



# The Wine and Cheese Cask

407 Washington Street • Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

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## February 15, 2016 – March 14, 2016 Grenache Happy

The winter months are a good time to get Grenache Happy. The mostly Mediterranean areas that grow Grenache provide wine that warms the palate and and everything else down to the bones. These wines are not all pure Grenache, but they show the grape's versatility from region to region and producer to producer.

### De Nimes

2013 Costières de Nimes 'Les Cimels' (Château d'Or et de Gueules)

Sale Price \$13.99 – \$142.70 case of twelve

In the case of Les Cimels we have Grenache used to lend seasoning and depth to an earthy, spicy wine that is mostly Syrah. This producer in Nimes uses some fresh Carignan to give a jolt of fruit, along with the deep, dark Grenache to make an aromatic and hearty mix that will be an excellent match with a long-braised lamb shank with couscous.



### Vacqueyras

2011 Vacqueyras 'Les 2 Monardes' (Domaine de la Monardière)

Sale Price \$23.99 – \$244.70 case of twelve

Having graduated from a Côtes du Rhône Villages designation itself back in 1990, Vacqueyras can welcome Cairanne into the club. 'Les 2 Monardes,' also composed of 70% Grenache and 30% Syrah, from vines that average 40 years of age, is wonderfully delicate for a Vacqueyras. Earthy and spicy, with violets, olives, and berries in the nose, this is a very pretty wine that will complement lamb cutlets (no surprise here) or even a seared duck breast.



### Caladoc

2013 Vin de Pays de Vaucluse 'La Brusquembille' (Domaine Pique-Basse)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve



While no Grenache is found in this biodynamic blend of Syrah, Merlot, and Caladoc this wine from Domaine Pique-Basse is included thanks to the Caladoc, a recent variety created from the crossing of Grenache and Malbec. One can easily detect the Grenache lineage of this full-bodied blend in its ripe aromatics and deep color. With Syrah adding savory, smoky, and spicy elements, this is perfect for a skirt steak with tapenade.

### Priorat

2013 Priorat 'G' (Buil & Giné)

Sale Price \$19.99 – \$203.90 case of twelve

We have now crossed over into Spain where Grenache is called Garnacha, and is more widely planted than in France. Buil & Giné's entry-level Priorat is a super-serious blend of Cariñena and Garnacha grown on slate soils. Full and rich, with fresh cherry and raspberry fruit in stately procession towards a dry mineral finish.



### Cairanne

2012 Côtes du Rhône Villages Cairanne (Domaine Roche)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve

Cairanne will no longer be just a Côtes du Rhône Villages. As of the 2014 vintage it will be a stand-alone appellation like Vacqueyras and Gigondas. And with this promotion prices will rise. The 2012 from Domaine Roche (70% Grenache and 30% Syrah) is a pleasingly peppery, food-friendly red that is ready

to pair with a spicy pork loin and long-simmered gigante beans.



### Who's Your Daddy?

2013 Châteauneuf-du-Pape 'Réserve' (Roger Sabon)

Sale Price \$37.99 – \$387.50 case of twelve

The most generous and complex of the Grenache growing areas is Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The 2013 Réserve from Roger Sabon uses some Syrah, Mourvèdre, and Cinsault, but the base is the powerfully rich Grenache grown in the red clay and stony soils of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. This is a packed, powerful, yet smooth wine that will be a fine match with a rack of lamb and a gratin.



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## Vernaccia

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### 2014 Vernaccia di San Gimignano 'Tradizionale' (Montenidoli)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve

The Gambero Rosso 2014 edition of Italian Wines began its essay on the Montenidoli estate by writing that “This is not only a sensational San Gimignano estate but also a benchmark for the whole of Italy, thanks to its history, style, and deep-rooted, radical convictions which rise far above standardization.” Yes, it is a sensational estate, guided by the amazing Elisabetta Faggioli. In the winery a Greek statue of Achilles stands fierce watch over the barrels. The vineyards, while located in the heart of Tuscany, feel like they are part of a large forest. Natural and organic seem normal here. The wines are land-rooted with only very subtle fruit flavor. And this all proves true with the 2014 ‘Tradizionale’ Vernaccia di San Gimignano. Sure it is made of grapes, but it tastes as much of the stony earth, the herbal fields, and the surrounding forest. A compelling dry white for fresh fish poached in a mixture of tomato, olive oil and herbs.

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## Chianti Riserva

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### 2005 Chianti Classico Riserva (Castello di Monastero)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve

Chianti is not usually thought of as an age-worthy wine, but this mature Chianti Classico Riserva proves otherwise. Small doses of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot give the 2005 Castello di Monastero some Super-Tuscan attributes such as its deep, berry fruit and gorgeous spicy tannins.

Try this with a fruit-stuffed pork loin or a full-blown, kale heavy ribollita.



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## Goose Generations

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### 2014 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 'G3' (Goose Ridge Vineyards)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve

The folks at Goose Ridge Vineyards are third-generation grape growers who have now started to bottle wine from their own vineyards. The 2014 ‘G3’ is a terrific value in an earthbound, gently fruity, delicately tannic Washington State Cabernet Sauvignon. Plum and blackberry fruit lead to a long, elegant finish.

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## Next Vintage Up

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### 2010 Puisseguin Saint-Emilion (Château Côtes de Saint Clair)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve

The 2009 of this was a big success. And while 2010 is also an excellent vintage, the two are very different. 2009 was a warm year and the Côtes de Saint Clair was packed with deep, dark, ripe fruit. The 2010 vintage has ripe fruit, but also a more firm tannic structure. Bordeaux winemakers call a vintage like 2010 ‘classique’ and wouldn’t mind if it happened every year. The 2010 Côtes de Saint Clair takes a bit of time to open up, but when it does it shows a more complex earthiness than the ripe and ready (and straightforwardly delicious) 2009. Try this at first with a bit of bread and cheese and proceed from there. For some this wine might need a year or two to show its true potential. Right now it’s a classic young Saint-Emilion.



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## Primitivo

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### 2013 Salento Primitivo 'Terramare' (Feudi di Guagnano)

Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve

Primitivo equals Zinfandel, but Feudi di Guagnano ain’t in California. Their Primitivo is dry, earthy, aromatic – and amazing with a dish of broccoli rabe, orecchietti, and spicy sausage. This wine is more subtle and crisp than most Primitivo/Zinfandel and a great value.



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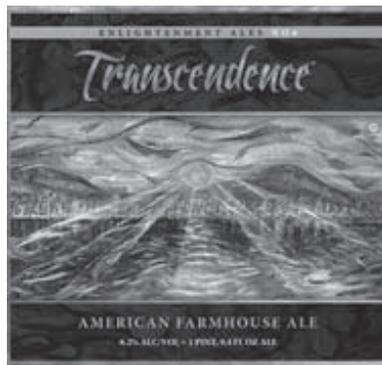
## Enlightenment Brings on the Funk

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### American Farmhouse Ale 'Transcendence' (Enlightenment Ales)

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

Beer and Ale styles keep on changing, but if you see Farmhouse Ale on the label expect an earthy, richly flavored ale.



The no.6 Transcendence from our local heroes at Enlightenment is a gorgeously complex ale with the right balance of yeasty richness and farmhouse funk to make a Belgian chicken and leek stew a supreme delight. Also a natural match with this month’s aged Gouda.

## Three Profound Austrians

Our great appreciation of dry Austrian whites runs counter to our rational ordering abilities, so it stands to (un-) reason that we purchased a little too much of these wines and we promise never to do it again. Until the next time. We hesitate to call these close-outs because they are some of our absolute favorite white wines.

### 2014 Roter Veltliner 'Fels am Wagram'



(Wimmer Czerny)

Sale Price \$15.99 – \$163.10 case of twelve

This biodynamic rare white Roter Veltliner from the land of Steiner himself captivated us with its spicy aroma and crisp dry finish.

Perfect for curries and lentils.

### 2014 Hinter der Burg Grüner Veltliner Federspiel

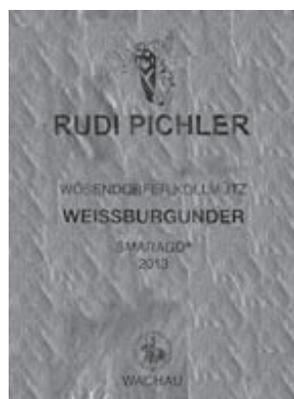


(Prager)

Sale Price \$29.99 – \$305.90 case of twelve

Prager wines never disappoint, as this superb single vineyard 'Hinter der Burg' attests. This is as dry as can be yet expresses delicate apricot fruit, hints of wild herbs, and a stony, peppery finish. Great with simple fresh fish.

### 2013 Wösendorfer Kollmütz Weissburgunder 'Smaragd'



(Rudi Pichler)

Sale Price \$49.99 – \$509.90 case of twelve

Smaragd is the highest designation for Wachau wines that are harvested late and fermented totally dry. Rudi Pichler makes a bunch of Rieslings and Grüners, but only one phenomenal Weissburgunder. The Kollmütz vineyard in Wösendorf has a southerly exposure and deep chalky soils that are perfect for Pinot Blanc. Yes,

Pinot Blanc, and it's amazing.

#### Sale Dates

**The First Quarterly Sale of the Year Begins  
Friday February 26th and runs through  
Sunday March 6th.**

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

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.

## Specialty Foods

### Bijou \$8.99 per lb. (Regular price \$9.99)



Bijou (French for "jewel") is a small format French-style crottin made with pasteurized goat's milk from family farms at Vermont Creamery. The curd coagulates overnight, drains into cheese cloth and is hand shaped into little crottins, then dried and ripened for one week.

Geotrichum rind with sweet and yeasty flavors, the cheese gains some sharpness with age. Ideal on a toasted baguette and served with a heaping salad.

### Cana de Oveja \$13.99 per lb. (Regular price \$16.99)

A soft-ripened cheese made with pasteurized sheep's milk by Lorenzo Abellen in Murcia, Spain. The distinct log shape and bloomy white rind make it is easy to mistake for Cana de Cabra, Abellen's goat's milk variety. Aged 21 days, it ripens from the outside in, so the cheese closest to the rind will be gooey with a crumbly center. Creamy and buttery, it acquires tanginess with age.



### L'Amuse Gouda \$22.99 per lb. (Regular price \$25.99)

This deep amber colored two-year gouda is made with pasteurized cow's milk, hand selected, and ripened by cheesemonger Betty Kooster at her L'amuse cheese shop in Santpoort-Noord. Unlike most Dutch Goudas, which are matured in cooler temperatures, L'amuse is aged at a mild temperature, allowing for fuller flavors to develop. A melt-in-your-mouth velvety texture with well distributed protein crystals. Aromas of roasted hazelnut and caramel, with meat and cellar notes. Nutty, caramel and salty flavors and a complex and lingering finish. We are very excited to offer this new-to-us Gouda, one of the best we've had!

### Fromager D'Affinois Campagnier \$12.99 per lb. (Regular price \$15.99)

Fromager D'Affinois' slightly more punchy sister, this French pasteurized cow's milk double-creme is washed in annatto, which yields a bright orange rind and a subtle fruitiness in the flavor.



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## Wines of the Month — February 14, 2016 through March 14, 2016

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### 2015 Tupungato Malbec (Domaine Bousquet)

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

This unoaked Malbec defies the category with its zesty mineral-ity and exquisite balance. The nose is floral, the fruit is cherry, and the finish is crisp and dry. And it's organic.

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### 2014 Carmenère Reserva (Montgras)

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

Red fruits and dusty cocoa are the primary flavors of this full-bodied Chilean Carmenère. It also features soft, ripe tannins, and subtle herb flavor. A great red for Wednesday's meatloaf and mashed potatoes.

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### 2014 Grechetto (Di Filippo)

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

This is a turning into a Wine Cask favorite white. Di Filippo's Umbrian Grechetto is a honey-scented, crisp dry white that is perfect for seared fish or roast chicken. It too is organic.

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### 2013 Alentejano Reserva (Terra Grande)

**Sale Price \$7.99 – \$86.29 case of twelve**

Once again Portuguese reds rule the value roost. The 2013 Terra Grande is a spicy, earthy mix with intensity of fruit and a crisp finish.

