

J. Emerson, Inc.

FINE WINES & CHEESE

5716 Grove Avenue • Richmond, VA. 23226 • (804) 285-8011

website - www.jemersonfinewine.com / Twitter: <http://bit.ly/atAEL4/> / Facebook: <http://bit.ly/br4kEz>

STORE HOURS: Mon. 10:00 am to 8:00pm, Tues through Sat.: 9:00am to 8:00pm and Sun. noon-6pm

March 2024 NEWSLETTER

Join us on

FRIDAY, March 15th from 5:30 to 7:00pm

THE IDES OF MARCH WINES



A tasting of wines from the Roman region of Lazio.

WINE TASTING EVERY SATURDAY 2:00pm-6:00pm

'Whatever we feel like opening'

PLUS - Last Saturday WINE SCHOOL - 3/30/24

Emerson Wine Club SPECIALS [Prices valid through 3/31/24.]

MARCH '24 USUAL CASE (cs.btl.cost)

*Fairview 2022 Goats do Roam White Wine, Western Cape, South Africa	\$11.99	\$13.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
Ⓞ *Domaine de la Bastide 2022 Rouge, Cotes du Rhone, France	\$11.99	\$13.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
*Domaine Salvard 2021 Sauvignon Blanc "Unique," Loire Valley, France	\$12.99	\$21.99	\$144	(\$12.00)
*Donna Laura 2022 Rosso "Ali" IGT, Tuscany, Italy	\$12.99	\$15.99	\$144	(\$12.00)
Ⓞ Usoa de Bagordi 2019 Tinto, Rioja, Spain	\$11.99	\$13.99	\$132	(\$11.00)
Cazas Novas Branco Colheita 2022, Vinho Verde, Portugal	\$12.99	\$14.99	\$144	(\$12.00)
Domaine de la Ferrandiere N/V Blanc de Blanc Brut, Limoux, France	\$12.99	\$15.99	\$144	(\$12.00)
Ⓞ Perrini 2021 Negroamaro, Puglia, Italy	\$12.99	\$17.99	\$144	(\$12.00)

A NOTE ABOUT OUR CASE OF THE MONTH: - *Our case of the month 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 the recurring nightmare of a subscription wine club. Our case is infinitely more interesting and a better value!* The discounted price for the MARCH case-of-the-month is **\$128.99**; (average btl. price: **\$10.75!!**) the regular price would be **\$194.99**, a savings of almost 34%! **We also offer an ALL RED & an ALL WHITE 8 PACK because, sometimes, 8 is enough! The ALL RED 8 pack is 2 each of the 4 red wines for: \$86.99 and the ALL WHITE 8 pack is 2 each of the 4 white wines for: \$86.99.**

Here is the line-up and as always, there are 2 each of the first four wines () and 1 each of the last four wines.*

***Fairview 2022 Goats do Roam White Wine, Western Cape, South Africa**- (Viognier, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Roussanne) In a clever homage to "Cotes du Rhone," South African producer Fairview makes their "Goats do Roam" wines employing Rhone varietals grown in the Western Cape. Nectarine and honeysuckle notes characterize this crisp wine with good minerality.

Ⓞ ***Domaine de la Bastide 2022 Rouge, Cotes du Rhone, France** - (60% Grenache, 20% Carignan, 20% Syrah) Organic, non-certified. A classic Rhone red with lots of bramble-berries and pepper-like spicy qualities. Medium bodied, balanced with silky tannins.

***Domaine Salvard 2021 Sauvignon Blanc "Unique," Loire Valley, France:** (100% Sauvignon Blanc) A Kermit Lynch import and one of our favorite Loire Valley producers practicing Lutte Raisonnée farming. Clean and bright with notes of green apple and every citrus you can think of in this crisp, zippy white wine. Pair with fresh seafood, a salad or a cheese board.

***Donna Laura 2022 Rosso "Ali" IGT, Tuscany, Italy** - (90% Sangiovese, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon) "The 2022 Ali is a very pretty everyday wine from Donna Laura. Crushed red berry fruit, spice, tobacco and cedar are nicely pushed forward in this Sangiovese based blend. Best of all the Ali is a screaming value." (Vinous, Galloni 6/23)

© **Usoa de Bagordi 2019 Tinto, Rioja, Spain-** (Tempranillo, Graciano, Garnacha). An entry level Rioja made from organically grown grapes with aromas of dark and red fruit with touches of spice, clove, black pepper and understated balsamic notes. Good structure with flavors of wild berries and finishing with refined tannins.

Cazas Novas Branco Colheita 2022, Vinho Verde, Portugal - This non-effervescent example of Vinho Verde Branco is made from the lesser-known Avesso variety. Savory lime and other citrus aromas along with melon-like impressions characterize this snappy, fresh wine.

Domaine de la Ferrandiere N/V Blanc de Blanc Brut, Limoux, France – (100% Chardonnay) Classic-method sparkling wine made from Chardonnay in southwest France. Apple and subtle toast notes make this wine a perfect choice for Easter brunch!

© **Perrini 2021 Negroamaro, Puglia, Italy-** (100% Negroamaro) Certified organic and vegan. Wild ferment and aging in stainless steel. Fuller bodied with dark berry notes. Hints of licorice and earth come to mind in tasting this unoaked, organically-produced red wine from southern Italy.

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

We want to remind our customers to use 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.

MARCH SPECIAL OFFER – From the cellar: A pair of 15's!

A pair of perfectly aged Pinot Noir's, one from California and one from Oregon, same vintage, same ABV.

2015 Chanin Los Alamos Vineyard Pinot Noir Santa Barbara County, USA – *More Burgundy than*

California, here is a review: “The 2015 Pinot Noir Los Alamos Vineyard is exquisitely beautiful. Rose petal, mint sweet red cherry and dried flowers lift from the glass in this delicate, wonderfully nuanced Pinot Noir from Cavin Chanin. All the elements are simply in the right place. A dollop of whole clusters (15%) adds aromatic complexity. The Los Alamos is not a big or obvious wine, but is (a) very, very pretty one, made in an especially floral/savory style.” (Vinous Galloni 2/17)

Regular price: \$52.99, On sale in MARCH: \$29.99

2015 Freja Cellars Chehalem Mountains Estate Pinot Noir, Willamette Valley, USA- Rarely does the entire staff agree on a wine but everyone was all in for this estate grown Pinot in its prime drinking window! This is a nicely balanced wine with plenty of primary fruit like crushed cranberries and dried bing cherries; plus a touch of baking spice and evergreen forest floor. It finishes with pinot acid in perfect harmony with the relaxed tannins. A great example of Willamette Pinot noir.

Regular price: \$25.99, On sale in MARCH: \$19.99

It was quite interesting (and fun) to open these two side by side, offering a chance to compare well grown and well vinted California and Oregon Pinot noir from the same vintage. So we want to offer:

The CALORE Pinot two pack (1 each of the above wines) for only \$39.99!

MARCH SPECIAL OFFER- BOLD NEW WORLD REDS!

With warmer weather coming this is a good opportunity to offer some specials on some well-regarded New World Bordeaux Blends at great discounts!

2021 Vina Cobos Cocodrilo Corte Mendoza, Argentina – “The 2021 Blend Cocodrilo is 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Cabernet Franc and 15% Malbec, 56% from the Uco Valley and 44% from Lujan de Cuyo. Aged 15 months in 14% new French oak and the rest in used barrels. It's purple with a garnet sheen. The ripe nose features blackberry, cassis plum and jam against a spicy, ashy backdrop before roasted bell pepper aromas appear late. It's plush and indulgent, with a velvety, full body that rounds out a potent, lasting character. A vibrant hint of ripe cassis resonates at the back of the throat.” (Vinous 5/23)

Regular price: \$34.99, On sale in MARCH: \$26.99

2020 Marques de Casa Concha Heritage, Puente Alto, Chile – “The 2021 Marques de Casa Concha Heritage is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon with 24% Cabernet Franc from El Mariscal Vineyard in Puente Alto, Maipo Valley, and was aged for 16 months in oak barrels. Dark garnet-red in color. The fruit forward nose features redcurrant and blackberry notes as well as bay leaf against a cedar backdrop. Featuring the polished tannins typical of the Puente Alto area, the flow is broad and gently channeled, enlivened by a juicy acidity that delivers lasting juicy flavor. A crystal clear, terroir driven wine.” (Vinous 3/23)

Regular price: \$54.99, On sale in MARCH: \$37.99

2016 Blackbird Vineyards Paramour, Napa Valley, USA – “The 2016 Paramour is one of the best wines I have tasted from Blackbird. Dark, succulent and inviting, the 2016 possesses terrific depth and nuance. Chocolate, black cherry, spice, new leather and menthol build in this racy Cabernet Franc-based blend. Most of the fruit is sourced from Stagecoach, Hudson and Crocker Starr.” (Vinous, Galloni 10/18)

Regular price: \$144.99, On sale in MARCH: \$95.99

NEW ARRIVALS – Wines from Bulgaria!

Bulgaria is one of the oldest winemaking countries in the world. Try some different grapes!

Great wines and great values!

2021 Georgiev & Milkov Rubin, Thracian Valley, Bulgaria – Hand pressed, very small production with each bottle hand numbered. The grape Rubin is a cross of Nebbiolo and Syrah developed in Bulgaria in 1944. Elegant and medium bodied it reminds one of a cross between the Piedmont and Beaujolais. Black cherry, dark chocolate and spices finishing with refined tannins. **\$29.99**

2022 Georgiev & Milkov 'Why Not' Red Misket, Thracian Valley, Bulgaria – (100% Red Misket) Red Misket is a white wine grape with a pinkish skin color. It is an old local variety in the Sub-Balken Bulgarian wine regions. Light and fresh with floral aromas complemented by lime zest, grapefruit and citrus notes. **\$24.99**

2020 Bononia Estate Gamza, Danubian Plains, Bulgaria - Cadarca or Kadarka or Gamza is a dark-skinned variety of red wine grape. It has a long history and is popular in Romania and Bulgaria. The wines from the Gamza grape are usually light, easy-drinking and elegant, broadly comparable to Pinot Noir. This has very muted aromas of black cherries. Juicy and well balanced, it is a very straightforward and enjoyable wine. **\$29.99**

NEW ARRIVALS – RIESLING!

2 Rieslings from iconic vineyard sites – an Alsatian Grand Cru and a Piesporter Goldtröpfchen

2018 Nik Weis St.-Urbans-Hof Riesling Kabinett Mosel Goldtröpfchen – “Very seductive, featuring currant and passion fruit flavors, while notes of cardamom glide along the edges. Very well-balanced and complex, with juicy acidity that brings out the mineral-infused finish. Drink now through 2028. 700 cases made, 300 cases imported.” (WS) **\$27.99**

2015 Domaine Rieffle Riesling Steinert Alsace Grand Cru, France – “The 2015 Riesling Grand Cru Steinert is very clear, intense and pure on the nose, where ripe and concentrated fruit flavors are intermixed with stony and remarkably prominent floral flavors. Intense and powerful but also pure and elegant on the palate, this is a lean, tightly woven, very mineral and persistently salty Riesling. It has enormous length and tension. This is gorgeous. Jean-Claude is more on the blend in this Alsatian climate. However, I find this a fascinating dry Riesling.” (WA) **\$44.99**

The GREEN Spot

As you shop in the store you may see some es displaying a green price sticker. This is our way of letting you know that the wine is organic, biodynamic, sustainable or “natural”. This is an ongoing process as we research each and every wine in the shop. Verbiage on the bottle may tell you more or you may ask us for further clarification. We are organized by place, not attribute, but as the wine world has made a healthy move toward better farming practices we needed to find a quick way to identify organic, biodynamic, sustainable and natural wines.

EMERSON’S DELIVERS!

Consult with us on wines for your party or event and we will deliver directly to your home or office. Our regular deliveries will be made on Friday afternoons. There is no minimum order but there will be a delivery charge of \$10. Our regular service areas are zip codes 23226, 23229 and 23221

RETURN POLICY

J. Emerson, Inc. guarantees that each bottle of wine we sell is in good condition. If you purchase a bad bottle of wine from us, please bring the bottle (with wine) back promptly. We will taste the wine with you to try and ascertain what has gone wrong and we will replace the bad bottle with a good bottle of the same wine. We are not responsible for any damage that occurs after the wine has left the store. This is especially true in the summer.

PLEASE do not leave your wine in your car or trunk. It takes less than two hours in 80-90 degree sun to “pop” a cork. We will NOT accept any returns of warm or hot bottles. Returns should come back to us at about the same temperature as our store.

OUR PROTOCOL FOR USING WINE REVIEWS

Throughout our newsletter you will find profiles of wine tastes and flavors written by professional wine reviewers. We use these reviews, when they align with our own tasting notes, because, frankly, these reviewers use descriptors and adjectives that are more interesting and often more on point than what we would write. When we use a reviewers notes we will always use quotes and we will always show attribution, i.e.: WA – Wine Advocate, WS- Wine Spectator, BH – Burghound and Vinous for...Vinous. Three of these review sources are reader subscription only and carry no advertising and they are: WA, WS and BH, and thus those are primary review sources. Each review source also has reviewers that are better in some specialty then others. For example, Antonio Galoni has a wonderful sense of Italian wines and Allen Meadows of Burghound is a definitive source for the wines of Burgundy. The other key is that these reviews need to align with our tasting notes and if there is a huge discrepancy we will defer to our notes, which may be less interesting in terms of descriptors, but more in harmony with the wine profile. Our tasting notes would be any review without quotation marks.

OUR WINE ENVIORNMENT

If you shop here you already know that we take the condition of the wine environment in the store very seriously. Wines are on their side, we monitor humidity and the temperature on the main floor never rises about 63 degrees. (In the winter we strive for 60.) We use no fluorescent lighting in the wine areas – THE WORST POSSIBLE LIGHTING CONDITION due to the high UV content. Instead we have been using indirect incandescent lighting. Now we are in the process of converting our lighting to LED, a source that produces NO UV light rays! Does your wine retailer care enough to take these quality control steps? Ask questions next time you are in a big box retailer.