The BrightWines Beacon for July 2nd thru July 6th 2021

Ready for a big weekend? Most of us have at least a three day weekend planned, and based on how busy I've been during the weekdays this week, many are surely extending that to a four day weekend or a weeklong vacation. But there's **plenty of time left this weekend to get some wine for the Fourth, and of course I'm happy to take email orders** for wines to be picked up later next week too.

All four of these categories have plenty of stock on the floor available for the Fourth, or email orders for later next week. HIGHLIGHTS include...

** Four Smart Buys: Allan Scott 2020 Marlborough NZ Sauvignon Blanc (Wine Spectator Top 100 wine for this vintage, new arrival) at \$15.99 per bottle! Plus my current favorite from Jed Steele, the Steele Cabernet Franc, and a nice meritage-style red blend from Washington called "Next" by King Estate, and the new fresh vintage of last summer's top-selling French Rose is finally available... the Gris Marin 2020 Sable de Camargue Rose for just \$10.97 per bottle!

** Four Bargains, all priced just \$9.99 or less: Montgravet 2020 Cotes de Gascogne Blanc, juicy and fun El Circo "acrobat" Spanish Garnacha, the Cote de Paradise 2020 Chenin/Viognier is back in stock, new from Milbrandt, "LuLu" 2020 Washington Rose!

** Four new Spanish: Bodegas LAN Rioja, Lopez de Haro Rioja, The Grenache Project, plus impressive whites too - Rueda Verdejo, Rias Baixas Albarino, Rioja Blanco, and more!

** Four "Just for Fun" for the Fourth: Parceleros "unoaked" Chardonnay, Kuhling-Gillot (Rhein) Dry Riesling, Anton Bauer Gruner Veltliner, and last but not least... fully restocked on "Sea Enchantress" red blend!

THE LAMP IS LIT: Store Hours and Shopping Preferences at BrightWines

** update on shopping preferences: I am fully vaccinated, and I know that most of my customers are too. With that in mind, I have not been wearing a mask - nor requiring masks - although I certainly do allow masks if anyone so chooses or for anyone who happens to be not-yet fully vaccinated. I will also continue to offer curbside pickup for those who prefer that. For now, I do not have any events or tastings scheduled - I'm not prepared for that yet - so the bottom line is that BrightWines is continuing to prefer order-pickups until I am able to finish getting the store prepared for inperson shopping or events, IF and/or WHEN the time comes...

** SATURDAY July 3rd: OPEN from 10:30am until at least 5:30pm (order pickups preferred)

** SUNDAY: July 4th: CLOSED per usual. Have a wonderful Fourth of July!

** MONDAY & TUESDAY July 5th & 6th: CLOSED for an extended holiday note: for the next 2 consecutive weeks, BrightWines will be open just WEDS thru SAT.

**** WEDNESDAY July 7th: OPEN from 11am to 6pm (daily hours, order pickups preferred)** note: for the next 2 consecutive weeks, BrightWines will be open just Weds thru Sat.

**** THURSDAY & FRIDAY July 8th and July 9th: OPEN at 10:30am daily hours** (order pickups preferred) stay tuned for a regular edition of The BrightWines Beacon for early July

** SATURDAY July 10th: OPEN at 10:30am

stay tuned for a regular edition of The BrightWines Beacon for early July

BRIGHT LIGHTS: four on the floor for the Fourth!

There's plenty of time left this weekend to get some wine for the Fourth, and of course I'm happy to take email orders for wines to be picked up later next week too. All four of these categories have plenty of stock on the floor available for the Fourth, or email orders for later next week...

(most of these wines qualify for mix/match Case Prices and/or solid case prices, as noted)

** Four Bargains: new wines and new vintages of perennial favorites. Bargain Alert! **

1. MONTGRAVET 2020 Cotes de Gascogne Blanc @ \$9.99 per bottle!

probably the most famous category of French "summer wine" (besides Rose) are the Cotes de Gascogne whites. This is 100% Colombard, and is as tasty and refreshing as always. Lots of peachy fresh fruit aromas and flavors backed by just enough dry stoney minerality. New vintage just arrived, so there are 10 cases in stock now!

2. El Circo "Acrobat" 2017 Carinena (Spain) Garnacha @ \$9.99 per bottle (\$107.88/case = just \$8.99 each) a favorite here last year too, smooth and juicy Spanish Grenache in a fun summertime screwcap package

3. Cote de Paradise 2020 Chenin/Viognier @ \$7.99 per bottle (\$95.88/case)

4. "Lulu" by Milbrandt 2020 Washington Rose @ \$9.99 per bottle

the best "bargain" west coast Rose of the season so far! a blended dry Rose from Milbrandt. NEW and nice!

** Four Smart Buys: top picks from \$11 - \$16 including a W.S. Top 100 Sauvignon Blanc **

1. Allan Scott 2020 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc @ \$15.99 per bottle (\$179.99/case)

Wine Spectator Top 100 for this new fresh 2020 vintage of this always-great producer. <u>https://allanscott.com/sauvignon-blanc-in-the-global-top-100-wines/</u>

2. Steele 2018 Lake County Cabernet Franc @ \$15.99 per bottle

Aromatic and smooth, just like Cab Franc is supposed to be. A great "hot weather" pick for Cab lovers!

3. NEXT 2017 Columbia Valley Red Blend @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$139.99/case = \$11.67 each) Classy and full-bodied from Washington, a "meritage style" blend by King Estate

4. GRIS MARIN 2020 Sable de Camargue (France) Rose @ \$10.97 per bottle

last summer's top-selling French Rose is finally available, and the new fresh 2020 is as good as always! (lighthouse label)

** Four Spanish: new arrivals in four fun wineries/categories from Spain **

1. Bodegas LAN 2016 Riojas Cianza @ \$12.99 per bottle and/or Bodegas LAN 2015 Rioja Reserva @ \$19.99 per bottle (stay tuned for more details in next weekend's newsletter for July 9th)

2. LOPEZ de HARO 2019 Rioja Blanco (100% Viura white) @ \$12.99 per bottle (and/or) Lopez de Haro 2015 Rioja Reserva @ \$14.99 per bottle (stay tuned for more details in next weekend's newsletter for July 9th)

3. The Grenache Project 2017 Salvaje del Moncayo Garnacha @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$139.99/case = \$11.67 each) (stay tuned for more details in next weekend's newsletter for July 9th)

4. Spanish Whites and Roses, highlights include:

Duquesa de Valladolid 2019 Rueda Verdejo @ \$12.99 per bottle

LAXAS 2019 Rias Baixas Albarino @ \$17.99 per bottle and/or Santiago Ruiz 2019 Rias Baixas white @ \$19.99 Chaval 2020 Bobal Rosado @ \$9.99 each and/or Zorzal 2020 Grenache rose @ \$11.99 per bottle Oreka 2020 Getaraiko Txakolina @ \$15.99 per bottle

** Four "Just for Fun" for the Fourth **

1. Parceleros 2020 Casablanca-Chile unoaked Chardonnay @ \$12.99

Why is it fun? Just like the good old U.S of A. flag, the Chilean flag also features red, white and blue (and a star) and this tasty dry un-oaked Chardonnay from the cool zones of Casablanc has a label full of stars.

2. Kuhling-Gillot 2017 "Qvinterra" Riesling Trocken @ \$14.99 per bottle

Why is it fun? a V.D.P. (that's top flight) producer in the Rhein, and "Trocken" means totally DRY Riesling (screwcap too). This one is very impressive.

3. Anton Bauer 2018 "Ried Gmirk" Wagram-Austria Gruner Veltliner @ \$12.99 per bottle

Why is it fun? Great change-of-pace dry white! And come on, it's just fun to say Wagram "Ried Gmirk" Gruner Veltliner...

and last but not least ...

4. SEA ENCHANTRESS 2019 Red Blend @ \$12.99 per bottle (\$139.99/case = \$11.67 each)

Why is it fun? Wine Enthusiast recommended blend of Petite Sirah, old vine Zinfandel, Syrah, and Tempranillo. The new blend in the Artist Series by the folks who make The Immortal Zin. Plus it's called Sea Enchantress, and it's easily been **my top-selling red blend of the season so far.** Who needs to be "Colossal" when you have a "Sea Enchantress" by your side?!?

Remember, **BrightWines is OPEN Saturday July 3rd, regular hours** (order pickups preferred) but starting NEXT Week (and the week after too) **BrightWines will be open WEDS thru SAT** for the next two consecutive weeks as I take some time off, and take some time to work on special projects too. Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July holiday everyone! —Dave

The Right Wines are BrightWines! 2420 Margaret Street North Saint Paul, MN 55109 Dave@BrightWines.com 651.748.0793