

CHARDONNAY

Aubert, "UV-SL", Sonoma Coast 2009 "98pts" RP	150.00
Tasting like a liqueur of crushed rocks intermixed with honeysuckle, baked apples, brioche and lemon butter, it is stunningly rich and medium to full-bodied with zesty acidity, purity and texture. A fabulous Chardonnay.	
Paul Hobbs, "Cuvée Augustina, Richard Dinner Vineyard" Sonoma 2003 "95pts"	140.00
A rich, opulent, hedonistic pleasure. A selection of this vineyard's finest barrels, this is the estate's top Chardonnay. It was aged in 88% new oak, and possesses superb fruit and ripeness, medium to full body, and notes of honeysuckle, orange marmalade, pineapple, mango and light toasty oak. Exotic, well-delineated, dense, and rich. The flavors gain intensity on the finish, lingering on and on.	
Stonestreet, "Lower Rim", Alexander Valley 2008 "96pts" RP	110.00
The 2008 Lower Rim is a compelling effort displaying enormous flesh, richness, succulence, minerality, and acidity. Notes of steely nectarines, bright oranges, lemon zest, butter cookies, and nutmeg emerge from this serious Chardonnay.	
Miner, "Wild Yeast", Napa 2005 "95pts"	105.00
Complex notes of ripe apples, creme brulee, toasted bread and savory spices are combined in the deeply framed, rich aromas of this somewhat full-bodied, mouthfilling and well-balanced wine.	
Leeuwin, "Art Series", Margaret River, Western Australia 2002 "96pts"	99.00
A wine of marvelous richness and unexpected subtlety, this has delicious pear, mineral, gooseberry and lime flavors in profusion, beautifully wrapped in a veil of spicy oak, persisting impressively on the long, long finish.	
Mt. Eden "Estate", Santa Cruz Mtns. 2006 "96pts" WS No. 11 Wine Spectator top 100	95.00
Simply delicious, a rich buttery style, delivering ripe, vivid, delicate peach, pear and honeydew melon fruit that's complex, concentrated and full-bodied. Offers excellent length and depth. Creamy oak adds a touch of smoke and vanilla. The texture is silky.	
Hartford Court, "Stone Côte Vineyard", Sonoma Coast 2007 "96pts" WE	92.00
The wine displays the firm, acidic minerality of that cool, foggy region. It has fantastic limpidity. The oak is remarkable for the purity of vanilla and smoky honey, while the underlying flavors of Meyer lemons, pineapples, nectarines and kumquats are decadently good. A masterpiece of Chardonnay.	
Shafer, "Red Shoulder Ranch", Carneros 2009 "96pts" WE	89.00
Shafer consistently produces one of the biggest, fruitiest Chardonnays in California, and yet the wine remains balanced and interesting. Gigantic in pineapples, pears, mangoes, tangerines and honey, yet so minerally and crisp that somehow it finishes dry.	
Peirson Meyer, "Untitled No.3", Sonoma 2007 "95pts" RP	87.00
A powerful, full-throttle Chardonnay, it exhibits a light gold color as well as a big, sweet kiss of baked apples, honeyed pears, nectarines, and orange marmalade. Displaying fabulous fruit on the attack, mid-palate, and finish, a full-bodied mouthfeel, and a subtle hint of toasty oak.	
Dutton-Goldfield, "Rued Vineyard", Russian River 2005 "95pts"	82.00
Complex, layered and quite dry. Acidity makes the tangerine, kumquat, ripe yellow pear, roasted pineapple and oak, creme brulee flavors really come alive. After you swallow, the wine leaves behind a delicious impression.	
Failla, Estate, Sonoma 2009 NYR (2008 "97pts" WE & No. 13 Top 100)	80.00
This vintage is not yet rated. The past vintages have all recorded high 90 pt. scores. 2008 review: The wines are from the wildest, most remote and exotic stretch of the Sonoma Coast: you can taste the salt of the sea in the wine, as you can in a Manzanilla Sherry. It gives a tang to the lemondrop, pear and honeysuckle flavors, with their lick of cold granite. So pure and vibrant, so savory, so compelling. Grows more fascinating with every minute in the glass.	
Curvature, Napa 2009 "94pts" BH	80.00
A collaboration between our local golf great, Cristie Kerr and Suzanne Pride Bryan (Pride Mountain Vineyards), with all proceeds going to support breast cancer research. This chardonnay is beautifully crafted with notes of cream, oak and excellent minerality. The midpalate offers excellent orange blossom and tangerine nuances. A beautiful wine, elegant and all support to a great cause.	
Woodward Canyon, Washington 2009 "96pts" WE	78.00
Luscious, rich, balanced and intensely fruity, this stunning effort may well be the best Chardonnay ever produced in Washington. Two-thirds old-vine Celilo vineyard grapes are blended with estate-grown fruit from even older vines. Candied citrus, especially Meyer lemon, lemon verbena and other fruity herbs, stone fruits and subtle layers of caramel and toast burst from the glass.	
Calera, "Mt. Harlan", Central Coast 2009 "96pts" RP	66.00
The finest Chardonnay Calera has made in many years, A chalky component (from the limestone soils of this appellation) is intermixed with quince, white currant, nectarine, orange blossom, and lemon butter notes in an incredibly complex, crystalline style. Full-bodied with stunning concentration, length, and texture, this fabulous Chardonnay could easily pass for a grand cru white Burgundy.	
Rombauer, Carneros 2010 "93pts"	64.00
Perfection in the bottle, this bodacious chardonnay drinks easy, full figured, ripe, creamy and lush.	
Arrowood "Reserve", Alexander Valley 2006 "93pts" WE	62.00
Rich and satisfying, this opulent Chardonnay dazzles with sheer deliciousness. Master winemaker Richard Arrowood has pulled out all the stops on this Burgundian-style wine. The flavors, of pineapple custard, lemon meringue, green apple butter, crème brûlée and gingersnap cookie, are balanced by perfect acidity.	
Robert Young, "Estate", Alexander Valley 2007 "95pts" WE	60.00
Begins with fascinating, complex aromas—highlighted by lees, pineapple, cinnamon, smoke and white chocolate with layers of fig, melon and honeysuckle flavors that are full-bodied, silky-textured, long and persistent, unveiling the vineyard's purity of flavor. Dazzling with its sheer opulence.	

More Chardonnay >

CHARDONNAY

La Follette, "Sangiaco", Sonoma Coast 2009 "93pts" WE	13.50	52.00
A very rich, flamboyant Chardonnay, designed to dazzle. With tropical fruit and spice flavors, it has all the buttered toast, crème brûlée and butterscotch notes you could ask for from oak barrels. Brisk acidity provides much needed balance in this superb white wine.		
Longoria, "Cuvee Diana" Santa Rita Hills, 2007 "92pts" WE	12.50	48.00
Very rich and Burgundian, showing ripe flavors of pineapples, limes and peaches, with barrel notes of vanilla and buttered toast. The texture is creamy smooth, while bright acidity makes the mouth feel clean and fine.		
Artesa, Carneros, 2010 "92pts" WE	11.50	44.00
Again 2010 is one of the best California chardonnays at this price point. It's rich and creamy, with orange, pineapple, crème brûlée and buttered toast flavors.		
Cambria, "Special Select Katherine's", Santa Maria, 2009 "91pts" W&S	10.50	40.00
Pale white peach flavors match this wine's substantial oak, its scents of toasted almond and marzipan turning lighter and savory.		
Bodega Cateña Zapata, "Alamos", Mendoza, Argentina 2010 "88pts"	7.50	28.00
One of the best Argentine value Chardonnays on the market. The nose is stylish, with butterscotch, honeyed apple and vanilla notes. Smooth on the palate, with more than adequate apple and peach flavors, and then pure and fairly long on the finish.		
Bogle, California 2010 "88pts" WS	7.00	26.00
Fresh, intense and vibrant, with sweat pea, green apple, melon and honeysuckle notes that are full-bodied, ending with a clean, crisp finish.		

OTHER VARIETALS

Donelan, "Venus", Roussanne, Sonoma 2008 "94pts" RP		95.00
a blend of 93% Roussanne and 7% Viognier, ranks alongside the great white Rhone Ranger blends produced by Manfred Krankl at Sine Qua Non. It offers a light green hue to its color, explosive aromatics of tropical fruits including lychee nuts, pineapples, and orange marmalade, excellent acidity, and superb richness. This dry, full-bodied, intense elixir's alcohol is only 12%, which is hard to believe given the flavor intensity.		
Delille Cellars, "Doyenne", Roussanne, Red Mtn. WA. 2009 "93pts" ST		62.00
All Ciel du Cheval fruit. Bright yellow, Honey, ginger, quinine and an element of leesy complexity on the nose. Then dense, tactile and sappy in the mouth, with a fresh apricot flavor complicated by ginger spice. Really explodes on the long finish but retains its brisk quality.		
Sans Liege, "Sancha", Marsanne, Paso Robles 2010 "93pts" BH		59.00
A bouquet of jasmine, Bosch pear, raw honey and dried leaves leads to a pleasantly glycerin palate rich with sweet cream, soft smoke and wet sand. Marsanne's prominent minerality contrivutes to a continually evolving finish. Shows good concentration to the apple cider, fig and pear flavors, with golden raisin and hay notes on a medium-bodied frame.		
Alban, Viognier, Central Coast 2009 "92pts" WE		54.00
Intense and fragrant, The flavors gain momentum on the finish. very fresh, with loads of honeyed peach and apricot as well as some exotic lychee and floral notes. The wine has good acidity and medium to full body, with good minerality.		
Zind Humbrecht, "Wintzenheim" Gewurztraminer, Alsace 2004 "93pts"		48.00
Fresh, showing delicate floral, lychee and spice notes, despite its weight. Dry and powerful on the finish, but well-balanced overall, with a detailed aftertaste of grilled nuts and brioche.		
Byron, Pinot Blanc, Santa Maria Valley 2008 "92pts" WE		48.00
Rich and creamy, with the mouthfeel of a good Chardonnay, and exotic flavors of honeysuckle, lemon custard, buttered toast and spices. Just delicious!		
WillaKenzie, Pinot Blanc, Willamette Valley 2008 "91pts" WE		45.00
This is a truly lovely, elegant Pinot Blanc, from a winery that has a fine handle on the grape. Scents of lemongrass and grapefruit run headlong into delicate, evocative fruit flavors of melon, gooseberry, lime and stone fruits. Though quite dry and tart, it has so much complexity that it never turns sour. Serves itself up as an excellent food wine.		
Novelty Hill "Stillwater Creek" Viognier, Columbia Valley 2008 "93pts"		44.00
From the first sniff you know it's Viognier and you can't wait to splash around in it—it's just got that indefinable mix of flower, perfume, citrus rind and stone fruit that typifies the finest Washington Viogniers. The flavors are beautifully defined, racy and sharp, walking the high wire between bitter and hot with amazing grace and dexterity.		
Freemark Abbey, Viognier, Napa 2009 "93pts" WE		42.00
A brilliant Viognier that preserves the variety's exotic richness, while framing it with balance and subtlety, no easy task. Impresses for its array of pineapple crème brûlée, Key lime pie, golden mango and green apple opulence, yet is crisp and zesty in acidity, and there's a bracing minerality. The grapes come from an unusual combination of Rutherford, which provides ripeness, and Carneros, which brings acidity and freshness.		
Attems, Tocai Friulano, Collio, Italy 2004 "87pts"		40.00
Fascinating aromas of minerals, white peaches and flowers follow through to a medium-bodied palate, with clean acidity and a long finish.		
Colomé, Torrontés, Salta, Argentina 2009 "91pts" WE		38.00
The bouquet is flower power, lychee and tangerine, and overall this is an exotic, driving wine like no other from Argentina. Expect roundness and similarities to Viognier; it's amplified and impressive. Smooth, tropical and melony, with an easygoing palate.		
Tangent, Grenache Blanc, Edna Valley 2009 "91pts" WE		36.00
Made with no oak, this pretty wine stars fresh fruit and clean acidity. With orange, honeysuckle, melon, mineral and vanilla flavors, it has a mouthfeel midway between a crisp Sauvignon Blanc and a creamy Chardonnay. Production was low, only 559 cases.		
QMS Group, "Writer's Block", Roussanne, Lake County 2006 "89pts"		36.00
Crisp and lively, with pineapple, apricot and baked apple flavors. Appealing for the balance between acidity and ripeness, with grace notes of cedar and spice that linger.		

PINOT GRIGIO

Dr. Konstantin Frank, Finger Lakes, NY. 2009 "89pts"	11.50	44.00
Delicate aromas of lemon, fennel and cherry blossoms delight the senses and draw you towards a soft fruity taste with a dry zesty finish.		
Maso Canali, Pinot Grigio, Trentino, Italy 2009 "90pts"		36.00
Most of the fruit comes from the Canali family's original 17-acre Trentino vineyard that was first planted in 1893. Very fresh lemon zest and sliced apple aromas. Tasty peach and pear flavors with cleansing, youthful acidity. Lively, clean finish with a continuation of the zesty citrus flavors.		
King Estate, "Signature Collection", Oregon 2010 "92pts" W&S	9.50	36.00
Bright and exuberant as soon as it hits the glass, this wine has vibrant and persistent tangerine and white peach scents. On the palate it has a fresh mineral bite, the flavors more in the vein of citrus, the acidity lively and on point.		
Graffigna, "Centenario", San Juan, Argentina 2010 "91pts" BTI	9.00	34.00
Pale gold with a faint salmon cast. Floral apricot, honeycrisp apple, and sweet cream aromas follow through on a silky, supple entry to a fruit medium body with citrus marmalade and delicate spice accents. Finishes with a crisp, tangy ripe peach fade. A delicious and incredibly food friendly pinot grigio.		
A Mano, Delle Venezie, Veneto, Italy 2010 "89pts"	8.50	32.00
Pretty mango and honey aromas and flavors, with just a hint of spicy toasted almond character, follow through to a full body, offering good fruit and fresh acidity		
King Estate, "Acrobat", Oregon 2010 "90pts" W&S	8.00	30.00
From our great friends, Ed & Carolyn King. Their second label. Even better than the excellent 2008 Acrobat. Clean and citrusy in scent, with a soft leesy note, this brisk gris has a peppery phenolic bite that makes it ideal to pair with food, but is also a fine sipper. Great Job!		
Canyon Road, California 2009 "86pts"	7.00	26.00
Pale silvery straw. Starfruit, melon custard, and white strawberry aromas follow through on a brisk, round entry to a dryish light-to-medium body with citrus powder, sour cream, and talc notes. Finishes with a bruised apple and firm, dusty fruit tannin fade.		

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Merry Edwards, Russian River 2010 "94pts" WS		78.00
A rocket beam of vibrancy, with effusive honeysuckle notes and ripe honeydew melon, citrus, pear and apricot flavors that have amazing structure, depth and body. Ripe flavors end with a mouthwatering finish, where the mineral and spice details echo on and on.		
Robert Mondavi, Fumé, To Kalon Vineyard, Napa 2006 "91pts"		66.00
Always one of the best Sauvignon Blancs in California. It brings new levels of richness and complexity to a variety that can be simple even in the best of hands. With 15% Sémillon, the wine explodes with zesty tangerine, lemon tart, coconut pie and smoky oak flavors, with an edge of wintergreen. The finish is absolutely dry.		
Matanzas Creek, "Helena Bench", Knights Valley 2009 "93pts" WE		58.00
Bone dry, and brightened with zesty acidity, this fabulous SB defines the category. Accented with a touch of oak, it stars potent citrus and tropical fruit, green apple, white flower and mineral flavors, with a complexity that makes it easily worth the price. Gets better and better as it warms in the glass.		
Brancott, "Conders Forest", Marlborough, New Zealand 2008 "92pts" WS		54.00
Bright, with passion fruit, pineapple, grapefruit flavors and mineral notes in vivid balance, lingering on the finish, which becomes more subtle with each sip. Good palate length, with natural acidity from the vineyards stony soils.		
Villa Maria, "Reserve" Wairau Valley, New Zealand 2009 "92pts" WE	13.00	50.00
A big and bold Sauvignon Blanc, packed with flavors of mango, nectarine and fresh herbs that come together beautifully on the nose and palate. Long on the finish.		
Frog's Leap, Rutherford 2010 "93pts" W&S		46.00
It layers herbal scents with ripe fruit notes of melon, pineapple and cherimoya, cleaned up in the finish by a pink grapefruit acidity. The flavors are saturated and sophisticated, a rich white to pour with spicy dishes.		
Concha Y Toro, "Terrunyo" Casablanca Valley, Chile 2007 "92pts" W&S	11.25	43.00
Bright, strong character, elegant and exuberant. Nice complexity of herbs, gooseberries, gropical fruits (guayaba), citrical hints, lempos zest. Lovely, mouthfilling mineral character overtaking everything at first. With air, herbs and citric flavors fill in the palate, making it feel more approachable and tender,		
Decoy, by Duckhorn, Napa 2010 "92pts" WE	11.00	42.00
This hits the pure passionfruit flavor of finely ripened sauvignon. It's mouthwatering and firmly structured, The wine is thoroughly dry and very crisp in acidity, with a grassy, lemony, minerally profile that makes it savory.		
Elizabeth Rose, Napa 2009 "90pts" BH	9.00	34.00
Smooth in character, exhibiting a light and crisp vibrancy. Fresh with fragrant tropical fruit and honeydew melon flavors. Medium bodied showing juicy hints of citrus and a bright acidity on the finish.		
Clifford Bay, Marlborough, New Zealand 2009 "90pts" WRON	7.50	28.00
A terrific wine and a stunning value, this wine shows expressive aromas and flavors, with notes of dried herbs, grated citrus rind, and ripe grapefruit, the acidity is very energetic but ripe and not at all tart and the balance of fruit sweetness to citric acidity is just right.		
Bogle, California 2010 "89pts" WE	7.00	26.00
Another Best Buy from Bogle. This SB is crisp and complex in Asian pear, tangerine and green apple flavors, brightened with crisp acidity and made savory with dusty baking spices.		

RIESLING

Muller-Catoir, "Haardter Burgergarten" Spätlese, Pfalz 2005 "93pts"	62.00
Inviting flavors of vanilla custard, lime and apricot meld nicely with the creamy texture in this opulent Riesling. It's harmonious from start to finish.	
Eroica, Columbia Valley 2008 "94pts" WE	56.00
May be the best vintage ever, simply brilliant, it's scents of Thai pineapple and passionfruit leading to limelike flavors hurried along by rippling acidity. There's tension between the brisk and creamy textures, a contrast of generosity and mineral edges.	
Poet's Leap, Columbia Valley 2009 "95pts" No. 7 Wine Enthusiast top 100	50.00
With residual sugar at about 1.35%, this balances the acidity without seeming sweet. Hand picked and whole-cluster pressed, immaculate, fresh and generous; loaded with grapefruit, citrus and stone flavors, it cleans the palate and piles on the details as it rolls into a finish that lingers for well over a full minute.	
Zind-Humbrecht, "Gueberschwihr", Alsace 2004 "93pts"	48.00
Stunning, ripe, rich and very expressive of site. Open, with spearmint, floral and tropical fruit notes, yet also deep, with a fiery, mineral character. Vibrant and resonant on the long finish.	
EFESTE, "Evergreen", Columbia Valley 2010 "93pts" WE	11.00 42.00
Though this is calculated at 1.5% residual sugar, it seems quite dry. You'll like the excellent concentration and bracing minerality, with a mix of green berry and apple flavors. There are also nuances of spice and even a hint of caramel—it's a subtle wine with long-lasting flavors that extend into a dry, complex finish	
Blufeld, QbA, Mosel 2009 "89pts"	9.50 36.00
Reveals hints of floral, honey, ripe apples and crushed clover leaves. It's on the weighty, sweet side, but balanced by a fine vein of citrus on the finish.	
Stone Cap, Columbia Valley 2009 "88pts" WS	7.50 28.00
Bright and jazzy, this is lightly sweet but lively, with apple, peach and floral flavors that linger easily on the finish. An excellent value.	

MÉRITAGE & BLENDS

Sine Qua Non, "Body & Soul", Santa Rita Hills 2007 "96pts" RP	195.00
A blend of 71% Roussanne and 29% Viognier. Honeysuckle, orange blossom, lemon oil, tropical fruit, and floral notes are found in this unctuously-textured white. Full-bodied and dry, with good underlying minerality, crispness, and an alluring freshness. This wine is so spectacularly perfumed and intense it is hard to resist.	
Veraison, "Black Bart's Bride", Stagecoach Vineyard, Napa 2007 "92pts"	90.00
An ultrarich, opulent style, Pale straw gold; Aromas of white peaches, dried apricots, almonds, and fresh tangerines, transition smoothly into ripe gooseberries, honeycomb and lemon peel and distinctive minerality; Complex, yet soft tannins and a full mid-palate lead into a seductive finish that stretches on. Roussanne, Viognier, Chardonnay and Marsanne.	
Delille Cellars, "Chaleur Estate", Columbia Valley 2009 "93pts" ST	62.00
(a 68/32 blend of sauvignon blanc and semillon; aged in 75% new oak for 6 months) Complex nose melds ginger, lemon drop, mirabelle, honey and spicy oak. Then dense, sappy and highly concentrated, with a strong spice quality. A very rich, elegant wine.	
Signorello, "Seta", Napa 2006 "93pts" No. 46 Wine Enthusiast top 100	58.00
A blend of Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc, is very rich. It has the creamy textural weight of Chardonnay, yet the flavor profile is of lime pie, figs, green melons and nectarines. A great success and value.	
Château Carbonnieux, Graves 2003 "91pts"	54.00
A light straw color accompanies enticing aromas of figs, lemon zest, grapefruit, and honeysuckle. Medium-bodied, with good acidity, loads of fruit and depth, and a long, concentrated finish, Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc.	
d'Arenberg, "The Hermit Crab", Adelaide 2009 "90pts" WS	40.00
Very pretty, with floral, passion fruit and pineapple aromas and flavors up front. Settles into an apricot silkiness on the finish.	
Hayman & Hill, "Interchange", Santa Barbara 2007 "90pts"	9.00 35.00
A blend of 40% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Chardonnay, 20% Muscat Canelli and 5% Riesling. Bright citrus and mineral acidity give the wine a fresh, clean backbone. Complimented by a rich and smooth palate to round out the tropical fruit characteristics. Extremely rich and expressive.	
Masi, delle Venezie "Masianco", Italy 2009 "89pts"	34.00
A happy marriage between two white grapes: Pinot Grigio (75%) adds cut grass and zest and the slightly over-ripened Verduzzo (25%) gives structure and smoothness. This is a very interesting, clean wine with floral fragrances and a crisp close.	

ROSE/BLUSH

Mulderbosch, Rosé of Cabernet Sauvignon, South Africa 2008 "89pts"	9.50 36.00
Medium-weight, with a mix of cherry and tobacco notes followed by a dash of pepper. Supplies a lot more flavor than most roses but remains easy on the palate. Perfect for summer sipping.	
Etude, Rosé of Pinot Noir, Carneros 2010 "89pts" WE	9.25 35.00
Dry, crisp and lavender, like a Provençal rosé, but distinctly California due to the ripe, forward cherry and strawberry flavors. This blush wine is really fun to drink. It's as easy as a summer afternoon, yet has the complexity to stand up to food.	
Arizona Stronghold, "Dayden", Arizona 2009	8.75 33.00
Delicate strawberries, sour cherry and floral flavors are wrapped in a rich texture with crisp acidity, to keep it refreshing. 30% Grenache, 23% Sangiovese, 18% Zinfandel, 12% Syrah, 6% Cabernet, 6% Mourvèdre.	
J. Lohr, "Cypress", White Zinfandel, California 2010	5.50 20.00
Light berry, strawberry and white pepper. Some residual sugar makes for a light, easy drinking sipper.	

SPARKLING & CHAMPAGNES

Perrier-Jouët, "Fleur De Champagne", Epernay 1999 "93pts"		165.00
Round and expressive, offering caramel, apricot and vanilla pastry aromas and flavors on an elegant frame. On the soft side, this is a voluptuous, inviting Champagne that's easy to sink into, with a long, nutty finish.		
Argyle, "Extended Tirage", Willamette Valley 1996 "94pts"		75.00
A stunner. Pear, apple and orange marmalade flavors weave through a delicate structure and a flavor profile with distinct toastiness. It's the freshness that makes this elegant sparkler special.		
Roederer Estate, NV Brut, Sonoma "91pts"		46.00
A rich version, loaded with spicy cinnamon notes. Bold apple aromas, with a whiff of yeast, lead to complex, layered pear, crème brûlée and baked apple flavors that linger.		
Taittinger, NV, Brut, "La Francaise", France (375ml) "92pts"		44.00
A fine, very pure style of Champagne. Has hints of toast and citrus fruits that come together in a style that is almost the essence of Champagne. Crisp, rich and complex.		
Mionetto, "Sergio", NV, Spumante, Veneto, Italy "92pts"	WE	42.00
This sparkler's aromatic nose provides floral scents and a touch of anise. The rich, creamy mouthfeel ends slightly sweet, making this an enjoyable beverage with a unique style. Full-bodied, balanced and creamy, with mellow nut and citrus flavors.		
Mumm, NV Brut Rosé, Napa "93pts"	WE 7.75	42.00
What a roll Mumm Napa is on with their new releases. This blush wine shows the level of richness and elegance the winery has achieved lately. Made from 85% Pinot Noir and 15% Chardonnay, it has deliciously forward flavors of raspberries, strawberries, gingersnap cookies and vanilla lemon custard, with the bubbly froth and tart yeastiness of a fine sparkling wine		
Gloria Ferrer, NV, Brut, Sonoma "90pts"		38.00
Round and full-bodied, with rich, ripe apple, pear and honeydew melon flavors. This complex sparkler has a nice touch of yeast and doughy aromas that give it added character, turning creamy with a touch of vanilla.		
Ruffino, NV, Prosecco, Veneto, Italy "90pts"		32.00
This effusively fruity, light-bodied offering offers terrific floral notes, persistent effervescence, and a clean, delicate finish. There is not much body or weight in this crystal clean, pure, sparkling white, just pretty easy drinking bubbly.		
Duval-Leroy, NV Brut, France "93pts"	(375ml) (187ml)	39.00
	19.75	
A big, full-bodied bubbly, featuring graphite, toast, lemon and nut aromas and flavors. Balanced, with an assertive finish. Will improve with a few months of cellaring.		
Korbel, NV, Brut, California (187ml) "86pts"		10.00
This is like lemon sorbet, with sweet yet tart citrus, peach and creamy spice flavors.		
<h2>DESSERT WINES</h2>		
Chateau Ste. Michelle, "Ethos", Late Harvest Riesling, Columbia Vly. 2006	"96pts" WE (375ml.)	82.00
	21.00	
This is just this side of unctuous, a decadently ripe and rich late harvest Riesling. The residual sugar is at 23%, the alcohol a moderate 8%, and the balance impeccable, with a buoyant underpinning to the intense sweetness. It avoids sugary granularity as well, offering seamless, concentrated fruit that piles on flavors of peach, apricot, banana, mango, papaya and melon in wild profusion, trailing into sweet tea and honey.		
Beringer, Botrytised, "Nightingale", Napa 2001 "92pts"	(375ml.) 18.75	75.00
Ultrarich, with sweet, succulent, sugary pear, citrus, hazelnut and vanilla scents, turning viscous and creamy on the palate, finishing with a long, rich, concentrated aftertaste that keeps revealing new flavor nuances. Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc.		
Arrowood, "Late Harvest", White Riesling, Alexander Valley 2005 "95pts"	WE (375ml.) 12.50	50.00
It actually pours slow from the bottle, like honey. With 17.4 grams of residual sugar, it's decadently, deliriously sweet, but sugar is not its only charm. There's a fabulous flood of apricots, pineapples, peaches and limes, concentrated to their essence and géléed, enriched with pure vanilla and clover honey and dusted with cinnamon. Doesn't that sound good?		
R.L. Buller & Son, NV Fine Muscat, Rutherglen "96pts" (375ml.)	RP 10.00	40.00
Dark amber-colored, it delivers flavors of toffee, caramel, brown sugar, hazelnuts, and dates. Extremely well balanced with a long, pure finish.		
Jackson-Triggs, Vidal IceWine, Niagara Peninsula, Ontario 2004 "90pts"	(187ml.) 19.00	38.00
Pungent and sweet, but without the thick texture. Combines grapefruit, apricot and caramel notes, searing acidity and persistence for a distinctive dessert wine experience.		
Campbells, Muscat, Rutherglen, Victoria, Australia "92pts" (375ml.)	9.00	36.00
Sweet and spicy, this sneaks up on you, starting off with pretty brown sugar notes and adding layers of spice, prune, raisin and fig that linger on the extra-long finish.		
Bonny Doon, Muscat, "Vin de Glacière", California 2005 "91pts" (375ml.)	8.50	34.00
Sweet and incredibly juicy. The lively mouthful of pineapple, spice and cream flavors dance enthusiastically with juicy acidity. Delicious.		
Beni di Batasiolo, Moscato d'Asti, Bosc d'la Rei, Piedmont, Italy 2008 "89pts"	(750ml.) 8.50 (6oz.)	34.00
A dense Moscato, with dried pineapple and mango aromas and flavors. Full and flavorful. Lightly effervescent. This has good intensity. Almost late-harvest in style. Great value for a dessert style wine of this caliber.		

PINOT NOIR

Sea Smoke "Ten" Santa Rita Hills, 2009 NYR		165.00
<p>This very dense, tannic Pinot Noir represents a triumph for both the winery and the region it represents. A multi-clone blend (hence the name) with high, cool-climate acidity and aged in 100% new oak, it's still young, fresh and tight. The astringency throws a cloak over the raspberries, cherries, rosehip tea and Indian spice flavors, which reveal themselves only reluctantly. But they're there, in an imposing texture of velvet and silk.</p>		
Calera, "Selleck", Central Coast 2007 "98pts" RP		160.00
<p>The finest Pinot ever made by Calera. Sassafras, black cherry, raspberry, plum, pomegranate, cedar, and underbrush aromas are accompanied by a full-bodied, ripe wine with beautiful acids, an intense underlying minerality/terroir character, and a long finish. Only 411 cases were produced.</p>		
Kosta Browne, "Sonoma Coast" 2009 "95pts" No. 1 Wine Spectator top 100		155.00
<p>This tremendously complex young Pinot gains amplitude, starting out with a delicate band of spice, vanilla, black cherry and wild berry and slowly unfolding to reveal extra layers of depth and dimension.</p>		
Kosta Browne, "Koplen", Russian River 2008 "95pts" WS		150.00
<p>Offering amazing fruit purity, this is supple, rich and layered, with focused plum, black cherry and blueberry fruit that's polished, full-bodied and intense, yet ends with delicate ripe berry flavors. 792 cases produced.</p>		
Merry Edwards, "Klopp Ranch" Russian River 2008 "96pts" WE		135.00
<p>An awesome wine. So delicious and complex now in wild cherry, raspberry, Dr. Pepper cola, bacon and smoky sandalwood flavors, brightened with crisp acidity and totally dry despite the fruitiness. But you'll also find a firm tannic structure that gives it some astringency. It's the kind of Pinot Noir that California does at its best, drinkable now for sheer beauty.</p>		
Kosta Browne, "Sonoma Coast" 2009 "95pts" No. 1 Wine Spectator top 100	375ml.	88.00
<p>This tremendously complex young Pinot gains amplitude, starting out with a delicate band of spice, vanilla, black cherry and wild berry and slowly unfolding to reveal extra layers of depth and dimension.</p>		
Byron, "Drizzle Barrel", Santa Maria 2008 "97pts" BH		125.00
<p>A special bottling of the most concentrated juice from select barrels from 7 different pinot noir clones. The result is a rare opportunity to sense the profound aromas of violets and smoke and taste the intense flavors of black fruit, blueberry and smoke. The wine is available at certain times only at the Byron Tasting Room and at Carefree Station!</p>		
Sea Smoke "Southing" Santa Rita Hills 2009 (NYR)		120.00
<p>A fabulously rich and approachable Pinot Noir that offers everything. There are considerable tannins, but it's so fresh and vibrant in cherries, red currants and oak-inspired red licorice that it's hard not to drink it now. Hard to exaggerate the deliciousness factor.</p>		
Hartford Court, "Velvet Sisters", Anderson Valley 2007 "94pts" WE		110.00
<p>It's enormously rich in Dijonesque fruit, offering an array of red and black currants, cherries, pomegranates, anise, cinnamon and pepper. For all the opulence, the wine is dry and balanced.</p>		
Domaine Serene "Evenstad Reserve", Willamette 2007 "95pts" WE		106.00
<p>An alluring bouquet of toast, spice box, mineral, earth notes, raspberry, and cherry. Mouth-coating on the palate, it has layered savory fruit, ripe tannin, lively acidity, outstanding concentration, and a lengthy, pure finish.</p>		
Saintsbury, "Brown Ranch", Carneros 2004 "94pts"		99.00
<p>On the surface it is soft and ripe, with an explosion of cherry pie, strawberry, cola and mocha flavors enriched with the vanilla and smoky caramel of new oak. Yet every sip as it warms in the glass reveals another layer. Gorgeously textured, right up there with the best.</p>		
Failla, "Keefer Ranch", Russian River 2009 "95pts" WE		95.00
<p>Failla has been working with the fruit from this coveted vineyard for a long time, and has figured it out better than anyone. How they take basic Russian River Valley cherry, raspberry and cola flavors and uplift the wine into the extraordinarily exotic is inexplicable. But they do. An amazingly complex, compelling young Pinot Noir.</p>		
La Crema, "Apellation Series", Russian River 2009 "93pts" WE		73.00
<p>This dramatically constructed Pinot shows great acidity, it's dry, full-bodied and tannic, with bigtime cherry, black raspberry, teriyaki beef and black pepper flavors, compounded with rich, smoky oak.</p>		
Wild Horse, "Unbridled", Santa Barbara 2009 "93pts" W&S		68.00
<p>Complex and heady with scents of chaparral, fennel and strawberry. Made in a silky, drink-me-now style, it has flashy flavors of raspberries, cherries, cola and sandalwood.</p>		
King Estate, "Signature Collection", Oregon 2009 "90pts" WE	15.00	58.00
<p>The cranberry and raspberry fruit has plenty of supporting acidity, while the barrel regimen—a mix of new, one-, two- and three-year-old French oak—brings in cedar, smoke and caramel highlights.</p>		
Gloria Ferrer, Carneros 2007 "94pts" WE	14.25	55.00
<p>The wine is, in a word, superb. It has ripe raspberry, cherry and blackberry fruit, but also a wonderful earthiness of mushrooms, and the tannin-acid balance is near perfect. A gorgeous young wine to decant and enjoy now.</p>		
Freeman, Sonoma Coast 2008 "91pts" WS		52.00
<p>Impressive for its finesse. Fragrant, delicate and elegant, with aromas of wilted rose, ripe cherry and plum, with hints of sage and mineral. Full-bodied, ending with the same elegant mix of flavors.</p>		

PINOT NOIR

Calera, Central Coast, 2009 "92pts" RP	12.50	48.00
It bursts from the glass with expressive red fruit, flowers, spices and mint. It shows lovely mid-palate juiciness and an elegant, polished finish. It may very well be the single finest value in American Pinot Noir. This is a dazzling wine from start to finish. It is also one of the two 2008 Pinots made from fully destemmed fruit. Wow!		
La Follette, Sonoma Coast 2009 "92pts" WE	12.00	46.00
Just gorgeous, a wine to linger over with the finest food. Bone dry and crisp in acidity, it shows subtle flavors of sour cherry candy, persimmons and spices. Sweet, smoky oak is perfectly integrated. One of the best Pinot Noirs of the vintage in this price range.		
Amisfield, Central Otago, New Zealand 2006 "91pts" WE		46.00
Ripe and weighty, marrying dark black cherry and plum fruit with hints of chocolate and spice cake. Finishes with soft tannins and a slightly dusty feel.		
Left Coast Cellars, "Cali's Cuvée", Willamette 2009 "92pts" WS		44.00
Lithe, supple and graceful, brimming with blueberry, currant, coffee and wet earth flavors, lingering easily on the medium-bodied, open-textured finish.		
King Estate, "Acrobat", Oregon 2009 "91pts" W&S	10.00	38.00
From our great friends, Ed & Carolyn King. Their second label. As bright and fruity as a Beaujolais, this youthful pinot leads with scents of raspberries and red cherries and a woody bottom note. The flavors are light and fresh, the fruit giving way to a mild amaro-like bitterness.		
Redtree, California 2009 "88pts" WS	7.50	28.00
Offers baked cherry pie, with rhubarb and blueberry, showing a wonderful fruit profile that's spicy, elegant and easy to drink. Great balance.		

MERLOT

Duckhorn, "Three Palms", Napa 2005 "94pts" WE		150.00
Duckhorn's Three Palms bottling is one of the oldest and most consistent Merlot vineyard designations in California. The wine always is very tannic. But the '05 is dry and rich and complex in mineral-laden cherries and currants, with just the right application of new oak.		
Robert Foley, Napa 2007 "95pts" RP		130.00
It is hard to find much better Merlot than Foley's 2007 Merlot. This is a blockbuster wine as well. Opulent, exuberant, with that certain "wow" factor from layers of melted fudge, espresso roast, plum, fig, black cherry and currants. There is an impression of sweetness because of the high levels of alcohol/glycerin. This is a whopper to drink, a massive wine, opaque purple in color, and filled with personality and concentration.		
Duckhorn, Napa 2008 "92pts" WE	18.00	70.00
Shows the soft, mellow feeling a fine Merlot should possess, although it's certainly tannic enough in the Duckhorn style. However, the tannins are intricate and accessible, and frame lush cherry, red currant, licorice and cinnamon spice flavors. Hard to resist now.		
Northstar, Columbia Valley 2006 "92pts" WE		68.00
Nicely captures the silky finesse of the vintage. Velvety, deep and rich, it's loaded with toast, licorice and chocolate, along with plenty of ripe red and black fruits. It's three quarters Merlot, 19% Cabernet Sauvignon, with a splash of Cab Franc and Petit Verdot.		
Swanson, Oakville 2007 "94pts" W&S	15.50	60.00
A juicy, fruity Merlot, packed with fresh flavors of blackberries, cherries, red currants, licorice and cedar, and totally dry on the finish. The tannins are very fine. Shows lots of complexity for the price.		
Pride, Napa/Sonoma 2007 "94pts" No. 34 Wine Spectator top 100 (375 ml.)		48.00
Lush and rich, yet impeccably structured, with bold red currant and toasty mocha aromas and layered flavors of ripe plum, loamy earth and spice, finishing with big but ripe tannins.		
Matanzas Creek, Bennett Valley 2006 "90pts" WE		50.00
Ripe and voluptuous, with very rich, long-lasting berry, cherry, mocha and spice flavors, liberally oaked and wrapped into fine, sturdy tannins. Lacks a bit of complexity, but otherwise a beautiful Merlot that trades on the variety's opulently fleshy sensuality.		
Rutherford Ranch, Napa 2008 "88pts"		36.00
Supple, juicy and user-friendly, with appealing black cherry and aromatic herb notes and red currant, licorice and spice flavors.		
Milbrandt, "Traditions", Columbia Valley 2008 "90pts"	9.00	34.00
The merlot includes small amounts of Cabernet, Syrah, Malbec and Barbera. The blend was so well done that each component adds a vital piece to the whole—smooth berry and cherry fruits, spice, tobacco, licorice and smoke, folding into a lush and chocolaty finish.		
Hogue, Columbia Valley 2008 "87pts"	7.50	28.00
Firm, with good concentration to the wild berry, black cherry and dried herb flavors. Delivers a cedary, vanilla-scented oak finish.		

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

- Plumpjack, "Reserve", Napa 2007 "99pts" RP 370.00**
Virtually perfect (94% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Petit Verdot). An inky/purple hue is accompanied by a provocative aromatic display of blackberries, blueberries, cassis, spring flowers, and graphite. The wine's extraordinary purity, unbelievable density of fruit, and full-bodied mouthfeel result in an awesome Cabernet Sauvignon.
This modern day legend is the finest wine to emerge from the Plumpjack winery. Bravo!
- Quilceda Creek, Columbia Valley 2004, 2007, 2008 "100pts" RP 330.00**
(2004) Opaque purple-colored, it delivers a remarkable array of aromas including pain grille, violets, pencil lead, truffle, Asian spices, black currant, and blueberry. This leads to a lustrous, layered, velvet-textured wine with gobs of spicy, ripe black fruits and beautifully integrated oak, tannin, and acidity. The long, pure finish goes on for well over a minute. The 2008 has not been rated at this time.
Robert Parker feels with the quality of the vintage it should rate no lower than "99pts".
- Robert Mondavi, "Reserve", Napa 2001 "94pts" WS 1.5 Liter (Magnum) 295.00**
A superrich, polished, multifaceted wine, with layers of ripe currant, blackberry, herb, cedar, sage and a touch of pencil lead. Deep and concentrated, the flavors pour through on the finish, and while the tannins are integrated, the texture is supple.
- Cardinale, Napa 2006 "100pts" WE 295.00**
Starts with a very fine nose of cedar, cassis, ripe blackberries and violets, then turns dramatic and refined in the mouth. Shows vast depth and length, with the finish a full minute of sweet fruits and spices. Marvelous tannins, so plush and elegant, so powerful yet refined. The grapes hail from Mt. Veeder, Howell Mountain, Stags Leap and Oakville, and the blend contains 14% Merlot.
- Paul Hobbs, "Stagecoach", Napa 2007 "97pts" WE 275.00**
A very great Napa Cabernet by any standard. Defines the modern style of soft richness, with lavish flavors of blackberry tart, crème de cassis, blueberry, dark chocolate and the richest, sweetest toasty oak you can imagine. It's soft and ripe enough to drink now, Possesses the extreme complexity and finesse that mark the greatest wines.
- Venge Vineyards, "Reserve", Oakville 2008 "99pts" WE 250.00**
An absolute joy and triumph. Just superb, showcasing the best of Oakville. Perfect tannins, as pure as velvet and sweet, and perfect oak, too, with beautifully applied char and wood spice. That the oak is 100% new is in keeping with the wine's volumetrics. The wine's flavors are a profound, heady expression of blackberries, blueberries, cassis and dark, barely sweetened chocolate. Just spectacular, a real achievement by any world class standard. Production was a scant 275 cases.
- Cade, by PlumpJack "Estate", Howell Mountain, 2008 "98+pts" RP 225.00**
Exhibits a glorious nose of blueberries, black raspberries, plums, graphite and crushed rocks. This exquisite Cabernet is as good as it gets from these higher elevation vineyards of Napa Valley. A brilliant texture, stunning purity and great length make for a fabulous wine.
- Robert Foley, "Claret", Napa 2007 "98pts" RP 190.00**
Displays inky notes of lead pencil shavings, pen ink, crème de cassis, blackberry, incense, and licorice. The wine is super-pure and super-rich, an extraordinarily full-bodied powerhouse of a Cabernet Sauvignon that should evolve for 15 or more years. Its sweetness of tannin and headiness already make it accessible.
- Altamura, Napa 2007 "96pts" No. 5 Wine Spectator top 100 175.00**
A profound effort, offering wonderful purity of flavor, with tiers of anise and black licorice, generous yet structured and elegant. This shows both power and finesse, ending with a wonderful burst of dark berry fruit.
- Napa Angel, by Montes "Aurelio's Selection" Napa 2006 "97pts" WE 160.00**
From Chilean winemaker, Aurelio Montes, this 100% Cabernet shows massively concentrated flavors of ripe blackberries and cassis, with richer notes of dark chocolate, anise, spices and smoky cedar. What an amazing tannin structure, intricate, fine and complex. A great wine to drink for its sheer opulence.
- Plumpjack, "Estate", Napa 2008 "95pts" RP 160.00**
A gorgeous nose of crème de cassis, licorice, and graphite. Flawlessly put together, with delicate tannins, full body, but elegance combined with power, this impressively pure, layered, multi-dimensional Cabernet Sauvignon is already drinkable.
- Stonestreet, "Rockfall", Alexander Valley 2007 "99pts" WE 155.00**
No. 2 Wine Enthusiast top 100
This is Cabernet Sauvignon lifted to greatness, an impeccable statement concerning this region of the high Mayacamas Mountains on the Sonoma side that, by law, is forced to bear a "valley" appellation. The wine is awesome, vast and complex, fascinating in every aspect. It is a beautiful, classic Cabernet, very near perfect, and certainly one of the successes of the vintage.
- Rodney Strong, "Rockaway" Alexander Valley 2006 "96pts" WE 150.00**
Impresses for the sheer power of ripeness, but also and especially for the structure. The flavors of blackberries, cherries, currants, cocoa, herbs and sweetly smoked oak are beautiful and complex, yet the tannin-acid balance is near perfect. This single-vineyard wine is one of the finest Sonoma County Cabernets of the vintage.
- Lancaster, Alexander Valley 2004 "97pts" WE 140.00**
It's a gorgeous Cab, softly complex, rich in cassis, cherry, spice and oak flavors anchored with warm, earthy tannins. In fact, the earthiness stands it in good contrast to Napa Valley, making it wholesome and complete.
- Curvature, Napa Valley 2007 "95pts" BH 130.00**
A collaboration between our local golf great, Cristie Kerr and Suzanne Pride Bryan (Pride Mountain Vineyards), with all proceeds going to support breast cancer research. Beautifully crafted by Pride Mountain winemaker Sally Johnson using small amounts of merlot and petite sirah. The wine exhibits rich flavors of blue fruits, vanilla and toasted spice; with a seductive nose of ripe black cherries accented with a hint of cedar. Great wine for a great cause!
- Concha Y Toro, "Don Melchor", Puente Alto, Chile 2005 "96pts" WS 120.00**
No. 12 Wine Spectator top 100
The tannins that lead the way are sleek and refined, and meld into a huge core of roasted chestnut, black currant paste, warm fig and tar. Opaque purple-colored with aromas of pain grille, pencil lead, scorched earth, black currant, and blackberry liqueur. This is followed by an opulent, very intense, complex Cabernet with gobs of savory fruit, exceptional depth. Has a long, coffee- and loam-tinged finish.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Robert Craig, Howell Mtn., Napa 2007 "96pts" RP	115.00
The 2007 is prodigious. There is something reminiscent of a top-notch La Mission Haut-Brion, whether it is the subtle charcoal/burning embers character, the blue and black fruits, the hint of espresso roast, the saturated purple color, or the full-bodied, powerful flavors. This is an extraordinary, massively endowed wine, but with great precision and purity.	
Etude, Napa 2005 "96pts" WE	110.00
Etude's 2005 defines power and authority, Napa style. It's hard to imagine a Cabernet Sauvignon more explosive in blackberry, cherry and chocolate fruit flavor. Yet the structure is superb, with firm but ultrarefined tannins providing an architecture to house all that richness. Beautiful now!	
Mt. Eden, Santa Cruz Mtns. 2007 "98pts" W&S	102.00
Open every stop on your cabernet church organ; Pure cassis. Mountain freshness. Baking spice. The pencil lead of Graves in that less-than-overripe varietal character. This is unadulterated cabernet pleasure. Grown at an elevation of 1,800 ft. this vineyard traces its heritage back to Chateau Margaux. Between the cool site, exceptional vintage and the pedigree of the vines, this is a true California classic.	
Trinchero, "Cloud's Nest" Mt. Veeder 2007 "95pts" WE	99.00
A lovely Cabernet, brimming with complex blackberry, cherry, mineral, tobacco and cedar flavors that impress for their sheer power. Shows the firm, hard tannins this mountain always lends Cabs, but they're so finely ground, the wine is very drinkable now.	
Clarendon Hills, "Sandown", McLaren Vale 2003 "95pts" RP	95.00
A wonderfully rich, packed and stacked, dense purple-colored wine, it offers up scents of fruitcake, creme de cassis, underbrush, cedar, and spice box. Full, rich, and powerful, displaying great intensity just reaching its stride.	
Robert Mondavi, "Oakville", Napa 2008 "94pts" WS	90.00
No. 20 Wine Spectator top 100	
A supple, graceful, yet potent and engaging young Cabernet, the proverbial iron fist in a velvet glove. Shows intense, minty bay leaf and dried currant and berry flavors that unfold gracefully, picking up a nice mineral edge as well as tannins that are firm yet graceful and refined.	
Stonestreet, "Monument Ridge", Alexander Valley 2007 "96pts" WE	22.50 88.00
No. 13 Wine Enthusiast top 100	
A dramatic wine, authoritative in tannins, bone dry and noble. Withholds its best under a cloak of astringency, but already shows its mountain terroir in the complexity of its structure and deep, intense blackberry, currant, blueberry and dried herb flavors	
Matanzas Creek, "Helena Montana", Knights Valley 2007 "93pts" WE	75.00
An elegant, medium to full-bodied, pure, rich, Bordeaux-styled red, it offers up scents of cedar wood, licorice, smoked herbs, creme de cassis, and background oak. The scents greet your nose and continue onto the palate where black and white pepper are added. A wonderful very small production addition to the Matanzas Creek portfolio.	
Arrowood, Sonoma 2007 "92pts" WE	66.00
It's very rich in blackberries, smoked meat and charred wood, with a finish that's fine, long and sweet in ripe fruits. Excellent tannin structure that will relax with decanting.	
Domaine Eden, Santa Cruz Mtns. 2007 "95pts" W&S	16.75 65.00
Balancing bright berry notes with the earth tones of a cool cellar, this is a complex and forthright cabernet sauvignon. It includes merlot, franc and small amounts of petit verdot and malbec. There's suppleness to the texture, a silk brocade of strawberry-tinged fruit, wood, stem and earth. Brisk and mouthwatering, this is glorious California cabernet and an unbeatable value. From Mount Eden Winery.	
Cadaretta, Columbia Valley 2007 "91pts" WS	16.00 62.00
Dense, complex and distinctive for its earthy, floral, spicy nuances around a rich core of currant and plum fruit, with a supple, deft finish. 960 cases made.	
J. Lohr "Hilltop Vineyard" Paso Robles 2007 "92pts" WE	58.00
J. Lohr's latest to come out is a single-vineyard beauty, rich in tannic structure, with deep, complex flavors of blackberries, cocoa dust, cedar and Indian spices. Appeals now for sheer deliciousness.	
Paul Dolan, Mendicino/Lake Counties 2007 "92pts" WE	53.00
A terrific Cabernet In fact, you could place it next to far more expensive Napa bottlings. It's dry and elegantly tannic and complex, showing blackberry, currant, violet, herb and cedar flavors that bring to mind a fine Bordeaux.	
Pelton House, Knights Valley 2005 "92pts" W&S	12.50 48.00
A round and elegant cabernet. Espresso roast scents of oak yield to black cherry and dark blueberry flavors as the wine follows the tight path of its structure. The tannins feel supple, lasting with a cool, mineral tone. A lush, inviting style of cabernet that's delicious right now.	
Slingshot, Napa 2007 "90pts" BH	11.50 44.00
Elegant, with dark fruit character and velvety texture. Expansive flavors of blackberry, black cherry and cocoa with hints of caramel and spice. Nice acidity allows this wine to go great with foods.	
Santa Rita, "Medalla Real" Special Reserve, Maipo Valley, Chile 2008 "91pts"	40.00
A ripe, concentrated Chilean red, with a broad swath of macerated currant, fig paste, espresso, loam and black licorice notes all carried by dense but integrated tannins. The finish lets sage and mint notes chime in.	
Grayson Cellars, Sonoma County 2009/10 "89pts" BH	9.00 34.00
It's definitely soft, but the flavors of blackberry jam, cherry marmalade, chocolate-sweetened cappuccino and vanilla spice are simply delicious, and make the wine oh, so easy to like.	
Canyon Road, California 2009 "87pts"	7.50 28.00
It has the stuffing and fruity ripeness of plenty of other costly Cabernets, at a fraction of the price. Maybe that's because they didn't drench it in expensive oak barrels. Don't look for char or vanilla or smoke, just terrific blackberry flavor in a dry package,	

MERITAGE & BLENDS

Vérité, "La Joie", Sonoma 2004 "93pts"	1.5 Liter	375.00
<p>This Pauillac-like effort is more tannic, structured, and masculine, offering hints of forest floor intermixed with smoke, seaweed, black currants, scorched earth, graphite, chocolate, and coffee. Powerful, big, and back-strapping, 70% or more Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc.</p>		
Opus One, Napa 2001 "95pts"		290.00
<p>Starts with tons of rich new oak in the aroma, showing the most inviting notes of cedar, cigar box and pencil lead that segue to the remarkable fruit. The attack is powerful, with a punch of cassis spreading broadly and deeply across the palate. With its sturdy, clean tannins, this beautiful wine displays classic power, elegance and balance. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot.</p>		
Vérité, "La Joie", Sonoma 2006 "98pts" WE		285.00
<p>A blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Merlot, and the rest Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, and Malbec. Shows huge waves of blackberries, black currants and cassis, dark chocolate, earthy minerals and considerable oak, which is tasteful and unobtrusive. It possesses a rich, full-bodied personality with mouth-filling levels of tannin, extract, and fruit. The Bordeaux varietals grown in California's North Coast exhibit sweet tannins as well as superb fragrance and purity. Yet, Verite's wines are among the more structured, dense, and powerful of the vintage.</p>		
Blackbird Vineyards, "Illustration", Napa 2007 "97pts" WE		170.00
<p>No. 51 Wine Enthusiast top 100</p> <p>A spectacular wine that gets better and better with every sip. It's dramatic from the get-go, with rich, fine tannins framing extraordinarily good flavors of blackberries, black currants, anise, dark chocolate and cedar. Superb structure, great length and finish, with perfect acidity. A joy to drink.</p>		
Casa Lapostolle, "Apalta", 2007, Colchagua Valley, Chile "93pts" WS		160.00
<p>This is a rich and enticing red, with alluring aromas of warm cocoa and roasted vanilla bean giving way to lush plum sauce, cassis and raspberry ganache flavors. The long, smoldering finish is velvety and dripping with pure fruit, all of it backed by a suave tobacco note. Carmenère, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Petit Verdot</p>		
Cheval des Andes, 2006, Mendoza, Argentina "96pts" RP		150.00
<p>The 2006 vintage is superb throughout Mendoza and this wine shows off the extra dimension of complexity made possible in an exceptional year. The wine is composed entirely of Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon. It shows a splendid perfume of pain grille, mineral, espresso, black cherry, and black raspberry that leaps from the glass. The finish seems to go on and on.</p>		
Numanthia, "Numanthia", 2006, Castilla Leon, Spain "94+pts" WA		115.00
<p>It displays a brooding bouquet of wood smoke, Asian spices, violets, espresso, black cherry, and blackberry. Dense, rich, powerful, and incipiently complex. Numanthia is ripe, rugged and intense, with in-your-face black fruit, coffee and burnt-toast accents. The feel and finish are deep as a cool well, and smooth as a whistle. Masculine to the max.</p>		
K Vintners, "Roma en Chamberlin", Walla Walla, WA. 2009 "96pts" RP		110.00
<p>It exhibits a nose of cedar, spice box, violets, black currant and blueberry. Smooth-textured, layered, and sweetly-fruited, it has outstanding depth and richness with a sense of restraint. Its composed of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon and 38% Syrah. 187 cases made.</p>		
Viñas de la Vega del Duero, "Quinta Sardonía", Castilla Y León, Spain 2004 "96pts"		105.00
<p>It is purple-colored with a sexy, kinky nose of spice box, smoke, creme de cassis, blueberry pie, rhubarb, and blackberry liqueur. Already complex on the palate, the wine is ripe and layered with gobs of spicy black fruits, beautifully integrated oak, tannin, and acidity, and a 45-second finish. A blend of 36% Tinto Fino, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Syrah, 5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Malbec, and 1% Petit Verdot.</p>		
L'École, "Apogee", Walla Walla, WA. 2007 "94pts" RP		99.00
<p>Aromas of toasty oak, tobacco, leather, Asian spices, black currant, and black cherry leads to a more structured offering that will require 4-6 years of cellaring. Well-balanced, intense, and mouth-filling</p>		
Achával-Ferrer, "Quimera", 2003, Mendoza, Argentina "93pts"		96.00
<p>Racy, almost piercing, with graphite, violet, mineral and boysenberry notes rushing along fine tannins and acidity. Very long finish. Malbec, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.</p>		
Flora Springs, "Trilogy", Napa 2007 "93pts" RP		85.00
<p>This might be called a Napa version of St.-Emilion blended with a Margaux. A harmonious blend of 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 21% Merlot, and 5% Petit Verdot, it offers undeniable elegance as well as lovely black currant and black cherry notes intermixed with hints of cocoa, roasted herbs, cedar, and licorice. A textured, lush, medium to full-bodied, beautifully constructed wine.</p>		
JC Cellars, "The Imposter", 2008, Sonoma "94pts" WA		72.00
<p>The Imposter (a 659-case blend of 32% Petite Sirah, 31% Syrah, 30% Zinfandel, 5% Mourvedre, and 2% Viognier). Its inky/purple hue is followed by a wine with dense, full-bodied flavors, along with notes of graphite, creme de cassis, blackberries, pepper, and camphor.</p>		
Orin Swift, "The Prisoner", Napa 2010 "93pts"	17.00	66.00
<p>Dark, immense and packed with zesty wild berry, spice, floral and currant flavors that are sharply focused and well-defined. The long, persistent aftertaste offers a hint of chocolate and vanilla. Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Charbono and Petite Sirah.</p>		
Sans Liege, "The Offering", Napa 2009 "93pts" WS	16.00	62.00
<p>Fresh, floral, grapey wild berry and blackberry flavors are snappy, intense and vibrant, yet also delicate and firm, with a mineral edge. Lively, vivid and detailed, this ends with a mixed thread of berry notes. Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre and Viognier.</p>		
Pali Wine Co., "The Highlands", Napa 2008 "91pts"		60.00
<p>It's particularly smooth in the mouth, with lush tannins framing blackberry, currant and cedar flavors. Drinks rich and complex with focused plum and toasty spice aromas and flavors and firm but ripe tannins. Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon.</p>		

MERITAGE & BLENDS

Zaca Mesa, "Z Cuvee", Santa Ynez 2007 "92pts" W&S 12.50 48.00
This estate grown blend emphasizes grenache (57 percent) in its strawberry brightness. Mourvedre (31 percent) adds a savory, earthy bass note, and a small amount of syrah brings out a sweet plum and berry flavor to balance the finish. There's a fragrant, thyme-like scent along with a red spice; both add subtle complexity to the clean fruit of the wine. Delicious with spicy foods.

Desert Wind, "Ruah", Wahluke Slope, WA. 2008 "90pts" WS 11.00 42.00
Smooth, open-textured and distinctive for its balance of red berry and spice flavors, with hints of dark chocolate and sage on the long, expressive, beautifully knit finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot.

GRENACHE

Sine Qua Non, "Pictures" Grenache, Santa Rita Hills 2007 "97pts" RP 285.00
89% Grenache, 9.5% Syrah, and 1.5% Viognier. Its inky/purple color is followed by sweet kirsch, raspberry, pepper, spice, roasted herb, and licorice aromas. Full-bodied with beautiful richness, precision, and purity, this is another terrific effort already displaying tremendous aromatic presence as well as a freshness that is pure genius given the wine's size and richness.

Cayuse, "God Only Knows" Grenache, Walla Walla, WA. 2006 "97pts" RP 175.00
Dark ruby-colored, it exhibits a sensational bouquet of mineral, underbrush, mushroom, bright cherry and raspberry aromatics. Incredibly intense, vibrant, and lingering on the palate, this superb effort will surely evolve as well as any great Chateauf-neuf-du-Pape. An extraordinary wine and a virtual miracle that it appears on this wine list.

Sans Liege, "En Gedi", Santa Barbara 2009 "94pts" RP 90.00
Great structure, complexity, and nuance are present. Abundant notes of licorice, spice box, kirsch liqueur, and raspberries emerge from this full-bodied, powerful, heady, rich, long, complex effort.

Zaca Mesa, Grenache, Santa Ynez 2007 "95pts" WE 76.00
This spectacular 100% Grenache is a huge success. It's so delicious, you can hardly stop drinking it. Just oozes in raspberry and red cherry purée and caramelized, smoky oak richness, yet is thoroughly dry. An amazing, unforgettable wine.

d'Arenberg, "The Custodian" Grenache, McLaren Vale 2008 "91pts" JH 11.25 43.00
Firm-textured and medium-weight, fragrant red berry aromas; has good structure and intensity; red and black berry fruits, some spice and chocolate nuances and fine tannins.

OTHER VARIETALS

Finca Decero, Petit Verdot, Remolinos Vineyard, Mendoza, Argentina 2006 "93pts" RP 66.00
Purple/black in color; it has an expressive nose of pain grille, pencil lead, pepper, blackberry, plum, and licorice. Mouth-coating and powerful on the palate. Aged for 16 months in new French oak, this large-scaled effort exhibits impeccable balance.

Seghesio, Barbera, Alexander Valley 2009 "92pts" BH 54.00
The nose exhibits freshly opened cherry blossoms in spring, light and delicately lifted by oak-imparted vanilla aromas. The bright acidity highlights the entry and finish while neatly bookending the soft tannins in the mid-palate.

Rotta, Cabernet Franc, Paso Robles 2005 "90pts" BTI 44.00
Aromas of roasted tomato, vanilla, and spicy berry compote follow through on a round, bright entry to a fruity-yet-dry medium body with very nice depth of fruit and fine balance. Finishes with a crisp, craisin, pepper, and candied plum accented fade with soft, chewy tannins. A spot on and very attractive cabernet franc.

Creta Roble, Tempranillo, Ribera Del Duero, Castillo Y León, Spain 2009 "91pts" 42.00
Purple/black in color; the nose reveals cedar, mineral, damp earth, and assorted black fruits. Powerful on the palate, this tannic, structured effort has superb depth and grip.

Casa De Arcilla, Tempranillo, Paso Robles 2009 "90pts" 9.50 36.00
An elegant, complex wine with aromas of ripe fruit and a floral bouquet that is integrated with nuances of cedar and toasty oak. Medium bodied with hints of vanilla, flavors of cherries, currants, coconut and fresh raspberries capture the palate leading to a long, lingering finish.

Santa Rita, Carménère, Rapel Valley, Chile 2007 "87pts" 28.00
A slightly jammy style, with juicy raspberry and fig notes followed by spice and licorice hints carried by a ripe but soft structure.

ZINFANDEL

Turley, "Mead Ranch", Atlas Peak 2008 "96pts" RP 99.00

An absolutely glorious effort, it is out of this world. It boasts a dense purple color along with abundant notes of sweet black cherries, black currants, licorice, mountain flora, and a subtle hint of forest floor, full body, superb fruit, and long, pure, beautifully textured flavors. This is a mouthfilling, palate staining Zinfandel.

Ravenswood, "Old Hill", Sonoma 2006 "95pts" W&S 96.00

An expansive wine, stony, firm and powerful. At first it reads as a block of fruit packed into the tense architecture of its tannins. With air, it becomes finer, more supple, as the complex flavors of the varietal blend begin to show. From over 100 year old vines.

Robert Craig, "Black Sears Vineyard", Howell Mountain 2007 "95pts" W&S 92.00

The winemaking shows throughout in the wine's arc of power and grace, a heady expansion of fruit, meaty game and foresty mushroom character that trails off but does not disappear from memory. Its deep, layered complexity and beautiful floral character last, darkening like roses as they fade to black. A stunning example of mountain-grown Zinfandel."

Seghesio, "Home Ranch", Dry Creek 2009 "95pts" WS 78.00

No. 12 Wine Spectator top 100

A Zinfandel that has it all—rich, ripe flavors, good structure and acidity, and lots of personality. Offers aromas of cherry pie and licorice that lead to complex flavors of huckleberry, toasty vanilla and smoky cracked pepper.

Seghesio, "Cortina", Dry Creek 2007 "94pts" WE 72.00

A beautiful massive, mouthfilling Zinfandel. Impresses on every level, from the smooth, rich tannins to the dryness and above all the depth and range of flavors. Blackberries, chocolate, anise, bacon, pepper, sandalwood, the list goes on. Zinfandel doesn't get much richer than this.

Ravenswood, "Barricia", Sonoma 2007 "93pts" WE 15.50 60.00

A beautiful Zinfandel that shows the variety's spicy, briary personality in a balanced, elegant way. Dry and rich in brisk tannins, it has complex flavors of blackberries, cherries, sweet tobacco, anise, cola, cocoa, sandalwood and dusty spices.

Orin Swift, "Saldo", California 2009 "91pts" Ws 14.00 54.00

Well-built, yet rich and stylish, with spicy blackberry aromas and zesty, layered flavors of black cherry and licorice framed by toasty oak. Offers a long, satisfying finish.

Decoy, by Duckhorn, Napa 2008 "92pts" WE 12.00 46.00

This wonderful wine showcases the blender's art. The grapes come from 11 appellations throughout the valley, and the wine, while notable for its delicious flavors, also is great in structure. It has soft tannins and refreshing acidity, and is entirely dry, with moderate alcohol. Those flavors include raspberry jam, cherry-vanilla cream, cinnamon and white pepper. So easy to like.

MALBEC

Bodegas Trapiche, "Vina Fausta Orellana de Escobar" Mendoza, Argentina 2007 "94pts" RP 95.00

The sexy bouquet delivers pain grille, mineral, pencil lead, lavender, black cherry, and black raspberry aromas. This leads to an elegant yet powerful wine with serious density, richness, and grip. Its considerable structure is well-concealed under a blanket of velvety fruit. This is a lengthy, beautifully rendered wine.

Vina Cobos, "Bramaré" Malbec, Luján de Cuyo, Argentina 2009 "94pts" RP 86.00

Paul Hobb's winery in Mendoza. The wine offers up an alluring nose of cedar, tobacco, spice box, cola, and black cherry. This is followed by a full-bodied, layered, smooth-textured wine with gobs of fruit already revealing considerable complexity. The wine has superb depth, concentration, and length.

Luca, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2008 "93pts" RP 70.00

It is a glass-staining opaque purple color with an enthralling perfume of sandalwood, Asian spices, lavender, black cherry, and plum. On the palate this concentrated effort admirably combines power and elegance. Smooth-textured, spicy, and rich,

Fincas Don Martino, Luján de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina 2009 "91pts" 11.50 44.00

Deeply fruity, like a mine shaft with no end. It's also jammy and carries undertones of shoe polish and asphalt. The palate offers cassis and baked cherry flavors, while the finish is short and modest. Shows elements of excellence but also some simplicity, as a whole this is nice, serious Malbec.

Clayhouse, Malbec, Paso Robles 2009 "98pts" CSFWC 9.00 35.00

Double gold medal, best in show at 2010 California State Fair Wine Competition. This wine excelled for the ripeness of its fruit character and its soft and smooth texture. While it is undeniably oaky in flavor and in its tannins, It's full-bodied and dry, and blasts off in the mouth with explosive blackberries, currants, mulberries, leather, mocha, violets and spices.

PETITE SIRAH

- Robert Foley, Petite Sirah, Napa 2007 "96pts" RP 135.00**
A massive, pedal-to-the-metal Petite Sirah that looks like pen ink, the wine displays notes of creosote, pepper, spice box, blackberry, and blueberry, with hints of incense and floral undertones. It is dense and almost looks like syrup being poured into a glass. A massive wine, opaque purple in color, and filled with personality and concentration. So huge it is not for the faint of heart!
- J C Cellars, "Eaglepoint" Petite Sirah, Napa 2007 "93pts" RP 88.00**
Shows wonderful rich espresso, toffee and chicory notes, with chewy tannins and dark, ripe huckleberry, cassis, blackberry and licorice flavors. A dense, sink-your-teeth-into-it Petite, with wonderful concentration, detail and length.
- Clayhouse, Petite Sirah, Paso Robles 2007 "91pts" CG 44.00**
The wine has a solid tannin core, white pepper, plum and blackberry pie aromas, with a hint of cranberry. The Syrah imparts a touch of floral spice. Elegant yet rich, this Petite has chewy mouthfeel and finishes with cleansing, fine-grain tannins.
- Bogle, Petite Sirah, California 2009 "88pts" 9.00 34.00**
Wild huckleberry, blueberry, grape and mineral notes are intense and focused, with taut tannins and smoky aromatics.

SYRAH

- Alban, "Reva", Edna Valley 2006 ("100pts" RP) ("97pts" WS) 160.00**
No. 13 Wine Spectator top 100
Coming from parcels of dark, volcanic soil, has off-the-chart richness and intensity. This thick, opaque-purple colored wine offers up notes of scorched earth, ground pepper, and blackberry liqueur intermixed with cassis, licorice, camphor, and tar. The wine is spectacular in every sense. Full-bodied and certainly not for wimps, this is a remarkably concentrated yet very nuanced and intense wine. ABV: 16.2%
- Cayuse, "en Cerise", Walla Walla, Washington 2009 "99pts" RP /WS 150.00**
The 2008 En Cerise Vineyard Syrah offers up a remarkably complex, sexy perfume that leaps from the glass. Exotic spices, a velvety texture, and a succulent richness on the palate are sublime. Rich and round, yet amazingly transparent as the cherry, mineral, tar and sassafras flavors expand over the long, expressive palate. 335 cases made.
- JC Cellars, "Rockpile", Sonoma 2006 "95pts" WS 120.00**
Intense and vibrant, with rich, full-bodied blackberry, wild berry and blueberry fruit that's deep and concentrated, focused and pure, ending with a long, persistent finish that gushes with fruit and is supported by ripe tannins.
- Betz Family, "La Serenne", Columbia Valley 2006 "95pts" WE 115.00**
Opaque purple-colored, toasty and dense, it offers enticing aromas of coffee, earth, mineral, crushed stone, pepper, butterscotch and blueberry jam. This is followed by a massive but seamless wine with superb blue fruit and blackberry preserve flavors. The balance is impeccable, and it has a finish which seems to go on and on.
- Donelan, "Kobler", Green Valley 2008 "97pts" BH /RP 105.00**
This wine may be a candidate for perfection. Made with 8% Viognier, it offers a striking floral component. In the years of tasting thousands of wines only rarely does a wine come along that shows a harmony that qualifies it for the label of perfection. Dignified, refined, elegant, balanced, silky, plush and opulent. How lucky we are!
- Gramercy Cellars, Walla Walla 2007 "94pts" 99.00**
Purple-colored, it displays a super-spicy nose of garrigue, olives, bacon, smoked meat, and blueberry. Dense, layered, and concentrated, it skillfully combines elegance with power. Silky on the palate, the succulent flavors last for nearly one minute.
- Radio-Coteau, "Las Colinas", Sonoma Coast 2004 "92pts" 96.00**
This sweet, open-knit, exuberant, fruit-driven wine exhibits impressive purity, lovely fruit, and like many 2004s, is built on charm, seductiveness, and is front end-loaded. It is undeniably a charming crowd-pleaser.
- Failla, "Phoenix Ranch", Napa 2006 "95pts" No. 1 Wine Enthusiast top 100 88.00**
An awesome Syrah that proves that, while size isn't everything, it does matter. A major league wine, brilliantly packed with currant, black cherry, licorice and pepper flavors whose power is hard to exaggerate. For all that, the wine never loses its balance and sense of proportion.
- Tensley, "Colson Canyon", Santa Barbara 2008 "96pts" RP 84.00**
No. 17 Wine Spectator top 100
Notes of scorched earth, smoked meats, blackberries, cassis, and flowers. The complex, northern Rhone-like bouquet is followed by the exuberant, unapologetic, ripe fruit of California. Boasting extraordinary intensity as well as abundant smoky barbecue notes, stunning, full-bodied opulence, and a powerful, layered mouthfeel, this is a terrific Syrah.
- Beckmen, "Block Six", Santa Ynez Valley 2008 "94pts" W&S 74.00**
From the Purisima Mountain Vineyard, the mineral scent, the deep earthen savor of the tannin, the refinement of the finish "on the rocks." Those structural elements frame sweet black raspberry-scented fruit, along with scents of meat, game and an herbal hint of pipe tobacco. A great vintage of Block Six, both tight and juicy.
- Amavi Cellars, Walla Walla 2008 "92pts" WS 12.00 46.00**
Firm in texture, but brimming with dark currant and boysenberry flavors under a layer of licorice and pepper, pushing through the fine tannins to glow brightly on the rich finish.
- Qupé, Central Coast 2009 "91pts" W&S 40.00**
There's a lot of edge to this complex, meaty syrah. The fruit has a high-toned, cranberry character, and the aromas are full on, with rose-petal-to-the-metal intensity. It ends firm and fresh.
- Stone Cap, Columbia Valley 2009 "89pts" WS 8.50 32.00**
Firm in texture, this is lively with blueberry and spice flavors, dancing seductively through the expressive finish.

For Clarendon Hills etc. see: Australian Shiraz >

AUSTRALIA

SHIRAZ

Torbreck, "Run Rig" Barrosa 2004 "99+pts"	RP	295.00
Saturated opaque purple/black, it has a remarkably kinky, exotic perfume of fresh asphalt, pencil lead, smoke, pepper, game, blueberry and black raspberry. Full-bodied and voluptuous in the mouth, the wine is dense and packed, with amazing purity, sweet tannins, and a complex collection of sensory stimuli.		
Torbreck, "Descendant", Barrosa 2003 "98pts"	RP	185.00
Primarily Shiraz with a tiny dollop of Viognier, the blockbuster 2003 Descendant spent 18 months in French oak. A spectacular perfume of flowers, blackberries, cassis, licorice, and honeysuckle is followed by an unctuously textured, full-bodied red displaying a seamless integration of wood, tannin, acidity, and alcohol. With elegance, power, richness, and just about everything one could want in a full-throttle, beautifully balanced dry red wine.		
Clarendon Hills, "Brookman", 2003 McLaren Vale "97pts"	RP	170.00
Possesses great intensity, dense purple color and layers of flavor; Rich, pure nose, flavors of blueberries, blackberries, camphor, spice, and black truffles. This is a full-bodied, fruit-driven, fabulously well-endowed Syrah, with superb fruit, great texture, well-integrated tannin, and a long finish.		
Clarendon Hills, "Liandra", 2003 McLaren Vale "94pts"	RP	150.00
The dense purple-hued 2003 Syrah Liandra Vineyard reveals robust, meaty, smoky bacon fat characteristics along with black fruits, incense, pepper, vanilla, licorice and a hint of tar. Full-bodied, with beautiful integration of its structural elements as well as tremendous purity. Long and substantial, with a well-balanced finish,		
Barossa Valley Estate, "E&E Black Pepper", Barossa 2002 "97pts"	WS	145.00
No. 21 Wine Spectator top 100		
Dark, juicy and profound, with layer upon layer of flavor seamlessly knit into a cohesive whole, offering dark berry, black cherry, exotic spice, black pepper and licorice that sail through the long, vivid finish. Has tremendous style, and intensity. and a long life ahead of it.		
Two Hands, "Bella's Garden", Barossa 2005 "95pts"		120.00
No. 5 Wine Spectator top 100		
Rich and complex, this is layered with green olive, mint, mineral and licorice around a plump core of black cherry, blueberry, blackberry and dark plum flavors, which linger on the intense and beautifully focused finish.		
Two Hands, "Bella's Garden", Barossa 2004 "95pts"		120.00
No. 10 Wine Spectator top 100		
This dense purple-colored Shiraz has a stupendous perfume of espresso roast, white chocolate, blackberry liqueur, and a leathery, meaty component. With terrific texture as well as unctuousity, and a finish that lasts for nearly a minute.		
John Duval, "Entity", Barossa 2007 "94pts"	JH	92.00
A beautiful evocation of plum and blackberry balanced against a veil of creamy oak--but only a veil. It's the fruit that distinguishes the long, expressive finish. Opaque purple-colored, it delivers a nearly ethereal perfume of smoky oak, spice box, pencil lead, meat, game, violets, and blueberry muffin.		
Mollydooker, "Blue Eyed Boy", Barossa 2009 "92pts"	RP	17.75 69.00
Very deep garnet-purple colored, it is profoundly scented of blueberry and black cherry with touches of mint, mocha and the faintest whiff of damp loam. Very full-bodied, the bold, ultra-ripe fruit is well supported by medium-firm chewy tannins and medium-high acid, leading to a very long and pure if slightly warm finish.		
Gemtree, "Uncut", McLaren Vale 2008 "95pts"	JH	58.00
Deep, dense colour; regional licorice and dark chocolate overtones to the blackberry fruit of the bouquet leap from the glass, the medium- to full-bodied palate providing more of the same, with 16 months in French oak doing little more than rounding off the tannins.		
Penfolds, "St. Henri", South Australia 2005 "95pts"	WS	375ml. 45.00
No. 24 Wine Spectator top 100		
Aromatic, complex and silky, slipping in its gorgeous blackberry, currant and plum fruit against a seething background of toast, spice, mineral and loamy earth. The texture is seamless, and the flavors just take off, sailing through the long, expressive finish.		
Torbreck, Barossa 2010 "91pts"	JH	10.50 40.00
On the lighter side for a Barossa Shiraz, offering leathery raspberry, white pepper and herb flavors, which persist nicely on the surprisingly delicate finish. Do not mistake this for a baby wine, it is all Barossa.		

BLENDS & OTHER REDS

Clarendon Hills, "Romas", Grenache 2003 McLaren Vale "96pts"	RP	190.00
Produced from a parcel of vines (65-80-years old), the exotic 2003 Grenache Old Vines Romas Vineyard exhibits a dark purple color as well as a big, peppery, herbs de Provence, melted licorice, black raspberry and cherry-scented nose. Full-bodied and powerful, with layers of fruit, enormous concentration, a masculine, structured personality and an unctuously textured mouthfeel. It possesses marvelous elegance, and an incredibly intoxicating personality. It is now coming into its prime time and should remain there for many years.		
d'Arenberg, "The Custodian" Grenache, McLaren Vale 2008 "91pts"	JH	11.25 43.00
Firm-textured and medium-weight, fragrant red berry aromas; has good structure and intensity; red and black berry fruits, some spice and chocolate nuances and fine tannins.		

ITALY

Luce Della Vite, Brunello di Montalcino, Tuscany 2006 "100pts" JS/WS	240.00
What a nose of tangerines, dark fruits, spices and cigar box. Full bodied, with incredible concentration and power. It goes on for minutes. Mind blowing. Meat, dark chocolate, dried fruits, mushrooms. Turns to aniseed and black licorice. It is a wine with soul. How can Sangiovese be better?	
Sette Ponti, Toscana, "Oreno", Tuscany 2003 "95pts" No. 5 Wine Spectator top 100	170.00
Breathtaking. Dense and powerful, with grilled meat and currant aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, round and chewy; massive and exciting. More muscular than the 2001. Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon.	
Luce Della Vite, Toscana, IGT, 2007 "95pts" WS	160.00
Currant and toasty oak character defines this dense and powerful red. Full and chewy. Structured and impressive. Very New World.	
Antinori, Toscana, "Tignanello", Tuscany 2004 "95pts" No. 4 Wine Spectator top 100	150.00
Offers aromas of blackberry, with hints of raisin and lots of spices. Full and velvety, with wonderful concentration and a long, rich finish. Very stylish and exciting. Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc.	
Silvio Nardi, Brunello di Montalcino, "Vigneto Manachiera", Tuscany 2001 "95pts"	140.00
Very ripe fruit here, with currant, berry and hints of coffee. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and lots of fruit. Structured and seductive.	
Renato Ratti, Barolo, "Marcesasco", Piedmont 2006 "95pts"	92.00
This fabulous Nebbiolo displays aromas of very ripe strawberry and cappuccino. Full-bodied, with supervelvet tannins and incredible concentration. All the tannins are coated with gorgeous fruit.	
Sette Ponti, Toscana, "Crognolo", Tuscany 2007 "93pts" No. 30 Wine Spectator top 100	88.00
Beautiful aromas of dried cherry, plum and blackberry, with hints of dark chocolate. Full-bodied, with soft, silky tannins and a fruity finish. Balanced and delicious. Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.	
Ruffino, "Modus", Toscana 2007 "96pts" WS No. 25 Wine Spectator top 100	76.00
This red is phenomenal on the nose, with blueberry, light toasty oak, coffee and sweet tobacco. The palate is full and utterly captivating, with its combination of fruit and very subtle, silky tannins. Goes on and on. Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.	
Isola Dei Nuraghi, "Barrua", Carignano 2002 "92pts"	74.00
Very pretty aromas of crushed berries, flowers and black licorice follow through to a full-bodied palate, with ultrarefined tannins and a long, long finish. This is wonderfully crafted. This comes from the people who make Sassicaia in a joint venture with the Santadi cooperative in Sardinia.	
Brancaia, "Tre", Toscana 2007 "93pts" No. 10 Wine Spectator top 100	15.00 58.00
There's wonderful intensity of fruit in this wine, with crushed raspberry and blackberry and hints of coffee and fresh flowers. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, soft-textured finish that shows loads of fruit. Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.	
Marchesi dè Frescobaldi, Chianti Rufina "Castello di Nipozzano", Tuscany 2005 "91pts" No. 76 Wine Spectator top 100	52.00
Very pretty aromas of licorice, berry and lightly toasted oak. Full-bodied, with layers of fruit and silky tannins. Long finish. Serious wine. Serious value.	
Conti Costanti, Rosso Di Montalcino, Tuscany, Italy 2006 "90pts" RP	45.00
A jewel of a wine. A floral, perfumed bouquet leads to sweet red cherries, herbs and tobacco. This mid-weight, ethereal Rosso offers terrific purity and a long, refined finish. It is glorious Sangiovese at the Rosso level.	
Marchesi dè Frescobaldi, Toscana, "Rèmole", Tuscany 2008 "86pts"	9.25 35.00
Crisp and focused, offering a nice band of berry, toast and anise aromas and flavors, finishing smooth.	

FRANCE

Paul Jaboulet, Aîné, Hermitage "La Chapelle", Rhône 2003 "96pts" 250.00
No. 75 Wine Spectator top 100

Deceptively graceful at first, with a Burgundian-like perfume, this quickly delivers a torrent of fruit--blackberry, boysenberry and black currant--that cascades over itself, pushed from behind by flavors of mocha, mineral, tar and violets. Long, sweet and pure through a densely structured finish.

Château Ducru Beaucaillou, St.-Julien, 2003 "97pts" 250.00
No. 28 Wine Spectator top 100

Intense aromas of blackberry, currant and cherry. Full-bodied, with masses of big, velvety tannins and a finish that lasts for minutes. A blockbuster. A classic big, juicy claret. 70% Cabernet, 25% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc.

Château Smith-Haut-Lafitte, Pessac-Léognan, Bordeaux 2003 "93pts" 110.00
No. 58 Wine Spectator top 100

Loads of blackberry and licorice with hints of meat and smoked oak. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and lots of very ripe and exotic fruit. Very exotic and wild. Rich finish. 60% Cabernet, 30% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc.

Château Dassault, Grand Cru, Saint-Émilion 2005 "92pts" WS 94.00

Dark in color, with gorgeous aromas of dark chocolate and ripe blackberry, raspberry and spices. Full-bodied, with Indian spices, cappuccino and blueberry. The quality of the tannins is lovely.

Domaine Faiveley, Mercurey, "Clos des Myglans", Burgundy 2006 "93pts" 75.00

This single vineyard produces impressive wine, some of the best in the Mercurey region. The 2006 is a finely structured wine that shows dry tannins, only the faintest hint of wood, and plenty of rich, ruby fruit flavors: red plums and berries.

Guigal, Gigondas Rouge, Rhone 2007 "94pts" RP 69.00

The blend is primarily Grenache, around one-third Mourvedre and the rest Syrah. This remarkable Gigondas shows dense plum/purple, with notes of garrigue, crushed rock, blueberry, and black raspberries, the wine is full-bodied, with stunning purity, a multi-layered texture, and a long finish.

Château Doyac, Haut-Médoc, Bordeaux 2006 "88pts" 46.00

Aromas of vanilla and ripe fruit lead to a medium-bodied palate, with silky tannins and a fruity, simple finish.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

