

The Vintage Missive

May-June Newsletter

**For those of you who aren't on our e-mail list, you are missing out on
BIG TIME Wine Blow-Out Sales and Super-Fun Events!
Go to www.vintagewineshoppe.net to sign up for our e-mails!**

"Oh, We would not feel so all alone, everybody must Buy Rhones"

We have a feeling that Bob Dylan would have changed the words to

Rainy Day Women if he had tasted these 2007 Rhones!

2007 is to Rhone as the 2005 vintage was to Bordeaux: FANTASTIC!

This is one of the best vintages for Northern and Southern Rhones and we have got our hands on some superb selections, at all different prices! And since we could not make up our minds we have THREE Picks of the Month!

2007 Delas Freres, Côtes du Rhone, "St. Esprit" 90WA

Only \$11.99 (reg 14.99)

A blend of Syrah and Grenache from a very popular Northern Rhone winemaker, Jacques Grange, who has been steadily improving their Southern Rhone wines as well.

This is one of their finest offerings!

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2007 Phillipe Faury Syrah, Collines Rhodaniennes, Vin de Pays

Only \$18.99 (reg 20.99)

When I tasted the 06 vintage of this wine I tried to purchase it, but it was already sold out. When the 2007 became available I ordered all they would let me have. Renowned winemaker Joseph Faury's style is present in this wine: light and easy, letting the terroir speak for itself.

This wine is unfinned and unfiltered. (Only 10 cases are available.)

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2007 Sang de Cailloux Vacqueyras, "Cuvee Floureto" 91-93 IWC, 90-92 WA

Only \$31.99 (reg 34.99)

Robert Parker refers to Sang de Cailloux as the "leading estate of Vacqueyras" and we think that you will agree. Lush, succulent and chewy with lots of fruit and a great finish.

May-June Cellar Selections:

2006 Chateau Haut-Bages Libéral \$49.99 (59.99) 92WS

Dark ruby in color, with aromas of currants and dried flowers. Full-bodied with fine-grained tannins and a delicious finish. 2006 is shaping up to be a fine vintage indeed.

2006 Treana Red \$45.99 (49.99)

It's Back! We have missed it so much and we know that you have, too! We are very glad to have it back on our shelves, and at such a great price! This vintage is 70% Cabernet and 30% Syrah and 100% delicious! There's lots of dark fruits, tobacco and complexity. An excellent wine!

June 18, 19 and 20th

Summer Sale is coming up!!!!

It is one of our favorite times of the year, because we can offer some of our best deals on wine and gifts. Don't miss out on this year's sale. We will have CRAZY deals on wine, and gifts will be 25% off!

Spotlight on Syrahs from Around the World:

From Syrah to Shiraz and Back Again:

2006 Liberty School Syrah, Central Coast

\$13.99 (16.99)

Up-front ripe fruit flavors of plum, cola nut, and exotic spice with hints of tobacco and coffee. A nice pleasing grip envelopes the palate on the finish. It has a robust backbone with well-integrated, silky tannins. Pair with a grilled burger and smoked gouda.

2006 Razor's Edge Shiraz, South Australia

\$13.99 (\$15.99) 90WS

Dark purple in color but with a bright clarity and fresh fruit flavors, persistent on the finish against firm tannins. Powerful yet elegant.

2006 Charles Cimicky "Trumps" Shiraz, Barossa Valley

\$18.99 (\$20.99) 90WA

Welcoming aromas of cedar, smoke, pencil lead and blueberry lead into a medium-bodied, smooth-textured wine with plentiful ripe, spicy blue and black fruit flavors.

2005 Guigal Crozes-Hermitage

\$22.99(25.99) 89IWC

Vivid red with a sexy bouquet of red berries, Asian spices and freshly crushed violets. Fresh with racy raspberries and wild strawberries and a lively minerality. Has an alluring elegance and finish..

2007 Neyers Syrah, "Old Lakeville Highway" Sonoma

\$31.99(34.99) 94WS

Intense and rich with focus and purity of flavors. Concentrated with gorgeous ripe blackberry and boysenberry that unfolds into hints of pepper, nutmeg and other exotic spices. 989 cases made.

The Girls went to Atlanta and look what they found...

Normally when we go to Atlanta it's for the Gift Mart, where we spend money on gifts and wine accessories, but this time we found...guess what...? WINE!

Here are some of our Favorites from our Italian Wine Tasting in Atlanta:

Katie's Pick: 2007 Damilano Barbera d'Alba \$16.99 (19.99)

"I had a hard time narrowing down my favorite wines. However, Barbara Levi-Cavaglione from Damilano came to the store and did a tasting that really impressed me. While I enjoyed the Barolos, I knew the Barbera would be my pick. It is a great bottle of wine at a great price. This food friendly wine is ruby red, medium-bodied and has great balance. This soft, caressing wine has bright acidity and scents of raspberries, cranberries and black plum, followed by a light spice. Enjoy now with Italian, BBQ, or pizza."

Wendy's Pick: 2006 Ca'viola Dolcetto d'Alba \$22.99 (24.99) 90 IWC

Of all the Northwest Italian wineries whose wines we tasted, the reds from Ca' Viola were showing the most gorgeous, assertive bright, purple-fruit aromas. Although nebbiolo is considered the King of Piedmont's red varieties, Dolcetto has a nice balance of tannin with it's fruit, which gives a wonderful balance of fruit for near term enjoyment.

Gia's Pick: Bisol Prosecco "Crede" NV \$22.99 (25.99)

"Crede" is a single vineyard Prosecco that is explosive with white peach, ripe pears and green apples. On the palate there is plenty of ripe citrus and a minerality that keeps you grabbing another glass. It is a perfect wine for these warming months and one that I like so much I am serving at my wedding! Cin-Cin!"

Patti's Pick: 2004 Argiano Brunello di Montalcino \$52.99 (63.99) 94 WS,

"I have been anticipating the arrival of the 2004 Brunellos ever since I tasted the 2004 Rossos at VinItaly in Verona. On our trip to Atlanta, I tasted quite a few '04s and was not disappointed in the quality. This vintage is one for the ages- great acidity, beautiful aromatics, lovely texture and a lingering finish. Of all the Brunellos I tasted the Argiano struck a note with me. It's a wine that stayed on my palate and on my mind. Get a bottle or two before it all goes home with me!"

Under \$20...Over 90

Back by Popular Demand, behold these Fabulous Finds!

2006 Felsina Chianti Classico, Italy \$18.99 (22.99) 90WS, #51 Wine Spectator Top 100

“Lavendar and blackberry aromas follow through to a medium-to-full body with a solid core of fruit and a tangy aftertaste of citrus fruit and dried cherry.” J.S.

2007 Vina Cobos “El Felino” Chardonnay, Mendoza \$19.99 (22.99) 91WA

“Vina Cobos is Paul Hobbs’ winery in Mendoza. It is medium gold-colored with a bouquet of toasty apple, poached pear and tropical fruit aromas. Smooth and seamless on the palate, it has surprising depth, ripe flavors and a pure finish.” R.P.

2007 Suavia Soave, Veneto \$16.99 (18.99) 90WA, #75 Wine Spectator Top 100

Lots of lemon, white peach and mineral character, with hints of orange peel and dry almond. Medium-bodied with good acidity and a crisp finish, leaving a lingering citrus aftertaste. Racy, nervy and delicious. Minerally, almost flinty.” J.C.

2007 BenMarco Malbec, Mendoza \$19.99 (22.99) 91WS and 91 WA

“Dark ruby/purple colored, it exhibits a kinky perfume of black cherry, wild black raspberry, earth notes and leather. On the palate there is plenty of jammy fruit, bright acidity, excellent balance and a lengthy finish. While it may evolve for 1-2 years, it can be enjoyed now. It too is a great value.” R.P.

2007 Buehler Zinfandel, Napa Valley \$18.99 (22.99) 90WS

“Soft and elegant, this has a delicate sense of complexity, offering floral raspberry and cherry aromas, with juicy layered plum and spicy cinnamon flavors that linger on the lively finish.” T.F.

A Few Other Selections this Month...

2006 Muirwood Pinot Noir, Monterey \$14.99 (16.99)

Earthy with red berries, orange peel and and sour cherry. Tart and dusty with a lovely mid-weight palate. Beautiful structure.

2006 Schug Chardonnay, Carneros \$19.99 (27.99)

Ripe, spicy tropical bouquet with underlying citrus and apple notes. Great acidity on the palate, with a clean, crisp finish.

Baker’s Dozen

15% discount applies to full or mixed cases of these Bargain Wines:

Parducci Pinot Noir \$11.99 (13.99)

Exclesior Cabernet \$9.99 (10.99)

First Drop “the Red One” 89 WS \$10.99 (11.99)

Borsao Campo de Borja \$7.99 (8.99)

Dry Creek Chenin Blanc \$9.99 (13.99)

Marques de Caceres Rioja Rosé \$8.99 (10.99)

Lagaria Pinot Grigio \$10.99 (13.99)

Ch Ragotiere Muscadet \$11.99 (14.99)

Calcu Red \$12.99 (13.99)

Cono Sur Sauvignon Blanc \$8.99 (10.99)

Eyzaguire Merlot \$8.99 (9.99)

Colosi Rosso \$9.99 (12.99)

Dom. Provenquiere Chardonnay \$8.99 (10.99)

Vintage Wine Shoppe Events

May-June Tasting Schedule

No Charge, but bring a canned good. All tastings are from 5 until 6:30 unless otherwise specified!

Fri May 1st: Newsletter

Fri May 8th: Newsletter

Thurs May 14th : Rhones

Fri May 15th : Rhones

Sat May 16th 3-4:30: Rhones

Fri May 22nd: BBQ w. Jim n' Nicks

Fri May 29th: Rosés

Fri June 5th: South Africa

Fri June 12th: Argentina

Summer Sale:

Wines change every two hours

Thurs & Fri June 18 & 19th 2:30-6:30

Sat June 20th: 11:30-5:30

Fri June 26th: Summer Kick-Off

May and June Sale:
Pottery,
Paintings,
Pillows
20% OFF!!!

May 22 is our Memorial Day Wine Tasting with **Jim n' Nick's Barbecue!** Come pick out your grillin' wines!

Wine Classes:

REGISTRATION and PREPAYMENT REQUIRED
Classes start at 7:00

Call 980-9995 for Reservations

May 5th: Tre Bicchieri Part II \$40

More and more winners!

May 19th: 2004 Brunello and Brownies \$40

Yes, we are pairing Brunellos with Brownies.

June 9th: The Great Debate \$35

White Burgundy vs. California Chards

June 23rd: Super-Tuscans \$40

Another Side of Italy's Fine Red Wines

July 14th: Basics of Wine 101 \$25

Learn about tannins, acidity and basic grapes.

July 28th: 2007 Rhones \$35

More fun Wines from one of our Fave Regions!

Check out our **Bridal Registry!** We have gifts for every bride and groom! And we have a great selections of Wedding Sparkling wines! Check out www.vintagewineshoppe.net for more wines and gift lines!

Veuve de Vernay : \$10.99 (12.99),

Sharffenberger Brut NV \$19.99 (22.99)

Great Customer Cook-Off

Will be July 31st.

Recipes must include seafood.

Please call the store to sign up.

Rhone Open House:

May 14th & 15th 5-6:30 and May 16th 3-4:30

The Vintage Wine Shoppe
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432 Cahaba Park Circle
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www.vintagewineshoppe.net

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Mother's Day

Is May 10th.

Honor her with a gift
or basket from
Vintage Wine Shoppe

Memorial Day Sale: May 21st-May 25th

All gifts 25% off!!!

All case purchases 15% off!!!

(You must mention that you read The Vintage Missive to receive 15% discount.)

We will be open Memorial Day from 9:00-3:00