

August Wine Bargains

White & Rosé Wines:

Quinta da Raza Vinho Verde, 2018, Minho, Portugal

Summer is the perfect time to be drinking Vinho Verde. It's very light, refreshing and has a bit of a spritz to it. Lime zest, raw almond and fresh citrus notes dance on your palate. It's so fresh and fun and low in alcohol to boot. A perfect picnic / back porch wine. \$11

Villiera "Down to Earth" Sauvignon / Semillon, 2018, Stellenbosch, South Africa

This blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon is a fabulous seafood white. The Sauvignon brings gooseberry and fig notes with the Semillon providing some richness; toasted almond, yellow apple and orange blossom. Beautiful fresh fruit and herbs on the nose, crisp and dry on the palate. \$15

Cline Viognier, 2018, California

Just say Vee-oh-nyay. The folks at Cline have Viognier figured out. In too hot a climate, Viognier can be flabby. It needs cooler vineyard sites to keep that acidity in the grapes and wine. This bottling has all that we love about this exotic grape; Honeysuckle, peach and apricot, wildflowers and spice. It has wonderful rich fruit but nice balancing acidity on the finish. Fabulous with grilled teriyaki chicken with mango salsa. Yum! \$12

Charles & Charles Rosé, 2018, Columbia Valley, Washington

Charles Smith (of K Vintners fame) and Charles Bieler (rockstar Provence winemaker) teamed up on this project and make fabulous value-driven wines from Washington state. This rosé is a Rhone focused blend of Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache, Mourvedre, Cinsault, & Counoise. Wine Enthusiast gave it a **Best Buy** designation and **90 points** and said, "An appealing pale-salmon color, this wine has bright watermelon, strawberry, kiwi and cherry candy aromas that lead to a tart pink-grapefruit flavor and mouthwatering acidity." \$13

Ferraton Cotes du Rhone Blanc, 2017, Rhone Valley, France

A stainless steel tank-aged blend of Grenache Blanc, Clairette and Viognier, this Cotes du Rhone Blanc Samorens is a smoking value. Aromas of white currants, citrus blossom and hints of white flowers, this medium-bodied, focused white has racy acidity and brilliant focus on the finish. It's fresh enough for a hot summer day, yet also has character and class. Drink it over the coming 2-3 years. \$14

Vega Sindoa Chardonnay, 2018, Navarra, Spain

Sourced from 25 year old organically farmed vineyards in northern Spain, this un-oaked Chardonnay is one of those easy-to-understand, crisp, elegant, pretty wines with lots of green apple fruit, white flowers and a touch of honeyed citrus. It's a perfect seafood friendly style of wine perfect for summer drinking. \$11

Red Wines:

Grayson Cellars Pinot Noir, 2017, California

A great value in Pinot Noir which was aged nine months in French oak. It is soft and supple, round and spicy with lots of sweet cherry and plum-like fruit as well as medium body, good lushness, a plump, round, generous mouthfeel, impressive purity and notes of underbrush as well as oak. Drink it over the next 1-2 years. \$13

Legado de Moncayo Garnacha, 2018, Campo de Borja, Spain

One of the world's great wine values, this wine, made from 100% Grenache, is tank-fermented and aged. It offers something virtually no other region in the world seems capable of producing - an exuberant, gutsy, pure, rich, flavorful, dry red wine that can be drunk over the next 2 years. The color is dark ruby with purple nuances. This fruit-driven example offers up copious quantities of berry fruit in an uncomplicated, but nicely layered, medium-bodied, pure format. It is a savory red that you would be delighted to find in any bistro or trattoria. \$13

Steven Vincent "Crimson", 2016, California

Crimson is produced from a blend of 77% Petite Sirah, 10% Syrah, 7% Zinfandel, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from Monterey County and North Coast growing regions of California. Aromatics of blueberry galore with notes of black cherry, rhubarb, and anise with hints of chocolate. Flavors are dark and brooding with blueberry pie filling. The tannins are particularly lush and melting with seamless consistency throughout. Solid thread of acidity guarantees a lengthy finish. We're always looking for a great BBQ wine, so I would suggest a grill-fired NY strip steak, hamburgers with bleu cheese mixed in to the meat, or some big sausages with some spicy heat on top. \$14

H Mynors "Old Vine Cuvee" Zinfandel, 2015, California

This old vine Zinfandel from vineyards in Sonoma, Amador and Lodi has a dense ruby/purple color, followed by a big, fragrant, spicy, pungent nose of pepper, jammy red and black fruits, and dusty cocoa. Rich, medium to full-bodied, and harmonious, this wine has a rich, fruit driven mid-palate and fine length. It should drink well for 5-6 years. \$14

Maison Brotte "Grand Vallon" Syrah, 2017, Languedoc, France

Maison Brotte's most famous wines are from the Rhone Valley. They fashion this value priced Syrah from vineyards in the south of France close to to the Mediterranean. This 100% Syrah has pure aromas of raspberries, spice box, sweet cigar box, licorice and lavender. This dark ruby-hued, medium-bodied red can be drunk over the next 3-4 years with roasts, grilled meats or barbecue. \$12

Montes Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015, Colchagua Valley, Chile

Everything in the Montes portfolio of wines is amazing. Aurelio Montes is a brilliant winemaker and grape grower. His wines are the benchmark for high quality Chilean wine. This classic series Cabernet Sauvignon is purple-colored and exhibits aromas of cedar, spice box, tobacco, black currant, and blackberry. Layered yet elegant, it has enough structure to evolve for 2-3 years. Balanced and lengthy, it should drink well for 5-7 years. \$14