

The Wine Cellar



Father's Day Fare

Vinous Ravings

currant, mocha-laced oak, sage, mineral and hazelnut notes, with a long, intense, focused and persistent finish. Best from 2010 through 2016." (May 08)

Yangarra Estate Grenache 2005 McLaren Vale, Australia...\$27.99. *Wine Advocate*: 91 pts. "The 2005 Grenache was aged for 15-18 months in seasoned oak. It offers up a brooding perfume of garrigue, black cherry, and black raspberry. Ripe and sweet, it cuts a broad path on the palate. There is structure well-concealed under the layers of fruit, enough that this full-flavored Grenache will evolve for 3-5 years. It will drink well through 2020." (Oct 07)

Les Vins de Vienne 2004 Les Barcillants Cornas...\$34.99. *Wine Enthusiast*: 90 pts. "Rich blackberry aromas and flavors are marked by hints of vanilla and toast. It's supple for Cornas, yet still features a chewiness to its tannins that suggest a few years of aging would be helpful." (Nov 06)

New Arrivals

Red Rock Merlot Reserve 2006 California...\$9.99 (Reg. \$14.99). This is a new vintage of a wine we found at the first of the year. It is not a simple soft, fruity merlot. It is an interesting and complex wine. *Wine Enthusiast*, "...a pleasing, clean wine, at a decent everyday price. Plump and juicy, it pleases for the cherry jam, black raspberry tart, red currant, licorice and spice flavors. Finishes with real sophistication. BEST BUY." (May 08)

L'Ecole #41 Semillon 2006 Columbia Valley...\$17.99. *Int'l Wine Cellar*: 91 pts. "Bright, pale yellow. Subdued but pure nose hints at pineapple. Fresh, deep and young, with a tight core of sweet fruit. This is distinctly Bordeaux-like. Finishes supple but tight and dry, with considerable incipient complexity. This winery has been making excellent semillon for years: I'm tempted to call it their most distinctive varietal wine. Excellent value." (Dec 07)

Flora Springs Sauvignon Blanc 2006 Soliloquy Napa Valley...\$24.99. *Wine Advocate*: 90 pts. "One of the first to see the future in high-class Sauvignon Blancs made in a non-malolactic, Bordeaux-like style, the 2006 Soliloquy exhibits the crisp, melony, fresh lemon grass notes of this varietal. All tank-fermented, this lively wine should be drunk over the next 1-2 years." (Dec 07)

Breggo Cellars Sauvignon Blanc 2007 Ferrington Vyd. Anderson Valley...\$25.99. *Int'l Wine Cellar*: 90 pts. "Green-tinged yellow. Lively lime, orange and pear

Star Lane 2004 Syrah Santa Ynez Valley...\$27.99. *Wine & Spirits*: 94 pts. "The wild blueberry flavor and mineral-edged tannin give this Syrah the intensity of a great Petite Sirah, attained here with freshness and length that buzzes for minutes after each sip. The tannins explode with the dust of crushed granite while the fruit coasts along, delicious and lithe. For wild boar. 650 cases made." (Feb 08)

Vina Cobos 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Cocodrilo Mendoza...\$18.99. *Wine Advocate*: 91 pts. "The 2006 Cocodrilo Cabernet Sauvignon spent 9 months in French and American oak, 21% new. Purple-colored, it offers a lovely bouquet of spice box, violets, and black currants. Full-bodied and layered, it has a supple texture, ripe flavors, excellent depth and a lengthy, fruit-filled finish. It is an outstanding value. Vina Cobos is the Argentina winery of the renowned Paul Hobbs, best known for his namesake wines from California's North Coast. Hobbs began consulting in South America in 1988 and, early on, became involved with Nicholas Catena in the startup of that winery's Chardonnay program. In 1998 he temporarily left his consulting projects to start Vina Cobos with the first vintage coming in 1999. In 2005 Vina Cobos constructed its own winery." (Dec 07)

Kilikanoon Shiraz 2005 Killerman's Run Southern Australia...\$22.99. *Wine Advocate*: 92 pts. "The 2005 Shiraz Killerman's Run, which had just been bottled, is unbelievably good. It possesses a deep ruby/purple color, terrific blackberry and cassis fruit, hints of charcoal, licorice, and earth, and an opulent, voluptuous personality. Enjoy this super-sexy Shiraz over the next 3-4 years." (Oct 06)

Bodegas Artazu Garnacha 2005 Artazuri Navarra...\$11.99. *Int'l Wine Cellar*: 90 pts. "Bright red. Zesty redcurrant, strawberry and cranberry on the nose, with notes of dusty minerals and white pepper adding interest. Tangy and energetic on the palate, the red fruit flavors sharply etched and pure. Firming juicy acids help to carry the strawberry tone through a spicy, long finish. As in most recent vintages, an outstanding bargain." (Oct. 06)

Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon The Ranch 2005 Napa Valley...\$42.99. *Wine Spectator*: 91 pts. "Dense, rich and concentrated, offering a firm core of dried

Protocolo 2006 Tempranillo
Case Price \$76
"Great Spanish bargain"

6.99
Reg. \$8.99

Butterfield Station 2006 Chardonnay
Case Price \$76
"Apple and pear fruits...light oak"

6.99
Reg. \$7.99

Paul Mas 2006 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$87
"Light, clean and crisp"

7.99
Reg. \$8.99

Routas 2006 Rosé
Case Price \$108
"Crisp, red fruits, floral"

9.99
Reg. \$11.99

Red Rock 2006 Reserve Merlot
Case Price \$108
"Soft and smooth...plum and berry fruit"

9.99
Reg. \$14.99

Tarrica Cellars 2005 Cabernet
Case Price \$108
"Black fruits and cedary spice"

9.99
Reg. \$11.99

Winesmith Cellars 2005 Chenin Blanc
Case Price \$97
"Dry, crisp apple and citrus fruit"

8.99
Reg. \$9.99

Blue Lady 2005 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$108
"Melons, grapefruit, touch of peach"

9.99



aromas are complemented by floral honey and anise; no grassy or herbal qualities here. Juicy and fresh, with energetic citrus flavors giving way to riper orchard fruit and melon. A fresh, focused wine, with admirable finishing clarity and cut." (May 08)

Clonakilla Shiraz/Viognier 2006 Canberra, Australia...\$78.99. *Wine Advocate:* 95 pts. "...Considerably more serious is the Côte-Rotie-like 2006 Shiraz-Viognier (with 6% of the latter co-fermented). It offers a splendid bouquet of pain grille, smoky bacon and sausage, violets, blackberry, and blueberry muffin. This is followed by a full-bodied, savory, opulent wine with gobs of fruit, layers of flavor, and well concealed tannin. All components are nicely integrated and the finish lasts for 60+ seconds. Give it 6-8 years of additional cellaring and drink it through 2036." (Oct 07)

Bodegas Carmelo Rodero 2005 Crianza Ribera del Duero...\$33.99. *Wine Advocate:* 90 pts. "The 2005 Carmelo Rodero Crianza is 90% Tempranillo and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon aged for 15 months in a mix of new and used French and American oak. It was bottled unfiltered and unfiltered. Purple-colored, it exhibits a very spicy perfume including notes of cedar, blackberry, black currant, and plum. Smooth textured, plush, and sweetly-fruited, it has enough structure to evolve for 2-3 years. This sexy effort should drink well through 2020." (Feb 08)

Last Call

Kenneth Volk Chardonnay 2004 Bien Nacido Vyd. Santa Maria Valley...\$15.99. *Wine Advocate:* 87 pts. "The 2004 Chardonnay Bien Nacido Vineyard is competent, honeyed tropical fruit-scented and flavored, crisp." (Aug 06)

Stephen Ross Pinot Noir 2004 Stone Corral Vyd. Edna Valley...\$39.99. *Wine Enthusiast:* 92 pts. "This is a new vineyard, co-owned by Talley. The vines are young but enormously promising, and this wine already shows the fruit purity and crisp acidity of Edna Valley Pinot. The vibrant black cherry, cola, mint and dusty spice flavors are supported by a silky smooth mouthfeel and a rich, long finish." (Dec. 06)

Talley Vineyards Chardonnay 2004 Rincon Vyd. Arroyo Grande Valley...\$39.99. *Wine Advocate:* 91 pts. "The 2004 Chardonnay Rincon Vineyard (nearly 6,500 bottles produced) possesses complex aromas of buttered oranges, citrus, hazelnut, and tropical fruits. Medium to full-bodied

and rich, with good buttressing acidity, this beauty reveals more oak than its siblings, but it is well-integrated. This cuvée should drink well for 3-4 years." (Aug 06)

Talley Vineyards Chardonnay 2004 Rosemary's Vyd. Arroyo Grande Valley...\$46.99. *Wine Enthusiast:* 95 pts. "This year's Rosemary's is dry, crisp in citrusy acids, and wonderfully complex. It shows fresh, sweet pineapple fruit and spicy overtones of cinnamon and nutmeg along with layers of minerals and dried herbs. Easily takes its place in the front ranks of California Chardonnay. EDITOR'S CHOICE." (Dec 06)

Rosenblum Cellars Zinfandel 2005 Lyons Reserve Napa Valley...\$39.99. *Wine Advocate:* 91 pts. "The dense, full-bodied, powerful, rich 2005 Zinfandel Lyon's Reserve is atypically concentrated for such a difficult vintage. Boasting superb purity, impressive richness, and a full-bodied style with plenty of black cherry, raspberry, licorice, and herbal undertones, this pure Zinfandel cuts a broad swath across the palate, and finishes authoritatively. Drink it over the next 7-8 years." (Dec 07)

Leviathan 2005 Proprietary Red California...\$43.99. *Vinfolio:* 91 pts. "Naming a wine for a mythical multi-tentacle sea creature that seldom comes to the surface is appropriate for Andy Erickson's garage project using sources from around the valley that are capable of producing excellent fruit. It isn't meant to be a long aging wine even though this is what Erickson is known for (Staglin, Hartwell and now Favia, Ovid, Screaming Eagle, Dalla Valle and Arietta). A blend a 55% Syrah, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, and 5% Cabernet Franc. The wine is ready to drink upon release over the next few years. The nose is heavily influenced by the majority component of Syrah: spice, black fruit and pepper notes followed by the black cherry influence of Merlot. It seems like there is very little new oak if any in the wine as the palate is supple and comes with relatively low acid. A very pleasant wine." (Issue 110, Feb 07)

Vino V Wines 2004 Pinot Noir Clos Pepe Vyd. Santa Rita Hills...\$48.99. *Wine Advocate:* 90 pts. "The impressive, medium to full-bodied, beautifully textured, pure, deep ruby/purple-tinged 2004 Pinot Noir Clos Pepe Vineyard exhibits a sweet, floral-infused perfume of red and black currants. An authoritative as well as elegant effort, it should drink well for 5-7 years." (Aug 06)

Adam Strachan



The Wine Cellar

McManis 2006 Petite Sirah
Case Price \$119 Reg. \$12.99
"Ripe red and black fruits...smooth, long and earthy."

Hess Select 2006 Chardonnay
Case Price \$119 Reg. \$13.99
"Rich, tropical Monterey fruit"

Angeline 2006 Chardonnay
Case Price \$119 Reg. \$16.99
"Light oak, creamy lemony finish"

Woop Woop 2007 Shiraz
Case Price \$130 Reg. \$13.99
"Spicy black fruit...seamless"

Bishop's Peak 2005 Chardonnay
Case Price \$141 Reg. \$14.99
"Bright, precise, balanced and refined"

Tangent 2006 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$141 Reg. \$15.99
"Effusively fruity with grassy melon notes"

Brander 2007 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$152 Reg. \$16.99
"A clean, refreshing classic"

Consilience 2005 Syrah
Case Price \$184 Reg. \$20.99
"Smoky, ripe and amazingly luxurious"