



The Wine and Cheese Cask

407 Washington Street • Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

(617) 623-8656

February 18, 2023 – March 19, 2023

A Wintry Mix

Wine Sale!
Details inside

This mild winter is not to be trusted, so we have found some hearty European reds to go with roasts, braises, beans, and pasta.

Solitude in the South

2020 Côtes du Rhône (Domaine de la Solitude)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$143.90 case of twelve



This classic southern Rhône blend of Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre is an exceptional value. The estate was founded in 1451 and has been in continuous production since. The 2020 is a deep, dark, fruit-filled, earthy, and dry red. Great with a lamb curry.

St. Magdalener

2021 St. Magdalener (Colterenzio)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$143.90 case of twelve

St. Magdalener is an underrated *denominazione* in the Alto Adige. Colterenzio's 2021 is a blend of Schiava and Lagrein with surprising depth of berry fruit and chewy tannins. A wine destined for pasta and braised greens.



Troncone

2019 Toscana Rosso 'Troncone' (Le Ragnaie)

Sale Price \$23.99 – \$230.30 case of twelve



Our newest Tuscan red comes from Le Ragnaie, a respected Brunello producer with some of the highest elevation vineyards in Montalcino. Though the organic Sangiovese grapes in this Rosso come from vineyards within the borders of DOC Rosso di Montalcino and DOCG Brunello di Montalcino, at over 600m they are too high to qualify for either so must instead be labeled IGT Toscana. The 2019 Troncone is fragrant and elegant, with bay leaf

aromatics, sapid red fruit, and supple tannins. Perfect with a plate of charcuterie and pecorino or a warm bowl of *ribollita*.

Saperavi

2019 Saperavi (Marnaveli)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$143.90 case of twelve

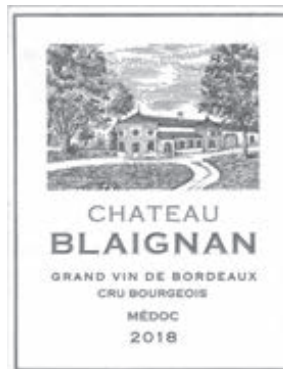
Saperavi is the quintessential Georgian red grape variety. Deeply colored, rich in dark fruit, and with nicely framed tannins, the 2019 Marnaveli will be a nice match with mushrooms and beans.



Old School Médoc

2018 Cru Bourgeois Médoc (Château Blaignan)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$172.70 case of twelve



Château Blaignan has been producing wine since the 14th century. The current owners also own the classed growth Gruaud Larose in St. Julien, and have invested in new equipment and improved the quality at Château Blaignan. The 2018 is a near equal blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon packed with dark fruit and suave tannins. Terrific with a stuffed pork loin in a blue cheese sauce.

Vila de Piedra

2019 Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y Leon 'Vila de Piedra' (Viñateros Santos)

Sale Price \$19.99 – \$191.90 case of twelve

Viñateros Santos is a new project highlighting Castilla y Leon's many indigenous grapes and its high elevation, old vine vineyards. The Vila de Piedra is a true 'field blend' of grape varieties (including Bastardo and Mencía) grown in black slate soil and farmed organically and biodynamically. Medium-bodied and fresh with gentle tannins, the aromas of herbs, rocks, and earth are as prominent as the charming raspberry and pomegranate fruit. Serve with a light chill alongside a hearty lentil and mushroom stew.



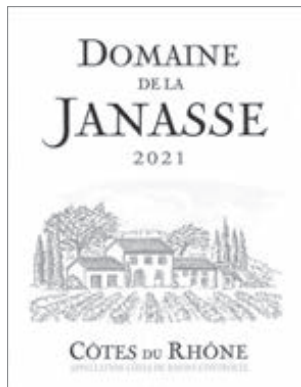
Les Janasses

2021 Côtes du Rhône Blanc (Domaine de la Janasse)

Sale Price \$23.99 – \$230.30 case of twelve

2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Domaine de la Janasse)

Sale Price \$59.99 – \$575.90 case of twelve



Domaine de la Janasse has a terrific white Côtes du Rhône to go along with their stellar line of reds. The 2021 white is a rich, full-bodied blend of Grenache, Clairette, Bourboulenc, Viognier, and Roussanne. Peachy yet dry, have this big but balanced white with a seafood stew.



The 2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape is an extremely impressive wine from a great vintage. It is packed with dense Grenache fruit and peppery Syrah spice. It drinks well now but it has a long, bright future ahead. Have this with a roasted leg of lamb.

Timorasso

2021 Timorasso 'Piccolo Derthona' (Vigneti Massa)

Sale Price \$22.99 – \$220.70 case of twelve



If not for Walter Massa, the Timorasso grape might have disappeared. Can you even imagine? Timorasso, native to Colli Tortonesi in southeast Piedmont, is not an easy grape to grow. Many producers

began opting to grow Cortese as Gavi became all the rage. In the 1980s Massa stuck to his grape guns and is now considered the Maestro of Timorasso. The 2021 is complex and has a wonderful evolution as it opens up over the course of an evening and into the next day. You will find a weighty and structured white balanced with vibrant acidity, which makes this a versatile food pairing option. Notes of honey and stone fruit mingle with salinity. This is quite nice with a creamy vegetable red curry.

Atma

2021 Atma 'Xinomavro & Malagouzia' (Apostolos Thymiopoulos)

Sale Price \$15.99 – \$153.50 case of twelve



Atma is an innovative white wine from Greek Macedonia. Some may be familiar with Thymiopoulos' red made from young Xinomavro vines. Here they gently press and vinify the red Xinomavro

grapes to make a white wine and blend it with Malagouzia. The mix of high acid Xinomavro combined with the aromatic, full-bodied Malagouzia creates a light (just 12%) and floral white that is perfect for sautéed sole and a salad.

Eric the Bubbly Master

NV Brut Champagne (Eric Maître)

Sale Price \$34.99 – \$377.90 case of twelve

It may be difficult (and pricy) to locate your favorite brand name Champagne these days, but if you're slightly adventurous there are some excellent small houses making delicious wines. These family growers do it all themselves, from vineyard to cellar to marketing. Our latest revelation is the 100% pure Pinot Noir from Eric Maître. This has a very faint pink color, almost microscopic bubbles, and a delicate, long, dry finish. A delightful match with smoked seafood and deviled eggs.



Mosto de Lágrima

2020 Óbidos (Quinta Várzea da Pedra)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$172.70 case of twelve

Óbidos is a Portuguese DOC located north of Lisbon within a few miles of the Atlantic. Here Quinta Várzea da Pedra



produces a pure varietal hand-harvested Arinto from clay and limestone soil. In the 2020 vintage they made just 325 cases of this wine, obtained from totally destemmed grapes pressed so gently that they call the process *Mosto de Lágrima*, or Teardrop Must. This results in delicate quince fruit along with a stony, almost salty finish. Have this lovely white with sardines and salad or cod with a green sauce.

Volcanic Island Whites

2021 Etna Bianco Superiore (Barone di Villagrande)

Sale Price \$21.99 – \$211.10 case of twelve

2021 Santorini (Santo)

Sale Price \$29.99 – \$287.90 case of twelve



These two wines from volcanic Mediterranean islands are fascinating examples of terroir and survival. Agriculture in Sicily has been incredibly productive for millennia, but wine from Etna on Sicily has only been recognized for its quality

in just the last two decades. Last month we had Benanti's delicious Etna Rosso. This month Barone di Villagrande's white made from Carricante delivers a wonderful mineral and dry Etna Bianco. Its lemony fruit and earthy finish are terrific with baked swordfish in a tomato and olive sauce.

Also emerging from obscurity in the last two decades is the intense, deep Assyrtiko grown on the arid Greek island of Santorini. This cuvée from the Santo cooperative comes from



vines between 60 and 80 years of age that absorb minerals from the volcanic rock to deliver a strong, dry, beautifully balanced white. Have this with a broiled branzino stuffed with fennel and lemon.

Sale Dates

First Wine Sale of 2023 begins

Saturday February 18th and runs through Sunday March 19th

Details: 10% off six bottles; 20% off twelve bottles.

Also applies to mixed cases.

Wines of the Month (back page), fortified wines (Port, Sherry, Vermouth, etc.) and sparkling wines may be included for a 10% discount.

Blue tagged (NET) wines and jug wines (1.5L and 3L) are excluded.

Case prices reflect 20% sale discount.

Specialty Foods

Nettle Meadow Artisan Cheeses

Warrensburg, New York | www.nettlemeadow.com

Nettle Meadow has been one of our favorite farms and cheesemakers for many years. This woman-owned farm and sanctuary has been producing beautiful and delicious cheeses since 1990, with an emphasis on animal welfare. The working sheep and goats feed on spacious natural pastureland in the Adirondacks, while the Kemp Animal Sanctuary at Nettle Meadow houses retired milking animals as well as a wide variety of rescued farm animals. All Nettle Meadow cheeses are made with thistle rennet and are vegetarian-friendly. They also have farm tours and a restaurant featuring cheese-focused dishes alongside artisan beer and wine! We hope our crush on Nettle Meadow isn't too obvious. Do try to make a trip out there if you can, but in the meantime close your eyes and taste the nettle.



Kunik (8 oz.) - \$19.99 per piece

Goat and cow's milk triple crème

Black Truffle Kunik (6 oz.) - \$19.99 per piece

The award-winning Kunik with black truffle!

Adiron-Jack (6 oz.) - \$15.99 per piece

Cow's milk triple crème with local apple jack brandy



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Wines of the Month — February 18, 2023 through March 19, 2023

2020 Swartland Red (Stratigraphy)

Sale Price \$9.99 – \$107.89 case of twelve

This South African red blend is full-bodied, fruity, and delightfully smoky. The mix of Grenache, Cinsault, and Durif (Petite Sirah) will pair well with braised short ribs and mashed root vegetables.

2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Los Vascos)

Sale Price \$8.99 – \$97.09 case of twelve

This long-standing Chilean producer has overdelivered in 2020. This delicious Cabernet Sauvignon is supple and rich with an impressive finish. Great for burgers and pasta.

2022 Pinot Grigio (Gorgo)

Sale Price \$9.99 – \$107.89 case of twelve

Gorgo's organically grown Pinot Grigio is our best selling white and it again delivers in the 2022 vintage. Its fine weighted pear fruit and dry finish are delightful and versatile.

2020 Vin de Pays des Collines Rhodaniennes Syrah (Cave Saint Desirat)

Sale Price \$8.99 – \$97.09 case of twelve

This is an excellent value in Northern Rhône Syrah. Ripe, peppery fruit and an earthy, dry finish make this a fine match with a chicken and mushroom stew.

