



The Wine and Cheese Cask

407 Washington Street • Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

(617) 623-8656

December 16, 2021 – January 14, 2022

All The Best

Brunello

2016 Brunello di Montalcino (Ciacci Piccolomini d’Aragona)
Regular Price \$59.99 – Sale Price \$47.99 NET

In a denominazione riddled with triple digit wines, Ciacci Piccolomini d’Aragona produces elegant, accessible, and super-smooth Brunello. Their 2016 is a joy.



Barbaresco

2016 Barbaresco (Cantina del Pino)
Regular Price \$41.99 – Sale Price \$34.99 NET

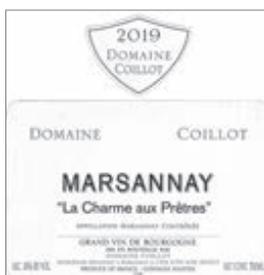


The historic pine tree that gives the Cantina del Pino its name may be the symbolic birthplace of Barbaresco. Their 2016 is a suave, aromatic Nebbiolo with graceful tannins and a lingering finish.

Côte de Nuits

2019 Marsannay ‘La Charme aux Prêtres’ (Domaine Coillot)
Regular Price \$39.99 – Sale Price \$29.99 NET

Brimming with cherries in the nose, this Pinot Noir’s silky texture and weight balance out the intensity of its aromas. A suggestion of licorice spice in the finish keeps its beauty interesting. This Burgundy is a great value from a highly lauded vintage.



Champagne

Brut Champagne (Marie Weiss)
Regular Price \$34.99 – Sale Price \$24.99 NET



We didn’t think it was possible to find Champagne for this price anymore, especially one with this pedigree. As the second label of Ployez-Jacquemart, the Marie Weiss cuvée is sourced from their Premier and Grand Cru sites and is almost equal parts Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier, and Chardonnay. Pleasantly nutty and toasty, it also holds on to its fresh apple fruit and honeysuckle aromas. This makes it a lovely partner to all the courses of a dinner and, of course, the toasts.

Chablis Premier

2019 Chablis Ier Cru ‘Montée de Tonnerre’ (Louis Michel)
Regular Price \$49.99 – Sale Price \$39.99 NET

Chablis is our favorite Chardonnay, and in the 2019 vintage we have re-discovered the wines of Louis Michel. All of their wines are raised in stainless steel vats to preserve and highlight the mineral nature of Chablis. Montée de Tonnerre is a sun-soaked Premier Cru vineyard that in 2019 gives rich fruit and earthy minerality. Terrific now and even better as it ages for at least a decade.



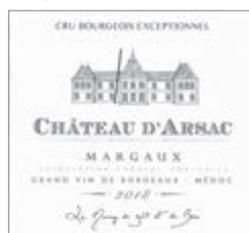
Big New House

2019 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Domaine de la Janasse)
Regular Price \$59.99 – Sale Price \$44.99 NET

The extended Sabon family tree hovers over Châteauneuf-du-Pape, maintaining a holy status at a number of estates. One of our favorite branches is Domaine de la Janasse, whose 2019 is a monumental Southern Rhône red with dark fruit, spicy tannins, and a deep, long finish. This is Grand Cru Grenache with a 20 year lifespan.

Cru Exceptionnel

2018 Margaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel (Château d’Arsac)
Regular Price \$39.99 – Sale Price \$31.99 NET

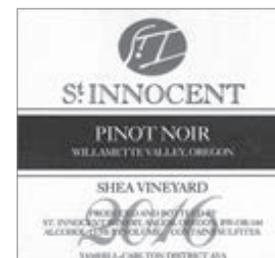


Classed growth prices for Bordeaux have risen dramatically in recent years. Luckily, d’Arsac in Margaux has produced an exceptional 2018 yet priced it affordably. This is an old-school Médoc, heavily weighted with Cabernet Sauvignon leading to a lovely crushed violet aroma and an iron and graphite mineral-laden finish.

Shea of Yamhill-Carlton

2016 Yamhill-Carlton Pinot Noir ‘Shea Vineyard’ (St. Innocent)
Regular Price \$49.99 – Sale Price \$39.99 NET

Shea Vineyard has become one of the iconic sites for Oregon Pinot Noir. St. Innocent has been producing great Pinot Noir from Shea for decades, and their 2016 is a cherry-scented delight. It’s also packed with gorgeous tannins and earthy, foresty flavor.



Dr. Heyden

2019 Oppenheimer Riesling Kabinett (Dr. Heyden)

Sale Price \$11.99 – \$122.30 case of twelve



Dr. Frank Heyden had a great vintage in 2019. His Silvaner is stellar. The Sackträger Grosses Gewächs was deep and delicious. But his best value is this Oppenheimer Riesling Kabinett. Everything is in the right place:

the nose is pristine with apple and herbal aromas, the palate is saturated with ripe, fruity flavor and just a hint of sweetness, and the finish is crisp and dry. Try this with spicy noodle dishes and simple broiled fish.

Banned in Burgundy, Beloved in Boston

2020 Muscadet Sèvre et Maine 'Le Verger' (Luneau-Papin)

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

Way back in 1567 Philip II banned the Melon grape from Burgundy. It then found a better home in the Loire Valley, where it took on the name Melon de Bourgogne, a.k.a. Muscadet. The vines have adapted well to the maritime climate and the varied soils of the Pays Nantais, spurring a late 20th century renaissance for the previously maligned grape. The Luneau-Papin clan bottles vineyard-specific Muscadet that are perfect for the seafood of the North Atlantic. Their 2020 Le Verger is not as fruity or forbidden as the label suggests; it drinks like a rich, dry white with a deep core of minerals. Tasted blind, we might have guessed Burgundy. Have this with a pan-roasted haddock, fingerling potatoes, and a celery root remoulade.



La Barbera

2019 Barbera d'Alba (G.D. Vajra)

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



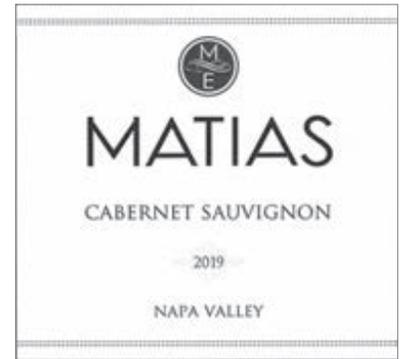
Once again we find ourselves dipping into the well of one of our most trusted Barolo producers, G.D. Vajra, for their endless source of reliably delicious reds. Their 2019 Barbera is our current favorite, thanks to its smooth concentration of fragrant dark berry fruit laced with spices and herbs. This tangy, succulent red is the perfect partner for a braised pork or any red-sauced pasta.

Napa Cab

2019 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (Matias)

Sale Price \$24.99 – \$254.90 case of twelve

Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is the biggest cash crop in California. The delivery system for most Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is lashings of expensive oak with thick, fruity flavor and a high price tag. Fortunately, there are still some balanced and affordable bottles to be found. The 2019 Matias is a well-mannered Napa Cab with enough fruit and oak to please a Cab lover, along with a measured, tannic finish which will accent a bowl of chili and a spinach salad.



Sancerre

2020 Sancerre (Lucien Reymond)

Sale Price \$24.99 – \$254.90 case of twelve

We are bracing for a shortage of Sancerre due to the frosts earlier this year that affected the 2021 vintage. So, we find ourselves fortunate to offer this new organically grown 2020 from Lucien Reymond, which is grown on limestone and delivers a racy, full-flavored Sauvignon Blanc experience. A quintessential wine for seared salmon with lentils on a bed of braised greens.



Pinot Pfalz

2019 Pinot Blanc (Koehler-Ruprecht)

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

Pinot is a big category that encompasses some of the greatest grapes in the world. There is no replacement for Pinot Noir, but we continue to champion the underrated Pinot Blanc. France's Alsace makes very good Pinot Blanc, but we also find excellent wines and great value in Italy's Alto Adige and Germany's Pfalz region. As evidence of the latter we have the new 2019 vintage from Koehler-Ruprecht. Its beautiful apple aromas, medium body, and spicy, long finish are perfect for a roast chicken as well as a simple boiled lobster.



Pink Prosecco

Vino Spumante Brut 'Il Rosa' (Sommariva)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$161.89 case of twelve

Sommariva, one of our favorite Prosecco producers, makes this rosé version from vines just outside the Valdobbiadene borders.

Using the local Raboso grape along with Pinot Nero, they make a lively sparkling wine with fresh strawberry fruit and a zesty, dry finish.

A perfect holiday instant spritz aperitivo.



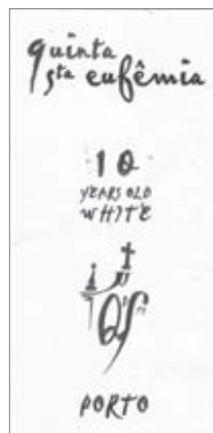
After Dinner Delights

10 Years Old White Port (Quinta de Santa Eufemia)

Sale Price \$24.99 per 500 ml - \$269.90 case of twelve

10 Years Old Tawny Port (Quinta de Santa Eufemia)

Sale Price \$18.99 per 375 ml - \$205.09 case of twelve



The Carvalho family has been at the helm of Quinta de Santa Eufemia in Portugal's Douro region for four generations. Their white port is a seductive concoction of honey, flowers, candied nuts, and golden raisins. Slightly chilled, it's bound to charm on its own or with fruit tarts. For those more in the mood for chocolate

desserts or blue cheese, we suggest the 10 Year Tawny. Like the white port, the 10 Year Tawny is made from a blend of local grape varieties that have been foot-stomped and aged for ten years in barrel. Along with aromas and flavors of nuts and dried fruits, there's a quiet hint of woody spice. The smaller bottle formats of both make them an affordable luxury.



Fondue White



2020 Savoie Blanc (Viallet)

Sale Price \$12.99 – \$132.50 case of twelve

Wines from the Savoie got a little more respect this year, as a recent article in the New York Times attests. The 2020 from Viallet, made from the Jacquère grape variety, is a crisp, refreshing, mineral-laden white that is perfect for a light seafood meal and a cheese fondue.

Specialty Foods

Uplands Cheese Company — uplandscheese.com

Rush Creek Reserve \$36.99 per 12oz piece

Pleasant Ridge Reserve \$31.99 per lb

Rush Creek Reserve is one of the most highly anticipated seasonally made cheeses in America. This incredible cheese is made in the style of Vacherin Mont d'or. The cheese is only produced in the late fall when the cows have switched from wild grasses to hay and their milk is rich and sweet. This soft cheese is best served at room temperature or gently warmed in the oven. Get in on this while you can: inventory is extremely limited! The flagship cheese from Uplands Cheese Company in Wisconsin, **Pleasant Ridge Reserve** holds the distinction of being the most awarded cheese in American history. This alpine-style cheese has won the American Cheese Society's Best of Show three times, the only cheese with that honor. In keeping with the tradition of the alpine cheeses after which it is modeled, it is only made in the summer months while the herd is grazing on pastures. The flavor is incredibly balanced—fruity, nutty, and grassy nuances are all tied together by umami richness—and it carries a long, lingering finish.

Adopt An Alp — adopt-an-alp.com

Lau Alpage \$31.99 per lb

Ruosalp Alpkäse \$29.99 per lb

Gantrischli Vacherin Fribourgeois DOP \$34.99 per lb

Alpe Marais Raclette \$24.99 per lb

This year we are very excited to take part in the Adopt an Alp program. Created by Caroline Hostettler, this program connects American cheese shops with small scale family-owned and co-operative cheesemakers in Switzerland. These cheeses are reserved in the summer and delivered in the winter to help these small producers plan their production and maintain the grazing and cheesemaking traditions that have endured for centuries. Make sure to check out the AaA website for information, photos, and videos of this wonderful community. Inventory is limited so try them while you can!

The Wine and Cheese Cask

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Wines of the Month — December 16, 2021 through January 14, 2022

2020 Mâcon-Villages 'La Côte Blanche' (Cave de Lugny)

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

The ever-reliable Cave de Lugny has produced another fine Chardonnay value with its 2020 La Côte Blanche. Its clean, crisp dryness and surprising concentration make it fit for a roast fowl and a cheesy potato gratin.

2020 Navarra Garnacha (Viña Zorzal)

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

Zorzal makes fine varietal wines in Northern Spain's Navarra district. The 2020 Garnacha is deep and dark with spicy plum fruit and ripe tannins. Great with a bean and mushroom stew.

2019 Sangiovese (Di Majo Norante)

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

Di Majo Norante's 2019 Sangiovese is a full-flavored, cherry-fruited red that is perfect for lasagna and spicy sausages.

2019 Pinot Noir (Rickshaw)

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

Rickshaw has again produced an excellent Pinot Noir. The 2019 is friendly with berry fruit and a light, balanced structure. Great with seared salmon and lentils.

