



July 2011

Grapevine

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California Dreamin'



Rolling hills and majestic vineyards in Santa Barbara. Its proximity to the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Pacific Ocean creates a unique microclimate often described as Mediterranean, which is ideal for grape-growing.

California winemaking traditions date back to the late 1700s, when Spanish missionaries from Mexico brought winemaking to California. With almost 250 years' experience, a balance of respect for tradition and openness to innovation and a kind grape-growing climate, California is a winemaking oasis. An extremely diverse region, California has nearly 100 grape varieties and viticultural areas and can be divided into five major wine regions:

The Northern California Coast, just north of San Francisco, includes Mendocino, Lake County, Sonoma, Napa and Carneros; The Central California Coast stretches from San Francisco to Santa Barbara; Sierra Nevada,

home of the infamous 1849 Gold Rush, is east of San Francisco; The Central Valley includes Lodi and the San Joaquin Valley; and Southern California extends from Los Angeles to San Diego.

Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon are the champions, with Merlot and Zinfandel fast on their heels. Pinot Noir, Syrah, Petite Sirah and Sauvignon Blanc are all contenders, while Pinot Gris and Viognier are growing in popularity.

Stag's Leap's 1972 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon and Chateau Montelena's 1973 Alexander Valley (Napa) Chardonnay shocked the wine

world when they won the historic Judgment of Paris blind wine tasting, putting California Cab and Chard on the map. This victory was fictionalized in the 2008 film *Bottle Shock*.

Zinfandel, first planted in 1850, has undergone extensive DNA testing, proving that Zin, Italian Primitivo and Croatian Crljenak are genetically the same grape. They don't yield identical wines, however, owing to clonal differences, varying climates and winemaking techniques. While they have the same DNA structure, they produce markedly different wines.

Pinot Noir is more suited to a cool climate and does exceptionally well in California's coastal regions, particularly Carneros, the Russian River Valley and Santa Barbara. Syrah, a French Rhone varietal, tends to be bold and complex, with ripe fruit and notes of earth, smoke and pepper. *Rhone Ranger* refers to wines made from American-grown Rhone wine varieties such as Syrah or Grenache. In much the same way, Meritage Wines are made from Bordeaux varieties. Reds include Cabernet Sauvignon,

Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot, Carmenere and Malbec. White Meritages include Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon.

California Chardonnay, the state's most widely planted grape, is typically oaky and buttery, announcing its fruit-forward presence without a trace of shyness. Sauvignon Blanc tends toward fruity and grassy, with far less emphatic grapefruit flavors than New Zealand Sauv Blancs.

And don't forget about Sparklers. Made mostly from Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, California Sparklers employ the same techniques used in the Champagne region, known as *Method Champoise*, yielding dry, crisp wines with notes of brioche, nuts and luscious fruit.

Whether you are a California wine lover or you haven't yet ventured into that territory of gold in a glass, you're bound to find wines of integrity and strong character, wines that are big in flavor, body and personality. So rouse yourself from California dreamin' and pop that cork. ♦

Incredible Savings!
15% off all Wine —
Every Bottle,
Every Day!!!

Wines from the 90's Club: Fine Wines Rated 90 Points or Above...Under \$30

Hogue Gewurztraminer '09.....	90 pts. WE	Columbia Valley	\$8.33	(reg \$ 9.99)
Chalone Chardonnay '08.....	92 pts. WS	Monterey	\$23.99	(reg \$27.99)
Markham Napa Merlot '07.....	90 pts. WS	Napa Valley	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Emmolo Sauvignon Blanc '09.....	91 pts. WE	Napa Valley	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Sbragia Sauvignon Blanc '10.....	91 pts. WS	Dry Creek Valley	\$18.99	(reg \$22.49)
Ravenswood Barricia Single Vineyard Zinfandel '07.....	93 pts. WE	Sonoma Valley	\$24.99	(reg \$29.99)
Buehler Napa Valley Zinfandel '09.....	91 pts. WS	Napa Valley	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Seghesio Sonoma Zinfandel '09.....	90 pts. WS	Sonoma	\$19.99	(reg \$24.99)
Mumm Napa Brut Rosé.....	90 pts. WS	Napa Valley	\$13.99	(reg \$18.99)
Tommasi Cabernet Sauvignon Toscana '08.....	91 pts. WS	Tuscany	\$14.99	(reg \$17.99)
Chateau St. Jean Sonoma Fume Blanc '09.....	91 pts. WE	Sonoma	\$ 9.99	(reg \$13.99)
Georges Duboeuf Fleurie '09.....	90 pts. WS	France	\$12.99	(reg \$16.99)
Perrin et Fils Gigondas La Gille '07 (Top 100 WS).....	92 pts. WS	France	\$27.99	(reg \$32.99)
Marques de Casa Concha Cabernet Sauvignon '08.....	90 pts. WS	Chile	\$18.48	(reg \$21.99)
Marques de Casa Concha Chardonnay '09.....	90 pts. WS	Chile	\$13.99	(reg \$19.99)
Benziger Family Carneros Chardonnay '08.....	91 pts. WE	California	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Penfolds Shiraz Kalmina Bin 28 '06.....	90 pts. RP	Australia	\$16.99	(reg \$23.99)
Santa Alicia Reserve Carmenere '08.....	90 pts. W&S	Chile	\$ 6.99	(reg \$ 7.99)
Benziger Family Sonoma Coast Cabernet Sauvignon '07.....	90 pts. WE	California	\$16.99	(reg \$22.99)
Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2010.....	90 pts. WS	New Zealand	\$11.29	(reg \$13.99)
Falesco Merlot '09.....	92 pts. RP	Italy	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Santa Ema Reserve Merlot '08.....	90 pts. RP	Chile	\$10.99	(reg \$12.99)
Primus Cabernet Sauvignon/Syrah/Merlot/Carmenere Blend '07.....	90 pts. RP	Chile	\$16.49	(reg \$19.99)
Kaesler Stonehorse Shiraz/Grenache/Mourvedre.....	91 pts. ST	Spain	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Joseph Carr Reserve Chardonnay '08.....	93 pts. WE	Sonoma	\$21.49	(reg \$24.99)
La Crema Chardonnay '09.....	93 pts. WE	Sonoma	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Sonoma-Cutrer Chardonnay '09.....	91 pts. WE	Sonoma	\$21.49	(reg \$24.99)
La Crema Pinot Noir '09.....	90 pts. WE	Sonoma	\$21.49	(reg \$24.99)
Trapiche Broquel Malbec 2008.....	90 pts. WE	Argentina	\$12.49	(reg \$14.49)
Maipe Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon 2009.....	90 pts. RP	Argentina	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Maipe Reserve Malbec 2009.....	90 pts. RP	Argentina	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Graffigna Reserve Malbec 2008.....	90 pts. RP	Argentina	\$ 9.39	(reg \$10.99)
Domaine Terlato & Chapoutier Shiraz-Viognier 2008.....	90 pts. WS	Australia	\$15.29	(reg \$17.99)
Petra Zingari 2008.....	90 pts. WA	Italy	\$11.89	(reg \$13.99)
Catena Zapata 2008.....	91 pts. RP	Argentina	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Chateau Rollan De By Medoc 2008 Top 100 (WS).....	90 pts. WS	France	\$21.99	(reg \$25.99)
Schramsberg Mirabelle Brut Rose.....	93 pts. WS	California	\$22.99	(reg \$26.99)
Domaine Carneros Brut by Taittinger 2006.....	91 pts. WS	California	\$20.99	(reg \$24.99)
Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Brut.....	92 pts. W&S	California	\$19.99	(reg \$24.99)
Santa Margherita Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore.....	91 pts. W&S	Italy	\$16.99	(reg \$19.99)
Mollydooker 'The Boxer' Shiraz 2009.....	91 pts. WS	Australia	\$21.99	(reg \$27.99)
Starmont Chardonnay 2008.....	90 pts. WS	Napa Valley	\$13.99	(reg \$16.49)
Alamos Seleccion Malbec 2008.....	90 pts. WE	Argentina	\$14.49	(reg \$16.99)
Casajus 2006.....	91 pts. RP	Spain	\$16.99	(reg \$ 19.99)
E. Guigal Cotes du Rhone 2007.....	90 pts. RP	Rhone Valley	\$11.49	(reg \$13.49)
Castello d'Albola Chianti Classico 2007 Top 100 (WS).....	90 pts. WS	Chianti	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Kunde Chardonnay 2008.....	90 pts. W&S	Sonoma	3/\$24.99	(reg \$12.99)
Lan Crianza 2006 (Top 100/WS).....	90 pts. WS	Rioja	\$10.99	(reg \$11.99)
Gloria Ferrer Sonoma Brut Sparkling Wine Top 100/WS.....	90 pts. WS	Sonoma	\$13.59	(reg \$15.99)
Mumm Napa Brut Prestige Sparkling Wine (Top 100/WS).....	90 pts. WS	Napa	\$16.19	(reg \$19.99)
J Pinot Gris 2009.....	90 pts. WE	California	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Pacific Rim Riesling (Organic) 2008.....	92 pts. WE	Columbia Valley	\$11.99	(reg \$13.99)
Perrin & Fils Vinsobres Les Cornuds 2007.....	91 pts. WS	Rhone Valley	\$17.99	(reg \$21.29)
Ruffino Il Ducale 2007.....	90 pts. WS	Tuscany	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Tikal Patriota Bonarda/Malbec 2008.....	92 pts. RP	Argentina	\$17.99	(reg \$20.99)
Chalk Hill Sauvignon Blanc 2007.....	92 pts. WE	Russian River Val	\$19.99	(reg \$27.99)
Artesa Carneros Chardonnay 2009.....	90 pts. WE	Carneros	\$15.49	(reg \$18.29)
Trimbach Riesling 2007 Top 100 WS.....	91 pts. WS	Alsace	\$15.99	(reg \$18.99)
Montebuena Rioja 2009.....	90 pts. RP	Spain	\$10.19	(reg \$11.99)
Thorn-Clarke Terra Barossa Estate Grown Shiraz 2008.....	90 pts. RP	Australia	\$12.99	(reg \$14.99)
Concha y Toro Chardonnay Maycas de Limari.....	92 pts. RP	Chile	\$18.99	(reg \$22.99)

Look for 'A Wine Primer: From Bottles and Glasses to Corks and More' in the August 2011 Issue of Grapevine!

Outrageous Sales & Mail-in-Rebates

A Toast to Terrific Savings

Fire Up the Grill & Sip Red Zin.....**Pink Price**.....**Reg Price**

'That's Amore' (Primitivo).....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Buehler '09 (91 Pts RP).....	\$16.99.....	(reg \$19.99)
Ravenswood Barrica '07 (93 Pts WE).....	\$24.99.....	(reg \$29.99)
Redemption Dry Creek Valley '06.....	\$16.99.....	(reg \$19.99)
Kenwood Jack London Vineyard '08.....	\$16.99.....	(reg \$19.99)
7 Deadly Zins '08.....	\$13.59.....	(reg \$15.99)
Earthquake '08.....	\$19.99.....	(reg \$24.99)
Klinker Brick Old Vine '08.....	\$16.49.....	(reg \$19.99)
Mettler Old Vine '08.....	\$14.49.....	(reg \$16.99)
Cline Ancient Vines '09.....	\$12.99.....	(reg \$14.99)
Bogle Old Vine '08.....	\$10.29.....	(reg \$12.49)
Gnarly Head Old Vine '09.....	\$ 8.59.....	(reg \$ 9.99)

Chardonnay \$9.99 & Under.....**Pink Price**.....**Reg Price**

Wente Morning Fog '09.....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Cupcake Central Coast '09.....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Sebastiani '09 (91 Pts WE)		
* <i>\$36 mail-in-rebate ~ 12-btl purchase</i> ..	\$ 8.49.....	(reg \$ 9.99)
Four Vines Naked '09		
* <i>\$24 mail-in-rebate ~ 12-btl purchase</i> ..	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Rodney Strong Sonoma '09		
* <i>\$24 mail-in-rebate ~ 12-btl purchase</i> ..	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Chateau Ste Michelle '09.....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
J. Lohr Arroyo Seco '09.....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Chateau St. Jean Sonoma '09		
* <i>\$10 mail-in-rebate ~ 3-btl purchase</i> ..	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Joseph Drouhin Laforet Bourgogne '09 ..	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Souverain Sonoma '09.....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)

Party Size 1.75 ltr Sale.....**Pink Price**.....

Gilbey's Gin.....	\$13.99
Jose Cuervo Gold Tequila.....	\$34.99
Beefeater Gin.....	\$34.99
Grey Goose Vodka.....	\$49.99
Captain Morgan Spiced Rum.....	\$30.99
Tanqueray Gin.....	\$35.99
Svedka Vodka.....	\$19.99
Absolut Vodka.....	\$33.99
Smirnoff Vodka.....	\$19.99
Sobieski Vodka.....	\$18.99

Everyday Low Prices.....**Pink Price**.....**Reg Price**

Mer Soleil Chardonnay '08.....	\$22.99.....	(reg \$24.99)
La Crema Sonoma Chardonnay '09.....	\$15.99.....	(reg \$19.99)
Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio '10.....	\$19.99.....	(reg \$26.99)
Ménage à Trois Red.....	\$ 8.99.....	(reg \$10.99)

Your Choice -- \$7.99.....**Pink Price**.....**Reg Price**

Natura Sauvignon Blanc '10 (Organic)....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Casillero del Diablo Carmenere '09.....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Casillero del Diablo Cab Sauv '09.....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Colores del Sol Malbec '09.....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Trivento Reserve Malbec '09.....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)
Trivento Reserve Torrontes '10.....	\$ 7.99.....	(reg \$ 8.99)

Sensational Sauvignon Blancs.....**Pink Price**.....**Reg Price**

Villa Maria Cellar Selection '09		
*93 Pts (WS).....	\$16.99.....	(reg \$19.99)
Villa Maria Private Bin '10.....	\$11.29.....	(reg \$13.49)
Starborough '10 *90 Pts (WS).....	\$ 9.39.....	(reg \$10.99)
Babich '10.....	\$10.29.....	(reg \$11.99)
Nobilo Regional Collection '10.....	\$10.29.....	(reg \$11.99)
Monkey Bay '09.....	\$ 8.59.....	(reg \$ 9.99)
Cupcake '10.....	3/\$24.99.....	(reg \$9.99 ea)
Cakebread Cellars '09.....	\$27.99.....	(reg \$31.99)
BV Coastal Estates '09.....	\$ 5.00.....	(reg \$ 5.99)
Robert Mondavi Fumé Blanc '08.....	\$12.99.....	(reg \$14.99)
Charles Krug (Peter Mondavi Fam) '10.....	\$12.99.....	(reg \$14.99)
Kendall-Jackson Vintner's Reserve '09.....	\$ 9.49.....	(reg \$10.99)
Chateau St. Jean Fumé Blanc '09		
*91 Pts (WE).....	\$ 9.99.....	(reg \$11.99)
Chateau Magence Graves '09.....	\$8.49.....	(reg \$ 9.99)

Mail-in-Rebate.....**Final Cost After Rebate**.....**Reg Price**

Gilbey's Gin.....	\$13.99	\$5.00	\$8.99.....	(reg \$16.99)
Jose Cuervo Gold Tequila.....	\$34.99	\$5.00	\$29.99.....	(reg \$38.99)
Beefeater Gin.....	\$34.99	\$8.00	\$26.99.....	(reg \$39.99)
Grey Goose Vodka.....	\$49.99	\$10.00	\$39.99.....	(reg \$63.99)
Captain Morgan Spiced Rum.....	\$30.99	\$5.00	\$25.99.....	(reg \$33.99)
Tanqueray Gin.....	\$35.99	\$5.00	\$30.99.....	(reg \$39.99)
Svedka Vodka.....	\$19.99	\$4.00	\$15.99.....	(reg \$22.99)
Absolut Vodka.....	\$33.99	\$5.00	\$28.99.....	(reg \$39.99)
Smirnoff Vodka.....	\$19.99	\$5.00	\$14.99.....	(reg \$22.99)
Sobieski Vodka.....	\$18.99	\$3.00	\$15.99.....	(reg \$21.99)

Prepared Cocktails 1.75 ltr

Jose Cuervo
Golden Margarita
\$17.99 (reg \$19.99)

Bailey's Mudslide
\$17.99 (reg \$19.99)

TGI Friday
Orange Dream
Strawberry Daiquiri
Pina Colada
\$15.99 - 1.75 ltr
- 4.00 - mail-in-rebate
\$11.99 - final cost
after rebate

Jose Cuervo Authentic
Classic Lime Margaritas
Mango Margaritas
Watermelon Margaritas
Light Margaritas
\$13.99 - 1.75 ltr
- 5.00 - mail-in-rebate
\$8.99 - final cost after rebate

Southern Comfort
Ready to Serve
Lemonade Cocktail
Hurricane Cocktail
\$15.99 - 1.75 ltr

Bacardi Classic Cocktails
Pina Colada
Daiquiri
Mojito
\$18.99 - 1.75 ltr
- 5.00 - mail-in-rebate
\$13.99 - final cost after rebate

Wine Tastings Fri, 4-8 & Sat, 2-6

Sat 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23 & 7/30: Try our New Arrivals: Come in and taste our latest delicious discoveries.

Fri 7/1: Barbeque Wines for the 4th of July: A stellar selection of reds, whites and Rosés to light up your 4th of July.

Fri 7/8: Wines from California's Northern Coast: Wines from Sonoma, Napa and Carneros.

Fri 7/15: Wines from California's Central Coast: This region includes Santa Barbara's terrific wines.

Fri 7/22: Wines from California's Central Valley: We'll taste some of the treasures from Lodi and San Joaquin Valley.

Fri 7/29: Staff Picks! Check out the incredible July Staff Picks listed below, and tell us you can possibly resist that tasting.

Sheila's Fig, Caramelized Onion & Gorgonzola Pizza

Pizza dough for one large pie
6 Tbsp olive oil, divided
2 large onions, sliced into strips
sprinkling of sea salt
5 fresh figs, quartered
8 oz Gorgonzola cheese
Freshly ground black pepper



Place pizza stone in oven and preheat to 500°. While the oven preheats, cook onions on low heat in 4 tablespoons olive oil and a shower of sea salt for at least 30 minutes, until fully caramelized. Stretch out dough and cover with onions, figs, remaining 2 Tbsp oil and black pepper. Place pizza on hot stone, turn oven down to 425° and cook for 10 minutes. Crumble gorgonzola over pizza and cook for 5 minutes, until crisp, golden and blistered around edges.

Serve with Lioco Chardonnay (Sheila's July Staff Pick) or one of the other excellent staff picks listed below. Enjoy!

Limonage a Trois Martini

2 oz chilled Absolut Citron Vodka
½ to ¾ oz Limoncello
Strip of lemon zest
Lemon juice and sugar for rim of glass



Shake Vodka and Limoncello vigorously. Pour into lemon- and sugar-rimmed, chilled martini glass. Garnish with lemon strip, and sip.

Cucumber Dill-Icious

2 parts Crop Organic Cucumber Vodka
1 part fresh lime juice
½ part agave nectar
Muddled cucumber and dill



Muddle cucumber, dill and agave. Add Vodka and lime juice. Shake over ice and strain into a martini glass. Garnish with cucumber slice.

July Staff Wine Picks

Sheila: Lioco Chardonnay '09 (Sonoma) \$16.99 (reg \$19.99) Aromas of lemon curd, pear skin and wet stone with flavors of verbena, green pear and talc. Food pairings: fig pizza, green papaya salad or crab cakes.

Damian: Septima Malbec '09 (Argentina) \$8.99 (reg \$9.99) Black cherry, plum and cassis mingle with toasted oak, vanilla and coffee. Soft tannins make it an easy-going Red, perfect for sipping or barbeque.

Denise: Mumm Napa Brut Rose (Napa Valley) \$13.99 (reg \$18.99) Red and black fruit tones like wild strawberry, Bing cherry and dark plums grace this crisp and delightfully clean sparkler.

Graham: Roederer Estate Brut Sparkling Wine (Alexander Valley) \$19.99 (reg \$24.99) 92 Pts (W&S) Complex, dry and harmonious, this sparkler comes from the California house of Cristal. Dry, yeasty, full bodied with complex fruit and supreme balance.

Kris: High Hook Pinot Noir '08 (Willamette Valley) \$16.99 (reg \$19.99) Elegant with black cherry, raspberry and spice on the nose. The palate is soft and silky with intense berry flavors and a long, expressive finish.

Ted: Les Grandes Vignes Cotes du Rhone '09 (Rhône Valley) \$13.49 (reg \$15.99) Made from 100% Cinsault, this Cotes du Rhone is exotic with deep, dark plummy fruit and is silky but firm.

Fabulous Savings! 15% off All Wine --
Every Bottle, Every Day

A New Face at Wine & Spirits of Slingerlands

You've probably noticed the newest face at Wine & Spirits of Slingerlands — Ted Neumann, who joined us back in March. A professed lover of French wines, in particular, Ted made his first winery visit in the Mosel in Germany back in 1975. He is on hand to help, so the next time you're in, say 'hello.'