

From: The BrightWines Beacon <lighthouse@brightwines.com>
Subject: Aussie Aussie Aussie, Oi Oi Oi
Date: March 16, 2018 5:28:24 PM CDT
To: The BrightWines Beacon

The BrightWines Beacon for 3/16/18, the annual southern hemisphere "Harvest Celebration"

NOW thru March 26th: GREAT WINES & GREAT PRICES, over two dozen southern hemisphere wines ALL under \$17.99 each!

This year's featured country is Australia! *Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, Oi, Oi, Oi !!!* Read "Bright Lights" for Dave's Top Picks and these **HIGHLIGHTS of this annual feature** (one of my favorites of the year):

**** 7 Aussie reds ALL rated 90 to 93 points** and priced from \$12.99 - \$17.99 per bottle!

**** a "Wine Spectator Top 100 List" Cabernet Sauvignon** from Coonawarra for just \$17.99 (W.S. Top 100 of this past year)

**** 7 "best buy" Aussies**, rated from 84 to 88 points and **priced just \$7.99 to \$12.99** per bottle (case prices available too)

**** 15 impressive Reds and Whites (and Rose) selections from the Southern Hemisphere**, including perennial (and current) 90-point rated wines from **New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, and some great values from South Africa** too.

All this and MORE in the annual Southern Hemisphere Harvest Celebration at BrightWines (our spring is their fall) so read on...

BRIGHT LIGHTS: Dave's Top Picks from "down under" (southern hemisphere harvest celebration)

note: ALL of the following wines are **IN-STOCK in GOOD SUPPLY** (except as noted) **at special feature-pricing NOW through March 26th**. I would estimate that I currently have approximately 250 cases of wine spread amongst two dozen different southern hemisphere wines, ranging from roughly 5 to 10 cases of each, some are more limited and some are bigger stacks. This feature will run through March 26th (before we turn our attention to the weekend of Passover and Easter at the very end of March) both for in-store business and for email orders (subject to confirmation, while supplies last).

**** Smart Buys from Australia: 7 wines rated 90 - 93 points, from \$12.99 - \$17.99 per bottle ****

(Wine Spectator Top 100 List) **PENLEY 2015 Coonawarra CABERNET SAUVIGNON @ \$17.99 each** (\$215.88/case)

Rated **91 points** by **Robert Parker's Wine Advocate**, who notes: "Deep garnet-purple in color, 2015 Phoenix Cabernet Sauvignon is redolent of crème de cassis, licorice and dark chocolate with hints of dried mint, earth and tapenade. Medium to full-bodied, it fills the palate with generous black fruit and menthol flavors. Structured with a firm backbone, it finishes with great length."

Wine Spectator #48 on Top 100 List of 2017 (for this current vintage): "Dense tannins and flavors are packed into this wine, with briny Kalamata olive and black licorice nuances to the core of plum, cassis, sage, tobacco and cedar flavors, which fan out on the finish. Drink now through 2030." and DAVE says: when it comes to Cabernet Sauvignon, other than the rarely seen Margaret Rives region, the **Coonawarra district** with its "terra rosa" soils in the Limestone Coast region **makes the BEST Cabernet in all of Australia**. This "Phoenix" bottling by the always highly-rated Penley Estate, with **a great eye-catching label**, is rated 90 and 91 points by WS and RP and at \$20 was one of the best values on the most recent edition of the Wine Spectator Top 100 list. Limited to one shipment only, of 14 cases, **BrightWines has the largest allocation in the Minnesota market!** \$17.99 each = \$215.88/case.

SCHILD Estate 2013 GMS (grenache blend) @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$129.48/case = \$10.79 each)

Rated **91 points** by Natalie MacLean, who notes: "A blend of 47% Grenache, 27% Mourvèdre and 26% Shiraz from the Barossa Valley. Aussie winemakers have been blending these great varieties for a long time and the results are often great, in this case, they're exceptional. The Schild Estate blend has a very expressive nose with stewed dark fruits, dried fruit, blueberry, baking spice, and pepper on the long finish. Soft with great texture, this is a beautiful wine." DAVE says: this wine is elegant and smooth. At a recent consumer event, this wine was easily confused for Pinot Noir because of its lighter body and juicy personality with soft spicy cherry tones.

Jim Barry "The Lodge Hill" Clare Valley 2014 Shiraz @ \$14.99 per bottle (\$159.99 = \$13.33 each)

Rated **90 points Vinous (VM)** and **90 points Wine Enthusiast** (rated at \$20 retail) who notes: "This juicy, medium-bodied Shiraz is filled with mouthwatering cherry-berry fruit. Some silky tannins provide structure, but this is much more about the here and now than any sort of

cellaring. The fruit persists through the finish, joined by hints of herbs and bacon. Drink now - 2020."

SCHILD Estate 2013 Barossa SHIRAZ @ \$15.99 per bottle (\$179.88/case = \$14.99 each)

Rated **90 points** by **Wine Enthusiast magazine** (rated at \$20 retail) who notes: "Sometimes all that's required is a **full-bodied, supple red to pair with dinner. And sometimes, the bottle exceeds expectations, like this one.** Blackberry, cassis and hints of brown sugar and vanilla avoid getting too confectionary, framed by crisp acids and fine tannins on the finish. Drink now-2020." DAVE says: this former Wine Spectator Top 100 list Shiraz (more than once) is back on top again - and a customer favorite too, it was **the most-ordered wine of the entire list of wines at the grand Como event!**

TAIT "The Wild Ride" 2014 Barossa SHIRAZ/Grenache blend @ \$15.99 per bottle (\$179.88/case = \$14.99 each)

Rated **93 points** by Natalie MacLean! "Total juicy, lip-smacking wonder! Full-bodied and smooth with plush plums from here to Australia." This is an SGM blend of 48% Shiraz, 42% Grenache, and 10% Mataro (mourvedre). Limited availability, one shipment only of this vintage/price of 5 cases total.

PENLEY Estate 2015 "Atlas" SHIRAZ (Limestone Coast) @ \$17.99 per bottle (\$215.88/case)

Rated 90 points by Robert Parker's Wine Advocate, who notes: "Medium garnet-purple colored, the 2015 Atlas Shiraz is redolent of cracked black pepper and Chinese five spice over black cherry and black berry notes with a waft of chocolate mint. Medium-bodied, softly textured in the well-poised mouth, it delivers mouth-filling juicy black fruit and a spicy finish." AND Wine Spectator notes (rated at \$20 retail): "Aromatic, with dried lavender, cedar and white pepper accents to a core of dried cherry and raspberry flavors. Firm and muscular on the finish. Drink now through 2027."

TAIT "The Border Crossing" 2014 old vines - basket pressed SHIRAZ @ \$17.99 per bottle (\$215.88/case, limited)

100% McLaren Vale Shiraz. Rated **91 points Wine Spectator** (rated at \$23 retail) who notes: "Offers gravelly tannins, concentrated plum notes and a chewy finish, accented by floral details of violet. White pepper aromas linger and gain momentum on the finish. Drink through 2027. 91 points. \$23." DAVE says: limited to one shipment only of 7 cases of this limited production McLaren Vale old vine Shiraz.

** "Best Buys" and Bargains from Australia: **\$7.99 (or less) to \$12.99** each and rated 84 to 88 points **

McWilliams (Australia) 2015 CHARDONNAY @ \$7.99 per bottle (\$79.99/case = \$6.67 each)

Rated **88 points and a "Best Buy"** (at \$9.99 retail price) by Tastings.com who noted: "tropical aromas and flavors... a **silky, bright, dry-yet-fruity light-to-medium body and a tingling, amusing,** medium-length green apple finish with fine, fruit tannins and a **suggestion of oak.** A nice lightly toasty chardonnay with zippy acidity for the table."

WILDLING (McWilliams) 2013 winemakers red SHIRAZ blend @ \$7.99 per bottle (\$95.88/case)

Rich and **full-bodied and jammy with red fruits and spice**, a blend of SYRAH and PETIT VERDOT and CABERNET. Suggested Retail (see Wine Enthusiast, etc) of \$14 per bottle!

NUGAN "3rd Generation" south australia Wines @ \$9.99 per bottle (\$107.88 per case = **\$8.99 each, mix/match**)

Nugan is the least famous producer of the Southern Starz (a very good Aussie importer/exporter) portfolio but makes the BEST VALUES of the bunch. Interestingly, they are mostly famous for Chardonnay and Cabernet, even though their Shiraz is very good too! The Chardonnay is richly oaked with vanilla creaminess, but is still dry and lively. The Cabernet is dry deep, like an Aussie Shiraz combined with a Chilean Cabernet Sauvignon. And the Shiraz is blackberry and mocha with some body and zip. Any/all of these are great Aussie options to mix/match at 25% off their retail prices!

** **NUGAN Estate "3rd Generation" 2015 CHARDONNAY @ \$9.99 per bottle** (\$107.88 per case = \$8.99 each, mix/match)

"Best Buy" in Wine Enthusiast magazine, rated at \$12 retail: "**a fine value. It's rich and full-bodied without being over the top,** offering spice-accented notes of peach, apricot and pineapple."

** **NUGAN Estate "3rd Generation" 2015 CABERNET SAUVIGNON @ \$9.99 per bottle** (\$107.88 per case = \$8.99 each, mix/match)

Medium-bodied with cassis and black currant and blackberry and hints of spice and toast, with good fresh acidity structure keeping it lively.

** **NUGAN Estate "3rd Generation" 2015 SHIRAZ @ \$9.99 per bottle** (\$107.88 per case = \$8.99 each, mix/match)

Medium-bodied with hints of pepper and a fresh crisp balance to the blackberry and raspberry tones. Bright and juicy, with good depth.

Jim Barry "Watervale" Clare Valley 2017 Dry Riesling @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$155.88/case)

Wine Spectator rated at \$20 retail, who notes: "Rich, ripe pear and yellow apple accents are juicy and appealing, with fresh acidity on the finish. Drink now. 250 cases imported."

Thomas GOSS 2014 McLaren Vale SHIRAZ @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$143.88/case = **\$11.99 each, mix/match**)

Wine Spectator notes: "bacon fat and brown sugar accents to the cherry and floral notes. Harmonious and plush on the finish. Drink now through 2028." I have handled several vintages of Thomas Goss, at regular retail prices over the years. To have this wine at \$11.99 is a steal from the famed "Epicurean" Aussie selections. This is **smooth and complex Shiraz from the McLaren Vale that does not go over the top, yet tastes like a \$15 or \$20 wine.**

That's quite a range of Aussie selections, eh mate? But there's more!

Although the focus on this year's southern hemisphere harvest celebration is Australia, **BrightWines has at least 15 more great wines and great values from the other wine regions "down under" like New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, and South Africa too!**

**** Dave's Top Picks of the "other" Down Under wine regions, at least 15 more red, white (and rose) selections ****

note: there are more details coming in NEXT week's newsletter on some of these other southern hemisphere selections, but ALL of these are IN-STOCK now at the feature prices. Feel free to INQUIRE with Dave for quantities, further reviews, and case pricing.

WHITE WINES (and a dry Rose) from the Southern Hemisphere:

(Argentina) **Hermanos Domingo Molina 2015 Torrontes @ \$10.79 per bottle**

(Chile) **Cono Sur 2016 Viognier @ \$7.99 per bottle**

(South Africa) **Cote de Paradis 2017 Chenin Blanc - Viognier @ \$10.79 per bottle**

(South Africa) **DeWetshof 2017 unoaked Limestone Creek Chardonnay @ \$14.99 per bottle**

(New Zealand) **Caythorpe 2016 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc @ \$10.79 per bottle**

(New Zealand) **The Ned 2016 dry Rose of Pinot @ \$9.99 per bottle** (sale price)

* also available: the new **2017 The Ned Pinot Gris**, vin gris style, at \$14.99 per bottle

(New Zealand) **HUIA 2017 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc @ \$17.99 per bottle**

RED WINES from the Southern Hemisphere:

(Chile) **Las Ninas 2015 Apalta-Colchagua Cabernet Sauvignon @ \$9.99 per bottle**

(Chile) **Cono Sur 2016 Carmenere @ \$7.99 per bottle**

(Chile) **MontGras 2016 Carmenere @ \$9.99 per bottle**

(Chile) **J Bouchon "Canto Norte" Merlot/Cabernet/CabFranc @ \$10.79 per bottle**

(Chile) **MontGras 2014 "Antu" Syrah** (90 points) **@ \$15.99 per bottle**

(South Africa) **Painted Wolf "The Den" 2014 Pinotage @ \$9.99 per bottle**

*also available Painted Wolf "Guillermo" reserve Pinotage at \$14.99 per bottle

(New Zealand) **Craggy Range 2011 Gimblett Gravels red @ \$17.99 per bottle** (\$22 retail. limited)

*also available (very limited- inquire) **Craggy Range 2012 Martinborough Pinot Noir @ \$29.99 (93 pts WS @ \$46)**

That's truly all for today, mates! The annual southern hemisphere Harvest Celebration at BrightWines continues through March 26th! Great wines and great prices from ALL of the famous "down under" wine countries, with a special focus on Australia. RSVP to attend one of the tastings this weekend, or stop by Saturday or next week to peruse the selections. email orders accepted, while supplies last!

Aussie Aussie Aussie, Oi Oi Oi !!! --Dave

The Right Wines are BrightWines!

www.brightwines.com 651-748-0793

2420 Margaret St, North Saint Paul, MN 55109