

The Wine Cellar



New Arrivals

Telmo Rodriguez Basa 2007 Rueda ...\$12.99. *Wine Enthusiast*: 89 pts. (Best Buy) "Everyone's favorite summer sipper is as good as ever in 2007. It's 50% Verdejo, 40% Viura and 10% Sauvignon Blanc, and all thrown together you get a ton of steely citrus and mineral aromas and flavors adding up to endless refreshment possibilities. Spritzy, zesty and a perennial bargain among aromatic whites." (Jun 08)

Las Rocas Garnacha 2005 Vinas Viejas Catalayud, Spain...\$18.99. *Wine Advocate*: 91 pts. "The 2005 Las Rocas Vinyas Viejas comes from high altitude, low yielding, 100+-year-old Grenache vines and is aged in French and American oak. More aromatic than its sibling, it has a splendid perfume of spice box, lavender, kirsch, and blueberry. It is also a bit richer and longer in the finish. While it may evolve for 1-2 years, who could resist it now?" (Feb 07)

Byron Chardonnay 2005 Santa Maria Valley...\$24.99. *Wine Spectator*: 93 pts. "Ultrarich and concentrated, with layers of fig, citrus and tangerine flavors that are shaded by toasty oak, filling out the flavor profile and ending with a complex marshmallow edge. Drink now through 2011." (Mar 08)

Mas de les Pereres Nunci Abocat 2005 Priorat...\$37.99. *Wine Advocate*: 91 pts. "The 2005 Nunci Abocat is a blend of Garnacha Blanca, Macabeo, and Moscatel sourced from vines ranging in age from 20 to 40 years. It was fermented in stainless steel and spent 6 months on its lees before it was bottled unfiltered (as were all of these wines). Medium straw-colored, it delivers an expressive bouquet of spring flowers, honey, slate, and pear. This is followed by a mouth-filling, rich, layered, intense wine which would pair well with flaky fish courses and roast chicken. Drink it over the next 1-2 years." (Feb 08)

The Ojai Vineyard Syrah 2004 Roll Ranch...\$48.99. *Wine Advocate*: 94 pts. "The stunningly full-bodied, rich, opulent, ripe 2004 Syrah Roll Ranch offers lovely aromas of melted licorice, crème de cassis, blackberries, violets, and underbrush. It is deep, full-bodied, velvety-textured, and as always, the most forward and evolved of the Ojai Syrahs. Enjoy it over the next decade or more." (Aug 07)

The Ojai Vineyard Syrah 2004 Melville Vyd...\$48.99. *Wine Advocate*: 94 pts. "From the cool Santa Rita Hills, the 2004 Syrah Melville reveals classic blackberry, blueberry, charcoal, acacia

Vinous Ravings

flower, and bacon fat aromas. Stunningly rich, full-bodied, thick, and juicy with a smoky character in the mouth that is not apparent in the fruit-laden nose, this is a beautifully proportioned, full-bodied Syrah that should drink nicely for 10-15 years." (Aug 07)

All American Wines

Please do not over look the viability of a clean, dry Rosé for the holiday weekend. We have ample supply of these light red wines in a variety of styles, grape varieties and blends. Set aside any preconceived notions about pink wine, and enjoy a hugely popular trend for these light red wines from esteemed producers. Please ask us for help in selecting one for you, if you have any trepidation. "Think Pink". Now back to our regularly scheduled program.

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...\$18.99. *International 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)

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)

Gainey Sauvignon Blanc 2006 Santa Ynez Valley...\$14.99. *Wine Enthusiast*: 91 pts. "The Santa Ynez Valley is one of the best homes for Sauvignon Blanc in California, and Gainey is one of the best producers, so this wine is a no-brainer. Even at \$20, it would be

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

Vinous **R**avings



a great value for its crisp dryness, elegance, and subtle, complex flavors of citrus fruits, figs, melons, minerals and subtle oak flavors. With alcohol under 13%, it's totally dry, like a fine Loire. At this price, it's an unbelievable bargain." (Feb 08)

Michael David Viognier Incognito 2006 Lodi...\$12.99. *Wine Enthusiast*: 88 pts. "Rich, very exotic, decadently drinkable, like an entire fruit store in a glass. Peaches, pears, pineapples, nectarines, mangoes, papayas, they flood the palate, with just enough acidity for balance, and a honeyed finish. Made with a dash of Roussanne and Marsanne." (Oct 07)

Mason Cellars Sauvignon Blanc 2006 Napa Valley...\$16.99. *Wine Advocate*: 89 pts. "Always one of California's better Sauvignon Blancs, Mason's medium-bodied 2006 possesses exuberant tropical fruit, honeyed melon, and spice characteristics. Drink it over the next 1-2 years." (Dec 07)

Core White 613 2005 Santa Ynez Valley...\$18.99. *Wine Advocate*: 89 pts. "The heady, succulent, citrus-filled, medium-bodied 2005 White 613 (40% Roussanne, 40% Grenache Blanc, and 20% Marsanne) comes from Fess Parker's renowned Rodney's Vineyard. These are all creative, individualistic wines that reveal considerable soul and character. One has to admire the wacky art on the label as well as the non-conformist blends. Most important from a consumer's perspective, the wines are very interesting and deliver loads of pleasure. All of them possess terrific aromatics." (Aug 07)

Camelot Highlands Chardonnay 2006 Santa Maria Valley...\$22.99. *Wine Advocate*: 92 pts. "The 2006 Chardonnay Camelot Highland Estates from the Santa Maria Valley is a stunning Chardonnay with light gold color and a gorgeous nose of honeyed tropical fruits intermixed with hints of hazelnut and subtle oak. The wine is fleshy, rich, pure, and a total delight to drink. It should be consumed over the next 2-3 years." (Dec 07)

Kinton Vineyards Syrah 2005 Santa Barbara County...\$20.99. *Wine Advocate*: 90 pts. "A sleeper of the vintage, the 2005 Syrah reveals blacker fruits than the 2004, more pepper, crème de cassis, pine forest, and underbrush characteristics in its full-bodied, deep style. With good underlying acidity and ripe tannin, it should evolve nicely for 5-7 years." (Aug. 07)

Margerum Wine Co. M5 2005 Santa Ynez Valley...\$25.99. *Wine Advocate*: 90 pts. "A gorgeous blend of Syrah, Mourvèdre, Grenache, Cinsault, and Counoise, Margerum's 2005 M5 is full of fun and character. Its deep

plum/ruby color and lovely sweet, smoky, black cherry and herb aromas are accompanied by a medium-bodied wine displaying deep, concentrated flavors that bring to mind an open-air Provencal market. A heck-of-a good value, it can be enjoyed over the next 3-4 years." (Aug. 06)

JC Cellars 2005 Syrah California Cuvée...\$27.99. *Wine Spectator*: 92 pts. "Offers wonderful savory aromas, with a mix of ripe plum, berry and peppery, spicy notes. Intense, concentrated, supple and harmonious, with a long, spicy finish. Drink now through 2013. 760 cases made." (Oct 07)

Mantra Wines Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 Sonoma County...\$22.99. *Wine Advocate*: 89 pts. "This is a strong effort from an area that frequently does not receive the credit it deserves for making good Cabernet Sauvignon. The 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Sonoma is chocolatey, blackberry-flavored. It is medium to full-bodied with supple tannin, and ideal for drinking over the next decade." (Dec 07)

Red Line Syrah 2004 Eaglepoint Ranch Mendocino...\$28.99. *Wine Enthusiast*: 91 pts. "Classic Eaglepoint red wine: big, high alcohol, dry and dramatically ripe, with extra layers of complexity. Offers rich blackberry flavors, with a darkly earthy, mulchy undertone of soy-sautéed mushrooms and leather. The tannins are bigtime, but it will lose interest with age. Perfect now with grilled steak." (Dec 06)

Bella Zinfandel 2005 Dry Creek Valley...\$28.99. *Connoisseur's Guide*: 92 pts. "Keenly focused smells of blackberries, boysenberries and sweet plums are joined by a kiss of vanilla and hints of briar, and this entirely attractive, mannerly Zinfandel comes through with plenty of juicy, lively, well-balanced fruit in the mouth filled out at the margins by complexing brambly and woody notes. The wine is sufficiently rich and layered as to ask for service with roasted loin of pork rather than red-sauced pastas, and even though it is not especially tannic, it will age well." (Sep 07)

Kunin Zinfandel 2005 Westside Paso Robles...\$24.99. *International Wine Cellar*: 89 pts. "Dark red. Vibrant cherry and blackberry scents with a strong floral accent. Sweet red fruit flavors display impressive vibrancy and clarity, with silky tannins contributing to the impression of structure. Clean and brisk on the finish, which features a tangy redcurrant quality. This clocks in at 14.8% alcohol but seems much cooler." (Dec 07)

Adam Strachan



McManis 2006 Petite Sirah
Case Price \$119 **10.99**
Reg. \$12.99
"Ripe red and black fruits...smooth, long and earthy."

Hess Select 2006 Chardonnay
Case Price \$119 **10.99**
Reg. \$13.99
"Rich, tropical Monterey fruit"

Angeline 2006 Chardonnay
Case Price \$119 **10.99**
Reg. \$16.99
"Light oak, creamy lemony finish"

Woop Woop 2007 Shiraz
Case Price \$130 **11.99**
Reg. \$13.99
"Spicy black fruit...seamless"

Bishop's Peak 2005 Chardonnay
Case Price \$141 **12.99**
Reg. \$14.99
"Bright, precise, balanced and refined"

Tangent 2006 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$141 **12.99**
Reg. \$15.99
"Effusively fruity with grassy melon notes"

Brander 2007 Sauvignon Blanc
Case Price \$152 **13.99**
Reg. \$16.99
"A clean, refreshing classic"

Consilience 2005 Syrah
Case Price \$184 **16.99**
Reg. \$20.99
"Smoky, ripe and amazingly luxurious"