



Manchester Wine & Liquors

Wine Club Newsletter

JUNE 2008



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NORTHERN RHONE OFFERING

2003 Guigal Saint Joseph - The northern Rhone Valley is one of the most exciting wine regions of France, some would even say in the world. This major red wine growing region is divided into two parts. The southern portion produces the great Chateaufneuf du Papes and deliciously affordable Cotes du Rhones, produced in large part of Grenache. Then you have the Syrah dominated wines of the northern Rhone, where the very best Syrah wines in the world are made. The key areas that make up the northern Rhone are the gentle sloped appellations of the Cote Rotie, Cornas, Hermitage and Saint Joseph. Though Marcel Guigal's main property is located in the village of Ampuis within the Cote Rotie, his well-regarded wine production spans virtually throughout the entire Rhone region. When we were recently given an opportunity to taste through a group of Guigal's wines, our staff took a special interest in his "2003 Saint Joseph". This fabulous red displayed a mature, floral berry scent with notes of spice, mineral and smoky cedar. On the palate, the wine presented an opulent full-bodied texture with tremendous length of sweet black cherry and plum fruits, subtle earth tones, multiple herb spices with vanilla and mocha accents. The second helping tasted even better than the first, with an even more complex terroir expression and tannin oak sensation. This wine was rated **90** plus points by the Wine Advocate. Treat yourself by pairing this extremely well-made Syrah based Rhone with rack of lamb, dry rubbed ribs, roasted duck or grilled tuna. Take advantage of this very limited offering. First come, first served.

\$29.99

2005 CHATEAU PIBRAN

As the 2005 Bordeaux began to arrive late last year and earlier this year, all the reports indicate this vintage stacks up as one of the top five vintages of all time. Unfortunately, pricing on the top classified growths or big name right bank wines have gone beyond what most of our customers can consider. Worldwide demand for Bordeaux has never been higher. Even lower demand by the U.S. market is easily snapped up by Asia and other markets. Not only have the classified growths gone crazy pricewise, but many wines that represented excellent values are now priced near \$75 or more. We have come across an '05 that we actually featured as an '03 that is virtually the same price, **Chateau Pibran**. Located in Pauillac, the most prestigious district of Bordeaux, some of its neighbors include Chateau Pontet-Canet, Lynch-Bages and first growth Mouton-Rothschild. Owned by the famous second growth Chateau Pichon-Baron, the estate is just over 40 acres of vines averaging 30 years of age. 54% of the vineyard is Merlot, 45% Cab and 1% Petit Verdot. Chateau Pibran contains a very high percentage of Merlot for a Medoc estate, which is considered less common for this region, but director Jean-Rene Maignon feels the Merlot suits the terroir better. The 2005 looks to be the most successful wine produced at this property. It shows great opulence and power, loads of black fruits, currant and cassis, some toasty, vanillan oak and plenty of tannin on the finish. Rated **92** by the Wine Spectator, this is a top Bordeaux that will not force you to take out a second mortgage. Enjoy from 2012-2020.

\$39.99

THE ESSENCE OF VERMENTINO

The Vermentino grape is commonly grown throughout the Mediterranean region. Corsica, Sardinia and Tuscany are the main areas of reference for this crisp and refreshing white. When we recently tasted **Antinori's Vermentino**, it was quite evident that it possessed a higher pedigree in its respective wine category. Antinori's Tenuta Guado al Tasso property produces the only estate bottled Vermentino in the Tuscan village of Bolgheri on the Tyrrhenian coastline, located just southwest of Florence. The Guado al Tasso Estate is also noted for its prestigious "Super Tuscan" styled reds. Now in its tenth year of production, what lies in this very stylish 2006 Vermentino are the lovely aromatics and tremendous length of flavor that follows through to the end with its intense citrus fruits. Guado al Tasso Vermentino also strikes a nice balance of acidity, mineral undertone and subtle spice. Enjoy pairing this gorgeous white with cold salads, mild cheeses, grilled fish and antipasti. Regular price \$26.99

Special offering

\$21.99

MONTHLY SPECIALS

2006 Hall Sauvignon Blanc - With so much well-made Sauvignon Blanc produced throughout the world these days, we are always looking for one that stands out from the crowd to feature. Hall Sauvignon Blanc certainly provides this with its unique aromatics and stylish flavor profile. It exhibits fresh citrus and copious tropical fruits, along with subtle herbaceous and richness. The wine is well balanced with remarkable acidity and nice mineral undertones. Owners Craig and Kathryn Hall, along with the guidance of winemaker Richard Batchelor and renowned wine consultant David Ramey, are the collective effort behind this high quality Sauvignon Blanc. The grapes were picked from multiple estate vineyard sites from the cooler parts of Napa Valley, which encompass their St. Helena property, the River Ranch, and their Hardester Estate in the Pope Valley. Hall Sauvignon Blanc was fermented and aged entirely in stainless steel to ensure that the natural state of the wine's fruit purity and acid balance remain undisturbed. It also received a **90** point score by Wine Enthusiast. Enjoy pairing this Sauvignon Blanc with oysters, spicy shrimp, antipasti and jazzed up green salads. **Regular Price \$19.99. This month, save 15% off by the bottle, \$16.99 or 25% off by the case, \$14.99/\$179.88 net.**

2003 Heller Estate Cabernet Sauvignon - This full-bodied Cabernet is produced from dry farmed, organically grown grapes in the Cachagua area, situated just outside California's Central Coast region of the Carmel Valley. The estate's sandy soils are conducive to the vineyard's root system. The roots work hard by descending deep into the earth in search of the underground Cachagua springs. The results provide high quality, low yielding grapes with rich, lush fruits and natural minerality. It possesses a wonderful blackberry aroma, accompanied with shades of coffee, vanilla and cedar. The dark currant and plum flavors are balanced with earth, spice and sweet oaky tannins. A percentage of Merlot is added to compliment the wine's smooth texture and supple finish. Heller '03 Cab is very approachable now and would make a nice selection to go with your favorite beef cut, leg of lamb or glazed duck. **Regular Price \$17.99, this month save 15% off by the bottle, \$15.29 or 25% off by the case \$13.49/\$161.88 net.**

2004 Bodegas Carrau Tannat Reserva - We first came across this wine about three years ago when it received a mention by Faith Middleton on NPR. Unfortunately, the distributor had very little in stock at the time and we were only able to get a case. When we tasted this current vintage we were very impressed. Carrau comes to us from Uruguay, a country neighboring Argentina to the east. Tannat, the grape varietal, has been grown in Uruguay for almost 150 years, but has only been exported for roughly a decade. The only other area where it is widely grown, is in the southwest of France in the obscure appellation of Madiran, where it gained a reputation as one of the most tannic red varietals in the world. In Uruguay however, it ripens fully and develops softer tannins than in its country of origin. This '04 Reserva reminds us of a Cab Franc, Syrah or Barbera. Medium-bodied, it has fresh, lively Bing cherry and plum fruit, spicy, peppery notes with a subtle herbaceous, earthy finish. This rustic, juicy red will certainly enhance lamb, marinated steaks or chops, pizza and burgers. **Regular price 12.99/btl. Save 15% off by the bottle, \$11.04 or 25% off by the case, \$9.74/\$116.88 net.**

2006 Alta Vista Finca Monte Lindo Malbec - The influx of great Argentinian values continue with the latest coming from Alta Vista called Finca Monte Lindo. Alta Vista's mission statement is to illustrate the multiple expressions of Malbecs through various vineyard sites, and were the first winery in Argentina to successfully do so. Their premier offering, Alto, is one of the first cult Malbecs from Mendoza. Finca Monte Lindo is a blend from two out of the four Alta Vista's vineyards in Mendoza. Harvested by hand, the grapes are destemmed and fermented in stainless steel tanks. The wine then sees some American oak for approximately three months, to add a bit of structure and framing. This 2006 is ready to drink today, bursting with black cherry and currant fruits, subtle spicy notes and a long velvety finish. A delicious everyday red at a price that will make you forget about energy prices. Enjoy throughout the rest of 2008 with pasta, grilled meats and mild cheeses. **Regular Price \$9.99/btl. Save 15% off by the bottle, \$8.49 or 25% off by the case, \$7.49/\$89.88 net.**

**RED WINES OF PORTUGAL
SAMPLER PACK**

This offering provides a nice opportunity to explore some of the exciting things that are happening with the wines of Portugal today. Over the past twenty years, Portugal has made huge advances in their style of wines produced. With exception to the country's thriving port wine industry, many of the other areas of Portugal have changed by redeveloping their viticulture that balance between modern winemaking methods, combined with traditional practices that keep with regional expression. These reds are made from indigenous grapes in the north central region of "Beiras" and would enhance a variety of hearty grilled meats and paella dishes.

The **2005 Vista TR Tinta Roriz** shows a nice deep color and spiced berry aroma. On the palate, it offers an easy drinking style by having full-bodied flavors of lush black cherry, plum fruit and soft tannins. **\$8.99**

In contrast, the **2004 Vista TN Touriga Nacional Reserva** offers more structure and depth. It possesses a full aroma of ripe plum and black cherry. The twelve months ageing in French oak is quite obvious, yet integrates well with the wines rich, full texture and copious assortment of black fruits, subtle spice and good tannins. **\$11.99**

**For an additional savings
Buy One Bottle
Each of the Two
For Only**



**SAVE
THE
GAS**

**WINE DELIVERY
SERVICE AVAILABLE**

We offer pre-arranged home or office wine delivery service. Call us at 649-4750 or email us at mwl@snet.net (restrictions do apply)



2006 CLOS DE LOS SIETE AND MORE

We want to pass along the news that we have received the second half of our allocation of the **2006 Clos de los Siete** Argentinian red blend. We first offered this wine in January of this year and sold out in about six weeks. We were eagerly awaiting more of this Robert Parker **92** point blend that comes from *Michel Rolland*. If you did not pick up some of this great value, we highly recommend you do so now that it is back in stock. The 2006 Clos de los Siete is only the fifth release from this producer, which still comes from primarily young vines of ten years of age or younger. It appears to be the finest to date. The vineyards lie in altitudes of 3,000 feet or higher. It has very favorable growing conditions, including excellent sun exposure, little rain and a cooler climate from close proximity to the Andes Mountains. With high density plantings and tiny yields, Clos de los Siete shows tremendous concentration of black fruits, a seamless texture, followed by a lingering warm finish. Enjoy this blend of 50% Malbec, 30% Merlot, 10% Cabernet and 10% Syrah now and over the next five years. Supplies are still somewhat limited, don't hesitate on this one.



Along with this shipment comes another label that is part of this whole project. If you remember, the Clos de los Siete project is seven French partners who collectively own the Clos de los Siete label, all under the direction of world famous Bordeaux and wine consultant *Michel Rolland*. Each partner will start up their own label as well over time. The second label that was developed is called **Cuvelier Los Andes** which produces three wines. This month we bring you two of them, the **2005 Coleccion** and **2005 Grand Vin**. Both of these offerings we find outstanding, adding even more excitement to this project.

Cuvelier Los Andes Coleccion is made of 62% Malbec, 20% Cabernet, 8% Syrah, 7% Merlot and 3% Petit Verdot. The wine is rich and full, offering black fruits, coffee, mocha and vanilla oak notes.



Cuvelier Los Andes Grand Vin is produced with 75% Malbec, 15% Merlot and 10% Cabernet. Grand Vin is bigger, more structured, with a similar flavor profile. It shows tremendous complexity with an elegant feel to it for a wine of this price. Rated **94** from Robert Parker, it should easily age 10 years or more.



**For an additional savings
try a Sampling
of One Bottle Each
of all Three
for only**



TOUR OF EUROPE TABLE TASTING

In celebration of the start of summer, join us on **Tuesday, June 17th from 6:30 to 8:00p.m.** at the **Adams Mill Banquet Room**. Walk around and taste a selection of highly recommended and affordable wines from six European countries that will include France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Germany and Austria. Each table will have a friendly and informative wine representative that will provide samples and answer any of your questions. This tasting format offers a convenient and enjoyable way to learn more about wine. Light hors d'oeuvres, along with our customary cheese and bread station, will also be provided. We will then conclude the evening with a special raffle. **To help support the continued growth of our Wine Tasting Program, a small fee of \$5.00 per person is required to attend. For your convenience, "cash" or "check" can be presented at the door. Please reserve your seat early by calling 649-4750, or emailing us at mwl@snet.net. Only Wine Club Members listed in our database are eligible to attend, however members are able to reserve a spot for a guest (names are needed at time of reservation).**

Tasting list is as follows:

FRANCE

Guigal Cotes du Rhone Blanc ----- \$12.99
 Guigal Cotes du Rhone Rose ----- \$12.99
 Guigal Cotes du Rhone Rouge ----- \$12.99

ITALY

San Fabiano Chianti \$11.99
 Colosi Nero d'Avola \$13.99

PORTUGAL

Vista TN Reserva Beiras Tinto ----- \$11.99

SPAIN

Atalayas Ribera del Duero \$17.99
 Torres Grand Sangre de Toro Penedes \$13.99
 Coto De Hayas Las Riada Grenache \$9.99

GERMANY

Dr. Loosen Riesling Dr. L. \$10.99
 S.A. Prum Blue Slate Riesling \$15.99

AUSTRIA

Lomier Gruner Veltliner "Lois" ----- \$12.99

WINE CLUB SAMPLING

All four monthly specials are available to sample throughout the days of *June 3rd through June 28th*
 (Refer to articles on Page #2 for more info.)

Hall Napa Sauvignon Blanc ----- \$19.99
 Heller Estate Cabernet Sauvignon ----- \$17.99

Bodegas Carrau Tannat Reserva ----- \$12.99
 Alta Vista Malbec ----- \$9.99

SATURDAY SAMPLINGS

On *Saturday June 7th from 2:00-6:00*, sample the four Monthly Club specials. (Refer to articles on Page #2 for more info.)

On *Saturday, June 14th from 2:00-6:00*, sample the Chateau Pibran and the Guigal Saint Joseph. (Refer to Page #1 for more info.)

Guigal Saint Joseph ----- \$29.99
 Chateau Pibran ----- \$39.99

On *Saturday, June 21st from 2:00-6:00*, sample the Red Wines of Portugal. (Refer to article on Page #3 for more info.)

Vista Tinta Roriz ----- \$8.99
 Vista Touriga Nacional Reserva ----- \$11.99

On *Saturday, June 28st from 2:00-6:00*, taste the newly released California wines of **Seven Daughters**.

Seven Daughters Red ----- \$11.99
 Seven Daughters White ----- \$11.99

