

The Grape Tray Wine Guide

5091 N. Fresno Street Fresno, CA 93710 (559)226-6828 FAX (559)226-7105

Monday-Friday 10:30AM-5:30PM * Saturday 10:30AM-4:00PM

www.grapetray.com

Real discount prices in Fresno

January 2010

Wine Tasting at The Grape Tray January 13th 5PM

Merlot as a stand alone varietal has been forgotten, but Merlot produced by quality vintners can still be enjoyed by anyone who loves red wine. We will taste the following Merlot:

- '05 Lewis Napa
- '06 Pahlmeyer Napa
- '06 Chappellet Napa
- '06 Duckhorn Napa
- '06 Shafer Napa

The cost of this tasting is \$20/person. Please call to reserve your seat.

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Parker 97+

2007 Snowden Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve

The dazzling 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (86% Cabernet Sauvignon and 14% Cabernet Franc) requires 2-5 more years of bottle age, but should evolve for three decades. Its dense purple color is accompanied by a thrilling bouquet of espresso roast, smoked herbs, licorice, creme de cassis, blackberries, and ink. The wine hits the palate with a blast of fruit, a full-bodied mouthfeel, and tremendous purity, definition, and length. The sensational purity and exquisite balance between all its elements are impressive as well as noteworthy. ~~\$80~~ Limited (additional cases arriving 1/8/09)

Parker 95

2006 Buccella Cabernet Sauvignon

The 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon, a candidate for Cabernet of the vintage, reveals a gorgeous perfume of chocolate, black raspberries, flowers, ink, and graphite, followed by a full-bodied, textured, superbly concentrated wine with terrific purity as well as density. Drink this outstanding 2006 over the next 15-20 years. (arriving 1/7/10)

90 points

Connoisseurs' Guide

2006 Hess Allomi Cabernet Sauvignon

Aromas of currants, berries, dusty earth, roasted vanilla bean and creme caramel are entirely accessible now with nothing held in reserve. ~~\$30~~ \$21.99

Wine Spectator 92

ALTUS Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2005

This is bold, plush, ripe and concentrated, with potent currant, blackberry, black cherry and wild berry flavors that show a touch of heat. Ends with firm, minerally tannins. Best from 2009 through 2016. 1,600 cases made. -JL ~~\$85~~ \$62.99

2006 Mica Napa

Cabernet Sauvignon

This wine is an offshoot of Buccella, with consulting winemaker Celia Welch Masyczek at the helm, and uses secondary fruit but the same facilities and winemaking as the flagship wine... it's a killer from the start, with dark, brooding cassis, burning embers, violets and espresso aromas... the flavor profile is tight, dark and rich, with tarry black cherry, cocoa, black tea, graphite and vanilla aspects... in the glass the wine is viscous and absolutely gorgeous... the tannins are fine grained and the acidity is balanced... some aging would likely pay off, but this wine is drinking phenomenally right now... for this taster, this is precisely what a luxury California Cab should be. **Rating by Wells on Wine: Taste 9 Nose 9 Value 10 \$50.00**

Cabernet

Altus Napa 05	62.99
Araujo Eisele 05	295.99
Arietta Claret 05	80.99
Artesa Napa/Sonoma 04	18.99
Atlas Peak Spring Mt. 03	69.99
Avalon California 07	7.99
Avalon Napa 07	12.69
Barbour Napa 05	149.99
Bell Clone 6 Rutherford 05	75.99
Beringer Res Cab 05	103.847
Blankiet PH 03	178.99
Bond St Eden 02	269
Bookwalter Foreshadow CV 06	33.99
Broadside 07	17.99
BV Napa 05	12.69
Carter Revilo Cab05	84.99
Caymus Napa 07	64.99
Caymus Special Sel 07, mag	299.99
Caymus Special Selection 07	104.99
Cenay RB90 Rutherford 05	45.99
Ch Montelena Estate 02	99.99
Ch Montelena Napa 06	42.99
Ch St Jean Cinq Cepages 06	39.99
Chappellet Mt Cuvee 07	25.99
Chappellet Pritchard Hill 06	117.99
Clark Claudon 05	65.99
Columbia Crest Horse Heaven 07	11.99
Darioush Caravan 06	35.99
Desert Wind Ruah 07	16.49
Destino Napa 04	41.99
DR Stephens Napa 05	124.99
Dreyer Sonoma 06	11.39
Duckhorn Napa Cab 05, 1.5ltr	131.99
Dyer Diamond Mt 03	57.99
Edge Napa 07	17.69
Edna Valley 07	12.69
Erna Schein Blender Boy 07	49.99
Erna Schein Cemetery 06	79.99
Far Niente Oakville 06	99.99
Flora Springs Napa 05	25.99
Forefathers AV 03	26.99
Forefathers Lone Tree AV 06	37.99
Forefront Cabernet 07	17.99
Fortis Napa Cab 04	119.99
Gallo Frei Ranch 04	32.99
Ghost Block Single Vineyard 06	99.99
Girard Artistry 06	32.99
Groth Oakville 06	42.99
Groth Reserve 05, 1.5ltr	189.99
Hahn Cabernet 07	9.69
Hess Allomi Cab 06	21.99
Hollywood and Vine 2480 05	74.99
J Lohr Seven Oaks 07	11.99
JaM Napa Cab 07	19.99
Janzen Napa 05	62.99
Jericho Canyon Vineyard 05	79.99
John Anthony Napa 06	54.99

Wine Spectator 92
CAYMUS Cabernet
Sauvignon Napa Valley
2007

Ripe and fleshy, with rich plum, wild berry, spice and savory herb notes that are complex, full-bodied and expansive on the palate, ending with firm tannins and a dash of espresso. Drink now through 2016. 37,800 cases made. -JL \$70
\$64.99

2006 Karl Lawrence
Napa Cabernet
Sauvignon

The wine lures you in with a forward nose full of cherry and currant fruit touched off with hints of bittersweet cocoa and espresso beans. Those notes carry over to the palate, laced together with cedar, vanilla and spice on a frame that deftly balances acidity and tannin. While it's already drinking quite well, this will continue to improve in your cellar for 5-10 years and maybe more. \$60

Wine Spectator 93
Lewis Cabernet
Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007
Offers wonderful complexity, richness, depth and finesse. Fullbodied, with creamy, mocha-laced oak, currant, mineral, tobacco and plum flavors that are bold yet elegant, focused and polished, ending with a long, lingering finish. 2,000 cases made Drink now through 2018.—J.L. \$85
\$79.99

Cabernet Continued...

Jordan 05	44.99
Justin Isosceles 06, mag	101.99
Justin Isosceles06,6.0ltr	679
Justin Res Cab 07	42.99
Karl Lawrence Napa 06	59.99
Keever Napa 05	64.99
Kobalt 06	109.99
Kunde Sonoma 06	12.29
Lancaster Nicole's Vineyard 04	87.99
Lewis Cuvee L 06	223.99
Lewis Cuvee L 06, mag	447.99
Lewis Hillstone Cab 07	124.99
Lewis Napa Cab 07	79.99
Lonen Napa 07	16.99
Luke Donald Napa 05	35.99
Mauritson Sonoma 04	24.99
McManis Cab 08	8.99
Meander Napa 05	64.99
Melka CJ 06	49.99
Merus 06	119.99
Moody Press 06	16.49
Most Wanted Cabernet 07	29.99
Nickel & Nickel CopperStreak06	70.99
Nickel & Nickel Dragonfly 06	89.99
Nickel & Nickel Rock Cairn 06	70.99
Nickel & Nickel State Ln 06	70.99
Nickel & Nickel Sullenger 06	70.99
Nickel & Nickel Tench 06	70.99
Nickel & Nickel Vogt 06	70.99
Niner Paso 05	22.99
O' Neill V Petite Batard 05	31.99
Oberon Napa 06	15.99
Opus One 06	159.99
Orin Swift Papillon 06	54.99
Pavi Fisticuffs 06	25.99
Phelps Insignia 04	199.99
Phelps Napa 06	43.99
Pietra Santa Signature 05	39.99
Rodney Strong Rockaway 05	63.99
Roy Estate Proprietary Red 06	94.99
Rubicon Cask 05	54.99
Shelter 27-29 Cab 06	44.99
Shelter Headwater Napa 06	59.99
Showket Oakville 06	59.99
Silver Oak Alexander 05	62.99
Silver Oak Alexander 05, mag	135.99
Silver Oak Napa 04	89.99
Stephanie Napa Red 05	46.99
Stratton Lummis Napa 05	22.99
Trivium Les Ivrettes 06	58.99
Turnbull Napa Cab05, mags	81.99
Vineyard 29 Napa 05	224.99
Von Strasser Post Vineyard 04	59.99
Whitehall Lane Napa 06	34.99
William Harrison Rutherford 05	31.99
Wolf Family Estate 05	74.99

2006 Showket Oakville Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemaker Notes: The 2006 Showket Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is a departure from past vintages. This is our first vintage where we added a small amount of merlot and it had a major impact on the wine. In addition to our classic cassis and blackberry, this wine has a layer of rich chocolate accent. The merlot also rounded out the middle of the wine giving it a richer, layered quality. Aromatically the wine leaps from the glass: it starts with a wave of deep fruits, which gives way to hints of mocha and coca. In the mouth it has an initial burst of fruit, but it expands across the palate and eventually gives way to a long fruit driven finish. This is a very seductive wine that will be approachable on release and continue to develop for well over a decade. ~~\$60~~

Parker 92 2006 Merus Napa Cabernet Sauvignon

Although closed at present, Merus' inky/purple-colored 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon displays enormous power and richness. It is a massive, blockbuster-styled effort possessing black fruits, plenty of spicy oak, hints of licorice and graphite, and mouth-staining tannins and extract in the finish. Forget it for 4-5 years, and drink it over the following 20-25. ~~\$140~~ \$119.99

92 Points Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar 2005 Fisher Coach Insignia Cabernet Sauvignon

Red-ruby. Aromas of black cherry, mocha, exotic spices and chocolatey oak. Juicy, intense and rather high-pitched, with a fine grain to the raspberry, redcurrant, mineral and spice flavors. Youthfully tight and serious cabernet, finishing with a lovely subtle lingering sweetness and an attractive light touch. The tannins dust the front teeth. ~~\$75~~ \$61.99

2006 Nickel & Nickel Copper Streak Cabernet Sauvignon

The 2006 Copper Streak is an incredibly rich wine. Berry and currant present on the palate with an underlying sweetness from earth, herb and black tea. The texture of this wine expands on the palate as the soft, yet opulent, tannins melt into a long, lingering finish. This is a wine that one can enjoy now, or cellar for many years and watch the flavors as they continue to evolve and develop. ~~\$85~~ \$70.99

2006 Kathryn Kennedy Lateral This St. Emilion style blend of Merlot, Cab Franc, Cab Sauvignon and Petite Verdot is a medium bodied, elegant wine that outperforms at this price point... the nose has pencil lead, wet stones, leather, violets, tobacco, anise, cedar and vanilla... the flavors include raspberry, black cherry, black tea and chocolate... a nice contrast between earthy and ethereal, although the finish has some astringency and a clipped quality... enjoyable both with food and on its own and a good value at this price. \$30 ~~\$30~~ \$25.99

95 points Wine Enthusiast 2005 Rubicon Cask Cabernet

"Lots of new, smoky oak stands out on this polished Cab. Give it a little time in a decanter before you drink, as it pulls together, becoming more powerful and accenting the blackberry and cherry flavors. Should develop for a decade." (05/09) Rubicon's "Cask" Cabernet Sauvignon is a tribute to the wines of John Daniel's Inglenook. The estate grown fruit used in this wine are from the organically farmed Cohn and Chateau that have been producing cabernet since 1880. Aged in 500 liter American oak puncheons for 28 months, you'd be surprised how this wine is still dominated by incredibly ripe fruit. The oak adds a creamy, fleshy texture without the sometimes off-putting dull notes that American oak can add. This is a wine for your cellar, though if you must drink it now, decant an hour or two first. The Rubicon Estate CASK Cabernet Napa Valley is a glamorous wine, tremendous now, and will hold and develop through 2020.

2005 Arietta Claret

Arietta Claret is a blend of Bordeaux varietals sourced primarily from vineyards farmed on Howell Mountain by David Abreu. This year's wine also includes Merlot from Arietta's "N" Block on the Hudson Ranch in Napa/Carneros. The final blend is 68% Merlot, 26% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 6% Petit Verdot. The 2005 Arietta Claret is remarkable for its decadent aromas of black fruits, mingled with notes of forest floor, sage, graphite, and baked bread. On the palate the wine brightens to include flavors of cherry and other red fruits, and sweet citrus. The beautiful sheen of the wine masks its considerable grip and intensity which, along with an incredibly long fruit-driven finish, indicate a long evolution in bottle for the Arietta Claret 2005. Production: 350 cases \$80.99

Wine Spectator 90**Desert Wind Ruah Desert
Wind Vineyard Wahluke
Slope 2007**

Firm in structure, with refined tannins around a sweet, generous core of currant and blackberry fruit, lingering on the long, expressive finish. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Best from 2011 through 2015.—H.S. 6,875 cases made ~~\$20~~ **\$16.49**

Merlot

Blankiet 03	121.99
Chappellet Napa 06	26.59
Coho Michael Black 05	49.99
Duckhorn Napa 06	44.99
Hahn 05	8.99
Kathryn Kennedy Lateral 06	25.99
Keenan Carneros Merlot 06	23.99
Leonetti 06	79.99
Lewis Napa 05	70.99
Markham 05	16.99
Pahlmeyer 06	89.99
Pedestal 06	48.99
Rombauer Napa 06	26.99
Rutherford Hill 06	6.99
Teatown Napa 05	19.99
Terlato Angels Peak 03	40.59
Twomey Napa 05	59.99
Verite La Muse 01	99.99
Verite La Muse 99	99.99

Pinot Noir

AP Vin Clos Pepe 08	47.99
AP Vin Kanzler 08	47.99
Belle Glos Clark&Telephone 07	37.99
Bogle Russian River 07	11.49
Castle Rock Monterey 08	10.59
Coho Stanly Ranch 06	30.99
Costa de Oro Santa Barbara 07	21.49
David Bruce Russian River 06	31.99
David Bruce Sonoma Coast 06	28.99
Dehlinger Estate 06	47.99
Dierberg Santa Maria 06	37.99
Dom Alfred Chamisal Califa 07	50.99
Dutton GoldfieldDevil'sGulch06	46.99
Hirsch Sonoma Coast 06	59.99
Hirsch Sonoma Coast M 06	49.99
Hitching Post Cork Dancer 07	23.99
J Vineyard & Winery RR 06	26.99
Joseph Swan Cuvee de Trois 07	26.99
Ketcham Estate Russian River06	37.99
Laetitia Estate Pinot 07	21.79
Landmark Kanzler 07	64.99
Lincourt Santa Barbara 07	19.99
Londer Anderson Valley 06	29.99
Loring Rancho La Vina 07	39.99
Loring Russell 07	39.99
Mac Murray Sonoma Coast 07	14.99
Mark West 08	9.49
Merryvale Carneros Pinot 07	26.59
Migration Anderson Valley 07	33.99
Morgan 12 Clones 07	22.29
Morgan SLH DoubleL 07	37.99
O'Reilly's Pinot 08	15.19
Patz&Hall Sonoma Coast 07	35.99
Red Car Box Car RR Pinot06	26.99
Roessler Santa Rita ClosPepe06	41.99
Row Eleven Santa Maria 06	23.69
Row Eleven Vinas 3 2007	16.99
Russian Hill Russian River 06	25.39
Saintsbury Carneros 06	28.99
Saintsbury Stanly 07	32.99
Saxon Brown Durell Hayfield 06	44.99
Sebastiani Sonoma Coast 07	14.99
Smoking Loon Pinot 07	7.99
St. Innocent Shea 07	32.99
Tolosa Edna Valley 06	13.99
Valli Central Otago Gibbston06	41.99
Walter Hansel Cahill LnPinot07	35.99
WesMar Balletto 07	47.99
WesMar Sonoma Coast 07	41.79
ZD Carneros 07	28.69

**2006 Duckhorn Vineyards
Napa Valley Merlot**

To make a Merlot that could compete with the great Merlot-based wines of the right bank of Bordeaux, we began by sourcing fruit grown primarily in alluvial soils, those with high water drainage and little topsoil. This type of soil produces intense fruit that translates into aromatic and complex wines. Our Napa Valley Merlot is a blend of several individual vineyard lots. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and occasionally Petit Verdot make up the final blend. We keep each individual vineyard lot separate through the fermentation and barrel-aging process. After roughly 16 months in oak, the various lots are evaluated and blended, then put back in the barrel to marry for an additional two months. The bright fruit and forward nature of our Napa Valley Merlot pairs well with grilled meats and wild game, wild berry sauces, hearty pasta dishes and Pacific Northwest salmon.

91 Points**The International
Wine Review****Morgan 2007 Pinot Noir
Twelve Clones Santa
Lucia Highlands**

Medium ruby red showing ripe dark cherry fruit, smoke, and undergrowth on the nose. Very flavorful palate of spicy dark red fruit with strong earth and vanilla spice notes. Has a long, flavorful finish, again with the fruit shining through and just a touch of cola spice. Excellent intensity of flavor and superbly balanced. ~~\$32~~ **\$22.29**

Wine Spectator 90**CHAPPELLET Merlot Napa Valley 2006**

Supple yet complex, with red currant, cedar and spicy-mocha aromas and rich black cherry and bell pepper flavors that linger with soft tannins. Drink now through 2013. 3,875 cases made. —TF ~~\$30~~ **\$26.59**

Wine Spectator 93
Rodney Strong Chardonnay
Russian River Valley
Reserve 2007

Floral honeysuckle, ripe fig and melon scents are rich, full-bodied, elegant and refined, showing a light touch of toasty vanilla oak on the finish, where the flavors turn subtle and delicate. Drink now through 2015. *From California.*—J.L. |2,465 cases made ~~\$40~~ **\$22.99**

2007 Alban Vineyards
Viognier Alban Estate
Vineyard Edna Valley

Rated: 93 by Josh Raynolds, Nov/Dec 08
Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar
 Yellow-gold. Explosively aromatic nose offers sexy guava, mango, smoked meat and toasted nut qualities. Creamy in texture and impressively concentrated, with rich, ripe pit and tropical fruit flavors. This gets all over the palate. Finishes broad and impressively long. Serve this with the richest, old-school French shellfish and cream dishes, or with pungent cheeses. **\$47.99**

Wine Spectator 93
Chalk Hill

Chardonnay Chalk Hill 2007

Bold, rich and full-bodied, with succulent fig, apricot, smoky oak and roasted marshmallow flavors that are complex and distinctive, finishing with a long, intricate finish and subtle flavor notes. 13,837 cases made Drink now through 2015.—J.L. ~~\$48~~ **\$32.99**

Wine Spectator 91

CHAPPELLET Chardonnay Napa Valley 2007

Ripe layers of fig, green apple and pear are full-bodied yet elegant, gaining body and richness and ending with a full-blown finish, shaded by nutmeg. Drink now through 2012. 5,000 cases made. —JL ~~\$32~~ **\$25.79**

Chardonnay

Antica Napa 07	
Aubert Ritchie 07	
Bacchant Luli 07	
Bogle 08	
BR Cohn Sonoma 07	
Cakebread Napa 08	
Cambria Katherine's 06	
Castle Rock Central Coast 07	
Ch Julien BS 07	
Ch Montelena Napa 07	
Ch St Jean Sonoma 08	
Chalk Hill Estate 07	
Chalone Estate 07	
Chappellet Napa 07	
Columbia Crest H3 Chard 08	
Costa de Oro Gold Coast 06	
Dom Alfred Stainless 08	
Edna Valley 08	
Etude Carneros Chard 07	
Frank Family Napa 07	
Gloria Ferrer Carneros 06	
Grgich Hills 07	
Groth Napa 07	
Heitz Cellars Napa 07	
Hess Su'skol Vineyard 07	
Hestan Napa 06	
Hirsch Sonoma Coast 06	
Hollywood & Vine Napa 06	
Husch 07	
J. Lohr Riverstone 08	
Kongsgaard 06	
Lava Cap Reserve 08	
Lewis Sonoma 08	
Lincourt Santa Rita 07	
Lolonis Chardonnay 06	
MacRostie Carneros 07	
MacRostie Wildcat Mountain 06	
McManis Chard 08	
Merryvale Starmont 07	
Miner Wild Yeast 07	
Moody Press 07	
Mt Eden Santa Cruz Estate 06	
Napa Cellars 08	

Chardonnay Continued...

31.69 Newton Unfiltered 07	49.99
99.99 Neyers Carneros 08	26.59
17.99 Ortman Edna Valley 07	22.99
7.99 Patz & Hall Napa 07	31.99
15.99 Pavilion Oakville 07	11.59
34.99 Ravenswood Vintners Blend 06	5.69
16.99 Rochioli RR 07	48.99
7.29 Rodney Strong Russian	
9.49 RivRes07	22.99
42.99 Rombauer Carneros 08	28.99
10.59 Saintsbury Carneros 07	17.99
32.99 Santa Barbara Winery 07	11.99
20.99 Saxon Brown Durell 07	39.99
25.79 Sbragia Home Ranch DC 07	21.99
11.99 Scott Family Dijon Clone 08	15.39
19.99 Shafer Red Shoulder Ranch 07	44.99
13.99 Solitude Carneros 08	25.39
8.99 Sterling Vintner's 08	8.99
18.99 Talbott Sleepy Hollow 06	29.99
27.99 Taz Santa Barbara 07	13.99
14.99 Terlato 06	18.99
34.99 Tobin James Radiance 07	11.99
22.99 Tolosa Edna Valley 06	15.99
16.99 Walter Hansel Cahill Lane 07	35.99
18.49 Wenten Morning Fog 08	10.49
59.99 Wenten Riva 08	16.69
49.99 Whitehall Lane Napa 06	24.99
44.99	
11.49	
10.19	
81.99	
12.79	
45.99	
17.49	
13.99	
17.69	
33.99	
7.99	
14.59	
44.99	
14.69	
42.99	
12.69	

2007 Heitz Napa
Chardonnay

Tasting Notes: Our 2007 Napa Valley Chardonnay is sleek and vibrant with the invigorating aroma of juicy pear and lemon blossoms. It's a delicious wine delivering tiers of citrus flavor and the slight tanginess of green apple wrapped around a creamy center. Well-balanced with clean acidity and a lightly toasted character, you will enjoy this Chardonnay from the first refreshing taste through the gracefully extended finish. ~~\$20~~ **\$16.99**

Wine Spectator 93**VITICCIO Chianti Classico
Riserva 2006**

Fabulous aromas of blackberry, dark chocolate and flowers follow through to a full-bodied palate, with supersilky tannins and amazing richness and subtlety. Goes on for minutes on the palate. Best from 2010 through 2015. 2,345 cases made. -JS ~~\$32~~ **\$25.59**

Wine Spectator 90**VITICCIO Chianti
Classico 2006**

Exhibits lots of blackberry and vanilla character on the nose, with hints of flowers. Medium- to full-bodied, with fine tannins and a long, crisp finish. A beautiful wine. Best after 2011. 12,500 cases made. -JS ~~\$21~~ **\$17.99**

Wine Spectator 97**(Top 100: 2009, Rank: 27)
Highly Recommended
LA MASSA Toscana
Giorgio Primo 2007**

Dark and brooding, with intense aromas of lead pencil, blackberry, black cherry and licorice. Full-bodied, with velvety, polished tannins, followed by vanilla, berry and currant on the finish. Powerful and complex. Built like a brick house. Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Best after 2013. 1,750 cases made. -JS ~~\$65~~ **\$58.99**
Limited

Spectator 91 (Top 100: 2009, Rank: 80)**ARGIANO Toscana Non Confunditur 2007**

Offers an interesting combination of currant, raspberry and meat on the nose. Full-bodied, with chewy tannins and a spicy dried fruit aftertaste. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Sangiovese and Syrah. Best after 2011. 9,200 cases made. -JS ~~\$25~~ **\$20.99**

**2008 Pra Soave Classico
Parker 87**

The 2008 Soave Classico opens with a beguiling, sweet bouquet that leads to an expressive core of perfumed fruit. It is a very pretty, entry-level Soave with excellent balance and a harmonious, polished finish. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2012. ~~\$16~~ **\$13.99 (back in stock on 1/7)**

Parker 90**Pelissero Dolcetto d'Alba
2007**

The 2007 Dolcetto d'Alba Munfrina is a vibrant, pure wine. It offers notable complexity in its dark fruit, spices and menthol, with tons of complexity. A long, resonating finish caps off this incredibly delicious Dolcetto. Anticipated maturity: 2008-2011. ~~\$22~~ **\$14.99**

Parker 87**2006 Castello di Selvole
Sangiovese**

The 2006 Sangiovese is a fragrant, juicy red perfect for near-term drinking. The wine offers lovely balance in a plump, generous style, and is an excellent value. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2011 **\$13.99**

**Santa Margherita
Pinot Grigio 2007**

This straw yellow wine displays precise and intense scents of white fruits (particularly pears and Golden Delicious apples) as well as delicate spicy notes. Penetrating tanginess are the hallmarks of its particular taste profile, making this a wine with a very distinctive personality and surprising versatility.

Serving suggestions
Excellent as an aperitif, it is also ideal with seafood salads, fish- or shellfish based pasta dishes or particularly rich and flavorful soups. Matching it with boiled or grilled fish and with white meats (chicken, rabbit, veal) is to be recommended, too. ~~\$21~~ **\$16.99**

**Parker 91
2006 Fontodi Chianti
Classico**

The Chianti Classico is typically one of the last Chiantis to be bottled, but the 2006 shows all the qualities I encountered when I tasted various lots earlier, prior to final assembly and bottling. It is a big, super-ripe Chianti that captures all of the best qualities of the vintage in its rich fruit and beautifully defined aromatics. This is a serious, structured Chianti that can be enjoyed now, but that also has the stuffing to age gracefully for years. Anticipated maturity: 2009-2016. ~~\$36~~ **\$28.99**

Wine Spectator 90
ROSENBLUM Zinfandel
Alexander Valley
Harris Kratka Vineyard 2006

Ripe and briary, this is jammed with intense flavors. Aromas of blackberry jam and toasty sage lead to concentrated plum, licorice and white pepper flavors. Tannins firm up the finish. Best from 2011 through 2014. 2,200 cases made. – TF ~~\$35~~ **\$15.99**

Wine Spectator 91
RIDGE Zinfandel
Paso Robles 2007

Complex and zesty, offering a distinctive sense of place. Lively wild raspberry and spicy dill aromas open to crisp, layered and supple stewed plum, licorice and coconuttinged oak flavors. The tannins are appealingly rustic. Drink now through 2014. 3,750 cases made. – TF ~~\$30~~ **\$23.99**

2008 Brown Napa Zinfandel

Our 2008 Napa Valley Zinfandel boasts the classic exotic nose of its hallmark lineage while displaying a delicate clear rim surrounding beautifully clear garnet color with a touch of blue. Nose opens to give way to hibiscus flower, Chinese five spice, dried kumquat and a touch of early morning bakery. Full-bodied with a juicy mouthfeel and expressive sweet black raspberry, pomegranate, and black currant, this wine is also exuberant with sweet citron, fleshy fruit, cinnamon toast, and deep dark jam. Briary asphalt and a touch of hillside dust impart a complexity that will take your enjoyment to new heights. This classic old-school Napa Valley zinfandel is exceptionally well-balanced with a long expressive finish. ~~\$36~~ **\$30.99**

Zinfandel

Bogle Old Vine 07	8.99
Bogle Phantom 06	15.19
Brown Napa 08	30.99
Buehler Napa Zin 08	16.59
Castle Rock Dry Creek 07	9.19
Christian Lazo 06	17.49
D Cubed Napa 05	22.79
Dashe Dry Creek 07	17.79
Frank Family Zinfandel 07	29.99
Frogs Leap 06	22.79
Karly Bucks Ten Point 06	17.69
Karly Pokerville 07	10.19
Mauritson Jack's Cabin 07	33.99
Mauritson Rockpile Ridge 07	32.99
Moody Press 06	15.59
Mueller Russian River OV 05	34.99
Opolo Mountain 07	22.99
Opolo Summit Creek 07	15.69
Orin Swift Prisoner 08 Mags	79.99
Orin Swift The Prisoner 08	34.99
Outpost Howell Mt 06	45.99
Ramos Lodi 06	19.99
Ridge Geyserville 07	29.99
Ridge Lytton Springs 07	29.99
Ridge Paso 07	23.99
Rombauer Napa 07	23.99
Rosenblum Harris Kratka 06	15.99
Seghesio Sonoma 08	18.99
Sextant Wheelhouse 07	15.39
Shenandoah Special Reserve 07	7.59
Tobin James Ballistic 07	13.39
Turley Dusi 07	49.99

2007 Dashe Dry Creek Zinfandel

A stellar Dry Creek Zinfandel from a stellar vintage, this is a jet-black, delicious zin with loads of fruit flavors and a velvety, voluptuous texture. It has it all: balance, elegance, intensity, and complexity. We wish every vintage could be so easy to make wines as was the classic vintage of 2007. ~~\$21~~ **\$17.79**

2007 Carlisle Russian River Valley

“Papera Ranch” Zinfandel

Tasting Note: Dark ruby-purple, nearly opaque. A compelling, exotic nose of raspberry liqueur, briar, pepper, and incense. Not as floral as Carlisle Vineyard but it’s obvious this comes from the same ‘hood. On the palate, full-bodied with explosive flavors of kirsch and black raspberry leading to a long and persistent finish. A wine that manages to be both powerful and graceful at the same time. Easily our best Papera Ranch Zinfandel to date. Enjoy this age-worthy zinfandel from mid-2010 through 2018.

2008 Buehler Napa Zinfandel

Our Zinfandel is aged for 11 months in a combination of French and American oak barrels, 20% of which are new. At this level of “new wood”, the up-front endearing quality of Zinfandel can assert itself. Aromas of a briar patch on a hot summer day carry over to the palate and are carried in a mouth-filling, flavorful, juicy package. The wine is crafted for immediate enjoyment but for those who enjoy a more complex wine displaying some bottle-aged character, aging for another two to three years is a good option. ~~\$20~~ **\$16.59**

Wine Spectator 90

SEXTANT Zinfandel Paso Robles Wheelhouse 2007

Ripe and jammy, showing huckleberry and licoice aromas, with zesty black cherry and toasty pepper flavors that take on depth and briary tannins on the finish. Drink now through 2014. 3,300 cases made. – TF. ~~\$20~~ **\$15.39**

Wine Spectator 93
ST.-COSME Gigondas 1998

A beautiful, terroir-driven wine. Thick and elegant, with mineral, wet earth, plum and blackberry. Silky midpalate, but tannic and uncompromising on the finish. Needs time. Best from 2004 through 2015. 3,665 cases made. -PM Release price ~~\$29~~ **\$35.99**

Parker 90
2007 Guigal Cotes du Rhone Blanc

The beautiful 2007 Cotes du Rhone Blanc, a blend of 50% Viognier and the rest Roussanne, Marsanne, Clairette, and Bourboulenc, is the finest he has yet produced. Amazing aromatics, fresh citrus fruits, and a hint of minerality are presented in a medium-bodied, delicious style that most consumers will love. ~~\$14~~ **\$12.49**

Parker 94
2007 Mas de Boislauzon Chateauneuf du Pape

The 2007 Chateauneuf du Pape, a big time sleeper of the vintage, is well-worth buying. The finest traditional Chateauneuf produced at Mas de Boislauzon, it boasts a saturated ruby/purple color as well as a spectacular nose of licorice, black raspberries, black cherries, and lavender, and an exquisitely full-bodied, multidimensional and layered wine with not a hard edge to be found. Tremendous depth, beautiful freshness, and admirable purity suggest this 2007 will evolve for 12+ years. Readers should move quickly to secure some of this fabulous bargain. ~~\$40~~ **\$33.99**

Parker 93
2007 Domaine Grand Veneur Lirac Clos de Sixte (Alain Jaume)

The 2007 Lirac Clos de Sixte is composed of 50% Grenache, 35% Syrah, and 15% Mourvedre. Abundant licorice, graphite, black cherry, and blackberry characteristics are offered in a full-bodied, deep, fleshy style. Liracs generally do not age as long as Chateauneuf du Papes, but this effort is capable of lasting 5-7 years where well-stored as it is a big, impressively endowed wine. ~~\$26~~ **\$22.99**

Wine Spectator 90
Château de St.-Cosme Cotes du Rhône Les Deux Albion 2007

Polished, with a nice beam of raspberry ganache laying over dark coffee and graphite notes. Dash of roasted sage on the fleshy, racy finish. Co-fermented Syrah, Grenache, Carignan, 3,330 cases made. ~~\$23~~ **\$20.99**

Parker 96
2007 Domaine Grand Veneur Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee les Origines

The 2007 Chateauneuf du Pape Les Origines (50% Grenache, 30% Mourvedre, and 20% Syrah aged in small new oak barrels) is somewhat of an anomaly with such an amount of new oak, but it never seems to show given the wine's concentration and richness. This may be the estate's finest example of this cuvee, which generally represents 1,200-1,500 cases, all from their holdings in the northern sector of the appellation. A saturated purple color is accompanied by aromas of smoke, camphor, creme de cassis, licorice, and blueberries, amazing concentration, a full-bodied texture, and a stunningly long finish. The tannins are present, but silky, and the vintage's freshness and vibrant fruit are evident. Powerful and loaded with substance, but at the same time endearingly elegant and ethereal, it will benefit from another 2-3 years of bottle age, and should drink well for 15+. ~~\$75~~ **\$55.99**

2008 Saint Cosme Cotes du Rhone

100% Syrah from limestony sands, red clay and galets roulés, Aged in vats. The wines are big. Entirely destemmed, the grapes macerated for two weeks. Our Côtes-du-Rhône 2008 will surprise you for its level of quality. The final blend is as usual purple in color, concentrated, with great finesse and roundness. Blackcurrant, redberry, lavender, peat, roasted ham. ~~\$16~~ **\$13.49**

2008 Bila-Haut Cotes-du-Roussillon 90 points, Wine Spectator

A blend of Syrah, Grenache and Carignane. Deep red garnet in color. Black cherries on the nose. Well-structured on the palate with sweet meaty tannins. The wine had the heat and wildness of the Roussillon area. Pair with a nice piece of beef or Mediterranean food. ~~\$15~~ **\$11.99**

Wine Spectator 89
SURVIVANT Syrah
Santa Barbara County
2008

Offers an appealing mix of ripe cherry, pomegranate and boysenberry fruit that's firm, spicy and full-bodied, ending with tannins that give the flavors traction. Drink now through 2015. 250 cases made. —J.L. ~~\$25~~ **\$16.99**

2008 Bodegas Luzon
Luzon * Parker 87

The 2008 Luzon is a blend of 65% Monastrell and 35% Syrah. Dark ruby in color, it has an enticing perfume of violets, spice notes, black cherry, and blueberry. On the palate it shows off a racy, elegant personality with spicy blueberry flavors, lively acidity, and a fruit-filled finish. Enjoy it over the next four years. ~~\$9.00~~ **\$7.59**

2008 Agricola de Borja
Borsao * Parker 88

The 2008 Borsao is a blend of 80% Garnacha and 20% Tempranillo. Purple-colored with an expressive aromatic array of black cherry and blackberry, this well-balanced, lengthy effort is another terrific value from Bodegas Borsao. ~~\$9.00~~ **\$6.69**

Wine Spectator 92
ROSENBLUM **Petite Sirah Napa Valley**
Pickett Road 2006

Rich, dark, dense and intense, with a mouthful of chewy tannins, but also plenty of flavor oozing out. Black cherry, blackberry, plum and cassis flavors are at the core, with tobacco, spice and lots of toasty, smoky oak influences and an espresso finish. Drink now through 2020. 850 cases made. —MW ~~\$35~~ **\$19.99**

Wine Spectator 93
MCPRICE MYERS Beautiful Earth Paso Robles 2007

Bold, rich and fleshy, with generous ripe plum, black cherry and berry fruit that's complex and layered, full-bodied and juicy, gaining depth and richness on the finish, which is long and persistent. Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre. Drink now through 2016. 425 cases made. - J.L. ~~\$36~~ **Back In Stock**

Parker 91
2006 Mas Igneus Barranc
Dels Closos

The 2006 Barranc dels Closos is composed of 75% Garnacha and 25% Carinena aged for three months in French oak. Purple-colored, it offers up an expressive perfume of earth, slate, espresso, black cherry, blueberry, and licorice. This leads to a full-bodied wine with intense liquid mineral and black fruit flavors, outstanding depth, and enough ripe tannin to support an additional 2-3 years of cellaring. It should be at its finest from 2011 to 2021. It is a good introduction to the DO of Priorat. ~~\$21~~ **\$17.99**

Parker 90
2007 Familia Zuccardi
Malbec Q

The 2007 Malbec Q is a step up over the Serie A. It offers more depth and complexity, savory flavors, some structure, and a medium-long finish. It will evolve for 1-2 years but can be enjoyed now. ~~\$20~~ **\$15.29**

Wine Spectator 90
2007 Bodegas Volver
 “This muscular red shows beef and iron notes, with plum and prune fruit in a thick texture. A bit blunt, but distinctive, with enough acidity to keep it all lively.” 100% Tempranillo - Nov. 30, 2009 Issue, Vol. 34#11 “smart buy!” ~~\$15~~ **\$12.99**

2006 Talbott Sleepy Hollow Chardonnay
90 points from Wine Spectator Insider

A very distinctive style. Full-bodied and well-done, rich and unctuous, showing bold, fleshy ripe fig, honey, melon and spicy hazelnut flavors, with light oak shadings. Ends with a long, honeyed finish. Drink now through 2014. **\$29.99**

Parker 92

**2005 Big Basin Vineyards Syrah
Mandala Rattlesnake Rock**

The 2005 Syrah Mandala possesses more intense fruit, not the complexity of the Rattlesnake Rock, but is just as good because of the sweetness, purity, and overall harmony of its elements. With superb purity, an expressive style, and loads of soul and character, it will provide plenty of pleasure over the next 10-12 years. ~~\$45~~ **\$37.99**

Wine Spectator 95

**Tensley Syrah Santa Barbara County
Colson Canyon Vineyard 2008**

Displays gorgeous fruit, with a medley of wild berry, blackberry, huckleberry and boysenberry fruit that's pure, rich and intense, yet elegant, supple and refined. The fruit flavors are sustained on the finish, ending minimally, with fine-grained tannins. 1,610 cases made Drink now through 2017.—*J.L.* \$38

2007 Etude Carneros Chardonnay

Very food-friendly with aromas of nectarine and lemon chiffon, lively acidity and flavors that emphasize fruit and not oak. A lovely Chablis-like Carneros Chardonnay. ~~\$38~~ **\$18.99**

2007 Newton Unfiltered Chardonnay

Beautiful golden straw in color. More impressive (and complex) in the mouth than on the nose, soft citrus with some green apple, pear and a hint of jicama and almond, notes of mineral and wet stone — some exotic fruit, well balanced, nice acidity with a pure and long finish. \$49.99

Parker 90-92

2007 Shafer Vineyards Chardonnay Red Shoulder Ranch

The 2007 Chardonnay Red Shoulder Ranch is a return to the brilliance of this cuvee. Excellent acidity backs up considerable tropical fruit notes offered in a medium to full-bodied, zesty, substantial format. There is little evidence of oak in either its aromas or flavors. Drink it over the next several years as this is not a style that ages longer than 3-4 years. ~~\$50~~ **\$44.99**

**The Grape Tray
5091 N. Fresno Street, Ste 126
Fresno, CA 93710**

New Arrivals

- '06 Viticcio Chianti Classico Ris \$25.59
- '07 La Massa Giorgio Primo \$58.99
- '07 Argiano Toscana Non Confunditur \$20.99
- '07 Morgan Twelve Clone Pinot \$22.29
- '07 Desert Wind Ruah \$16.49
- '07 Rodney Strong RR Res Chard \$22.99
- '07 Chappellet Napa Chard \$25.79
- '05 Fisher Coach Insignia Cab \$61.99
- '06 Hess Allomi Cab \$21.99
- '06 Buccella Cabernet \$
- '06 Karl Lawrence Napa Cab \$59.99
- '06 Showket Oakville Cab \$
- '06 Merus Napa Cab \$119.99
- '06 Nickel & Nickel Copper Streak Cab \$70.99
- '05 Rubicon Cask Cabernet \$54.99
- '07 Heitz Napa Chard \$16.99
- '07 Dashe Dry Creek Zin \$17.79
- '08 Buehler Napa Zin \$16.59
- '06 Rosenblum Harris Kratka Zin \$15.99

2007 Beckman Cuvee le Bec

This perennial good buy is a great buy in this vintage. Dark blackish ruby violet. Big southern Rhone-like nose of earthy herbal scents over blackberries and pungent minerals. Big, deep-toned, and fleshy in the mouth, with intense "garrigue" (that's the French way of saying "earthy-herbal") and iodine/mineral-tinged blackberry fruit. Long, peppery finish with substantial but soft tannin. A big, satisfying mouthful of red. **\$16.29**

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