

White Wine by the Glass

Rosé, Renard	2006	California	9
A blend of half Syrah and half Grenache, this rosé has it all. Its round on the palate with fresh berry, it finishes lean and with awesome acidity. It would go with most of the food on our menu and is certainly big enough to stand up to some meats as well. Great stuff!			
Viognier, Michael Austin, <i>High Flyer</i>	2005	Lodi	10
What a rich, full-bodied Viognier. Not overdone, just pure Viognier flavor, concentrated. Pear and honeysuckle lead to a creamy, full finish that is balanced by just enough acidity.			
Chardonnay, Cono Sur	2005	Central Valley, Chile	7
This chardonnay is fresh and crisp in style, which is well-balanced with subtle, pure, focused fruit characters and no use of oak. This shows how you can make a great wine affordable.			
Chardonnay, Sanford	2006	Santa Barbara County	12
Arriving from Santa Barbara County more than 25 years ago, this award winning chardonnay demonstrates what makes Sanford wines sought the world over. It has the breeding, complexity, and style found in all the great wines of the world.			
Segura Viudas, <i>Cava Brut</i>	NV	Catalonia, Spain	9/split
Elegant and harmonious on the nose. Fresh and well balanced on the palate; ample flavors; the predominance of Macabeo is obvious. Very persistent fine mousse.			
Riesling, Noble House	2006	Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, Germany	10
Awesome Riesling! It has forward ripe peach and apricot aromas and flavors, and reflects the minerality typical of the Middle Moselle slate terrain. Its finish is long and lingering.			
Pinot Gris, Tangent, <i>Paragon Vineyard</i>	2005	Edna Valley	11
This wine shows vibrant minerality and traditional hints of a pine-resin character. Tropical and stone fruits jump from the glass, but are well balanced by a bit of lemon and nice acid backbone.			
Pinot Grigio, Rheinhessen, <i>Klostor</i>	2006	Germany	8
Do not expect your typical watered-down Grigio. Bright, light and unrelenting ripe. White grapefruit is almost upstaged by juicy apples and minerals.			
Borra Vineyards, Fusion	2006	Lodi	9
A white Rhone blend of Viognier, Marsanne and Rousanne. Amazing concentration with a nose of gooseberries and some guava. Great length, structure and a surprising amount of acidity!			
Rousanne, Renard	2005	Santa Ynez Valley	10
Almond blossom, ripe nectarine, apricot, and honeycomb are apparent upon first sniff, balanced by a citrus-like freshness and mineral elements. A bright entry then builds power with ripe, honeyed stone fruit, melon, and mint.			
Sauvignon Blanc, Petroni	2006	Sonoma	12
Petroni hired a new winemaker and this is his first white. Great balanced, but still concentrated Blanc. Begins with surprising tropical and melon flavor and flows closely with bright lasting acid.			

Red Wine by the Glass

M. Chapoutier, Belleruche	2005	Côtes-du-Rhône Villages	8
This is a blend of half Syrah and half Grenache. The nose is dominated by fruits, predominantly Black Cherry and wild strawberries. This wine is well structured Cotes du Rhone with soft tannins and medium length. A white spice and warm final finish it all.			
Merlot, Raymond R Collection	2005	California	10
This is a big fruit-forward, well-structured Merlot that opens with aromas of black cherry, raspberry, plum, chocolate, black pepper, spice, cedar and vanilla bean. It fills the mouth with black cherry, blackberry, black licorice, plum, hints of nutmeg and spicy oak followed by toasty vanilla in the smooth finish. This medium-bodied wine is well balanced and approachable with a good combination of acid and tannins.			
Pinot Noir, Capioux, <i>Chimera</i>	2006	Sonoma County	16
This wine has a dark ruby garnet color. Rich and heady aromas of ripe plum, pomegranate, brown sugar and spice with sweet oak and high tone cherry notes. Big and bold on the palate with a persistent finish.			
Pinot Noir, Argyle	2006	Wilmamette Vally	13
The Flavors are a viscous blend of ripe black cherry and plum nectar, centered with pleats of spiciness. A juicy cherry pie finish coats the tongue with Argyle's characteristic "silky" texture.			
Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley	2005	Alexander Valley	12
Medium to full-bodied, this Cab has abundant layers of cherry and currant with a long finish.			
Cabernet Sauvignon, Robert Craig, <i>Affinity</i>	2004	Napa Valley	16
This is a dark ruby/purple-hued, elegant effort displaying notes of lead pencil, new wood, spice, and black cherries. Bordeaux-like in its weight, texture, and austere, dry tannins, this finesse-styled red possesses good flavors, purity, and overall balance.			
Borra Vineyards, Fusion	2005	Lodi	10
A great blend of Syrah, Petite Syrah, Alcante Bouchet, and Zinfandel. Deep rich color, with a purple edge. Powerful aroma of ripe fruits, including berries and plums, with delicate notes of vanilla. Big and rich on the palate, the wine combines softer tannins with a long and luscious finish.			
Syrah, Renard	2005	Sonoma County	9
The palate shows the bright fruit components and the natural berry acidity, but there is a juicy dark blackberry and lush plum/kirsch with a broad mid palate and lovely integrated acidity that lengthens the finish.			
Shiraz, 3 Rings	2006	Barossa Valley	9
Its dense purple color is accompanied by a flamboyant, extroverted bouquet of blackberries, white flowers, earth, and background oak. The wine offers pure, supple, blackberry and cassis fruit intermixed with hints of graphite and camphor.			

Champagne & Sparkling Wine

Avinyo, <i>Cava Brut</i>	NV	Cava, Spain	40
This non-vintage Cava Brut (made from 80% free run juice and aged 18 months) is a tasty, light to medium-bodied, dry sparkler. Notes of bread dough, grapefruit, and other citrus as well as tiny pinpoint bubbles are offered in a refreshing, vigorous style.			
Bruno Paillard, <i>N.P.U., "Nec Plus Ultra"</i>	1995	Reims	245
Phenomenal bouquet. Asian spices, roses, citrus blossom and fresh chanterelle segue into apple, bread and grilled nuts. Very fresh, harmonious and minerally, with a seamless texture and an aftertaste of ginger. Plenty of life ahead.			
Bruno Paillard, <i>Blanc de Blancs</i>	NV	Champagne	135
Very good, soft bubbly. Good with food and for light desserts as it's not too heavy with the bubbles. Honeysuckle and pear on the nose and an expressive finish.			
Comte A. de Dampierre, <i>Grand Cuvee</i>	NV	Champagne	68
Prominent note of honey on top of a somewhat fruity bouquet. Nice finish, overall very pleasant to drink. Dry without any sharpness, elegant.			

Rosé

Beckman Vineyards, Purisima Mountain Vineyard	2005	Santa Ynez Valley	36
Great structure and mouth-feel from a rosé that is made to be a rosé from the growing all of the way through to bottling. It's not just runoff juice; it's made with a purpose. Good acidity, floral notes, and a very long clean finish.			
Carlei	2006	Victoria	38
Really good, dry as a bone rose. Great texture with red berry, juicy strawberry and balanced by very good acidity. Made from Shiraz and Nebbiolo grapes.			
Renard	2006	California	34
A blend of half Syrah and half Grenache, this rosé has it all. Its round on the palate with fresh berry, it finishes lean and with awesome acidity. It would go with most of the food on our menu and is certainly big enough to stand up to some meats as well. Great stuff!			
Ampelos	2007	Santa Barbara	38
A dry rose with lots of fruit and refreshing flavors. It complements spicy dishes as well as salads and a traditional turkey dinner.			

Sauvignon Blanc

Petroni	2006	Sonoma	42
Petroni hired a new winemaker and this is his first white. Great balanced, but still concentrated Blanc. Begins with surprising tropical and melon flavor and flows closely with bright lasting acid.			
Rudd	2006	Napa Valley	62
The wine is stunningly complex, with notes of guava, fig, honeydew melons, and even a touch of honeysuckle in a floral sense. Not put through malolactic, the wine has zesty acidity, but this is a wine with no shortage of richness, texture, and a remarkably long finish. Less than 1,500 cases produced.			
Southern Right	2006	Walker Bay, South Africa	28
Wonderful balance of forward fruit and minerality with a generous complexity to complement the wine's natural varietal fruitiness.			

Chardonnay

- Dierberg 2005 Santa Maria Valley 68
There is a strong impression of acidity a finish that lingers for nearly a minute on the palate. Deep mango, grapefruit and lemon grass aromas balanced with fresh lemon peel notes and a creamy hazelnut impression. Great structure and balance in this wine.
- Cakebread 2006 Napa Valley 78
This chardonnay displays lovely ripe pear and sweet citrus aromas lifted by fragrant white flower and subtle toasty oak scents. On the palate, a sleek entry expands into a creamy, concentrated mid-palate with rich lemon zest, melon, white peach and vanilla flavors segueing seamlessly into a refreshingly flinty, mineral-tinged finish.
- Hanzell 2004 Sonoma Valley 108
It is the best Chardonnay they have ever made, hands down. Like real Grand Cru Burgundy, oozing Chassagne Montrachet. Pure, focused fruit, structure, balance, and acidity.
- Ramey, *Hyde Vineyard* 2005 Napa & Carneros 110
This chardonnay boasts great intensity along with huge tropical fruit notes interwoven with notions of spring flowers, orange marmalade, white peaches, and steely minerals. Its abundant fruit conceals any evidence of wood. Well-delineated, with outstanding acidity as well as a layered, sumptuous finish.
- Ramey, *Hyde Vineyard* 2001 Napa & Carneros 138
From one of California's best producers. He is not well known to the public, but there is a cult following for him in the industry as he influences many young winemakers. The wine reveals a floral, feminine-like, perfumed, stylish nose offering aromas of white peaches, pineapples, honeyed citrus, and background mineral characteristics.
- Cono Sur 2005 Central Valley, Chile 24
This Chardonnay is fresh and crisp in style, which is well-balanced with subtle, pure, focused fruit characters and no use of oak. This shows how you can make a great wine affordable.
- Destino 2004 Napa Valley 65
Quite round and tropical on the nose with medium oak. A fullish palate, with the oak building in the mouth. This is a pleasant, full Napa Chardonnay.

Wildly Witty Whites

Borra Vineyards, Fusion	2006	Lodi	36
A white Rhone blend of Viognier, Marsanne and Rousanne. Amazing concentration with a nose of gooseberries and some guava. Great length, structure and a surprising amount of acidity!			
Henschke, Tilly's Blend	2005	Barossa Valley	38
Green gold in color. Sweet and fragrant with delicate lifted aromas of clover blossom, lemon curd, white peach and hints of pear, clove and gooseberry. The sweet fruit palate is soft and juicy with good intensity exhibiting citrus fruits, good length and a crisp finish.			
Rousanne, Renard	2005	Santa Ynez Valley	40
Almond blossom, ripe nectarine, apricot, and honeycomb are apparent upon first sniff, balanced by a citrus-like freshness and mineral elements. A bright entry then builds power with ripe, honeyed stone fruit, and mint.			
Viognier, High Flyer, <i>Borra Vineyard</i>	2004	Lodi	49
What a rich, full-bodied Viognier. Not overdone, just pure Viognier flavor, concentrated. Flavors of pear and honeysuckle lead to a creamy, full finish balanced perfectly by just enough acidity.			
Viognier, Voss Vineyards	2004	Carneros	44
This wine exhibits intensely perfumed aromas of nectarine, apricot, jasmine and honeysuckle. On the palate, it offers exotic flavors of papaya and orange peel with a luscious lingering finish.			

White Alsatian Varietals

Auxerrois, Rolly Gassmann, <i>Moenchreben de Rorschwihr</i>	2001	Alsace	48
The nose is floral, smoky with some flinty aromas and a touch of almond. It is soft, refined and pure in the mouth with a good acidity drawing a long finish. Don't be fooled by the age of the wine, Gassmann releases the wine only when he believes they are ready to drink.			
Gewurztraminer, Rolly Gassmann	2003	Alsace	74
The winery stores 800 000 bottles from various vintages 1990, 1994, 1996 to the latest vintages. The wines are left to rest quietly until they are ready for release. This Gewurz is more than fantastic, awesome balance of lychee fruit, terroir and acidity.			
Pinot Grigio, Terlato Vineyards	2006	Russian River Valley	43
Fresh melon, pear and stone fruit on the nose. Fresh and balanced, nice weight in mid-palate, lively acidity and crisp, long finish.			
Pinot Grigio, Alois Lageder	2006	Alto Adige, Italy	43
Spicy & flowery aroma, buttery and slightly smoky flavor. Pinot Grigio as it was meant to be!!			
Riesling, Rolly Gassmann, <i>Kappelweg de Rorschweih</i>	1996	Alsace, France	126
Mind blowingly beautiful! Hard to imagine a white can not only last a decade, but still possess power, structure, and youthfulness. Very rich, yet with a complex range of flavors to match. Apricot, quince and white pepper notes stay focused courtesy of the firm structure.			
Riesling, Joh. Jos. Prüm, <i>Wehlener Sonnenuhr</i>	2004	Mosel Saar Ruwer, Germany	74
From the famed producer comes this single vineyard dry Riesling that sings with power and finesse. Aromas of granny smith apple, cinnamon, lime honeydew, and vanilla. The palate shows juicy spiced apple, melon, and lime fruit while remaining delicate to the touch.			

Merlot

Atalon	2002	Napa Valley	50
Great value wine for the vintage. Aromas of black cherry and pomegranate, great extraction with fine balance of tannins make this mine a great food wine no matter what you are eating. Long finish with almost a hint of spiciness makes this wine a great value.			
Lassègue	2003	Saint-Émilion	80
As the lack of the "Chateau" in front of their name suggests, this wine is not your typical un-ripened, dusty Bordeaux that has to wait 10 years to be enjoyable. It's juicy, ripe, and expansive. Mostly Merlot with a backdrop of Cab Franc, it expresses elegance and complexity.			
Miner, <i>Stagecoach Vineyard</i>	2004	Napa Valley	55
Richly woven red fruit flavors with mocha and some slight earthy-cedar box aromas; our Merlot has a wonderful round mouthfeel. Challenged by the rocky volcanic soils of this mountainous vineyard site, the vines at Stagecoach produce fruit of extraordinary quality and intensity.			
Tangley Oaks	2003	Napa Valley	32
This is honestly a good deal of a Merlot, especially from Napa. Good red berry and plum flavors along with notes of espresso and cassis. With firm tannins and a lingering finish, the wine will pair well with grilled meats and game.			

Zinfandel

Howell Mountain Vineyards, <i>Beatty Ranch</i>	2005	Howell Mountain	67
Yes, this is right, a Zin from Howell Mountain. This wine has a great complexity and coming from a cooler climate allows all the grapes to ripen at the same time. Soft tannins are complemented by full bodied, well structured, all together different and interesting Zin, like nothing you've ever tasted!			
Mauritson, <i>Grower's Reserve</i>	2002	Dry Creek Valley	72
Wow, 257 cases made! Rich and chocolaty on the nose, layered berry fruit framed by firm, structured tannin and a rush of pure intensity.			
Rusden, Chookshed	2003	Barossa Valley, Australia	128
One of the very few Zins from Australia. It's gorgeous! The only other Zin I have had that compares in sheer enjoyability is from Turley. It's that good... period.			
Spencer Roloson, <i>Madder Lake Vineyard</i>	2003	Clear Lake	58
Good blackberry nose leads to a well-structured, full-bodied wine. Very enjoyable!			
Wine Guerrilla, <i>Ponzo Vineyard</i>	2005	Russian River Valley	48
95 cases! A blend of mostly Zin, but with Petite Sirah added in. Good, juicy but not at all over sweet and over ripe. The wine is balanced; it has great structure and a good amount of tannin.			

Grenache

Grenache, Beckman Vineyards, <i>Purisima Mountain</i>	2004	Santa Ynez Valley	80
Awesome Grenache, some of the best made anywhere! Fruit-driven silky texture just sings. The wine is built with a very low yielding vineyard and displays red berry and cherry notes.			
Grenache, Kalleske, <i>Basket Pressed</i>	2004	Barossa Valley	125
This wine exhibits a deep ruby color along with a big, rich perfume of candied black cherries, raspberries, licorice, and pepper. Abundant spice, a heady, concentrated mouthfeel, and a blockbuster finish suggest this terrific old vine Grenache.			

Distinctively Eccentric Reds

Boekenhoutskloof, The Chocolate Block	2005	Franschhoek, South Africa	66
A blend of Syrah, Grenache, Cabernet, & Cinsault make this a seriously enjoyable bottle of wine! Hints of dark chocolate and ripe fruit are dominant here. Good weight and structure are followed by very fine tannin and some acidity. Just plain fun!			
Charbono, Tofanelli	2004	Napa Valley	90
Very few people in the world make a Charbono, and this guy does it better than just about anybody. Cran-raspberry juice, black cherry, black currant, blueberry compote, creamy butterscotch, cigar tobacco, leather, pencil lead and wet stones.			
Domaine de Bila Haut, Occultum Lapidem	2005	Cotes du Roussillon, France	45
Michel Chapoutier's Cotes du Roussillon Occultum Lapidem is a beautiful wine with loads of chocolatey, black cherry, and cassis fruit intermixed with licorice, pepper, and garrigue. Provencal, with medium to full body, a dense richness to the fruit, and a long heady finish.			
Pinotage, Fort Ross	2003	Sonoma Coast	68
I fell in love with this wine when I had it at Zazu in Sonoma. Pure and delicious, with a core of ripe blackberry, wild berry and cherry fruit that's supported by lively acidity, yet ripe tannins.			
Spencer Roloson, <i>Palaterra</i>	2003	California	36
A Rhone-style combination of Syrah, Carignane, & Valdiguie. Dark, rich, juice leads to a core of ripe black cherry flavor balanced by just enough structure.			
Sangiovese, Stagliano	2005	Rutherford	205
Only sold at the winery. 2 barrels a year. From the famed Staglin Family Vineyard. Absolutely massive, ink colored wine. Huge, dark fruit on the nose followed by a great mid-palate, tons of fine tannin, and a finish that doesn't quit. A very rare find.			
Quinta de Roriz, <i>Reserva</i>	2003	Duoro, Portugal	52
A great wine from Portugal that is not in the more well known "Port" style. A blend of 3 native grapes, the wine is concentrated and intense. Shows plenty of French roast flavors, with dark cherry, flanked plum, mineral and smoke. Silky tannins fill the caressing finish.			
Yalumba, <i>The Signature</i>	2003	Barossa Valley	75
This is a blend of about half and half Cabernet and Shiraz it reveals an inky/purple color, impressive levels of richness, and sweet notes of charcoal, acacia flowers, blackberries, tar, and pepper. This wine spent 22 months in 300 liter American and French hogsheads.			
Borra Vineyards, Fusion	2005	Lodi	42
A great blend of Syrah, Petite Syrah, Alcante Bouchet, and Zinfandel. Deep rich color, with a purple edge. Powerful aroma of ripe fruits, including berries and plums, with delicate notes of vanilla. Big and rich on the palate, the wine combines softer tannins with a long and luscious finish.			

Syrah

Ampelos	2005	Santa Rita hills	68
Very small production! Notes of tapenade, green olives, cassis and black cherries are presented in a medium-bodied, fresh, lively format.			
Calix, <i>Paramalee Hill Vineyard</i>	2003	Sonoma County	66
A core of concentrated blueberry and rhubarb fruit is wrapped with tiers of tobacco, earth and brown sugar through the aromatics and mid-palate. The finish has subtle hints of cream and maple that linger on.			
Colgin, <i>IX Estate</i>	2003	Napa Valley	330
These wines are macerated for 35-45 days, and given frequent pump-overs as well as punch-downs. The 2003 Syrah (330 cases) has added considerable complexity and weight since last year, becoming very Burgundian in its huge aromatics and opulent, full-bodied power.			
Domaine Mucyn	2004	Saint Joseph	56
This 100% syrah is made by a young, forward thinking winemaker with an eye toward America. Keeping with tradition and terroir, the style is fruit forward, but very balanced. Blackberry, black cherry and spice combine to make a fine example of how good syrah can be at a young age.			
EQ	2005	San Antonio, Chile	62
Elegantly structured with velvety, ripe and well-rounded tannins, it explodes on the palate, clearly demonstrating its force and concentration.			
Longboard Vineyards, <i>Dakine Vineyard</i>	2004	Russian River Valley	88
I love cool-climate syrah; it keeps the wine from becoming too jammy and alcoholic. This is a great example, oodles of blueberry and blackberry fruit, balanced with very fine tannin, good mid palate weight, and acidity.			
Pax, <i>Alder Springs Vineyard</i>	2005	Mendocino County	165
428 cases. Intense red and black raspberries, roasted coffee, maduro tobacco, pure berry fruit, vibrant mineral, graphite, melted licorice and bitter chocolate float across the palate. The finish brightens a bit with assertive red currants, fresh flowers and transparent pure fruit.			
Petroni	2004	Sonoma Valley	68
Smooth, round, mouth-filling flavors of the same plus tart blueberry. Significant amount of tannin finishes broad, very long, very smooth and rich. This is a big, very ripe voluptuous syrah which is well balanced and integrated.			
M. Chapoutier, Belleruche	2005	Côtes-du-Rhône Villages	32
This is a blend of half Syrah and half Grenache. The nose is dominated by fruits, predominantly Black Cherry and wild strawberries. This wine is well structured Cotes du Rhone with soft tannins and medium length. A white spice and warm final finish it all.			
Renard	2005	Sonoma County	32
The palate shows the bright fruit components and the natural berry acidity, but there is a juicy dark blackberry and lush plum/kirsch with a broad mid palate and lovely integrated acidity that lengthens the finish.			
Scali	2003	Paarl, South Africa	69
Every single grape is picked individually by hand, then hand-sorted and hand-crushed. You can feel the effort that goes into making this small-production Syrah. Intense jammy, fruit upfront leads to a supple mouth-filling mid-palate. Finishes with finesse and structure.			
Spencer Roloson, <i>La Herradura Vineyard</i>	2003	Napa Valley	75
Wonderful aromas of earthy black currant fruit, truffles, smoked meats, herbs, and spices emerge from the wine. Dense, fruity, and full-bodied, with enticing purity, a nicely layered mouthfeel, and soft, silky tannin in the finish.			

Syrah

Star Lane Vineyard	2004	Santa Ynez Valley	68
A deep maroon color and heady bouquet of black fruit invite you to the glass. Sits on the palate more the way classic Bordeaux might and offers an intriguing array of flavors and aromas. Notes of black plum, blackberry and blueberry then lead to palate pleasing tastes of spice, leather and earth. Only 650 cases produced			
Tablas Creek, <i>Espirit de Beaucastel</i>	2004	Paso Robles	83
A tribute to Beaucastel and owned by the same family, the Perrins. It's a whopping blend of Mourvedre, Syrah, Grenache, & Counoise. The elegant, layered palate shows spicy plum and cherry fruit, smoky, meaty flavors, and ripe tannins.			
Testarossa, <i>Subasio</i>	2005	California	54
From a house that has made Chard and Pinot exclusively for over 10 years comes their first syrah. Fantastic! Cool climate means the wine is balanced, but it's still juicy and fun to drink. Lots of dark cherry, mulberry and vanilla on the nose. Great acidity.			

Red Spanish and Italian

Bodegas El Nido, <i>El Nido</i>	2003	Jumilla	202
The inky purple 2003, which comes from 26-year-old Cabernet Sauvignon vines (70%) and 61-year-old Mourvedre (30%), was aged 26 months in new French and American oak barrels. It exhibits leathery, creme de cassis, and pain grille characteristics, additional tannin and body, and a formidable palate. The wine is made by famous Australian winemaker Chris Ringland.			
Garnacha, Alto Moncayo	2004	Campo de Borja	84
This wine is spectacular, and represents the perfect foil for grilled steak. Even richer, fuller, and more muscular than the 2003, with riveting intensity and palate staining extract. This pedal-to-the-metal offering should age handsomely for a decade.			
Carodorum	2004	Toro	44
This wine is made from 100% Tinta de Toro and aged 9 months in French oak. It is opaque purple in color with a nose of violets, licorice, blackberry, and chocolate.			
Coto de Hayas, <i>Tinto</i>	2006	Campo de Borja	42
This rich blend of 50% Grenache, 20% Tempranillo, 20% Syrah, and 10% Cabernet is a mouthful. A very complex palate with notes of dusty black cherry and chocolate lead to a very fine finish.			
Felix Callejo, Family Reserve	2003	Ribera del Duero	163
It is 100% Tempranillo aged 15 months in French oak in contact with the lees. In appearance it is a thick opaque purple and the fermentation with native yeasts has given it a kinky, wild blueberry and blackberry nose.			
Marqués de Cáceres, Gaudium	2000	Rioja	112
Awesome Tempranillo! This wine has been made just 4 times in the last 35 years. It is from vines that are 100 years old and produce just a smidgin of fruit. Surprisingly juicy for a wine from such a traditional estate. Dark fruit, blackberry and cherry come alive in the nose. The wine is balanced and has great acidity and structure.			
Baron Ricasoli, Castello di Brolio	2000	Chianti Classico	115
One of the best Chiantis I have ever had in my life! Awesome, gorgeous fruit. Serious. Rich aromas of berry and licorice, with a hint of fruitcake. Full-bodied, with round tannins and a long, smoky fruit and grilled meat aftertaste. Shows class.			
Nero d' Avola, Oriel, "Il Gattopardo"	2004	Sicilia	43
This is a lighter, more approachable style of what is usually a difficult wine to drink young. Blackberry and currant aromas abound. It follows with fresh picked cherry and hints of coffee that lead to a fairly soft, round finish.			

Shiraz

Amon Ra	2006	Barossa Valley	145
Dense purple color, the nose displays notes of blackberry, cherry, nutmeg and intense spice. The wine is voluptuous and yet seamlessly elegant. Supple tannins complement richness and viscosity. It is slightly more fruit driven than the 2004 Amon-Ra. The tannin structure and sheer fruit weight of the wine will enable long-term cellaring from 12-18 years.			
Chris Ringland	2000	Barossa Valley	760
Only 720 <u>bottles</u> produced, which represents a dramatic drop in quantity. A beautiful bouquet of crushed rocks, white flowers, blueberries, blackberries, incense, and subtle pain grille is followed by a rich, full-bodied red revealing supple tannin as well as tremendous texture and richness, and more depth and intensity than it did last year.			
De Lisio, <i>Krystina</i>	2004	McLaren Vale	95
Huge Shiraz; dense ruby color and a fruity nose. Cassis, black raspberry, crushed rock, and smoky oak aromas lead to a wine with an impressive structure and multi-layered texture.			
Epsilon	2006	Barossa Valley	68
This is the newest from Dan Standish and Jaysen Collins of Massena. With fruit that contributed to an intra-regional blend, fifth generation Barossa grape-growers Aaron and Julie Southern were inspired to make a wine that would reflect their Shiraz vineyard in Greenock. Aged in French oak barrels, this wine is a true representation of the vineyard.			
Greenock Creek, <i>Seven Acre</i>	2004	Barossa Valley	148
From 16-year-old vines, the inky/purple-tinged Shiraz was aged 28 months in American wood, but it has soaked up all its vanillin characteristics, exhibiting a beautifully sweet nose of blueberries, blackberries, tar, and crushed rocks. Dense, full-bodied, and opulent.			
Greenock Creek, <i>Alices</i>	2004	Barossa Valley	138
There are less than 1,200 cases of the Alices, a wine of great nobility, purity, texture, and layers of flavor. While it possesses phenomenal power as well as richness, it carries itself with extraordinary elegance and finesse. It is massive, but impeccably well-balanced Shiraz.			
John Duval Wines, <i>Plexus</i>	2005	Barossa Valley	58
This is a blend of 50% Shiraz with the balance Grenache and Mourvedre. A polished, silky-fine premium Barossa blended wine, its spicy aromas of cranberries, plums and redcurrants reveal a restrained use of oak, with hints of blueberry liqueur and meaty undertones.			
Jim Barry, <i>The McCrae Wood</i>	2004	Clare Valley	78
It is a glass-coating inky purple with an expressive bouquet of pain grille, pepper, pencil lead, bacon, and blueberry. Intense, mouth-filling and structured.			
Kay Brothers, <i>Amery Vineyard Block 6</i>	2004	McLaren Vale	156
This is the first wine on our list over \$100 with a screw cap. Good for them. The wine is unbelievable! The 2004 Shiraz Block 6 is the finest example of this cuvee since the 1998. It is an awesomely concentrated Shiraz with an inky/plum/garnet/purple color and a sweet nose of roasted meats, dried herbs, ground pepper, and cassis.			
Kaesler, <i>The Bogan</i>	2003	Barossa Valley	85
A seamlessly constructed wine...superb ripeness and fruit as well as loads of cassis, blackberry, cedar, and spice box...gorgeous young, yet should age effortlessly.			
Kaesler, <i>Old Bastard</i>	2005	Barossa Valley	218
It presents a superb perfume of cedar, violets, lavender, smoked meat, game, black raspberry, and blueberry. This leads to a voluptuous, velvety-textured, layered, super concentrated Shiraz in perfect balance with well-concealed tannins and a 60-second, pure finish.			

Shiraz

Noon, Eclipse	2005	South Australia	130
Huge, brooding, extracted, and massive are just a few words used to describe one of Australia's best wineries. They never let you down. Eclipse reveals wonderful notes of licorice, blueberries, black raspberries, and cassis. Just sensational.			
Slipstream	2005	McLaren Vale	32
A blend of 72% Shiraz and the balance Grenache, this is a terrific value. Sexy and flamboyant ... it offers gorgeous notes of raspberries, licorice, garrigue, and sweet cherries. This elegant, medium-bodied wine exhibits loads of fruit, character, and personality.			
3 Rings	2006	Barossa Valley	36
Its dense purple color is accompanied by a flamboyant, extroverted bouquet of blackberries, white flowers, earth, and background oak. The wine offers pure, supple, blackberry and cassis fruit intermixed with hints of graphite and camphor.			
Turners Crossing, <i>The Cut</i>	2003	Bendigo, Victoria	88
Lifted dark and intense blue and blackberry fruits dominate the bouquet with no overt jamminess and with some nuances of black pepper and spice. Ripe and rich in flavor, the mixed fruits and spices are apparent and are framed in rich gentle and concentrated tannins.			

Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Based Blends

Alexander Valley Vineyards	2005	Alexander Valley	50
Medium to full-bodied, this Cab has abundant layers of cherry and currant with a long finish.			
Altamura	2004	Napa Valley	135
This wine has a deep inky purple that is stunning; the nose of blueberry, cassis and ripe plum is unmistakably Napa Valley Cabernet at its best. This opulent wine is elegant and expansive with a tapestry of juice fruit. The soft tannins seamlessly carry these layers of flavor and texture through the long finish and refuse to leave the palate.			
Bramare	2005	Mendoza, Argentina	58
Classic, deep garnet color carries scents of blackberry, tobacco and graphite. The plush, boldly-structured palate offers a rich interplay of pure, concentrated black and red fruit flavors with earthy notes of underbrush and spice. These flavors carry through to a finish accented by ripe, chewy tannins.			
Bryant Family Vineyard	1998	Napa Valley	440
It is a dense plum/purple-colored, big, thick, concentrated effort. Evolved aromas of smoke, cedar, tapenade, blackberries, creme de cassis, and creosote are followed by a lush, full-bodied, voluptuously-textured 1998 exhibiting superb intensity as well as low acid, sweet, pure flavors.			
Buccella	2004	Napa Valley	190
400 cases, very limited. Smooth, plush and concentrated. A multidimensional expression of Cabernet, with layers of currant, blackberry, plum and spice. Supple-textured, this keeps a focus on the fruit and is supported by firm, ripe tannins, yet fruit glides through on the finish.			
Cain Cuvée	NV4	Napa Valley	48
An unusual non vintage blend of Cabernet, Merlot, Franc, & Verdot. I think this is the only good value from Cain. It's supple, fruit driven Bordeaux blend. Black cherry and currant up front, followed by medium tannin,			
Peacock Family Vineyard	2004	Spring Mountain District	118
Structure, fruit-intensity, color, mid-palate weight and oodles of very fine, integrated tannin. From a 20 acre, 500 case per year vineyard on top of a hill in Spring Mountain. This wine shows why mountain grown grapes are so important.			
Staglin Family Vineyard	2003	Rutherford	240
These guys just keep turning out world class Cab. Oodles of plum, blueberry, and black raspberry just jump out of the glass. Big, elegant, and juicy.			
Woodward Graff, A-Frame Vineyard	2004	Chalone	58
The unique Chalone Appellation <i>terroir</i> provides grapes that produce a wine of black cherry and anise. The wine is aged in French barrels for 18 months. Drink with beef or lamb dishes as well as chocolate desserts			

Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Based Blends

Colgin, IX Estate	2003	Napa Valley	375
The dense purple-tinged Proprietary Red (a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, and 5% Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot) is a 1,280-case cuvee revealing deep, rich blue as well as black fruits, hints of licorice and creosote, a smoky, Graves-like, hot rocks character, moderately high tannin, and a full-bodied finish.			
Educated Guess	2005	Napa Valley	39
Rich, ripe and focused with juicy blackberry and boysenberry fruit, all tied together with a creamy french vanilla middle and a lingering finish.			
Cloudview	2004	Napa Valley	125
Grown along side Bryant Family and Colgin, this year's blend is 67% Cab and the balance Merlot. First tastes give a mouthful of just-ripened fruit. Soon, flavors become distinctly blackberry, dark cherry, and plum—hallmarks of the mountain vineyards of Pritchard Hill.			
Darioush	2005	Napa Valley	130
Enticing aromas of vanilla bean, blackberry and crème de cassis introduce this bold, yet harmonious wine. A rich and well-focused palate is endowed with layered flavors of wild black cherry, plum and espresso. An elegant and generous finish is accented by delicate hints of cinnamon, nutmeg and spice box.			
D.R. Stephens	2004	Napa Valley	182
The jewel-like color and ripe fruit intensity of this wine make this an enticing Cabernet from first glance. Aromas of ripe blackberries on the vine, the Stephens signature blueberry/lavender aromas, warm vanilla, spice and pipe tobacco aromas intertwine and build with time in the glass.			
Fantesca	2003	Spring Mountain District	104
The lasting impression is fresh, crisp black cherries; cool as the mountain air at night, the depth of their flavor leaving your mouth feeling refreshed even as the tannins explode like dynamite.			
Majella	2002	Coonawarra, Australia	66
Chocolate, plums, and chalky tannins; medium-bodied, long finish. Very good juice.			
Milat	2005	Napa Valley	42
Rich aromas of raspberry and light cedar. This wine has rich flavors of plum and blackberry. Well balanced with mild tannins and layers of intense ripe fruit. Great wine for the value.			
Noon Winery, <i>Reserve</i>	2005	South Australia	130
This remarkable Cabernet tastes like a Pauillac on steroids. Aromas and flavors of cedar, wood smoke, creme de cassis, licorice, incense, and graphite are accompanied by an exceptionally full-bodied, precise, fresh, and long wine with a finish that lasts nearly a minute.			
O'Shaughnessy	2004	Howell Mountain	135
Just gorgeous! Currant, blackberry fruit, espresso bean and sweet caramel are framed by an earthy quality. Full and thick flavors of bright fruit are complimented by the fine grain tannins.			
Robert Craig, <i>Affinity</i>	2004	Napa Valley	65
This is a dark ruby/purple-hued, elegant effort displaying notes of lead pencil, new wood, spice, and black cherries. Bordeaux-like in its weight, texture, and austere, dry tannins, this finesse-styled red possesses good flavors, purity, and overall balance.			
Robert Craig, <i>Howell Mountain</i>	2004	Napa Valley	110
I love the new direction Bob's cabs have taken, more structure, depth, color and surprisingly, finesse. Loaded with black cherry, cassis, and fine, integrated tannin, his wine shows how Napa has taken the next step in producing the best cab in the world.			
Yalumba, <i>The Menzies</i>	2003	Coonawarra, Australia	74
The wine reveals gorgeous notes of creosote, blueberry liqueur, black currants, licorice, and cedar. Full-bodied with great fruit purity, real stature, wonderful sweetness (from glycerin), ripe tannin, and a long, heady finish.			

Pinot Noir

Argyle	2006	Willamette Valley	54
A plenary of Pinot Noir pleasure principles. Piquant not platitudinous, plucky not plodding, this vintage is a plenitude of ripe black cherry and plum nectar centered, pleats of spiciness, with a juicy cherry pie finish			
Capiaux, Gary's Vineyard	2006	Sonoma Coast	115
Gary's Vineyards has a deep ruby color and a solid red core. Red raspberries, cinnamon, black pepper and caraway seeds give this year's Garys' a more cool and feminine feel. Sweet berry and vanilla flavors followed by silky tannins coat the mouth with a full and long finish.			
Dierberg	2005	Santa Maria Valley	78
This Pinot Noir is an immense wine, yet one that retains great balance, nerve and elegance. Flavors lean towards the fresh raspberry end of the spectrum, with sexy mocha and complex forest floor nuances.			
Domaine Réyane & Pascal Bouley, <i>Clos des Chênes</i>	2002	Volnay, <i>Premier Cru</i>	86
Much more deeply pitched aromas that combine pungent earth, spice and a beautiful mix of red, blue and black berry fruits. The ripe, earthy and complex medium full flavors offer excellent power and punch with a velvety finish.			
Domaine Huber – Verdereau, " <i>Les Fremiets</i> "	2004	Volnay, <i>Premier Cru</i>	112
A distinctly finer nose of red pinot fruit, earth, tea and floral notes merges into linear and notably mineral-infused flavors. Rich black cherry; silky, luxurious balance.			
Domaine Thierry Violot-Guillemard, "La Platière"	2004	Pommard, <i>Premier Cru</i>	92
Thierry's monstrously delicate single-vineyard, for her youth, dimpled hubris of black cherry pit, red currant, chocolate-covered plum, and wild blueberry flavors; her perfume of herbes de provence, and dark fruit jam.			
Kings Ridge	2006	Oregon	34
The captivating nose is loaded with rich dark cherry and blackberry fruit. In the mouth, the rich berry fruits are wrapped around a spicy core imparted by French oak. The acidity and tannins lend structure to this youthful wine.			
Roux Père & Fils, "Fremiers"	2003	Pommard, <i>Premier Cru</i>	96
Plummy, with enough acidity to keep the licorice, cherry, mineral and spice notes focused. It's concentrated and tannic, with a sweet fruit finish.			
Sokol Blosser	2005	Dundee Hills	62
The texture and structure; the excellent balance of sugar, acid, and tannins in the grapes is reflected in the wine. Here is what this Pinot Noir is all about – tightly structured, with the fruit and acid for long-term aging, yet the tannins are soft, smooth, and polished.			
Sea Smoke, Southing	2006	Santa Barbara	84
The 2005 Sea Smoke Southing Pinot Noir shows elegant fruit, a rich middle palate, firm tannins and Sea Smoke Vineyard's signature cool climate acidity. Aromas of wild blueberries, violets and a subtle dustiness are characteristic of this wine.			
Testarossa, <i>Palazzo</i>	2005	Central Coast	68
Aromas of ripe cherries, wild flowers and an underlying edge of tart berries filled out by creamy oak. Weight and bright energy mix on the palate, and its flavors fall in step.			
Yabby Lake Vineyard	2004	Mornington Peninsula, Australia	106
On the palate the wine displays dark berry fruits, plums and cherries with hints of dusty oak and spice. The wine has a structured palate, seamlessly integrated tannins and a silky, sweet finish.			
Tantara, <i>Silacci Vineyard</i>	2006	Santa Lucia Highlands	108
48 cases! Not even sold outside California, except for us! One of the most innocuous, incredible, brimming Pinots made in the U.S. Tons of back cherry with some blueberry on the nose, fabulous.			