



# The Wine and Cheese Cask

407 Washington Street • Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

(617) 623-8656

**November 15, 2013 – December 9, 2013**  
**The Holidays Begin**

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## ***'R' Field Blend Lot #7***

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**2012 Field Blend 'Lot No. 7' (Raymond)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

There is no shortage of great upper-end California wine. The challenge is to find bargains. For red wine we gravitate towards field blends and Raymond makes a delicious one. This full-bodied dark red is a blend based on Zinfandel and Petite Sirah with dollops of six or seven others scattered in for good measure.

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## ***Good Old Corbières***

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**2010 Corbières (Domaine Sainte-Eugénie)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

This domaine has been a mainstay of our Languedoc selections. Here we have one last shot at the excellent 2010 vintage at a great price. The blend of Carignan, Grenache, and Syrah is well integrated, as the fruit, spice, and earth have merged into a lengthy, seamless, graceful red.

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## ***Valpolicella***

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**2012 Valpolicella (Brigaldara)**

**Sale Price \$11.99 – \$122.30 case of twelve**

We were recently surprised to learn that production of Valpolicella normale has been significantly reduced due to demand for Amarone. As much as we like Amarone it is not a wine we reach for very often. Happily we have Brigaldara to thank for continuing to make a brilliantly affordable regular Valpolicella. The blend is mainly the Veronese mainstays of Corvina, Corvinone, and Rondinella. Aromas of fresh cherries with hints of clove waft from the glass. This is medium-bodied with mellow tannins and a fine, lacy fruit finish.

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## ***Jumilla***

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**2012 Jumilla (Honoro Vera)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

There is more Monastrell in Spain than there is Mourvèdre in France, which is why a Jumilla will always be a better value than a Bandal. The 2012 Honoro Vera is a deep, dark, spicy Monastrell with a smooth intensity of ripe plum and fig fruit. It also picks up some mineral flavors from the grape's low yields.

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## ***Grüner***

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**2012 Grüner Veltliner (Count Karolyi)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

Grüner Veltliner may be Austria's most widely planted grape variety, but that does not mean that it is the only Grüner-endowed nation. Who can blame neighboring Hungary for wanting to cash in on this wonderful varietal? The 2012 from Count Karolyi is a totally dry, mineral-laden Grüner that is poised to use its dry crispness to cut through spicy and rich foods.

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## ***Grand Sauvignon Vinny***

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**2012 Touraine 'Le Grand St. Vincent' (Les Vignerons des Coteaux Romains)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

This Touraine is our most popular French Sauvignon Blanc. This is our second pallet of the 2012 and it delivers classic Sauvignon Blanc flavor in its ripe yet delicate mixture of fruits and its firm, clasping, dry, very French finish.

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## ***Chinon***

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**2012 Chinon (Clos de la Lysardière)**

**Sale Price \$11.99 – \$122.30 case of twelve**

The 2012 Clos de la Lysardière is a classic Loire Valley Cabernet Franc with tempting raspberry fruit and fine tannins. This mid-weight red strikes the perfect balance with foods such as salmon and poultry.

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## ***Haudinière***

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**2012 Muscadet Sèvre et Maine (La Haudinière)**

**Sale Price \$8.99 – \$91.70 case of twelve**

Despite stiff competition La Haudinière has been crowned as our Muscadet value of the year, an award we do not hand out lightly. It begins with crisp, delicate aromas, and then expands with a nice mid-palate and a pleasant, gliding finish.

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## ***Moscato***

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**2012 Provincia di Pavia Moscato (Centorri)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 – \$101.90 case of twelve**

The surge of popularity of Moscato served as a reminder that we have liked the Moscatos of northern Italy all along. At first these seemed to be a refreshingly chilled sorbet substitute after a rich meal. But these wines are so delicious and light they can be served with anything. Centorri's 2012 is a perfectly balanced, light, fizzy quaffer that is as perfect with a fruit tart as it is with mac and cheese.

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## ***The Golden Stones***

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**2012 Costières de Nîmes Blanc 'Les Galets Dorés' (Château Mourgues du Grès)**

**Sale Price \$11.99 – \$122.30 case of twelve**

The Costières de Nîmes is located to the west of the Rhone River, but for the most part is an extension of the Côtes du Rhône. The grape varieties are the same and the vineyard area has large alluvial stones similar to those in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Les Galets Dorés are the golden stones in the white wine vineyard at Mourgues du Grès. The 2012 is a fresh, aromatic mix of Grenache Blanc, Roussanne, Vermentino, Marsanne, and Clairette. The nose smells like freshly cut flowers, the palate features spiced pears, and the finish is stony and quite dry.

## Manzanilla y Fino

**Manzanilla 'Solear' (Barbadillo)**

**Sale Price \$9.99 per 375 ml.**

**Fino 'Ynocente' (Valdespino)**

**Sale Price \$11.99 per 375 ml.**

Thanks to sommeliers, bartenders, extremely high quality, and ridiculously low prices sherry has made an impressive comeback. We sell

a lot of good-quality everyday sherry from Barbadillo, but being based in Sanlucar de Barameda their reputation rests on their Manzanilla. And it is superb. If you visit Seville and order a Manzanilla there is a good chance you will receive a cool, fresh glass of Solear. This bone-dry, slightly salty sherry is perfect with tapas-sized portions of almonds and manchego. At this point you are just scraping the surface of its food friendliness. Try it next with quick-fried fish. For an intense view into Barbadillo's Manzanilla holdings, we also have a small supply of Solear's en Rama series of seasonal bottlings from their best casks. The winter 2012 bottling and the spring 2013 bottling are in stock at \$19.99 per half bottle. They release 1000 half bottles of these four times a year and they are truly a monument to Manzanilla.



Ynocente Fino from Valdespino is a labor of intense love. This dry white comes from the Macharnudo vineyard. This pure chalk vineyard has been compared to Chablis and Champagne for the flavors that are extracted from the Palomino grape. This may be a single vineyard wine, but it is not a single vintage wine. Sherry is made by a solera system in which many barrels of various ages eventually make a blended final bottling. Along with its origin in vineyard what also sets Ynocente apart is that it is entirely fermented in 600-liter barrels and aged in barrel along its ten year journey to finished wine. This is an amazingly fresh fino with aromas and flavors of chalk, apples, hay, herbs, and almonds. Also great with seafood, it should be served chilled and consumed over a three-day period.

## The Wolf

**2010 Saint-Emilion Grand Cru (Château Le Loup)**

**Sale Price \$24.99 – \$254.90 case of twelve**

2010 is an undeniably great Bordeaux vintage. This Grand Cru Saint-Emilion has a deep purple color with dense dark berry fruit and firmly concentrated ripe tannins. Interestingly Château Le Loup has no Cabernet Sauvignon. It is an equal-parts blend of Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Try this with a rare rib eye and a potato gratin.



## Macedonian Encore

**2012 Naoussa 'Xinomavro' (Thymiopoulos)**

**Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve**



We adored this wine in the 2010 vintage and appreciate this 2012 with equal warmth. Thymiopoulos' Naoussa Xinomavro hails from Greek Macedonia. The fruit flavors are much fresher than we expected from a Greek red, plus its ripe tannins are well integrated into its long pleasing finish. Try with lamb of course.

## Mosel Pinot Blanc

**2012 Pinot Blanc (Später-Veit)**

**Sale Price \$13.99 – \$142.70 case of twelve**

Riesling is king in Germany, but we love to try other wines made in Germany because the wine makers are so skilled at their craft. This 2012 white from Später-Veit is our first ever Pinot Blanc from the Mosel. It has a subtle combination of perfectly crisp apple and earthy slate with a completely dry finish. We predict that this will go well with everything at the Thanksgiving table, especially if there is squash and stuffing.

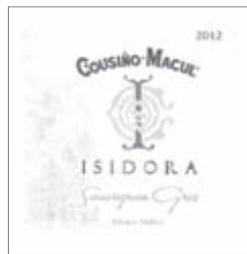


## Sauvignon Gris

**2012 Sauvignon Gris 'Isidora' (Cousiño-Macul)**

**Sale Price \$13.99 – \$142.70 case of twelve**

Sauvignon Gris is a grey-skinned mutation of Sauvignon Blanc that yields interesting results in the Loire Valley and in Chile. Authorities in Sancerre have kept Sauvignon Gris out of their vineyards while other Loire appellations welcome it for its diversity. Cousiño-Macul in Chile is all in with this version, making 'Isidora' a heady and perfumed dry white. Along with its racy aroma this has more body than one expects from Sauvignon Blanc. It has the kind of character needed to go along with the Thanksgiving feast.



## California Pinot Noir

**2012 Santa Barbara Pinot Noir (Byron)**

**Sale Price \$15.99 – \$163.10 case of twelve**

The early Santa Barbara Pinot pioneer Byron has made a terrific 2012 vintage. This Pinot Noir is not overly fruity; instead it trades on its floral aromas and its smoky flavors and its judicious raspberry fruit.



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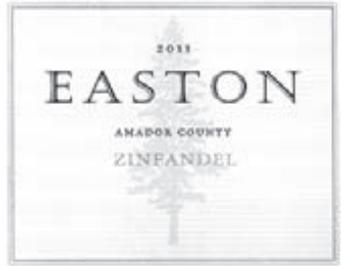
## The Power of Zin

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### 2011 Amador Zinfandel (Easton)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$183.50 case of twelve

Zinfandel remains California's most original wine. Old Zinfandel vines in Amador County have long proved themselves with their earthy powerful wines. Easton continues to honor these vines by making a powerful yet balanced Amador red. This is packed with dark cherry fruit and peppery spice. The palate is smooth and rich with more than adequate fruit. The finish is soft, dry, and well balanced. Try this with your turkey.



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## Chavignol de Sancerre

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### 2012 Sancerre 'Les Monts Damnés' (Thomas-Labaille)

Sale Price \$24.99 – \$254.90 case of twelve

The famous appellation of Sancerre has earned its price and popularity by producing some of the world's finest Sauvignon Blancs. Although there is no hierarchy of Sancerre vineyards, a few vineyards are known for their high quality in vintage after vintage. Les Monts Damnés in the village of Chavignol is certainly one. Because Thomas-



Labaille has admirably maintained quality without raising prices we return each and every year. The 2012 is an excellent vintage here. Ripe, rounded peach fruit is accented by an earthy dryness. Try this with quickly seared bay scallops.

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## Porto Ferreira

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### Porto Reserve Dona Antonia (Ferreira)

Sale Price \$17.99 – \$194.30 case of twelve



If you are really into vintage Port you need to start early. The just released 2011s are twenty years away from maturity. Fortunately there is Port resting in casks in Portugal that will always supply us with consistently excellent ready-to-drink wine. These are colloquially called 'wood' Ports because they do most of their aging in barrel. Ferreira excels at this style

of Port. Their best value Port is the Dona Antonia, which is aged for eight years in cask. This is a tangy, smooth port that is ripe with fig-like fruit and a softly tannic finish. Sweet, yes, but balanced by just enough savory elements to match with cheeses and custard desserts.

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## Ciano Toscana

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### 2011 Rosso di Montepulciano (Dei)

Sale Price \$14.99 – \$152.90 case of twelve

The Dei family doesn't go for dramatic Montepulciano wines, just honest renditions that will go well with food. Their 2011 Rosso di Montepulciano is a wonderfully balanced, structured blend of Sangiovese (80%) and Canaiolo. There is fine plum and cherry fruit and a spicy, gripping finish with a hint of leather. Have this with all your Italian favorites or just a simple Bolognese.



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## Somme Fem

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### 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc 'Cuvée Sommelière' (Château de Flaugergues)

Sale Price \$13.99 – \$142.70 case of twelve

For some reason Château de Flaugergues' Cuvée Sommelière lags a vintage or two behind its neighboring Languedoc reds. This is by no means a bad thing because this fine Mediterranean red blend needs a few years to knit together into smoothness. The 2010 Coteaux du Languedoc from the sub-zone La Mejanelle is a blend of fruity Grenache (50%), elegant Syrah (30%), and spicy Mourvèdre (20%).



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## Short on Shine but Long on Flavor

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### Ashmead's Kernel (West County Cider)

\$11.99 – \$129.49 case of twelve

It wouldn't be Thanksgiving without local pumpkins, Brussel sprouts, apples and cider. Once again the folks at West County Cider in Colrain have delivered another delicious dry cider, this time based on an apple grown since the 1700's in Gloucester, England. Ashmead's Kernel is a crisp yellow fleshed apple that makes delicious cider. Its high sugar content delivers a full flavored zesty dry cider that is mouth watering and feast friendly. We suggest serving in a wine glass for maximum aroma and to savor its long dry finish.

## Sale Dates

**Our Final Quarterly Sale of the Year begins  
Friday November 29th and runs through Monday  
December 9th.**

Details: 10% off six bottles; 20% off twelve bottles.

Wines of the Month (back page), fortified wines (Port, Sherry, Vermouth, etc.) and sparkling wines may be included for a 10% discount. Blue tagged (NET) wines and jug wines (1.5L and 3L) are excluded.

**The Wine and Cheese Cask**  
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## Wines of the Month — November 15, 2013 through December 9, 2013

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### 2012 Pinot Noir (Cono Sur)

**Sale Price \$7.99 – \$86.29 case of twelve**

Cono Sur are first and foremost excellent grape growers who in turn produce wonderful value varietal wine. The 2012 Pinot Noir is soft and fruity with strawberry and raspberry flavors that will match not too heavy foods and a crowd.

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### 2012 Albariño (Raimat)

**Sale Price \$8.99 – \$97.09 case of twelve**

Raimat's Albariño is a fruity yet dry white with subtle hints of mineral. This is a fine white for seafood or Chinese food.

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### 2011 Bordeaux (Château Valfontaine)

**Sale Price \$8.99 – \$97.09 case of twelve**

Bordeaux can almost always be counted on to deliver a fine dry red. The 2011 Château Valfontaine is a well-mannered dry red with mel-low fruit and a dry finish.

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### 2012 Malbec (Altos las Hormigas)

**Sale Price \$8.99 – \$97.09 case of twelve**

Altos las Hormigas can always be counted on to produce a fruity yet herbally complex Malbec. The 2012 is ripe, medium-bodied, and will be a fun wine to have with a spicy pot roast or stuffed peppers.

