

HIGHLAND FINE WINE

NOVEMBER 2021 HALF CASE- WHITES

LEGADO DEL CONDE ALBARINO 2019, RIAS BAIXAS, SPAIN \$18.99 (MIXED) Galicia's legendary Albariño grape until the late 1980s remained just that--a legend. Often thought to be distant relative, perhaps even an immediate ancestor of the Riesling, its high quality and extreme scarcity assured its perennial position as Spain's (and one of Europe's) most expensive wine grapes. Light yellow-gold. Fresh pear, melon and nectarine aromas are brightened by white flowers and ginger. Silky and broad, offering juicy tropical and pit fruit flavors energized by a lively mineral quality. Closes with good punch and length, leaving a honeydew note behind.

KURANUI SINGLE VINEYARD SAUVIGNON BLANC 2021, MARLBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND \$11.99 (MIXED) Kuranui is an estate bottled Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc from a single vineyard. The label depicts the journey of this outstanding Sauvignon Blanc from grapes to wine. Named after the Maori word for Great Treasure, the rolling hills of the Awatere Valley and river terraces make up the rugged backdrop to the Kuranui vineyard. The interconnectivity between the landscape, soils and climate, create the optimal conditions for growing the Sauvignon Blanc grape vines. Fresh, fun and tropical with splashes of lime. The palate is clean and fresh with lively acidity surrounding a core of tropical fruit flavors such as gooseberry and passion fruit.

DRY CREEK CHENIN BLANC 2020, CLARKSBURG AVA, CALIFORNIA \$13.99 (MIXED) Dry Creek Vineyard has been making dry, crisp Chenin Blanc since 1972 and continues to be a benchmark producer for this once-ubiquitous varietal wine. The grapes for this wine come from the Clarksburg AVA, which is east of the San Francisco Bay Area, a source of many of the wines that have helped raise the profile of dry Chenin Blanc. Fermented in 100% stainless steel barrels, this beautiful wine is wonderfully bright and consistent vintage after vintage. At first swirl, aromatics of honeydew, peach and mango spring with floral notes of orange blossom and honeysuckle. On the palate, the wine has refreshing flavors of watermelon, Meyer lemon and cucumber with hints of white tea and white pepper. The mouthfeel is soft but inviting, with a voluptuous texture.

EL COTO ROJO BIANCO 2020, RIOJA, SPAIN \$11.99 So what exactly is El Coto's 2020 Blanco? First, it is a VERY affordable wine, and it delivers beautifully for the price. Second, it's made primarily from Viura, the most important white variety in Rioja and a grape that can deliver fresh and easy-drinking wines like this, or complex, oak-aged wines that can develop for years in barrel and bottle. (The Viura grape is known as Macabeo in the south of France.) Besides Viura, some Verdejo and Sauvignon Blanc are also in the blend. The wine is straightforward and delicious, fermented and aged in stainless steel with an ABV of 12.5 percent — just what I want in an inexpensive, uncomplicated white that can be enjoyed just about any time, anywhere. Aromas and tastes of green apple and tropical fruit are punctuated by floral and citrus notes (orange and lime) on the finish.

BOTROMAGNO GRAVINA 2019, PUGLIA, ITALY \$17.99 Produced from 60% Greco and 40% Malvasia, Gravina Bianco is one of Italy's most ancient white wines. Like many of the world's most iconic wines, the grape varieties that traditionally produced this wine originated elsewhere but found their ideal habitat in Puglia. The wine gained DOC status in 1983 and is currently only produced by Botromagno, which has had great success with this wine in multiple export markets. From the 2013 vintage onward, the vineyards that produce Botromagno's Gravina DOP wines are certified Organic. round mouthfeel and leading to silky, smooth tannins on the finish. Brilliant lemon-green in color, playful aromas of green apples and pears are underscored by notes of white peaches and apricots. On the palate, tangy acidity unfolds into a long, harmonious finish.

PEZA DO REI 2018, RIBEIRA SACRA, SPAIN \$21.99 This light golden yellow colored Godello based wine from Spain certainly over delivers for the price. It opens with a mild lemon bouquet with hints of faint white florals and sea shell. On the palate, this wine is full bodied, balanced, super smooth and creamy. The flavor profile is an almond, green apple and gentle white tea with notes of lemon verbena, chalky minerality and a touch of honeydew melon. The finish is dry with moderate length as it subtly fades away. This wine is very food friendly and I would pair it with baked stuffed halibut. Enjoy!

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NOVEMBER 2021 HALF CASE- REDS

BISHOP'S PEAK PINOT NOIR 2019, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA \$19.99 (MIXED) Produced entirely from Pinot Noir grapes grown in Coastal San Luis Obispo County, combining both purchased and estate grown fruit, this wine is bottled before the next harvest to preserve the charm and fresh red fruit flavors that distinguish the varietal. Ruby red in color, Bishop's Peak Pinot Noir expresses classic aromas of strawberry and bright cherry complemented by a touch of light oak. On the palate, this elegant and well-balanced wine has notes of vibrant red fruit with hints of earth. Crisp acidity and medium tannin lead to a lingering finish. Enjoy this Pinot Noir with wild mushroom flatbread or braised pork tacos.

COMTESSE DE MALET ROQUEFORT 2018, BORDEAUX, FRANCE \$14.99 (MIXED) Comtesse de Malet Roquefort is one of the best discoveries in value-priced French Bordeaux we have ever found. Made by the traditional family who owns and makes Château La Gaffelière in Saint Emilion, this is a well structured, yet subtle red wine. Silky and fresh with juicy red fruits, the Merlot in the blend gives it a deep and ripe character with crisp acidity; the Cabernet Sauvignon gives it a more modern richness, and the Cab Franc imparts a tangy, delicious taste. The tannins are soft and nicely harmonized. Brighter notes of blackcurrant and plum pick up on the long finish. This wine pairs really well with grilled meats, rich pasta dishes and fine cheeses.

CVNE VINA REAL CRIANZA 2016, RIOJA, SPAIN \$18.99 (MIXED) The Compañía Vinícola del Norte de España (CVNE), launched the Viña Real brand in the 1920s becoming one of the pioneering wineries in making crianza wines in oak barrels in this area. A careful balance between tradition and modernity has defined the form and content of Viña Real. This wine shows shades of medium to deep shiny cherry colour. To the nose, intense aromas of ripe fruits (blackberries, blackcurrants) stand out, complemented with subtle hints of oak, vanilla and spices aromas. To the palate, it shows structured and round with a good integration of fruitiness and oakiness. The aftertaste is marked by very well balanced tannins as well as by persistent spicy, toasty and balsamic aromas. A long stay in bottle is the finishing touch to this Rioja Alavesa wine's character.

COLONIA LAS LIEBRES BONARDA 2019, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA \$14.99 Bonarda is a stealthy red wine option from Argentina that we think is going to make a big splash in the coming years. It's actually a surprise that we've missed it until now as it's Argentina's second most widely planted red grape! Bonarda displays ample color in the glass just like Malbec, but it delivers lower tannins and slightly higher, more juicy-tasting acidity. Not a fan of oaky wines? This is your diamond in the rough! The wine is aged in concrete tanks, receiving no oak treatment in order to preserve freshness and expressiveness of the grape. It has a long, fresh finish, with lots of character. Its deep, vibrant mouthfeel makes it a true pleasure wine. Ideal to pair with pasta Pomodoro dishes, pizza and light meats.

CANTINA SANTA MARIA 'LE BOMARDE' CANNONAU DI SARDEGNA DOC 2018, SARDINIA, ITALY \$13.99 Le Bombarde wine takes the name from the beach where, even today, we find vineyards of red grapes such as Cannonau and Monica di Sardegna. The cannons are the symbol of the defence and the pride of the Sardinian coastal territory, that over the centuries has suffered invasions by various dominations including the Aragonese and Spanish. They are the emblem of the strong and determined character of these grapes. Colour: bright, clear, deep ruby red. Bouquet: a fine, intense perfume with characteristic elegant scents. Flavor: dry, full and warm, it is velvety but robust, and harmonious with its pleasantly characteristic tannin flavor. Serving suggestion: Ideal with red meats, game, and mature cheeses.

CLOS DU TRIGUEDINA 2017, CAHORS, FRANCE \$16.99 Clos Triguedina, situated in the heart of the Cahors wine region, has been the cradle of the Baldès family since 1830. Through the generations, the Baldès family's pioneering spirit has led them to be one of the preeminent wineries of the Cahors wine region, passing their knowledge, determination, and passion on from father to son. Dashing with nice fruity overtones, the Malbec du Clos is created to be subtle and easy to drink young. It is the best way to discover the round and smooth wines of Cahors and the original French Malbec. No oak, pure fruit! Grilled meats, juicy steaks or cheeses are perfect with the Malbec du Clos!