



January/ February 2020

JANUARY/FEBRUARY SELECTIONS

ITALO PIETRANTONJ

MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO 2015/This 100% Montepulciano d'Abruzzo wine spends about 6-8 months in large oak vessels but do not think that this wine is oaky. Once it has spent the wine in the oak *botti*, it is bottled and only released after a few years. By that time it has acquired nice ruby aromas of "Morello cherry and wild red berryfruit. Firmly-structured and lightly tannic, it also displays a velvet-smooth mouthfeel".

\$15.99 regular \$14.01 club

DOMAINE GUILLAUME CABROL PICPOUL DE PINET 2018

Tired of the usual whites from the holidays and want to start the new year with a new white wine...this is it. Picpoul is the grape. The importer describes it as "crisp and harmonious on the palate with the fresh characteristic of this varietal". You can serve this alone well-chilled or you can add a little bit of blackberry or blackcurrant liqueur for a great tasting aperitif. This is a white with some body.

\$13.99 regular \$12.99 club

BODEGA LAS ORCAS SOLAR DE RANDEZ RIOJA JOVEN 2017

If your search for an unoaked red wine has left you with few affordable options look no further. This wine is aged in stainless steel before bottling, resulting in a ripe (but dry) bright wine with good structure. A great introduction to the Tempranillo grape.

\$14.99 regular \$13.49club

THE THREESOME \$40.49



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Planning a party? Let Betsy help you select just the right beverages for your event.
- winetowne@sbcglobal.net
- www.towneliquorstore.com



ETERNALLY SILENCED PINOT NOIR 2017

Are you a fan of the wine The Prisoner and the other wines offered by the same company? If so, here is another tempting offer. This one is a blend of about 95% Pinot Noir with the balance being a blend of Syrah and Viognier. Nonetheless to the winery and the winemaker, “all that matters is passion. For flavor, for texture, for soil and vine”. They describe this wine as having “flavors of pine needles, cranberry, dark cherry, cedar, clove, brown spice. Very soft, red berry, balanced acidity, smooth, fresh, ample structure with seamless tannins”. We are intrigued by the wine and bottle itself. The mystery awaits.

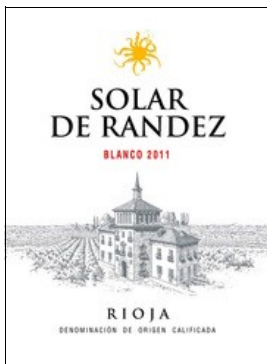
\$51.99/bottle



SALENTEIN NUMINA CABERNET FRANC 2014

Argentina is an incredibly beautiful country. The grapes and soil are a match made practically in heaven because the vineyards are so high above sea level. You can see how much the Argentine wine category has grown just by looking at how many offerings there are on the shelf these days. But it isn't just about Malbec or Torrontes. The available wines now extend into some of the other Bordeaux varieties. A great example is this wine—Cabernet Franc. A grape often used in a blend but on the other hand is outstanding all on its own. Vineyards are planted at high elevations which gives them two advantages: Water and temperature. It allows for better ripening and “better balance between sugars and acids”. This wine has typical notes of Cab Franc hinting at cassis and blueberries. On the palate it is ripe, luscious and round.

\$41.99/bottle



BODEGA LAS ORCAS SOLAR DE RANDEZ BLANCO 2017

This small winery dates back to the early 1900s. The family run winery makes wine using only their own grapes, they use no artificial fertilizers or pesticides and all the wines are vegan-friendly. Note that this is the same winery that produces one of the red wines that is featured in the January / February Selection. While Rioja reds have long been popular, you should also think about trying the whites from this region. The grape here is 100% Viura (aka Macabeo in Catalunya). The wine did not undergo malolactic fermentation so it is fresh and elegant. It is nicely balanced and has texture, and is very versatile with food. This wine is raised with no exposure to oak.

\$16.99/bottle

LAELY CABERNET SAUVIGNON NAPA 2012

Laely Cabernet Sauvignon is made by Heron. Heron focuses on making wine from what many consider to be some of the best land in Napa: Howell Mountain, Rutherford, Atlas Peak and Oakville. This is 90% Cabernet Sauvignon and 10% Petite Verdot (a grape that certainly gives this wine a great amount of backbone). It definitely was worth waiting for. This elegant wine is very approachable yet age worthy. It's medium bodied and silky on the palate. After decanting this beauty it will continue to develop in the glass.

\$29.99/bottle



JOSEPH DROUHIN MACON LUGNY "LES CRAYS" 2018

Did someone say white Burgundy? Well, here is one very modestly priced one from the Macon region. The grape? Why of course it is Chardonnay! You wouldn't know it because it is not on the label. It's just the way the rules are written. But know this—Drouhin has been making both expensive and inexpensive Burgundy for a long time. Les Cray is a vineyard north of Pouilly Fuisse. The tasting note from Veronique Boss-Drouhin hints at what awaits you, "The wine reveals an appealing freshness. It combines the maturity of the fruit and freshness over an almost salty structure. It shows a shining color, a nose reminiscent of flower and peach, and a full mouth with a mineral finish".

\$17.99/bottle



ROWANS CREEK KENTUCKY BOURBON

We could tell you how Bourbon has made a comeback...in a big way. We could tell you that there are many many Bourbons now available on the market. If you drink Bourbon on a regular basis you already know that there may be a shortage of your favorite Bourbon. Supplies are getting tighter. Having said that, we are offering this beauty from the Willett Distillery. Here is a note by Bill Thomas of Jack Rose Dining Saloon, "Bringing your nose to the glass and your olfactory is treated to caramel and vanilla layered on herbal and floral notes. The mouthfeel starts oily but finishes dry. On the palate you are treated to sweet caramel, vanilla, dusted in floral notes... finishing notes of oak and a lingering spiciness."

\$41.99/bottle





INVIVO X SJP SAUVIGNON BLANC 2019

New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc and Sarah Jessica Parker are incredibly popular—even if they are completely different things. What they do have in common is that those who love NZSB and SJP are completely smitten. Collaborations between celebrities and wineries are not uncommon. Both the Invivo and SJP have garnered a lot of accolades. The important test is how does it taste? “Abundant notes of grapefruit, honeysuckle, passionfruit and citrus zest evolve from the glass. At first, the palate is expansive and leads with a wall of sweet-scented fruits and a soft - but balanced - acid spine. The mid-palate grows to another level, where supple phenolics offer a framework to further lift the fruit. The wine continues to unfold and is very long and persistent”.

\$17.99/bottle



FIREFLY HOLLOW BARREL BLEND #2 FORTUITY

This very small brewery in Bristol Connecticut is putting out some really great beers. This is not an India Pale Ale, a Double India Pale Ale, or a New England Pale Ale. It is a Barrel Aged Peach Sour Ale. Their front label, in very small writing, reads “I’d like to introduce you to our line of blended barrel aged ales. Sometimes there’s more at work than a brewer’s experience, skill or stupidity. In fact, sometimes something beautiful is born despite those things. Fortuity is a celebration of the wild art of barrel aging and blending.” Invite this refreshing summer reminder into your home.

\$13.99/ 16.9 oz. bottle

Towne Liquor Store

Established in 1948, Towne Liquor Store has been the premier supplier of excellent wine, craft beer and spirits in South Eastern Connecticut. We are located close to both Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun casinos.

Along with our great selection we can also advise you on your spirited beverage needs.

ICE

One of the most important aspects of making drinks and serving wine is temperature. We don't often think about temperature unless the temperature is in some way not right.

Think about the cube of ice you need for the shaken martini or the block of ice you need for the summer party punch. Either way you want ice that is pure, clean and brilliant.

While at many other places you are buying ice made by someone else, at Towne we have our own icehouse. We make our own beautiful ice.

The ice is available in cubes. Not only is Towne your source for fine spirits, excellent wine and craft beer of all types, we are the place to ensure that all of those things are at the right temperature.

Ice. Ice. Baby.

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