

The Vintage Missive

Ottobre 2011...Viva Italia!

“Old Wine and Friends Improve with Age” Old Italian Proverb

2009 Vietti Barbera d’Asti “Tre Vigne”

Wow, what a wine. And this new vintage....Mamma Mia!

You know how much we love it and we would be remiss in not sharing it with you, especially at this great price. The Vietti winery is on its fourth generation of family winemakers, headed up by Luca Currado. After working at Opus One and Mouton-Rothschild, he came back to Castiglione Falletto to work for his family, bringing with him new innovative ideas that he picked up along the way. The Vietti family has a firm commitment to quality with all of their wines, from their top end Barolos to the “entry level” Barberas. The 2009 Vietti Barbera d’Asti “Tre Vigne” is sourced from parcels ranging from 7 to 70+ year old vines. This wine is a benchmark for Barberas and perfect for these cool fall evenings that are being bestowed upon us. ENJOY!

“Ruby purple color with ripe red cherry aromas with hints of mineral and vanilla. A dry, medium-bodied red wine with refreshing acidity (making it perfect to pair with food) and soft tannins. The Barbera d’Asti Tre Vigne is well-balanced with a good integration of oak, good complexity, and finish of red cherries. Perfect for antipasti platters, grilled vegetables, hearty soups or pastas with braised pork or grilled chicken.” Luca Currado

Regularly \$19.99, on sale this month for \$15.99!

Cellar Selections

2007 Paitin Barbaresco “Serra” \$24.99 (29.99) 93 WA

“The 2007 Barbaresco Serra is simply beautiful. Fresh, floral aromatics and red berries come together in a rich, sensual style. This shows terrific density all the way through to the soft, enveloping close. This is an unusually elegant, feminine wine from Paitin endowed with a gorgeous, finely knit texture that is super-impressive. Anticipate maturity 2012-2027”

2006 Maté Brunello di Montalcino \$69.99 (\$75.99) 95 WA

An opulent, fruit-driven style, yet fresh, with cherry, raspberry and blackberry up front and tar and licorice lurking behind. The richness is mouth coating, and there are dense tannins on the finish. Best from 2014 through 2027.

Under \$20, Over 90 points, Ventures Into Italy...

2007 Allegrini Palazzo della Torre, Veneto \$19.99 (23.99) 90 Wine Advocate

“Enticing scents of chocolate, espresso, dark fruit, licorice and new leather emerge from the boisterous 2007 Palazzo della Torre. There is enough balance and elegance in the finish to suggest this will drink well for a number of years. It is 70% Corvino, 25% Rondinella, and 5% Sangiovese. Approximately 30% of the grapes are air-dried, Amarone style.”

2009 Argiolas “Perdera” IGT, Sardinia, \$13.99 (17.99) 90 Wine Advocate

The 2009 Perdera is fabulous. Layers of dark fruit, herbs, spices and minerals flow from this exuberant, medium to full-bodied offering. Hints of smoke and tar add further nuance on the finish. **This is a hugely rewarding wine for the money.** Perdera is a blend of 90% Monica, 5% Carignano and 5% Bovale Sardo.”

2008 Brancaia Tre, Tuscany \$17.99 (21.99) 90 Wine Advocate

“The 2008 Tre is an attractive mid-weight red laced with dried cherries, dried flowers and spices. As is to be expected, the 2008 doesn’t have the plumpness and juiciness of the 2007, but it nevertheless delivers excellent balance in an approachable, mid-weight style. This looks to be an early drinking wine from Brancaia. Tre is 80% Sangiovese, 10% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon sourced from the estate’s three wineries, all in Tuscany”

2007 Arnaldo Caprai Montefalco, Umbria \$17.99 (23.99) 90 Wine Advocate

In 1971 Arnaldo Caprai bought the Val di Maggio estate in Montefalco, located in the region of Umbria. In 1988 his son, Marco Caprai, started managing the winery. Montefalco Rosso embodies the great bond between the wine and the area of Montefalco. It is produced from 70% Sangiovese, 15% Sagrantino, 15% Merlot.

2009 Tasca d’Almerita “Lamuri”, Sicily \$17.99 (23.99) 91 Wine Advocate

“The 2009 Lamuri is Tasca’s mid-range Nero d’Avola, although it is a wine that regularly over-delivers for its price. Sweet candied fruit, herbs and flowers, meld together nicely in this polished, mid-weight red. I especially like the intensity and drive of the finish.” **Named Winery of the Year by Gambero Rosso!!!!**

A Snapshot of some of our few favorite Italian wines:

2000 Talenti Rosso di Montalcino, \$29.99 (\$33.99)

Produced by one of the first growers in Tuscany to introduce Syrah to the region, this creative blend consists of 75% Sangiovese, 15% Syrah, and 10% Colorino and Canaiolo. Intense aromas of black cherry and red currant, followed by a concentration of black cherry, dried herbs, dust, and spice on the palate. This is a powerful yet elegant wine, with great structure and velvety softness.

2006 La Bracesca Vino Nobile di Montepulciano \$22.99 (\$24.99)

This Vino Nobile di Montepulciano is a vibrant red with layers of flavor and complexity. Made primarily from Prugnolo Gentile with a small amount of Merlot. The resulting wine bears a bouquet of dried cherries and plum with hints of anise and leather, with fine tannins and a generous finish.

2009 Jermann Pinot Grigio \$19.99 (\$37.99)

Reveals lovely, perfumed aromas (including hazelnut, citrus and tropical fruits on the nose) and notes of pear flavored fruit on the palate. This is a wine that is fresh and lively, with depth, weight on the palate and round texture. This is a fine example of elegance and finesse.

2007 Terrabianca Campaccio \$29.99 (\$37.99) 93WS, 92WA

70% Sangiovese and 30% Cabernet Sauvignon—40% from Chianti and 60% from Maremma. The bouquet is ample, intense and elegant, with berry fruit, chocolate, and roasted almond notes that continue on the palate, sustained by superb structure and depth.

2008 Cantina Zaccagnini Montepulciano d’ Abruzzo \$13.99 (\$18.99)

Intense violet robe. Aromas of plum and ripe blackberry. Each sip delivers a mouthful of ripe berries, leather and black pepper with subtle hints of oregano, dried herbs and a touch of vanilla; all leading to a dry and supple finish.

**The three "Vs" of Italy: Vernaccia, Verdicchio and Vermentino:
You've heard of the three "Bs" of music, this month we have the three "Vs" of Italy!.**

2010 San Quirico Vernaccia di San Gimignano DOCG \$14.99 (\$16.99)

Made from 100% Vernaccia grapes grown in hillside vineyards surrounding the Tuscan town of San Gimignano, this wine is 100% certified organic. Penetrating aromas of spice, white flowers, dried apricots, fresh peach and thyme. This silky, layered wine continues to unfold into the finish. This is a substantial, un-oaked white that pairs well with heartier seafood, and grilled chicken.

2010 Antinori Tenuta Guado al Tasso Vermentino, Tuscany \$19.99 (23.99)

100% Estate grown Vermentino from Bolgheri in western Tuscany. This inviting wine is straw yellow in color with hints of green. The nose has a hint of cedar with notes of apricot and yellow peaches. On the palate, it is full and flavorful with a touch of minerality and a persistent finish.

2009 Bucci Verdicchio Classico dei Castelli di Jesi DOC \$19.99 (27.99)

Color: Deep straw yellow Bouquet: Delicate yet persistent, pleasingly fruity, with notes of Golden Delicious apples and almonds Palate: Good body, well balanced, elegant, with silky texture and distinct finesse.

October Tasting Schedule

*There is No Charge for these tastings, but please bring a canned good or condiment for Oak Mountain Mission.
Grazie!*

Fri Oct 7th: 5-6:30: Newsletter

Thurs Oct 13th: 5-6:30: "Wine Tasting Detective"

Fri Oct 14th 5-6:30: Newsletter

Thurs Oct 20th 5-6:30: Italian Open House

Fri Oct 21st: 5-6:30 Italian Open House

Sat Oct 22nd: 3-4:30 Italian Open House

Fri Oct 28th: 5-6:30 Say "Arriverdci" to Italy

Wine Classes:

ALL CLASSES REQUIRE

REGISTRATION and PREPAYMENT

Classes start at 7:00, call 980-9995 for info

October 11th: Italy: Beyond Barolo and Brunello \$35
Italy is a land of many beautiful wines, come explore it from top to bottom with us!

October 25th: 2007 Barolo \$40

Jim Favre with Empson imports will be here sharing some lovely wines from a wonderful vintage.

November 8th: Entertaining with Wine \$30

Whether you are planning a party or ordering from a wine list, pairing wine and food can be tricky. Not after this class! Join us and learn from a Pro!

November 15th: Well, hello again Rhone Valley \$40

Come explore some of the NEW 2009s and some OLD friends from one of our favorite regions

Baker's Dozen

15% discount applies to full or mixed of these super-value Italian wines:

Belstar Prosecco \$11.99 (13.99)

Dulcis Moscato d'Asti 10.99 (12.99)

Falesco Vitiano Rosso \$10.99 (13.99)

Santi Apostoli Pinot Grigio \$10.99 (12.99)

Toscato Chianti \$10.99 (12.99)

Sant'Antonio Valpolicella \$12.99 (14.99)

Coltibuono "Cetamura" Chianti \$10.99 (12.99)

Dulcis Rosso Frizzante \$10.99 (12.99)

Antinori Orvieto \$11.99 (12.99)

Torresella Pinot Noir \$10.99 (15.99)

Bigi Est! Est! Est! \$11.99 (12.99)

Lageder Pinot Bianco \$13.99 (15.99)

Lagaria Chardonnay \$12.99 (13.99)

Vintage Wine Shoppe Events

Visit our website: www.vintagewineshoppe.net
Or call 205-980-9995 to be added to our mailing list so you won't miss out on our fun, fantastic events! We ALWAYS have *something* going on!

Very Special In Store Tastings the Month of October and November:

Tuesday Oct 4th 5-6:30 : Aldo Zanonotti from Vietti and Alois Lageder Wineries

Thursday Oct 13th 5-6:30: "Wine Tasting Detective"

Tuesday Oct 25th 5:30-7:00: George Staikos from Ramey Winery

Monday Oct 31st: 5-6:30: Lisa Peju from Peju Provincence

Saturday Nov 5th 3-4:30: Michael Honig from Honig Vineyard & Winery

There is no charge for these tastings!!!

October Only!
Fall Items,
Football Items,
Frames and Food!
20% off!
(excluding cheese)

Italian Open House
Thurs Oct. 20th 5-6.30
Fri Oct 21st 5-6:30 and
Sat Oct 22nd 3-4:30
Explore wines from Italy!
And Most Gifts & Food
25% Off

Columbus Day
Gift Sale!
Oct 6-10th!
Most Gifts & Food
25% off

Italian Cellar Sale
October 6th-8th:
All Italian Wines in the cellar are 10%-
30% off... PLUS an
ADDITIONAL 10% off full or mixed
cases! See list on our website!
www.vintagewineshoppe.net

14th Anniversary Sale!
November 10th-12th
We are so lucky to have such fantastic customers
supporting us for the past 14 years, so we are cele-
brating with WINE and GIFT sales GALORE!
Check back for our special tastings!

It is NEVER too soon to start thinking about gift baskets for the holidays! We have a great selection of baskets for corporate gifts, house-warming baskets, thank-you baskets, ...whatever you need, we can make it happen!

See www.vintagewineshoppe.net for more!