

White Wine by the *Glass and Bottle*

Pinot Grigio, Prendo, Wilhelm Walch	2005	Italy	6.95 / 28
Do not expect your typical watered-down Grigio. Lots of apple, cream and almond character to this lovely medium-bodied white, along with a caressing texture and a fruity finish.			
Chardonnay, Cono Sur	2005	Central Valley, Chile	6.25 / 26
This chardonnay is fresh and crisp 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	2005	Santa Barbara County	11.95 / 48
Medium-light golden yellow; attractive floral, spicy, green apple aroma that developed with airing in the glass; medium-full body; spicy citrus and green apple flavors; lingering aftertaste.			
Viognier, Michael Austin, High Flyer	2004	Lodi	10.95 / 44
What 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.			
Pinot Gris, Illmitz	2005	Burgenland, Austria	8.95 / 36
Typical Pinot character, delicate white fruit aromas with hints of vanilla; fragrant acidity, elegant edge; very individual with good length.			
Riesling, Falcon Hill	2005	Rheinhessen, Germany	7.75 / 31
Great Riesling, very dry and crisp. Wonderful acidity, balance. A good, straight forward wine that is food friendly and easy to drink. For that matter, easy to drink a lot of it!			
Years	2005	Santa Ynez Valley	10.95 / 44
A white Bordeaux-style blend. Just slightly more than half Sauv Blanc and the balance Semillon, this is one of the most fantastic white blends I have had. It's clean, focused and has great structure while not being flabby. Balanced by great acidity.			
Sauvignon Blanc, Elizabeth Spencer	2006	Mendicino	8.00 / 32
Intensely fragrant, offering aromas of grapefruit and lemon rind, pear blossom, lavender and gooseberry. Crisp acidity braces the palate and provides the structure for flavors of starfruit and white peach.			
Rosé, Borra Vineyards	2006	Lodi	7.95 / 32
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!			

Red Wine by the *Glass and Bottle*

Perrin & Fils	2004	Côtes-du-Rhône Villages	7.95 / 32
This is a blend of half Syrah and half Grenache. This is a delicious, well-made Cotes du Rhone with peppery, black cherry, and earthy notes and hints of licorice, smoke, and underbrush.			
Chateau l' Argenteyre	2003	Bordeaux, France	8.25 / 33
Deep garnet color with nose of red fruits, roasted coffee beans, and spices.			
Borra Vineyards, Fusion	2004	Lodi	9.95 / 40
Awesome blend of Cab, Merlot, Zin, & Syrah! Deep rich color, with a purple edge. Powerful aroma of ripe fruits, including berries and plums, with delicate notes of vanilla.			
Zinfandel, Blackeye	Rnd 1	Dry Creek Valley	6.95 / 28
A great fruit forward style of Zin, but not over the top ripe and jammy. It's balanced with a core of black berry and plum followed by some a little tannin and acidity. Great juicy American wine.			
Syrah, Renard	2005	Sonoma Coast	7.95 / 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.			
Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley Vineyards	2005	Alexander Valley	11.50 / 46
Medium to full-bodied, this Cab has abundant layers of cherry and currant with a long finish.			
Cabernet Sauvignon, Woop Woop	2006	Southeast Australia	7.95 / 34
This wine has spice, blackberry and current fruit, some oak and good grip as well. Great dark color, balance and acidity, all in all, a good value Cabernet.			
Merlot, Heron	2004	California	8.95/34
Juicy red, with plenty of mocha and plum flavors, with some vanilla notes on the finish. Great food wine!			
Pinot Noir, Chanson	2005	Bourgogne	12.95 / 52
Medium cherry-red. Vibrant aromas of crushed cherry and raspberry. Fruity, supple and juicy, with a restrained sweetness to the red fruit and spice flavors. Rich for this bottling, and very easy to drink.			
Pinot Noir, Steel Creek	2005	Monterey	7.95 / 32
A silky, light-bodied classic, Steel Creek Pinot Noir brims with long-lasting flavors of raspberry, black cherries, and plum. This cherry bomb is ripe for the picking.			

SOUTH GATE CAFE

The wine program at South Gate Cafe features a wide variety of wines that have several themes in common. First, we look for wineries that have a small production. In most selections, less than 4000 cases; many of our offerings are less than 600. Secondly, we look for selections that represent a wine that our customers will not see at many other restaurants. Finally, we search for wines that show a great value in the glass, and an exceptional wine showing great characteristics of the varietal at a very reasonable price.

In addition to the way we select wines featured on our list, we also want to give you the chance to enjoy as many as possible, this is why we have more than 20 by the glass. We have included tasting notes on all of our wines. These notes have been formulated through months and months of late night personal tasting and winemaker notes. It is our sincerest hope that you enjoy our list, the concept in which we bring it to you, and the great value we hope you agree it represents.

Champagne & Sparkling Wine

Bruno Paillard, <i>Blanc de Blanc</i>	NV	Reims	97
Made from 100 % Chardonnay grapes, full-bodied, elegant, beautiful champagne with a finish that gets better and better.			
Llopart, Brut Rosé	2004	Cava, Spain	38
One of the very few sparkling wines made with Monastrell, its fantastic. Pale cherry colour with light copper tones. Highly bright. A well developed bubble, small and constant. It has a complex bouquet of aging, harmonized with elegant wild fruits shade and delicate tannins.			
Comte A. de Dampierre, <i>Cuvée des Ambassadeurs</i>	NV	Chenay	75
Intense pleasant fragrance, well-balanced, fruity structure, a very good value from a relatively small producer.			
Prosecco, Mionetto	NV	Valdobbiadene, Italy	42
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.			

White Wine

Domaine du Roure	2005	Pouilly-Fuissé	43
A powerful wine with a great deal of flavor. Very rich, slightly spicy on the palate with good concentration of fruit, and a long lingering finish.			
Chardonnay, Mer Soleil, Silver	2006	Santa Lucia Highlands	64
This is meant to rival the best Chablis, it does it with ease and elegance. The fruit is picked earlier, then vinified and aged with no oak at all. Great minerality and acidity, awesome!			
Chardonnay, EQ	2005	San Antonio, Chile	39
Fantastic Chard, probably one of the best I have had from Chile. The powerful palate along with potent acidity and structure perfectly complement the fine French oak that bathes the rich fruit without masking it.			
Chardonnay, Testarossa, <i>Bien Nacido Vineyard</i>	2003	Chalone	74
Bright straw color. This wine is slow to open up, showing its youthfulness. Nice hints of spice, caramel and mineral make their presence known. Almost Chablis in style, but with absolute American fruit.			
Pinot Grigio, Terlato Vineyards	2005	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.			
Viognier, Baglio di Pianetto, <i>Ficiligno</i>	2004	Sicily	36
Wow! Gorgeous juice. Quite deep straw yellow color. Intense and persistent. Floral notes followed by tropical fruit. Excellent structure, balanced and harmonious.			
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, melon, and mint.			
Beckman Vineyards, Le Bec Blanc	2004	Santa Ynez Valley	33
A Rhone style blend of Rousanne, Marsanne, and Grenache Blanc. Awesome structure, mouth feel, balanced by great acidity; finishes long and floral.			
Pinot Gris, Arbor Brook	2006	Oregon	32
Handcrafted in the Alsatian-style, this barrel-fermented Gris greets you with a full nose of orange blossom and citrus notes, followed by a full-bodied and soft-textured mouthfeel.			

Red Bordeaux & Cabernet Based Wine

Chateau Roque le Mayne	2004	Cotes du Castillon	36
Finally! What producers from Bordeaux should be doing! A forward style that maintains its quality of terroir, and does not cost a fortune. Good cassis and black cherry with solid structure and integrated tannins.			
Tour des Laurets	2001	Puisseguin Saint-Émilion	55
Awesome stuff! Almost American style in its richness and fruit forwardness. Nice full-bodied, ripe mouth-feel, satin-textured tannins. Long aftertaste of black currant, raspberry, cherry and plum. Owned and operated by Chateau Lafite Rothschild.			
Kaesler	2002	Barossa Valley, Australia	44
Dark ruby in color with plenty of cassis for the fruit lovers.			
Majella	2002	Coonawarra, Australia	62
Chocolate, plums, and chalky tannins, medium-bodied, long finish.			
Peacock Family Vineyard	2004	Spring Mountain District	118
Wow! One of the best built Cabs you can find. 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.			
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	Coonamarra, Australia	74
The wine reveals gorgeous notes of creosote, blueberry liqueur, black currants, licorice, and cedar. Full-bodied with great fruit purity, real stature, ripe tannin, and a long, heady finish.			

Other Red Wine by the Bottle

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 dominate here. Good weight and structure are followed by very fine tannin and some acidity. Just plain fun!			
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.			
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.			
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.			
Pinotage, Scali	2003	South Africa	43
112 Case produced! Awesome, inky colored juice brimming with very ripe back fruits. But it's not overdone; it has balance, fine tannin, and acidity that are the hallmarks of this small producer.			
Zinfandel, Wine Guerrilla, Ponzo Vineyard	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.			
Zinfandel, Spencer Roloson, <i>Madder Lake Vineyard</i>	2003	Clear Lake	58
Good blackberry nose leads to a well-structured, full-bodied wine. Very enjoyable!			
Grenache, Beckman Vineyards, <i>Purissima 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.			

Other Red Wine by the Bottle

- Merlot, DavenLore 2005 Horse Heaven Hills, Washington 45
This winery is so small they don't number their cases, they name them! Not sold in Illinois anywhere. Great fruit forward, juicy Merlot. Great balance with firm, fine tannin and good acid. A wonderful, fun wine to drink and a great find on a list.
- Merlot, Meinert 2003 Devon Valley, South Africa 36
A deal and a half! The nose is an intense mix of red currant, mulberries, mint, spice and mineral tones. The palate is soft but rich and has a touch of firmness on the finish.
- Merlot, Deerfield Ranch 2003 North Coast 38
It's not just merlot! The femininity of the Merlot is mirrored by the structure of the Cab, which also adds finish the Merlot alone lacks. There is also a little Malbec and Sangiovese thrown in. This is a whole new reason to drink Merlot. Even Miles from *Sideways* would like this one.
- Syrah, 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.
- Syrah, Penner-Ash 2004 Oregon 54
Black pepper, licorice and spice aromatics complement a dense, ripe blackberry and cherry palate riding on a core of vanilla wood flavors and cassis.
- Syrah, Pax, *Cuvée Christine* 2005 Sonoma County 62
Blackberry pie, creosote, summer fruit compote, wood-smoke, fresh espresso and pepper lurk in the thick aromas of this wine. The finish is quite long and extended by ripe tannins that give this monstrous Syrah a pleasingly clean finish.
- John Duval Wines, *Plexus* 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.
- Juan Gil 2004 Jumilla, Spain 35
This is such a deal, it's made from 100% Monastrel, a.k.a. Mourvedre. This rich, full-bodied, inky/purple-tinged cuvee exhibits aromas of scorched earth, blueberries, licorice, and pepper, a savory, layered texture, and remarkable opulence for a Monastrel.
- Pinot Noir, Tohu 2006 Marlborough, New Zealand 46
Great, terroir driven Pinot. Medium bodied with vibrant fruit with a good array of plum, cherry and spice and aromas.
- Pinot Noir, Sea Smoke, Botella 2005 Santa Rita Hills 80
A lighter and more approachable style, the wine expresses lovely, elevated fruit tones with well balanced acidity and tannins. This wine is lively on the palate, with a long crisp finish.
- Pinot Noir, ArborBrook Vineyards, *Estate Block 777* 2005 Yamill County 66
Great juice, the wine has a wonderful texture and mid-palate that leads to a finish that doesn't quit. This wine initially displays black cherry and berry notes followed by a complex anise finish.
- Zaca Mesa, *Z Cuvée* 2001 Santa Ynez Valley 28
An awesome Rhone blend made with mostly Grenache and Mouvedre. It possesses a deep ruby/purple-tinged color, sweet aromas of blueberries, blackberries, cassis, smoke, and tar, medium body, and a fruit-driven, exuberant, flamboyant personality.
- Davenlore 2004 Columbia Valley, WA 44
Rich and juicy, this wine is made from Merlot, Petite Sirah, and a little Cabernet. Good black cherry and cassis up front followed by some tannin and balanced acidity.
- Bacio di Vino, *Pazzo* 2004 Napa Valley 62
Balance and acidity are the keys to this wine! Pazzo is brimming with fresh fruit. An evolved garnet color is followed by explosive aromas of dried herbs, strawberry liqueur, cherries, spice, pepper, and a hint of new saddle leather.
- Michael Austin, Bad Habit, *Priest Ranch* 2005 Napa Valley 84
Made by Craig Becker, this is a slutty, juicy wine. Just gobs of juicy, purple teeth-staining enjoyment. Great extraction, balance, and fruit forward goodness. This is their first vintage in what is sure to become a storied wine.