

GLENINGARRY

YEALANDS ESTATE
SPAIN'S VINOUS REVOLUTION
APRIL'S BRILLIANT BARGAINS
PINOT NOIR
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON
ITALY'S VALPOLICELLA
BROOKFIELDS
THE APRIL TOP10
THE RETURN OF PIPER

Spain



WINELETTER 141 APRIL 2009

Services

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Locations

auckland

victoria park
118 wellesley st west
308 8346
herne bay
54 jervois rd
378 8555
ponsonby
139 ponsonby rd
378 8252
parnell
164 parnell rd
358 1333
newmarket
22 morrow st
524 5789
mission bay
49 tamaki dr
528 5272
mt eden
250 dominion rd
623 0811
city
cnr wellesley st & mayoral dr
379 8416
elliott st
cnr victoria st & elliott st
379 5858
takapuna
cnr hurstmere rd & killarney st
486 1770
devonport
cnr clarence st & wynyard st
445 2989
remuera
400 remuera rd
523 1594
kingsland
467 new north rd
815 9207
westmere
164 garnet rd
360 4035

wellington

thorndon
232 thorndon quay
472 7051
kelburn
85 upland rd
475 7849
courtenay place
paramount cinema building
27 courtenay place
385 9600
dida's
dida's wine lounge & tapas
54 jervois rd 376 2813
dida's food store
54 jervois rd 361 6157

GLENGARRY



glengarry.co.nz



Manager of Glengarry's Herne Bay Store at 54 Jervois Road, Rowena Evans, with Assistant Manager, Zane Winskill

The delightfully diminutive Rowena Evans is not one to be easily daunted. Responsibility comes naturally, challenging herself as routine as a morning coffee. Yet even our erstwhile Ponsonby store manager is aware that taking over the managing of our flagship Herne Bay store, Glengarry Jervois Road, is a mighty step along the neatly manicured path of her career. Was she excited about getting her hands on her new store? I am quickly corrected.

'Yes, but it's not my store. It's everyone's store. I really am just a facilitator.' Point taken. The Jervois Road store has been in the family since Dida, my grandfather, came to New Zealand in 1940 and set the space up as a grocery shop. In that time it has gone from filling-your-flagon to filling your boot with Burgundy, and my brother Joe and I have both done time behind that counter. To continue the family theme, it is from my niece, Monique, that Rowena took the keys at the end of March.

'I recognise the heritage associated with Jervois Road,' Rowena says. 'I've met people who have been buying their wine there for thirty years.' So, although Rowena is very clear about her ambitions, she is just as clear that 'the store should reflect its clientele, not its manager. I want to have wines in here that our customers want to drink. And I'll understand what those are by talking to people, understanding their preferences, and introducing them to things that I think they'll love and maybe haven't tried.'

One of the ways Rowena will be doing this is via the monthly winemaker tastings that are held in the cellar. 'Monique has really built these up, and they are keenly anticipated.' The monthly Friday night food and wine matching tastings that the store does in conjunction with Dida's Food Store head chef, Vincent Marshall, are very much front of mind with Rowena, too. Anything else?

'We're getting new shelves! The store is going to have more of a library feel; we want to encourage people to relax, browse, have a taste of something.' And with the shelving bigger than what currently leans against the wall, there will be a few gaps to fill. 'I'm looking forward to being able to extend the range at the store, get some quirky little bits and pieces, older stock, whatever people want, really.'

There's that customer focus again. That, combined with her proven organisational skills and the excellent team she inherits from Monique would suggest the family's legacy bricks and mortar are in very good hands. Drop by and visit Rowena. I can truly say she'd be delighted to see you.

Jak Jakicevich

MANAGER'S PICK ROWENA EVANS

Domaine Bourillon Dorleans
La Coulée d'Argent Vouvray Sec 2007 40977



WAS \$38.90 NOW **\$32.00** CASE OF 6 ONLY \$31.50 A BOTTLE

I got hooked on this when my parents came back from Nantes, raving about the '07s from the region. This is quite different to the 2006, and while it has some obvious evolving to do, it is still beautiful drinking now. Give it some air in a Riedel Magnum or Sauvignon glass, and everything rises to the surface. Lovely elements of flint and minerality. Technically dry, it fills the mouth beautifully.

Sales enquiries: freephone 0800 733 505 freefax 0800 106 162 email sales@glengarry.co.nz

PRODUCTION: GRAEME GASH, ELIZABETH WHEADON, MICHAEL CHAPPOY, MICHAEL LARSEN, VICTORIA KENNEDY, DAIV GUEST, JORDAN SELLENGREN, ANDREW ANTUNOVICH. PRINTED BY IMAGE CENTRE



Fearless Buys

A monthly selection of delicious, dependable reds and whites where the palate, not the price tag, packs a punch

Fairhall Downs

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 12296

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Single vineyard Sauvignon by top-flight Marlborough winemaker Brian Bickenell

What lifts this above the flock is that a portion of the wine is hand-harvested (so no machine-culled homogeneity), and some sees action down in the French Barriques part of town. This imparts weight to the final wine, and a creamy support crew to talk the gushing citrus flavours through all their issues. Grab a case; and keep some back for a year or two as well.

Kim Crawford

New Zealand Unoaked Chardonnay 2008

was \$21.90 now **\$16.90** 11602

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Brilliant unoaked Chardonnay

Remember the yoghurt ad where fresh, glistening fruit plunges á la piscine into the creamy liquid within? I always think of that ad when I think of this wine, because it has all of the same components. The fruit flavours are almost surreally intense, and the palate is thick, creamy and weighted. Being unwooded, the creaminess isn't cloying, just marvellous. Deliciously easy to drink, and seductively priced.

The Edge

Martinborough Pinot Gris 2008

was \$24.50 now **\$19.90** 12540

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

From the talented Larry McKenna at Escarpment

Larry McKenna is as clever as clogs get, and while his name was made through his pioneering Pinot Noir work in Martinborough some two decades ago, this stonefruit-flavoured expression reinforces that he's no slug with the white varieties either. A warm, early ripening vintage delivers concentrated, expressive aromatics, stonefruit and Nashi pears, lightly touched with floral notes. Deliberately off-dry in style, losing that acid edge a little makes this broad and rich, and ideal for early evening autumnal drinking.

Gunn Estate

Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$17.90 now **\$12.90** 18060

Always good to get a Hawke's Bay Sauvignon in, just to break up the Marlborough stranglehold and remind us that the Bayers can put together a tidy, tart little wine too. This is, at 12.5% alcohol, more approachable than most (more concierge and less bouncer, I guess), and hallmarked by a rich swathe of citrus and tropical fruits carving their way through a warm, broad palate.

Kaiken

Argentine Cabernet Sauvignon 2005

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 90609

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

I once heard someone ask in a restaurant for 'your best Cabernet Sauvignon Blanc.' No mistaking the redness of this deep dark entry, however. Cabernet is one of the two red grapes that thrive in the Argentine terroir. Massive waves of blueberry and blackberry fruit are shored up with cedary oak; typical Cabernet Sauvignon characters of tobacco, coffee and leather spring forth and multiply in your mouth. Hugely concentrated, intense, yet softly drinkable.

Erabus

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$22.50 now **\$17.90** 10201

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Multiple gold medal winner

It can get a little difficult raving about Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc; how many different ways can you say 'gooseberry'? But then something like this rides into town, clutching gold medals and five-stars a-plenty, and you realise that Sauvignon doesn't always need to be one-dimensional and aggressive. From neighbouring Awatere vineyards, this is quivering with zingy citrus flavours unleashed on a racy, rich palate packed with charm and bite. Pure, clean, beautifully delineated, it's definitely one of the best 2008s around.

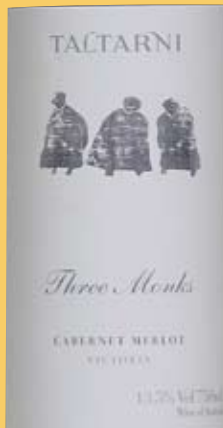
Taltarni Three Monks

Victoria Cabernet Merlot 2006

was \$25.00 now **\$18.90** 27899

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

Apparently the shadowy monks on the label are the three 'cellar monkeys' at Taltarni, the winemaking team who have restored the winery and its reputation to its former dizzying heights. A very expressive wine, this has masses of concentrated red fruit flavours supported by a strong, but not overly tannic, Cabernet structure. Three years in the bottle have made this round as a monk's belly and perfectly proportioned as his tonsure, with positive oak driving the fruit to a delicious finish.





Feature Winery



WIN

\$50,000 cash
with your
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plus \$25,000
in weekly prizes

In Marlborough, Peter Yealands is creating NZ's first fully sustainable winery. His aim is to produce truly great wines that everyone can enjoy. To reduce the environmental impact, he's using wind turbines, solar panels and rainfall harvesting.

Now Peter would like to hear your green ideas. How can you reduce your impact on the environment? If your idea is chosen, you win \$50,000 plus there are four weekly prizes of \$500 cash throughout the promotion. Entry details are instore.

Full terms and conditions at
www.mygreenidea.co.nz



Marlborough's Yealands Estate

Yealands

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$13.90** 10003

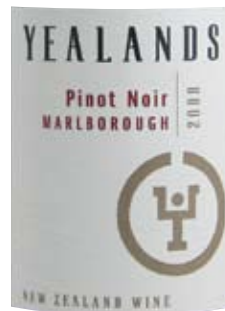


50 separate parcels of Sauvignon Blanc grapes were harvested from Yealands' terraced Seaview vineyard, of which 12 were selected for the final blend. It is a vibrant wine with forward tropical fruit supported by lifted herbal notes. Intensely flavoured, with well defined varietal flavours and a fresh, zingy finish.

Yealands

Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$14.90** 10020



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

Yealands' first entry-level Pinot Noir release reflects their philosophy of providing quality wines at affordable prices. Aficionados of the variety, this is what you've been waiting for; a delicious Pinot Noir that doesn't cost the earth. It's a boldly styled wine with well defined, ripe varietal aromas and flavours swathed in silk.

Yealands Estate

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$24.90 now **\$19.90** 10009



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

This Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc was selectively harvested from the Seaview vineyard. The wine is a blend of nine individual parcels, cool fermented to maximise varietal characteristics. It is a pale green-streaked wine with upfront, herb-spiked, tropical fruit aromas. The elegantly structured palate has tiers of blackcurrant, bramble and mineral nuances, beautifully balanced by a lingering citrus finish.

Yealands Estate

Marlborough Pinot Gris 2008

was \$24.90 now **\$19.90** 10011



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

The free-run juice of these Pinot Gris grapes was separated from the pressings, and each fermented with selected yeasts to accentuate fruit flavours and texture. This is an aromatic wine, with expressions of spicy apple, pear and peel. Harmonious and well weighted through the mid-palate, it shows excellent depth complemented by a silky mouthfeel and a fine, crisp finish. Superb value.

10008	Yealands Marlborough Pinot Gris 2008	\$14.90
10004	Yealands Marlborough Riesling 2008	\$14.90
10013	Yealands Estate Marlborough Gewürztraminer 2008	\$19.90
10014	Yealands Estate Marlborough Riesling 2008	\$19.90
10016	Yealands Estate Marlborough Viognier 2008	\$19.90



SPARKLING

A celebration of sparkling wines from across the globe to make every day a festive occasion

Bollinger Special Cuvée NV

was \$106.00 now **\$79.00** 40820

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$78.50 A BOTTLE

Beautifully crafted, big powerful style

A wine that can send a frisson of delight through the heart of anyone with a hint of passion for champagne. And still does, in spite of television's best efforts to destroy the label with frivolity and crassness on That Programme. No, 180 years of history and style cannot be drained away by a couple of screaming wenches. It is a muscular wine of immense proportions but undoubted class and finesse, more solidly structured than most non-vintage expressions. And more complex. Far from ordinary.



Mumm Cordon Rouge Brut NV

was \$79.90 now **\$49.90** 46445

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

Classy champagne at a superb price

With no pretensions to the complexity or clout of, say, the aforementioned Bollinger, Mumm succeeds on its elegance and finesse, rather than any harnessing of blockbuster power. The nose is a seductive combination of warm brioche and citrus-tinged fruit, while a delicious marzipan sugariness wafts subtly from below. The palate is fresh, modern, racy even, with bright fruit flavours and an integrated nutty yeastiness that provides body to underscore the panache. Incredibly good buying at this price.



Cloudy Bay Pelorus Brut NV

was \$39.90 now **\$29.90** 12122

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE

Made in conjunction with Veuve Clicquot using Marlborough fruit

Cloudy Bay's flagship sparkling has been made since 1987, and while the company works in conjunction with Champagne great Veuve Clicquot, Cloudy owner David Hohnen is very clear that the wine is made completely in a Cloudy Bay house style, one that has evolved without interference from its more famous overall owner. 100% Marlborough fruit aged for two years on lees, this is an attractive, approachable wine with a soft mousse and full white fruit flavours tinged deliciously with a caramel/toffee character. It's a crisp style, lively but firm, with great weight and complexity.



Freixenet

Cordon Negro Brut Cava NV

was \$13.90 now **\$10.90** 85010

Buy two bottles for \$20

More corks pop in the world with the word 'Freixenet' inked on them than any other. To say that this Spanish sparkling is a phenomenon is to almost underestimate its impact, to quote George W. Founded early last century at the wedding of Dolores Sala Vivé of Casa Sala and Pedro Ferrer Bosch of La Freixeneda, the conjoining of these two winemaking families launched the brand that has launched a thousand, um, armadas. A wine of spark and vivacity, and much depth.



Saint-Meyland

French Méthode Traditionnelle Brut NV

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 43010

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Superb méthode produced just outside the Champagne region

The reason we continue to feature this magnificent Methode is that once the flurry of excitement about the latest sparkling wine on the market has passed, steady, consistently exciting, well-priced wines such as this will continue to deliver what we all expect from such things: flavour, finesse, intrigue, satisfaction and value. Unmistakably French in its elegant execution, utterly egalitarian in its pricepoint.



Yellowglen Crémant Vintage 2006

was \$22.00 now **\$16.90** 29721

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Stunning new release

Outstanding new release from a label laying siege, with both quality and price, to the best sparkling producers in Australia. The appealing apple fruit on the nose is tinted with citrus brushed with white flowers and ingrained with a very French mineral chalkiness. The palate is crisp, elegant and fine, assertive yet charming, with a mouthfilling mousse and a spritzig tingle right to the end. Astounding price.



Allan Scott Les Jours Rouges Reserve Brut Rosé NV

was \$22.50 now **\$19.90** 17422

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

This wine exudes an exuberant playfulness and whimsical charm, qualities much in need as we head towards the darkening days of winter. 100% Pinot Noir, and using a clone known for its summer fruit character, the early-picked grapes have retained an acidic sting, injecting the lush strawberry and raspberry fruit with a vivacious zest that is utterly delightful. There is still time to give that picnic rug one last airing.



SPAIN



'It's not as hard as it looks,' is a catchphrase that has preceded many an injury, but when it comes to Spain (which can confuse even those who know a thing or two), it is simply a case of breaking it down by region, by variety and by terminology. You do not want to miss out on the joys of Spanish wine because you're frightened you might mis-pronounce Rioja (ree-yokca, there you go) or not know whether Xarel-lo is a Catalonian dessert, a nightclub, or a white grape variety.

We say this because when it comes to being at the leading edge of what's happening in the wine world, Spain is ahead of the curve, and we have wines from all over this vast country to prove it.

In the last twenty or thirty years, no wine-producing country has changed as dramatically as Spain; it is now producing world-friendly, fruit-driven styles that enhance food rather than dominate it, in a way that is still inherently Spanish, and, importantly, with indigenous varieties.

Some mavericks - this wineletter is crowded with the new wave of producers - are certainly planting and experimenting with French varieties, but having worked out where the local varieties thrive, they are coaxing beautiful, uniquely Spanish wines from the generally harsh and unforgiving viticultural climate.

Tempranillo is the most common red variety; and when you work out, as you will have, that the widely-spread Garnacha is Grenache with Dr. Garcia's accent, you'll start getting the hang of it. Tinta (Tinta means red) Fino and Tinta del Pais are just other names for Tempranillo, and while some of the white varieties used in cava might tie your tongue up for a few days, it's more important to know why they're used than how to say them.

Rioja is a region, not a variety; likewise, Ribera del Duero. And Jerez (the region), once said sloppily and often enough by the English invaders became, you guessed it, Sherry.

As in France, there are controlled production zones (Denominación de Origen being the most likely to crop up) and restrictions around yields and viticultural practices, if you want to affix 'DO' to your wine. So, a Marqués de Cáceres Gran Reserva is, simply, a Rioja, produced by Marqués de Cáceres, with a clearly defined requirement of ageing, in this case a minimum of 60 months, 18 months of which must be in the cask.

As you trawl through the regions and producers, it all becomes quite clear; as you make your way through the wines, the reason for Spain's current popularity becomes clearer still. Get in amongst it; you have nothing to lose.

RIOJA

Rioja's monumental, oak-heavy, savoury and spicy reds have long been held in high esteem, way before any of those other little upstart regions got their act together and started laying down the challenge to the Old Master.

Northerly situated, Rioja's overriding influence has actually been the French. The first Bodegas were established in the 1860s, based on the French Château model, and when phylloxera flipped out France later in the 19th century, the French, needing somewhere to keep making wine, tumbled on down to Rioja, bringing their techniques and know-how with them.



Marqués de Cáceres Crianza 2005

was \$36.00 now **\$29.00** 87990

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$28.50 A BOTTLE

Since they were established in 1970, this winery has had the most profound effect on Rioja. Predominantly Tempranillo warmed up with a little Garnacha, this is a fruit surge of morello cherries and strawberries, touched with a hint of vanilla, in a flavoursome landscape of suppleness and seduction. Balanced, rich and mighty smart.

87989 **Marqués de Cáceres** Rosado 2008
87991 **Marqués de Cáceres** Reserva 2002
87996 **Marqués de Cáceres** Gran Reserva 2001

was \$23.00 now **\$19.90**
was \$57.00 now **\$46.00**
was \$70.00 now **\$64.00**

Solar Viejo Cosecha 2007

was \$20.00 now **\$13.90** 88012



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$13.40 A BOTTLE

Cosecha simply means vintage. This is older-style Rioja, deliberately so, but it is not an untenable or unapproachable proposition. Here the palate unrolls like a red carpet, a pulsating parade of warm plums, ripe cherries and, because they can, the faint echo of the licorice strap.



Solar Viejo Reserva 2002



was \$36.00 now **\$17.90** 88010

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

After a couple of years in oak and then four more in bottle, this shows much intensity of palate and perfume and offers, frankly, all the depth and complexity you'd expect from a top-flight Bordeaux. The palate delivers fruit, spice and baked notes in a meaty and solid fashion that begs for food.

88009 **Solar Viejo** Crianza 2005

was \$25.00 now **\$15.90**



Hence Rioja was jump-started, in a sense, a fact reinforced by its being the first wine region in Spain to gain DO status. The wines are classified by the way they are matured; Crianza, Reserva, or Gran Reserva. The endorsement of DOCA status, which came in 1991, meant that the epithet 'the leading wine region of Spain' was under no immediate threat. Certainly for consistency, history and (in Spanish terms anyway) benign climatic conditions, Rioja rules the roost.

Rioja is roughly divided into three sub-regions: Rioja Alta, west of the capital Logroño, Rioja Baja in the south-east and Rioja Alavesa in northern Basque country. Each of them produces a different style of wine and occupies markedly different terroir to the others.

As with so many other Spanish regions, a mini-revolution in the 1970s saw Rioja stand up and be counted. The astringent, coarse, rustic reds that many of were familiar with have, to a large degree, been banished, allowing the supple, fat, fruit-driven styles to take precedence. There are substantial, long-lived reds still being produced – this is a real meat-eating part of the country, after all – its simply that these have been balanced by the new wave of producers and their more internationally-friendly styles.



Palacios Remondo

La Vendimia Rioja 2007

was \$24.90 now **\$19.90** 88060

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

50/50 Garnacha and Tempranillo, this is an entry-level, approachable red that delivers much for its little price. The lifted, sweet, cherry-laden flavours that sing out of the glass are supported by sound structure, and with only four months in oak, it is that fruit that shines above all.

Palacios Remondo

La Montesa Rioja 2005

was \$36.90 now **\$24.90** 88061

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Handpicked from vines 500 metres above sea level, there is no shortage of concentration and much finesse. Fourteen months in (mostly) French oak, this is the new style Rioja the world is gasping for. The terroir shines, uninhibited by the oak, the fruit gleams, and you'll beam with delight. So friendly, those Spaniards.



88065 **Palacios Remondo** Placet Rioja 2006
88064 **Palacios Remondo** Propiedad Rioja 2005

was \$36.00 now **\$28.00**
was \$59.90 now **\$46.00**



Allende

Rioja 2004

was \$55.00 now **\$39.00** 87800

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

Finca Allende is based in the up-coming Rioja village of Briones in the Rioja Alta, and very much represents the new face of Rioja. A mineral edge to the crushed redfruits makes the nose alone worthy of savouring, while the palate oozes class, mostly red fruits supported by some fine, French oak-derived support. Finishes fine and pure.

NAVARRA

This large region was the birthplace of Spanish wine. Always in the shadow of its famous neighbour, Rioja, some changes in approach and strategy have seen it finally bask in the sunlight of its own glories.

Navarra is a region marked out as DO, so there is some legislative control around yield volumes and varieties used. But it needs no red tape prompting, for the local government have had huge input into turning the centuries-old, rigidly adhered-to winemaking practices on their head. As a result, Navarra has been an example to the rest of Spain regarding the benefits of modernisation.

While the heavy, alcoholic Garnacha has always been the local hero, a wave of modern winemakers have replanted with Tempranillo, with excellent results. White Garnacha, Macabeo and Chardonnay contribute to the often superb white wines; but it is the reds, rivalling Rioja, for which the area is being feted.

Apart from a growing collection of pioneer producers, the biggest feature of the region is the facility known as Everna, now one of the leading oenological research stations in Europe. Everna have propagated vine nurseries, built and fitted-out ultra-modern labs and cuddled technology to their olive bosoms, activities that have hugely influenced Navarra, and Spain as a whole.



Ada

Minotauro Rosado 2007

was \$19.00 now **\$16.90** 88025

The sort of wine that made Navarra famous a long time ago, a rosé from 100% Garnacha. No lightweight this, though, the old vines delivering punchy red berry flavours and aromas, a sliver of mint julep and a splash of citrus freshness. Like the name, she's quite a mouthful.

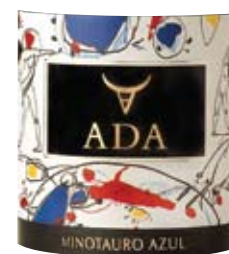
Ada

Minotauro Azul 2004

was \$21.00 now **\$16.90** 88022

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

This is the modern Navarra. 60-year-old Garnacha vines mix it up with Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot to make a smooth as silk, seamlessly integrated red of inordinate balance and precision. All your prejudices about Spanish reds disappear here.



Ada

Minotauro Rojo 2004

was \$29.00 now **\$23.90** 88023

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.40 A BOTTLE



A 50/50 blend of Tempranillo and old-vine Garnacha (some of the vines pre-date phylloxera; we're talking 100 years plus) that sees American and French oak. Wondrously black in the glass, the characters speak of dark forest floors and macerated black cherries. Powerful, seductive.

88026 **Ada** Minotauro Blanco 2007

was \$32.00 now **\$24.90**

SPAIN

RIBERA DEL DUERO

According to Oz Clarke, Ribera del Duero 'now ranks among the greatest of all Spain's DOs,' while Parker says the region produces 'world-class wines of considerable majesty'; comments that the rich and heady tempranillo-based delights pouring forth back up, leaving little room for argument.

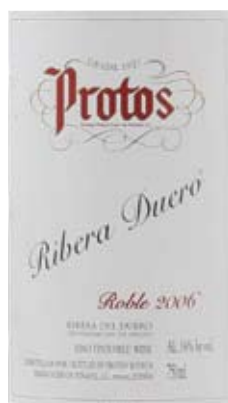
One of the world's oldest wine-producing regions, Ribera del Duero is a broad river valley located to such an elevated degree, that on a clear day you can see Sydney (OK, almost). Situated in north-west Spain, most of the vineyards sit 700-1,000 metres above sea level, the vines themselves generally sited in poor, chalky soils and mostly planted in Tinto Fino, the local lingo for Tempranillo.

Thanks to the consistently warm days and cool nights of the ripening season, Ribera del Duero produces wines with an incredible purity of fruit, concentrated flavours and lifted aromatics. Tiny holdings rather than large estates dominate, and there were over 14,000 active vineyards here when I last counted them; little guys making characterful wines from their own blessed terroir.

Comparisons are often made between Ribera del Duero and Rioja. After all, like its northern neighbour the region relies on similar varieties, the climates are similar, they all speak Spanish, don't they... The difference, though, is that the region was located far enough south to escape the French influence that so impacted Rioja, and so here we have traditionally seen far less oak used, the Tinto Fino and Garnacha fruit receiving the emphasis instead.

It took the arrival of DO status in 1982 to spur investment, introduce technological change and get everyone to lift themselves up by their sweaty sandal straps and ensure facilities, attitudes and viticultural practices were worthy of the fantastic terroir that nature has provided.

They did; the attitude has changed, and the wines have changed with it, for the better. Curiously, only the reds and Rosado styles (rosés) are eligible for DO status which, conveniently, is the colour of the wines we (mostly) feature below.



Protos

Ribera Duero Roble 2006

was \$24.90 now **\$19.90** 88072

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Made from Tinto del Pais which, like Tinto Fino, is just another name for Tempranillo. Roble (which is Spanish for oak) wines are younger; the short time this gem spends in oak reflects the faith in the fruit, as big, bold colours mingle with a vanillin wash to deliver mouthfuls of flavour-some, fabulous fineness.

Protos

Verdejo 2007

was \$26.00 now **\$19.90** 88070

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Verdejo is a nearly forgotten Spanish white grape that yields a distinctive, refreshing wine with pronounced aromatics, an appealing herbaceousness and a tropical character. Tantalising acidity meets substantial body and asks if there is some fish on the menu.



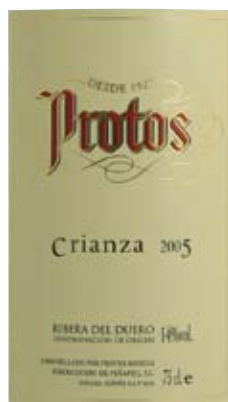
Protos

Crianza 2005

was \$45.00 now **\$36.00** 88077

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$35.50 A BOTTLE

Old vine Tempranillo and the skill that Protos' reputation is built around come together here to produce a wine of considerable depth, weight, and class. 16 months in oak and two years in bottle before this baby gets woken up; it is spicy, gamey, fruit-filled and charm-laden. Will make you realise what all the excitement is about.



Emilio Moro

Finca Resalso 2007

was \$29.00 now **\$23.00** 87750

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.50 A BOTTLE

90/100 - Robert Parker

Family-owned estates are the ones to watch, and these guys have been winemaking for over a hundred years. Their history reflects the new Spanish story; upgraded equipment, new planting programmes and now 90-plus Robert Parker ratings. Ripe, aromatically fruity with hints of spice and coffee, this is smooth and stealthily addictive.



Emilio Moro

Red 2005

was \$51.00 now **\$39.00** 87755

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

92/100 - Robert Parker

This is Tempranillo aged in small oak barrels, again a very modern approach that, with the exquisitely clean, ripe fruit, produces a majestic wine of sumptuous proportions. Damson plums meet licorice in a fruit/spice taste off and, via a well-structured, plush palate, we all win.



Aalto

Ribera del Douro 2005

was \$85.00 now **\$85.00** 88090

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$84.50 A BOTTLE

95/100 - Robert Parker

For 30 years Spain's most iconic winemaker, Mariano García, produced the vintages for Spain's most renowned wine estate, Vega Sicilia. Those wines go for phenomenal prices, and now Mariano is out on his own and making wines like this one. Brambly blackcurrant fruit peppered with spice and joined by intense plums and strawberries. Stylish and sexy.





RIAS BAIXAS

Just to show how egalitarian we are, here's a reminder that the great wines emerging from Spain are not all red. This region, in Spain's north-west, is famous for its whites, the Albariño grape tap-dancing its way to mucho success in this surprisingly lush and green land.

Rias Baixas itself is tucked into the corner of Galicia, which, being bounded on two sides by sea, is so unlike the other Spanish regions we've been describing you'd wonder that they were even in the same country. Often lashed with rain, the 'un-Spanish' landscape is beautiful, all fishing communes and low fjord-like inlets known as rias.

With all that seawater around, the crisp, fragrant white wines produced here pair perfectly with the local catch. Rias Baixas is the DO star of the zone, its ability to make these world-class whites realised only in the last thirty years. Once again, modernisation and international winemaking input have seen some truly spectacular growth in quality.

Many of the winemakers who had abandoned Albariño in favour of high-yielding hybrids returned, with some government assistance, to the original indigenous varieties; hence the revival of the much revered white grape.

Planting on steep slopes, cultivation on small parcels of land and frustratingly low yields have meant Albariño wines have been prohibitively expensive in the past. But with some greater productivity, mostly not at the expense of quality, the prices have become more attractive.

Viña Almirante **Pionero** Mundi Albariño Rias Baixas 2007

was \$28.00 now **\$19.90** 87880



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Quite herbaceous initially, on the nose, then opening out like a stream in the rushes that's all abob with pineapples, papaya and other tropical treats. There's a very appealing citrus tanginess, too, replicated on the palate, which itself carries a sound structure, a full middle and a lively, zippy tail.



Viña Almirante **Pionero** Maccerato Albariño Rias Baixas 2007

was \$30.00 now **\$24.00** 87885

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

Intensely tropical aromatics, abounding with pineapples and peaches and swished by brushes of orange blossom and other floral tributes. There's a herbaceous hint, before we're whipped along in a frenzy to a lush, round palate, one that underpins all the above fruits with a core of nuttiness. Try with grilled fishies.

87890 **Vina Almirante** Victus Albarino 2007

was \$49.00 now **\$39.00**

BIERZO

Without sounding like a sticking piece of shellac, what has happened in Bierzo since the late 1990s reflects what happened in Priorato in the earlier part of the decade... which reflects what happened in Ribera del Duero... which reflects Navarra's development... enough already. Viva la Revolution, once again, and once again, Alvaro Palacios was a spearhead for change.

Bierzo is climatically benign, for Spain at least, protected from both the wet Atlantic excesses and the arid nightmare of the central plateau. And the local grape, Mencía, can produce red wines of startling complexity and concentration; it had simply been planted in the wrong place. Why? Well, the vineyards on the fertile river valley soils where the bulk of wine production came from, before Alvaro screamed into town, produced high yields and were easy to manage. More pesos for less effort.

'I don't think so,' said Al, only in Spanish. Or, as Jancis Robinson puts it: 'In Bierzo, a group of small, mostly young growers reproduced the same miracle which had happened in Priorat a decade earlier; they resurrected a moribund wine region. And one of the protagonists (again) was Alvaro Palacios.'

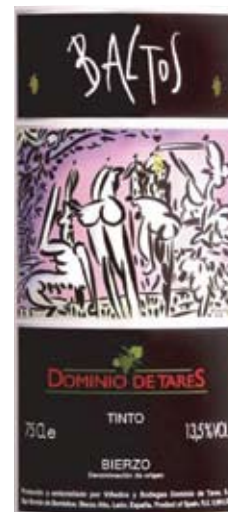
With his nephew, Ricardo Pérez Palacios and a handful of others, including Dominio de Tares, they've reclaimed small vineyards on the terrific, free-draining slate slopes, introduced modernity in terms of viticultural practices and, á la Priorato et al, we have the Bierzo revolution. Enjoy.

Dominio de Tares Baltos Tinto 2006

\$29.00 88115

New to Glengarry

From 40-year-old, low-yielding Mencía vines planted on sloping hillsides 500m above sea level. Beautiful, fruit-dominated nose, with a red berry swirl striped with a slate-like mineral note and a seductive touch of violets. It's a very pure expression, with a heart of plums and wild berries that integrates well with natural acidity.



88100 **Dominio de Tares** Cepas Viejas 2005

\$45.00

88105 **Dominio de Tares** Bem bi Bre Bierzo DO 2005

\$85.00

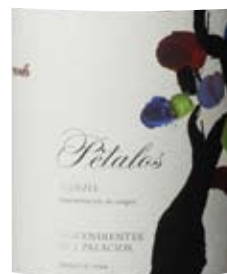
88110 **Dominio de Tares** Tares P.3 2004

\$139.00

Descendientes de J. Palacios Pétalos Bierzo 2006

was \$39.00 now **\$29.00** 88067

91/100 - Robert Parker



Sourced off old vines and a single vineyard, this is a meaty, concentrated, stylish red, with fruit-driven charm and much finesse. It takes forever to get to the core of the wine, so dense is its structure, but the trip, through layers of fruit, earth and spice, is well worth the ticket price.

88068 **Descendientes de J. Palacios** Villa de Corullón 2005 was \$89.00 now **\$79.00**

SPAIN

PRIORATO

Named after a 12th-century Priory where Carthusian monks planted vines, this tiny, 1860ha Mediterranean wine region south-west of Barcelona marks out the high ground in more ways than one. The terroir is unique; the vines are planted on incredibly steep, volcanic, terraced slopes, the soils are unforgiving schist.

Machine harvesting is virtually impossible, so much so that many of the vineyards, some planted as far back as 1900, were simply abandoned. Add the fact this viticultural backwoods was producing wines fifteen years ago that were best described as rugged and alcoholic, and you'd start picking the region's pine box and calling for the priest. Until the 1990 revolution.

Enter Alvaro Palacios. After tutelage at Château Pétrus, he telegraphed to the world that he would make, from Priorat's unforgiving terrain, a wine that would sit shoulder to shoulder with both Pétrus and Grange. Not only has he fulfilled his bold promise over a string of vintages, he has a couple of others, too, that have firmly established him, as Wine Spectator gushed, as 'the most exciting wine-maker in Spain.'

His Les Terrasses, Dofí and L'Ermita (described respectively by Spanish wine expert John Radford as 'excellent,' 'outstanding' and 'unbelievable') are black, full-bodied, Garnacha-based wines, intense, long-lived and as extraordinary and unique as the man himself. Palacios has 'led the charge into Priorat' (Spectator again), a charge igniting a revolution that this 38-year-old rock star says is just the beginning.

Alvaro Palacios

Les Terrasses Priorat DOC 2005

\$59.90

88066

93/100 - Robert Parker

Whoever would have thought that you could make a wine this intense from the supposedly minor league grapes of Garnacha and Cariñena? Alvaro Palacios, of course, and by adding 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine, which has minimal oak contact, is still a lush, supple and intensely flavoured baby. Its extraordinary quality relative to the price has meant people have swallowed this in droves across the globe; join the stampede.



88080 Alvaro Palacios Dofí Priorat 2006

\$124.00

88081 Alvaro Palacios Dofí Priorat 2006 1.5 LITRE MAGNUM

\$294.00

88082 Alvaro Palacios L'Ermita Priorat 2006

\$1,200.00

Parés Balta Gratavinum

2πr Priorat 2006

was \$65.00 now \$59.00

87850



The Cusiné winemaking family set up the Gratavinum label within their own Parés Balta brand 'to create a great wine from Priorat.' Similar to the Les Terrasses blend, being 50% Garnacha, 30% Cariñena, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Syrah, they've succeeded comfortably. Beautifully ripe, heavenly spiced berryfruit gives way to a lush, opulent palate that seduces and stays with you until the sumptuous finish.

87851 Pares Balta Gratavinum GV5 Priorat 2006

was \$115.00 now \$95.00

JUMILLA

We're in south-eastern Spain, where it's unspeakably hot – summer temperatures consistently top 40 degrees – and the arid conditions limit the choice of cultivatable varieties. That sturdy brute Mourvèdre, known here as Monastrell, is one of the few grapes that can stand such inhospitable climes. To temper the temperatures, the vineyards are located at vertigo-inducing altitudes, where the daytime heat can be balanced against cooler night-time conditions.

Jumilla is a denominated region, the legislation arriving with quite an impact in 1996. This, along with vine regrafting programmes and modernisation, means that the days when a lot of the wine was blended into nondescript offerings are becoming just a memory. As with Priorat, a few hardy souls are turning things around, and undistinguished, highly alcoholic wines are becoming yesterday's news.

While Monastrell dominates, there has been some experimentation with French red varieties, spearheaded by the likes of Luzon. They have selectively replanted with varieties that are more site-appropriate, and Monastrell clones that are a tad more vigorous, uneconomically low yields being another barrier to success in the past.

The attitude and achievements of companies like Luzon has been described by Parker as 'an amazing effort from what may be Spain's most promising undiscovered viticultural region.' A big fan of the region's Merlots, Parker also speaks highly of the world-class wines being produced from Monastrell. With nearby Valencia being the world's biggest wine port, it would appear that yet another region rumbles with revolution and possibilities, and we are the beneficiaries.

Luzon

Selección 12 Crianza 2004

was \$28.00 now \$24.00

86953



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

100% Merlot that sees twelve months in American and French oak before unleashing its seductive qualities on an unknowing but receptive fan base. This is the sort of thoroughly modern wine that Spain couldn't even dream about making twenty years ago. Pulsing with ripe cherry fruit and brimming with charm and elegance, it's exciting drinking and a compelling proposition.

Luzon

Jumilla 2007

was \$25.00 now \$18.90

86957

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE

The company was established a decade ago by three families who have been in the region for a century. Their 500ha of planted vineyards are dominated by Monastrell, as is this gem. Brimming with berryfruit, cassis and mocha coffee characters, it has ripe plums and a gaminess reminiscent of some of the more rustic Southern Rhône reds.



PENEDÈS

The town of San Sadurní du Noya may not cause any gong-like oscillations in your ears, but it is, in fact, the heart of cava production, and (some notable exceptions aside) cava is what the Penedès region is all about.



This is Catalonia country, and anyone who's been to Barcelona and beyond will tell you how fiercely independent the Catalans are, and how this prosperous region largely turns its back on Madrid and looks eastward towards the sea for its culture and inspiration. While the most renowned wine of the region is a red, the Cabernet Sauvignon Black Label Gran Coronas, it really is sparkling wine, of great quality and in huge quantities, that we're concerned about here.

Known as Champaña until French grumblings forced a name change in 1970, the Spanish varieties used are the ideal Champagne-method base wines. High in acid, relatively neutral in taste, they come alive when subjected to the yeast impact of the second fermentation. Xarel-lo contributes some fatness and alcohol to Macabeo's acid nature, and Parellada has a finesse and floral character that adds character to the final product.

As with all of the world's best sparkling wines, it is that the final wines are greater than the sum of their parts that has ensured huge international success and massive local consumption of cava, and provided the industry in Penedès with the investment to keep itself ahead of the modernity curve.



Segura Viudas Lavit Brut Nature 2006

was \$23.00 now **\$19.90** 87901

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Not that we should be swayed, but it is worth mentioning that Robert Parker is a big fan. OK, egos aside, the mousse alone elevates you to somewhere celestial, while the nuttiness and yeast underpinning the delicious fruit characters may bring you back to your Philip Starck lounge for another swipe at the sexy bottle.

- 87902 **Segura Viudas** Lavit Rosado Brut NV was \$23.00 now **\$19.90**
- 87900 **Segura Viudas** Heredad Brut Cava Reserva NV was \$43.00 now **\$39.00**

JEREZ

Jerez lies right at the bottom of Spain in the Andalucía region, and is the theatre in which Spain's sherry producers enact their magic. To give you a good feel for the terroir, it's worth letting Oz Clarke have a say:

"The vineyards of Jerez look as though someone has cut down all the trees, taken a big pot of whitewash and splashed it over the scenery before marking out the green vines against the bright canvas. This effect is caused by the special chalky soil of the region, called albariza, literally 'snow white.'"

While there are three main grape varieties in the region – Palomino, Pedro Ximénez and Moscatel – it is the first that accounts for 90% of plantings. In a similar way that the relatively neutral Xarel-lo makes for great sparkling wine, Palomino Fino, with its low acid and bland character produces a neutral must, which is ideal for undergoing the magical transformation that turns what would be dull table wine into rich, characterful sherry.

There are two main types of sherry, both being dry, from which virtually all commercial styles are blended; they are Oloroso and fino. It is the fino style that fascinates. Finos are encouraged to yeast-up, the winemakers allowing the liquid to ferment in unplugged casks, where it develops a thick white yeasty scum called flor. Like many so-called nasties in winemaking (think Botrytis), it is the making of the wine, the thing that sets it apart. It prevents further oxidization and imparts a very distinctive flavour, a bone-dry, nutty character that is uniquely flor fino.

Once the wines are classified and fortified they are introduced to a solera, a system where younger wines are progressively used to replenish and refresh older wines as they are drawn out for the final blends. A solera may consist of several hundred casks, often 150+ years old, but they always contain dry wines.

With Oloroso styles, higher fortification inhibits the growth of flor, and Oloroso sherries turn amber, one way of distinguishing them from the paler fino styles. Got all that?

A thumbnail sketch, then, that doesn't do real justice to the intricacies of the process and the myriad sherry styles. As always, the best way to get a handle on how the wines are made and what they're like is to roll on in, take one out, get it home and let it seduce you. Sound enticing?

Valdespino Deliciosa Manzanilla Sherry 375mL

was \$18.90 now **\$17.00** 89828

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.50 A BOTTLE

This has an appealing depth of colour and a morning-fresh, damp herb garden bouquet that wakes up the senses and pulls you in. Surprising fleshiness here (not a characteristic you'd normally associate with sherry), with plenty of flavour, appealing length and the slight salty tang typical of the Manzanilla style.



- 89850 **Valdespino** Real Tesoro Manzanilla Sherry 750mL was \$29.00 now **\$22.00**
- 89851 **Valdespino** Real Tesoro Oloroso Sherry 750mL was \$31.00 now **\$22.00**
- 89852 **Valdespino** Real Tesoro Cream Sherry 750mL was \$31.00 now **\$22.00**
- 89853 **Valdespino** Real Tesoro Fino Seco Sherry 750mL was \$29.00 now **\$22.00**
- 89854 **Valdespino** Real Tesoro Pedro Ximenez Sherry 750mL was \$39.00 now **\$36.00**
- 89826 **Valdespino** El Candado Pedro Ximenez Sherry 375mL was \$28.00 now **\$24.00**
- 89827 **Valdespino** Inocente Fino Dry Sherry 375mL was \$25.00 now **\$19.00**
- 89831 **Valdespino** Solera 1842 Oloroso V.O.S. Sherry 375mL was \$43.00 now **\$35.00**
- 89841 **Valdespino** Don Gonzalo Oloroso V.O.S. Sherry 375mL was \$43.00 now **\$35.00**



Huerta de Albala Taberner Syrah 2005

was \$49.00 now **\$39.00** 88030

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$38.50 A BOTTLE

92/100 - Robert Parker

It's a brave man who makes a red wine in sherry-town, and Vincente Taberner is such a man. There's a certain wild animal scent to this beast that makes Châteauneuf comparisons possible. The savouriness rides an intense wave of blackberry and blueberry fruit, spiced with cloves and touched with genius.

- 88031 **Huerta de Albala** Taberner No.1 2006 was \$152.00 now **\$120.00**



Estrella Damm Premium Quality Barcelona Lager

330mL 4-Pack **\$9.90** 91954-4



SPAIN

SPANISH FIESTA

FRIDAY APRIL 17
from midday at all Glengarry stores
WINEFOODPARTYFUN

THURSDAY APRIL 16
PINOT NOIR CLUB
INTRODUCING THE NEW
CENTRAL OTAGO
PINOT PRODUCERS
GLENGARRY VICTORIA PARK
118 WELLESLEY STREET WEST
STARTS 7PM \$35 PER PERSON

TUESDAY APRIL 28
SPANISH TASTING

30 WINES FOR \$30
WITH SPANISH FOOD & MUSIC

AUCKLAND
7PM GLENGARRY VICTORIA PARK
118 WELLESLEY ST WEST
WELLINGTON
6PM GLENGARRY THORNDON
232 THORNDON QUAY

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29
RED BURGUNDY 2006
BURGUNDY'S HIGHLY RESPECTED GROS FAMILY
GLENGARRY THORNDON
232 THORNDON QUAY
STARTS 6PM \$75 PER PERSON

FRIDAY APRIL 24
PIPER HEIDSIECK TASTING
FROM MIDDAY AT ALL GLENGARRY STORES



Brilliant Bargains

This month's bargain buys



Backyard
Gisborne Chardonnay 2003

was \$20.00 now **\$8.90** 12351



We're down to the last 100 cases of this superb value Limited Release Chardonnay



Mount Hurtle
GSM 2007

was \$17.90 now **\$11.90** 22150



Made by Geoff Merrill, this is high quality Australian red at a bargain price



De Bortoli
dB Selection Shiraz

now **\$8.90** 20923



Quality red from award-winning Aussie wine producer



La Vieille Ferme
Côtes du Ventoux Rosé 2007

was \$21.90 now **\$12.90** 46104



Classic rosé from the winemakers at Perrin and Beaucastel



Clifton Road
Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$12.50 now **\$9.90** 18007

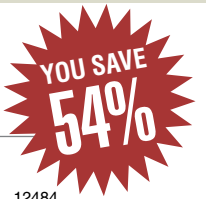


Good quality Hawke's Bay Sauvignon for under \$10



Man O'War
Waiheke Pinot Noir 2006

was \$27.90 now **\$12.90** 12484



Brilliant Waiheke Pinot - a shame the vines were pulled in 2007



Fromm La Strada
Merlot Malbec 2003

was \$29.90 now **\$10.90** 12874



The 2004 ran out in 5 days. We managed to source some leftover 2003, and it's even better!



Jaboulet Les Traverses
Côtes du Ventoux 2006

was \$23.00 now **\$14.90** 45313



Southern Rhône blend of Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvèdre from Paul Jaboulet



Bolla
Sangiovese DOC 2007

was \$17.90 now **\$11.90** 62568



Stylish Sangiovese at a great price from Italian giants, Bolla



Pepperjack
Barossa Shiraz 2007

was \$25.00 now **\$16.90** 22618



Warm, approachable Shiraz. A cult favourite



Landmark
Gisborne Chardonnay 2007

was \$20.00 now **\$11.90** 10302



Classic Gisborne Chardonnay at a hugely reduced price



Kaesler Stonehorse
Barossa GSM 2006

was \$27.00 now **\$19.90** 22260



90/100 - Jay Miller, for Robert Parker's Wine Advocate

Pinot Noir

'In the three years since I was last here, regional, vineyard, vintage and winemaker characteristics have leapt ahead to such an extent that I would now without hesitation serve a Pinot Noir from New Zealand alongside, or even ahead of, a Pinot Noir from Burgundy.' Oz Clarke - February 2007



Devil's Staircase

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2008

was \$24.90 now **\$19.90** 12343

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Made by the team at Rockburn

This is the sort of wine that sends you Somewhere Else. A mouthful or two and it's like I'm in the next room and can't quite hear me. Not because of any intoxicating effects, dear me no; just because it utterly appropriates your senses and draws you away from any distractions. Get this full-flavoured, smoothly seductive Pinot on your lips pronto, Tonto.

Stoneleigh Rapaura Series

Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008

was \$33.90 now **\$26.00** 12098

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$25.50 A BOTTLE

Gold medal Pinot Noir

A beautiful crimson in the glass, the aroma is almost stealthy, the wonderful dark cherries and brooding earthy notes stealing your senses by surprise. A faint touch of ink makes its mark before you plunge head-long into the plush palate, the pronounced fruit acid and soft-grained tannin suggesting this concentrated delight is but a baby. The mid-palate is lusciously supple, delivering plenty of enjoyment now, and the finish long, all the complexities deftly knitted together into a seamless whole.



Black Quail

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2007

was \$44.00 now **\$39.00** 11360

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$38.00 A BOTTLE

Made by Mt Difficulty winemaker Matt Dicey

The hills are alive with the sound of animals, and not least with the rare and sonorous Black Quail that gives this venture its name. Located in Bannockburn and planted back in 1999, these guys picked up awards at their first ever outing on the show circuit for both their 2006 and this, the '07 Pinot. Consistency is all, so this is a most encouraging development for the fledglings. Made by Matt Dicey from Mt Difficulty, this flavour-some fiesta truly seems the shape of things to come.



Sacred Hill Marlborough Vineyards

Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$14.90** 18486

Selected for the Glengarry Top10

SH made the most of a long, warm season in Marlborough, ideal for the cultivation of intensely flavoured Pinot grapes. Balanced by the cooler nights, that slowburn just piles on the concentration. Bright strawberry and violet aromas bound forth, while the palate soothes warmly with multi-layered berry and cherry flavours. Tannins prevent blowout and flab, ensuring a compact, beautifully balanced offering.



Rabbit Ranch

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2008

was \$30.00 now **\$24.00** 11167

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

Perfect for Easter

Located in the Cromwell Basin, RR is a collaborative venture. The wines produced have been consistently excellent, helped no doubt by the cabal employing the skills of John Wallace, Chard Farm's winemaker. The style here is fruit-forward, going from a jammy mid-palate to a finish that cleanly celebrates the berries and cherries that make up the bulk of the flavours. At this price, great buying, too.



Lake Hayes

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2008

was \$35.00 now **\$28.00** 15415

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$27.50 A BOTTLE

Great value from the Amisfield team

Lake Hayes deliver clean, approachable wines, delightful especially in the first few years from vintage. That makes the '08 perfect drinking right now. The fruit comes from various growers in the district, whose top class product is massaged into a bright little beauty by Pinot Noir expert Clare Mulholland (ex-Gibbston and Martinborough Vineyard). Gentle tannins, soft, full fruit, greatly satisfying and easy drinking.



Desert Heart

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2007

was \$40.00 now **\$36.00** 12257

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$35.50 A BOTTLE

Showing all the finesse of the 2007 vintage

More than a few Central winemakers got bummed about the 2007 vintage; yet the smaller crops still produced some scintillating wines, and this is one of them. Gaining gold in 2003, these guys have stayed quiet, but this wine speaks volumes, with full-on berryfruit flavours, firm acid and a sure tannic grip. Some black earth characters suggest a French direction.



a taste of Australia

Rediscover the wines of the lucky country with our pick of the best and most exciting Aussies on offer

45 minutes from Adelaide, in the idyllic McLaren Vale, is one of the area's most exciting wineries; Chapel Hill takes its name from the historic ironstone church built on the property in 1865. Perched atop one of the highest hills in the region, the beautifully restored building has commanding views of rolling hills, vineyards and the coast. Today it serves as a gallery and the winery's cellar door. Chapel Hill was established in 1979 and a stunning, state-of-the-art winery complex completed in 1993.

Chief winemaker Michael Fragos joined Chapel Hill in 2004 and quickly made his mark producing a string of award-winning wines. He has an enviable reputation; in 2003 he was named Winestate's Winemaker of the Year, following up at London's International Wine and Spirit Competition with the 2008 Wolf Blass Trophy for International Winemaker of the Year

Chapel Hill's vineyards enjoy a Mediterranean-style climate and soils that vary considerably, providing the winemaking team with a diverse palette of flavour profiles. In addition to its own fruit, Chapel Hill selects grapes from other notable South Australian regions, including Coonawarra, Padthaway and Eden Valley.

Chapel Hill produces an eclectic and impressive range of wines, from the familiar Shiraz, Grenache and Chardonnay varieties through to the lesser known Albariño, Verdelho, Sangiovese and Tempranillo.

Chapel Hill

Prophet McLaren Vale Shiraz 2005

was \$37.90 now **\$24.00** 22142

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

Award-winning winery

McLaren Vale has a deserved reputation as one of the leading regions in the world for the Shiraz variety. This outstanding example is, at \$24 a bottle, particularly good value. Matured for over 20 months in French and American oak, this is a big wine, boasting a deep, brooding colour and some bursting pepper, plum, and ripe berry aromas supported by liquorice and toasty oak. It's a richly flavoured red with an abundance of spicy fruit and a long, lush finish.



Wolf Blass

Grey Label McLaren Vale Shiraz 2006

was \$46.00 now **\$32.00** 28907

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$31.50 A BOTTLE

A stunner that could sell for double the price

Derived from McLaren Vale grapes, individual parcels of the wine completed fermentation in French and American oak, and after racking returned to the barrels for 18 months maturation. This artfully crafted Shiraz boasts a nose packed with ripe berry, plum, pepper, cinnamon, mocha and integrated spicy oak. On the palate, the wine reveals layers of ripe fruit mingling with chocolate nuances and subtle oak. Great value at this price.



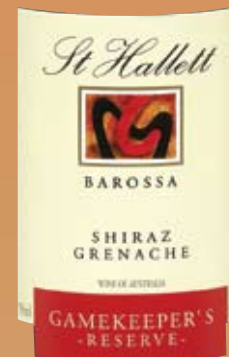
St Hallett Gamekeeper's Reserve Barossa Shiraz Grenache 2006

was \$19.00 now **\$15.90** 27408

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$15.40 A BOTTLE

Perfect when lightly chilled

This Barossa blend is dominated by Shiraz, with a 22% addition of Grenache and, interestingly, 6% Touriga Nacional, a traditional blending component in Portuguese Vintage Port. The bouquet has cherry/raspberry aromas, with some spicy, rose petal-like nuances from the Touriga. The palate shows soft, ripe, fruit flavours enhanced by subtle, earthy tones. It is immediately approachable, with a fruity character and an appealing textural mouthfeel.



Annie's Lane

Clare Valley Cabernet Merlot 2006

was \$22.90 now **\$17.90** 29029

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

An old favourite back, and as good as ever

The 2006 vintage in the Clare Valley was near perfect. As always, the grapes were selected from low-yielding, premium vineyards. The individual parcels were separately fermented, pressed off the skins and racked to barrels for maturation. It is a vibrant, deep red colour with fragrant aromas of blackcurrant, chocolate and mint. The palate is richly flavoured, the dark fruit flavours supported by subtle oak.



Geoff Merrill The Prodigal Son Shiraz Grenache Viognier 2004

was \$23.00 now **\$18.00** 22140

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.50 A BOTTLE

One of Australia's most respected winemakers

Produced from McLaren Vale Shiraz and Grenache, with a dash of Viognier. A beautifully realised wine with a nicely modulated nose of berry, violet and spice. The Viognier component has added a velvety texture to the palate, allowing the ripe tasting berryfruit flavours to shine through. It's a bargain.



Hewitson Miss Harry

Grenache Shiraz Mourvèdre 2006

was 29.00 now **\$22.00** 21787

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$21.50 A BOTTLE

Award-winning GSM

Named after Dean Hewitson's daughter, this intensely flavoured yet elegant blend off very old, dry-grown Barossa Valley vines has a wonderfully fragrant nose of black cherry, plum and spice. The palate is filled with ripe, red fruit flavours, with hints of spice, black olive and mocha adding interest through the mid-palate. A polished wine with a lush, smooth texture and a lingering, flavoursome finish.



a taste of France

A monthly selection of affordable French wine from our extensive range

The first wines made in France were probably produced in the south-eastern corner of the country. It is very likely that viticulture was introduced to southern France by Greek colonists. Romans developed and expanded the wine trade, exporting millions of amphorae to Italy and its colonies.

Then as now, the most productive zone in southern France is made up of the twin regions of Languedoc-Roussillon. The statistics are impressive; it is the world's largest wine region, with approximately 250,000 hectares under vine, constituting one third of France's total plantings.

The Languedoc-Roussillon region stretches from Provence along the Mediterranean coastline to the Spanish border. Although the two regions are administratively joined, they are quite distinct. Roussillon is dominated by the Pyrenees, the vineyards located in narrow valleys and hillsides.

Languedoc's most productive vineyards are largely planted on the broad, dry coastal plains, its finest wines grown in the higher, cooler vineyards located in the foothills of the Pyrenees. Both regions share a Mediterranean climate of mild winters and hot summers, the perfect conditions for growing a range of varieties in large volumes, something that at one point in their history contributed to a reputation for mediocrity and over-production.

In the last fifteen years, there has been a significant shift toward quality production. Replanting has been accompanied by investment in modern equipment, techniques and oak barrel aging. This ancient wine region is experiencing a revival; its Vin du Pays d'Oc wines offer great value, but it is the estate and domaine wines that are winning new converts throughout the world. Today the region is producing some of the most diverse and vibrant wine styles in France.

Arrogant Frog Ribet White Chardonnay Viognier 2007

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 43968

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$15.90 A BOTTLE

An interesting blend of two classic varieties, which were separately cool fermented and aged in stainless steel. A portion of Chardonnay finished fermentation in barrel, where it was aged for four months. A seductive wine with a lovely golden glow, the bouquet exudes aromas of peach, pineapple and citrus, with hints of vanilla in the background. The elegant palate has well-defined tropical fruit flavours balanced by a fine citrus edge and a silky texture.



Arrogant Frog Ribet Red Shiraz 2007

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 43967

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$15.90 A BOTTLE

From the trend-setting Jean-Claude Mas, the Ribet Red Shiraz was gently pressed and 30% aged in new French oak barrels, with the balance in stainless steel. It is a cerise-fringed, ruby wine with a spicy nose that develops to show berry aromas supported by toasty oak. The palate is full bodied and generously flavoured, with the ripe, spicy flavours complemented by a silky mouthfeel.



Laroche Syrah DOC 2007

was \$22.00 now **\$16.90** 48543

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

From the excellent 2007 vintage. Following malolactic (to soften the wine), the wine was aged for six months in stainless steel tanks. Traditionally fined with egg whites and minimally filtered to preserve varietal characters, it has an attractive, spice-edged nose of black-currant and plum. Full bodied, balanced and concentrated, with well defined fruit flavours complemented by a svelte texture.

Laroche Chardonnay DOC 2007

was \$22.00 now **\$16.90** 48545

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Michel Laroche's family have been in the wine business in Chablis for over 150 years, but he has expanded his interests to the Languedoc. A blend of grapes fermented on Champagne yeast strains, this is a stylish Chardonnay that's essentially fruit-driven, with a creamy mouthfeel from some malolactic fermentation. There's a touch of oak to complement the ripe fruit, nicely focused by a squeeze of citrus.



a taste of *Italy*

Intriguing, exciting and always stylish, smarten up your sideboard with the new breed of Italians

More than a fifth of Italy's DOC wines are produced in the Veneto region, with two-thirds coming from Verona's famous trio of wines, Valpolicella, Bardolino and Soave. The most popular wines, internationally, are those grown in the historic Valpolicella zone, granted DOC status in 1968.

The DOC applies to generic Valpolicella reds as well as the highly-prized dry Amarone and sweet Recioto styles, produced from semi-dried grapes. DOC regulations stipulate that the styles must be produced from the three indigenous varieties, Corvina, Rondinella and Molinara. Winemakers may also add up to 15% of other complementary varieties to the blend.

Generic wines, simply called Valpolicella, are usually unoaked and noted for their fragrance and fresh, youthful character. Valpolicella Classico wines are produced in the traditional heart of Valpolicella, from the terraced hills near the city of Verona. They are a step above the generic wines, with fine aromatic bouquets and fruity cherry/berry-flavoured palates. Valpolicella Classico Superiore is made from the same varieties, but is aged in oak for at least a year, and is well structured with supple tannins.

To intensify Valpolicella's colour and depth of flavour, better producers employ the Ripasso method. The technique involves re-fermenting with the pressed skins of Amarone, kick-starting a second fermentation and thereby adding extra richness, tannin and a slight raisin-like character.

Valpolicella tends to be fruity and medium-weighted, and in the case of Amarone, it can combine richness and power with a silky texture and the structure to age gracefully.

Beretta Rocolo di Mizzole Valpolicella Superiore DOC 2004

was \$22.50 now **\$18.00** 60496

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.50 A BOTTLE

Cecilia Beretta is a boutique winery named after the superb Villa Beretta, built during the 17th century in Mizzole. The philosophy of the winery is to produce premium Valpolicella and Soave. The fruit for this comes from the immaculately maintained vineyards on the Mizzole Estate. It is an elegant and stylish wine with a fragrant bouquet of soft summer fruit augmented by a hint of spicy oak. Seductively smooth, brilliantly priced.



Bolla Le Poiane Valpolicella Classico DOC 2005

was \$31.90 now **\$28.00** 62561

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$27.50 A BOTTLE

Le Poiane was produced from Corvina and Rondinella grapes from the Jago commune in the Classico zone. To preserve the fresh fruit characters, the wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks, then put through a malolactic to soften the wine, and finally fermented by the Ripasso method to add weight and greater depth of flavour. It boasts a distinctive nose of berry, raisin, almond and smoky oak. The palate tastes of morello cherry with hints of pepper and oak. Full bodied and beautifully structured, it finished on a long, fine note.



Pasqua V Valpolicella DOC 2007

was \$16.90 now **\$14.90** 66008

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

As with previous vintages, this 2007 release is outstanding value. The blend is dominated by Corvina grapes harvested from hilly vineyards in the Valpantena zone north east of Verona. Cool fermented in stainless steel tanks and, following malolactic conversion, aged for four months, it is a bright, ruby red wine with a lively, fragrant nose of cherry, plum and floral notes. Well balanced and nicely weighted, it has a fruity, juicy character and a fine, persistent finish.

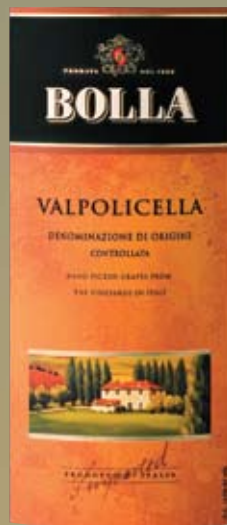


Bolla Valpolicella DOC 2007

was \$18.90 now **\$16.00** 62558

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$15.50 A BOTTLE

Located in Verona, at the very heart of the Valpolicella zone, Bolla's philosophy is to preserve the character of this historic wine style. The wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks to preserve fresh fruit characters and aged in seasoned oak for two months. Garnet in colour, with a bouquet of cherry, almonds and subtle oak, it is a smooth, medium-bodied wine with persistent spicy fruit flavours supported by understated oak.



Pasqua Villa Borghetti Valpolicella Classico DOC 2006

was \$21.00 now **\$18.00** 66049

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.50 A BOTTLE

A new generation of winemakers with attitude has transformed Valpolicella's reputation as a source of cheap, cheerful reds. Typical of this new wave is Pasqua's Valpolicella produced at Villa Borghetti, located in the heart of the Classico zone. The wine was matured for six months in oak barriques and seven in bottle. It has a perfumed nose showing berry, cherry and spicy notes. The ripe, fruit-forward palate is medium weighted and silky smooth.



Pasqua Sagramoso Valpolicella Superiore DOC 2004

was \$29.00 now **\$24.00** 66081

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$23.50 A BOTTLE

This is a Superiore produced by the Ripasso method from the traditional trio of grapes grown at Villa Sagramosa. Matured for 12 months in French oak barrels, it displays pepper, floral and tobacco nuances mingling with berry and cherry aromas. The elegant flavours are enhanced by toasty walnut, coffee and liquorice overtones that build through the mid palate, beautifully complemented by a velvety texture. A lovely food wine.





Brookfields

Brookfields

Hawke's Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11265

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

A pale, green-gold wine with an explosive bouquet of gooseberry and pipfruit. The palate is delicious and succulent, the well defined tropical fruit flavours neatly balanced by a fresh, invigorating finish.



Brookfields Ohiti Estate

Hawke's Bay Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11254

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

Aged in barrel for 12 months and laden with distinctive blackberry aromas. The palate displays ripe berry and cassis flavours enhanced by nuances of leather and coffee. A great match with red meats.



Brookfields Bergman

Barrel Fermented Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11270

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

A lime-edged, peachy nose supported by understated oak. This is a very fine Chardonnay, the ripe stonefruit flavours complemented by a creamy suppleness and balanced by a fresh, lemony finish.



Brookfields Back Block

Hawke's Bay Syrah 2006

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11257

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

Amazingly dark; the promise on the nose is realised with a palate dominated by ripe fruit flavours integrated with spice and subtle oak, finishing with a crescendo of supple tannins. Ready to be enjoyed, good value.



Brookfields Ohiti Estate

Hawke's Bay Riesling 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11267

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

An off-dry, stylish wine with a distinctive bouquet of floral notes, tropical fruit and citrus peel. The palate displays a youthful briskness, with ripe fruit flavours enhanced by a touch of sweetness.



Brookfields Burnfoot

Hawke's Bay Merlot 2007

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 19546

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

Boasting a lush bouquet, the Burnfoot is immediately attractive on the palate, the forward berry and plum flavours mingling with some oak and leather nuances. Structured around subtle tannins, it finishes boldly.



Brookfields Ohiti Estate

Hawke's Bay Gewürztraminer 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11268

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

A sultry, scented nose of rose petals, orange blossom, ginger and spice. An intriguing, somewhat exotic note drenches the palate with spicy lychee flavours and a hint of lemongrass.



Brookfields

Hawke's Bay Amarone Style Malbec 2007

was \$25.00 now **\$22.90** 11271

CASE OF 6 \$21.00 A BOTTLE

Produced by allowing the hand-harvested grapes to dehydrate on racks in the Amarone style. Big hearted, richly coloured and built around a core of firm tannins, it's complex and intensely flavoured.



Brookfields

Hawke's Bay Rosé 2008

was \$19.90 now **\$16.90** 11269

CASE OF 12 \$15.90 A BOTTLE

With a fragrant bouquet showing soft summer fruits and a hint of plum juice, this is extremely easy to enjoy, particularly when it's just chilled. Very fresh tasting, with plenty of ripe, appealing strawberry flavours.



Brookfields Marshall Bank

Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2007

was \$33.90 now **\$29.90** 11259

CASE OF 6 \$28.90 A BOTTLE

Made entirely from free run juice, fermented and aged for eight months in oak barrels. A fragrant wine with peachy, toasty aromas. The rich, concentrated palate is enhanced by a creamy texture and a crisp finish.



Each month, from the hundreds of wines submitted to us, the Glengarry Tasting Panel selects our top ten wines

1 Kim Crawford
Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$21.90 now **\$16.90** 11601

CASE OF 6 \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Displaying outstanding varietal characters, this is crisp and sassy, with a lovely concentration of tropical fruit aromas and flavours backed up by celery nuances. Smart Sauvignon.



2 25 Steps
Central Otago Pinot Noir 2007

was \$38.00 now **\$34.00** 11340

CASE OF 6 \$33.50 A BOTTLE

Harvested in prime condition, this Central Pinot Noir has a seductive bouquet alive with ripe red fruit aromas. The palate has vibrant, pervasive fruit supported by integrated oak.



3 Gisselbrecht
Alsace Pinot Gris 2007

was \$29.00 now **\$25.00** 46979

CASE OF 12 \$24.50 A BOTTLE

A stunning, richly flavoured Alsace Pinot Gris with enticing aromas of rose and spice. It has an excellent mid-palate weight that complements the luscious fruit flavours. Superb.



4 Nga Waka
Martinborough Chardonnay 2008

was \$25.90 now **\$19.90** 15836

CASE OF 12 \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Classy, creamy-textured Chardonnay with ripe stonefruit aromas and flavours backed by spice and oak nuances. Has the potential to develop greater complexity with further bottle aging.



5 Te Mata Bullnose
Hawke's Bay Syrah 2007

was \$48.00 now **\$38.90** 19128

CASE OF 12 \$38.40 A BOTTLE

The Bullnose was declared 'best New World red' by Decanter's Steven Spurrier. A small portion of Viognier was added to the Syrah to give the wine its lovely aromatic presence.



6 Wild South Reserve
Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2007

was \$26.90 now **\$18.90** 11177

CASE OF 6 \$18.40 A BOTTLE

An intensely aromatic wine from the Wild South team, with distinct gooseberry and lychee overtones. It's definitive Marlborough, with plenty of verve and a fresh citrus finish.



7 Matua Valley Paretai
Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$36.00 now **\$29.00** 14025

CASE OF 6 \$28.50 A BOTTLE

A moderately complex Sauvignon Blanc with well defined tropical fruit aromas supported by lime and mineral notes. Rich and well weighted, it has a crisp, lingering finish.

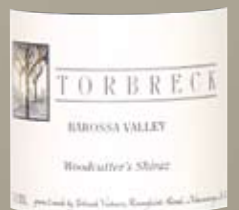


8 Torbreck Woodcutter's
Barossa Valley Shiraz 2007

was \$39.00 now **\$29.90** 21057

CASE OF 12 \$29.40 A BOTTLE

A classic Barossa Valley Shiraz, the pure, ripe fruit underpinned by spicy nuances and supple oak. Impressively structured and balanced, it has a svelte texture and a fine finish.



9 Kaiken
Ultra Argentine Malbec 2006

was \$32.00 now **\$24.00** 90555

CASE OF 12 \$23.50 A BOTTLE

This 100% Malbec from Argentina's Mendoza region is a powerful and balanced red, with the emphasis on ripe berry and cassis aromas and flavours that linger on to the finish.

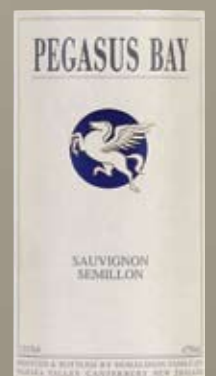


10 Pegasus Bay
Sauvignon Blanc Semillon 2008

was \$32.00 now **\$27.00** 16803

CASE OF 12 \$26.50 A BOTTLE

A traditional Bordeaux blend that possesses a rather exotic nose of tropical fruit supported by grassy, herb and mineral notes. Wonderfully fresh, and a superb food wine.



PIPER

BACK AT GLENGARRY



PIPER HEIDSIECK
Ongoing extravaganza since 1785

48111	PIPER-HEIDSIECK Brut NV 200mL	\$24.90
48118	PIPER-HEIDSIECK Brut NV 750mL	\$54.90
48124	PIPER-HEIDSIECK Rosé Sauvage NV	\$84.90