November Wine Bargains

Red Wines:

Ville Ste. Croix Pinot Noir, France **\$12** This lovely, medium-bodied Pinot from Southern France would be perfect with Thanksgiving dinner! It is soft, with nice balance and bright acidity which makes it a great accompaniment with a variety of dishes. It offers up nice fruit flavors of wild strawberries, red currants, along with hints of mint, forest floor and baking spices. Agricola Aguaza "Sa Ra Da Selección" Garnacha/Monastrell, Almansa, Spain \$11 Spain never fails to deliver tremendous value! Here is another delicious red to add to the list. Opaque purple in color, it offers up an alluring perfume of smoky wild blue and black fruits and exotic spices. Dense, layered, and concentrated, it sports plenty of volume and power. 90 Points Wine Advocate! Vigneti del Salento Primitivo, Puglia, Italy **\$13** Primitivo is the Italian name for Zinfandel, so if you're a Zin fan, look no further. This wine is deep ruby red in color with intense fruity aromas of dried cranberries and cherries and some spice notes suggesting rosemary and vanilla bean. Although full-bodied and rich, it remains soft and easy to drink. Pair it with hearty dishes like Lasagna or Braised Short Rib. Porcupine Ridge Syrah, Swartland, South Africa \$15 This brooding, spicy Syrah is loaded with high intensity aromas of blueberry and blackberry fruit, tons of black pepper, tar, a bit of gaminess and subtle violets. The palate is weighty, yet elegant, with the perfume of the nose following through and beautifully integrated spicy tannins. Amazing with steak and lamb! Chateau Julien Merlot, Monterey, California \$14 Chateau Julien is inspired by a French chateau in Bordeaux and aims to make wines that bring that same sort of elegance and complexity. Forward fruit aromas of ripe plum, cherry and soft raspberry balance mild tannins and a hint of cedar. The palate is round and ripe with complexity through the finish. Oveja Negra Malbec / Petit Verdot, Maule Valley, Chile \$12 Deep purple with a crimson hue in color, this Malbec & Petit Verdot is tremendously aromatic. It offers notes of violets that lead to black fruits such as blueberries and blackberries intermingling with the fruity aromas. The Malbec lends juiciness and sweet tannins to the palate, while the Petit Verdot contributes black fruit flavors and a tannic backbone, providing structure to the elegant finish.

___Heavyweight Cabernet Sauvignon, Lodi, California

\$13

A knockout of a wine, Heavyweight Cabernet Sauvignon really packs a punch (pun intended). It shows a dark garnet color, and rich, ripe, vibrant aromas of cherry, currant, raspberries, vanilla, and crème de cassis. Flamboyant and fruit-driven, the flavors of boysenberry, raspberry, cherry, and oak linger for quite some time. It is big and bold, yet smooth, so it will surely be a crowd-pleaser.

Blandine Le Blanc White Blend, Cotes de Gascogne, France \$11 This fun, refreshing and unique white blend of 60% Colombard and 40% Ugni-Blanc comes from Southwest France near Bordeaux. It is zesty and spicy with flavors of pineapple, grapefruit, and papaya, with subtle green bell pepper, along with enticing aromatics. Wonderful with salads and fresh seafood. \$9 _Altozano Verdejo/Sauvignon Blanc, Tierra de Castilla, Spain Verdejo is Spain's signature white grape and once you've tried a few you can see why. This fine example is blended with 30% Sauvignon Blanc which adds a bit of tropical fruit and grassiness to complement Verdejo's gorgeous aromatics and flavors of lemon, pear, nectarine, melon and mineral. Senator Monser Sarba, Romania \$14 It never seizes to amaze us how many weird wines from weird places are actually really, really delicious. Here's the perfect example: Sarba, from Romania, a Riesling hybrid grape. It shows peach and apricot fruit on the nose along with interesting notes of rose, basil, elderflower and honey. On the palate it is offdry and juicy with an intriguing herbal complexity and a savory finish. Stickybeak Sauvignon Blanc, Russian River Valley, California \$14 No, that is not a typo; this is in fact Russian River Valley Sauvignon Blanc for only 14 dollars!! This is a steely, insanely aromatic expression of Sauvignon Blanc, of which a small portion underwent barrel fermentation, adding a savory depth to the fresh notes of lime and delicate florals. Apparent tropical notes and vibrant acidity lead to a clean and smooth finish. Votre Sante Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast, California \$15 Francis Ford Coppola's Votre Santé Chardonnay bestows a beautiful fragrance reminiscent of pineapple, passion fruit, tangerine and honey. Juicy on the palate, this flowing wine has just the right amount of crisp natural acidity for a clean finish. Enjoy flavors of apples, peaches, kumquat and pear, notes of allspice and a hint of minerals. With its generous length, the wine finishes with undertones of tropical and toasty oak. Name: _____

White Wines:

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