

# August Wine Bargains

## Sparkling, White & Rosé Wines:

### **Perellada Cava Brut, NV, Penedes, Spain**

We are firm believers that you don't need a special occasion to drink bubbles. Tuesday is special occasion enough. Plus, we're the Pepsi generation, yes? We love sparkling beverages with a touch of sweetness? That's exactly what this sparkling wine delivers. There's enough acidity that you'll never know there's sweetness in it, and it is a food pairing marvel. Seafood, salads, fried chicken, or as a celebratory beverage after mowing the grass. \$12

### **Finca Luzon Blanco, 2017, Jumilla, Spain**

This perennial best buy in the wine press is made from Macabeo, an indigenous Spanish variety. It's a perfect crisp white for the dog days of summer. Citrus zest, almond, mineral and fresh herb. \$12

### **Dry Creek Chenin Blanc, 2017, Clarksburg, California**

Speaking of perennial "Best Buys", this has been an annual Iron Bridge fan favorite and a regular on the Bargain list since we opened 15 years ago. Who can resist the fresh, flowery aromas that lead to a light to medium-bodied white wine with loads of fruit as well as a seductive, elegant style. \$14

### **Patient Cottat Sauvignon Blanc, 2016, Loire Valley, France**

Baby Sancerre! The Fournier family, with roots as deep as their vines in this region, seem to be related to just about everyone in some way. They've been farming and producing wines in Sancerre for generations. Soft, subtle mineral notes are wrapped up in aromatics of melon and citrus. Clean, bright and refreshing, this is a perfect little Sauvignon Blanc. Tropical fruit, citrus and spice aromas and flavors, with vibrant acidity and minerality. Perfect for goat cheese salad or seafood. \$13

### **Bonterra Chardonnay, 2017, Mendocino, California**

The Bonterra folks were the first to introduce organic wines in California, many moons ago. An initial impression of rich, buttery cream quickly turns to aromas of honey and lightly toasted almonds, followed by tropical aromas of pineapple, citrusy lemon and crème brulee. The wine is refreshing on the palate, with a minerality that is both bright and clean, drawing you into a vibrant tartness and lemon zest. \$15

### **Domaine Cogne Rosé of Gamay, 2017, Loire Valley, France**

A lovely pale salmon color. The nose is well-defined with touches of strawberry and nectarine, while the palate is well-balanced, clean and fresh, with a citrus-fresh finish. Fine for a summer's day. \$14

## **Red Wines:**

### **Poppy Pinot Noir, 2015, Monterey, California**

Monterey is one of our favorite regions for Pinot Noir. The Monterey region is a long valley that stretches 90 miles along Highway 101, from the city of Salinas south to San Luis Obispo County. Cool winds rush down the valley from Monterey Bay, creating chilly conditions at the northern end perfect for Pinot Noir. An expression of elegance and finesse, it's bright red in color with intense aromas of earth and raspberry. Red cherry, raspberry and allspice dominate the front palate as mushroom and a little toasted oak are present on a long, velvety finish. Serve it alongside mushroom or truffle risotto, roasted turkey or game dishes. \$15

### **Valdelamillo Tempranillo, 2016, Rioja, Spain**

This Crianza is 100% Tempranillo, aged 14 months in American small oak. A rather classic wine, with notes of graphite, black currant and black cherry, roasted herbs, unsmoked cigar tobacco and toasty oak. Drink it over the next 5-6 years. \$12

### **Garnacha del Fuego Old Vines, 2016, Aragon, Spain**

A remarkable value, the 2016 Garnacha de Fuego is fashioned from a 60- to 80-year-old hillside vineyard planted at a relatively high altitude above 3,000 feet. It is hard to believe an \$11 wine could possess so much flavor. Sweet raspberry and cherry fruit intermixed with loamy soil and spice aromas soar from the glass of this medium-bodied, richly fruity red that has never seen a hint of wood. Consume it over the next 2-3 years. \$11

### **Altitudes Cotes du Roussillon Red, 2015, Roussillon, France**

A blend of Carignane, Grenache and Syrah from vineyards in the Roussillon region of France, situated close to the Mediterranean Sea, just 25 miles from the eastern Spanish border. The wine offers a peppery, dark fruited, slightly earthy bouquet as well as medium to full-bodied richness, plenty of fruit, texture and solid purity. Awesome with burgers and barbecue. \$12

### **Beelgara Shiraz, 2017, New South Wales, Australia**

This Shiraz is a more forward style with aromas of ripe blueberries, black cherries and blackberry preserves plus underlying nuances of toasty oak and baking spice. Richly fruited on the medium to full-bodied palate, it has a medium level of velvety tannins, balanced acid and a long, savory finish. \$14

### **Finca El Portillo Malbec, 2017, Valle de Uco, Mendoza, Argentina**

Attractive aromas of lavender, spice box, leather, and black cherry lead to a forward, tasty, friendly offering that over-delivers for its price tag. Drink it with beef and lamb over the next 12-18 months. \$13