

imbibe

**TOP 100 WINES 2011**

## HELLO TO ALL WHO IMBIBE:



With much joy, we present the Imbibe Top 100 List for 2011. This is the finest list of over-achieving wines we have ever assembled. In almost thirty years in the wine business, we've never seen the deals that we have been offered this last year. What a great time to be a wine consumer! What used to cost \$75, you can find today for \$40. Likewise, you can find a wine for \$12 that used to be on retailer's shelves for \$20. Wine merchants, wholesalers and wineries are all working leaner; and relationships, along with the art of the deal, are extremely important.

We maintain that there is no challenge in telling you about a great wine that retails for \$75-\$100. We wonder what good there is in promoting wines that have been sold out for months, like most of the wines you'll find on Wine Spectator's Top 100 List. You'd be very lucky to find 5% of the wines on their list anywhere in the nation.

We have tasted thousands of wines to bring you this very small list of the most over-achieving wines on the market at this time. Unlike the wine writers who live in Napa or on the East Coast, you can hold us accountable for all the wines we've included. We will return your calls and answer all your questions. Though you may disagree about the inclusion of a particular wine, all these wines are well-made, well-priced and available at the time we printed this list.

We are grateful for your patronage this past year and look forward eagerly to the opportunities that we're sure 2011 will bring. We hope you'll enjoy reading this issue and share your thoughts with us. We'd love to hear from you.

*David, Tamera and the Imbibe Team*

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# 2007 RIDGE ESTATE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

RIDGE 2007  
CALIFORNIA  
SANTA CRUZ  
MOUNTAINS  
ESTATE

58% CABERNET SAUVIGNON, 42% MERLOT,  
SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS 13.3% ALCOHOL BY VOLUME  
GROWN, PRODUCED & BOTTLED BY RIDGE VINEYARDS  
18100 MONTE BELLO ROAD, BOX 1810, CUPERTINO, CA 95015

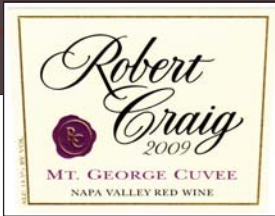
A little history on this legendary estate and wonderful wine: the Monte Bello vineyard was planted in 1886, when the winery was built. This old vineyard was abandoned in the early 1940's, then replanted later in that decade. Those cabernet vines - now sixty years old - produced the first Ridge Monte Bello in 1962, as well as subsequent vintages until the mid-seventies. By then, blocks that had been replanted during the sixties were maturing, and their fruit considered for use in the Monte Bello. A number of these blocks consistently produced a softer, more accessible wine that has been bottled under the Santa Cruz Mountains label. Ridge's Mountain Estate is uniquely positioned to produce wines that express the significance and complexity of its origin. Wines from Ridge Vineyards are always made with minimal intervention, using eco-friendly farming practices to protect and retain vineyard characteristics. Ridge has produced an approachable red Bordeaux style blend under the Santa Cruz Mountains Estate designation since 1979. The 2007 selection of the softer, more accessible lots of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot create a wine often referred to as the baby Monte Bello.

#1

Presents with a nice mix of ripe curren, tobacco and weedy spice in the nose and follows up with like flavors that are more complex than aggressively fruity. This is a wonderful, well balanced wine that is often offered for \$40+; our price is \$34.99 Try a bottle, we know you'll be back. ~David

\$34.99

2009 ROBERT CRAIG MT. GEORGE CUVÉE



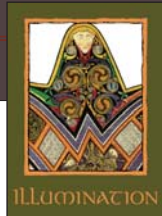
We've been friends from the beginning in 1995 when Bob and Lynn started the winery and I've been selling it ever since. Last year, we were offered a small amount of Mt. George (otherwise only sold at the winery's tasting room). When Bob came to town for our Mt. Veeder dinner, I asked for more when he released his next vintage...and the rest is history. This is declassified Affinity with a bit of Mt. Veeder and Howell Mountain fruit added. This wine is arguably one of Napa Valley's best Cabernets under \$30. A blend that displays complex inviting aromas of red curren, cassis and roasted coffee with touches of lavender and anise. Flavors of red cherry and cassis with espresso, red plum and dried lavender and a finish that is nicely balanced and screams fifty bucks. The only problem with this wine is its scarcity; they produce less than 300 cases. You'll find this wine only at Imbibe or the winery's-tasting room.

~David

#2

\$26.99

2009 ILLUMINATION SAUVIGNON BLANC



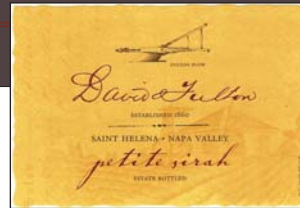
Intrigued with making a white wine from Quintessa, Agustin Huneus planted a small plot of Sauvignon Blanc at the estate in 2002. Illumination first emanated from this little vineyard, its rays penetrating the palates of sommeliers, friends and guests who requested it for their own cellars. He now shares this wine with select retailers and we at Imbibe are proud to be one of them. Wine Enthusiast awarded the wine 95 points stating that only Mondavi's Reserve Fume Blanc from the prized To Kalon Vineyard can claim to be this wines peer in California. The wine is comprised of Sauvignon Blanc blended with just a hint of Semillon, fermented in barrel, then left to age on the lees until it is ready for bottle. The result is an immaculate white wine with intricate layers of Meyer lemon, limes and white peaches, offset by crisp mineral driven acidity, then softened by hints of creamy butter.

~Richard

#3

\$38.99

2007 DAVID FULTON PETITE SIRAH



Many have heard us say it, the David Fulton Petite Sirah is one of the finest in the nation and has been our #1 wine on past lists. This wine is huge, powerful, and triumphant carrying the lush softness and immediate succulence of a modern cult Cabernet. Flavors of chocolate, blackberry, blueberry and cherry pie carry through to a thoroughly dry finish with firm tannins. Descriptions of this delightful offering from Napa can go on and on, as this wine evolves with each sip while showing an elegance that is uncommon to the varietal. The dry-farmed estate vineyard, originally planted in 1860, is the oldest continuously owned and operated family vineyard not only in Napa, but all of California. Operations today are in the hands of fourth generation husband and wife team of Fulton and Dink Mather. With fewer than 500 cases produced, this is a must-have for any Petite fan.

~Richard

#4

\$45.00

TOP 100 WINES

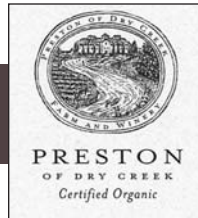


2008 ALTA MARIA PINOT NOIR

Long-time friends James Ontiveros and Paul Wilkins have been everywhere – done everything, but all roads lead to Alta Maria. The artwork for Alta Maria Vineyards features hand hewn iron nails and reflects their shared affinity for the honest authenticity of the Santa Maria Valley. This Pinot Noir exhibits earthy, spicy notes and forest floor characteristics. Burgundian in style, the wine is loaded with complex aromatics of cinnamon, potpourri, dried roses, sandalwood and smoke. One reviewer wrote it's 'like 400 thread count silk sheets'. Silk sheets & iron nails – what a combo!

#5

~Deanna  
**\$25.99**

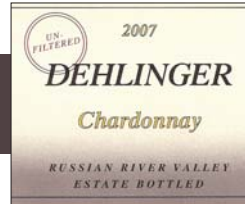


2008 L PRESTON

A farmer's name is his trademark and promise; stenciled on his fruit boxes, on barrels, on equipment. 'L. Preston' is Lou Preston's stencil, trademark and promise. This Rhône-style blend of 56% Syrah, 18% Mourvèdre, 18% Carignane and 8% Cinsault is a salute to early field blends; it achieves balance and breadth of flavor by combining different estate-grown grapes from a singular terroir. Packed with aromas and flavors of Asian spice, ripe plums, brown sugar, meat and rich earth. Think fusion France/Sonoma and enjoy every rich delicious glass of Lou's promise.

#6

~Deanna  
**\$17.99**



2007 DEHLINGER CHARDONNAY

Composed primarily of the old Wente Chardonnay clone which produces small clusters and berries and has notable minerality with an almost oily viscosity, this Estate Chardonnay reveals loads of bright citrus and nectarine notes intermixed with hints of white currants and pears. It is elegant and medium-bodied with a distinctive minerality. The wine was aged in French oak barrels (one-third new oak) and underwent full malolactic fermentation. Tom Dehlinger is 'consistently consistent,' and his wines are always a delight.

#7

~Deanna  
**\$23.99**

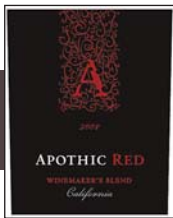


2008 SALDO ZINFANDEL

There is a reason why this wine made #8 on our list this year, and no, it's not because it comes from the same producer as The Prisoner, Papillon and Mercury Head. The Saldo Zinfandel is easily the greatest value of this varietal that we have seen all year. The fruit is ripe and juicy, the spice is evident but balanced, and the finish is long and satisfying. This tidy little package is a perfect expression of what Zinfandel should be and is worth every penny. This is a beautiful wine, a gem hiding in an inconspicuous bottle. This is a bottle you have to taste to believe.

#8

~Josh  
**\$29.91**



2008 APOTHIC RED

Quite possibly the best selling wine at Imbibe for the past two years, the 2008 Apothic Red is a wine that wins over those just starting out and those that are looking for an amazing weeknight wine at an equally amazing price. A blend of Merlot, Zinfandel and Syrah, this wine is loaded with juicy, ripe berry flavors with a touch of chocolate and spice. In the glass, the Apothic starts with a deceptively deep nose and gives way to a rich, sweet palate with a balanced acidity. Pick up a bottle today and see for yourself.

#13

~Josh  
**\$10.99**

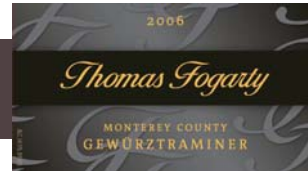


2007 BATON PINOT NOIR

Owner Bill Vyeniolo's been a friend since he was GM at Peter Michael Winery. Baton has been the single best purchase we've made since we opened Imbibe. We've sold 40+ cases and bought the balance of what he had left for our Top 100. Laguna Ridge Vineyard is located in the Sonoma Coast AVA. The 4 acre hillside vineyard just north of Sebastopol produces only 327 cases. We could have sold them all. Great mouthwatering aromas and flavors of sweet raspberries, strawberries, sandalwood spice, vanilla, tea and black cherries. I love this wine and still remember my first bottle: at Pismo Beach before dinner at Giuseppe's Pizzeria.

#14

~David  
**\$34.91**

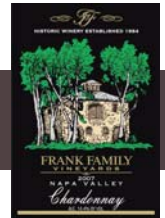


2008 FOGARTY GEWURZTRAMINER

Thomas Fogarty has been producing Gewurztraminer since 1984 using some of the choicest fruit from the cool climate vineyards of Monterey County; the majority of the fruit in this offering comes from the Scheid Viento Vineyard at the base of the Santa Lucia mountain range. For 2008 Thomas Fogarty has brought us a Gewurz that shows just how lovely this grape can be, with a great nose of crushed rose petals, mandarin oranges, apricot and gingerroot. This example is crisp and lively on the palate, with a light structure, balanced acidity and just a touch of sweetness. Enjoy!

#15

~Richard  
**\$12.99**

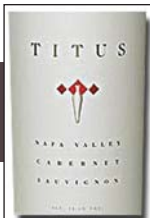


2008 FRANK FAMILY CHARDONNAY

Frank Family produces a world-class Chardonnay year after year from the estate's Lewis Vineyard, located in the heart of Napa-Carneros. This vineyard enjoys a maritime influence from the Pacific, with restricting soils that bring about small, focused clusters of fruit. A personal favorite of mine, with flavors of fresh pineapple, citrus blossom and roasted hazelnuts. The wine exhibits the wonderful textures and flavors from an oak program that focuses on finesse as opposed to power, giving you that buttery-rich California Chardonnay that you love without hiding the brilliance of the fruit.

#16

~Richard  
**\$27.91**



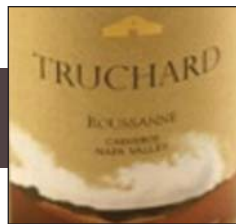
2007 TITUS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Located among 40 acres of historic vineyards in Napa Valley along the Silverado Trail is a winery that has been producing amazing reds for the past 40 years. These guys have been a well kept secret, but we've found them out and we're happy to finally be bringing their wines to Imbibe. In the glass, black cherry, dusty earth and oak spice lead the way, while velvet tannins and a juicy acidity follow. The finish is long and sweet, like brown sugar, blueberries and plum. This is a Cab that drinks well now, but will also age for the next 5 to 10 years.

~Josh

#9

\$34.99



2009 TRUCHARD ROUSSANNE

This white varietal has long been associated with the Northern Rhone, where it's blended with Marsanne to make white Hermitage. In 1998 three acres of Roussanne were planted on the Truchard Estate in Carneros. A challenging grape, it can produce an aromatic and delicate wine with structure and finesse. The elegant nose of ripe peach, pineapple and honeysuckle combines with lychee, brioche and vanilla. The texture is creamy and filled with intense pear, nectarine and Meyer lemon flavors. Bright acidity provides a zesty finish. A delicious new wine experience!

~Deanna

#10

\$21.99



2008 BOGLE PETITE SIRAH

First produced by the Bogle family 32 years ago, in 1978, Petite Sirah is today considered their heritage wine. Trademark qualities shine through in a perfect integration of fruit and oak. Full-bodied on the entry; aromas of black plum jam and toasty oak set the stage for your palate. Vibrant boysenberry and luscious fruit are framed by serious tannins; wisps of leather and vanilla seduce. A final touch of acidity finishes the wine with a precisely balanced mouth feel. The perfect accompaniment to lamb, pork or game with hearty sauces. One of the best price to quality wines in the store.

~Dan

#11

\$10.99



2008 GARNACHA DEL FUEGO

The Garnacha Del Fuego was initially a wine that won us over as an amazing value in high quality imports, and as time went on, we found that this lovely drink had developed a following. At just under ten dollars a bottle, many of our regulars started buying this by the six and twelve pack; we could hardly keep it in stock. This wine is loaded with black raspberry, black pepper and a touch of char. The moderate tannins and acid make this a wine perfect with or without food. Be sure to pick up a few bottles and you'll soon see what all the commotion is about.

~Josh

#12

\$8.99

BROADSIDE

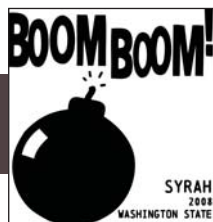
2008 BROADSIDE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

I'm very happy Broadside is making a repeat appearance on our Top 100. The 2008 vintage is 97% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petite Verdot. Winemakers Chris Brockway and Brian Terrizzi have crafted a natural wine without added yeasts, bacteria, or acid during fermentation; aging takes place in 100% French oak barrels, only 2% of which are new. The expression of the Cabernet grape shines through with black currant, red and black berry and plum aromas. The wine is balanced with flavors of berries, spice, talc and minerals. It's a great value and one of my personal favorites!

~Deanna

#17

\$17.91



2009 BOOM BOOM SYRAH

This wine delivers exactly what the label suggests - it's explosive! In the glass the wine is a dense, dark purple with thick, staining legs. As you smell and taste the juice you get meaty dark fruits, Asian five-spice, and sweet pipe tobacco. While the wine is intense the texture is plush, with velvety tannins and balanced, soft acidity. At Food & Wine's 2009 American Wine Awards, Charles Smith was recognized as Winemaker of the Year for his efforts with Syrah grown in the state of Washington. This wine is friendly, approachable and will knock your socks off.

~Richard

#18

\$16.99



COSSART GORDON RAINWATER MADEIRA

Cossart Gordon & Co. is the oldest company in the Madeira wine trade, established some 250 years ago. Then and now they produce some of the greatest fortified wines in the world. In the glass you see light amber hues with golden reflections. The bouquet is of dried fruits, orange peel, brown sugar and baking spices. The flavors and slight sweetness are balanced with a firm citrus backbone and a long finish. Madeira is a unique and versatile wine, you can have this one on the rocks as an aperitif or serve lightly chilled with dessert. Delicious!

~Richard

#19

\$17.99



2007 ORTMAN PINOT NOIR

This Pinot Noir hails from what is considered quite possibly the best vineyard site in the entire Santa Rita Hills appellation. The site is especially perfect for the Pinot Noir grape; cool ocean breezes in the morning and warm afternoon heat make for ideal ripening conditions. With 2007 a good vintage to begin with, all the pieces were ideal for making outstanding Pinot Noir. The aromas show notes of cherry, cola and bacon fat, each a sign of great things to come. On the palate the fruit is subtly sweet but balanced well with a touch of spice and a firm mineral quality.

~Josh

#20

\$21.99

# WINE BAR

## THE WINES OF CHARLES SMITH JANUARY 13 & 14

2007 Heart Syrah  
98 pts Wine Advocate

2007 Old Bones Syrah  
99 pts Wine Advocate

2007 Skull Syrah  
98 pts Wine Advocate

2007 K Syrah Phil Lane  
96 pts Wine Advocate

2007 Ovide  
93 pts Wine Advocate

2007 The Boy  
93 pts Wine Advocate

# WINE BAR

## LOOKING BACK AT 2001 CABERNET JANUARY 27 & 28

Clark Claudon  
92 pts Wine Spectator

Egelhoff

Shafer Hillside  
99 pts Wine Advocate

Heitz Marthas Vineyard

Karl Lawrence  
Premier Napa Lot 92  
91 pts Wine Advocate

Revana  
91 pts Wine Spectator

# WINE BAR

## THE BEST OF 2007 MERITAGE FEBRUARY 3, 4 & 5

Opus One  
95 pts Wine Advocate

Justin Isosceles

Dominus  
98 pts Wine Advocate

Flora Springs Trilogy  
93 pts Wine Advocate

Robert Craig Affinity  
95 pts Wine Advocate

Quintessa  
95 pts Wine Enthusiast

### 2009 MORGAN SAUVIGNON BLANC



If you know me, you know Sauvignon Blanc is my first choice for white wine; this wine is made the way I think all great Sauvignon Blanc is made, using the Musque clone and some Semillon added for richness and depth.

This wine is intensely aromatic with citrus and tropical fruit. What makes this wine special is its blend of fruit from the cooler Arroyo Seco and the warmer San Lucas AVA's, resulting in balanced flavors and intensity. Aromas of pink grapefruit, lemon-lime, ginger and limestone with flavors of lime, tropical fruit and gooseberry. This is a great match with shellfish, seafood, and Asian fusion cuisine that has a touch of spicy heat. You could easily spend in the high teens to find a Sauvignon Blanc this enjoyable, but with Morgan, all this is only \$12.99

~David

#21

\$12.99

### 2005 CHATEAU JOANIN BECOT



As most of you know, the 2005 vintage for Bordeaux was one of the finest on record. This wine made our list last year and again this year. We found this wine at one of our favorite importers warehouse and we bought all that he had. Robert Parker says "A sleeper of the vintage, and unquestionably one of the finest wines I have ever tasted from the Cotes de Castillon" 92/100 WA.

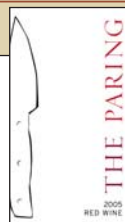
This is a blend of 75% Merlot with the balance being Cabernet Franc. What makes this wine are the facts that it is from 34 year old vines and from a great vintage with a very attractive price. The wine shows very deep color and offers up scents of graphite, blueberries, blackberries and a hint of toasty oak. This is one of the best buys at Imbibe in the Bordeaux section.

~David

#22

\$34.99

### 2005 THE PARING RED BLEND



From the mind of the cult wine producer of Screaming Eagle comes a red wine for the rest of us. For those of you that don't know, Screaming Eagle is one of the those wines that is impossible to find, and its even harder to join their mailing list. With this particular bottling, all the fruit comes from vineyards in the Santa Ynez Valley and make for a very pleasant glass of wine. Made of 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, and 6% Petite Verdot, this vintage shows deep cherry, high minerality and a full concentration that displays great balance and is made for drinking now. This is one of those bottles that comes along every once in a while and knocks your socks off. Pick up a few bottles because once folks get a taste of this one, it will fly out the door.

~Josh

#23

\$24.99

### 2009 THE PRISONER



This perennial favorite has once again made our Top 100 list. A great example of what a master blender like David Phinney can accomplish. The 2009 has a slightly different blend than the last vintage, which only adds to the wine's appeal. The front of the wine is soft and almost immediately begins evolving into the broad mid-palate. The mid has weight, length and structure. The acids were great in 2009 and provide an essential rounding effect to the "big fruit" inherent in the wine. Great color: deep, dark garnet with a clean and bright red band in the rim. The aromas take a minute to come up, then take off into a blend of ripe berry and cherry with just a hint of new oak. The finish is long and filled with ripe, soft tannins. The 2009 has much the same tannin structure of the 2004, which is a personal favorite.

~Dan

#24

\$34.91

# WINE BAR

## THE BEST OF SYRAH FEBRUARY 10 & 11

2008 Saxum  
Broken Stone  
94 pts Wine Advocate

2006 Alban Reva  
100 pts Wine Advocate

2008 Denner

2006 O' Shaughnessy

2007 Araujo  
91 pts Wine Advocate

2007 DuMOL  
Russian River  
90 pts Wine Spectator

# WINE BAR

## LOOKING BACK AT THE 2003 VINTAGE FEBRUARY 17 & 18

Shafer Hillside  
95 pts Wine Advocate

Beau Vigne  
93 pts Wine Advocate

Harlan  
95 pts Wine Advocate

Karl Lawrence

Karl Lawrence Dr  
Crane

Sloan  
96 pts Wine Advocate

# WINE BAR

## LOOKING BACK AT THE 2004 VINTAGE FEBRUARY 24 & 25

Araujo Cabernet  
94 pts Wine Spectator

D.R. Stephens  
96 pts Wine Spectator

Spence

Karl Lawrence

Bressler

Detert

### 2007 BARREL 27 GRENACHE



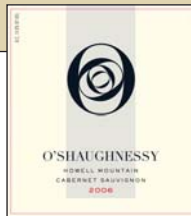
Last year we brought you the Right Hand Man Syrah from this winery and this year we are happy to deliver A Rock & a Hard Place Grenache. Marking the second vintage that Barrel 27 has produced a Grenache and the interpretation warrants attention. Robert Parker says: "a pretty Grenache offering textbook aromas of kirsch, raspberry, and pepper packaged in a medium-bodied, fruit-forward, spicy and surprisingly complex style." This wine walks the line between new and old world styles. It exhibits the meaty, peppery, earth notes of the old world, while showing off the ripe qualities found in California. Winemakers Russell From of Herman Story and Mac Myers of McPrice Myers collaborate on this label, and year after year they offer us wines that over-deliver.

~Richard

#25

\$16.99

### 2006 O'SHAUGHNESSY CABERNET SAUVIGNON HOWELL



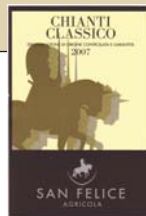
Many of you have tasted the wines of O'Shaughnessy, and some of you met Betty & Paul when they came to town for our Mt. Veeder dinner at BCC. I first met Betty in 2004 at her winery, and I knew Betty's place was the real deal and her commitment to making the finest wines possible was solid. O'Shaughnessy's 2006 Howell Mountain Cabernet is as fine as any 2006 Cab that we tasted. It has a core of sweet blackberry liqueur, chocolate, blueberry, allspice and cream de cassis all in one glass. This wine avoids the rustic tannins of this vintage and exhibits the sweetness and purity of fruit so common in the 2007 vintage. Parker says, "This is one of the superstar estates on Howell Mountain". Sean Capioux is the winemaker at O'Shaughnessy; he's one of the best in Napa Valley. Look for Capioux Pinot Noir at Imbibe as well.

~David

#26

\$69.99

### 2007 SAN FELICE CHIANTI CLASSICO



Chianti is the "red Italian wine" produced in Tuscany. We can all remember the traditionally shaped bottle, wrapped in straw. Fortunately or not the bottle is disappearing; the wine has gotten decidedly better. True Chianti Classico must follow a prescribed recipe of allowable grapes. The current requirements stipulate that at least 80% of the grapes in a Classico must be Sangiovese. This San Felice is a relaxed, easy going wine; elegant and rounded; medium bodied, youthful and fruity; a wonderful expression of Sangiovese. A sparkling ruby color, this wine offers complex and long lingering aromas with nuances of dark cherry, raspberry and sweet violets. You could call Chianti a very democratic Italian wine, it is just at home for everyday meals, as it is for the most splendid of banquets.

~Dan

#27

\$13.99

### 2008 TERRA NOBLE CARMENERE



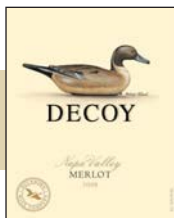
We at Imbibe have long told you that South America produces some of the finest wines for the money in the entire world. Most often we tell you about Malbec (of which a few are on our list for 2011). Another Noble grape from South America is Carmener. Terra Noble Carmener (Chile) first made our list two years ago and it's back for 2011. I find very few wines from Chile worth drinking but this is certainly one exception. Carmener is a grape that thrives in South America, but struggles to gain acceptance here in America. Still used on occasion in Bordeaux, France to add color and complexity to blends. In Chile this wine fully ripens and takes on layers of dark berry fruit similar to Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot; you'll also pick up smoky, herbal and gamey tones. Definitely worth a try!

~David

#28

\$16.99

2008 DECOY MERLOT



For more than three decades, Duckhorn Vineyards has been crafting exceptional Napa Valley Merlot. Drawing on the experience of their winemakers they have extended the portfolio of a second label, Decoy, to include many single varietal wines. With that we introduce the Decoy Merlot. In the glass you will find a medium-body, ruby hued Merlot, with juicy tastes of red currant, tomato leaf and milk chocolate. Each sip shows great balance and will perform well as a cocktail, without food, or on the dinner table with any meal where you seek a pleasant red.

~Richard

**#29**

**\$19.99**

2008 GASCON RESERVA MALBEC



During the 1940's the Gascón family bottled Argentina's first 100% varietal Malbec. Now Ernesto Catena, a fourth generation winemaker, has brought the wines of Bodegas Escorihuela Gascón to high status in Argentina, and to prominence with critics and connoisseurs throughout the world. Aromas were light, filled with blackberry, dark cherry, plum, damp soil and a hint of pepper. Blackberry, cherry, pepper and mocha lead to a smooth, not overly long finish. This wine is why people are flocking to Argentina; from the States it would be 3x the price. Drink now or cellar for 5-6 years.

~Dan

**#30**

**\$23.99**

2008 SEXTANT ZINFANDEL



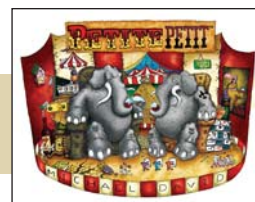
Now this is exactly what you are looking for when your palate is calling for a classically styled Zin. Brought to us by the Stoller family of Bakersfield, this is an easy go-to for the person who enjoys having a glass or two on a regular basis. This Zin leads with notes of raspberry & strawberry jam, and when the spices begin to unfold it shows anise, baking spices and black pepper throughout the palate. The silky tannins and lingering sweet notes make for a long polished finish that leaves you looking for another sip.

~Richard

**#31**

**\$14.99**

2008 MICHAEL DAVID PETITE-PETIT



From its beginning, the Lodi-Woodbridge region has been highly respected for grape-growing. Now, fifth generation Lodi wine growers Michael and David Phillips are bringing their sense of history, creativity and humor to you through their wines. Like the elephants on the label, this Petite-Petit (85% Petite Sirah and 15% Petit Verdot) is large! The wine is dark purple and opens with inviting aromas of violets and plums. On the palate, taste jammy black currant flavors with notes of dry blackberries and vanilla. While silky and smooth on the finish, this wine packs a punch of flavor.

~Deanna

**#32**

**\$14.99**

2008 CONCANNON CHARDONNAY



A delightfully creamy, buttery Chardonnay; bright gold in the glass, a rich color that hints at things to come. On the nose are great notes of cheese and straw. Kind of a "barnyard" thing that is normally attributed to Sauvignon Blanc, but much, much more muted. On the palate, the wine really does taste buttery but there is a pleasantly tart apple note, too. Aged in French and American oak barrels, the dry palate presents with medium acidity and flavors of melon, citrus, mineral and noticeable, but well integrated oak. Pairs beautifully with shellfish especially a crab salad.

~Dan

**#37**

**\$12.99**

2009 MORGAN COTE DU CROW'S



Morgan has always been one of my favorite wineries – across the board the wines are outstanding values, true to varietal character and very food friendly. Morgan Cotes du Crow's is a blend of 55% Syrah and 45% Grenache from vineyards in central and southern Monterey County. This Rhone-style blend has a rich ruby red color, highlighted with purple edges. Black cherry, blackberry pie, leather and spicy aromas jump out of the glass. The wine is medium-bodied with soft tannins. It offers a mouthful of red berry and cherry, along with sweet spice, red currant and a bit of toasty oak.

~Deanna

**#38**

**\$13.99**

2008 CAN BLAU



Here at Imbibe we see this wine as a perennial favorite; we taste this wine and every year we find that it over-delivers when stacked against its peers. The 2008 Can Blau is a blend of Carinena, Syrah and Garnacha from Montsant where Spain continues to produce tremendous values for wine-lovers. Dark ruby-colored, it reveals a compelling bouquet of mineral, smoke, spice box, black cherry and plum. Sweet and smooth-textured on the palate, this medium to full-bodied effort has excellent depth, concentration and length. Consider this a must try if you haven't in the past.

~Richard

**#39**

**\$16.91**

2007 LAS ROCAS GRENACHE VV



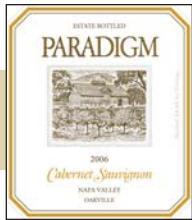
Well there you go, back to back Spanish values. This one has received accolades from some of the most significant wine critics in the world, including Robert Parker who rates this wine at 90 points. The 2007 Las Rocas Garnacha is sourced from Calatayud vineyards ranging in age from 70 to 100 years. It shows a dark ruby color, while delivering alluring aromas of spice box, mineral, cherry and black raspberry. Layered on the palate, it has superb depth, succulent flavors and a pure, lengthy finish. This selection is a crowd pleaser & always shows well when we pour it.

~Richard

**#40**

**\$17.99**

2006 PARADIGM CABERNET SAUVIGNON



The Paradigm winery, which is located in the Oakville appellation of Napa Valley, has made a name for itself by hand-crafting small quantities of estate bottled wines. From the first smell this wine is open and enticing. Beautiful aromas of ripe berries and toasty spicy oak. Soft and silky across the palate with classic Paradigm finesse. Flavors are of ripe black cherry, blackberry, cedar and sweet vanilla. Rich and lush in the mouth with lots of flavor and elegance. The wine is very enjoyable right now and will last 10 years or more.

~Dan

#33

\$59.99

2008 HEY MAMBO SULTRY RED



“Hey Mambo” – so what’s in a name? Well for starters: five different grapes are blended into this tasty approachable red. It’s been called a Bistro Style wine, which suggests friends gathered having fun and not being fussy about what’s in the bottle. This is a delicious, dry soft red wine, with flavors of blackberries, cherries and cocoa. The aromas are of sweet leather, chocolate ganache, raspberries and spicy clove.

This is no “serious wine” but a satiny sipper, perfect for that bistro-style meal.

~Dan

#34

\$9.99

2005 CHATEAU CLIMENS SAUTERNE



I know what you’re thinking: how can a Top 100 wine come from land whose name translates as “infertile, poor land”. Well I’m here to tell you, great wine can be made from seemingly nothing. When poured into a glass, the wine is viscous, rich and golden like honey. The nose offers up notes of candied pineapple, overripe peach and orange syrup. On the tongue, the sweetness hits first and coats the mouth, then the bright acidity follows and refreshes the palate, lending balance to this perfect dessert wine. And like many fine things in life, a little goes a long way.

~Josh

#35

375ML \$79.99

2008 JAM CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Proprietors John and Michele crafted this 98% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Petite Verdot blend to drink like a \$40 bottle of wine. This is a luscious fruit forward Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon with aromas of ripe plums, black cherry and black currant with a hint of chocolate. The mouth feel is velvety with ripe black cherry and wild berry fruit finishing with supple spicy plum flavors. The wine was aged in a combination of French and American barrels which adds complexity of texture, aroma and flavor. This is one of our best selling Cabernets and a perennial staff favorite.

~Deanna

#36

\$24.91

2009 BORSAO GARNACHA



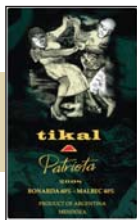
Founded in 1958 in the town of Borja, which was called Borsao in the 4th century B.C., this winery represents what can be done with Garnacha (Grenache), one of the world’s most widely planted grapes. This fruity wine has an ultra fragrant nose, filled with spicy aromas of freshly cracked black pepper and clove, dried figs, warm oak, and just a hint of black olives. And oh what a mouthful: dried cherries, cassis and oak dominate the palate. Its got a pleasant bite to it, and notes of cinnamon and dark cocoa that sweep you away to its bone dry charred oak finish.

~Deanna

#41

\$7.99

2009 TIKAL PATRIOTA



The Catena Family has proven Argentina is capable of producing wines to compete with the world’s best. This unusual blend from two of Argentina’s symbolic grape varieties, Bonarda (60%) & Malbec (40%) offers a bouquet of cigar box, Asian spice, lavender, black cherry and plum. The palate is full-bodied and dense with luscious berry and dark cherry fruit, complemented by layers of sweet tobacco, cocoa dust and baking spices. The powerful finish is long with crushed minerals and lush fruit. Awarded 92 points by Robert Parker with the warning ‘only hedonists need apply’; my warning, ‘enter at your own risk.’

~Deanna

#42

\$20.99

2010 ANCIENT PEAKS SAUVIGNON BLANC



A classic California Sauvignon Blanc that opens with lively aromas of lime zest and cut grass. The palate is bright and crisp, offering focused flavors of grapefruit and pear with enticing mineral accents. Brisk natural acidity carries it to a clean, quenching finish. We got the chance to host Paso winemaking veteran Mike Sinor in 2010 and as he poured both the Ancient Peaks and his own Sinor-LaValle label for us it became clear that this Sauvignon Blanc represented an incredible value from the Central Coast. Try it now and you will find yourself returning to this one all year long.

~Richard

#43

\$9.99

2007 BATON CHARDONNAY



This spectacular Chardonnay is produced in a Burgundian style, and from what is considered the lone Grand Cru vineyard in California. This multifaceted Chardonnay reveals incredible purity, along with impressions of sweet tropical fruit that linger long after your glass is empty. This wine shines with food, delivering full-bodied textures that are cut and cleaned by a mineral driven, zesty acidity. Robert Parker awarded this Chardonnay 92 points and I am happy to say that it is even better than that. This wine is great now and will continue to reach for its peak over the next 3 to 5 years.

~Richard

#44

\$31.91

# WINE BAR

## THE BEST OF GRENACHE MARCH 3 & 4

2008 Saxum  
James Berry Vineyard  
*98 pts Wine Advocate*

2007 Torrin Maven  
*91 pts Wine Advocate*

2006 Keplinger  
Red Slope  
*91 pts Wine Advocate*

2007 K Vintners  
The Boy

2008 Alban  
*94 pts Wine Advocate*

# WINE BAR

## THE BEST OF 2007 CABERNET I MARCH 10 & 11

Revana  
*97 pts Wine Spectator*

Paul Hobbs Beckstoffer  
*98+ pts Wine Advocate*

Chappellet Prichard Hill  
*96 pts Wine Advocate*

Lail J Daniel Cuvee  
*96 pts Wine Advocate*

Casa Piena

Hourglass  
*95 pts Wine Advocate*

# WINE BAR

## THE BEST OF 2007 PINOT NOIR MARCH 17 & 18

Calera Ryan Vineyard  
*93/100 W/A*

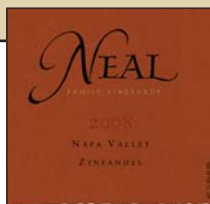
Foxen Sea Smoke  
*94/100 W/A*

Littorai Les Larmes

Hirsh Vineyards  
San Andreas

Siduri Amber Ridge  
*92/100 W/S*

Sinor La Valle  
Aubaine Vineyard



2008 NEAL FAMILY ZINFANDEL

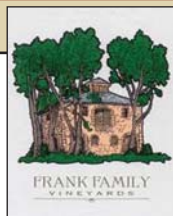
This Zinfandel is a very impressive offering from Neal Family. Mark Neal of Neal Family has been producing wonderful Zinfandel since 2002. This Zinfandel is produced from 100% organically farmed grapes and is very true to character with aromas of raspberry liqueur, pomegranate and hints of pepper. When you think about it there are few great Zinfandels from Napa Valley; most come from Sonoma, Paso Robles or Lodi. This special Rutherford vineyard was first planted in 1971 by Mark's father and had to be replanted at the end of the 2004 harvest. This is the first bottling from the new plantings. Wow! what a wine. A small percentage of Petite Sirah has been planted in the vineyard to add more depth and complexity. Only 1,750 cases for the world and only at Imbibe.

~David

#45

\$23.91

#46



2008 FRANK FAMILY ZINFANDEL

Not a whole lot needs to be said of Frank Family Vineyards, and even less is needed to explain why they have been in the Top 100 for the past two consecutive years. The Frank Family Zinfandel is simply an explosion of flavor, rich, jammy blackberries, dusty graham cracker and spicy black pepper. A full-bodied mouthfeel makes way for an endless finish and a gripping acidity. When you are looking for your next special treat, the Frank Family Zinfandel is one to seek out. If you're in the mood for a wine with a touch lighter hue, be sure to check out #16 on the list, a Chardonnay to rival almost any in California, the 2008 Frank Family Chardonnay. In either case, you will not be disappointed.

~Josh

\$45.00

#47



N.V. BROADBENT VINHO VERDE

The Broadbent name has been synonymous with fine wine for more than four decades beginning with the career of British wine critic and writer Michael Broadbent; it continues with his son, importer Bartholomew Broadbent, whose roots in Portugal inspired him to create his own table wines. His vision was to produce the most reliable and traditional Vinho Verde (Green Wine) to resolve the usual 'whine' that in the US it doesn't taste like it tastes in Portugal. The natural acidity of this deliciously refreshing Vinho Verde is youthful, fresh and light with lemon zest and citrus blossom aromas. The trademark fizz comes from the release of carbon dioxide during malolactic fermentation; made from local grape varieties Loureiro, Pederna and Trajadura. Enjoy this authentic taste of Portugal!

~Deanna

\$9.99

2008 ST. AMANT TOURIGA



Most folks wouldn't know this varietal by its name, but I'm sure everyone's tasted some without even knowing it. The Touriga Nacional grape is most commonly used as a blending grape for many of the finest Ports. Though not necessarily offering the exact same flavor profile, the Touriga grape has many similar characteristics to the Cabernet Sauvignon grape. Both are used to provide structure and body to wine and generally have high tannins and concentrated black fruit flavors. Though rarely seen on its own, this wine displays a perfect balance with dark cherry, chocolate and notes of spice box. The body of the wine is nice and rich with a lush acidity perfect for pairing with food. Pick up a bottle today and enjoy!

~Josh

#48

\$17.99

# WINE BAR

## BEST OF 2007 CABERNET II

MARCH 24 & 25

**Altamura**  
96 pts Wine Advocate

**Araujo**  
92 pts Wine Advocate

**Far Niente**  
93 pts Wine Advocate

**O' Shaughnessy Mt. Veeder**  
96 pts Wine Advocate

**Flora Springs Out of Sight**  
93 pts Wine Advocate

**Corra**  
95 pts Wine Advocate

# WINE BAR

## THE WINES OF ARAUJO

MARCH 31 & APRIL 1

**2007 Cabernet**  
92 pts Wine Advocate

**2006 Cabernet**  
92 pts Wine Advocate

**2007 Syrah**

# WINE BAR

## THE WINES OF DUNN VINEYARDS

APRIL 8 & 9

**2002 Dunn Howell Mtn**  
91-93 pts Wine Advocate

**2003 Dunn Howell Mtn**  
92-94 pts Wine Advocate

**2004 Dunn Howell Mtn**  
94+ pts Wine Advocate

**2002 Dunn Napa**

**2003 Dunn Napa**

**2004 Dunn Napa**  
94+ pts International Wine Cellar

### 2009 THREE PEARS PINOT GRIS



I think the great minds behind the Three Pears Pinot Gris hit the nail on the head when they were coming up with a perfect name for their offering. Loaded with pear and complemented by syrupy fruit cocktail and lime, this is the perfect wine to start out an evening. From the moment your nose gets near the glass, the smell of honeyed bright fruit makes your muscles start to relax, and by the time the first, crisp sip is gone, you've forgotten the cares of the day. My favorite thing about this wine though is how its rich nose and mouthfeel are balanced with a zippy acidity that leads to a nice, long finish and makes me look forward to the drinks to come. This is definitely one to try out with a light fish dish or white sauced pasta. Great by the glass, better by the bottle.

~Josh

### 2007 BRITTAN PINOT NOIR BASALT BLOCK



The 2008 vintage in Oregon is the finest in history and we are very pleased to offer you this wine made by friends Robert and Ellen Brittan. Robert & Ellen moved to McMinnville in 2004 after purchasing a 128 acre site with only nine acres of vines. Robert went to college in Oregon then made wines at Stag's Leap Winery for 16 years. Ellen worked for Leslie Rudd and helped market Dean and Deluca, Distillery No. 209, Press Restaurant and Oakville Grocery in Napa. This 2008 bottling is the third release from Brittan and their finest yet. The combination of lower sugar levels and relatively minimal exposure to new oak give the wine a classically Burgundian quality. You'll enjoy the red fruit flavors of black cherry and ripe plums with underlying cassis and allspice. Elegant with a long satisfying finish.

~David

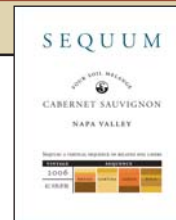
### 2008 LA POSTA COCINA BLEND



We at Imbibe agree with the experts that Argentina is the next rockstar in the wine industry, and this wine helps prove our point. Made from 60% Malbec, 20% Syrah and 20% Bonarda, this little "kitchen blend" shows like a wine in triple its price range. Like the French, Spanish and Italians, the Argentineans make the majority of their wine to sit on the dinner table; this lovely bottle is no different. This tidy little blend pairs perfectly with grilled meat, red pasta sauces or almost any hearty dish. Loaded with a brilliant spice, dusty cocoa powder and rich, dark cassis, this blend pairs perfectly with anything from barbecue to pasta dishes and everything in between. For those looking for a little something different, try a bottle of this red and you'll see why blends are getting to be so popular. Give Argentina a try!

~Josh

### 2007 SEQUUM CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Well, let's start with the fact we picked this wine as #1 last year. This wine has gotten quite a following in the short time since we have brought it to Bakersfield. Owner Paul Skinner is the premiere consulting geologist in Napa Valley, with clients like Pride, Bryant Family, Marcassin, Caymus, Colgin, Araujo and Kistler. You quickly realize this guy knows a thing or two about vineyards and grapes. One thing I know is it takes great grapes to make great wine - no winemaker can make a great wine with average grapes. This 100% Cabernet Sauvignon has aromas of ripe blackberry, kirsch and raspberry; flavors of lush dried cherry and currant and nuances of vanilla and hazelnut from new French oak. You can spend a lot more money to get a lot less wine than this offering.

~David

**#49**

**\$10.99**

**#50**

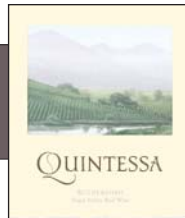
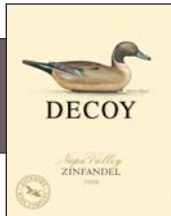
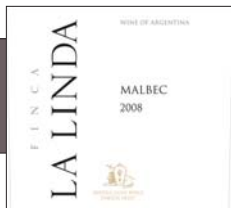
**\$44.99**

**#51**

**\$13.99**

**#52**

**\$39.91**



2008 LA LINDA MABEC

We've been fans of Argentine Malbec for quite a long time. For one thing, most Malbecs from South America are unbelievable deals, many selling for less than ten dollars a bottle. We've also found that these Malbecs tend to be very smooth and approachable without lacking in flavor, boldness or complexity. This year, the 2008 La Linda Malbec was one that impressed our entire tasting panel. This tasty glass starts with a nose of dried rose petals, plum and cocoa powder and has a palate that offers up a smoky char, black cherry, and brown sugar. The acidity is nice, a great match with red meat, and the tannins end up being rich and soft without being overbearing. At this price you can easily pick up a few bottles for your next party without breaking the bank. Try it today!

~Josh

2008 DECOY ZINFANDEL

Greets you with a pleasant nose that doesn't disappoint once the wine passes your lips. The light spices and subtle - yet present - accents of cedar and raspberry round out this glass of wine nicely. Sourced largely from the same area as their far more expensive Paraduxx Zinfandel. Paraduxx has been crafting world class red blends using Napa Valley Zinfandel since 1994. This 2008 Decoy shows concentration and complexity, highlighting classic Zinfandel elements of raspberry, strawberry jam, white pepper, cedar and spice. Shows notable flavors and great structure. It has soft tannins and refreshing acidity and is entirely dry with moderate alcohol. Flavors include raspberry jam, cherry-vanilla cream, cinnamon and white pepper. The 2008 Decoy offers an incredible value for the wine buying dollar. Drinks like a \$75 Zin.

~Dan

2007 QUINTESSA

Many of you have heard about Quintessa. I've been aware of and always liked the wine, but it hasn't been what I, and many others, thought it could be. That was until 2007, when winemaker Charles Thomas, who in my opinion is the finest winemaker in America, joined the team after working at Rudd Estate for years. Charles made this wine from start to finish and it shows. Sweet with inviting aromas of black fruit and a touch of mocha, licorice and vanilla spice. The way this wine coats your mouth is what really makes it special. This wine drinks well now but will only improve with time. An extraordinary wine that I believe in. Look for their white wine on our list; the highest scoring white wine of 2011. I first told you about this wine in an e-mail in June 2010; since then Wine Enthusiast scored it 95/100.

2007 BOGLE PHANTOM

I'm not sure how the fine folks at Bogle keep pumping out outstanding wines at the prices they do. This year's flagship wine from Bogle named Phantom is the best we have tasted. Every year this wine is in the running for our Top 100 and reviewed by the critics as a best buy. The 2007 is a blend of three unique varietals that come together with lush berry and spice flavors. A vivid bouquet of black pepper, dark fruit and juniper, with loads of black and blueberry flavors and hints of cinnamon and nutmeg that linger on the finish. Drinks great now and will age nicely over the next few years. You will not find a wine with this much stuffing for so little money. If you wonder what the blend is, it's Petite Sirah, Zinfandel and Mourvedre. This is a very friendly wine with lots of enjoyment packed in every bottle.

~David

#53

\$9.99

#54

\$19.99

#55

\$109.99

#56

\$17.99

# SATURDAY, JAN

## TOP 100 WINE TASTING



**Bacon-Wrapped Dates**  
stuffed with cambozola

**Grilled Shrimp**  
lemon aioli

**Tuscan Mushrooms**  
roasted red peppers,  
olives and parmesan

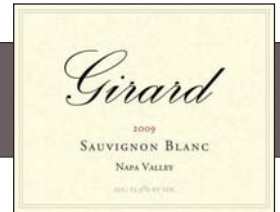
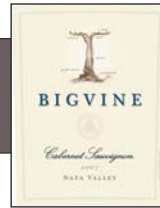
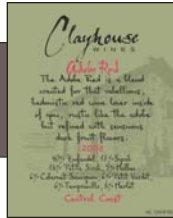
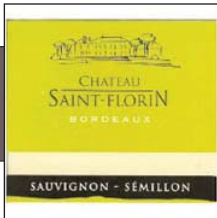
**Seabass Ceviche Tostaditas**  
lime, onion, jalapeno, guacamole

**Moorish Pork Kabobs**  
oregano, cumin, coriander,  
paprika, cinnamon, garlic

**Rare Beef Crostini**  
olive tapenade, seared greens,  
reduced balsamic

**House-Cured Gravlax Crisps**  
creme fraiche and dill

**Belgian Endive**  
goat cheese, apples and pistachios



2009 CHATEAU ST. FLORIN

Château Saint-Florin is located in Soussac, on the eastern part of the Entre-Deux-Mers region. The 80-hectare estate has belonged to the Jolivet family for four generations. The dynamic and innovative Jean-Marc and Catherine took over management of the property in 1981 and are personally involved in each stage of the winemaking – from viticulture to final bottling. In 2004, the Jolivets were one of the first Bordeaux estates to introduce screw caps. This classic Bordeaux-styled white is a blend of 60% Sauvignon Blanc and 40% Semillon. The aromas are of fresh peeled citrus skin, honeysuckle and lemon. The flavors are crisp and fresh with a zesty acidity reminiscent of Meyer lemon, tart pineapple and wet stones. This is a lip-smackingly delicious white!

~Deanna

2008 CLAYHOUSE ADOBE RED

The Clayhouse brand celebrates the 150 year old adobe structure which has been carefully restored; it is the ideal symbol of the vineyard and winery just east of Paso Robles. ‘Adobe Red’ is making a repeat appearance this year; although the vintage and blend are slightly different, the end product offers even more ripe fruit flavors and rich spicy notes. ‘Adobe Red’ is a fun and tasty Zinfandel-based blend of 44% Zinfandel, 30% Petite Sirah, 15% Syrah, 5% Malbec, 4% Grenache and 2% Mourvedre. This version is packed with strawberry, blackberry and boysenberry flavors and loaded with spicy notes of cinnamon, vanilla bean, earth and clove. The tannins are supple and the balanced oak character adds additional vanilla notes. Back and better than ever!

~Deanna

2007 BIG VINE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

2007 vintage, Napa Valley fruit and under \$20? A very good start! These three things don’t come together very often; when they did we picked up on it and committed to many cases of Big Vine Cabernet. Drink this Napa Cabernet and enjoy its youthful exuberance. All the components of a \$40 Cabernet; aromas and flavors of black cherry liqueur, cassis, new oak (vanilla) and a hint of forest floor. You can enjoy this wine relaxing with friends and/or with a nice seasoned steak. The Imbibe team is always looking for wines that over deliver and this is very high on the “Over-Delivers-Meter”. Here’s some inside information - there is no Big Vine Winery. They go out, find great juice and put it in the bottle. No winery to maintain keeps the price down.

~David

2009 GIRARD SAUVIGNON BLANC

The primary fruit source for this wine is the Girard estate vineyard on the north side of St. Helena; fruit is also sourced from the highly-respected Crocker vineyard and the acclaimed Morgan Ranch at the base of Mt. Vaca. All three vineyards provide warm days and cool nights, combined with dense clay alluvial soils – excellent growing environments for Sauvignon Blanc. This is a very clean, fresh and crisp Loire-style Sauvignon Blanc; lush aromas of citrus zest, pineapple and guava on the nose, while the palate exhibits fresh-cut grapefruit, Meyer lemon, lemongrass and peach. A dry, clean, acidic wine loaded with minerality, it’s a wonderful aperitif wine that pairs well with lighter white fish, green salads and goat cheese.

~Deanna

#57

\$9.99

#58

\$14.99

#59

\$16.99

#60

\$14.99

# JANUARY 22, 2011

\$59 each or 2/\$100 | VIP Entrance +\$25

All guests receive a  
**\$25 DISCOUNT**  
on your first case purchase  
mix or match

## IMBIBE WINE

2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

VIP EARLY ENTRANCE  
LIMITED TO 50 GUESTS  
1:00 P.M.



Reserve soon, tasting attendance is limited.

2009 HONIG SAUVIGNON BLANC



I've been selling Honig Sauvignon Blanc as long as I can remember. Honig has a unique way of making their wine using two different methods of processing the fruit. To preserve the delicate tropical fruit flavors, a portion of the fruit goes directly into the press as whole clusters and the balance of the fruit is destemmed and left in contact with the skins, enhancing the grapefruit and citrus flavors in the wine. The finished wine is perfectly balanced with grapefruit and melon aromas and flavors accented by lime and mango, finishing with a vibrant, crisp lingering finish.

~David

#61

\$13.99

2009 TANGENT SAUVIGNON BLANC



The Paragon Vineyard in the Edna Valley is most likely the oldest Sauvignon Blanc vineyard south of the north Coast. The grapes for this wine are harvested at three different stages of grape ripeness. Each harvest adds a different and unique flavor profile to the combination which ultimately produces this elegant wine. The finished product has tropical flavors of guava, passion fruit, ripe pineapple and a hint of fig. Signature minerality and a vibrant acidity bring it all together. The finish offers a nice touch of zesty lime.

~Dan

#62

\$11.99

2006 SEBASTIANI MERLOT



Most folks know that good Merlot is hard to find, but some folks also know that if it's out there, Imbibe will find it. To that end, I'd like to introduce the 2006 Sebastiani Merlot. The tannins are rich and velvety on the tongue and the finish is so long it lasts from sip to sip. Without being overly sweet, this wine has definable characteristics of dessert, deep milk chocolate, Bing cherry and brown sugar baked fig. This impression of sweetness is balanced by a subtle toast and steely minerality. For a Merlot under \$15, this is one to buy by the case.

~Josh

#63

\$13.99

2009 SEXTANT CHARD CENTRAL COAST



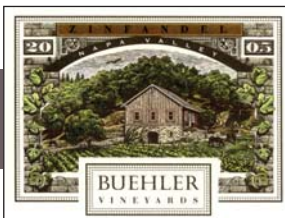
This year two Sextant wines made our Top 100 List. I've known Craig and Nancy for years and the wines coming out of Sextant get better every year. This 2009 Chard comes from the prestigious Santa Lucia Highlands of Monterey County along with their own MacGregor Vineyard in Edna Valley. With only 700 cases for the world this wine will sell out soon. I like that this wine sees mainly stainless steel and some neutral oak, letting the fruit do the talking. Aromas of honeydew, blanched almonds with flavors of citrus and melon. A best buy in Chardonnay!

~David

#64

\$13.99

2009 BUEHLER ZINFANDEL



The core is 37 year old dry farmed Zinfandel from Buehler's Estate Vineyard along with a small amount of Petite Sirah added to the blend. Every year this wine is reviewed as a best buy or best of something and by the time we get around to ordering it's all sold out. This year we have some - but not for long. The wine has a mouth filling, flavorful, juicy package of berry, cherry and spice. Buehler uses some oak here but not so much as to mask the quality of what Zinfandel should taste like. There are no more than a handful of outstanding Zinfandels coming from Napa Valley. This is one worth searching out.

~David

#69

\$17.99

2007 DOMAINE CARNEROS PINOT NOIR



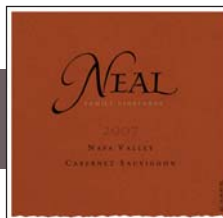
This is one of my favorite wines; and is made by one of my favorite people, Eileen Crane. President and winemaker of Domaine Carneros, Eileen is one of the finest people you'll ever meet. She started winemaking at Domaine Chandon, followed by stints as winemaker and vice president of Gloria Ferrer. This Estate Pinot Noir shows superb qualities of the vintage and organic farming. It is rich with fruit tones of black cherry, raspberry and black currant overlaid with notes of chocolate, toast, clove and exotic spices. Domaine Carneros makes three Pinot Noirs (this being my favorite), and some of the finest sparkling wines in America.

~David

#70

\$24.99

2007 NEAL FAMILY CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Several years ago, Mark Neal's 2001 Cabernet was our Wine of the Year. Mark makes his living farming over a thousand acres of vineyards in the Napa Valley. Mark owns his own vineyards and also purchases grapes from many of the clients that he farms for. This Cab comes from vineyards on Howell Mtn., Atlas Peak, Mt. Veeder and Rutherford. 2007 produced great dark fruit flavors and well balanced wines with beautiful color. This wine is packed with intense fruit aromas and flavors of cherry, blackberry, cassis and sweet oak. A bargain years ago and still a bargain today.

~David

#71

\$44.91

2007 STEVEN KENT CABERNET SAUVIGNON



Steven Kent Winery Cabernet Sauvignon is made from two vineyards in Livermore Valley, by Steven Mirassou. You'll recognize the last name from another popular California wine. The 2007 is light-to-medium red in the glass. Aromas are of bright, sweet black currants that show an alcohol tinge. On the palate, the first sensation is in the mid-mouth of plush, oaked fruit. This is complemented by a mellow, round acid that brings the fruit flavors to the sides of your mouth. Quite light tannins, with the fruit and slight acids bringing you into the next sip.

~Dan

#72

\$29.99

2003 CHATEAU PAVIE



Attention collectors! Whether you have been collecting age-worthy wines for years or you are just starting to build your cellar, this wine is worth a look. 2003 was a warm, ripe year for Bordeaux. You'll find that this wine is accessible now, but it also has everything that it needs to lay down for 40+ years. The estate vineyard is only 92 acres, dominated by Merlot with small lots of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Robert Parker puts this wine at 98+ points saying that the acidity, fruit, tannins and wood are perfectly integrated into a lush, but firm Bordeaux.

~Richard

**#65 \$239.00**

2007 OBERON CABERNET SAUVIGNON

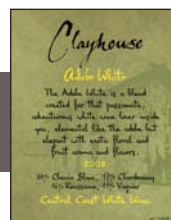


To create Oberon Cabernet, winemaker Tony Coltrin sourced grapes from Napa Valley's finest winegrowing areas, including Rutherford, Atlas Peak, Wooden Valley and Oberon's Oso Vineyard in Pope Valley. 2007 is looking to go down in history as one of the greatest vintages in Napa's history, and as such Imbibe was on the lookout for wines that out-drink their price, and when we tasted this one we jumped right on board. This wine delivers flavors of rich cherry, dark berry and cassis, alongside subtle nuances of toasted vanilla and toffee. You'll enjoy this one!

~Richard

**#66 \$17.99**

2008 CLAYHOUSE ADOBE WHITE

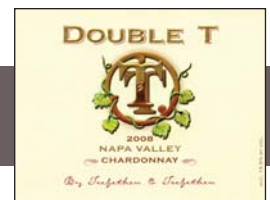


If you're looking for a pleasant weeknight white that will pair with just about anything, look no further than the 2008 Clayhouse Adobe White. This delightful blend is made from Viognier, Sauvignon Blanc, Grenache Blanc, Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, Roussanne, and Princess, a new unclassified grape varietal. You can tell instantly by the nose that this is a cornucopia of fresh fruit flavors. The inviting nose of orange blossom, stone fruit, rose water and the delicate balance of sweet pear, lime and subtle baking spice on the palate, make enjoyment of this wine almost too easy.

~Josh

**#67 \$14.99**

2008 DOUBLE T CHARDONNAY

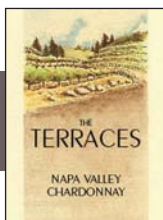


Double T is little sister to Trefethen Chardonnay; it's made with fruit from younger vines and is a little less complex than its world-class sibling while still exhibiting the family charm. The wine greets you with delightful aromas of citrus, peach and nectarine; it shows how Chardonnay can thrive in the heart of Napa Valley. The bright fruit is augmented by judicious use of French oak barrels - lending notes of graham cracker and baking spices while enhancing the full-bodied mouth feel. Enjoy this casually elegant wine with seafood, poultry, pasta or just for sipping.

~Deanna

**#68 \$16.99**

2008 THE TERRACES CHARDONNAY

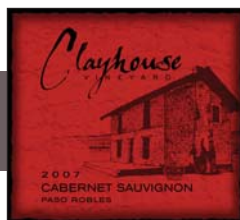


The Crull family is considered a friend of Imbibe and it is a wonderful perk for us that Terraces produces such incredible wines. They have joined us here in Bakersfield for a meet & greet tasting as well as feeding and housing our own while we were traveling wine country. I am a big fan of wine producers that allow the Chardonnay grape to speak for itself by showing restraint on the oak program. The tropical fruit flavors abound in your glass, while notes of whipped butter and creamy textures engulf the palate in a satin finish.

~Richard

**#73 \$24.99**

2007 CLAYHOUSE CABERNET SAUVIGNON

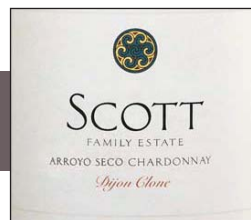


We at Imbibe have long been fans of the wines of Clayhouse. Last year we placed Clayhouse Red on our list; it's still a staple at Imbibe. This year we were also very impressed with their Cabernet Sauvignon. The core of this Cabernet Sauvignon comes from the Red Cedar Vineyard just outside of Paso Robles. The wine has a dusty cassis, chocolate and toasty note in the flavors with aromas of dried herb and some orange zest. Not too often will you come across a Cabernet that is this enjoyable with this kind of balance and richness for this price. This may be the best buy for Cabernet in our store.

~David

**#74 \$12.99**

2009 SCOTT FAMILY CHARDONNAY



The Scott Family Chardonnay has a personal significance in that the winery owners are Bakersfield natives, Marko and Theo Zaninovich. Since 2000, when they took over full ownership, they have been producing high quality Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. With all the fruit sourced from their Arroyo Seco Estate, this wine shows prominent notes of green apple, fresh lemon and a well-integrated baking spice. The bold acidity and rich finish makes this the perfect pairing with cheese sauce dishes and white fish. If you haven't had the Scott Family wines, it's past time to see what you've been missing.

~Josh

**#75 \$18.91**

2007 ADELAIDA SYRAH ANNA'S



Planted in 2001 on a steep hillside on the west side of Paso Robles, this vineyard comprises 18 acres of six defined blocks of high limestone-tolerant Syrah clones. This is only the 2nd release from Anna's Vineyard and the color tells the story of the wine's intensity. It's opaque in color with dense aromatics to match. The clonal selections give the wine its distinct notes of black raspberry, cedar, cigar box and loganberries. The palate reveals flavors of bacon fat, tobacco leaf and Indian cooking spice. One of my favorite wines, it pairs well with a hearty lamb stew.

~Deanna

**#76 \$27.99**

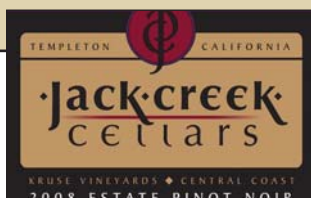
# WINE STORAGE

Cases	Monthly Rate
12	\$24
18	\$36
24	\$48
36	\$72



Controlled for temperature, humidity, vibration and ultraviolet light to create the ideal conditions for storing wine.

2008 JACK CREEK PINOT NOIR



Last year this wine made a lot of noise for us, starting with this list where it held the #4 spot. The nose starts with an earthy spice, and no shortage of the luscious fruit for which these wines are known. Subtle black licorice and rhubarb continue in tangent with sweet, smoked beef jerky and dark plum preserves. The mouth has a supple texture with a full, long finish. Jack Creek Cellars is a small family-owned vineyard and winery, owned by Doug & Sabrina Kruse. Hand tended vines producing low yields of fruit with intense flavors, harvested at the peak of performance is their daily focus. You will not meet a nicer couple in the wine business or taste a better Pinot from the central coast.

~Richard

2009 CURRAN GRENACHE BLANC



If you've had Curran Grenache Blanc before, you understand why this wine has a place on the list. This lovely offering comes to us from the amazing craftsmanship of Kris Curran, most well known for producing outstanding Pinot Noirs at Sea Smoke Cellars, and the quality in this bottle shows just as well. On the nose, this wine is all wild spring flowers, lime and honey, though on the tongue is where it really shines. A weighty, rich array of stone fruit and key lime with a clean vanilla finish just sweet enough to balance the crisp acidity. This is possibly my favorite white wine on the list and one that I stock at my house on a regular basis. For those looking for a little change from the traditional Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay, give this delicious wine a shot sometime.

~Josh

2007 PIERANO MERLOT



Here's another entry from the historic Lodi wine region. Peirano Estate Vineyards Merlot is produced from 6 different clones, or sub-varieties, of Merlot grown on the estate, including two rare French clones (#181 and #314), as well as the very rare Italian clone #9. Peirano Estate was the first commercial winery to grow and produce wine from these rare Merlot clones. Aromas of rich ripe cherries, blackberries with hints of toast and vanilla coalesce into a single sensation of olfactory bliss. The mouth is filled with an array of flavors, including cherry, plum, cranapple, sweet raspberries and strawberries with lingering hints of cocoa and cinnamon. This wine has it all – great Merlot flavor, accessible tannins and a user-friendly attitude.

~Deanna

2008 ADELAIDA VERSION WHITE



This is Adelaida's signature white Rhone blend. It achieves harmony by combining varieties of contrasting character: Roussanne contributes a rich mouth feel with penetrating scents of wild flower honey and Asian pear; Grenache Blanc delivers vibrant, crisp acidity and a mineral tinged flavor profile, the perfect counterpoint to add a bright element that enhances the blend. The varieties were vinified separately, barrel fermented in neutral French oak and continuing through partial secondary malolactic conversion in the same barrels. Version White delights the senses with honeysuckle, kumquat and springtime flowers. The mid palate is lush with crushed rock minerality followed with a lively finish of crisp apple. I recommend pairing with Thai inspired dishes or lobster ravioli in white sauce.

~Deanna

#77

\$31.99

#78

\$21.99

#79

\$13.99

#80

\$29.99

**YOU CHOOSE:**

- the amount you want to spend
- the frequency of delivery
- the varietals and countries to explore
- the number of bottles we send



# The Ultimate WINE CLUB

2008 FOUR VINES ZINFANDEL THE BIKER



We've been selling the wines of Four Vines from the day we opened and this 2008 bottling of The Biker may be the best Zinfandel they have made. When we tasted this wine we asked, "how much can we have?" and we were told only 10 cases so we took them in and saved them for this 2011 list. The wine is racy and busting with fruit, showing smoky black pepper and black cherry aromas that lead to supple, layered flavors of huckleberry, licorice and toasty sage. Last year this wine made the Wine Spectator's Top 100 and this wine scored even higher late last year with a 93/100 from Wine Spectator. All the fruit for this wine comes from the west side of Paso Robles - specifically from the Dusi, Preston and Altavista Vineyards. I'm warning you, this wine will not be around for long.

~David

2008 QUATTRO MANI MONTEPULCIANO



Montepulciano has long been the bastard child of the Italian red wine industry. Typically cheap, in price and in quality, generations of winemakers have churned it out by the truckload in jugs. Well, things have changed in this region southeast of Umbria and Tuscany. A new breed of winemaker has gotten serious about quality, though admittedly, there's a ceiling to how serious this grape can be. Quattro Mani, Italian for 'Four Hands', supposedly represents the four winemakers involved in producing this wine. In the glass, the wine is ruby red with purple hues. The nose is fresh with aromas of currant, strawberry and raspberry. The palate is fruity, well balanced, medium-bodied and smooth. This is a great all-around red - it should be your 'Friday Night Pizza Wine'!

~Deanna

2008 MAS DELS FRARES RED



The 2008 Mas dels Freres is an un-oaked blend of 50% Carinena, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 20% Garnacha. The nose gives up notes of turned earth, mineral, lavender, and dark cherries. This medium-bodied red is substantial on the palate with good density and ripe flavors. Overall this friendly effort is a good introduction to the region. Vinicola del Priorat is also known for the Onix label that you've seen at Imbibe in the past. They are great representatives of the modern Spanish wine producer, exhibiting cutting edge practices around temperature control and maturation processes used in the winery that preserve the fresh flavors of their juice. I encourage you to keep exploring Spain and I promise we'll make sure that you continue to be impressed.

~Richard

2009 MORGAN PINOT NOIR 12 CLONES



Morgan Twelve Clones Pinot Noir is drawn from the finest vineyards of the Santa Lucia Highlands appellation, including Morgan's own organically farmed Double L estate vineyard. In the 2008 vintage the Double L vineyard accounted for 42% of the final blend. The Twelve Clones designation denotes the original, diverse Pinot plantings at the Double L vineyard. This vintage of Twelve Clones Pinot Noir demonstrates the power and finesse of Pinot Noir from the Santa Lucia Highlands. It displays aromas of black cherries, cola, spicy earth tones and vanilla. Bright flavors of red cherries and bramble berries are complemented by notes of black tea, chocolate espresso, smoke and spice. Perfectly poised fruit-acid balance makes this wine incredibly food-versatile and fits the budget for your larger dinner parties.

~Richard

#81

\$22.99

#82

\$10.99

#83

\$22.99

#84

\$17.99

N.V. MIONETTO BRUT PROSECCO



Thought to be a cheap, subpar alternative to Champagne, Prosecco has been getting a horrible rap for the past ten years; we're here to change that perception. In the tradition of what Imbibe stands for, we have sought out the best value in true Italian Prosecco and are proud to have it on our Top 100. The Mionetto starts with a nose of ripe golden apple, tart lemon and nutty vanilla. On the palate this lovely drink is perfectly dry with a crisp, clean finish that prepares you for each drink. Equally perfect on its own as well as in belinis and mimosas. Do yourself a favor; check out the best \$14

#85 ~Josh \$13.99

2007 FAUST CABERNET SAUVIGNON



We first tasted this wine in mid 2010 preparing for a winemaker dinner we did at the Petroleum Club. A decade after Augustin Huneeus released his first vintage of Quintessa; he started a new endeavor called Faust. Faust is a tribute to Napa Valley's noblest grape. Faust also honors the legend of Dr. Faust, a scholar and respected man of society who was tempted by the Devil to seek new passion and youth in exchange for his soul. Faust is indeed the fruit of renewed passion for Augustin. Made at Quintessa from estate vineyards - some being Quintessa. One of the year's better finds. ~David

#86 \$44.99

2008 BROADSIDE CHARDONNAY



When owner and winemaker Brian Terrizzi makes a wine, he pulls no punches. The fruit for the 2008 Chardonnay comes from the famous James Berry vineyard in Paso Robles, a vineyard thought to be comparable to the Grand Cru quality of the best French land. Through the use of native fermentation and nouveau concrete egg maturation, this Chardonnay retains its fresh pineapple and bright lemon characteristics, with a subtle backdrop of vanilla. Showcases a beautiful minerality and pronounced acidity that is a nice change from over-oaked varietals on the market today. ~Josh

#87 \$17.91

2009 CAZAR PINOT NOIR



This is another label from Bill Hunter of Chasseur fame. This wine emphasizes earth, complexity and depth over sheer fruit or power. It's a bright, well-stuffed Pinot with a touch of exotic spice. The aromas are a mix of red raspberry, plum and cherry scents with savory notes of coriander seed, roasted grain, smoke and yellow rose. On the palate, the mouth-feel is even richer than the aromas predict and the tannic grip is impressive. Through the finish, plum-raspberry-pomegranate fruit and roasted grain are main themes. Another repeat from 2010 - we can't get enough of this Pinot! ~Deanna

#88 \$19.99

2007 ARGIANO ROSSO TOSCANO



Non Confunditur was the motto of the original owners of this winery and continues to be a part of the crest that represents the producer. Loosely translated to "not to be confused" when you taste their wine there are two things you are sure of: this is quality juice and without a doubt it is Italian. This year we bring you their interpretation of a Super Tuscan. In the bottle is 40% Cabernet with equal parts Merlot, Sangiovese and Syrah filling out the remainder. With notes of grilled herbs, licorice, dark berries and French oak this wine shows outstanding length and finessed tannins.

~Richard

#93 \$22.99

2008 MONTE OTON GARNACHA

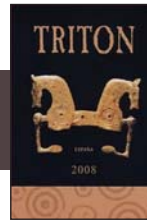


This year we bring you a gift from Spain, and at a reasonable price! The vineyards of Monte Oton are situated high on the slopes of an extinct volcano. If you are familiar with Spanish terroir this is not an unusual wine growing scenario. High altitude growing provides warm days and cool nights, ideal for harvesting perfectly matured, fully ripened Garnacha grapes. While displaying notes of black cherry, black pepper and smoke, this wine is full bodied and elegantly textured with a long, complex finish. Make this your next barbecue wine and you'll be the talk of the neighborhood.

~Josh

#94 \$7.99

2008 TRITON TEMPRANILLO



Once again Jorge Ordonez has hit a home run that went all the way from Spain to the US. The winery is located in the village of Villanueva de Campean in the historic area known as de la Tierra del Vino, The Land of Wine. This juicy, medium-bodied red offers plum, tobacco and smoked meat flavors on a generous frame, with just enough tannin for grip. Again and again on this list I have sung the praises of Spain as a "bang for your buck" region and once again I must say Spain delivers with a wine bound to make your grilled food taste better.

~Richard

#95 \$19.99

2009 TARIMA MONASTRELL



It is nice when looking through hundreds of wines, to find some that just blow you away. The Bodegas Tarima is extra special in the fact that not only is it a remarkable wine, but it is also the very first vintage. Rarely does a winery come out with such a well-balanced, delicious wine this early in the game. Full of deep, red berries, dried rose petals and baked cinnamon, this wine delivers a full palate of fruit, earth and char. This is one of those great imports that pairs perfectly with grilled meat, burgers and relaxing evenings with friends.

~Josh

#96 \$9.99

2009 JEKEL RIESLING



Jekel hit their mark with this off-dry Riesling which shows more German than California style. Not a sweet wine, but a wine loaded with fruit flavors. This off-dry Riesling stands up well to spicy food, or celebrate it on its own as a wonderful aperitif. Breathe in the wonderful bouquet of ripe pineapple, Mandarin orange, mango passion fruit and jasmine alongside tropical notes highlighted with rose petals. Your first sip will find a market basket of fresh fruits, with a rich mouth feel and good acid balance. The traditionally light varietal petrol nose adds complexity and authenticity.

~Dan

**#89**

**\$10.99**

2008 SEBASTIANI PINOT NOIR



No wine has been on this list more often than Sebastiani Pinot Noir. There is no better place than the Sonoma Coast to grow Pinot fruit. 2008 started off as a very tough year with a damaging frost in April creating a dramatically smaller yielding vintage. What has come to market is outstanding with big, bold, concentrated flavors. With aromas of bright cherry and berry with hints of mocha and sweet baking spices. You'll also be impressed with flavors of raspberries, cherries, pomegranates and sweet oak. You will not find a better Pinot Noir at this price.

~David

**#90**

**\$16.99**

2009 TRUMPETER CHARDONNAY



It's all in the altitude. Argentina continues to produce top quality wines at some of the best values of any wine producing country. Their unique growing region, which puts most vineyards at least 3000 feet elevation allows them to produce grapes with loads of fruit flavor and plenty of acid, the ultimate combination for winemakers. A lush and appealing Argentine Chardonnay with abundant aromas of peach and pineapple, rich white fruit flavors, with a touch of vanilla. The tropical fruits and great acidity make for a truly great quality Chardonnay.

~Dan

**#91**

**\$8.99**

2009 LE JAJA DE JAU SAUVIGNON BLANC



"Jaja" is a word used in Southern France to describe everyday wines, so the full name of this wine translates to "the everyday wine from Jau." This is a more subtle and less tropical Sauvignon Blanc, with a fairly strong mineral characteristic on the nose. The palate has good acidity and flavors of lime, grapefruit and granny smith apple that carry through to a finish that combines a sea salt mineral note with citrus acidity. It's a very crisp Sauvignon Blanc with muted flavors making it a good, neutral wine for delicately flavored foods such as light fish and sushi.

~Richard

**#92**

**\$9.99**

2008 MARK WEST PINOT NOIR



At Mark West, the philosophy of 'Pinot for the People' was created to respond to what pinot drinkers asked for: a wine that is delicious and affordable. Winemaker Alex Cose and his team are dedicated to the proposition that real Pinot Noir should not cost more than your meal. This wine exhibits aromas of strawberry and raspberry with barrel notes of caramel, vanilla and baking spices. It shows deep, concentrated raspberry, cherry/berry pie, juicy fruit with a touch of cola. Texture is rich with subtle oak shading. Mark West takes pinot seriously; I say, 'take this Pinot home to enjoy!'

~Deanna

**#97**

**\$11.99**

2008 THE KEEPER CABERNET FRANC



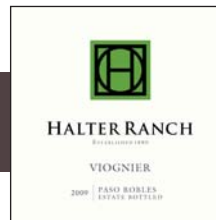
The Keeper has the special honor of being the only Cabernet Franc to grace the Top 100 list this year, and for good reason. The Cabernet Franc grape is usually reserved as a blending grape to be combined mainly with Cabernet Sauvignon or Merlot. It is rare to find a wine made of 100% Cab Franc, and it is even rarer to find one with the caliber to make it on the Top 100 list. This one impressed us with its nice minerality, juicy blackberry, and dark chocolate. For fans of big reds, this is a must try.

~Josh

**#98**

**\$17.99**

2009 HALTER RANCH VIOGNIER



Like any good list, one must go out with a bang. And for this year's white, we've got a big bang. Halter Ranch has been producing ultra high-quality wines in Paso Robles since 2000. Though they may be the new kid on the block, a state-of-the-art facility, a newly acquired Certified Sustainable title and a winemaker with past credits like Adelaida, J.Lohr and Eberle, make this the central coast winery to keep an eye on. This year's Viognier, in fact, stands up to the hype. Beautiful acidity, rich, heavy mouthfeel and a palate like fresh fruit cocktail make #99 an amazing white to try.

~Josh

**#99**

**\$21.99**

2008 VINA ROBLES RED 4



The power of 4 – this blend of 62% Syrah, 34% Petite Sirah and 2% each of Grenache and Mourvedre is more than the sum of its parts: the spicy cherry of Syrah, structure of Petite Sirah, fruit of Grenache and the rustic character of Mourvedre. Youthful with dark fruit notes of blackberry, raspberry and hints of cinnamon; medium-bodied and savory with good structure and soft tannins. A stylistic bridge between Old and New worlds, capturing the finesse of Europe while celebrating the bold natural flavors of Paso Robles. European Inspiration and California Character equal yummy!

~Deanna

**#100**

**\$14.99**

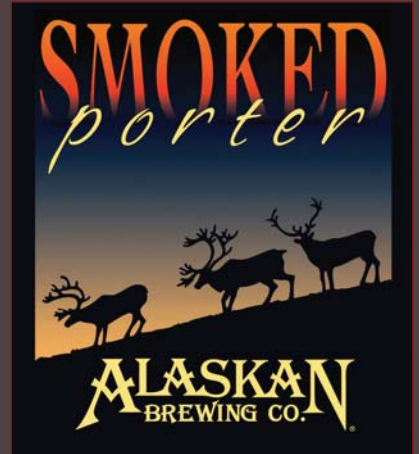
# 24 TOP BEERS

## ALASKAN BREWING COMPANY SMOKED PORTER

Oh, the taste of Alaska. This is one of my favorites. It seems to transport you to a cold day in the Alaskan wilderness, settling around a campfire.

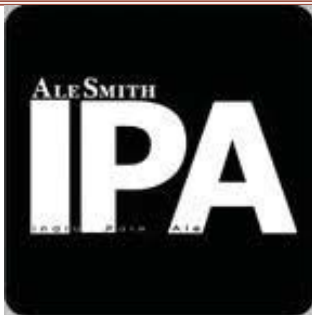
Introduced in 1988, Alaskan Smoked Porter has been credited with helping inspire an American revival of smoked beers. The beer is a deep brown, with hints of red amber and a fluffy, long-lasting brown head. Aromas hint of smoke with nice and subtle smoky wafts surrounding a deep roasty malt profile and flash of wood. It pairs beautifully with everything from bleu cheese to vanilla ice cream and raspberries.

This is a fantastic beer to cook with as well. It's smoky nature is just begging addition to BBQ sauces, beans and cooked sausage. Use this beer as a marinade to complete a beef dish. It will also work well in stews and chili. Use this beer to spice up any meats that might hit the grill in order to get that extra barbecue note in your food. -Dan



**\$6.50/22 OZ 6.5% ABV**

### ALE SMITH IPA



AleSmith is an artisan micro-brewery that specializes in handcrafted ales in a variety of styles. The IPA was conceived in the American style to satisfy the yearnings of die-hard hopheads. Its high alcohol content may catch you unawares if you're not careful, but it's hard to resist once you've tasted it. AleSmith IPA has a deep golden to light amber color and a nice off-white head, balanced by a firm malt backdrop that fades to a dry finish with a lingering hoppiness. Always in the top five of "Best IPA's" makes this a must try brew.

Fans of Thai food; this beer pairs perfectly. Enjoy it with a curry dish for perfect balance. Ale Smith's IPA can also be paired with poultry prepared numerous ways.

-Dan

**7.25% ABV \$5.99/22oz**

### ALE SMITH SPEEDWAY STOUT



A HUGE Imperial Stout that weighs in at an impressive 12% ABV. They have added pounds of coffee for a little extra kick. Beautifully balanced with long lingering flavors.

This beer is jet black with an off-white head. It starts with a strong coffee and dark chocolate sensation that fades to a multitude of toasty, roasty and caramel malt flavors. Clean and crisp, full bodied with nice warmth from the high alcohol content. Pairs extremely well with almost any barbecued meat. For all the blue cheese lovers out there, this is heaven when paired with a blue cheese burger. Dessert is also a nice compliment for this beer. Include with any chocolate based or dried fruit dessert for a beautiful pairing. -Anthony

-Dan

**12% ABV \$12.99/22oz**

### ALLAGASH FOUR ALE



A "one of a kind" ale that lives up to its reputation. This beer pours a regal, ruddy chestnut tone with a deep red/orange reflection when held to the light. A nice 2 plus inch beige head shows considerable retention and nice walls of lacing. The nose is that of Belgian yeast, sweet maltiness and a spicy fruit character. The flavors that follow are sweet malts and Belgian yeast with a bit of hoppy bitterness in the finish. Four Ale is a beautifully, complex, medium bodied ale that leaves you satisfied.

This big beer deserves big food. Thick and creamy cheeses would compliment this ale perfectly, while any baked goods also work nicely.

-Dan

**10% ABV \$19.99/22oz**

# SATURDAY JANUARY 29, 2011 1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

# TOP 24 BEER TASTING

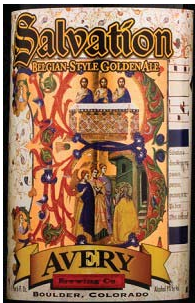
\$35 each or 2/\$60

Receive a  
**\$9 DISCOUNT**  
on first case purchase  
mix or match

24 Tasting Tickets  
*choose the beers you want to try*

Taco Dinner  
*with rice, beans,  
tortilla chips and salsa.*

## EVERY SALVATION GOLDEN ALE



A delicious light “Big Beer”, Salvation has luscious apricot and peach aromas delicately interwoven with spicy suggestions of nutmeg and cinnamon. This heavenly soft champagne-like elixir is ageable for 3 years.

Interesting while not overly complex, utilize this beer as a thirst quencher with a fiery hot dish. Try a black pepper crusted seared Ahi Tuna dish or spicy sushi as a way to transition from an assaulting spiced food to a lightly hopped and malted beer. This notion works for any spicy food for those of you who are not sushi enthusiasts. Another staff favorite is Chile Colorado paired with this golden ale.

-Dan

9% ABV \$7.99/500ML

## BITBURGER PREMIUM PILSNER



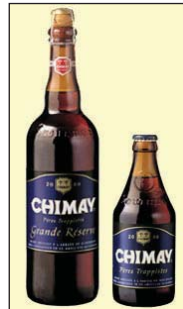
One of Germany’s most prestigious Pilsners, Bitburger pours a bright yellow hue that shows tight, perfectly carbonated bubbles that permeate into a foamy and tall head. The beer gives off scents of grain, grass, wheat and crisp citrus. The malt comes across the front palate deliciously then transgresses into a spicy and somewhat hoppy and clean finish. The beer leaves your mouth watering and ready for the next sip.

This beer’s minerality and crispness pair well with a spicy dish that could otherwise be overpowering on the palate. Try this beer with spicy carne asada tacos, as a way to restore the palate after it has been hit with intense spices and heat.

-Anthony

4.8% ABV \$2.75/500ML

## CHIMAY GRAND RESERVE BELGIAN ALE



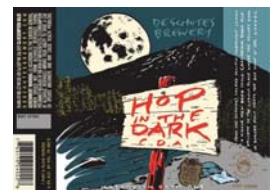
Named Grand Reserve, it is principally distinguished by its character of a strong beer. This is the Gran Dame of Belgian beers. The fragrance is of fresh yeast with a light flowery rosy touch which is especially pleasant. Its flavor accentuates the pleasant sensations perceived in the aroma, while revealing a light touch of roasted malt. This top fermented Trappist beer is refermented in the bottle and is not pasteurized. A classic Belgian beer!

This classic pairs well with any poultry, creamy cheese or any fruit based dishes. A well prepared Cornish Game Hen will ignite the natural flavors in the beer. Pasta finished with a white sauce also showcase this beer’s brilliance.

-Dan

9% ABV \$12.99/750ML

## DESCHUTES BREWING HOP IN THE DARK cda



Can an IPA be “black”? Hop in the Dark clearly makes this an obvious YES. Semantics aside, this noir version adds deep roasted malts to alter the hue and slightly smooth the edges. The result is a “new” beer classification which requires the use of Cascadian hops. This beer has subtle coffee undertones stemming from a blend of oats with dark, Munich and Crystal malts. Classic IPA flavors and aromas are due to the courageous additions of Cascade Citra and Centennial hops. This is a must try.

This beer can be paired with any delicious hearty meal. Grilled sausages or sautéed vegetables showcase the beer’s natural hops. Fire up the barbecue and grill some chicken to compliment this beer for a match made in heaven.

-Dan

6.5% ABV \$6.29/22OZ

**FIRESTONE WALKER UNION JACK IPA**



Union Jack is the newest addition to the Firestone family. Considered an aggressive IPA, the palate shows a nice balance of citrus, pineapple and a full chewy malt profile, finishing clean on the palate. A beer true to its origins - deeply hopped and bolstered for a long voyage.

This IPA pairs nicely with a fish dish including salmon, halibut, grilled tilapia and sushi. Brawny blue cheese also compliment this beer nicely. Look for Valdeon or Stilton Blue at Imbibe to complete this central California IPA.

-Dan

**7.5% ABV \$2.15/12oz**

**FLYING DOG RAGING BITCH BELGIAN STYLE IPA**

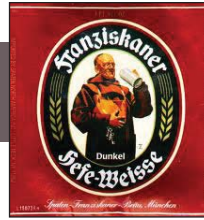


This beer pours out a beautiful off-burnt-yellow tone that sits below a lacy multi-finger head. Aromas of tropical fruits such as lemon zest & pineapple are followed by a stunning amount of hops and pine nuts. Be ready, this is a hop driven beer! The hops and pine are also accompanied by yeast reminiscent of freshly baked French bread. The finish is smooth, clean and crisp; few beers over 8% ABV are this refined. Pair this beer with any burger, grilled sausage, grilled veggies or pork chops topped with mango salsa.

-Anthony

**8.3% ABV \$1.85/12oz**

**FRANZISKANER HEFEWEIZEN DUNKEL**



A beautiful coffee hue supports a multi-finger sized clean white head that gives off aromas of malt, coffee, mocha & toffee. Bananas with brown sugar complement a smoked medium-body mouth feel. If you're looking for a beer with more flavor profiles than your typical Hefeweizen this beer is a great choice.

Pair this beer with a fresh lemon and herb Trout entrée, followed by a side of either wild grain rice or pilaf. Or with flakey and delicate fish tacos. Either way, this dunkel is always a crowd pleaser.

-Anthony

**5.0% ABV \$2.75/500mL**

**GREEN FLASH BREWING IMPERIAL IPA**



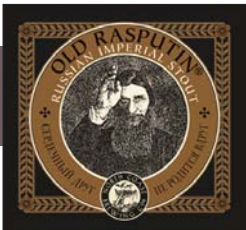
Better known by the locals as a San Diego style IPA, Green Flash Imperial IPA is super hoppy with high gravity, yet it is a highly quaffable ale. This is a new style of IPA given its intense hop flavors and aromas from blends of Summit and Nugget hops. Remember it's all about the hops! This blend offers up flavors of dark grapefruit and some pine, all nicely balanced.

This big beer deserves big flavored food! Pair with any pungent cheese or fries with a sharp dressing on the side for a match made in heaven.

-Dan

**9.4% ABV \$5.99/22oz**

**NORTH COAST OLD RASPUTIN RUSSIAN IMPERIAL STOUT**

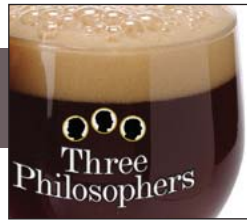


Another winner from North Coast, this Russian Imperial Stout pours into the glass with a thick black tone that is accompanied by a thick creamy head of foam. This beer has delicious mocha, chocolate and coffee nuances that leave the drinker wondering if they are enjoying a beer or artisan slow drip coffee. All of these flavors hide the alcohol very nicely and at a level of 9% ABV, this beer doesn't become "hot" like others it competes with. It's a perfect Russian Imperial Stout thanks to its complex flavoring. Try it as a substitute in a root beer float, an Imbibe beer staff favorite.

-Anthony

**9.0% ABV \$2.25/12oz**

**OMMEGANG 3 PHILOSOPHERS GOLDEN ALE**



A luscious blend of rich malty ale and cherry lambic coupled with the flavors of dark chocolate and cherry cordial. WOW! On the bottleneck it says "Strength in Union" signaling the beers potency and possibilities. Three Philosophers produces a wine-like ruby fill in the glass and a nose of malt, dark fruits, vanilla, and sweet cherries - plus coffee, currants, brandied raisins, chocolate and sour malts all blended nicely across the palate. This beer ages beautifully.

Pair this beer with a well executed Chicken Mole dish for an instant classic.

-Dan

**9.8% ABV \$10.99/22oz**

**RODENBACH GRAND CRU FLEMISH SOUR ALE**

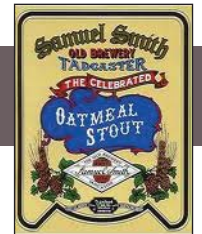


Rodenbach Grand Cru is another Belgian that out performs its stiff competition. This Flanders Sour Ale is aged in oak for 18 months to extract a rustic copper tone accompanied by a medium body that gives way to beautiful flavors of currant, prune and even tart cherry. This beer could definitely be considered a "sipper" with all of its powerful flavors that hit the palate at once, reminiscent of fine vinaigrette. Enjoy this beer with a nice assortment of cheese including camembert, any blue or some of the other pungent yet delicious cheeses Imbibe carries.

-Anthony

**6.0% ABV \$9.99/750mL**

**SAMUEL SMITH OATMEAL STOUT**

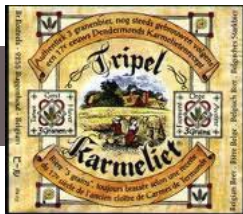


This world renowned English oatmeal stout rushes into the glass with an opulent black tone, accompanied by a white frothy head. This lightly carbonated beer maintains its foamy head just long enough for the drinker to revel in light mocha notes that are followed up with English toffee. The toasted oatmeal creates a rather malty mouth feel that transcends the palate with a refreshing elegance reserved for the brew master of England. Relatively low alcohol content is disguised by an abrupt yet crisp finish.

-Anthony

**5.0% ABV \$3.99/550mL**

**KARMELIET TRIPEL**

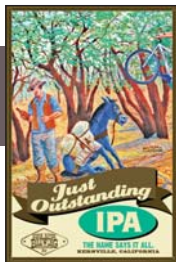


Imbibe's number one selling Tripel also happens to be the world's highest ranked Belgian Tripel. This Belgian's delicious dose of malt can only be attained by an elite group of brewers throughout the world. Crisp and clean with tropical fruits such as pear and green apple proceed to a somewhat hoppy yet refined finish. The hops are accompanied by pineapple and melon that conclude a most refreshing drink. Can stand alone as an aperitif to start a meal or as a compliment to any light fish dish, or even a Chinese chicken salad.

-Anthony

**8.4% ABV \$11.99/750ml**

**KERN RIVER BREWING JUST OUTSTANDING IPA**



We are fortunate to have such a fantastic brewery in our own backyard. A strong malt character and a large hop profile. Dry hopped with Simcoe and Amarillo hops to give this beer a great floral and citrus finish. If you like a strong IPA, you'll find this one *Just Outstanding*. Delicious with grilled salmon over a bed of baby spinach. Avocado suits this beer nicely. Tapenade would also be a nice compliment; black or green olive tapenade adds that little extra seasoning to this beer.

-Dan

**6.8% ABV \$4.25/22oz**

**LOST COAST TANGERINE WHEAT**



This American version of a light bodied wheat beer comes across the palate with intense flavors of tangerine. This beer is a must for anyone wanting a beer low in hops with high doses of malt. The finish doesn't linger around your mouth, instead it leaves a clean and refreshed feeling that is conducive for another mouthful, maybe even another glass...

Pair this easy drinker with Jerk Chicken, whose salty characteristics will compliment the malty and light body feel of the Lost Coast Tangerine to create a perfect meal.

-Anthony

**5.0% ABV \$3.99/22oz**

**NORTH COAST LE MERLE FARMHOUSE ALE**

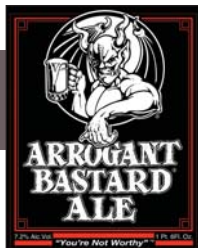


This American Saison Farmhouse ale is a beer that is dedicated to terroir; a beer of the earth. Pours with a hazy yellow body that holds up a rather thick and foamy head. Aromas of green apple, straw and various other tropical fruits such as bright citrus come through nicely and are typical of this beer's style. Overall, this American version holds its own in a market full of Belgian farmhouse ales. Enjoy this beer with a nice slice of apple pie either by itself or topped with a generous scoop of vanilla ice cream.

-Anthony

**7.9% ABV \$7.99/25.4oz**

**STONE ARROGANT BASTARD ALE**



This beer pours into the glass with a thick burnt red amber tone that is the foundation of a white head. Caramel, hops, and a touch of fruit enter the mouth and linger through a bold viscous finish. The beer is nice and chewy but not overpowering; definitely a go-to if one is searching for a big, intricately flavored beer.

This beer should be paired with cheeses such as Parmesan, Manchego, Colby or even Asiago. If you're looking for a complete meal, pair with a cheeseburger or grilled chicken.

-Anthony

**7.2% ABV \$4.35/22oz**

**WEIHENSTEPHANER HEFEWEIZEN**

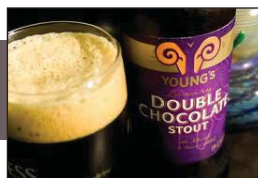


One of Imbibe's best-selling German wheat beers, Weihenstephaner's classic Hefeweizen pours a hazy yellow, perfectly carbonated beer. Aromas of clove, citrus, hops and German country barley complement a malty and crisp mouth feel. Banana and yeast fill the mid palate then progress to a mint and hop finish. Light to medium body mouth feel promote a great every day drinker. Mimosa? Bloody Mary? White Russian? Why? You could start the day off with a delicious Hefeweizen. Pair with a spinach and Manchego cheese omelette - the perfect way to begin the day.

-Anthony

**5.0% ABV \$2.50/500ml**

**YOUNG'S DOUBLE CHOCOLATE STOUT**



'Chocolate in a Bottle' best describes this beauty. It pours with a good head, which stays and stays. The aromas are dominated by sweet & dark chocolate. The mouth feel is extra creamy, as if milk had been added; which is why it is creamier, more balanced flavor than many so called cream stouts. The mouth feel is exceptional: very smooth with flavors remaining constant with smell. There are very mild caramel and coffee hints, not overly carbonated. This is a nice smooth drinking stout. Best served with a chocolate inspired desert. Serve at 60 degrees for the best flavors.

-Dan

**5.2% ABV \$4.25/500ml**

**ZATEC BRIGHT CZECH LAGER**



Arguably the world's oldest brewery, Zatec (Czech word for hops) shows in the glass with an intense light yellow hue. A soapy 2 to 3 finger head of foam gives off aromas of spice, grass, honey and a touch of tropical fruit with a light malty body. The beer finishes with nice touches of hops that complete a beer that would have otherwise been unbalanced. The finish is dry and clean that doesn't linger for an excessive amount of time.

-Anthony

**4.69% ABV \$3.99/500ml**

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