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HOLIDAY IDEAS

As hard as it may be to believe, the holidays are once again upon us. As always, we wish you and all your families a happy and healthy holiday season. Let us also take this opportunity to thank you for your patronage throughout the year. At this time of year, we would like to draw your attention to some of our rarest, most collectible items in stock. These extra special bottles make great gifts for that someone special in your life. Selections from our Fine Wine Room have become our most popular holiday item. We are going to highlight a cross-section of collectibles to suggest for you this holiday season. **15% will be taken off at the counter, along with a complimentary gift bag of your choice.**

CALIFORNIA

2002 Duckhorn Napa Merlot - Year in and year out, Dan and Kelly Duckhorn make California's most sought after Merlot. Always rich and concentrated. This is California's version of a top St. Emilion or Pomerol. **\$49.99**

2000, 2001 Viader - Delia Viader sought to make a wine that emulated the famous Bordeaux Ch. Cheval Blanc. The unique aspect about both of these wines is that they are Cab Franc based. Great balance, elegance, depth and a series of mid-**90** point reviews have propelled this wine to collector status. **\$89.99**

2001 Caymus Special Select Cabernet - One of Napa's most celebrated Cabs. The Wagners have been making monumental Cabs since the mid-70's. Special Select is their top bottling, having been named Wine of the Year twice by the Wine Spectator. The 2001 received **95** points. **\$135.99**

2001 Paul Hobbs Beckstoffer Tokalon Vineyard Napa Cabernet Sauvignon - Hobbs worked with the renowned Opus One project in the early 1980's, then moved on with his talents for a short stop at Simi until 1991. This Cabernet is part of his many accomplishments. Big, bold and firmly structured, a Cab that will develop even more complexity over the next decade. A serious one for the cellar. Rated **94** points by Robert Parker. **\$199.00**

1997 Heitz Cellar Bella Oaks Cabernet Sauvignon - Though Bella Oaks is second behind Joe Heitz's famous Martha's Vineyard bottling, this one out of the excellent '97 vintage, packs a full Cab style that could be consumed now. Great concentration

of blackberry and cassis with a complex finish. A perpetual **90** plus score each vintage. Drink now or hold for several more years. **\$84.99**

2001 Swanson Alexis Red - What we continue to see out of Napa Valley are more producers having real success with the blending of Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. The Cabernet portion provides the full bodied structure and the Syrah adds more dimension and depth. This delicious and elegant style estate red was recently rewarded a **95** point score by Wine Enthusiast. **\$59.99**

1997 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon - Paul Drapers' record as California's leading Zinfandel producer also lays claim to this Monte Bello Vineyard Cab. Located down in the Santa Cruz mountains, high level Cabernet connoisseurs understand Monte Bello's intense, full bodied, ageable qualities, produced from this vineyards well managed older, low yielding vines. It is amazing that the '97 vintage is still around. A Wine Spectator selection **93+** point score. **\$119.00**

1994 Grgich Hills Yountville District Cabernet Sauvignon - Only 1,050 cases produced. This big, dark, highly extracted, powerful, yet elegantly structured estate bottled Cabernet is a wine you can drink tonight. However, more cellar time will only allow this Cab to unleash its fullest flavor potential that may even exceed the **91-93** point awards given at the time of release. **\$120.00**

FRANCE

2000 Ch. Carruades De Lafite - The famous second label of Lafite Rothschild, one of only a few top 2000's we have left. This vintage generated more interest in Bordeaux than any other, and the 2000 Carruades is exceptional. **90** from Robert Parker, will last for 20 years. **\$65.99**

2000 Ch. La Dominique - This St. Emilion always makes a top notch wine and has kept its pricing reasonable. This Merlot based Bordeaux is loaded with plush black fruit, yet is soft and velvety smooth. Drinkable now, it will last at least 15 more years. **91** from Robert Parker. **\$59.99**

2000 Ch. Beaucastel Chateaufeuf Du Pape - Not only was 2000 a classic year for Bordeaux, it was also an exceptional year for the Southern Rhone. Beaucastel is the benchmark estate that all other Chateaufeufs are measured against. True to form, the 2000 is a classic, **94** points from Parker. **\$71.99**

AUSTRALIA

2001 Penfolds RWT Shiraz - This Penfolds offering is quickly catching up on Grange as far as accolades go. This 100% Shiraz comes from the Barossa Valley and is aged entirely in French oak, 65% of which is new. The 2001 received a **94** from the Wine Spectator. **\$84.99**

ITALY

1999 Romeo Vino Nobile Di Montepulciano Riserva - This Riserva is produced in only the most favorable years. The D.O.C. region of Montepulciano sets in Tuscany's south, located further to the right of the famous town of Montalcino, home of the esteemed Brunello's wines. The reason for our mentioning of Brunello is that this Vino Nobile has so many similarities and intense complex flavors that compare equally to most well made Brunello's that fetch a much lesser price. Only **\$49.99**

1999 Cortese Barbaresco "Rabaja" - The Piedmont has had a string of seven straight excellent vintages. This single vineyard Barbaresco is very reasonably priced for a wine of its caliber, one of the best buys you will find from the Piedmont. Drink 2005-2014, **91** from the Wine Spectator. **\$49.99**

1999 Allegrini Amarone - Allegrini makes an incredibly powerful and concentrated Amarone, always one of the top in the D.O.C. After the grapes are harvested, they are dried for 4-6 months and then pressed. The resulting wine is a super rich, port-like, powerful wine. Rated **95** by Robert Parker. **\$79.99**

1999 Altesino Brunello "Montosoli" - Brunello is a D.O.C. in southern Tuscany where Sangiovese reaches it's highest heights. '99 was an outstanding vintage rivaling the recent '97 vintage as one of the best in recent memory. "Montosoli" is a single vineyard bottling, Altesino's finest each vintage. **\$89.99**

2000 Bruno Giacosa Barolo "Falletto" - Giacosa is the finest producer of traditional, classic made Barolo. The "Falletto" Cru is always one of Giacosa's finest. A wine requiring patience, but what a reward it will pay from 2012-2020. Rated **97** by the Wine Spectator. **\$149.99**

PORTUGAL

2000 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port - If you're looking for "the Port" of the vintage, well you won't have to go very far. Taylor Fladgate is projected as the one. To quote Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, "spectacularly concentrated and enormously endowed". Rated **98** plus points, a Port collectors dream. Extremely limited and priced at **\$112.00**

PROFILE ON DAVID RAMEY

If you've enjoyed the wines at Simi or Matanzas Creek in the eighties, Chalk Hill in the early '90's, Dominus in the mid-'90's or most recently Rudd Cellars, chances are David Ramey made the wine. Ramey started his own label in 1990 while working at Rudd Cellars. He did both until 2002, then left Rudd to concentrate solely on his own label. Despite the fact that Ramey's work at each stop has received rave reviews, he has managed to keep a low profile. However, after receiving tremendous reviews on his own wines each year, he is starting to develop a following. In a few years, we would not be surprised to see Ramey's name at the top of many collector's lists. Ramey's style could be described as combining the finesse and elegance of French wine with the ripeness of fruit in California wines. They are rich and powerful,

without being heavy or oaky. His reference point is Red Bordeaux and White Burgundy, so Cabernet based wines and Chardonnay's are all he produces.

2001 Russian River Chardonnay - This wine exemplifies his marriage of French and California styles. It is clearly not French, but also not your typical California effort. Rich and explosive with tropical fruits and apple, followed up by spice and mineral on the finish. Delicious now, enjoy through 2005. Rated **91** from Parker. **\$37.99**

2001 Hudson Vineyard Chardonnay - More forward and French in style, but absolutely loaded with honey, vanilla, mineral and toffee flavors around a core of pear fruit. This is a California Chard that has the stuffing and raw materials to age like a Burgundy. It should make for a compelling wine in 2007. Rated **94** from Tanzer, **93** from Parker. **\$59.99**

2002 Claret - This is a blend of fruit not used in Ramey's two more expensive red wines. It is partly from Jericho Canyon, which is at the base of Mt. St. Helena, and the rest coming from Diamond Mountain. A delicious blend of 56% Cab, 27% Merlot and 17% Cab Franc, that shows dark cassis and blackberry fruit. The texture is plush and layered, making it very enjoyable now to 2012. Rated **89-92** from both Tanzer and Parker. **\$37.99**

2002 Jericho Canyon - This vineyard, at the base of Mt. St. Helena, is made of 45% Cab, 36% Merlot and 19% Cab Franc. This is a candidate for wine of the vintage. Layers and layers of black fruits coat the palate, leading to a finish that is unbelievably long. Rated **92-95** by Tanzer and **95-98** by Parker. The latter writes "get on board now, David Ramey is at the top of his game. This wine may ultimately merit a triple digit score with time". **\$95.99**

MONTHLY SPECIALS

2002 Faiveley Macon "Prisse" - The Faiveley family holds a deep rooted history in wine making that dates back to 1825. Today sixth generation, Francois Faiveley manages this region's most coveted name. Faiveley is one of Burgundy's largest vineyard land owners with a controlling fortune of prime Grand Cru and Premier Cru vineyards throughout the many Burgundy appellations. "Prisse" is one of forty three villages that make up the Macon region. An area synonymous with high quality Chardonnay. We recently tasted a few of Faiveley's magnificent White Burgundy's from the super 2002 vintage, roughly in the same price. They defined all of the fine qualities of the vintage. What made Macon "Prisse" stand out from the group, was its round supple texture, complex and focused flavors of fresh green apples and pear fruit. Partially blended Chardonnay from newer oak, coupled with fruit from stainless steel, has resulted in a pure, rich, clean French style Chardonnay, with subtle nuances of vanilla and creamy almond, medium-bodied with well-balanced acidity, full, rich and very long on the finish. This well made White Burgundy goes nicely with light hors d'oeuvres, baked fish or as an aperitif. *Price \$15.99/btl. This month get 15% off by the bottle, **\$13.59** and 25% off by the case, **\$11.99** or **\$143.88** by the case net.*

2001 Senerio Araco Rioja Crianza - This Rioja was created by over a dozen local farmers, all pulling their vineyard sources together and carefully selecting their best quality Tempranillo, the Noble

grape of Spain. Vinified and aged for twelve months in French and American oak, then another six months in bottle prior to release. What you will find when you uncork this medium to full-bodied red is a soft and supple style, with plenty of young sweet black and red fruits. The vanilla, chocolate, licorice and coffee hints add to the soft velvety smooth texture and firm tannin structure. Accents of spice is noted in the young fruity finish. With the current exchange rate of the dollar against the euro, finding a Crianza at this price and quality is becoming more of a challenge. This Rioja can go with a wide range of meats such as pork, beef, game, fish, especially tuna. **Regular price \$11.99/btl. This month get 15% off by the bottle, \$10.19 and 25% off by the case, \$8.99 or \$107.88 by the case net.**

2002 Cape Mentelle Cabernet/Merlot - Cape Mentelle is a winery located in western Australia, in the Margaret River region. This area is much cooler than the more well known southeastern Australia region where most of Australia's wine comes from. The Margaret River climate has many similarities to Bordeaux, so it seemed logical to focus on those varietals. This Cabernet/Merlot blend is a delicious combination showing the power and richness of Cabernet, rounded out by the silky, velvety feel of Merlot. The level of quality here should be of no surprise since Cape Mentelle is under the direction of Tony Jordan, who also oversees the famous Cloudy Bay Vineyards in New Zealand. The same philosophies of minimal intervention, little to no use of pesticides, and a rich, fruit-driven style of wine apply at Cape Mentelle as at Cloudy Bay. We urge you to discover this Cab/Merlot from Cape Mentelle before it develops the cult following that its New Zealand sister has. **Regular price \$15.99/btl. This month 15% off by the bottle, \$13.59 and 25% off by the case, \$11.99 or \$143.88 by the case net.**

2001 La Valentina Montepulciano D'Abruzzo - Abruzzi is a region in central Italy just south of Tuscany, that was virtually unknown until about 10 years ago. Our first exposure to wines of this area was mediocre jugs of inexpensive Montepulciano. We came to learn that not all Montepulciano D'Abruzzo was inexpensive jugs, and not all were mediocre either. La Valentina is a standout in the region. Their meticulous approach to viticulture produces wines that few would guess come from Abruzzi. Their vines average 25 to 30 years of age, and the grapes are picked much later than their neighbors to ensure maximum ripeness. This 2001 reminds us of a cross between a rich Valpolicella and a California Zinfandel. This effort boasts deep blackberry and raspberry flavors mixed in nicely with a touch of licorice. A perfect red for those of you who don't cover up the grill in the winter months. **Regular price \$12.99/btl. This month get 15% off by the bottle, \$11.04 and 25% off by the case, \$9.74 or \$116.88 by the case net.**

*** All Four Are Available For Tasting ***

**“TASTE OF TUSCANY”
TWO BOTTLE SAMPLER**

These delicious “Baby Super Tuscans” are part of a well managed selection under Tuscany's largest producer, Castello Banfi. Their wide selection of wines allows for great versatility and vigorous sources for quality.

We begin with this fabulous **2002 Cabernet Sauvignon/Sangiovese** blend under the name **Col Di Sasso**, meaning “stony hill”. The Cabernet portion helps bring out the nice medium-bodied structure and wonderful depth of blackberry and black cherry fruits. The Sangiovese's role adds the soft earth tones and pleasant acidity. A supple combination with a smooth finish. Over the years, Col Di Sasso has shown to be a wine that is consistent, reliable and food friendly. **Price \$8.99.**

The same goes for the **2001 Centine Rosso**. It has a more traditional Tuscan style, showing a soft cedar aroma with sweet berry and violets. This full-bodied red is blended in harmony with 60% Sangiovese and equal parts Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. What you will find is a wine with focused flavors of sweet black cherry, berry fruits and subtle spice on the mid palate. The proper oak ageing has allowed Centine to possess a smooth tannin structure and a long, sweet fruity finish. **Price \$11.99.**

**Buy One Bottle
Each of the Two
For Only**



**“CALIFORNIA TREASURE”
TWO BOTTLE SAMPLER**

The Central Coast region of California lies a trove of magnificent wine. This vast and almost unlimited viticultural region encompasses a heap of exciting appellations that express distinct quality. This sampler showcases two varietals located in the county of San Luis Obispo.

We start with one of the leading Zinfandel producers in the appellation of Paso Robles, **Peachy Canyon's 2002 Incredible Zin**. This area is also home to some good Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. Incredible Red is produced from multi-vineyard sources. This wine exudes mouthfilling flavors of plum, blackberry, raspberry and a ripe chewy texture. The peppery smooth tannin, well integrated oak and round plush finish lingers with the sweet fruit and supple spices. An absolutely well made Zin with special quality. **Price \$10.99.**

2003 Avila Pinot Noir takes us just south of Paso Robles. This aromatic, full flavored Pinot Noir turned some heads recently at our open house tasting. Avila's vineyards are located near the ocean, on the edge of San Luis Obispo county. The cool ocean breeze allows for a climate very conducive to longer hang time on the vines, giving the grapes the proper balance of the natural sugar and acidity. What you will find in this flavorful Pinot is a wonderful combination of red and black cherry fruits, good acidity, nuances of spice, sweet oak, accents of earth and a nice velvety texture. **Price \$12.99.**

**Buy One Bottle
Each of the two
For Only**



Save \$4.00 or 16%



Great Gift Ideas

Come in and see our gift baskets that are available and are offered in many different shapes and sizes ranging in price. You will find these packs individually unique and ideal for your holiday giving. Personalized custom packs can also be made with your own choices, we simply ask for two day's notice.

We also have available a wide assortment of festive holiday bottle wraps in both paper and cloth.

Lastly, we offer a very impressive open case wine crate that can be designed to your liking.

CHAMPAGNES

DOM PERIGNON



We have many more selections to choose from



PERRIER JOUET 2 GLASS SET 750



RIEDEL GLASSWARE SALE

VINUM SERIES

6pk Cabernet/Merlot/Bordeaux

\$84.99

6pk Chardonnay

\$68.99

4pk Pinot Noir

\$59.99

6pk Port

\$68.99

6pk Champagne Prestige Cuvee

\$68.99



WINE SERIES

4pk

Chardonnay
Cabernet/Merlot
Pinot Noir

\$29.99

MONTHLY BACKROOM TASTING

Due to the hectic nature of the holiday's, and the lack of room in our storage space, we will be taking a month off in December for our in store tasting program. We will start back up again in January as usual. More information to follow in next month's mailer.

**ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF AT MANCHESTER WINE & LIQUORS
WE WISH YOU AND YOURS A
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**