

September Wine Bargains

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White & Rosé Wines:

#1 - Vale dos Pombos Vinho Verde, 2019, Minho, Portugal

Hold on to a bit of summer with this fresh, fragrant, zippy, zingy thirst quencher. It's all citrus zest, mineral, apple skins and white flowers. It's a simple to understand, easy down the gullet kind of wine. It's low in alcohol (9.5%) and makes the perfect appetizer wine with crab, shellfish and salads. \$12

#2 - Tavignano Verdicchio, 2018, Marches, Italy

From hillside vineyards overlooking the Adriatic Sea, this wine is a great Pinot Grigio alternative with more character and richer fruit. It's a wonderfully crisp, dry, mineraly, citrusy white displaying a Chablis-like character. Lots of mineral, citrus blossom, grapefruit and lemon zest characteristics are found in this light-bodied, fresh, dry white that is a natural with fresh fish, veggies and seafood. \$15

#3 - Vina Falernia Riesling, 2019, Elqui Valley, Chile

The vineyards of Vina Falernia are the most northern in Chile. They lie in a semi-arid climate just south of the driest desert on earth, the Atacama. It hasn't seen significant rainfall in 400 years. Anywho, this Riesling is planted in a low lying vineyard close to the sea. The wine has an expressive nose of mineral, spring flowers, citrus, and white peach. Dry, crisp, and concentrated on the palate, this is a balanced Riesling that should keep drinking well with shrimp, crab and Asian cuisine for another 4-5 years. \$12

#4 - Cline Viognier, 2019, North Coast, California

We love, love, love Viognier. It has all of the full bodied richness of Chardonnay but with gorgeous, exotic floral and fruit notes. There's honeysuckle, orange blossom, apricot, peach pit and white pepper with a hint of toasted almond. It's bone dry and is crisp and bright on the finish which keeps everything balanced. Bravo! \$12

#5 - The Little Sheep Chardonnay, 2019, Loire Valley, France

Sourced from vineyards at the end of the Loire Valley close to Burgundy, this wine is a dead ringer for a top quality Macon Village. It's hallmark is a well-etched display of crisp, steely, lemony/apple/orange-flavored fruit. Medium-bodied, with wonderful richness and vivaciousness, it is an all-purpose, delicious Chardonnay to drink as an aperitif or with roast chicken, charcuterie and risotto. \$11

#6 - Pares Balta "Ros de Pac" Rosé, 2019, Penedes, Spain

This is literally the perfect time of year to drink rose. They've gotten over their bottle and shipping shock and they're finally spreading their wings and showing all of their fruit and complexity. Medium pink-colored, it exhibits an expressive perfume of red currants and cherry. The wine has excellent weight and depth as well as a lengthy finish. It is a perfect picnic wine for enjoying this fall. \$14

Red Wines:

#7 - Paul Mas Pinot Noir, 2018, Languedoc, France

This wine is sourced from the famous Saint Hilaire vineyard near Limoux, at the foothills of the Pyrenees mountains. These vineyards have been famous since the Roman times. Pinot Noir adapts wonderfully to the Limoux climate and soils. This wine displays a gorgeous nose of red fruits & blackcurrant. On the palate there's cherry and spice with a hint of vanilla. The texture is pure silk. It pairs beautifully with grilled salmon, pork chops or mushroom dishes. \$14

#8 - Campi Valerio "Calidio" Montepulciano, 2016, Molise, Italy

Molise is a small mountainous region in south central Italy. Just south of Abruzzo on the Adriatic sea. This is the same Montepulciano grape that Abruzzo is famous for. Grown farther south and in the mountains gives it richer fruit and more muscle. It's fermented and aged entirely in stainless steel to preserve the fruit. There's blackberry and dried currant fruit along with cigar box, root beer and spice notes. It's an amazing match with classic southern Italian dishes. \$12

#9 - Pagos del Rey "Sentero" Tinta de Toro, 2016, Toro, Spain

Tinta de Toro AKA Tempranillo is the king of red wines in Spain. Inky purple, it delivers a nose of blackberry, dusty cocoa, violets, leather, and mineral. On the palate the wine has good concentration. It will certainly evolve for 2-3 years and drink well for 5+. \$11

#10 - Bodega Septima Malbec, 2018, Mendoza, Argentina

Dark ruby-colored, this Malbec offers up a nose of smoke, spice box, and black cherry. Ripe, with good depth and savory flavors, this tasty, medium-long wine can be enjoyed over the next 3 years. Pair with Barbecue and braised beef or lamb. \$14

#11 - Montgraviere "M" Rouge, 2017, Bordeaux, France

Generally not a fan of red Bordeaux? Prefer new world styled wines? The give this a try! This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot is definitely styled for the American palate. Dark red and black fruits with toasty oak, baking spices and a soft, fruit forward finish. Delicious with grilled beef or mushrooms. \$12

#12 - Vina Tinajas "Telmo & Ruth Reserva" Cabernet / Merlot, 2018, Maule Valley, Chile

This new wine has fantastic packaging and the wine inside is even better. Cedar, spice box, tobacco, earthy minerals, and assorted black fruits set the stage for a concentrated, rich, layered wine. Medium-bodied with a sense of elegance, this lengthy effort is likely to evolve for another 2-3 years. It is excellent paired with pizza, roast beef and grilled sausages. \$12