

DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

AND

 **2015 HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER** 

Happy Holidays & Merry Christmas to all of our Customers & Friends.

Please note that we will be open on Sundays from 12 noon to 6 pm to accommodate your Holiday shopping needs.

This year we have combined our December Newsletter with our Holiday gift guide. We start with our tasting schedule and our specials followed by the gift guide. Our Monthly specials, including a Bordeaux offered in a wood box, come at the end. We hope you will find some wonderful suggestions for Holidays wine gifts as well as wines perfect for the Christmas dinner table. Emerson's is always 63° and wines are stored on their side with indirect incandescent lighting so you can purchase with confidence. Please remember that we offer gift wrapping with a wide variety of bags and boxes for one to six bottles as well as local delivery to selected Richmond zip codes. There is a lot to digest in this newsletter as it is filled with unique wine gifts. Thank you for shopping with us! Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas! J. Emerson, Inc.

DECEMBER Tasting Events



Wednesday, DECEMBER 16th – 5:30 to 7:30pm
Mark your calendars for our 8th ANNUAL,



Champagne and Sparkling Wine



TASTING

Enjoy an eclectic selection and make purchases at a discount.



PLUS...

WE TASTE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 2 - 7:00pm
“Whatever We Feel Like Opening”



We LOVE the style of Ruinart and are thrilled to offer a holiday special on two bottles:



DOMAINE RUINART
Champagne Blanc de Blanc

The oldest established Champagne house, exclusively producing champagne since 1729. Founded by Nicolas Ruinart in the Champagne region in the city of Reims; this is my personal favorite. The house style, rich, generous and elegant, is easy on the palate and I love the tradition mallet styled bottle thought to be evocative of the first Champagne bottles.

From the 10/15/15 issue of Wine spectator: “Bright and harmonious, with a streak of smoky minerality underscoring the poached apple, pastry, spun honey and lemon pith notes, all riding the finely detailed bead. Offers a clean, saline-tinged finish. Drink now through 2020. 4,360 cases imported.”

**Here's the deal: Regular price of a 750ml full bottle of Ruinart is \$96.95 on sale for \$84.95
Regular price of a 375ml half bottle of Ruinart is \$59.95 on sale for \$44.95**

2010 is one of THE best vintage in recent memory for Brunello di Montalcino. You should snap up all you can get your hands on a so we are thrilled to be able to offer a wonderful Brunello at a deep discount **2010 PININO Brunello di Montalcino**

From Antonio Galloni at Vinous - “Pinino's 2010 Brunello di Montalcino offers plenty of up-front appeal. The flavors are bright, lifted and juicy as this pliant, expressive Brunello shows off its bold personality. Cherry pit, dried flowers, mint, tobacco, herbs and licorice flesh out on the supple, inviting finish. Although quite delicious today, the 2010 has more than enough acidity to drink well for a number of years. This is a very strong showing from Pinino.” (Feb.15)

\$54.95/btl.



PLEASE NOTE: *there will be no short sips classes offered in November and December. Short sips will return in January 2016.*



2015 HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

Give a gift of the BEST - The top wines from Wine Spectator 2015

While we sometimes cringe at rating wines numerically, we are still smitten with the idea of a top wine or a top ten wine. Here are two offerings of gift sets with wines from this years Wine Spectator top 100 list. In the correct vintage of course. Either would make a great gift for the wine lover and they are both extremely rare!



2015 Wine Spectator #1 and #2 gift pack

2012 Peter Michael Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville “Au Paradis”- Deliciously pure and supple, with explosive dark berry and red berry flavors and a silky, polished texture. The tannins become more evident midway through, with a gravelly crushed rock profile that adds a dimension of dust and mineral. Drink now through 2030. 1,785 cases made. Top 100: 2015, Rank: 1” (WS 10/15/15) **\$299.95**

2012 Quilceda Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley, WA-“Polished, focused and generous, with red plum and cherry flavors in an elegant package, framed with fine tannins. A savory, meaty note runs through this at a subterranean level. Lingers beautifully. Drink now through 2028. 4,125 cases made. Top 100: 2015, Rank: 2” (WS 11/30) **\$243.95**

If purchased separately the price of 1 bottle of each wine with gift box: \$543.85
Purchase the gift pack (1 bottle of each wine and gift box) for \$449.95
(While supplies last)

2015 Wine Spectator #4 and #5 gift pack

2010 Il Poggione Brunello di Montalcino, Italy- Rich, with excellent density, ripe cherry and plum fruit, and a well-integrated structure. Licorice, earth and tobacco notes add depth while this cruises to a long, tobacco- and mineral-tinged finish. Shows balance and grip. Best from 2018 through 2033. 18,000 cases made. Top 100: 2015, Rank: 4” (WS 6/30/15) **\$89.95**

2012 Mount Eden Vineyards Chardonnay Santa Cruz Mountains CA-“Spicy, toasty, aromatic oak offers an enticing start, with a fresh, vibrant core of lemon-lime, lemon curd, white peach and stone fruit that is very tight, dense, focused and persistent. Ends with a juicy Key lime aftertaste. Drink now through 2029. 1,986 cases made. Top 100: 2015, Rank: 5” WS 11/15/15 **\$64.95**

If purchased separately the price of 1 bottle of each wine with gift box: \$158.85

Purchase the gift pack (1 bottle of each wine and gift box) for \$139.95
(While supplies last)



INTERESTING 6 BOTTLE SETS - READY TO WRAP



2012 Quinta do Crasto Douro Superior, Portugal – “Well-crafted and suave, with refined flavors of raspberry tart, red plum and cherry pastry, matched to cardamom and savory spice notes. Silky tannins and a plush, creamy finish offer chocolate mousse accents. Drink now through 2022. 15,166 cases made. Top 100: 2015, Rank: 25” (WS 7/31/15) **\$26.95/btl. or 6 bottles packed in cardboard presentation case: \$145.95**



2012 Joseph Phelps Vineyards “Insignia”, Napa, CA- “The 2012 Insignia is one of the most intense, powerful wines of year. Dark red and black fruit, smoke, mocha, French oak, spices and leather burst from the glass in an explosive red built on texture and structure. Readers will find very little of the early appeal of 2012 here.” (AG Vinous 12/14)
\$259.95/btl or 6 bottles packed in wood presentation case: \$1,395.95



2012 Opus One, Napa, Ca – “The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon is supple and radiant throughout, with gorgeous suppleness and purity to the flavors. Sweet red cherry, hard candy, raspberry wild flowers and cinnamon are some of the notes that grace the palate. Racy and forward, yet classically mid-weight in structure, the 2012 is likely to drink well pretty much upon release. Once quite rich, the 2012 is developing into a wine of finesse and open-knit sensuality.” (AG Vinous 10/15)

\$249.95/btl or 6 bottles packed in wood presentation case: \$1,299.95

Ask about other 6 bottle wine gift options in wood gift boxes like the 2012 Opus Overture or the 2011 Maison Albert Bichot Mercurey 1er Cru Champs Martins Domaine Adélie.

PORT

Ports make wonderful wine gifts.

Here are two suggestions but you may wish to talk with us about other ports including vintage wines.



Taylor Fladgate - A Century of Port

Aged in larger oak casks these blended tawny ports are rich and mellow, 4 - 1/2 bottles (375ml) each of 10/20/30

and 40 year tawny in a wood presentation case.

What a wonderful gift . **\$285.95**

1985 Porto Messias Colheita
a colheita is a single vintage tawny port and this one has been aged in larger wood barrels since 1985 and was bottled in 2015. Next to declared vintage ports, these are the most interesting wines. **\$67.95**



BROADBENT VINTAGE 1997 PORT

Due to an exceptional Vintage year and low crop yields in Portugal's Douro Valley, production of the Broadbent 1997 Vintage Port is only 1,000 cases, approximately one-third of the 1994 Vintage. The resulting wine is one of fleshy concentration with ripe and generous fruit.

This wine has both an immediate appeal and the strength and complexity to age for decades. **\$67.95**



Large Format

Large format bottles increase the "WOW" factor as a gift or at a Holiday meal. Here are just a few ideas. Many come in beautiful wood presentation boxes. Stop by to see our entire selection.



From Left to right:

- 2010 Ken Wright Freedom Hill Vineyard Wilamette Vally Pinot Noir - \$249.95 3L
- 2012 Solena Grand Cuvee Willamette Valley Pinot Noir - \$59.95 1.5L (#38 WS top 100)
- 2000 Warre's Vintage Port - \$139.95 1.5L
- 2006 Ch. Chorey Les Beaune "Tante Berthe" 1er - \$199.95 1.5L
- 2010 Ch. Larose-Trintaudon Haut Medoc - \$276.95 6L
- NV Billecart-Salmon Brut Rose - \$449.95 3L
- 2004 Cantino Del Pino Ovello Barbaresco \$264.95 3L
- 2000 Clos Erasmus Priorat \$449.95 1.5L (*Are you kidding? This should have been scooped up long ago!*)
- 2004 Dom de la Mordoree Chateauneuf-du-Pape 'Cuvee La Reine des Bois" Rhone, France. - \$249.95 1.5L

OLDER VINTAGES

We have an extensive collection of wines from France, Italy, California and Spain including some older vintages. These wines make unique gifts that can be tied to birth dates and anniversaries.

Here are a few all pre-2000 vintage to consider:

- 1995 Clos du Marquis Red Bordeaux Blend St. Julien, France – \$107.95
 - 1983 Chateau Margaux, Bordeaux France - \$699.95
 - 1968 Lopez de Heredia "Viña Tondonia" Gran Reserva Rioja - \$648.95
 - 1975 Chateau Musar Gaston Hochar White, Bekaa Valley, Lebanon - \$475.95
 - 1994 Chateau Musar Gaston Hochar Red, Bekaa Valley, Lebanon – 4178.95
 - 1996 Scarpa Rouchet Vino Rosso Da Tavola, Italy - \$37.95
 - 1982 Emidio Pepe Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Italy - \$246.95
 - 1978 Giacomo Borgogno & Figli Barolo Riserva DOCG, Italy - \$213.95
 - 1985 Giacomo Borgogno & Figli Barolo Riserva DOCG, Italy - \$199.95
 - 1989 Chateau Gilette Creme de Tete, Sauternes, France - \$149.95
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CHAMPAGNE

We carry over 60 different Champagnes and sparkling wines. Please visit to find the right one for your gift or Holiday Celebration. Here are a few suggestions:



NV Billecart-Salmon Rose Champagne 375ml w/ 2 branded Billecart-Salmon Champagne Flutes

Year in and year out the Rose releases from Billecart define the house and this is a perfect gift offering in a presentation box.

\$79.95

...and a few truly unique champagnes:

NV Champagne Lilbert-Rils Blanc de Blanc Cramant Grand Cru- \$61.95

NV Champagne A Margaine Brut Rose - \$55.95

2007 champagne Gaston Chiquet Special Club - \$73.95

(Ask us about Club Champagnes, they represent the best of the best.)

Champagne Geoffroy Rose de Saignee Brut 1er 375ml - \$39.95



...and Don't Forget Dessert!

We carry an excellent selection of wines to finish the meal as a pairing to pies, cakes, and dark chocolates! The best dessert wines take years to mature. Here are some rare, outstanding examples:



2000 Kracher No 7, Chardonnay Trockenbeeren Auslese, Austria - \$84.95

NV Chambers Rutherglen Rare Muscat - from a release in the 90's - Australia - \$199.95

1996 Chateau Tirecul La Graviere, Monbazillac, France - \$39.95

DECEMBER 2015 MONTHLY CASE

Emerson Wine Club SPECIALS [Prices valid through 12/31/15.] **DEC..'15** **USUAL** **CASE (cs.btl.cost)**

*2014 Buenas Viura, Vin de Espana, Spain	\$ 6.95	\$ 8.95	\$72	(\$6.00)
*2014 La Cappuccina Soave, Veneto, Italy	\$ 7.95	\$ 9.95	\$84	(\$7.00)
*2013 Pareto's Estate Eighty 20 Red Blend, Monterey, California	\$ 9.95	\$11.95	\$114	(\$9.50)
*2010 Chateau Pericou Bordeaux Rouge, France	\$ 9.95	\$14.95	\$108	(\$9.00)
2009 Dom. de Berane Ventoux Rouge, "Les Agapes", Rhone, FR	\$ 9.95	\$14.95	\$108	(\$9.00)
N/V La Jara Pinot Grigio Rosato Frizzante, Veneto, Italy	\$ 9.95	\$12.95	\$108	(\$9.00)
2012 Domaine Deliance Bourgogne Rouge, Cote Chalonnaise, FR	\$13.95	\$17.95	\$153	(\$12.75)
2014 Croix Senaillet Macon-Davaye, Burgundy, France	\$14.95	\$16.95	\$162	(\$13.50)

A NOTE ABOUT OUR CASE OF THE MONTH: *It is an excellent way to get real value for your wine dollar and drink wines from around the world, carefully selected by J. Emerson staff. No need to join an Internet wine club with their mystery wines and made up labels – Our case is infinitely more interesting and a better value!* The discounted price of the DECEMBER case-of-the-month is **\$104.95**; the regular price would be \$154, a savings of 30%!

***2014 Buenas Viura, Vin de Espana, Spain** - This 100% Viura is declassified Rioja juice. Unoaked, this fresh dry white wine is loaded with aromas that recall grapefruit and pears along with delicate floral notes and a crisp, clean finish. Pairs perfectly with grilled chicken, tacos, and other casual fare.

***2014 La Cappuccina Soave, Veneto, Italy** - 100% Garganega from the estate's own vineyards near Verona, the northern Italian city that served as the setting for Romeo and Juliet. Raised in Stainless and aged for six months on the lees this is a dry wine with floral and citrus notes, nicely structured with delicate fruit and typical almond notes on the finish. Excellent with Fish and/or as an aperitif.

***2013 Pareto's Estate Eighty 20 Red Blend, Monterey, California** - (30% Petite Sirah, 25% Syrah, 19% Petit Verdot, 13% Cinsault, 11% Merlot, 2% Riesling.) Estate grown from their vineyards in the southern region of Monterey County, just north of Paso Robles. This area is known for long, warm days, ideal for sun-loving reds. The result is a balanced, full-bodied wine with black currant, plum and red fruit flavors, a touch of pepper and mocha all wrapped in silky/dusty tannins. Pair with barbecue ribs, roasted meats, hamburgers.

***2010 Chateau Pericou Bordeaux Rouge, France** - Chateau Pericou is a typical Bordeaux property on silica-gravel soil on the slopes of the Gironde in Cuvignac. 2010 was a great vintage in Bordeaux and Pericou reflects that vintage with muted riper fruits, floral, and herbal tea notes. The palate is structured, with firm tannins, but the riper fruits make for a balanced and elegant wine. Here is a wine for the Christmas Tenderloin
2009 Dom. de Berane Ventoux Rouge, "Les Agapes", Rhone, France - (a blend of 70% Grenache from 50 year old vines, 25% Syrah and 5% Mourvedre.) From a very good Rhone vintage, the "Agapes" (a biblical word connoting a meal taken after work and it is indeed a lovely wine to have after a day's work!) is a dusty textured elegant red offering notes of ripe red fruits along with touches of herbes de Provence and pepper. The tannins are refined and the wine is drinking beautifully.

N/V La Jara Pinot Grigio Rosato Frizzante, Veneto, Italy - Organically farmed from stony and gravel based soils in Veneto in N.E. Italy, this is a fresh, crisp medium-bubbled wine with red berry notes that is just barely a rose. (after all the grape is Pinot Grigio – Pinot Grey). A great holiday sparkling wine!

2012 Domaine Deliance Bourgogne Rouge, Cote Chalonnaise, France - (100% Pinot Noir) Domaine Deliance is a Givry producer and the Bourgogne Rouge is a new addition to the range. 2012 was a good vintage in Burgundy and this a great value. Light in color but medium bodied and supple palate with riper raspberry notes, blackcurrant and a touch of earthy spice. The tannins are smooth and refined.

2014 Croix Senaillet Macon-Davaye, Burgundy, France - This is a delightful, balanced white Burgundy with classic salty/mineral and citrus notes, exactly what you should expect from a Macon Chardonnay. Supple and smooth with a nice lift from the lack of oak, it finishes with a touch of acidity that is in perfect harmony with the rest of the wine.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE NOW OPEN SUNDAYS, 12noon-6:00pm

USE YOUR 6 BOTTLE WINE BAGS FROM OTHER STORES AND SAVE 10% (on six bottles)

We want to remind our customers to use those over-produced and environmentally un-friendly reusable wine bags that other stores continue to push on you. Remember they are made from oil and you must use each of those bags 9 times before it equals one paper bag (18 times for plastic).

GET YOUR BEER HERE and save 15% on a mix and match 6-pack

We're offering all of our beers now as individual bottles or in 6-packs (or 4-packs, depending on the item), and extending a 15% discount on a mix-and-match six-pack of beer.
