

Tiny Bubbles...

What is it about sparkling wine that brings us so much pleasure? Is it the fact that it has become synonymous with celebratory occasions? Or that we're indulging in one of the wine world's greatest treats? Whatever the reason, there is something thrilling about the pop of a bubbly's cork. Whether we're savoring Champagne, Prosecco, Cava, Cremant, Cap Classique, or Spumante, I think we can all agree that bubbles make it better. Please join us as we kick off the holidays and present our sparkling selections for the season.

Friday December 14, 4:30 to 7:30pm

Saturday December 15, 1:30 to 5:30pm

Happy Holidays!



Special Holiday Sunday Hours:

12/23 and 12/30

Open 9am to 9pm!

DON CONDE CAVA, BRUT NV

Saint Sadurni D'Anola, Spain

Regular \$8.99 TWS \$6.99

Spain's contribution to bubbly has taken on such a popular identity that the 1970 decision to abandon the term "Champaña" can be judged a wise one. Cava means "cellar" in Catalan, and if inexpensive fizz like Prosecco is made quick and cheap in a closed tank, Cava signals a Spanish commitment to do things the hard way - retaining traditional Champagne-style winemaking for a wine that rarely tops \$15. Don Conde is a blend of Cava's unique trio of grapes - Macabeo, Parellada and Xarel-lo, showing crisp, clean pear fruit and classy acidity. A great match to starters or Tapas, organic Don Conde Cava = cheap and festive bubbles for all your holiday entertaining. (CW)

SPARKLING HOLIDAY EDITION

NV GRUET BLANC DE NOIRS BRUT

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Regular \$14.99 **TWS \$11.99**

Cheap land and golden opportunity; In 1984 the Gruet Family planted an experimental vineyard in Engle, 170 miles south of Albuquerque. The excellent '87 harvest and subsequent '89 release of the Brut NV and Blanc de Noirs NV (5,000 bottle production) put New Mexico on the wine-making map. In 2005 Gruet produced 80,000 cases of wine and distributed them to 47 states. A Wine Source favorite, taste the gorgeous berry fruit in this crisp, dry Blanc de Noirs. Aggressive mousse and green apple flavors with a dash of raspberry fruit burst on the palate; the finish is rich and toasty. Domestic and organic, Gruet wins the feel good sparkler of the year award! (CW)



NV ROEDERER ESTATE BRUT

Anderson Valley, California

Regular \$22.99 **TWS \$17.99**

Champagne Louis Roederer has been making wine, and specifically champagne, for over 200 years. They have always maintained control over their vineyards and thus the fruit they use, and this tradition continued when they bought 582 acres in the Anderson Valley north of San Francisco in 1982. Since the debut of Roederer Estate in 1988, they have continued using their own quality fruit and mixing oak-aged reserve wines to each year's blend. The result is a wine that, year in and year out, delivers French quality with California fruit at a reasonable price. (WCS)
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NV NINO FRANCO RUSTICO PROSECCO

Valdobbiadene, Italy

Regular \$14.99 **TWS \$11.99**

While Prosecco is mainly known as a light, zesty, summer drink, it can also serve as the perfect, light, zesty, holiday drink. The same qualities that can refresh and cool in the summer, can act as the perfect counterbalance to the impending cold and dark of winter and match nearly any hors d'oeuvres thrown its way. Light aromas of pear and banana lead to crisp citrus on the palate, all the while maintaining richness. Delicious by itself, the Nino Franco can also be mixed with peach juice for a "Bellini" for brunch or with vodka and cranberry juice for a "Poinsettia," a great addition to any holiday party. (WCS)

WINE SOURCE SPECIAL

**PAPPY VAN WINKLE'S
FAMILY RESERVE 23-YEAR-OLD
KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY**
Regular \$200.00 **TWS \$179.99**

Just in time for the Holidays, the perfect gift for whiskey lovers. In its 4th bottling, the Pappy Van Winkle 23 yr. is produced in very limited amounts and will not be available at this very low discounted price beyond December 17th.

"Beneath the examination lamp the radiant copper color shines like a new penny; good clarity. The initial aromatic burst is chockfull of pork sausage and sweet spice scents; with aeration, the aroma transforms into a stately, mature, fully integrated whiskey bouquet of the first rank, emitting seamless scents of dark coffee, marzipan, praline, caramel corn, and oaky vanillin; remarkably seductive. The palate entry is passing-gear sap-like and sweet, but elegant at the same time; by the midpalate stage, the flavor components have melded so thoroughly that no one feature leaps out. Finishes warmly, like smoldering embers, on the tongue and tangy, sweet, and resinous. An American distilling masterpiece.

Spirit Journal Rating: *****/Highest Recommendation"

Review by F. Paul Pacult *Spirit Journal* Volume 15, Issue 3



“Champagne for my real friends and real pain for my sham friends.” - Tom Waits

NV LAURENT-PERRIER BRUT

Tours-Sur-Marne, France

Regular \$39.99 **TWS \$29.99**

Medium bodied, fresh and elegant, this non-vintage blend of 45% Chardonnay, 40% Pinot Noir and 15% Pinot Meunier is one of the few quality Champagnes that we can offer well below the \$40 threshold. Unusual for the high proportion of Chardonnay (most non-vintage Champagne blends have half as much) it shows citrus and apple flavors with slightly yeasty and toasty notes. Try this as a substitute to that more expensive Champagne (read: Clicquot) you usually buy. (MW)



NV BESSERAT DE BELLEFON BRUT ROSÉ

CUVEE DES MOINES

Epernay, France

Regular \$49.99 **TWS \$39.99**

A young Champagne house, Besserat de Bellefon was established in 1927 with the marriage of Edmond Besserat to Yvonne de Méric de Bellefon. In 1930 they set out to create Champagne “with a light sparkle, fine froth, great finesse and specially made to drink through a meal...” and thus the Cuvée des Moines was born. Light and delicate with a light fizz due to a smaller than usual dosage, it shows bright wild strawberries and red currants that give way to long and crisp finish. (MW)

BRIAN'S BEER PICK

Winter Beer Continued:

With a record number of winter beers gracing our shelves this season, it was impossible to limit the reviews to just one newsletter. So we are back with your second installment of winter beer reviews. We left off last time with some highlights from the American market. This edition will focus upon Belgian and Belgian style beers.

One of the newest arrivals to hit the shelves is the Flying Fish Grand Cru. This ale is a Belgian style strong golden ale from New Jersey. Flying Fish Grand Cru has a mild undertone of fruity, spicy flavors, but no fruit is added. The flavors are achieved by fermenting the beer at a higher temperature which allows more esters to be produced. The subtle fruit is given structure by a complex strong malt body. This Grand Cru is brewed with four varieties of malt, including Demerera sugar. This addition of sugar adds softness and sweetness to an already complex and delicious beer.

If you are more of a traditionalist and need your Belgian beers to actually come from Belgium, then take a look at the St. Feuillien Cuvée de Noël. St. Feuillien has been producing beer since the early twelfth century, and their experience and knowledge is evident when you savor this wonderful ale. The Cuvée de Noël is a rich amber color with a firm compact head. At first taste, you get sweet soft malts which seamlessly fade into light aromatic herb and spice on the back end. The fermentation on this ale is carefully controlled. This results in a beer that is not overly carbonated like so many of the secondary fermented beers can be. This ale is also goes through an extended cold storage process, helping to pull the flavors together for a more balanced smooth beer.

The Winterkoninkse (Little Winter King) is an excellent choice for the person looking for the fuller more robust style of Belgian beer. Winterkoninkse is brewed with seven types of malt. This large malt bill helps to give this ale full, rich, round body. Winterkoninkse is also brewed with Juniper berries. The sweetness of the Juniper berry cuts through the strong malt body and helps to give a light fruity dimension to the beer. This beer is finished with two varieties of Belgian hops, which help to draw out the flavors and lighten the finish.

No the fun doesn't stop here. There are still more winter beers out there, and some still have yet to arrive in the store. So we will be back again next addition with more winter beer reviews. Cheers!

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....AND ONE MORE
SPARKLING WINE
SPECIAL

VEUVE CLICQUOT
PONSARDIN BRUT

by the bottle
Regular \$51.99 **TWS \$36.99**

by the case
Regular \$623.88 **TWS \$430.99**

30% off



The Clicquot champagne house was founded in 1772 but the real story began when the founder's son's widow, Nicole Barbe Ponsardin, took over the business in 1805. In a Europe torn apart by war, Veuve (Widow) Clicquot shipped her champagnes to Russia and presented them in all the great European courts. She was involved in the innovation of new production methods, bought plots of land in the best vineyards and when she died, left behind an empire devoted to the enjoyment of fine food and wine. Veuve Clicquot with its trademark orange label is now one of the most famous champagnes in the world.

THE CHEESE CAVE

ON SPECIAL THRU DEC 24th

Harvest Song Preserves!

All natural, top quality preserves from Armenia containing only the freshest fruit, sugar and a touch of citric acid for preservation.

2/\$17- (18.9oz) Pumpkin & Apple, Apricot, Apple & Pear, or Walnut
***regularly \$10ea.**

2/\$12- (10.2oz) Apricot & White Cherry, Golden Fig or Sour Cherry
***regularly \$7ea.**

ASK FOR A SAMPLE!

Back by Popular Demand...

Fiscalini 18mo. Cheddar-

Lovely Californian clothbound cheddar: creamy, tangy, a bit nutty-this is one well-rounded cheese. Pairs great with any of the Harvest Song Preserves.

Get it while it lasts @ \$14/lb.
***regularly \$16/lb.**

Rustic Welsh Clothbound Cheddar-

Sharp & creamy with a nice hay aroma. Finishes with a whiskey like bite. Team it up with any flavor of Edinburgh Mustard for a savory snack.

On Sale @ \$14/lb.
***regularly \$17/lb.**

Cheese makes an excellent Holiday gift. Ask about our discounts on whole, 1/2 or 1/4 wheels. Place special Holiday orders now for cheese, gift baskets and cheese platters. vol. 3, no. 26