plum and cherry notes. A smoky mineral tone appears on the finish, and the wine is fresh and well structured.

- 67) Heretat Oller Del Mas, Arnau Oller, Spain 2011** **\$70**
 A very complex wine while soft, warm and delicious. It is the paradigm of the balance between the fresh fruit, balsamic touches and spices. In conclusion, Arnau Oller is a wine with elegance as its most outstanding value. An exclusive wine that expresses the “terroir”, the weather, the nobility and the special feature of our state in Pla de Bages.
- 68) Mario Schiopetto, Podere dei Blumeri, Venezia Giulia 2013** **\$70**
 Deep ruby red colour with elegant aromas and fruity bouquet at first glance, blackcurrant and morello cherry, balsamic and tobacco emerge later and lend complexity. On the palate, an intense wine with fine tannins and elegant intriguing freshness and pleasantness, soft, with long, lingering finish.
- 69) Michele Chiarlo, “Reyna”, Barbaresco, Piedmont 2011 (W.E. 93pts.)** **\$75**
 Scents of bright red berry, violet, rose, orange peel, leather and a balsamic note all mingle in the glass. The smooth, savory palate delivers ripe black cherry, black raspberry, freshly ground white pepper, cinnamon and licorice alongside firm but polished tannins. It’s nicely balanced and very refined.
- 70) Sartori, Amarone Della Valpolicella, Veneto 2012** **\$78**
 An accessible Amarone, fresh and balanced, with well-meshed tannins and flavors of damson plum, mulberry, *sous-bois* and cocoa powder.
- 71) Bodegas Y Vinedos O Fournier, Ribera del Duero, Alfa Spiga 2004 (W.S. 91pts.)** **\$92**
 The ripe, sweet fruit in this big red evokes blackberry jam, with licorice, clove and orange peel accents. Thick with tannins and stuffed with oaky notes, yet finishes fresh and clean.
- 72) Luciano Sandrone, Valmaggiore Nebbiolo d'Alba, Piedmont 2010 (W.A. 92pts.)** **\$95**
 Lovely medium garnet red color, which reminds us of the exceptional 2006 and 2009. In the nose and the palate, a harmonious blend of red fruits, cassis, pomegranate and rose petals. It has good structure in the mouth where a nice minerality emerges in the midpalate, followed by a long, smooth, sweet finish. The wine possesses length and elegance and will require some patience to reach its peak. This is an elegant style of Nebbiolo that illustrates the huge potential of wines from the Roero region.
- 73) Gaja, Pieve Santa Restituta, Brunello di Montalcino, Tuscany 2011 (J.S. 90pts.)** **\$95**
 Deep ruby red in color fading to a dark pink rim. An expressive nose with cherry notes, forest fruits, aromatic herbs, and juniper aromas. On the palate, this Brunello di Montalcino expresses ripe tannins, integrated acidity, rich structure and a lingering finish.
- 74) Agricola Punica 'Barrua' Isola dei Nuraghi IGT, Sardinia, 2010 (J.S. 92pts.)** **\$98**
 An intense, dense and beautiful red with hints of dried rosemary and berries as well as peppery meat undertones. Full and very soft with velvety tannins and a long finish. One of the softest and most savory Barruas made yet. Mostly carignan, about 10% cabernet sauvignon and 10% merlot.
- 75) Maison Louis Jadot, Beaune Premier Cru Anniversaire, Burgundy 2012** **\$100**
 The release of the 2012 vintage (a year of small yields and extremely high quality), offers a celebration of Beaune's premiers crus. This blend is based on a number of different climats, whose names are featured on the front label. This wine is deeply colored, and shows notes of dark berries. Its tannins are fine grained and silky, showing the hallmark complexity and richness of Beaune's premiers crus.

- 76) Zenato, Amarone, Veneto 2010 (W.E. 94pts.)** **\$105**
 From one of the leading producers in the denomination, this bold Amarone opens with aromas of tilled earth, plum cake, blackberry and mocha. The dense palate doles out crushed black plum, chocolate and baking spices alongside smooth tannins.
- 77) Ceretto, Barbaresco, Piedmont 2013 (R.P. 91pts.)** **\$110**
 Boasting a classic approach to Nebbiolo, the 2013 Barbaresco offers a pure and traditional interpretation of Piedmont's noble grape. The wine is lean and compact in delivery with a vertical thrust of aromas that spans from wild berry and licorice to ash and dried rose petal. There are warmer layers of tar and coffee at the back. The wine shows great overall balance and silkiness.
- 78) Vietti, Barolo Castiglione, Piedmont 2011 (W.A. 94pts.)** **\$110**
 The Barolo Castiglione deftly balances the open, radiant personality of the vintage with considerable underlying structure. Warm, dense and full-bodied, the Barolo Castiglione flows effortlessly across the palate with generous fruit and fabulous overall balance.
- 79) Tommasi, Amarone, Della Valpolicella Classico 2011 (W.S. 91pts.)** **\$118**
 An elegant red, well-knit and fresh, offering a subtle, silky palate of sun-dried cherry, plum tart, forest floor and black licorice drop, with hints of mocha and dried herb. Supple tannins frame the flavor range and emerge on the finish.
- 80) Ceretto, Barolo, Piedmont 2012 (J.S. 93pts.)** **\$120**
 A beautiful example of the luscious 2012 vintage for Barolo. Shows dried strawberry, light chocolate, toffee and nut aromas and flavors. Hints of dried fruits too. Full yet fresh and agile.
- 81) Antinori, Tignanello, Tuscany 2012 (J.S. 96pts.)** **\$120**
 Aromas of blackcurrants and blueberries with hints of lavender and violets. Full body, chewy and polished tannins and a long, flavorful finish. A beautifully linear and polished red. Give it time to show it all but this is already a beauty. The depth and class to this are indeed impressive.
- 82) Pio Cesare, Barolo, Piedmont 2009 (J.S. 92pts.)** **\$135**
 There's an impressive purity of fruit with strawberry character and hints of cream and flowers. White pepper too. Full body, with polished, integrated tannins and a long flavorful finish. Beautiful fruit. Nougat with fruit. Orange peel. Polished and refined
- 83) Fontodi Chianti Classico Riserva, Vigna del Sorbo 2009 Tuscany (R.P. 94pts.)** **\$135**
 The 2009 Chianti Classico Riserva Vigna del Sorbo is impressive. The overtness of the year is nicely balanced by the inherent freshness and acidity of Sangiovese. Hints of tobacco, cedar, licorice and spices are layered into the insistent finish. This is a terrific showing. I very much like the energy, length and focus of the fruit.
- 84) Ugo Lequio, Gallina, Barbaresco, Piedmont 2010 (W.E. 93pts.)** **\$138**
 Ugo Lequio flies below the radar but deserves the attention of Nebbiolo lovers thanks to his consistent quality. His Gallina shows delicious wild cherry, mint and balsamic notes layered with truffle and a touch of espresso.

- 85) G.D. Vajra, Barolo “Albe”, Piedmont 2009 (W.S. 90pts.)** **\$140**
Lavender comes to mind when smelling this fragrant red, with flavors of cherry, raspberry, flowers and spice. Elegant despite the firm tannins, featuring a lingering aftertaste of tobacco and underbrush.
- 86) Corte Aleardi, Amarone della Valpolicella Classico, Veneto 2007 (W.E. 90pts.)** **\$155**
This Amarone has aromas of ripe black fruit and vanilla. The palate delivers plum and blackberry flavors layered with chocolate and oak. It’s not overly complex, but the big fruit and spice flavors satisfy.
- 87) Ceretto, Bernadot Barbaresco, Piedmont 2007 (J.S. 93pts.)** **\$200**
An opulent, full-bodied wine, packed with soft tannins that are already nicely evolved and silky. Very concentrated and varied on the nose, with the classic signs of flowers and red fruit in the foreground. This is a wine that fully expresses Nebbiolo’s character, with a structure destined to guarantee a lengthy cellar life in constant development.
- 88) Ceretto, Brunate Barolo, Piedmont 2006 (R.P. 93pts.)** **\$215**
The 2006 Barolo Brunate is pretty, harmonious and understated. Floral aromatics lead to spices and ripe red fruit in an enveloping, expansive style. The wine reveals gorgeous delineation and a complex, multi-dimensional personality, with a round, caressing finish. It is the most accessible of these 2006 Barolos. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2026.
- 89) Marchesi De Frescobaldi, Giramonte, Tuscany 2009 (J.S. 94pts.)** **\$227**
Complex aromatic array impressions of ripe fruit predominate, with raspberry and sour cherry first to emerge, followed by blackberry and dried plum. The palate impresses with its seductive mouthfeel, velvety texture, and spacious warmth. The tannins, fine-grained, elegant, and already well integrated into the structure, contribute to these impressions, as does a lively, crisp acidity. Its lengthy, well-balanced finish is nicely laced with aromatic fruit.
- 90) Luciano Sandrone, Barolo Le Vigne, Piedmont 2006 (R.P. 96pts.)** **\$240**
Sandrone’s 2006 Barolo Le Vigne possesses awesome balance as intricately woven layers of aromas and flavors come together in the glass. The 2006 is an especially powerful Le Vigne boasting a solid core of floral, red fruits supported by firm yet elegant tannins. This, too, shows the considerable drive and focus that is the hallmark of the vintage. The wine’s overall balance is impeccable.
- 91) Luciano Sandrone, Barolo Cannubi Boschis, Piedmont 2006 (W.A. 97pts)** **\$250**
The tell-tale strawberries and intense red fruits of Cannubi are framed in an opulent nose. In the mouth, this has a tighter and richer structure, with loads of red and black fruits, balanced by velvet tannins and fresh acids – this is a wine to age and wait for. The finish seems to go on forever. A classically styled Cannubi that needs time that will amply reward the patient!
- 92) Antinori, Solaia, Tuscany 2004 (W.S. 96pts.)** **\$260**
The 2004 Solaia is breathtaking, as it so often is. Soaring aromatics lead to a sweet, layered expression of dark fruit. The wine possesses super clarity and precision with a gorgeous inner tension that carries all the way through to the long finish. The tannins remain incredibly finessed and silky. 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Sangiovese, 5% Cabernet Franc.

93) Antinori, Guado al Tasso, Tuscany 1999 (W.E. 95pts.) \$310

Fast becoming one of the world's top luxury cuvées, this blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot and 10% Syrah is a complex amalgam of dry, classy fruit, herbal notes, smoked meat, black pepper and baking spices. Its calling card is its perfect body weight. It isn't heavy or jammy, but it manages to offer tons of stuffing and a graceful finish loaded with the essences of cola, coffee and chocolate.

94) Chateau Ducru-Beaucaillou, St.-Julien 1995 (W.S. 95pts.) \$350

Subtle yet aromatic character of Indian spices, currants and dried cherries. Full-bodied, with super well-integrated tannins and a long, caressing finish. Wonderful texture. Classy and structured. Long. This was wine of the year in 1998.

95) Tenuta San Guido, Bolgheri-Sassicaia, Sassicaia 2010 (W.A. 96pts.) \$385

Shows extreme purity that brings its many beautiful aromas into startling focus and clarity. Lingering tones of black fruit and Oriental spice add subtle shades at the back. The wine mostly certainly shows its pedigree in the exciting and beautifully balance manner it evolves in the glass!

96) Tenuta dell'Ornellaia, Tuscany 2010 (R.P. 97pts.) \$405

Poured from the special anniversary bottle, the 2010 Bolgheri Superiore Ornellaia is a truly outstanding wine that leaves a lasting memory for those who are lucky enough to enjoy it. What stands out is the absolutely seamless-seamless-seamless (yes, it's worth repeating three times) integration of its many moving parts. The wine magically transitions from cherry, spice, chocolate and espresso in one melodic and continuous loop. It exudes balance and elegance over long, delicious minutes. It is profoundly impressive.

'New World' Reds

- 97) Bodega Norton, Reserve Malbec, Mendoza 2012 (W.S. 90pts.)** **\$36**
Offers a fruity aroma, with red and dark fruit flavors that are complex and woven together with fine tannins. Minerally midpalate, presenting some inviting peppery notes. Finishes with a flush of spice and brambly details.
- 98) Bodegas Y Vinedos O. Fournier, Berux, Uco Valley 2010** **\$43**
Mature, offering up a mix of dried red berry and blackberry, tobacco, leather and coffee bean notes on a medium- to full-bodied frame, as the minerally finish lingers on. Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and Malbec.
- 99) Bodegas Renacer, Enamore, Mendoza 2013** **\$44**
This is a ripe, concentrated red, with nuances of cocoa, sweet spice and liquorice accenting a core of jammy blackberry, raspberry and plum skin notes, which linger through the long, savoury finish.
- 100) Rickety Bridge, Pinotage, Franschoek 2015** **\$45**
The Rickety Bridge Pinotage displays the whole class of this typical South African grape variety: luscious aromas of black and blue berries, paired with a hint of chocolate and spice. Simply delicious!
- 101) Duck Pond, Fries' Family Cellars, Pinot Noir, Oregon 2014** **\$45**
This sumptuous Pinot Noir is characterized by a rich garnet color, with flavors of Bing cherry and red fruits which are complemented by aromas of earth and spice.
- 102) Rickety Bridge, Shiraz, Franschoek 2012** **\$45**
Graciously aromatic with notes of red and black berry fruits, spice and white pepper. Elegance and structure on the palate with supple velvety tannins. Complex nose of juicy mulberry and bramble fruit that linger. Fresh juicy balanced acidity and very subtle oak with hints of clove.
- 103) Bodega Norton, Privada, Mendoza 2011 (W.E. 93pts.)** **\$48**
This version of Malbec, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon is smoky on the nose, with charcoal, minerals and toast capping crusty berry aromas. The palate is super ripe and healthy in feel, with baked blackberry flavors smothered in toasty oak and chocolate. Warmth, coffee and Port notes drive the finish.
- 104) La Follette, North Coast Pinot Noir, North Coast California 2013** **\$50**
A complex and beguiling bouquet of fresh strawberry, vanilla pod and wild mushroom. The smooth entry leads to delicate red fruit flavors framed by soft tannins and savory notes. Balanced by acidity on the late-palate, the long finish is punctuated by a subtle earthiness. Overall, a complete and palate-pleasing rendition of coastal Pinot Noir.
- 105) Landmark Overlook Pinot Noir, Sonoma County 2014** **\$62**
The 2013 Overlook Pinot Noir has a medium ruby core with intense aromas of raspberries, red cherry, with hints of cola and mahogany. This medium-bodied Pinot Noir exhibits bright acidity with flavors of red currant, orange zest and milk chocolate that is balanced with soft integrated tannins. 100% Pinot Noir sourced from vineyards in three counties: 64% Sonoma, 27% Monterey, 9% San Benito.

- 106) Cuvaision, Estate Grown Pinot Noir, Napa Valley 2013 (W.E. 90pts.) \$65**
 A light, straightforward and focused wine, 100% varietal, this offers cranberry, mushroom and a complexity of tannin and oak. High acidity dances around fresh layers of strawberry and raspberry on the palate, with a grippy, cinnamon-spiced finish.
- 107) Pied a Terre, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma County 2012 \$65**
 Intense, full-bodied and vibrant, displaying both robust flavor and fantastic acidity. The nose is full of eucalyptus, earth and red fruits – a combination of sour cherry and red licorice. Those flavors are also present on the palate and augmented by hints of caramel, moss and cooking spices. The wine is bold and full of flavor, with great length and persistence on the palate.
- 108) Adelsheim, Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley 2012 (W.S. 92pts.) \$70**
 Taut, tart and surprisingly generous, blooming with juicy, cranberry-accented blackberry, cherry and spice flavors that linger easily on the sharp-edged finish.
- 109) Bodegas Y Vinedos O. Fournier, ALFA Crux, Malbec, Argentina 2009 (J.S. 92pts.) \$71**
 This is a very concentrated red with some dried fruit character and hints of toasted oak. A slightly fuller style but it remains fresh despite having an alcohol of 15%.
- 110) Capiiaux Cellars ‘Chimera’, Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast 2012 \$73**
 Bright cherry nose with scents of cola, flowers, bramble and spice. The palate is medium-plus with full, rich flavors. Tannins are ripe and moderate while the acidity, alcohol and finish are all medium-plus. Rich flavors of cherry, caramel, cola, bramble, cranberry sauce, spice and violets with touches of white pepper and bacon. Sweet, velvety across the mid palate and through the finish.
- 111) Seghesio, Old Vine Zinfandel, Sonoma County 2012 (W.S. 93pts.) \$75**
 A winning combination of rustic richness and sleek balance. Aromas of briary wild berry and spicy mocha lead to dense, layered flavors of black cherry, grilled anise and pepper. Drink now through 2022. Highly Recommended
- 112) Resonance, Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley 2014 (W.S. 91pts.) \$90**
 Owned by Maison Louis Jadot, this wine showcases the absolute best of the Willamette Valley, and elegantly blends Louis Jadot’s winemaking with the Willamette Valley’s signature terroir. Deep and brilliant dark ruby color. On the nose, aromas of red fruits pair elegantly with a touch of spice and wood. Flavors such as cherries and currants stand out in the mouth and finish with soft tannins and a pleasant minerality.
- 113) World's End, If Six Was Nine, Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2013 (R.P. 91pts.) \$91**
 A blend of 94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Merlot aged 20% in new French oak and the rest in one- and two-year-old barrels. This wine has a nice, crème de cassis and black raspberry aromatics, medium to full-bodied flavors, good, ripe tannin, a nice textured mouthfeel, excellent purity, richness and length. This wine represents a good value among high-end Napa Cabernet Sauvignons.

- 114) Tamber Bey, Sun Chase Vineyards Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast 2014** **\$105**
 Delivers an initial burst of fruit—black currant, olallieberry, blackberry and poached plum—mixed with light floral notes, sweet tobacco and a mineral undertone. The mouth has bright, fruit-forward intensity of black cherry and blackberry seeds that is very soft and full. It develops into more earthy flavors combined with some seasoning spices and a long finish of tobacco leaf and light sweet oak.
- 115) Merry Edwards, Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley 2013 (R.P. 90pts.)** **\$110**
 An outstanding example of Pinot Noir, the 2013 Pinot Noir has a beautiful dark ruby color, nice earthy, plum, black cherry and berry scent, medium to full body, good acidity and ripe, well-integrated tannin. Merry Edwards has been making Pinot Noir for more than 40 years, so it is no surprise she hits the highlights with this varietal. This young, vibrant Pinot should age beautifully for 10-15 years
- 116) Peirson Meyer, Bateman Vineyard, Pinot Noir, Sonoma 2012 (W.A. 92pts.)** **\$114**
 Comes across as very Burgundian with a Côte de Nuits-like character. Its broodingly dark color is followed by notes of forest floor, sassafras, earth, black cherries and Chinese black tea. Well-made and medium to full-bodied.
- 117) Tamber Bey, Deux Chevaux Vineyard, Rabicano, Napa Valley 2013 (W.A. 92pts.)** **\$120**
 This wine is complex and reflects the blending of the four varietals (Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot with the bolstering power of Petit Verdot and the aromatics of Cabernet Franc) very elegant and fragrant. The nose layers black licorice, flowers, crushed strawberry, beef bouillon, a hint of soy sauce, and cedar. The mouth is silky; a complete wine from beginning to end. Subtle blueberry and blackberry notes reveal a touch of cola, vanilla and minerality.
- 118) Bodega Mendel, Finca Remota, Malbec, Uco Valley 2008 (R.P. 94pts.)** **\$125**
 This ambitious red exhibits layers of mesquite, toasty oak and baking spices, wrapping the rich blackberry, plum skin and dark fig fruit that hangs on through the smoky finish.
- 119) Midsummer Cellars, "Cañon Creek", Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2012 (W.E. 90pts.)** **\$150**
 "Cellar Selection" - Smooth and tangy in dark plum and cassis, this vineyard-designate leans toward the savory side of the variety, yeasty and tasting of tobacco and tar. It finishes with a swirl of mocha.
- 120) Rickety bridge, "The Bridge", Cabernet Sauvignon, Franschhoek 2014** **\$155**
 The nose is dominated by mint, dark cherry, eucalyptus, aromatic tobacco and hints of cloves. Cassis, red fruit and subtle chocolate are supported by the natural acidity giving the wine a linear elegant feel on the palate. Tremendous fullness, the massive suple structure which fills the entire mouth, voluptuous velvety tannins that make the tongue feel gracefully coated. Full-bodied yet refined. A long and enchanting finish leaves one wanting more.
- 121) Mt. Brave, Cabernet Sauvignon, Mount Veeder 2011 (W.E. 91pts.)** **\$160**
 From high-elevation vineyards, this is a lean, dusty wine driven by dried herb, blueberry and savory tobacco, with a floral flirtation on the bouquet. Integrated tannins are still sizable and structured, the midpalate touched by a gamy, meaty suggestion akin to charcuterie.

- 122) Darioush Signature Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 2011 (W.E. 96pts.) \$180**
Sanguine and brooding in dense layers of juicy black fruit, leather and tobacco, this is classic Napa Valley Cabernet with an elegance at its core, that's also seamless, complex and age-worthy. From relatively cooler sites in Oak Knoll and Mount Veeder, and a cooler year too, this vintage sings for this producer, showing balance and power in equal measure.
- 123) Williams Selyem, Calegari Vineyard, Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley 2013 \$190**
Dried rose petal, anise, fennel seed and cinnamon comingle with cranberry and red cherry notes. The entry is full and spreads out to cover the entire palate. Young tannin dominate the middle of the tongue, and the finish takes on an English breakfast tea-like component.
- 124) Cakebread Cellars, Dancing Bear Ranch Red, Howell Mountain 2012 (R.P. 99pts.) \$260**
Characteristically dense, perfumed aromas of bright black cherry, blueberry and blackberry fruit, mixed with floral and forest-floor scents, introduce amazingly bright, vibrant and concentrated red and black cherry, plum, spice and dark chocolate flavors framed by round, ripe tannins. Beautifully balanced and structured for long-term aging, this intense, complex mountain cabernet is just beginning to unfold its many splendors and will age beautifully in bottle for at least a decade.
- 125) Williams Selyem, Westside road Neighbours Vineyard, Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley 2014 \$275**
Anise, wild herbs and Bing cherry come together on the nose, and elegantly transition into a smoky tea-like profile. The best coastal Pinot Noirs boast omnipresent tannins buffered by precise acidity; the Hirsch site defines this. The cherry and wild herb notes in the mouth give way to a long finish of mineral and black tea. Superb.
- 126) Williams Selyem, Estate Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley 2013 \$325**
The hillsides of Westside Road are special because of their red soils, which seem to impart a mineral elegance; the Williams Selyem Estate typifies this. Pure cherry notes intermix with blood orange, oyster shell and fennel seed, and meld seamlessly with the elegance of the French oak flavors imparted during barrel aging. The very fine acidity highlights a precision that drives the length of the polished tannins.
- 127) Peter Michael, Les Pavots, Knights Valley 2009 (W.A. 96pts.) \$350**
The 2009 Les Pavots is absolutely fabulous. Mocha, espresso, spices, plums and blackberries are just some of the many notes that jump from the glass in this seamless, striking wine. The 2009 boasts exceptional textural finesse and tremendous class. In 2009 Les Pavots includes 22% Cabernet Franc, one of the highest percentages ever. It all works beautifully. The 2009 is firing on all cylinders. All of the vineyards in Les Pavots are now over 20 years old. In 2009 the blend is 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Cabernet Franc, 10% Merlot and 2% Petit Verdot.
- 128) Shafer, Hillside Select, Cabernet Sauvignon, Stags Leap District 2006 (W.E. 96pts.) \$395**
The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Hillside Select is a stunningly rich effort displaying notes of licorice, cassis, camphor and subtle toast along with a full-bodied, powerful texture and richness. Very pure with surprisingly sweet tannins for a 2006, its long finish lasts over 40 seconds.

Rare & exclusive wines

- 129) Chateau Cos d'Estournel, Bordeaux, 1986 (W.S. 93pts.)** **\$425**
Lovely dark, tight complex nose. This is a different style of wine, with wonderfully dark, spicy fruits, some sweetness and a delicious earthy, mineral edge. Quite beguiling. The palate is structured and full with lovely smooth tannins and nice, dark earthiness under the fruit. Complex, long and elegant.
- 130) Tenuta dell'Ornellaia, Tuscany 1997 (W.S. 95pts.)** **\$550**
Dark ruby red. Shows intense blackberry, currant, fresh herb and mineral character on the nose. Full-bodied, with ultrafine tannins and a long, caressing finish.
- 131) Chateau Haut-Brion, Bordeaux, 1990 (R.P. 98pts.)** **\$1500**
In terms of the brilliant complexity and nobility of the aromatics, scorched earth, black currants, plums, charcoal, cedar, and spices, the 1990 offers an aromatic explosion that is unparalleled. The 1990 put on weight after bottling, and is currently rich, full-bodied, opulent, even flamboyant by Haut Brion's standards. It is an incredible expression of a noble terroir in a top vintage. While it has been fully mature for a number of years, it does not reveal any bricking at the edge, and I suspect it will stay at this level for another 10-15 years ... but why wait? It is irresistible now.
- 132) Chateau La Mission Haut-Brion, Bordeaux 1982 (R.P. 100pts.)** **\$2125**
An extraordinary effort that gets better with each tasting, this dark, murky, garnet/purple-colored 1982 exhibits a fabulously complex nose of hot bricks, asphalt, black fruits, tar, roast beef, and truffles, colossal concentration, super-ripeness, an unctuous texture, and low acidity. While still exceptionally youthful, this wine is powerful, dense, large-scaled, and intense. It is evolving at a snail's pace, but should continue to improve for another 10-15 years, and last for another three decades. A candidate for perfection!
- 133) Chateau Cheval Blanc, Bordeaux 1990 (R.P. 98pts.)** **\$2250**
One of my favorite Cheval Blancs, it remains to be seen if the 1998, 2000, and 2008 will live up to this offering. It is the ripest wine of the aforementioned vintages, with a complex bouquet of tobacco leaf, Christmas fruitcake, sweet black fruits, bordering on fig and plum, but no hint of overripeness, and notions of new saddle leather, mint, and incense. The gorgeously expressive aromatics are followed by a full-bodied wine revealing abundant glycerin as well as elevated alcohol, but it is not hot, and nothing is out of place. Expansive, rich, and revealing the nuances and complexity that come from bottle age.
- 134) Chateau Mouton Rothschild, Bordeaux 1982 (J.S. 100pts.)** **\$2750**
What an amazing red. It's so very youthful with toasted oak, light vanilla, and dark berries such as currants and blueberries. Then it turns to mint. This is so fresh and intensely fruity. It lasts for minutes on your palate with each sip. It is so powerful yet elegant. It will improve for hundreds of years. I would still leave it in my cellar for five or ten years. If you need to drink it, decant it three to four hours in advance. (Tasted March 17,2015)
- 135) Chateau Latour, Bordeaux 1982 (W.C.I. 100pts.)** **\$3750**
This is so good, the scale should be adjusted to allow for 101 Pts! This is everything a great Bordeaux needs to be with its majestic blend of silk, velvet and power. The exotic nose is compelling, with its cassis, blackberry, tobacco, earth, cigar box, cocoa, and dark chocolate nose. But the real action takes place on your palate. Layer after layer of perfectly ripe, sensuous, powerful fruit coats your palate and stays there, lingering and expanding for over 60 seconds. (Tasted Jun 5, 2015)

136) Chateau Lafite-Rothschild, Bordeaux 1982 (W.C.I. 97pts.) **\$7500**
Purity and elegance, refinement and character sum this up quite well. There is a beautiful purity of fruit, ripeness in the tannins and a long, fresh, silky, fruit filled finish that lets you know you're tasting something truly majestic. (Tasted Jan 14, 2016)

Large format Rare & exclusive wines

[3 liter] Caymus, Special Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley 1994 (R.P. 95pts.) **\$1500**
This hedonistic Cabernet Sauvignon's saturated purple color is accompanied by an exuberant, sweet, enveloping fragrance of smoky new oak, and jammy blackberry and cassis fruit. In the mouth, this lavishly wooded, black fruit-filled Cabernet is extremely full-bodied, with superb levels of fruit, glycerin, and extract. Like many 1994 Cabernet Sauvignons, it possesses extraordinary equilibrium, with the sweet tannin giving the wine considerable accessibility. The finish lasts for nearly 30 seconds.

[5 liter] Diamond Creek, Gravelly Meadow Cabernet Sauvignon 1997 (W.S. 93pts.) **\$2520**
Diamond creek Winery's second coolest micro-climate is the five-acre Gravelly Meadow vineyard. Originally a pre-historic river bed, this stony, gravelly soil drains rapidly and the vines struggle for moisture. Tightly focused, firm, tannic, rich and marked by sage, currant, black cherry, cedar and earth note. This builds into a mouthful of Cabernet.

[5 liter] Chateau Pichon-Longueville-Comtesse de Lalande, Bordeaux 1983 (W.S. 92pts.) **\$3360**
This wine has always been underrated. Shows wonderful aromas of chocolate, berry and earth. Full-bodied, with full, velvety tannins and a sweet berry finish.

[1.5 liter] Chateau Lafite-Rothschild, Bordeaux 1990 (R.P. 96pts.) **\$3500**
Darkly coloured, fine nose and of high complexity--berry fruit aroma, smoke, leather spices and a touch of oak. First impression is that this wine attacks frankly in the mouth but reveals to be elegant, very tight tannins, fine ripened fruits. Luxurious texture. A long aftertaste. Potential quality to develop in years--a very long keep.

[6 liter] Chateau Cheval Blanc, Bordeaux 1998 (J.S. 100pts.) **\$9045**
This structured and powerful red is finally coming out its sleep. It shows intense aromas of dried fruits, mushrooms, forest floor and berries. It's full-bodied, very dense and velvety, and has an outstanding, ripe and richly fruity finish. A wine that harkens back to the legendary 1947 Cheval-Blanc.