

FABULOUS ARTISINAL RHONE VALLEY RED

2014 Saint Joseph (Domaine Blachon)

Those of you who have shopped here a long time may well remember Roger Blachon. We sold his Saint Joseph reds back in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Back then his wines were imported by Kermit Lynch, who had a pantheon of Northern Rhone producers in his portfolio: Blachon, Joseph Panel, Roger Trolat, Noel Verset, Auguste Clape, Rene Rostaing, Robert Jasmin, Marius Gentaz, and Jean-Louis Chave. Now twenty-something years later, we again have access to Blachon Saint Joseph, through importer Alan Sobczak (who incidentally worked for Lynch in the late 1980s). Here is the story of Blachon Saint Joseph in Alan's words.

"Let us begin this journey by going back in time for a brief but rather significant point of fact. Saint-Joseph has had two unique and distinct timelines, first receiving AOC status in 1956 when it was determined that only vines on the slopes of the west bank of the Rhone around Mauves (some 97 hectares / 232 acres) were worthy of the elevation in status. Period. Now, fast forward to 1992 when some 640 hectares / 1,542 acres of vines all up and down the Rhone were deemed to be Saint-Joseph. With the stroke of a pen, Saint-Joseph became six-fold larger and vines were planted wherever growers could find bare ground. Talk about expansion. Remarkable.

Now we can begin again in Mauves with Domaine Blachon at the very cradle of the original Saint-Joseph appellation. Family Blachon, headed by the brother-and-sister team of Sylvain and Delphine with their mother Martine, are more than vigneron. Mauves runs in their blood, just like their father the legendary Roger Blachon, and the other greats of the commune: Jean-Louis Chave and Roger Trolat. Blachon's holdings of Syrah are coveted shrines of the variety: Le Paradis, Oliviers, La Fraicheur, Charpente, Veloute and the monopole Les Cotes Saint-Joseph, the finest site in Mauves without argument. Each site is harvested and vinified separately. Technique here is classic with multiple sortings, destemming and long, cool cuvaisons. The Blachons are master blenders, but our bottling of "Hommage Roger Blachon" is single-vineyard Syrah. All of the fruit for the wine comes from the oldest terraces of their monopole, Les Cotes Saint-Joseph. With so many esteemed vineyards to their name, it may seem that the Blachon estate is large. Not so. The Blachons possess a mere twelve acres of vines. That's it – no more, no less.

To place Blachon's "Hommage Roger Blachon" Saint-Joseph properly, consider the source for its fruit: the steep terraces of Les Cotes Saint-Joseph. What you have here is Saint-Joseph from the very kernel of appellation. Pull the cork and pour this wine to let it seduce you. A garnet purple with tones almost black projects from the glass. In the bouquet find aromas of violet and white pepper; while on the palate it is a smooth and supple wine. Distinct minerality and fruits that recall black raspberry and dark plum lead to a finish that stays with you long after your taste. With very few exceptions, you just can't get Syrah like this from anywhere else."

- Alan Sobczak, Importer

The 2014 is, stated simply, great red wine from a talented artisan producer and a very special terroir. It has style, it exudes class, it is superb from the first sip to the last gulp. Enjoy it this year for its fabulous youthful fruit, or age it a decade and watch it develop. At \$28 on our half-case special, it is a spectacular red wine bargain.

2014 Saint Joseph "Hommage Roger Blachon" (Blachon) \$33.00

HALF-CASE SPECIAL 15 Percent Off \$168.00

(\$168.00/6 bottles = \$28.00/bottle)

HALF-CASE SAMPLER – 20 PERCENT OFF

Jean-Marc Boillot's 2015 White Burgundies

Here is our annual White Burgundy sampler from Jean-Marc Boillot, featuring one Bourgogne, one Montagny, and one Rully. Boillot's 2015s, the product of a great vintage, are superb, with pristine, seductive aromas, juicy Chardonnay fruit flavors unencumbered by oak, bright acidity, and lingering dry finishes. The Bourgogne Blanc is from the village of Puligny-Montrachet, and shows the class and tension Pulignys are renowned for. The Montagny and Rully, both from the Cote Chalonnaise district, outperform most producer's villages-level Meursaults and Chassagne-Montrachets. All three have great youthful energy and vibrancy if you want to enjoy them young, and promise to show more depth and complexity with a bit of bottle age. If you're tired of the more ponderous style of most domestic Chardonnays, you'll find these invigorating.

1. 2015 Bourgogne Blanc (Jean-Marc Boillot)..... \$ 28.00
2. 2015 Montagny "Premier Cru" (Jean-Marc Boillot) \$ 35.00
3. 2015 Rully "Meix Cadot" (Jean-Marc Boillot)..... \$ 42.00

JEAN-MARC BOILLOT 2015 WHITE BURGUNDY SAMPLER

2 bottles of each - 20 Percent Off - \$168.00

(\$168.00/6 bottles = \$28.00/bottle)

IRRESISTIBLE RHONE RED BARGAIN

2015 Sablet (Notre Dame des Pallières)

This is our first arrival from the heralded 2015 vintage in the southern Rhone Valley, and though it is a modest wine in stature, it is so delicious and so clearly superior to recent vintages that it definitely gives credence to the vintage hype.

Sablet is just north of Gigondas, in the sea of Rhone Valley vineyards that cover the plain between Gigondas and Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Notre Dame des Pallières' Sablet is mostly Grenache with a dollop of Syrah. This 2015 will grab you right away, with its dark ruby color and engaging, seductive aroma. It is packed with ripe, juicy fruit and spices, with surprising length and depth for such a low-priced bottle. It may not be complex, but keep in mind this is comfort wine, and like comfort food it is best enjoyed casually and uncritically. You'll find yourself wondering how something this inexpensive can be this good.

2015 Sablet "L'Olivet" (Notre Dame des Pallières) \$15.00

HALF-CASE SPECIAL 15 Percent Off \$76.50

(\$76.50/6 bottles = \$12.75/bottle)

TOP WINES FROM A GREAT VINTAGE

2014 OREGON PINOT NOIRS

*"In the wine world, it is easy to become inured to vintage hype, but in 2014 the enthusiasm is warranted. Other than some rain early in the season that reduced fruit set in some vineyards, the growing season was pretty much a cakewalk, with hot, dry weather extending from July until the harvest. Thanks to the benign weather, producers were able to pick as they pleased and work with the fruit that they wanted, rather than deal with what Mother Nature handed them, which means were not forced to make harvesting decisions and winemaking adjustments that might not fit their personal styles. **With the 2014s you're going to taste winemakers' Platonic Pinot Noirs—perfectly clear representations of their respective philosophies,** albeit mostly emphatically fruit-driven wines from a warmer-than-average season.*

If I had any initial trepidation regarding the 2014s, it was that the wines might be a bit too opulent, which has turned out to be the case for some of the ripe, fleshy 2012s. But as the '14s have evolved, they are generally showing a lively core of acidity that a number of 2012s lack, which gives them a more energetic, redder-fruit character than most 2012s show today. That's by no means a knock on the '12s but rather an observation that those who fear that 2014 is simply a vintage of large-scaled fruit bombs are going to be pleasantly surprised—even thrilled, in most cases—by the wines' energy and clarity.

While a number of Oregon's best Pinots are produced in good quantity and are in relatively wide distribution in the U.S., the frustrating reality is that most of the best wines are made in often pitifully small quantities. As enthused as I am by so many 2014s, that excitement is often tempered by their minuscule production numbers. We're talking production on the level of Grand Cru Burgundies—as in four barrels (i.e., about a hundred cases of wine) or less for a fairly large number of wines.

*Speaking of Burgundy, compared to the prices being asked for those wines today, **Oregon's best Pinots are delivering astounding value.** Astronomical Burgundy prices are largely a function of the extreme weather events and subsequent very low crop levels that much of Burgundy has suffered through the last several vintages. And it's not just the wine that's gotten expensive, as land prices on the Côte d'Or are at sky-high levels now and most small, independent Burgundy growers have simply been priced out of their own real estate market."*

- Josh Reynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

MARCH SPECIAL - 15 PERCENT OFF

on purchases of six or more bottles of 2014 Oregon Pinot Noirs

	Regular Price	15% Off Price
2014 Pinot Noir "Mount Jefferson" (Cristom).....	\$ 33.00	\$ 28.05
<i>"Bright red. Forward, spice-accented aromas of fresh red berries, cola and lavender are joined by mineral and allspice nuances that emerge with aeration. Sweet and incisive in the mouth, offering juicy raspberry and floral pastille flavors and a touch of smokiness. Finishes silky and very long, with repeating red fruit character; gentle tannins come in slowly to contribute grip. This wine shows quite a light touch for the vintage. 2018-2023 (91/100)"</i>		
<p style="text-align: right;">- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i></p>		
2014 Pinot Noir "Dumb Ox" (Walter Scott).....	\$ 55.00	\$ 46.75
<i>"Bright red. Aromas of primary red and dark fruits, along with suggestions of pungent flowers, vanilla and Asian spices. Sappy, mineral-laced raspberry and bitter cherry flavors stretch out and become sweeter as the wine opens up. Rich but vibrant, finishing very long and sweet, with repeating red fruit character and smooth, harmonious tannins adding grip. 2019-2025 (92/100)"</i>		
<p style="text-align: right;">- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i></p>		

2014 Pinot Noir “Clos des Oiseaux” (Walter Scott).....	\$ 55.00	\$ 46.75
<i>“Deep red. Lively red currant and raspberry scents are complemented by zesty spice and floral qualities and deeper vanilla and cola flourishes. Sweet and pliant on the palate, offering concentrated, oak-spiced red and dark berry and floral pastille flavors with a bracing suggestion of white pepper. Finishes silky and broad, delivering resonating spiciness and strong, fruity persistence. 2019-2025 (92/100)”</i>		
- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Pinot Noir “Eileen” (Cristom)	\$ 65.00	\$ 55.25
<i>“Brilliant red. Highly fragrant, expansive scents of ripe red berries, Asian spices, blood orange and candied rose; a smoky mineral element builds in the glass. Silky and seamless in texture, offering palate-staining raspberry and floral pastille flavors that show a striking interplay of depth and vivacity. Closes sweet, gently tannic and impressively long, delivering lingering notes of emphatic red berry, spice and floral pastille. 2019-2025 (94/100)”</i>		
- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Pinot Noir “Jessie” (Cristom).....	\$ 65.00	\$ 55.25
<i>“Deep red. Ripe black raspberry and cherry cola scents are complemented by suggestions of exotic floral oils, Indian spices and woodsmoke. Plush, sweet and sappy on the palate, offering concentrated red and dark berry and cherry liqueur flavors that become more lively with aeration. In a rich but decidedly vibrant style, thanks to a spine of juicy acidity. Finishes smooth, focused and extremely long, with building spiciness and smooth, gently gripping tannins. 2019-2025 (94/100)”</i>		
- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Pinot Noir “Shea” (Bergstrom)	\$ 70.00	\$ 59.50
<i>“Brilliant ruby. Ripe cherry and black raspberry aromas are complicated by floral oil and cola nuances. Sappy and expansive on entry, then tighter in the midpalate, offering palate-staining red and dark berry flavors that turn sweeter on the back half. Shows a sexy floral pastille note on the strikingly long, penetrating finish, which is framed by silky, even tannins. The blend of richness and vivacity here is quite impressive. 2019-2025 (94/100)”</i>		
- Josh Reynolds, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Pinot Noir “Botanica” (Antica Terra).....	\$ 98.00	\$ 83.30
2014 Pinot Noir “Ceras” (Antica Terra)	\$ 98.00	\$ 83.30

2014 Red Burgundies Domaine Vincent Girardin

MARCH SPECIAL - 15 PERCENT OFF on purchases of six or more bottles of 2014 Red Burgundies

	Regular Price	15% Off Price
2014 Morey-Saint-Denis “Vieilles Vignes” (Vincent Girardin).....	\$ 60.00	\$ 51.00
2014 Gevrey-Chambertin “Vieilles Vignes” (Vincent Girardin)	\$ 70.00	\$ 59.50
2014 Volnay “Les Santenots” (Vincent Girardin).....	\$ 78.00	\$ 66.30
<i>“Bright, full ruby. Wild, reduced aromas of crushed blackberry, black cherry and dark chocolate. Seamless and superripe, conveying superb density of material in a round, silky way. Black fruit and violet flavors are framed and lifted by tangy, peppery, ripe acidity. The finish is very long and ripely tannic. A rather silky, feminine style compared to the tighter, more masculine Champans. (90-93/100)”</i>		
- Stephen Tanzer, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Volnay “Les Champans” (Vincent Girardin)	\$ 78.00	\$ 66.30
<i>“Bright ruby-red. Very ripe aromas of black raspberry, dark chocolate, juniper berry and pepper. Dense and thick but with excellent vinosity and verve as well, with the peppery element continuing through the wine and giving it a light touch. Very tightly wound in the early going, with slightly drying tannins that will require patience. (89-92/100)”</i>		
- Stephen Tanzer, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		
2014 Chambolle-Musigny “Vieilles Vignes” (Vincent Girardin)	\$ 88.00	\$ 74.80
2014 Corton “Les Perrieres” (Vincent Girardin)	\$ 105.00	\$ 89.25
<i>“Dark red color is a bit less deep than the rest of these 2014s. Aromatic scents of redcurrant, smoke, leather and spices. The palate delivers lovely fat and sweetness, with the flavors of cassis, blackberry and violet nicely framed by ripe supporting acidity. Finishes with ripe, slightly dusty tannins and excellent fruit persistence. (90-92/100)”</i>		
- Stephen Tanzer, <i>Vinousmedia.com</i>		

LATE-RELEASE BORDEAUX FROM A GREAT VINTAGE

2010 Graves "Heritage" (Chateau du Seuil)

This is the sort of wine that made Bordeaux famous. Chateau du Seuil is a family-owned and operated estate with seventeen vineyard plots situated in the prime parts of the Graves appellation. Vineyard practices are organic and conservative, and winemaking is old-school - nothing from the modern-day Bordeaux bag of tricks like grape concentrate, reverse osmosis, or two-hundred percent new oak.

The Heritage bottling comes from Chateau du Seuil's oldest vines in Graves' four best lieu-dits. From the great 2010 vintage, it has the old-time Bordeaux energy and balance, light on its feet but packed with flavor and character. Its fruit is pure, natural, and vibrant, and displays the classic Graves terroir in spades. The barrel influence is understated and elegant. Bottle-aged in Chateau du Seuil's cellar, it has just recently been released. So here we have an aged, classically-styled Bordeaux from a great vintage, and it costs less than a new release of a middling Napa Valley Cabernet! Buy enough to enjoy now and over the next five to ten years.

2010 Graves "Heritage" (Chateau du Seuil) \$48.00
HALF-CASE SPECIAL 15 Percent Off \$244.50
(\$244.50/6 bottles = \$40.75/bottle)

2015 White Burgundies Domaine Jean-Marc Boillot

MARCH SPECIAL - 15 PERCENT OFF
on purchases of six or more bottles of 2015 White Burgundies

	Regular Price	15% Off Price
2015 Bourgogne Blanc (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 28.00	\$ 23.80
2015 Macon-Villages (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 32.00	\$ 27.20
2015 Montagny "Premier Cru" (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 35.00	\$ 29.75
2015 Rully "Meix Cadot" (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 42.00	\$ 35.70
2015 Meursault "Les Pellans" (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 68.00	\$ 57.80
2015 Puligny-Montrachet (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 80.00	\$ 68.00
2015 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" (Jean-Marc Boillot).....	\$ 125.00	\$ 106.25

LOIRE VALLEY SUPERSTAR

2014 Domaine Didier Dagueneau

"When his father died in September of 2008, Louis Benjamin was only 26 years old. While some things have changed since then, much remains the same. The dogs are gone, and the house has a different flair, but the meticulous attention to detail in the vineyards and the precision in the cellar have, if anything, become even more perfectionist under his direction. With a hired hand for each of his 12 hectares, few vineyards in Pouilly are as well kept and he is the only one I know here who still harvests by hand. After a cold soak for three days, his sauvignon blancs are fermented in small oak casks and kept on their lees for one year before being assembled and matured in stainless steel, where they remain for another six to eight months until bottling. It is an almost Burgundian style of winemaking, but then, as he says, Pouilly is technically a part of Burgundy even though it lies along the Loire. I have often heard the criticism that the hand of the winemaker is more evident here than that of the site, but time does allow the individual wines to show their true colors. It is merely that most of the bottles are consumed long before that day arrives. After sampling from cask, we tasted Silex back to 2008 and even that vintage was not yet at maturity. He believes that the 2005 is only just now beginning to show the purity and balance that it had before bottling, and he claimed that 2002 is the vintage to drink today."

- Joel B. Payne, *Vinousmedia.com*

MARCH SPECIAL - 15 PERCENT OFF
on purchases of six or more bottles of 2014 Dagueneau wines

	Regular Price	15% Off Price
2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly (Dagueneau).....	\$ 78.00	\$ 66.30
2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly "Pur Sang" (Dagueneau).....	\$ 115.00	\$ 97.75
2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly "Silex" (Dagueneau).....	\$ 135.00	\$ 114.75

CLASSIC BEAUJOLAIS FROM A GREAT VINTAGE
2015 Cote de Brouilly
“Ambassades” (Pavillon de Chavannes)

Pavillon de Chavannes has grown vines on the flanks of the landmark Mont Brouilly since 1861. The domaine reserves 12 of its 37 acres of vines for its top cuvée, “Ambassades”, sold to French embassies as a flagship Cote de Brouilly. This is one of Beaujolais' smallest appellations, and these 12 acres are Chavannes's best parcels.

“Very light red. Complex, incisive scents of fresh red berries, blood orange, allspice and candied rose, lifted by a smoky mineral nuance. Juicy raspberry, cherry and spicecake flavors are accented by a hint of white pepper; bitter orange pith and rhubarb qualities lend refreshing bitterness. Gains depth on the very long, penetrating finish, which features sneaky, fine-grained tannins. 2018-2024 (93/100)”

- Josh Raynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

2015 Cote de Brouilly “Cuvée des Ambassades” (Pavillon de Chavannes) \$25.00
HALF-CASE SPECIAL 15 Percent Off \$127.50
 (\$127.50/6 bottles = \$21.25/bottle)

Northern Rhône Syrah Stars

MARCH SPECIAL - 15 PERCENT OFF
on purchases of six or more bottles of 2013 & 2014 Northern Rhône wines

DOMAINE CHAMBEYRON – COTE-RÔTIE

Regular Price	15% Off Price
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Here we introduce a new Cote-Rôtie producer – new, that is, to us. Domaine Chambeyron is the father and son team of Bernard and Mathieu Chambeyron. In fact Domaine Chambeyron has been owned and operated father to son since 1895. And this date is particularly significant, because phylloxera hit Cote-Rôtie in 1890, and two years later the vines were completely wiped out. In 1895 Jean-Marie Chambeyron planted the first new vines in Cote-Rôtie, in the Cote Brune parcel "La Chavarine". The family endured through the two World Wars, and the post-war collapse in prices in the late 1940s when a liter cost 1 franc.

Today the vines in "La Chavarine" are over 50 years old. Whole clusters go into an old-style basket press, from which the juice flows by gravity into cement fermentation vats. After fermentation the wine flows by gravity into 400 liter wooden ovals – no new wood is used. Their 2013 is a superb rendition of true Cote-Rôtie – elegant and sturdy in the classic manner of the appellation. At under \$50 a bottle, it is by far the best Cote-Rôtie buy on the market today.

2013 Cote-Rôtie “La Chavarine” (Domaine Chambeyron)	\$ 48.00	\$ 40.80
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“Inky ruby. Aromas of fresh blackberry, violet and cracked pepper are joined by olive and woodsmoke accents as the wine opens up. Juicy and focused on the palate, showing spicy lift and cut to the dark berry and floral pastille flavors. Finishes on a lingering violet note, with slow-building tannins and very good, spicy persistence. 2020-2026 (91/100)”

- Josh Raynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

DOMAINE CLAPE – CORNAS

2014 Cornas “Renaissance” (Auguste Clape)	\$ 110.00	\$ 93.50
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“Saturated ruby. Potent black and blue fruit, cola, olive and smoky Indian spice aromas are lifted by a suggestion of cracked pepper. Sappy, pliant and appealingly sweet, offering ripe blueberry and cherry compote flavors that tighten up steadily with air. Rich yet energetic, showing strong closing punch and velvety tannins that fold smoothly into sappy dark fruit on the impressively long finish. (92-94/100)” - Josh Raynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

2014 Cornas (Auguste Clape).....	\$ 160.00	\$ 136.00
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“Brilliant purple. Powerful, mineral-tinged cherry and blackberry scents, along with notes of bacon fat, licorice, potpourri and pungent flowers. Pure, concentrated and energetic on the palate, offering deeply concentrated black and blue fruit flavors that gain weight and become sweeter with air. Closes extremely long, sappy and sweet, juicy acidity adding lift and cut to the blue-fruit-dominated, youthfully tannic finish. (93-95/100)”

- Josh Raynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

TASTING BAR SCHEDULE - MARCH 2017

2014 ROBERT CHEVILLON NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES PREMIER CRUS THURSDAY 3/2

Robert Chevillon's Nuits-Saint-Georges are among the most popular Red Burgundies we sell. The 2014s are virtually sold out at this point, but we held bottles back in order to put on this flight of five 2014 Premier Crus.

2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Chaignots" (Robert Chevillon); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Perrieres" (Robert Chevillon); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Roncieres" (Robert Chevillon); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Pruliers" (Robert Chevillon); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Vaucrains" (Robert Chevillon).

2014 OREGON PINOT NOIR STARS FRIDAY 3/3 & SATURDAY 3/4

The weather was beautiful in the Willamette Valley in 2014, providing ideal conditions for the district's Pinot Noir vineyards, and resulting in a superb vintage of energetic, substantial wines. Here are 2014s from four of Oregon's very best producers - Cristom, Walter Scott, Bergstrom, and Antica Terra.

"Speaking of Burgundy, compared to the prices being asked of those wines today, Oregon's best Pinots are delivering astounding value." - Josh Reynolds, *Vinousmedia.com*

2014 Pinot Noir "Mt. Jefferson" (Cristom); 2014 Pinot Noir "Dumb Ox" (Walter Scott); 2014 Pinot Noir "Clos des Oiseaux" (Walter Scott); 2014 Pinot Noir "Eileen" (Cristom); 2014 Pinot Noir "Jessie" (Cristom); 2014 Pinot Noir "Shea" (Bergstrom); 2014 Pinot Noir "Botanica" (Antica Terra); 2014 Pinot Noir "Ceras" (Antica Terra).

MARCH NEW ARRIVAL REDS TUESDAY 3/7 & WEDNESDAY 3/8

Here are the results of our recent tasting endeavors - eight newly-arrived reds, two from California and six from France. They are a diverse group, but every one is a star in its category. Especially noteworthy are our first 2015 reds from the Rhone Valley and Burgundy, two sensational discoveries from the Northern Rhone, and a superb, well-priced late release from the great 2010 Bordeaux vintage.

2015 Sablet (Notre Dame des Pallieres); 2013 Petite Sirah "Paso Robles" (Brady); 2015 Cote de Brouilly "Cuvée des Ambassades" (Pavillon de Chavannes); 2015 Bourgogne Rouge (La Soeur Cadette); 2013 Pinot Noir "Santa Barbara" (Rusack); 2014 Saint Joseph "Hommage Roger Blachon" (Blachon); 2013 Cote-Rotie "La Chavarine" (Chambeyron); 2010 Graves "Heritage" (Chateau du Seuil).

LOIRE VALLEY SAUVIGNON BLANCS THURSDAY 3/9

Sauvignon Blanc was first isolated in Sancerre in the Middle Ages, and ever since it has been the favored varietal in Sancerre and neighboring Pouilly-Fume. Here are seven lively examples from 2014 and 2015, including three newly-released 2014s from Loire Valley superstar Dagueneau.

2015 Sancerre (Vieux Pruniers); 2015 Pouilly-Fumé "Vieilles Vignes" (Roger Minet); 2015 Sancerre (Hippolyte Reverdy); 2014 Sancerre "Silex" (Delaporte); 2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly (Dagueneau); 2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly "Pur Sang" (Dagueneau); 2014 Blanc Fumé de Pouilly "Silex" (Dagueneau).

2014 RED BURGUNDIES: NUITS-SAINT-GEORGES FRIDAY 3/10 & SATURDAY 3/11

Nuits-Saint-Georges, at the southern end of the Cote de Nuits, encompasses two distinct terroirs, separated by the stream that runs through the center of town. To the south, the wines tend to be powerful and concentrated with a distinct earthiness, what we generally think of as "typical" Nuits-Saint-Georges. To the north, the wines are a less structured and earthy, and more similar to the wines of Neighboring Vosne-Romanée. This flight includes three wines from each sector, along with two that are blends from both.

2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Plateaux" (Mongeard-Mugneret); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges (Henri Gouges); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Aux Saints Juliens" (de Montille); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Clos des Porrets" (Henri Gouges); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "La Charmotte" (Thibault Liger-Belair); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Vieilles Vignes" (Robert Chevillon); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Aux Thorey" (de Montille); 2014 Nuits-Saint-Georges "Les Vaucrains" (Henri Gouges).

CHABLIS TUESDAY 3/14 & WEDNESDAY 3/15

Those who doubt the significance of terroir have never considered the uniqueness of Chablis. It is always pure Chardonnay, but Chardonnay grown anywhere else in the world does not taste like Chablis, with its zesty personality and bright minerality. Here is a selection from our current inventory - two villages wines, four Premier Crus, and one Grand Cru, including two newly-arrived 2015s from Laurent Tribut.

2014 Chablis "Dessus La Carriere" (Gilbert Picq); 2015 Chablis (Laurent Tribut); 2014 Chablis "Montmains" (William Fevrè); 2015 Chablis "Beauroy" (Laurent Tribut); 2012 Chablis "Montmains" (William Fevrè); 2014 Chablis "Vaillons" (William Fevrè); 2012 Chablis "Valmur" (Romain Collet).

GRUNER VELTLINER "LAMM" THURSDAY 3/16

Lamm is a vineyard tucked between the massive hillsides of Heiligenstein and Gaisberg in Austria's Kamptal, and the source of many of the world's most compelling bottlings of Grüner Veltliner. Here are seven superb examples.

2015 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Schloss Gobelsburg); 2015 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Brundlmayer); 2013 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Hirsch); 2012 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Brundlmayer); 2010 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Schloss Gobelsburg); 2008 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Brundlmayer); 2007 Grüner Veltliner "Lamm" (Schloss Gobelsburg).

NORTHERN RHONE SYRAH STARS**FRIDAY 3/17 & SATURDAY 3/18**

It is a great time for fans of Northern Rhone Syrahs. The current release vintages, 2013 and 2014, both have plenty of exceptional wines. This tasting showcases spellbinding new arrivals from Blachon, Chambeyron, and Clape. To round out the flight we've included earlier arrivals from Barruol, Clusel-Roch, and Chave.

2014 Saint Joseph "Hommage Roger Blachon" (Domaine Blachon); 2014 Crozes-Hermitage "Tiercerolles" (Louis Barruol); 2013 Cote-Rotie "La Chavarine" (Domaine Chambeyron); 2013 Cote-Rotie "Vialliere" (Clusel-Roch); 2014 Cornas "Renaissance" (Auguste Clape); 2014 Cornas (Auguste Clape); 2013 L'Hermitage (Jean-Louis Chave).

DOMAINE WEINBACH'S 2015 ALSATIAN WHITES**TUESDAY 3/21 & WEDNESDAY 3/22**

This tasting features six exciting newly-arrived 2015s from Alsace superstar Domaine Weinbach - a racy, dry Pinot Blanc, three lively Rieslings, and two luscious Gewürztraminers. We'll also include one of their 2012 Rieslings for comparison.

2015 Pinot Blanc "Reserve" (Weinbach); 2015 Riesling "Theo" (Weinbach); 2012 Riesling "Sainte Catherine" (Weinbach); 2015 Riesling "Schlossberg" (Weinbach); 2015 Riesling "L'Inedit" (Weinbach); 2015 Gewürztraminer "Theo" (Weinbach); 2015 Gewürztraminer "Furstentum" (Weinbach).

2010 VOLNAYS**THURSDAY 3/23**

Our inventory of 2010 Red Burgundies is getting very low, but we still have enough to put on this flight of lovely 2010 Volnays. Let's see how they are at six and a half years old.

2010 Volnay (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2010 Volnay "Les Santenots" (Matrot); 2010 Volnay "Les Pitures" (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2010 Volnay "Clos des Chenes" (Bouchard); 2010 Volnay "Les Caillerets" (Nicolas Rossignol); 2010 Volnay "Les Santenots" (Comtes Lafon).

JEAN-MARC BOILLOT'S 2015 WHITE BURGUNDIES**FRIDAY 3/24 & SATURDAY 3/25**

Here is our first full-scale tasting of the highly-anticipated 2015 White Burgundies. Jean-Marc Boillot, now assisted by his daughter Lydie, has been an indispensable source of White Burgundies for us for nearly 30 years. We've selected seven wines this year, ranging from Bourgogne Blanc to Premier Cru Puligny-Montrachet.

"I feel that both the red and white Burgundies are great in 2015. Early on I gave the red wines the nod, but after retasting the white wines I might actually rate them equally"

- Danny Haas, Importer

2015 Bourgogne Blanc (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Macon-Villages (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Montagny "Premier Cru" (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Rully "Meix Cadot" (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Meursault "Les Pellans" (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Puligny-Montrachet (Jean-Marc Boillot); 2015 Puligny-Montrachet "Les Referts" (Jean-Marc Boillot).

2012 GIGONDAS & CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE**TUESDAY 3/28 & WEDNESDAY 3/29**

A vintage with fine concentration and moderate structure, 2012 seems to be the best year for Southern Rhone reds between 2010 and 2015. Here are two Gigondas and five Châteauneuf-du-Papes.

2012 Gigondas (Chateau Redortier); 2012 Gigondas "Racines" (Les Pallieres); 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Bosquet des Papes); 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Pierre Usseglio); 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape (Chateau Sixtine); 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape "La Crau" (Vieux Télégraphe); 2012 Châteauneuf-du-Pape "Quet" (Mas de Boislaizon).

GERMAN RIESLINGS: 2012 & 2013**THURSDAY 3/30**

This tasting showcases the old-school, classic style of German Rieslings. It is a style unique to Germany - very low alcohol, high acidity, slight to moderate sweetness, and a gorgeous interplay of Riesling fruit and minerality. Its true, some wine lovers object to their sweetness, but they are missing out on the charms of these uniquely delicious wines. Here are seven Kabinetts and Spätleses from 2012 and 2013.

2013 Riesling Kabinett "Longuicher Herrenweg" (Schmitt-Wagner); 2012 Riesling Kabinett "Rudesheimer Klosterlay" (Leitz); 2012 Riesling Kabinett "Wehlener Sonnenuhr" (Kerpen); 2012 Riesling Kabinett "Oestericher Lenchen" (Spreitzer); 2013 Riesling Spätlese "Ürziger Wurzgarten" (Merkelbach); 2012 Riesling "Schmitt" (Selbach-Oster); 2013 Riesling Spätlese "Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle" (Dönnhoff).

VINCENT GIRARDIN'S 2014 RED BURGUNDIES**FRIDAY 3/31 & SATURDAY 4/1**

Here are our six 2014 Red Burgundy selections from Domaine Vincent Girardin and winemaker Eric Germain - three Cote de Nuits villages wines, two Premier Cru Volnays, and one Corton Grand Cru. As always, Girardin wines are among the best values in Burgundy, especially the Volnays. Also included are the 2012 and 2013 Girardin Gevrey-Chambertins, so we can compare across vintages.

2014 Morey-Saint-Denis "Vieilles Vignes" (Vincent Girardin); 2014 Gevrey-Chambertin "Vieilles Vignes" (Vincent Girardin); 2013 Gevrey-Chambertin "Vieilles Vignes" (Vincent Girardin); 2012 Gevrey-Chambertin "Vieilles Vignes" (Vincent Girardin); 2014 Volnay "Les Santenots" (Vincent Girardin); 2014 Volnay "Les Champans" (Vincent Girardin); 2014 Chambolle-Musigny "Vieilles Vignes" (Vincent Girardin); 2014 Corton "Les Perrieres" (Vincent Girardin).

MARCH NEW ARRIVALS:

2014 Oregon Pinot Noirs

**Cristom
Walter Scott
Berstrom
Antica Terra**

2015 White Burgundies

Jean-Marc Bollot

2015 Alsatian Whites

Weinbach

2014 Pouilly Fumés

Dagueneau

2014 Red Burgundies

**Vincent Girardin
Robert Chevillon**

Northern Rhone Syrah Stars

**Blachon
Chambeyron
Clape**

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From US-101 - Exit at Oregon Expressway, and head west on Oregon Expressway into Palo Alto. Turn right (north) on El Camino Real. Turn right at the first traffic light on El Camino, which will be S. California Avenue. We will be on your right about halfway down the first block.

PARKING:

Free parking along S. California Avenue, in the Palo Alto Public Parking Garage on Cambridge Avenue, and in the Palo Alto Public Parking Lot on Sherman Avenue.

HOURS:	Tuesday	11 am - 7 pm
	Wednesday	11 am - 7 pm
	Thursday	11 am - 7 pm
	Friday	11 am - 8 pm
	Saturday	11 am - 7 pm

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