

THOMAS
FOGARTY 2022
SANTA CRUZ
MOUNTAINS
CHARDONNAY
\$37.99

Regularly \$44.99

2023 PINOT NOIR \$43.99

Regularly \$48.99



Sometimes the path to fine wine winds through a hospital operating room. Dr. Thomas Fogarty was a teen boxer in Cincinnati with lousy grades who got a summer job sterilizing surgical instruments and became a scrub technician. He was mentored by a prominent surgeon who steered him into finishing high school and getting a probationary entrance to Xavier University. A few years later, he graduated medical school summa cum laude, and before he even had his degree in hand created and later patented the balloon catheter for treating blood clots. Estimates are that about 20 million lives have been saved by the device since 1969.

Influenced by wine-savvy physician friends at Stanford who loved the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir made in Burgundy, Dr. Fogarty and his winemaker-to-be Michael Martella began planting those grapes on some of his property in Woodside in 1977. They were advised by Santa Cruz Mountains fine wine pioneers Bob and Jim Varner in Portola Valley, Jeffrey Paterson in Saratoga, and others. The winery launched in 1981, a year before the Santa Cruz Mountains appellation became official. About 30 out of 360 acres are farmed, organically and with very limited or no irrigation. Michael Martella made the wine for almost 30 years, executing the winery plan he and Dr. Fogarty had hashed out in the late 70s. Martella hired Nathan Kandler in the early 2000s, who became winemaker in 2012. Dr. Fogarty's son Thomas Jr., who had helped plant grapes when he was ten years old, rejoined the winery in 2010 as managing partner.

Kandler guided the 2022 Chardonnay through a difficult year that began with a cooler than normal spring and then delivered a Labor Day week of 100°F+ temperatures. The finished wine, made from two estate vineyards, offers full body and forward fruit with hints of spice, crushed rock, lemon peel, chalk, and stone fruit. Try a mayonnaise chicken salad with avocado.

The 2023 Pinot Noir is a blend of 3 vineyards in different elevations, slowly ripened in a cool year. Rich aromas and flavors suggest dark cherries, rhubarb, cranberries, citrus, and silky tannins. Grill or fry a thick-cut pork loin chop.

jamessuckling¶



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BE

In water one sees one's own face, but in wine one beholds the heart of another.

FRENCH PROVERB

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L WINE SALE

NOVEMBER 5 THROUGH NOVEMBER 11 20% OFF! — 7 DAYS ONLY!

Our fall wine sale begins Wednesday, November 5 and ends Tuesday, November 11. We'll take 20% off most domestic and imported wines when you buy 12 bottles or more, mix or match, standard 750ml size. We stock over 3,000 of the world's finest wines, hand selected by our friendly and knowledgeable staff. Wine stewards are on duty 10-6 every day.

Some already reduced or net-priced wines are not included. Supplies are limited to stock on hand and sold on a first-come, first-served basis. We cannot hold wine for future purchase.

PRICES IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE VALID WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22 THROUGH TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30.

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.

SPARKLING WINE SPECIALS FOR THE 2025 HOLIDAY SEASON



DOMAINE CARNEROS CUVÉE DE LA POMPADOUR BRUT ROSÉ

\$37.99

Regularly \$43.99



VILMART & CIE GRAND RESERVE PREMIER CRU **BRUT CHAMPAGNE**

\$64.99

Regularly \$69.99



LOUIS ROEDERER COLLECTION **245 BRUT** CHAMPAGNE

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Regularly \$69.99



ANDREOLA PROSECCO ASOLO AKELUM

\$17.99

Regularly \$21.99



SCHRAMSBERG BLANC DE BLANCS \$39.99

Regularly \$44.99



GENTLEMAN'S CUT KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY \$79.99 Regularly \$89.99



Draeger's is proud to feature Gentleman's Cut, a premium-aged, Kentucky Straight Bourbon whiskey. It is a partnership between Stephen Curry (four-time NBA Champion, two-time MVP, and Olympic Gold Medalist), and John Schwartz (owner of the highly lauded Amuse Bouche Winery in Napa Valley). Crafted at the recently reborn Boone County Distilling on the Ohio River near Cincinnati, Gentleman's Cut is aged 5-7 years and bottled at 90 proof. Made of 75% corn, 21% rye and 4% malted barley, the whiskey offers honey, fresh vanilla bean, and opulent caramel aromas and flavors, complemented by hints of earth, spice, cocoa and toast in the lingering aftertaste.

Bourbon whiskey dates back to the late 18th century when Scots-Irish settlers brought distilling knowledge to the American frontier. Kentucky's limestone-rich water and abundant corn crops provided the raw ingredients necessary to craft what became known as Bourbon, now a world famous American creation. By law the mash bill (recipe) must be least 51% corn. Rye, wheat and malted barley can complement the distiller's blend, and the fresh spirit must be aged in new, charred white American oak barrels, where it picks up its color and lots of its flavor. Bourbon may be made in any state, but Kentucky is its most famous producer.

Says Curry, "Life is best enjoyed in the close company of others . . , with a rich and nuanced Bourbon in hand"-Gentleman's Cut. We couldn't have said it better.

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Nothing more excellent or valuable than wine was ever granted by the gods to man.

PLAT0

Twomey in 1999 as a wine company dedicated to growing Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir. Grown in Sonoma's Russian River Valley and vineyards in Napa's Calistoga and Oakville districts, the grape mix yields the winery's signature tropical fruit flavor base supported by a minerally backbone. Unusual complexity is developed by fermenting and aging in a variety of materials and vessels including several sizes of neutral oak, stainless tanks and barrels, and concrete. Twomey's Estate Sauvignon Blanc is creamy and bright at the same time, so enjoy it as a very classy aperitif or with a meal. Goat cheese is a natural pairing; a classic Cobb salad would kill.



MARTINELLI 2022 "BELLA VIGNA" SONOMA COAST CHARDONNAY

\$34.99 Regularly \$39.99

Some meals just scream for a full-bodied, richly flavored Chardonnay that offers hints of butter, aromas and flavors suggesting lemon and pear, and enough supporting acidity to create a mouthwatering sip. Martinelli Winery (5 generations and some 135 years after founding) makes that kind of wine, farming some 15 vineyard sites in several regions of Sonoma, some warmer and others coolerespecially near the coast. The mix of sites adds complexity to this Bella Vigna Chardonnay, which is aged in 50% new French oak barrels for 10 months. It's a big wine that would complement creamy pastas like spaghetti carbonara, roasted poultry, richer seafood dishes, and casseroles that include ham and cheese. Corn pudding-or soufflé if you're so adventurous-is also a natural. Try aged Gouda, too.



CHÂTEAU DES LAURETS PUISSEGUIN 2018 SAINT-ÉMILION BORDEAUX

\$29.99 Regularly \$34.99

A few miles east of the French city of Libourne, in a Bordeaux wine district known as Puisseguin St.-Émilion, Château des Laurets crafts an appealing red wine from Merlot and Cabernet Franc. The "Right Bank" wine region is famous for this sort of mix. Cabernet Franc fa native of Spain's Basque region, and a parent of Cabernet Sauvignon) volunteers its well-known hints of violets and intense dark fruit aromas. You may notice hints of cedar and cherries and subtle licorice, followed by a long finish with velvety tannins. Aged about 14 months in a mixture of new and neutral barrels and vats, it would complement dishes like grilled beefsteak, roast lamb, sautéed duck breast-or a classic meal of a hamburger



OBSIDIAN RIDGE 2022 RED HILLS LAKE COUNTY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

\$35.99 Regularly \$41.99

Grapes grown at high altitude get more intense UV ray concentration and sometimes less humidity, and are often situated in very rocky, quickly draining soils with little nutrients. The result is smaller grape clusters and thicker skins, meaning more concentrated flavors. That describes the Cabernet made by Obsidian Ridge from its vinevard in the Red Hills of Lake County. Just a bit south of the Mt. Konocti volcano at Clear Lake, the vineyard lies on a mountainside dotted with obsidian (volcanic glass) resulting from its last eruption some 11,000 years ago. Those "glassy" soils produce a wine fresh and bright, but aromatic and powerful. "Deeply delicious," it's been on Top 100 lists twice in the last few years. Grill or roast something substantial!



COBB 2021 COASTLANDS VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

\$84.99 Regularly \$95.99

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David and the late Diane Cobb purchased a hilltop just outside of Occidental in Sonoma County, not far from the Pacific. Diane and friends personally planted three quarters of an acre of Pinot Noir in 1989. By 1992, high-end wineries began buying their fruit. In 1999 son Ross, then an enologist at historic Williams Selyem winery, persuaded his parents to make their own (Cobb) wine. The rest is history. The original vineyard has been expanded and named Coastlands, with vines 28-35 years old. Cobb 2021 Pinot Noir is mediumbodied and reveals aromas and flavors ranging from rose, violet, raspberry, and blackberry to rosemary, juniper, and moist earth. There is a hint of saline, tannins are refined, and acidity is fresh. Grilled tuna steaks would pair beautifully.



Wine is light, held together by water.

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TABLAS CREEK 2024 PASO ROBLES PATELIN DE TABLAS BLANC

\$24.99 Regularly \$29.99

Tablas Creek Vineyard (a partnership between the Haas wine importing family and the French Perrin family of Château de Beaucastel fame) began as a specialty nursery and became a wine producer in the late 1990s. Located a few miles west of Paso Robles, it specializes in southern Rhône grapes both red and white. The Patelin label ("neighborhood" in French) incorporates some grapes from quality area vineyards as well as estate fruit. Patelin Blanc is a blend of six white grapes common to the southern Rhône. It boasts an aromatic floral and tropical nose and a luxurious mouthfeel supported with bright acidity and chalky minerality. It is a wine of substance that would happily pair with foods such as green salads with avocado, lemon chicken, scallops, and lighter fish dishes.



PIANCORNELLO 2019 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO

\$48.99 Regularly \$54.99

About an hour south of the Chianti Classico district in Tuscany is the walled mountaintop village of Montalcino. Local clones of Sangiovese ("Brunello") have adapted to that warmer area for hundreds of years and make Brunello di Montalcino one of the most prized red wines in the world. Piancornello is located south of the village, overlooking Mount Amiata. Its organically-grown Brunello is full-bodied with firm but fine tannins and bright acidity backing up flavor notes suggesting red and blue fruits, anise, dried herbs and flowers, cedar, and spice. Its structure calls for flavorful, saucy dishes like braised lamb shoulder chops or Italian sausages with mushroom risotto or aged Parmigiano-Reggiano.



CHÂTEAU FORTIA 2020 "TRADITION" CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

\$43.99 Regularly \$51.99

Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines are blends made in and around the town of the same name in France's southern Rhône Valley. They are fullbodied wines grown in the sandy, rocky vineyards typical in the region. Those rounded pebbles in the vineyards soak up the sun's heat during daylight hours and keep the vineyards a bit warmer at night. The wines are usually red, but many producers including this one make white versions, too. Grenache leads in the Tradition grape mix, assisted by Mourvèdre and Syrah. Its profile combines rich strawberry-ish and raspberry-ish ripeness with spice and wood notes, and a hint of mint in the finish capped by velvety tannins. The wine would be a superb match with red meats and spicier fare.



ANNE GROS AND J.P. TOLLOT 2022 "LA GRENACHE 8" CÔTES DU BRIAN GRENACHE

\$24.99 Regularly \$29.99

Anne Gros and J.P. Tollot are partners in life and respected winemakers in their separate domains in Burgundy. They're also winemaking partners in the south of France on a property in Minervois, a sub district of the giant Languedoc-Roussillon region bordering the Mediterranean. Their property's soils are rich in minerals, clay and silt, supporting their winemaking efforts with grapes yielding minerally, juicy and earthy wines with good viscosity and seductive flavors. La Grenache 8 is named for the particular vat in the winery in which it is made. You might notice hints of red raspberry, pomegranate, and the wild herbs that reflect the plant mix in the surrounding scrubland. La Grenache 8 would be a terrific partner for cured meats, roasted tomato and eggplant dishes, and a perfect accompaniment to an "everything" pizza.



TEETER TOTTER 2021 NAPA VALLEY CABERNET SAUVIGNON

\$57.99 Regularly \$64.99

Benoit Touquette was born in Lyon and had ambition to become an engineer or fighter pilot. He'd worked in construction among other jobs. A chance occurrence working a winery bottling line set him on path to earn two degrees in oenology and get lucky enough to be mentored by Michel Rollandone of the most famous "flying winemaker" consultants in the world. That led to jobs at some of Napa Valley's most storied and expensive wineries, such as Dalla Valle and Screaming Eagle. He makes several exclusive brands but luckily for us has a side gig-Teeter Totter. This Cabernet (85% of the blend) is mostly from Napa's Rutherford district and is a full-bodied, hearty, rich wine suggesting black raspberry, blueberry, spice, chocolate and minerals with firm but fine grained tannins. Grill or broil a well-marbled rib eye steak!



HIRSCH 2022 "HIRSCHVERGNÜGEN" GRÜNER VELTLINER

\$19.99 Regularly \$24.99

A few miles northwest of Vienna, a little south of the Czechoslovakian border, is the Kamptal wine district of Austria. Grüner Veltliner grapes (the "main grape" of Austria) are widely grown here, producing wines that tend to be racy and bone dry. The Hirsch farmstead dates from the 1500s and has been farmed biodynamically for years. (Goats and buffalos from a nearby cheese producer fertilize the estate vineyards.) This easy-drinking Grüner offers creamy texture and aromas and flavors hinting of yeast, dried wild herbs, chamomile, citrus, juicy stone fruit, and the suggestion of white pepper that Grüner Veltliner is known for. It begs for a classic Reuben sandwich made with either pastrami or corned beef.

STOLPMAN 2023
"LA CUADRILLA"
RED WINE
\$23.99
Regularly \$27.99

Vineyard workers live a tough work life, but there is one very special quality winery where they get a share of the proceeds. Stolpman Vineyards, between Los Olivos and Solvang in Santa Barbara County, makes a special wine blend from various estate and other Ballard Canyon-area vineyards called La Cuadrilla. Its income provides weekly and yearly bonuses for the vineyard staff, who are employed year round. The 2023 blend is 50% Syrah and 20% Grenache among other grapes, and suggests aromas and flavors like red and black berries, dried herbs, black pepper, menthol, earth—exactly the kind of mix perfect with steak au poivre, grilled lamb chops, bacon bread salad, BLTs, roast eggplant, bacon cheeseburgers—Draeger's has it all to pair with this fresh, juicy, lively red wine.