

FERRY PLAZA WINE MERCHANT & WINE BAR

DECEMBER 2011 WINE CLUB



2009 Bouza Tannat, Las Violetas, Canelones, Montevideo, Uruguay

Bouza Winery was built in 1942, early in that country's wine history, and has been a family run business for its entire existence. Tannat is a red wine grape, historically grown in South West France in the Madiran region and is now one of the most prominent grapes in Uruguay, where it is considered the "national grape". Tannat wines produced in Uruguay are usually quite different in character from Madiran wines, being lighter in body and lower in tannins - but this wine bucks the trend. The wine is big with intense flavor, slightly spicy, well structured with balanced acidity and ripe but firm tannins. This wine is beautiful. This, Bouza's flagship bottling, demonstrates the huge potential that exists for Tannat's future in Uruguay. Tannat is a grape that has found a home in Uruguay. Introduced to Uruguay by Basque immigrants in the 19th century, Tannat is yet another French variety enjoying a renaissance in South America. With buckets of black brambly fruit, licorice and cocoa, it is tannic yet fresh, and ideal with hearty meat dishes.

Suggested Recipe: Sweet Potato Cottage Pie

Mixed and Red Selection

\$18.00

\$15.30

Wine Club member reorder price



"We spit so you don't have to."

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De Stefani Fior de Rosé, Veneto, Italy

Nothing is as festive during the holiday season as a good crisp bubbly, and no bubbly is as festive as a delicious pink sparkler. It is a tradition that we offer a refreshing and fun sparkling wine for our December Wine Club and this year we feel we have found a real winner. This one is not only a beautiful, lovely color, it is also absolutely yummy. This wine is from the Veneto region best known for Prosecco, but the more rare rosé sparkling wine made from red grapes is also a hallmark of this area. Alessandro is the fourth generation of the De Stefani family and his single-minded quest for innovation and improvement has created wines of unique quality in the sea of Veneto wines. This sparkling rosé is a blend of Marzemino and Raboso with a refreshingly dry palate and lots of red berry fruit. This tasty bubbly is just the thing for any party, even if the special occasion is a quiet night at home. What a perfect house wine for the holidays at an affordable price!

Suggested Recipe: Endive and Watercress Salad with Apples and Herbs

Mixed and White Selection

\$20.00

\$17.00

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2009 Hatcher Cinsault, Sierra Foothills, California

Matthew Hatcher took a leap of faith when he jumped into the winery business after having considerable success as an amateur winemaker. Luckily for him and all of us, he made the transition flawlessly, now turning out a tasty array of wines in the Sierra Foothills. This is a lovely red wine made from Cinsault, a grape not often seen on its own as it is usually a minor component of a Rhone-style blend. This one needs no partner to show off its delightful, cherry and strawberry flavors with lip-smacking crispness and rich satisfying fruit accented with just the right amount of oak. In the past we have carried the Cinsault Rose from Hatcher in the summer months and it was always one of our favorites. We were very gratified when we tasted the red version from this same grape. It is like the pink wine's big brother, fully mature, with more complexity and more facets to offer for enjoyment. This wine is so smooth it can be enjoyed on its own or paired with some lovely, lighter foods like pork tenderloin.

Suggested Recipe: Plum-Glazed Duck Breasts

Red Selection

\$20.00

\$17.00

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2010 Pierce Ranch Vineyards Verdelho, Alta Mesa, Lodi, California

Pierce Ranch is located in the recently designated AVA of San Antonio Valley in the southern tip of Monterey County, just 25 miles from Paso Robles, where they grow the majority of their grapes on the home ranch. In this warm climate they produce hearty grape varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Petite Sirah, Zinfandel, and some Spanish and Portuguese red grapes. To produce this white wine they headed to Lodi to find a cooler site for the obscure Verdelho grape. The newly recognized Alta Mesa district of the Lodi AVA contains one of the rare plantings of Verdelho in the United States. This Portuguese white grape is an early ripener with great natural acidity very reminiscent of a Sauvignon Blanc. This version has a ripeness that lends some floral character to the bright citrus flavors of this wine giving it great balance and elegance. The lingering finish and bright melon flavors make this wine a very versatile companion at the table.

Suggested Recipe: Penne with Spinach, Gorgonzola, and Walnuts

White Selection

\$18.00

\$15.30

Wine Club member reorder price



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