



Volume 15, No.29 (published by the Wine Gallery, Bozeman, MT) **July 31, 2019**

What's new in the Grapevine this week?

- **Wine Club wines for August**
- **Great values on Cotes du Rhone**
- **New Arrivals**

For August, our first red is the **2016 Chateau St. Roch Cotes du Rhone**. This wine is a garnet red color with violet highlights. On the nose, a bouquet of small black fruits (black-currants, violet, and mulberry) develops. It intensifies after a few moments with aromas of black cherry and plum, kirsch, and leather. On the palate, it is pleasantly powerful, with generous well-balanced tannins. A wonderfully fruit forward, black raspberry and floral-scented red, this 2016 Cotes du Rhone is medium-bodied, elegant and ready to go. It's a rock-solid purchase to enjoy over the coming couple of years. **(\$16)**

Our first white wine is from Carlton Cellars in Oregon. The **2017 Carlton Pinot Blanc** is sourced from eight-year-old vines. This tangy young wine is bursting with tart grapefruit and pineapple fruit. It's full-bodied, creamy and refreshing, with underlying minerality and bountiful acidity. As you can tell, we are totally enamored with Pinot Blanc this season and consider it a perfect summer wine. By the way, there were only 300 cases of this wine produced. It will complement the usual suspects, such as fish, seafood, chicken, turkey, salads and vegetable dishes but I think it is fantastic with escargot. **(\$17)**

Cantine Colosi is a 4th generation family-owned winery on the island of Salina, a small volcanic island off the coast of northeastern Sicily. Our second red is the **2016 Colosi Salina Rosso** made up an equal blend of Nerello Mascelese and Nerello Cappuccio, two indigenous Sicilian grapes. It has a vibrant, dark ruby color. The aromas are very expressive, and include

vine-ripened raspberries and a hint of nutmeg. Flavors include red fruit, spice, and a savory, almost salty quality from its proximity to the ocean. It's a clean wine, and the texture is vibrant, fresh, and high-toned, with light, grippy tannins that dry the palate. This is definitely a wine that is more enjoyable with food. If you like Italian wines like Nebbiolo, this is a wine for you. **(\$19)**

Our second white wine is the **Paxis White Blend** from Portugal. We get a fruit filled wine with notes of tropical fruits and citrus in this offering. Mineral notes add youthful freshness to this powerful, intense and persistent white wine. Very fresh and aromatic, with green notes and citrus fruits represented it has good volume for the mouth feel. There is a well-integrated acidity to patronize the wine, while the fruit is in evidence and works balances the wine. For those of you keeping score at home, it is made up of: 65% Fernão Pires, 10% Arinto, 5% Verdelho, 5% Alvarinho, and 15% Chardonnay. **(\$11)**

Millennium Club members will receive the **2016 Chappellet Mountain Cuvee**. Lush, layered and complex, this Bordeaux blend begins with concentrated aromas of black cherry, boysenberry and dark chocolate. As the wine evolves in the glass, notes of anise, clove and bay leaf emerge, creating an inviting combination of fruit and spice. On the palate, a creamy texture underscores the wine's richness, while accentuating flavors of ripe plum, vanilla and roasted coffee that glide to a long, lingering finish. 51% Cabernet Sauvignon 24% Merlot 13% Malbec 9% Petit Verdot 3% Cabernet Franc. **(\$34)**

Great Values on Cotes du Rhone

Grapes have been grown in the Rhone Valley of France since about 600 BC. It is no wonder that with this great legacy, some of the best wines and the best wine values in the world are from that region. This week, our crew rounded up some of our best values and set them on the front table. Here are a few of the great Cotes du Rhone wines we have:

Andezon Cotes du Rhone 2017 (91 points Jeb Dunnock) Deeply colored, the 100% Syrah **2017 Côtes du Rhône Domaine D'Andézon** (brought up all in concrete) reminds me of classic Côtes du Rhône with its violets, plums, white pepper, and fleshy aromas and flavors. Medium-

bodied, supple, and elegant on the palate, it's a fleshy, delicious Syrah well worth seeking out."(\$14)

2015 Lafage Bastide Miraflores (94 Wine Advocate) This wine is almost too good to be true. A blend of 70% Syrah and 30% Grenache is a ripe, sexy, heady beauty that exhibits a deep, purple color as well as killer notes of smoked meats, chocolate, blackberry and black raspberries. Deep, unctuous, open knit and layered, it continues to change in the glass, has a seamless and silky profile, and not a hard edge to be found. It's a sensational value that needs to be tasted to be believed. Drink it anytime over the coming 2-4 years. (\$14.95)

2017 Saint Cosme Cotes du Rhone (90 Wine Advocate) The 100% Syrah 2017 Cotes du Rhone is a bargain superstar, offering hints of smoke, cracked pepper, blueberries and black olives. It's medium to full-bodied, with a long, supple finish. For the \$17.95 I've been it selling for, you're not going to find a better Syrah.

2015 LaFage Narassa (91-93 Barrel taste Wine Advocate) Although this isn't exactly a Cotes du Rhone, it comes from the area of Southern France that shares the long history of wine making. Notes of cassis, toasted spice, chocolate and licorice all emerge from the 2015 Cotes du Roussillon Villages Lieu Dit La Narassa, which is 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah aged in large oak barrels. This hedonistic, downright sexy, ripe and layered beauty will drink nicely right out of the gate but will last well past 2020. (\$18)

New Arrivals

This week we received two wines from the Pend O'Reille winery in Idaho. Both wines are sourced from the Columbia Valley and both will make great summer sippers.

2018 Pend O'Reille Albarino I always associate Albarino with northwestern Spain and the great match it is for seafood. Our tasting panel got tropical pineapple on the nose, a wide streak of peach on the palate, and

a great balance of acidity and ripeness. We think this would be a great wine for grilled scallops, fish or oysters. **(\$18.95)**

The **2016 Pend O'Reille Bistro Red** is a Claret Blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, Malbec and Cab Franc. It has a perfect balance of oak, acidity, fruit and structure to be an ideal deck wine. Purple plum, berry jam, and cedar notes please the palate finishing with middleweight tannins and a pleasing espresso note. Don't miss this one!! **(\$16.95)**

We are getting our initial shipment of one case of each on Thursday and will have more on hand next week so feel free to place orders at 586-8828 or bozemanwinegallery@gmail.com

We got the last four bottles of the **2010 Fossacolle Brunello di Montalcino** available in the market. This remarkable wine came from the legendary 2010 vintage (second only to the near perfect 1997). The vintage itself rated 98 from Wine Spectator and the Fossacolle itself rated 97 from Jeb Dunnock. Perfect late summer weather resulted in ideal ripening for Sangiovese; this wine is fresh, elegant, balanced but well structured. There are ample ripe fruit flavors that are prominent and fresh, but there's enough licorice, herb and blue flower to count on emerging complexity. The best part is that it should age beautifully for another 7-10 years. The 2010 Fossacolle Brunello would normally retail for upwards of \$95 but we have the last of the close out at just **\$69.95**.

Greek wines are always popular in hot weather. We just got **the 2018 Skouras Moscofilero**. The wine is fruity and round but utterly delicious and aromatic. Still in its youth, this Greek white is pretty irresistible. Drink it on the younger side (like tonight?) for best results. Should pair well with grilled chicken, pork chops and 5 PM. **(\$18.95)**

The **2017 Skouras Zoe Red** is an 85/15 blend of the Greek red grape Agriorgitiko and Cabernet Sauvignon. A fruity and easy wine, it is one of those picnic wines that has a Beaujolais-like demeanor. It's fruity and fun, and you can drink it a little cooler than normal. It has a little structure, it won't overpower most foods. Drink this one as young as possible just like Beaujolais and enjoy its exuberant fruit flavor. **(\$13.95)**