



THE NEW FLEMING'S 100®

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The 80 wines you'll find profiled on the following pages comprise Fleming's national selections, which are available at all locations. The other 20 are chosen by our local Wine Managers to reflect personal guest preferences, regional tastes and special wine-buying opportunities available only on a limited scale. All these wines have one thing in common: they have met the demanding standards set by Director of Wine Marian Jansen op de Haar during a highly competitive 12-month tasting process.

This year, our collection includes more iconic wines from premier wineries: Duckhorn, Schramsberg, Chateau Montelena, Cain and Frog's Leap from Napa; as well as international wines with a stellar history such as Catena in Argentina.

A word about the list itself. While most restaurants simply present their wines alphabetically, or by price or growing region, we insist on a more "user-friendly" approach. The wines of the Fleming's 100 are listed in order of intensity: first whites, then reds, from lightest to fullest, sweetest to driest for the whites, and least to most tannic for the reds. This will help you make the best possible choice for your tastes and your menu selection. Simply put, when you have a perfect match, you have a perfect meal.

CHAMPAGNE/SPARKLING WINE

Listed from off-dry to dry and from light to moderate intensity

WHITE WINES OF INTEREST

Listed from sweet and fruity to almost dry, and from light to moderate intensity

SAUVIGNON BLANC

Listed from dry with light intensity to moderate intensity and oak

CHARDONNAY

Listed from light to moderate to full intensity and oak

PINOT NOIR

Listed from fruity and light to moderate intensity and tannin

RED WINES OF INTEREST

Listed from light to moderate to full intensity

SYRAH/SHIRAZ/PETITE SIRAH/ZINFANDEL

Listed from light to moderate to full intensity

MERLOT

Listed from moderate to full intensity and tannin

CABERNET SAUVIGNON/CABERNET BLEND

Listed from moderate to full intensity and tannin

MIONETTO, Extra Dry Prosecco di Valdobbiadene NV

Francesco Mionetto didn't just leave his grandsons a winery. He also left them his longstanding relationships with the vineyard owners of the Valdobbiadene area. These time-fused relationships are what assure that to this day Mionetto gets the region's top quality prosecco grapes. (Old man Mionetto must have popped a lot of corks and poured plenty of bubbly for one and all.) Straw colored with brilliant reflections, the wine overflows with classic Charmat-method Prosecco-ness — and fruit flavors of crisp apple and peach. *Organic*



SCHRAMSBURG, Blanc de Blancs North Coast, 2006

Talk about a storied winery. It's been declared a monument by the California Historical Society. Robert Louis Stevenson wrote about the place in his book *Silverado Squatters*. President Ford and Queen Elizabeth II once kicked off a state dinner with a toast over a bottle of this Blanc de Blancs, and Ronald Reagan once served it to Margaret Thatcher. It's been tickling the palates of celebrities, notables and dignitaries for decades. And for good reason: its dry crispness is a perfect counterpoint to its vibrant, fruity flavors. *Sustainable*



SEGURA-VIUDAS, Brut Cava Aria Estate Spain NV

Just a short drive from joyous Barcelona, the first gentle pressings of Spain's three signature grapes are blended and crafted in the traditional *Méthode Chamepnoise*. The Macabeo grape provides a fine, honeyed aroma. Parellada lends subtle elegance, and Xarel-lo provides the backbone. The result is this deliciously dry, sparkling Aria, ringing out in an emotional range of pineapple, honey, almond and straw notes as you toast your special occasion. *Sustainable*



HEIDSIECK, Brut Champagne Blue Top France NV

Legend has it that this very bubbly was the champagne poured aboard the *Titanic*, and that the bottles recovered among the wreckage still tasted delicious. A blend of 70% Pinot Noir, 10% Pinot Meunier and 20% Chardonnay, it is elegant and expressive, offering floral, pear and toffee flavors and a creamy texture. From the house that has been producing fine champagne since 1785, and has, over the centuries, tickled noses at the royal courts of Prussia, Germany, Sweden, England and Russia.



WHITE WINES OF INTEREST

GLORIA FERRER, Blanc de Noirs Sonoma County NV

Vibrant vines and sparkling wines spring to mind at the mention of the name Gloria Ferrer, whose creations have brought back more than 100 glittering gold medals in the last six years. This hand-harvested Pinot Noir-based wine is ever so faintly pink, creamy and complex, with bright strawberry and black cherry flavors up front, and a lush mix of cherry, lemon and cola splashing through the lively bubbles.



MÖNCHHOF, Riesling Spätlese Mosel Slate Germany, 2008/2009

Mönchhof, or "Monk's House," has a history dating back to 1177. The monks grew grapes and produced wine for centuries, and then built the estate and cellars in about 1500. They kept working at it until the estate was sold in 1804 to the family who still runs the operation, making wines like this Riesling Spätlese. Its dense aromas of peach and raspberry jam, dark blue slate, and creamy lemon harmonize like a heavenly chant.



**LOOSEN BROS., Riesling Mosel Dr. L
Germany, 2008**

"I want to taste the depth of the old vines. I want to experience the character of the vintage. I want authenticity; without it, a wine is simply another beverage." These are the words of winemaker Ernst Loosen. He and his brother Thomas created this elegant and racy Riesling, evoking the steep, slate-soil vineyards of the Mosel Valley. Aromas of flowers, lime, nectarine and peaches burst forward in the nose, making way for sumptuous apricot, lime and mango on the palate. *Organic/Sustainable*



**VON BUHL, Riesling Pfalz Medium-Dry
Jazz Germany, 2008**

Cue Joachim Kühn's *Yellow Earth*, pour a glass of this Riesling, and notice that like the avant-garde pianist, the Von Buhl winery has created an artistic impression of the German landscape — with aromas that evoke the minerality of the soil from which it springs. Peach, apple and pear greet the nose, and flavors of white peach sparked with ripe citrus. *Organic*



**BERINGER, White Zinfandel California,
2008/2009**

You've got to love a great pink wine. It doesn't apologize. It doesn't make excuses for itself. It simply moves beyond any preconceived notions you may have of its kind, and lavishes you with brilliant flavors and aromas — fresh raspberry, citrus and melon. It pairs beautifully with all kinds of foods, and keeps its head held high. *Biodynamic/Sustainable*



**BODEGAS LA CANA, Albariño Rias
Baixas Spain, 2008/2009**

Where the steep hillside vineyards meet the tranquil coast of Galicia, towns still close down for siesta between 2 and 4:30 pm, and people go home to share long, multi-course lunches and carafes of regional wine like this one. Offering lush aromas of white peaches and ripe pears followed by flavors of pineapple and bright citrus, the wine finish is crisp and dry, like a leisurely autumn afternoon in the vineyard.



CONUNDRUM, California, 2008

Oh, the problems of being too delicious. Poor Conundrum. Its powerful aromas of apricot, honeysuckle, vanilla and lime zest punctuate core flavors of tropical fruit, peach and honeydew, while a lush, creamy mouth-filling texture brings some acidity along for support as it roars through to its beautiful finish. Honestly, the biggest conundrum with this wine is trying to decide whether or not to uncork another bottle. *Biodynamic/Sustainable*



**CANTINA TERLANO, Pinot Grigio Alto
Adige Italy, 2008**

This winery is tucked up in the Italian alps, just yodeling distance from Austria or Switzerland, depending on which direction you face. Its one of those places where languages and cultures blend into a unique hybrid, like the distinctive sandy igneous and crystal soil that gives Cantina Terlan's wines their particular elegance and complexity. With aromas of ripe melon and apple, and flavors of pineapple, Bartlett pear, apple and orange zest laced with almond notes, this Pinot Grigio echoes in your mind like a call across the mountains.





MASO CANALI, Pinot Grigio Trentino Italy, 2008

There's a saying in Trentino: "Pane e vino fanno un bel bambino." It means "bread and wine make a beautiful baby." Kind of gives you a sense of the importance of wine in this region, and the life-enhancing qualities of these grapes — a portion of which local winemakers dry on racks to concentrate the sugar and the flavors. With a brilliant, light gold color and flavors of lemon and apple, this wine is as charming as a round-cheeked Italian child.

SAUVIGNON BLANC



VERAMONTE, Casablanca Valley Chile, 2008

The wilds of Patagonia lie to the south. The Andes mountains rise to the east. To the west, the Pacific Ocean pounds the coastline. And somewhere in the middle of all that geological excitement, the Veramonte estate graciously hosts Sauvignon Blanc grapes, making sure they enjoy the ideal cool temperature to produce an aroma of lemon, lime and peach, a medium body, and citrus melon and herb flavors that linger like the long notes of an Andean flute.



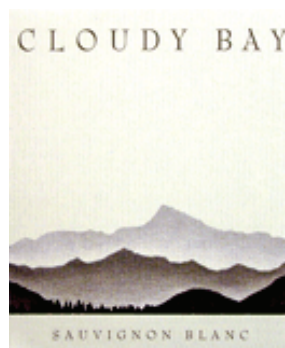
MULDERBOSCH, Stellenbosch South Africa, 2009

There's a guy in South Africa who's called "Mr. White Wine" (although he also answers to Mike Dubrovic). He's widely acknowledged to be the most talented winemaker in the country, and he puts his stamp on every bottle of this luscious Sauvignon Blanc. With its tropical nose packed with guava, green fig, granadilla and a hint of floral — and its complex character of nettle and freshly cut grass — every glass is a window into Mr. White Wine's imagination.



KIM CRAWFORD, Marlborough New Zealand, 2007

Kim Crawford thinks small. Grape-sized, to be precise. His goal is to be there at the moment when the grape is at its peak, preserve that moment in the bottle, and have it come alive in the glass. The Sauvignon Blanc grape that comes alive here must have been a straw-green one, with aromas of ripe tropical fruits and New Zealand herbs. With its fruit salad of juicy flavors, this wine snagged a spot on *Wine Spectator's* Top 100 last year and fetched a score of 91 points this time around. *Sustainable*



CLOUDY BAY, Marlborough New Zealand, 2009

At the top of New Zealand's South Island, mountains soar, and valleys lay in broad stripes at their feet, crisscrossed by idyllic waterways and dotted by vineyards. Here, the Sauvignon Blanc vines of Cloudy Bay channel the characteristics of their spectacular surroundings. This latest release earned 92 points from *Wine Enthusiast* for its vibrant aromatics, fine structure and layers of pure fruit flavors. With its scents of grapefruit, orange zest, mango and a sweet green fruit character, the pleasures of Cloudy Bay are, well, clear.

CHARDONNAY



RUFFINO, Toscana Libaio Italy, 2008

Tuscany. You can barely even get that word out of your mouth without a wistful sigh — one that takes you on a mental journey to a glowing landscape, dotted with medieval towns like Monteriggioni, where Ruffino makes the wines people have been enjoying on the lawns of Tuscan villas since 1916. The people at Ruffino are masters of classic winemaking techniques, which they now blend with new styles to create conversation-opening wines like this light, refreshing, complex pear- and citrus-flavored Chardonnay. It's delicious as an aperitif, and moves gracefully to the table for dinner.



CANYON ROAD, California, 2009

As you drive down the meandering country roads of the California wine country, you need a soundtrack. A mellow, but exciting bit of road music — one that anticipates the beauty that waits around each curve. This Chardonnay is inspired by that kind of music. Its aromatic spice notes evoke the browns of the earth. Ripe lime in the mid-to-late palate recalls the bright greens of the vineyards and the dappled light on the grape leaves. Enjoyed on its own or paired with favorite foods, it's a wine that leads to beautiful adventures. *Sustainable*



MERRYVALE, Napa Valley Starmont, 2008

Made from the hand-selected jewels of vineyards throughout Napa Valley, here's a Chardonnay that truly shines. It's aged in oak for 10 months *sur lie* (on top of spent yeast... sometimes we wonder how these techniques were ever discovered) to round out the texture and enhance complexity — while still delivering a great big smack of fruit. *Sustainable*



JORDAN, Sonoma County, 2007/ Russian River Valley, 2008

The Jordan winery began in the early 70s, when fine wine in California was in its infancy. Back then, the model wine estate was in Europe. So Jordan set about to emulate the European traditions of winemaking. Classical architecture, landscaping and gardens reflect the winery's old-country inspiration. But Sonoma gives the grapes their own ideas. Richly aromatic with crisp acidity, this is a Chardonnay born of classic techniques and California allure. *Sustainable*



SONOMA-CUTRER, Sonoma Coast Russian River Ranches, 2008

The Chardonnay grapes of the Russian River Ranches must have done something good in a past life to have been blessed with such perfect growing conditions now. The privileged soil, climate and vintage create a Chardonnay that is a study in elegance and complexity: straightforward at first, then, like an old soul, evolving, developing and finishing gracefully.



KENDALL-JACKSON, California Vintner's Selection, 2008

Using estate-grown grapes from Santa Barbara for their tropical fruit flavors, grapes from Monterey for their lemon-lime flavors, and grapes from Napa and Sonoma for their apple and pear flavors, Kendall-Jackson crafts this wine that's garnered bunches of devotees. With its signature creamy, velvety texture, it's a sip of pure California. The venerable Robert Parker recommends it as a remarkable value. *Sustainable*



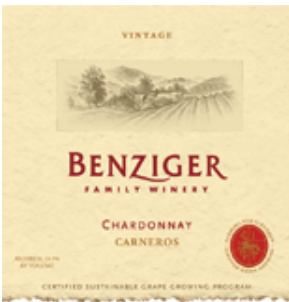
SANFORD, Santa Barbara County, 2007/2008

The grapes for this wine might as well be growing at the intersection of Paradise and Nirvana. Their happiness is the result of an unusual east-west mountain valley that runs from the vineyards to the Pacific Ocean, making way for a meteorological ebb and flow between mountains and sea that's ideal for cool-climate varieties. Intense but balanced, Sanford's flagship Chardonnay is bursting with citrus and tropical fruit, with hints of crème brûlée. Smiles all around. *Sustainable*



DMZ, Western Cape South Africa, 2008

350 years ago, The Ming dynasty held power in China. King Louis XIV was running things in France. King Charles II ruled England. And down in South Africa, De Morgenzon cellars was making wine. The world has shifted and changed a lot since the 1600s, and De Morgenzon has evolved to release its first vintage under the label DMZ. This enticingly modern Chardonnay, with its core of lush citrus and tropical fruit flavors, is laced with delicate hints of vanilla, toast and spice, all backed by bright acidity and a beautiful minerality.



BENZIGER, Carneros Sangiacomo Vineyard, 2007

The Sangiacomo West Rows are located in “the sweet spot” of Carneros — above the harsh winds from the Pacific Ocean. This elegantly crafted Chardonnay seems to demonstrate appreciation for its ideal location by offering beautiful citrus and apple flavors, subtle minerality, a textured mid-palate, and a finish as long as a California summer evening on a terrace with an ocean view. *Biodynamic*



NUGAN, Riverina Australia, 2008

From Valencia, Spain, to a corner of South Eastern Australia called Willbriggie, in the Riverina. It's a long way to move a business operation. But back in the 1940s, Alfredo Nugan knew a good thing when he saw it. Now, his family makes what is known all over as Australia's highest quality, best value wines. With lively aromas of citrus, melon and cinnamon, and zesty flavors of citrus and pineapple, this Chardonnay is a lively expression of down-under terroir.



ARROWOOD, Sonoma County Reserve, 2006

Like the New England Farmhouse that serves as the winery's headquarters, this Chardonnay evokes simple pleasures and meticulous craftsmanship. Uncorking it releases aromas of pineapple, peach and pear, mingling with toasty oak, with highlights of creamy tropical fruit and a round, polished finish. With its impeccable balance, this wine complements and beautifully contrasts with virtually any Chardonnay-friendly food that strikes your fancy. It's also nice on its own, especially while rocking in a chair on a wraparound porch at sunset. *Organic*

PINOT NOIR



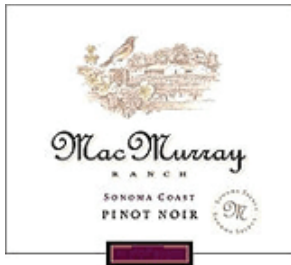
A to Z WINEWORKS, Oregon, 2008

“Hello, my name is Oregon Pinot,” this wine screams. Blended from the fruits of at least sixteen different Oregon Pinot Noir vineyards, A to Z lets the personality of the region's Pinot grapes shape this wine in their own image. Deep, pure and overflowing with berries, it gives you the minerals, the spice and the red and blue berries of its home turf, while negotiating a truce between richness and power. *Biodynamic/Sustainable*



MARK WEST, California, 2008

Pinot for the People! This is Mark West's rallying cry. This winery believes that great, affordable Pinot, one that's equally at home on a celebration table as a picnic table, is not a luxury, but a right. And so their revolution has brought us this vintage, worthy of the name California, with its fruity-fruit-fruit aromas and flavor profile — rich cherry pie, raspberry preserves and ripe plum on the nose, and juicy dark red raspberry, fresh cherry pie and cola berry on the palate. *Sustainable*



MACMURRAY RANCH, Sonoma Coast, 2008

Remember Fred MacMurray? The single dad in the TV sitcom, *My Three Sons*? This ranch was once his property. Instead of grazing cattle, vines now grace the land, but the wrought iron gate MacMurray made still greets his daughter Kate every day when she comes to work at the winery — reminding us that raising good grapes is like raising good kids — it takes patience and a sense of humor. Aged in American and European oak barrels, bright ruby-colored and redolent with currant and berry flavors, this rich, beautifully finessed Pinot was definitely raised right. *Sustainable*



SCHUG, Sonoma Coast, 2007

A native of Germany's Rhine river valley, Walter Schug grew up in the world of wine. In fact, he was raised on the region's only Pinot Noir estate. He once crafted Joseph Phelps' flagship Insignia Cabernet. But Pinot Noir has always held a special place in his heart. Schug's Pinot passion is evident in this deep, complex blend, a gold medal winner in the 2009 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. Its vibrant flavors are reminiscent of berry, cherry and spice. *Sustainable*



STICKS, Yarra Valley Australia, 2008

Standing at six foot six, winemaker Rob Dolan was given the nickname "Sticks" during his days as a dual premierships player for the Port Adelaide Aussie Rules Football Club. His Pinot is a big winner, too. Vibrant, bright red with purple tones, with dark cherry, plum and red berries at the nose and flavors of red berries, mulberry and spice, it took "Best Pinot Noir" in its class at the prestigious 2008 Royal Melbourne Wine Show. Big cheers all around.



BELLE GLOS, Sonoma Coast Meioni, 2008

Not everyone can honor their grandmother by distilling the purest essence of a vineyard into an elegant expression of California Pinot Noir. But winemaker Joseph Wagner is the grandson of Lorna Belle Glos Wagner, a winemaker herself, and co-founder of Caymus Vineyards. The name of the winery is a tribute to her. This Pinot's spicy aromas and bright berry flavors swirl together in a mix of tradition and innovation. The medium-long finish is an experience to be savored. Joe Wagner, you've done Grandma proud. *Biodynamic/Sustainable*



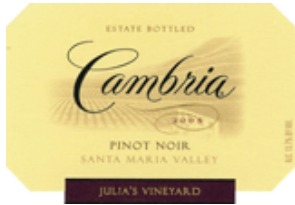
REX HILL, Willamette Valley, 2007/2008

This wine springs from land that's been farmed by caring families since 1920 — the same land that once nurtured plums, pears, walnuts and hazelnuts. From its perfect Pinot Noir color to its aromas of red raspberries, violets and Bing cherries, to its flavors of Asian plum, wet stones, clean earth and huckleberry, this wine displays its relationship to the land, and its desire to please the people who work it.



RITUAL, Casablanca Valley Chile, 2008

The *San Francisco Examiner* calls this region "Pinot Noir Heaven." And a sip of this Pinot evokes an image of extremely happy grapes. Wine consultant Paul Hobbs helped craft this wine with flavors of black cherries, raspberry and plum on the nose, and a palate that is round, soft and elegant — almost angelic, really. Rich, yet restrained tannins provide depth and lead to a luxurious finish. Dare we say it? A glass of paradise.



CAMBRIA, Santa Maria Valley Julia's Vineyard, 2007

This pretty Pinot, named after the winemaker's youngest daughter, exhibits all the qualities of a confident, captivating young lady. It blends cherries, blueberries, strawberries and cranberries with dashes of cinnamon and vanilla, to the delight of all who taste it. Cloaked in velvety texture, it arranges floral components beautifully; its tannins are graceful, and in general, it exhibits exquisite Pinot Noir manners. *Sustainable*



MASI, Veneto Campofiorin Italy, 2006/2007

Since the 18th century, the Boscaini family has made wines in Italy's storied wine region. Like your own private tour guide of the Verona area, this wine points out the excellence of the zone, the highly individual style of the indigenous Veronese grape varieties, and the local mastery of the techniques of "appassimento" or semi-drying technique. It's rich, round, velvety, full of baked cherry and plum flavors, and quite simply, *bellissimo*.



BYRON, Santa Barbara County Nielson Vineyard, 2007

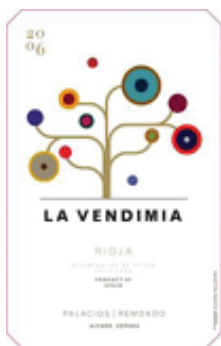
This vineyard's sandy loam soil keeps the plants from growing too vigorously. Because some things are better done slowly. Like, for example, breathing in the aromas of dark cherry and plum, accented by hints of rose petals, brown spice and smoke that rise from the glass of this Pinot. Or taking a sip of its cherry-layered-with-dark-plum fruitiness, taken so carefully that you can taste the hints of earth and brown spices. The vines take their time with this vintage. We suggest you do the same.



PASCUAL TOSO, Malbec Mendoza Argentina, 2008

In the 1880s, Pascual Toso left his home in Italy and put down his roots in Argentina. Now the oldest and most prestigious winery in the nation, Toso works with famous Sonoma winemaker Paul Hobbs, crafting premium and super-premium wines. A *Wine Enthusiast* Top 100 pick, this 100% Malbec puts you on a breezy rooftop deck above a flat in Buenos Aires, enjoying its deep, colorful charms over a great conversation with friends

RED WINES OF INTEREST



PALACIOS-REMONDO, Rioja La Vendimia Spain, 2008/2009

Spain's Rioja region has been producing wine since the 16th century, when Spain was the most powerful country in Europe, experiencing its most artistically prolific period. Made by Spain's celebrated winemaker, Alvaro Palacios, this red wine layers plum and lavender aromas with flavors of fruit and a hint of wild fennel, allowing you to channel the nation's aesthetic sensitivity, past and present. *Sustainable*



FAMILIA ZUCCARDI, Malbec Mendoza Q Argentina, 2007

Argentina is a cultural blender — practically everyone is of some kind of European descent, living a vibrant Latin American lifestyle. This Argentinean wine reflects that melting pot atmosphere, integrating complex aromas of bunches of flowers and baskets of berries. And on the palate, notes of plum, chocolate and black currants live together in harmony. A full-bodied wine with sweet tannins, good structure and longevity. *Organic/Sustainable*



CATENA, Malbec Mendoza Argentina, 2007

Like the winery's founder, Nicolas Catena, who sailed from Italy to Argentina in 1898 to escape the famine in Europe, this wine is a serious sort. Driven, you might say, to make a place for itself in your wine consciousness, with its dark violet color and deep bluish-black tones. The nose offers ripe, concentrated dark fruit aromas with delicate floral notes and traces of vanilla and mocha. On the palate, it's rich and lush, with spices, tobacco and a touch of leather. It's an ambitious wine — one that earns 91 points from *Wine Spectator*.



OTTIMINO, Zinfandel Sonoma County Zinfinity, 2006/2007

In 1913, Ottimino ("Little Eight" because he was the 8th child in his family) Christiani left a war-torn Italy to start a new life in America. This wine springs from the soil that was once his apple orchard, sustaining him as he worked the land year after year, harvest after harvest, and crush after crush. Aromas of blueberry, orange rind and ripe raspberry announce the wine's big, velvety entrance, which opens to flavors of blackberry jam, cranberry and blueberry, and a long finish that makes your mouth want to say, "Thanks Ottimino, for following your dream."



VALL LLACH, Priorat Embruiux Spain, 2006

Founded in 1992 by the famous Catalan singer Lluís Llach and his childhood friend, Enric Costa, the winery produces nothing short of music in a glass. With its bewitching scarlet color and amethyst halo, the wine's succulent fruit harmonizes with dark minerals and sweet spices, punctuated by a few notes of nutmeg and fennel. As complex and full as a passionate serenade.



PETER LEHMANN, Clancy's Barossa Australia, 2005/2007

Peter Lehmann has a nickname. He's known as Australia's "Baron of Barossa." A fifth-generation Barossan and a winemaker for more than thirty years, he's been called a "legend in his own lifetime" by wine writer James Halliday. And Clancy's blend has become legendary as well, having been selected to *Wine Spectator's* "Top 100 Wines of the Year" no less than four times, and named to its inaugural list of the "World's Top 100 Wine Values." An exceptional, food-friendly wine that's easy to drink and easy to love. *Sustainable*

SYRAH/SHIRAZ/PETITE SIRAH/ZINFANDEL



MORSE CODE, Shiraz Padthaway Australia, 2006/2008

Named for Australia's Postal Telegraphists, whose Morse signals connected the remote continent with the rest of the world during the 1800s, this wine manages to connect all the dots. The grapes are grown in the very same limestone soil that once provided the Potaruwutj tribe of Aborigines with water, food, and the shade of big gum trees. The bouquet signals a flavorful blend of berries, cherries, licorice and spice. The mid-palate leads to a long finish that you could describe as simply dashing.



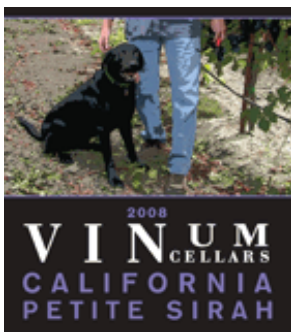
BLACK PEARL, Oro Paarl South Africa, 2007

Tended by a conservation-oriented father-daughter team originally from New Hampshire, the vines of Black Pearl grow in the same fields that produced the world's first gladiolus bulbs. With its aromas of dark berries, chocolate and eucalyptus, and flavors of juicy cranberries and pomegranate, each glass of this limited-production wine is as bright and beautiful as the flowers that foreshadowed it. *Sustainable*

CHAPOUTIER, Crozes-Hermitage La
Petite Ruche France, 2008



Seven generations of the Chapoutier family have communed with this Rhône Valley soil, learned its viticulture and translated it all into beautifully expressive wines. With this one, winemaker Michel Chapoutier puts his twist on generations of Syrah tradition, dispatching swirls of red fruits, black currant and raspberry to greet the nose, and creating a fresh, round experience in the mouth. The finessed finish brings flavors of stewed fruits. An amazing pairing partner for any kind of meat or poultry. *Biodynamic*



VINUM, Petite Sirah California, 2008

This Petite Sirah grape is nicknamed “Pets” by the veteran grape growers at Wilson Vineyards. So Vinum dedicated this wine to Ken Wilson’s pet dog, Tanker. Dark colored, long legged and bold, this juicy, zesty, boysenberry-tinged wine has the potential to become your best friend. Its tannins are lusciously thick, and wonderful spicy notes swirl with a hint of fresh cracked black pepper. Sit. Savor. *Sustainable*

SEGHESIO, Sonoma County, 2008



When Edoardo Seghesio left his family’s vineyards in Piemonte, Italy, for a better life in America, he found himself a modest property in the Alexander Valley, and planted the family’s first California Zinfandel vines in 1895. Generations of Seghesios later, the vineyards have expanded to 400 acres. The family’s wines are world renowned. And this Northern Sonoma Zinfandel, with its outgoing fruitiness and notes of dry spices and briar, has made *Wine Spectator’s* “Top 100 Wines of the World” three times. *Sustainable*

MEYER, Syrah Mendocino County, 2005/
Yorkville Highlands, 2006



Matt Meyer (son of Justin Meyer of Silver Oak fame) and his wife Karen are living what some might see as a romantic dream. First, Matt and Karen made delicious things emerge from wineries all over the world. Then they married, created their own eponymous winery, and now work at the craft of blending their eclectic expertise into an impressive whole. Blasting red plums and boysenberries, sweetened with cassis, with deftly controlled tannins polished by 20 months in oak, the intense Syrah fills your mouth easily, lasts long on the palate, and nods to a passionate partnership. *Organic/Sustainable*

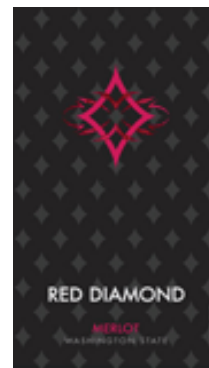
ORIN SWIFT, The Prisoner
Napa Valley, 2008



While this alchemy of 48% Zinfandel, 26% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Syrah, 10% Petite Sirah and 2% Charbono isn’t the typical contemporary Napa red, it has nevertheless garnered a cult following. It might remind you more of a “field blend,” enjoyed by good friends with hearty laughs at sun-bleached picnic tables decorated with jelly jars full of wildflowers. This big, fruity wine locked up a spot in *Wine Spectator’s* Top 100, and an exultant 90 points from Robert Parker. Once you get a hold of it, you won’t let it go.

MERLOT

RED DIAMOND, Washington, 2007



One could spend a sentence or two comparing this Merlot’s clarity and color to that of a sparkling gem, but let’s just cut to the chase here: *Wine & Spirits* calls this one of the Top 10 Merlots in America. Winemaker Juan Munoz Oca has crafted a wine that celebrates this exquisite grape for the individual that it becomes in the Pacific Northwest — with cherry and cola on the nose, and red cherry, caramel and mocha on the palate. Silky, approachable and easy to drink.



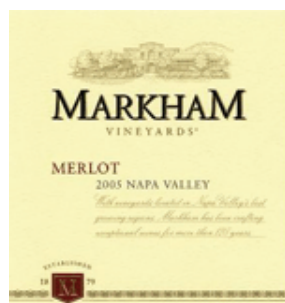
CLOS DU BOIS, North Coast, 2005/2006

Clos du Bois translates to “enclosures in the woods” — an image this big, juicy wine might conjure. With its velvet touch, its taste might remind you of a gingerbread house, with flavors of vanilla and spice. Its shingles are made of tobacco leaves. Red currants, black cherries and plums ripen in profusion around the cottage. An evocative Merlot with a *loooong* finish.



FROG'S LEAP, Rutherford, 2007

Dedicated to caring for the land and drawing the best from it without irrigation, Frog's Leap is a terroir lover's dream. Natural pleasures abound in this elegant, balanced and restrained wine, with its bright aromatics of ripe plum and cocoa, flavors of cherry and currants laced with cigar box and dried herbs. Plush tannins sail through to a smooth finish, making this one frog any Merlot lover would be willing to kiss. *Certified Organic/Biodynamic/Sustainable*



MARKHAM, Napa Valley, 2006

Everyone needs a best friend. One you want to spend time with no matter what kind of mood you're in. This Merlot is that much fun, that interesting and that easy to get along with. It's a cherry bomb, layered with sweet espresso notes standing next to firm, lush tannins. It partners especially well with meats — and seems even more appealing when you know that proceeds help fund grants to individuals or organizations committed to the betterment of their neighborhoods, cities or towns.



FLORA SPRINGS, Napa Valley, 2007

Like a perfect Napa Valley evening, this all-occasion wine is warm and soft and glowing with earthly pleasures. It reaches out to you with flavors of strawberries, cherries, raspberries and spice — layered with souvenir notes from French, American and Eastern European oak. From a winery that's been growing vines for decades, and knows precisely where Merlot's favorite soils are found. Yes, life is good. *Certified Organic/Sustainable/Biodynamic*



CHÂTEAU DE BELLEVUE, Lussac St.-Émilion France, 2006/2007

People say if you mix sunlight and water in Bordeaux, you get wine. It sounds so simple, and yet each vintage mysteriously becomes its own entity, unlike any other. Every microclimate in the Bordeaux region holds the promise of new terroir interpretations, and this wine has its own unique French tale to tell — one involving black currant fruits with scents and flavors of underbrush after a gentle summer's rain and Merlot's telltale mossy texture.



RODNEY STRONG, Sonoma County, 2006

Rodney Strong's first love was dance. After years of performing in Paris, his head filled with the flavors and aromas of so many French wines, he brought his grace and energy to winemaking. Here in Sonoma County, where growing conditions allow picky Merlot grapes to relax and do their thing, winemaker Rick Sayre once more created a soft, rich Merlot with plenty of backbone. Plum, blueberry and toasty spice play on the palate as if choreographed. *Sustainable*



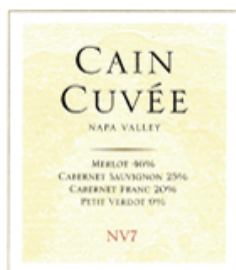
OBERON, Napa Valley, 2006/2007

Which do you love more, chocolate or blueberries? Don't answer that. You can have them both in this wine, a lucky beneficiary of Napa's ridiculously perfect growing season of 2006. Named after the Shakespeare character, it's the kind of wine you can either sip on a dreamy midsummer's night by an outdoor fire, or pair with an elegantly prepared steak on a white tablecloth. Its diversity of flavors makes this wine ideal in just about any setting.

RUTHERFORD RANCH, Napa Valley, 2007

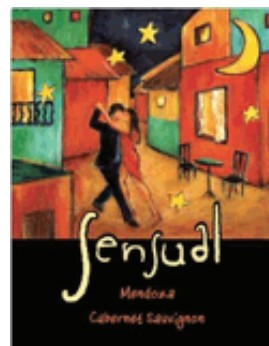


It's evening, after a long working day. You pour yourself a glass of this ruby red Cab. You close your eyes as you allow the liquid essence of the Napa landscape to permeate your senses, its lush fruit aromas of raspberry and Bing cherry, hints of cedar box, bright mint and spicy cinnamon elevating each sip to a moment of epiphany. With this wine, there is no such thing as an ordinary meal. More reason to try it: Robert Parker has described Rutherford Ranch wines as "best value in Napa Valley." *Sustainable*



CAIN, Cuvée Napa Valley NV6/NV7

This Merlot begins life as a daredevil. Springing from a vineyard that clings to the sides of a bowl, spectacularly and improbably sited along the crest of the Mayacamas Range, it defies physics as boldly as it defies classification. The cuvée includes a portion of the previous year's vintage, so its blend is 55% from 2006 and 45% from 2005. Made of 49% Merlot, 36% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Cab Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, it's a silky, complex wine that does vibrant acrobatics on the palate.



SENSUAL, Mendoza Argentina, 2009

Long lunches, dinners and relaxing siestas enfold Argentineans into a sensual way of life. This winery's name suggests we take a cue from our friends in the southern hemisphere, and take our time with this modern Cabernet — to savor every tongue-tingling sensation its black pepper, cedar, berry and slight herbal flavors have to offer, and to fully experience the magic they perform when paired with a perfectly grilled steak.

CABERNET/CABERNET BLEND



14 HANDS, Washington, 2006/2007

Named after the height measurement of the wild horses that once made their home on what are now their vineyards, 14 Hands produces truly spirited wines, of which this Cabernet is a stellar example. Grapes from the Horse Heaven Hills and other areas of the Columbia Valley give this wine its lush quality. Aromas of cherries and currants with subtle hints of spice and dried herbs. Fresh flavors of red fruit accompany a touch of cocoa galloping through to a finish marked with fine, round tannins.



GREG NORMAN, Cabernet-Merlot Limestone Coast Australia, 2007

Greg Norman's name on a bottle means Greg Norman's taste is represented in that bottle. So one can safely assume that golf's "Great White Shark" likes his Cabs on the purple side, with a clean, powerful nose of cloves and a dusty dash of Aussie eucalyptus. He prefers his Merlot with aromas of red berries, vanilla and violets — and a palate that confirms the nose of this blend — medium-full body, and ripe tannins. Like the man it's named after, this wine is determined, easygoing and full of character. *Biodynamic/Sustainable*



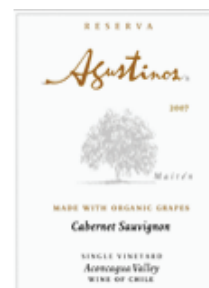
PARÉS BALTÀ, Cabernet-Garnacha Penedés Mas Petit Spain, 2007

Not far from Barcelona, three generations of winegrowers carry on the work that began in 1790 at Parés Baltà. Pollinated by the family's own bees, the Cabernet and Garnacha (Grenache) grapes for this vintage grow on five estates around the winery, in a diverse mixture of soils and microclimates, and cooled by the breezes off the Mediterranean. It all combines to create a deep red Cabernet blend bursting with black currant and black cherry fruit, a lush mid-palate, a supple finish, and a personality as unique as the estate itself. *Organic/Sustainable*



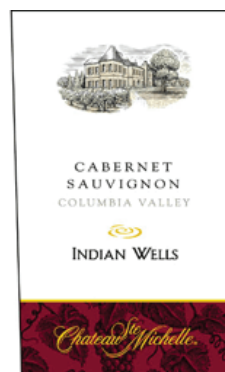
FRANCIS COPPOLA DIAMOND COLLECTION, Claret California Black Label, 2007/2008

Open on a British drawing room. An elegant couple is sipping dark red glasses of Claret beneath a portrait of their ancestors. Cut to the home's exterior. We see that we are actually in California wine country. And the wine, as it turns out, is a pure, ultra-premium California Cabernet blend — modeled after famous Bordeaux. Mocha and crème brûlée aromas precede flavors of crushed berries, cassis, vanilla and wood. Full-bodied and dry, it's not just a drink, old chap. It's a glass of nobility. *Organic/Sustainable*



AGUSTINOS, Aconcagua Valley Maitén Chile, 2007/2008

From the base of the highest mountain in the Americas comes a wine that aims high, defies convention and achieves quite an altitude of success. Surprising the palate with provocative flavors like tobacco, chocolate, black fruit and coffee, this wine is, like the climbers who visit this area, bold and persistent. *Organic/Sustainable*



CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE, Columbia Valley Indian Wells, 2007/2008

Like Rudolf Valentino in *The Sheik*, this big charmer of a Cab emerges from the desert full of sweetness and star quality. Far from Seattle's rainy climate, the dry Columbia Valley nurtures the Chateau's mature vineyards with warm days and cool nights. Winemaker Bob Berthau elicits from them this lovely hunk of a wine — ripe, jammy and comforting, yet layered with fascinating complexity. Rated 90 points and a "Smart Buy" by *Wine Spectator*.



B. R. COHN, North Coast Silver Label, 2007

Mellow and fun loving, this true Sonoma-style Cab fills the senses with all that feels good. It weaves notes of vanilla through lusciously full, rich berry and cassis fruit flavors. It adds complexity from its aging in French oak, and it parties down with food, especially steak. No wonder—since the 70s, the proprietor's night job has been managing The Doobie Brothers. Rock on, Bruce Cohn. *Sustainable*



CHATEAU GREYSAC, Médoc France, 2005/2006

As you approach, the chateau's elegant gray stone façade speaks of the hundreds of seasons it has been through. Inside, the strikingly modern silver-gray tanks and uniform oak barrels point to the seasons yet to come. It's a place where old and new techniques combine to bring out the true character of this lively bit of French earth. This vintage, with its flavors of red fruits, epitomizes for many of us what Bordeaux is and always will be all about.



YALUMBA, Barossa Valley The Scribbler Australia, 2007/2008

Being Australia's oldest family-owned winery, there's some history here. Back in 1962, this winery's showcase Cab-Shiraz was called "The Signature." The Scribbler is its modern correspondent — with its flavors of dark fruit, spice, licorice and dark olives. Loyal to the classic ways, and yet forward thinking, this generation definitely expresses itself in its own style.



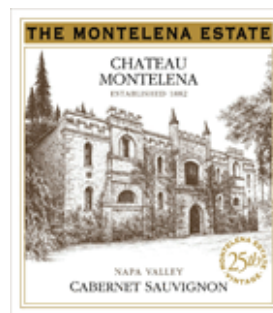
HESS, Napa Valley Allomi Vineyard, 2007

An art lover and collector, Donald Hess has created a wine that's an artwork in itself. During this cool year with an above-average crop size, fruit ripened slowly and hung on the vine a long, long time, which gave the grapes great balance. Ripe cherry, plum and currant mingle with flavors of nutmeg and graphite. The wine's smooth, soft, round tannins mean patience is no longer required. This classic California Cabernet will be perfect tonight with steaks, chops or lamb. *Sustainable*



TREFETHEN, Double T Napa Valley, 2007

"A lot of wine," says *Wine & Spirits* magazine of this Bordeaux blend, with its plummy, jammy nose, its cherry-berry flavor profile, and its smooth, chocolate-covered finish. Its name, Double T, derives from the configuration of the vines on their trellises, but with a bit of imagination, one begins to envision it as the brand of an old-time California cattle ranch. "Order a glass at a steakhouse," the magazine goes on to suggest. We couldn't agree more. *Sustainable*



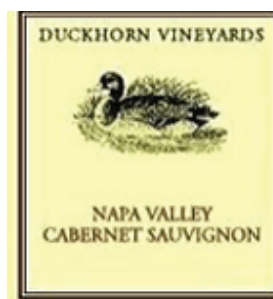
CHATEAU MONTELENA, Napa Valley, 2006

It was a year with a split personality at Chateau Montelena. Early on, there was intense heat, which gave the grapes their concentration and firm tannins. Then, by June, things cooled down considerably, allowing the grapes to hang longer and develop an elegant profile. So the two ends of the spectrum ended up creating the best of both worlds in this complex and anything-but-unbalanced Cabernet. Notes of rose and forest floor give way to berry patch fruit flavors with hints of clove and toasty oak. The finish is long with loads of fine grained plush tannins.



HALL, Napa Valley, 2006

Kathryn Hall has been an ambassador, a corporate attorney and an activist. Craig Hall is an entrepreneur, an art collector and author. Their proposed winery's visitor center was designed by Frank Gehry. Not surprisingly, their artisanal wine is a highly aesthetic, yet outspoken mash-up of rich, intense aromas and flavors. Currant, blackberry and cherry on the nose. Leather, nutmeg, plum and vanilla on the palate, and a *Wine Spectator* score of 94 points. *Organic/Sustainable*



DUCKHORN, Napa Valley, 2006

Quality. Craftsmanship. A reflection of the unique character of the vineyard. You hear these phrases so often and you've heard them for so long, they begin to lose their meaning. Until you taste the classic Franco-Napa Cab-ness of this universally beloved wine, with its black currant, dark cherry, plum and raspberry flavors, touched with mint and black olive, and it all comes back. Oh, yeah. That's why this wine is consistently ranked as one of the top California Cabernets.



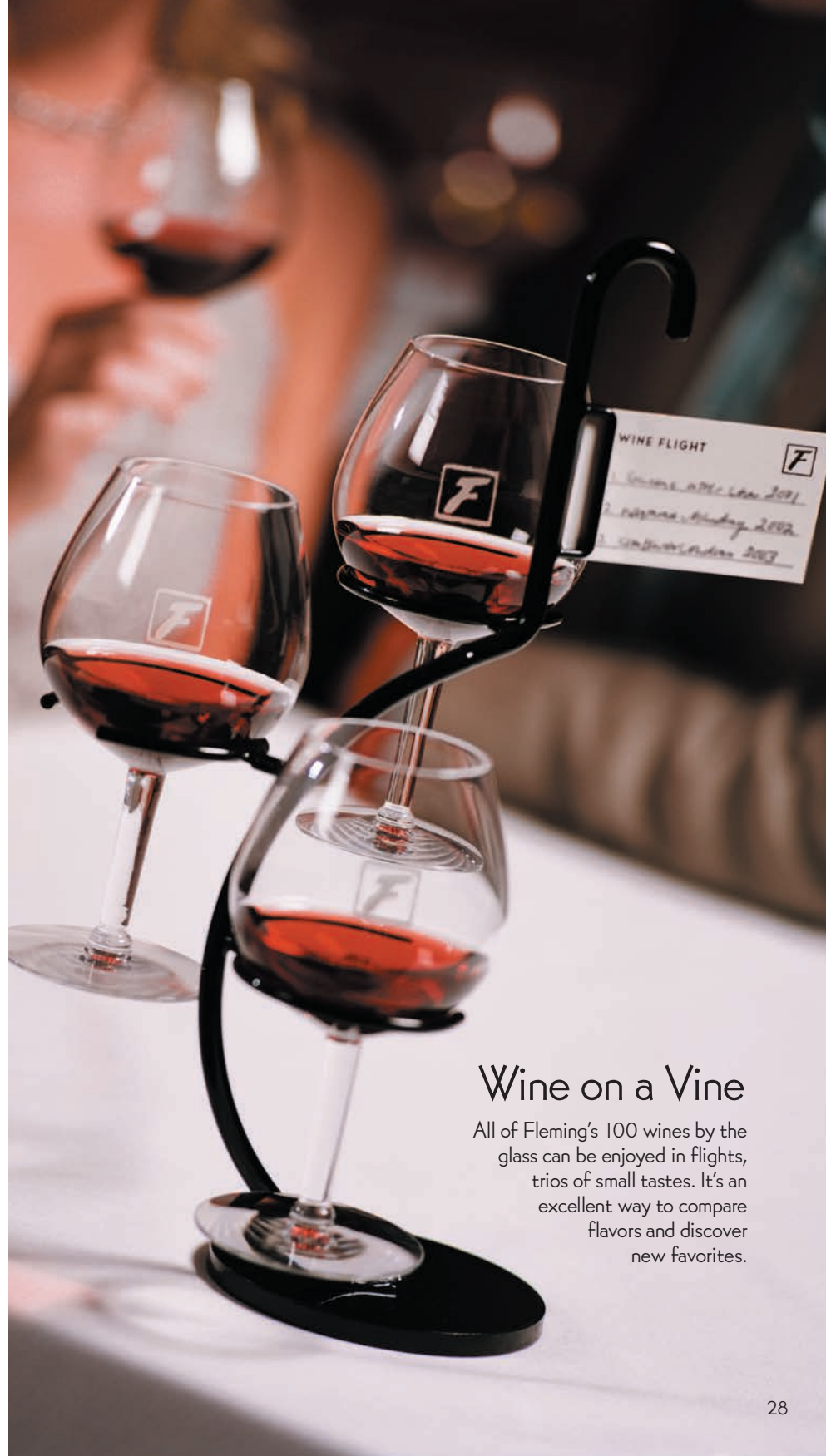
CHAPPELLET, Napa Valley Mountain Cuvee, 2007/2008

Spurred by the notion that Bacchus loves the hills and that mountain fruit would make superior wine, Chappellet's vines were planted on the rocky eastern slopes of Pritchard Hill in the Napa Valley. The second winery to be established in the Napa Valley after Prohibition, Chappellet would have Bacchus partying down with this expressive Cabernet Sauvignon. With aromas and flavors of plums, figs and cherry cola, its depth and intensity are a reminder of both the vineyard's rugged terroir, and its focus on offering pure pleasure.



FAUST, Napa Valley, 2006

One taste of this bold and powerful, yet elegant and concentrated Cab might lead you to imagine that you, like Dr. Faust, have sold your soul for a life in paradise. No, it's simply the work of the venerable winemaker Agustin Huneeus, whose talent, experience and fervent belief in terroir creates the most diabolically delicious wines. A core of dense concentrated cassis surrounded by a layer of smooth berry fruit and integrated oak demonstrates that, indeed, the devil is in the details.



Wine on a Vine

All of Fleming's 100 wines by the glass can be enjoyed in flights, trios of small tastes. It's an excellent way to compare flavors and discover new favorites.