

The Wine and Cheese Cask

407 Washington Street • Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

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December 16, 2022 – January 14, 2023

All The Best





2016 Brunello di Montalcino (Podere Brizio) Regular Price \$59.99 – Sale Price \$47.99 NET

There is little debate that Brunello di Montalcino is the top Sangiovese in Tuscany, and that 2016 was a great vintage. Podere Brizio makes a dense, dark Brunello from the warmest region of Montalcino. Decant for an hour and enjoy with a rib roast.

Refined Napa Cab

2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (Auctioneer) Regular Price \$27.99 – Sale Price \$21.99 NET

Michael Broadbent had a long and enviable career selling old wines for Christie's in England and he also helped start the Napa Valley Wine Auction. His son followed him into the wine trade and produces this Napa Valley Cabernet in his honor. The 2019 is a smooth, elegant Cabernet with dark fruit, woodsy spice, and a balanced, dry finish.



Cool Brut Champagne

Extra Brut Ier Cru Champagne 'Enfant de la Montagne' (Bertrand-Delespierre)

Regular Price \$39.99 - Sale Price \$34.99 NET

While the big Champagne houses have been raising their prices and restricting purchases, we have been stocking up on more affordable grower Champagnes. One of our current favorites is Bertrand-Delespierre, whose Enfant de la Montagne is a skillful blend of wine from the 2016 vintage plus reserve wines, disgorged in January 2022. This produces an aged beauty with deep reserves of toasty, biscuity flavor.

Last Champ Nalot Before Exit

2020 Givry Ier Cru 'Champ Nalot' (Parize Père et Fils) Regular Price \$33.99 – Sale Price \$27.99 NET



The Massachusetts importer for Parize was startled by the news that this family-run Burgundy estate had recently rented out their vineyards to others and had effectively retired. The Premier Cru Champ Nalot has long been our favorite

wine from Parize and the 2020 is sadly the final vintage. This is a ripe year with generous fruit and full, round tannins.

Very Classy Mâcon

2018 Viré-Clessé 'Cuvée E.J. Thevenet' (Domaine de la Bongran)

Regular Price \$51.99 – Sale Price \$41.99 NET

Long before the French wine authorities merged the villages of Viré and Clessé into a super Mâcon appellation, the Thevenet

family were producing laborintensive, long-lived Chardonnays with a touch of residual sugar. The 2018 Cuvée E.J. was produced from 65-year-old vines, took two years to ferment, and is deep, delicious, and complex. If you're interested in an older



vintage, we have a few magnums of the 2013 and 2015 vintages.

Les Olivets du Sabon

2020 Châteauneuf-du-Pape 'Les Olivets' (Roger Sabon) Regular Price \$44.99 – Sale Price \$35.99 NET



The Sabon family name is legend in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. This month we have Roger Sabon's delightfully full-bodied entry-level Les Olivets. The 2020 starts out with a strong earthy and minerally aroma leading to flavors of olive and leather, and finishes with tons of concentrated Provençal fruits and herbs. Great for

rosemary and garlic roasted leg of lamb.

Classed Growth Bordeaux

2019 Haut-Médoc Cru Classé (Château Cantemerle) Regular Price \$44.99 – Sale Price \$35.99 NET

For the most part, classed growth Bordeaux has been priced out of most wine drinkers' budgets. One that retains value and rewards aging is the long-time favorite Château Cantemerle.

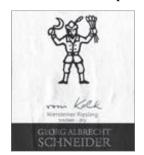
Their 2019 is delicious right now, with upfront ripe concentration of dark fruit merged with fine oak and refined tannins. This will also age well for at least a decade. Comes packaged in a traditional wooden box with six or twelve bottles.



Chalk Dry and Slate Sweet

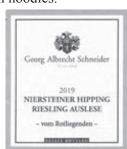
2020 Niersteiner Riesling Trocken 'Vom Kalk' (Georg Albrecht Schneider)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve 2019 Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Auslese 'Vom Rotliegenden' (Georg Albrecht Schneider) Sale Price \$14.99 per 375ml – \$152.90 case of twelve



How grapes perform in different soil types has long fascinated wine producers. This month's Riesling offerings from Schneider include a dry version grown in chalk and a late harvest sweet wine grown in red slate. The 2020 Vom Kalk is crisp and racy with a notable earthy finish. Have this with a sriracha-glazed salmon along with noodles.

The solar-retaining heat of the Rotliegenden soils helped bring the 2019 to an Auslese level of ripeness. The gorgeous nose is an infusion of ripe fruit and zesty minerals. The palate is rich in peach and mango fruit with flecks of pepper. Great on its own or combined with a cheese course.



Cru Chiroubles

2021 Chiroubles 'L'Aurore des Côtes' (Fabien Collonge) Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve

Fabien Collonge works some of the highest and steepest vineyards in Beaujolais, all by hand. The result is a fresh and



charming wine with ripe red fruit cut with a streak of graphite and a dusting of crushed violet petals. We were lucky enough to visit Fabien recently, and he shared a bottle of his 2015 which was still showing beautifully. This is a wine you could tuck away for a few years if you were so inclined. Try this with an arugula salad with goat cheese and roasted beets.

St. Émilion

2016 St. Émilion (Château Billeron Bouquey) Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve

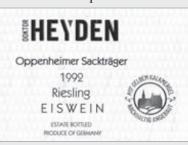
As long as Bordeaux continues to produce a billion bottles of wine per year, there will always be value somewhere within

their 37 appellations. But it still surprises us when we find a great value from the hyper-famous St. Émilion. The 2016 Billeron Bouquey delivers. It's an excellent vintage, with round plummy fruit engulfed in ripe tannin. Plus, it's absolutely ready to drink.



* Older Vintages and Rare Treats *

It's time to open the Rare Room cellar and share some aged treats. Please note, quantities are extremely limited! Ask us for a more complete cellar list.



1992 Oppenheimer Sackträger Riesling Eiswein (Dr. Heyden) Price \$64.99 per 375ml An astonishing 30-yearold ice wine from Dr. Heyden.

1964 Vouvray Demi Sec (François Pinon) Price \$199.99 NET

This is a compelling statement to Chenin Blanc and Vouvray's greatness. 58 years old and absolutely amazing.



CHINON Les Picasses

2008 Chinon 'Les Picasses' (Olga Raffault) Price \$49.99

Even though 2008 is not considered a great Loire vintage, the Raffault's Les Picasses vineyard produced a lovely Chinon. At 14 years, it's drinking beautifully.

1966 Bual Madeira (Blandy's) Price \$249.99 NET 1988 Malmsey Madeira (Blandy's) Price \$249.99 NET

Vintage Madeira lasts forever and these sweet versions from the great house of Blandy's are incredible for their length and complexity.

1987 Marsala Superiore (Marco de Bartoli) Price \$125.00 per 500ml 1988 Marsala Vergine Riserva (Marco de Bartoli) Price \$150.00 per 500ml

Marco de Bartoli rescued the reputation for Marsala with these untouched versions from the Grillo grape. The Superiore was made in a solera system and is lightly fortified. The 1988 was aged 26 years in barrel and bottled in 2014.

2011 Rioja Reserva (Lopez de Heredia) Price \$130.00 per 1.5L

The great Rioja producer releases their wines when they are ready to drink. This is their latest release in Magnum. We also have some older vintages of red, white, and rosado. Please ask if interested.

The Forsoni

2020 Rosso di Montepulciano (Poderi Sanguineto I e II) Sale Price \$27.99 – \$285.50 case of twelve

We are so lucky to get wine from the 3.5 hectare estate of Sanguineto. There is an energy and elegance to the wines made by Dora Forsoni. She does all the viticultural work, including working the soil and pruning and tying every vine. She's also in her seventies. The estate also



produces olives and has a large wheat field. Last month we featured the 2019 Vino Nobile, and this month we return to the 2020 Rosso di Montepulciano. This beautiful blend of the old local version of Sangiovese (Prugnolo Gentile) along with Canaiolo and Mammolo is drinking beautifully now. Have this with a platter of oven baked beans and some charcuterie for a real Tuscan treat.

The Big Greek Red

2019 PGI Peloponnese 'Triton' (Markogianni) Sale Price \$24.99 – \$254.90 case of twelve

Greek wines are garnering new and deserved attention. Old grape varieties are being treated with greater care by young



vignerons. The Mavrodaphne grape is well-known for its sweet, fortified wines, but there are now excellent dry versions being made in the Peloponnese. Markogianni's 2019 Triton is a bright,

floral, earthy red with fine structure and a cool, foresty finish. Fantastic with lamb and beans.

Montsant

2018 Montsant (Mas Donis) Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve

The denominació of Montsant completely encircles that of the more pricey Priorat. Certainly Priorat is justly famous for

their deep, complex wines, but Montsant delivers graceful wine of similar flavor on a smaller scale. Mas Donis' 2018 is a packed and flavorful blend of old vine Garnacha and Syrah from a high elevation Catalan site. The wine



is dark and structured, with veins of ripe fruit flavors, aromas of wild herbs, and a mouth-filling, lengthy finish. Great along with a robust winter pork pozole.

Naturally Delicious Garganega

2021 IGT Veneto Bianco 'Masieri' (Angiolino Maule) Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve



If the Maule family were following the Italian wine rules they would be in the denominazione of Gambellara. Instead, they chose to go the biodynamic route. The 2021 Masieri Bianco is made from the Garganega grape, grown in volcanic soils, spontaneously fermented, unfiltered, and with no added sulfites. For us this

is as natural as natural wine gets. It's also truly delicious, with crisp orchard fruit and minerally dryness. Have this with your favorite risotto.

Specialty Foods

Mastering Mac and Cheese

The first cheese and pasta recipes appeared in Italy in the 14th century, with more recognizably modern versions documented in 18th century England. European food traditions have no shortage of decadent, cheese-based comfort foods (fondue and raclette come quickly to mind) but none have been as thoroughly embraced and absorbed into American culture like a piping hot bowl of ooey-gooey Mac 'n Cheese! From college staple to haute cuisine, Mac and Cheese can be simple, complex, elegant, or comforting, but it's always delicious.

This month we are offering four great cheeses that are perfect for melting and can be substituted into your favorite Mac and Cheese recipe with minimal fuss!

> Smoked Gouda - \$14.99 per lb Artikaas - The Netherlands

Taleggio Riserva - \$14.99 per lbTaddei – Italy

6 Year Cheddar - \$14.99 per lb Henning's – Wisconsin

> Cantal - \$19.99 per lb Dischamp - France

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Wines of the Month — December 16, 2022 through January 14, 2023

2021 Mâcon-Villages 'La Côte Blanche' (Cave de Lugny) Sale Price \$9.99 – \$107.89 case of twelve

This capable cooperative has again turned out a great value in dry, unoaked French Chardonnay.

2019 Douro (Broadbent)

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

Broadbent's hearty, dry Douro is a smoky and spicy blend of Tinta Roriz, Tinta Barroca, Touriga Nacional, and Touriga Franca. Perfect for long-braised winter stews.

2021 Vermentino di Sardegna 'Aragosta' (Cantina Santa Maria La Palma)

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

Aragosta is a crisp, dry Vermentino from Sardinia. Perfect with a multi-course holiday seafood meal.

2020 Vino de la Tierra de Castilla Tempranillo (Paso a Paso)

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

Paso a Paso's rich, fruit-forward Tempranillo comes from Spain's high Castilian plain. Try this with a stuffed pork roast and baked rice.







