

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER

Whites:

2018 Spottswoode Napa/Sonoma Sauvignon Blanc

-Lovely freshness here with a huge depth of flavor concentration. Tons of citrus fruit over wet stone and some ripe melon flavors, this wine always delivers and I consider it one of, if not the, best SB in California year in and year out.

2015 Chasseur "Vrai Cote" Sonoma Coast Chardonnay

This is a rich, creamy Chardonnay that has good oak and a ton of rich mouthfeel while still being bright on the palate. Not as polar as something like Rombauer Chardonnay but not entirely different either this is sure to please the fans of big Chards and will also have some interesting qualities for people that like their Chards a bit fresher as well.

2018 Jean-Max Roger Sancerre Blanc

Out of nowhere Sancerre has become one of the most in demand white wines from France. 100% Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire Valley the grapefruit, chalk and lemon curd flavors are wildly refreshing and will get the mouthwatering.

2017 Philippe Colin Bourgogne Blanc

One of our house favorite Burgundy producers this 100% Chardonnay that is a 50%/50% blend of Chassagne Montrachet and Saint Aubin has sneak power and tons of fleshy pear, cantaloupe and wet rock flavors with just a hint of milled corn. A steal in the world of White Burgundy.

2017 Do Ferreiro "Cepas Vellas" Rias Baixas Albarino

The grapes that go into making this bottling come from possibly the oldest Albarino vines in the world. Sea salt, lime zest and tons of minerality combine for a truly singular drinking experience. Think Grand Cru Chablis if it was grown a stone's throw from the ocean in Spain. Just amazing.

Rose:

2018 D'Esclans "Whispering Angel" Cotes de Provence Rose

-One of the most recognizable Rose on the market today the Whispering Angel delivers bright sassy flavors of white cherry, sage, rosemary and white pepper all in a bone-dry frame. This is always a slam dunk.

Reds:

2015 Martinelli Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir

-One of the most recognizable Pinot Noir producers in Sonoma, Martinelli makes bold and crowdpleasing Pinots. This wine is full of black cherry, laces of espresso and tons of raspberry coulis. Certainly this Pinot is more on the ripe side of the varietal but that is why it works so well with so many.

2015 Vincent Girardin "Les Vieilles Vignes" Volnay

This old-vine Volnay (100% Pinot Noir) is sneaky good. Burgundy usually needs some time in bottle to come out of its shell, but not here. Black cherry, new leather, raspberry and hints of thyme combine for one complete and fun bottle of Burgundy.

2017 Carlisle "Piner-Olivet Ranches" Russian River Valley Zinfandel

-Nearing, if not already at, "cult" level status Carlisle makes outrageous Zins from throughout the North Coast. Lush, ripe and briary but never over the top or cloying with tons of black pepper and exotic spice this is a gulpable Zin that is wildly serious as well if one cares to pay attention.

2017 Chappellet "Mountain Cuvee" Bordeaux Blend

-The brand new "baby bottling" from Chappellet is great this year. Inky but approachable, dense but soft this Bordeaux blend covers all the bases this vintage. Cocoa powder, boysenberry and purple flower tones combine for a delicious bottle of young wine.

2014 Petit Figeac St. Emilion

-This is the second wine from the famous Chateau Figeac so you get the same winemaking prowess but from declassified lots and younger vines on the estate. Mostly Merlot here with a plush core of velvety blue fruits and layers of vanilla and coffee bean. A forward and hedonistic bottle of Bordeaux.

2012 Remelluri Rioja Reserva

-From 90% Tempranillo with small percentages of Graciano & Garnacha this Rioja is nicely modern it its oakiness and a bit more old-world in its fruit rusticity. Ripe tinges of oak that deliver café con leche and Mexican chocolate combine with dried cherry, tobacco and pencil lead flavors for a very solid take on one of Spain's most famous wines.

2015 Mauro Veglio Barolo

-This young Barolo (100% Nebbiolo) delivers the goods with lifter aromatics of rose petals and darker flavors of cigar tobacco, tar, and pastilles. Add a lifted rosewater note and a touch of blood orange peel in the finish and this youthful wine really sings at this point in its life.