

PRICES IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE VALID
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 THROUGH
TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022

Draeger's
MARKET

UNCORKED

SPRING 2022 / WINE NEWSLETTER

Cheers!

Wine brings to light the
hidden secrets of the soul.

- HORACE



HORSE SOLDIER PREMIUM STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY

\$49.99 Regularly \$59.99



This is a story of spirit, and not just the kind that comes from a still. Horse Soldier whiskeys are the product of American Freedom Distillery which was created by a group of former special operations forces - mostly Green Berets. ODA (Operational Detachment Alpha) was training along the Cumberland River in Pulaski County, Kentucky on September 11, 2001. They were alerted to the collapse of the World Trade Center towers, and within five weeks a dozen of them were deployed to Afghanistan where they surreptitiously entered the country on horseback to begin a search for terrorists. Many of these "horse soldiers," as they came to be known, were natives of or had spent plenty of time in Kentucky and developed an appreciation for Bourbon whiskey. Several of the former soldiers learned some distilling basics as a hobby, which gave co-founders John Koko and

Scott Neil a baseline understanding of grain milling, still operation, labeling and bottling, finance and other distilling business basics—all of which led to the establishment of American Freedom Distillery and Horse Soldier Bourbon in 2014. They are currently producing whiskey at Middle West Spirits in Columbus, Ohio until their new American Freedom Distillery can be built along Lake Cumberland in Somerset, Kentucky, comes online. Horse Soldier Bourbon is a blend of 2- to 4-year old whiskeys aged as required by law in new, charred American oak barrels, and is not "chill filtered" to avoid stripping out aromas and flavors. Notes of caramel, vanilla, toasted corn, honey, nutmeg, custard, and a hint of spice teed up this 87-Proof Bourbon to win a Double Gold Medal at the 2019 San Francisco World Spirits Competition.

THE IRISHMAN FOUNDER'S RESERVE HANDCRAFTED IRISH WHISKEY

\$39.99

Regularly \$49.99



Irish whiskey was the most popular in the world in the 19th century, when there were more than eighty distilleries on the Isle. Then political upheaval, religion, American prohibition and economic disintegration destroyed its dominance by 1950. However, over the past twenty years a turnaround of fortune for Irish distillers has occurred, including at Draeger's. A fine example is the line of whiskeys developed by Bernard and Rosemary Walsh. They began bottling their own Irish coffee in 1999, but soon founded Walsh Whiskeys after realizing that there is a customer who appreciates the sort of whiskey Ireland used to make—fuller flavored spirit made in copper pot stills from Irish malted (sprouted and dried) barley. The Irishman is made from 70% Irish Single Malt (from a single distillery) and 30% Irish Single Pot Still whiskey (a blend of malt and "green" un-sprouted barley). The whiskeys are triple distilled in copper pot stills to develop maximum flavor and matured in Bourbon barrels. You might notice aromas and flavors suggesting barrel spice, black pepper, peach, apple, caramel, vanilla, and dark chocolate. Oak and butterscotch notes linger in the finish. The Irishman is whiskey for people who appreciate ample flavor and texture. Double Gold Medal, International Spirits Challenge 2019. 93 Points, Jim Murray's Whisky Bible 2018.

Reminder: We offer a 10% discount on any purchase of 12 or more 750ml bottles of regularly priced wine, mix or match, every day of the year.



TALBOTT 2018 SLEEPY HOLLOW VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

\$34.99 Regularly \$39.99

Talbott Vineyards was founded in 1982 in Carmel Valley by Robb Talbott and his father Robert Talbott Sr. Sleepy Hollow Vineyard was planted in Monterey County's Santa Lucia Highlands in 1972. Its vines supplied grapes to Talbott for a dozen years before it was purchased by the winery in 1994, officially making it an estate vineyard. Sleepy Hollow vineyard fruit quality is legendary, known for its lusciousness and aging potential; in fact, a Wine Spectator magazine retrospective tasting in 1997 awarded Talbott's 1990 Sleepy Hollow Chardonnay 100 points. Multi-award winning winemaker David Coventry crafted this wine, rich with apple and tropical fruit notes.

92 WINE ENTHUSIAST

36 Wine and friends are a great blend.

- ERNEST HEMMINGWAY



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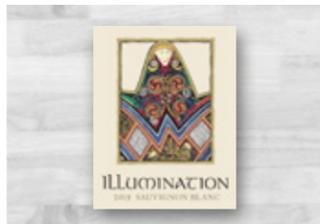
91 JAMES SUCKLING.COM



BY.OTT 2020 CÔTES DE PROVENCE ROSÉ

\$19.99 Regularly \$22.99

Rosé wines (made like white wine from red grapes, with minimal skin contact) come from many places on the planet, but no place is synonymous with quality rosé wine than Provence. And no Provence winery is more identified with quality rosé than Domaines Ott. The Ott cousins manage three estates in the stony hills near the Mediterranean coast east of Marseilles. Ott Côtes de Provence rosé is a blend based mostly on Grenache and Cinsault, made without using chemical fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides—or celebrity names on the label. It finishes dry, offering focused aromas and flavors suggesting wet stones, herbs, and red berries.



ILLUMINATION 2019 SAUVIGNON BLANC

\$29.99 Regularly \$34.99

One of Napa Valley's premier Cabernet Sauvignon producers is Quintessa, which makes just one critically acclaimed red wine that sells out every year. They also make a killer Sauvignon Blanc. The fruit is mostly sourced from their own property. It is made with 61% Musque clone, a particularly aromatic expression of Sauvignon Blanc, and 15% Sémillon, which adds an extra layer of richness and flavor. Unusual complexity is developed by fermenting in a variety of materials and vessel sizes including neutral French oak, acacia barrels, concrete eggs and stainless steel barrels. Illumination is creamy and bright at the same time. Hints of peach, lemon, jasmine and tropical fruit abound, accented by distinct minerality.



MORIS FARMS 2019 VERMENTINO

\$19.99 Regularly \$22.99

Maremma is a district in the southwest corner of Tuscany, abutting the coastline of the Tyrrhenian Sea. The Poggetti Estate is about four and a half miles from the Bay of Follonica. The family, which emigrated from Spain about 300 years ago, grows wheat, olives, and grapes. One of their most prodigious varieties is Vermentino, a lean white grape indigenous to coastal Tuscany that exhibits an appealing mineral note set against its white flower and citrus personality. A little Viognier fleshes out the refreshing Moris Farms blend, creating a wine that begs for foods like herb roasted chicken or fried seafood.

VIONTA 2020 ALBARIÑO RIAS BAIXAS, SPAIN

\$19.99 Regularly \$21.99

Just north of the Portuguese border in northwest Spain, lies a cool and wet coastal region in Galicia called Rias Biaxas [REE-ez BUY-shez] where many of the country's best whites are made. It is where Bodegas Vionta is located and where Albariño thrives. Its thick-skinned, small berries are adapted to the damp and chilly climate and produce a wine that can be crisp and rich and beautifully aromatic all at the same time. Spanish Albariños are carefully made in temperature controlled stainless steel fermentation tanks. Vionta ages the wine on its lees, which increases richness of flavor and mouthfeel. Expect aromas and flavors hinting of peach, green apple, and tropical fruit set off by refreshing acidity. Next stop: Draeger's seafood counter!



66 In wine, there's truth.

- PLINY THE ELDER

99

CLETO CHIARLI LAMBRUSCO N.V. GASPAROSSA DI CASTELVETRO

\$14.99 Regularly \$17.99

Italy's Emilia-Romagna region is home to Prosciutto di Parma, Parmigiano Reggiano, Balsamic vinegars—and the wine that is often drunk with them: Lambrusco. Cleto Chiarli farms organically, producing Lambrusco grapes of serious quality. The wine is made by the Charmat tank process, an approach that provides a clear red wine with half the carbonation intensity of most bottle-fermented sparkling wine. This wine is a blend aged on its lees for two months, is semi-sweet, and a beautiful match with grilled sausages, ribs, and the famous hams and cheeses noted above.

93 JAMES SUCKLING.COM | *harlow*



REMELLURI 2014 RIOJA RESERVA

\$39.99 Regularly \$44.99

Remelluri's roots date from the 14th century in that part of Rioja known as Alavesa. Butted up against Spain's Sierra de Toloño Mountains, the old vineyard property was resurrected in 1967. Its wine shortly became the first single vineyard Rioja of the modern era. Remelluri's Reserva is made from all Estate vineyard sites, is 85% Tempranillo (plus a little Garnacha and Graciano), spends 5 years in mostly neutral wooden vessels, and another 6 months in bottle before release. Red fruit flavors, sweet spice and tobacco notes abound, with firm acidity and a silky texture in the finish.

90 *harlow*



BOEKENHOUTSKLOOF "THE CHOCOLATE BLOCK" 2019 SOUTH AFRICAN RED

\$29.99 Regularly \$35.99

The Chocolate Block is one of several famous labels made by Boekenhoutskloof, located east of Capetown in the Franschoek Valley. Refurbishing began in 1993 after apartheid ended and The Chocolate Block brand debuted in 2002. It is a Syrah-based blend reminiscent of northern Rhône-style wines taking advantage of the Mediterranean climate of that part of South Africa. Along with Syrah a bit of Grenache, Cinsault, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Viognier are included in this medium-bodied, inky wine. It's filled with rich aromas and flavors suggesting red, blue, and black fruits, tobacco, espresso, cocoa, violets, and licorice; suggestions of pepper and smoke appear in the finish.

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CASS 2019 PASO ROBLES GRENACHE

\$21.99 Regularly \$24.99

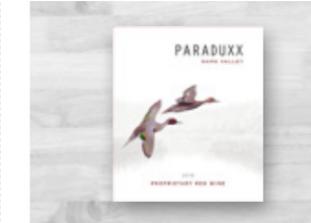


Paso Robles is "wine country" big time! The region includes 11 sub-districts, one of which is Geneseo, where Cass Winery is located. Just east of the city limits, the area's climate is similar to that of parts of the southern Rhône in France. Grenache loves hot days and cool nights, and develops into a medium- to full-bodied wine of bright color, medium acidity and plush plum and berry flavors. Cass Winery's Grenache rewards the sipper with a smooth, energetic mouthful of strawberry and cranberry flavors accented by notes of orange and Herbs de Provence. The winery has won Winery of the Year in the Central Coast Wine Competition three times since 2015.

DOMINI VENETI 2016 AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA

\$39.99 Regularly \$44.99

In northeast Italy grapes like Corvina are made into Valpolicella and variations of that wine, like Amarone. Domini Veneti is made by an 85-year old cooperative in the area supplied by many local farmers who support quality vineyard operation. When excellent quality grapes are harvested, dried for 3-4 months on straw mats or on special shelving, and then made into wine, fermentation magic happens. Water in the grapes diminishes by as much as one-third, leaving partially dehydrated grapes with a higher percentage of skin and grape sugar to liquid. The finished wine is naturally more powerful, offering flavors like mocha, dried cherries, and earth. Amarone is a big wine, terrific with roast meats and famous for marrying well with cheeses!



PARADUXX 2019 NAPA VALLEY PROPRIETARY RED

\$42.99 Regularly \$49.99

One of Napa Valley's huge winery success stories is that of Duckhorn Winery, famous for elegant and powerful Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignons. They created Paraduxx in 1994 to make premium quality all-Napa blends. The original blend was Cabernet Sauvignon and Zinfandel, and each of their wine still has at least one non-Bordeaux varietal in it. This elegant 2019 red blend is primarily Cabernet Sauvignon, with the addition of small amounts of Petite Sirah, Zinfandel, Petit Verdot, Syrah, and Malbec. Grape lots are fermented and barrel aged separately before blending. The wine is supple and juicy, offering hints of dark fruit, spice, and cocoa and a long finish framed by crisp acidity.



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**DOMAINE BOUCHARD
PERE AND FILS**

2017
**BEAUNE DU CHATEAU
PREMIER CRU**

BURGUNDY ROUGE

\$53.99 Regularly \$58.99

BLANC

\$46.99 Regularly \$52.99



Taste history in a bottle! 250-year old Domaine Bouchard is headquartered in Beaune, France, the spiritual heart of Burgundy. Situated south of Dijon and north of Lyon, Burgundy's main winemaking districts are planted primarily with Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The most famous of those districts is the limestone-rich escarpment known as the Côte d'Or.

In Burgundy, some 4000 growers work hundreds if not thousands of small vineyards, whose ownership is often divided literally into individual rows thanks to French inheritance laws. Many grape growers make their own wines in tiny amounts from several rows within vineyards scattered over the countryside. Other larger producers, like Domaine Bouchard, both grow and buy grapes for their wines. Bouchard has grown steadily since it was founded in 1775, now farming parts of 450 different vineyards. 74 of those are Premier Cru ("First Growth"), the second highest tier in Burgundy's vineyard ranking system. These Beaune du Château cuvées (blends) have been made since 1907, are all from Premier Cru vineyards, and represent terrific value for wines made from Beaune-area expensive soil.

The Rouge (Pinot Noir) uses grapes from 17 vineyards; those lots are vinified and aged 12-14 months separately before blending. The Blanc (Chardonnay) hails from four vineyards and sees 9-10 months in barrel. Both wines use far less than 100% new oak and exhibit subtle structure that reveals great fruit. To borrow a phrase: "Domaine Bouchard wines are always balanced, full of personality and are a pleasure to drink."



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One barrel of wine can
work more miracles than
a church full of saints.

- ITALIAN PROVERB



SAN MATEO

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LOS ALTOS

342 First Street, Los Altos, CA 94022
650-948-4425

BLACKHAWK

4100 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, CA 94506
925-648-5800

MENLO PARK

1010 University Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025
650-324-7700

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Special prices in this newsletter are effective March 16 through May 31 or as supplies last. Should a pricing error occur the posted price in the store will prevail. We offer an everyday 10% case discount for the purchase of 12 or more bottles of regularly priced 750ml-size wines, mix or match. All items in this newsletter are net priced, no further discount.