

**From:** The BrightWines Beacon [lighthouse@brightwines.com](mailto:lighthouse@brightwines.com)  
**Subject:** the wines are so delightful  
**Date:** January 3, 2023 at 1:01 PM  
**To:** The BrightWines Beacon newsletter

TB

*Oh the weather outside is frightful, but the wines are so delightful, and since we've no place to go...*

**BRIGHT LIGHTS: a sleigh full of wines!** (IN-STOCK but SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED - prices valid while supplies last)

\*\* Christmas Cabernets \*\*

**JUGGERNAUT 2020 Hillside Cabernet Sauvignon @ \$16.67 per bottle (solid case \$191.88 = \$15.99 ea)**

The case price represents 20% off retail pricing on this very impressive, extremely popular, best Cabernet that Bogle makes... it's called Juggernaut, and BrightWines can proudly say that we helped introduce this label several years ago when it first became available and I have continued with it every holiday season since. This is quintessential California Cabernet with body, richness, structure and classic Cabernet flavors with an opulence of style and power and an eye-catching label and heavy bottle to match. Bogle is known from great quality bargain Cabernet, and this Cabernet is the very best Cabernet they make, all sourced from two impressive hillside vineyard sources. The \$15.99 price, by the case, is the lowest price I've ever been able to offer on this wine.

**ANCIENT PEAKS 2020 Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon @ \$17.99 per bottle (the last few bottles)**

My favorite Paso Robles Cabernet. It has all the fruit ripeness and smoothness and great value that one expects from Paso Robles, while still tasting undeniably like Cabernet! Robert Parker's Wine Advocate says that "Ancient Peaks has its origins in an ambitious vineyard development by the Robert Mondavi Winery in the mid-1990s. Many of its vines grow in deep beds of giant fossilized oysters. Today, the winery produces a bevy of keenly priced, high-quality wines that deserve to be better known."

**FRIDA KAHLO vineyard (Maipo, Chile - Carmen winery) 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon @ \$14.99 per bottle**

Case Price: \$166/case = \$13.83 each, mix/match. A classic Chilean Cabernet from a vineyard dedicated to the artist Frida Kahlo, this is my second vintage featuring this wine and it's a real winner again. Only 7 cases available. Wine Enthusiast recommends this highly, noting: "Ripe plum, blueberry and grilled bell pepper aromas shape the nose of this medium-bodied wine. The palate features more ripe black fruit alongside soft tannins and medium acidity. It's a very approachable Cabernet Sauvignon."

**SEPTIMA 2018 Mendoza, Argentina CABERNET SAUVIGNON @ \$9.99 per bottle (\$119.88/case)**

Suggested Retail: \$14 Case Price: \$119.88 (limited to these last 10 cases of the vintage)  
Septima winery is a good quality Mendoza winery that just happens to be better at Cabernet than they are at Malbec. From the Agrelo district of Mendoza, this wine has pure cassis and lead pencil tones in a dry, full-bodied style. This is a Cab-lovers Cabernet, and even though it's from South America, it tastes more like a Sonoma Cab more than a Chilean one. The 2018 vintage is drinking well, but these are the last 7 cases available of the vintage.

\*\* Affordable Luxury from Napa, Sonoma. and Willamette Valley

**Dashe Cellars 2016 Sonoma "The Comet" @ \$35.99 per bottle (last few bottles)**

Only 309 cases made, always my favorite wine by Dashe. This is a blend of 50 year-old vine Zinfandel from Geyerville, with Petite Sirah from Todd Bros ranch in Alexander Valley, with 130-year old vine Carignan from Bedrock vineyard. Drinking at peak maturity, now through 2026.

**Duxoup 2017 Dry Creek "Teldeschi Vineyard" 2017 Sangiovese @ \$19.99 per bottle (last few bottles)**

Suggested Retail: \$22

Small, hand-crafted, quirky, wines from longstanding denizens of Sonoma since 1981 (although Andy Cutter is from Anoka, MN). This dry and serious Cal-Ital Sangiovese has about 7% Cabernet in the blend, sourced from 25 year old vines in Dry Creek planted specifically for Duxoup by the Teldeschi family on their home ranch. Limited stock.

**TREFETHEN 2020 Oak Knoll District Napa Valley CHARDONNAY @ \$29.99 per bottle (limited stock)**

Suggested Retail: \$32 - \$40 per bottle

Tasting Notes: "This wine has fresh and vibrant aromas of sliced green apple, white peach, and honeysuckle with integrated notes of baked apple and puff pastry on the palate." Rated 91 points Decanter and also recommended by Jancis Robinson.

**TREFETHEN 2018 "Dragon's Tooth" Red @ \$49.99 per bottle (last few bottles)**

Suggested Retail: \$65 (see winery website)

Rated 94 points by James Suckling and called "definitely outstanding" by Robert Parker and also rated 92 points by Vinous. This Malbec-based "meritage" style red blend is from the great 2018 vintage and is made and named in honor of Trefethen's Welsh heritage. This a powerful, fun cellar worthy red that is already impressive!

**Union Sacre 2020 Dry Creek Cabernet Franc @ \$19.99 per bottle (last few bottles)**

small production winery focusing on Alsace concept wines, this Cab Franc features the bright juicy herbal tones of the variety, from a Sonoma vineyard in Dry Creek.

**LEFT COAST Cellars "Cali's Cuvee" 2019 Willamette Valley Pinot Noir @ \$21.99 per bottle (limited stock)**

A blend of Willamette Valley Pinot Noir clones from vineyards in the famed Van Duzer corridor. Winemaker tasting notes: "Dark plum, blueberry, coffee and earth. A lighter / medium bodied but incredibly ripe Pinot Noir. Soft and rich in texture with notes of balsa wood and black tea."

**\*\* Seasonal Smart-buys in fine wines from around the world \*\***

**Battenfeld Spanier 2021 Gruner Sylvaner “trocken” @ \$17.99 per bottle** (new arrival)

My new favorite Dry white wine from Germany. This wine drinks like a dry Riesling meets a Gruner Veltliner, or at least that's what this VDP winery in the Rheinhessen would lead us to believe, although “Gruner Sylvaner” is just the full formal name for Sylvaner.

**Valdoro (San Martino) Prosecco @ \$9.99 per bottle** (limited stock)

in the “Frizzante” style (needs a corkscrew) has depth and complexity for such a bargain price

**Domaine des 3 Cellier Cotes du Rhone 2020 @ \$14.99 per bottle** (limited stock)

— and —

ALSO AVAILABLE (limited stock - inquire with DAVE) **3 Cellier 2019 Chateaufort du Pape @ \$33.33 per bottle** (\$46 retail, rated 90- 93 points by multiple reliable wine magazines)

**Union Sacre 2021 Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Blanc @ \$19.99 per bottle** (last few bottles)

Alsace-inspired wine made in Paso Robles from a variety of vineyard sources, a very “hip and happening” winery!

**La Querce Seconda 2018 Chianti @ \$15.99 per bottle** (limited stock)

(Dave's new favorite Chianti, made by a Chianti Classico winery)

**La Fruitiere 2020 Val de Loire Chardonnay @ \$14.99 per bottle** (last few bottles)

My new favorite good value “White Burgundy” comes from a surprising source, one of the top wineries for Muscadet de Sevre et Maine in the Loire. Compare this to any Bourgogne Blanc for \$15 (if you can find one) and you will surely agree with me.

**Duquesa de Valladolid 2021 Rueda - Verdejo @ \$12.99 per bottle** (limited stock)

I love a good Rueda Verdejo as an alternative to Albariño, especially when it can be such a great value like this one is. This is classic Verdejo with crisp stoniness and orange-zest citrus qualities, made by a winery that is part of the Bodegas LAN in Rioja. (p.s. I do have LAXAS Rias Baixas Albarino back in stock too, at \$17.99 per bottle)

(World Cup Winner) **PIATTELLI Grand Reserve 2020 Cafayate MALBEC “Grand Reserve” @ \$15.99 per bottle** (sale price)

New Vintage! The previous vintage of this wine was rated 93-points and this is a worthy successor. In my opinion, the wines that Piattelli is making of their relative new, state of the art, winery up in Cafayate are the best wines they make. The Malbec from those high altitude vines up in Cafayate, Salta offer purple color and purple fruit ripeness to match the smooth oak barrel aging and depth and smoothness of flavor that the winemaking brings to the table. I can't think of a better, more reliable, Malbec to toast Argentina's World Cup winning soccer team. Tasty stuff, and sure to rate highly again soon! \$191.88/case limited to 7 cases on hand of the “Grand Reserve”

**\*\* Christmas Cookies \*\***

**APIANE 2015 Molise dessert wine @ \$15.99 per bottle** (500ml) - very limited stock

Suggested Retail: \$22 (see Wine Spectator, only 150 cases imported)

Wine Spectator notes: “This is burnished gold in hue, featuring exotic hints of coconut and mango, layered with honeyed apricot and candied almond notes, accented by citrus peel acidity. Up front and appealing, with a subtle finish. Drink now. 150 cases imported. \$22 retail.” DAVE says: while this is not technically a true Vin Santo (those are from Tuscany) it might as well be! And because it's not, we can actually afford to drink it. LOL.

**Dr Pauly Bergweiler (Wehlen/Mosel) “Noble House” 2016 EISWEIN @ \$39.99 per bottle** (very limited, 375ml)

True ice wine, made from “frozen on the vine” grapes has always been a rare category, and one of the most prized of all dessert wines. They have become even more rare over the past decade as the vintages in Germany have not been conducive to making the style. This is one of the best values in Eiswein, which can be very, very pricey. Best of all, it's made by one of the best wineries in Wehlen in the heart of the Mosel, and the 2016 is drinking superbly but can be cellared for years and years if so desired.

**\*\* Champagne and Prosecco and other fun Sparkling and Dry Rose bubbles too \*\***

**Claude Genet Brut Champagne “Blanc de Blancs” Grand Cru @ \$49.99 per bottle**

This favorite from last year's Como Conservatory event really has the “wow” factor. 100% Grand Cru from Chouilly.

**PALMER & Co. (Reims) Brut Reserve CHAMPAGNE @ \$47.99 per bottle**

Rated 90 points by multiple magazines, this Champagne house is a cooperative established in 1947 by seven families of growers. Their focus is on fruit from the mountain of Reims, and this Champagne is composed of 50% Chardonnay, 40% Pinot Noir and 10% Meunier and aged for a minimum of four years on the lees. “Another outstanding effort from this estate is the NV Brut Reserve. 90 points.” (Jeb Dunnuck).

**VOIRIN JUMEL Brut Tradition CHAMPAGNE @ \$37.99 per bottle**

“Sparklers to add Spark to Holidays: these six bubbly bottles rise to the top...”

Voirin-Jumel Brut Tradition Champagne tasting notes: a growers' Champagne this good for this price is shocking. It's 50% Grand Cru Chardonnay and 50% Premiere Cru Pinot Noir, and aged three years on the lees. Rich, creamy, toasty, with tiny delicate bubbles. This is a real winner. \$39 - \$42 retail.”

**Jacques Chaput Brut Champagne Tradition @ \$35.99 per bottle** (limited stock)

more of a “blanc de noirs” style, from the same local importer as the Voirin-Jumel listed above

**JCB no 69 Brut Rose - Cremant de Bourgogne @ \$21.99 per bottle**

100% Pinot Noir Brut Rose from Burundy by Jean-Charles Boisset

**Nu Allonge Brut Rose Cava @ \$14.99 per bottle**

100% Pinot Noir Brut Rose from Spain, by the great Cava producer Emendis.

**Maison de Madeleine Brut Rose @ \$9.99 per bottle**

great value from Burgundy in a simple, but tasty, Rose brut sparkling

**Fantinel extra dry Prosecco @ \$15.99 per bottle**

Estate-bottled, drinks as dry as a Brut but with the rounder softer Prosecco personality

**Colli Euganei Prosecco @ \$14.99 per bottle**

bright and crisp with fruity green apple and per tones, not as Brut style as Fantinel listed above

**CORTE AURA “Saten” FRANCIACORTA Brut @ \$24.99 per bottle**

Champagne style Brut from Northern Italy, this is a classic Franciacorta aged on the lees for over three years (40 months). The “Saten” style is a reserve style. Wine Enthusiast recommended ""White wildflower and white stone fruit aromas waft out of the glass. On the palate, fresh acidity brightens mature yellow apple, toasted nut and a coffee note while a foaming mousse lends softness.”

**Field Recordings dry hopped PET NAT @ \$19.99 per bottle (limited stock)**

Yes, you read that right... a Brut style sparkling wine that is dry hopped. It works.

**STEINBOCK “de-alcoholized” N.A. Sparkling Brut @ \$17.99 per bottle**

made in the style of a Brut Riesling Sekt by the great Dr. Fischer. This “alcohol removed” wine is **the best N/A wine I’ve ever tasted** - for a DRY JANUARY?

*email orders accepted, subject to confirmation while supplies last, for pickup ASAP this week/weekend* (weather permitting). When you email your order, please indicate your pickup plans and I will confirm back accordingly.

**The Right Wines are BrightWines!**

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