



# The Wine and Cheese Cask

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## January 19, 2026 – February 14, 2026 Wintery Reds

For most of the year we squint at labels to determine the ABV of our red wines, but in winter it's time to match the heartiest of red wines with the most decadent of foods. Here are some generous reds to match with your all-day braises, enormous roasts, and rich gratins.

### ***A Roman Rhône***

#### **2018 Beaumes-de-Venise Rouge (Domaine de Durban)**

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

The village of Beaumes-de-Venise was originally a Roman settlement focused on its nearby mineral springs. The most famous wine from Beaumes has long been their Muscat, a heady aromatic wine that works as either an aperitif or a dessert wine. The proximity of Gigondas led growers to also try their hands at table wines, and eventually the village achieved its own appellation for reds. Durban's reds are as sturdy and rich as its more illustrious neighbors, and this 2018 is a nicely aged delight with its herbal aromas, cherry fruit, and smooth finish. A great match with a curried lamb stew.



### ***Alessandria***

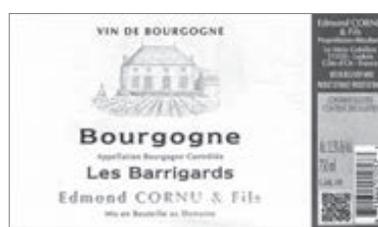
#### **2023 Barbera d'Alba (Fratelli Alessandria)**

**Sale Price \$21.99 – \$224.30 case of twelve**

The village of Verduno is the northernmost in the Barolo zone, and it appears that a Verduno red, whether Barolo, Barbera, or Pelaverga, possesses more youthful energy than those of other Piedmontese villages. Alessandria's 2023 Barbera captures this with its gorgeous raspberry fruit and smoky tea-like flavors. Try this with sausages and polenta.



### ***Beefy Bourgogne***

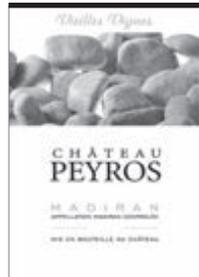


#### **2022 Bourgogne Rouge 'Les Barrigards'**

**(Edmond Cornu & Fils)  
Sale Price \$35.99 – \$367.10  
case of twelve**

The RN 7 is the road that bisects Burgundy's Cote d'Or.

On one side there are the famous villages and hillside vineyards. On the other side is flat land, which if it were not in Burgundy would be relegated to other crops or cattle. But a talented grower in a good vintage can deliver the goods nonetheless. Edmond Cornu's Les Barrigards vineyard is across the RN 7 from the village of Chorey. Planted in the 80s, its considerable vine age delivers a Pinot Noir with real presence. This is a gamey, meaty delight with dense fruit and impressive structure. The excellent 2022 vintage indeed helps, but this is homegrown Burgundy by a family with roots.



### ***Madiran***

#### **2019 Madiran 'Vieilles Vignes' (Château Peyros)**

**Sale Price \$19.99 – \$203.90 case of twelve**

The small southwest French appellation of Madiran punches far above its weight. Here the Tannat grape brings a tannic intensity that makes Cabernet Sauvignon seem tame.

Tempered with some Cabernet Franc and given a few years of rest in the cellar, the 2019 Peyros has transformed from a country bumpkin into a rustically elegant red poised for massively fatty winter fare. If cassoulet is on your menu, this is your wine.

### ***Ribeira Sacra***

#### **2021 Ribeira Sacra Tinto 'Lalama' (Dominio do Bibei)**

**Sale Price \$27.99 – \$285.50 case of twelve**

Galicia first emerged as a fine wine region with its coastal Albariño. But there was also a fantastic resource of old red vines on the inland riversides. The old vine Mencia burrowing deep into the slate soils of Ribeira Sacra delivers an intense mineral earthiness as well as crisp balance. The cool vintage 2021 from Dominio do Bibei is a beauty. This has a Burgundy-like combination of complex fruit and minerality, but with its own Spanish stamp. Have this with a brothy red bean and chorizo stew.



### ***Barbaresco***

#### **2021 Barbaresco (Produttori del Barbaresco)**

**Sale Price \$59.99 – \$611.90 case of twelve**

Sure, there's the Barbaresco nobility of Gaja and Giacosa, but the humble Produttori is the financial engine of the village. This cooperative deals only in Nebbiolo and makes a village-level Barbaresco that impresses vintage after vintage. It drinks young. It ages well. It always speaks Barbaresco. The 2021 is one of their best recent efforts.



## Aligoté en Vogue

2022 Bourgogne Aligoté (Domaine Sylvain Langoureau)

Sale Price \$21.99 – \$224.30 case of twelve



You'd be hard pressed to find a grape variety that has had a bigger turnaround than Aligoté. Historically relegated to lesser vineyard sites in Burgundy, it produced thin, tart wines that were suitable for mixing with something sweet like

crème de cassis but not quite pleasant on their own. But a few producers were resolute about its potential and have shown that with the right growing conditions it can be charming and delicious. It turns out that Aligoté's ability to maintain high acidity even in warm growing conditions makes it a serious asset in the climate change era. Even more, it aligns neatly with the current consumer preference for crisp and minerally white wines. Sylvain Langoureau's 2022 fully delivers on that front. The palate has perfect tension, with crisp fruit laced with herbal nuances and refreshing salinity. Grab a bottle to go along with a raclette dinner (see the Specialty Food section) and a green salad with mustard vinaigrette.

## Rebholz Weissburgunder

2021 Weissburgunder Trocken (Rebholz)

Sale Price \$21.99 – \$224.30 case of twelve

We're still waiting, but someday a customer will balk at one of our German wine recommendations by saying that German wine is too dry. When that occurs we will know not to show them any Rebholz. The lean, sleek wines made by Rebholz in the Pfalz are intriguing in how they take a grape variety and mold it to their house style. Their Riesling tastes like Riesling but its exuberant dryness gives it a Rebholz trademark. Same with their Weissburgunder/Pinot Blanc. At first taste, you might think where did the fruit go? Then comes a wash of amazing herbal flavors plus a bonus of chalky minerals. As we have said before, these are amazing wines to play with a variety of spicy food and especially shellfish.



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## On the Corner of Premier and Grand

Our white Burgundy section has more Chablis than the Côte d'Or. It's partly because the crazy prices for Burgundy have been slower to arrive in Chablis, and also that we will buy certain Chablis producers whenever they are offered. Our current favorite is Louis Michel, whose wines never see any wooden barrels, thus delivering the unadorned amazing flavors of Chablis vineyard by vineyard.

2023 Chablis Premier Cru 'Montée de Tonnerre'  
(Louis Michel & Fils)

Sale Price \$59.99 – \$611.90 case of twelve

Montée de Tonnerre is a powerful Premier Cru with a stony texture and complete dryness. This ages extremely well. Give it five years to blossom.

2023 Chablis Premier Cru 'Séchets'  
(Louis Michel & Fils)

Sale Price \$64.99 – \$662.90 case of twelve



Séchets is a Premier Cru vineyard within another Premier Cru (Vaillons). It captures the sun with tropical tangerine fruit followed by amazing minerality. This can be

drunk on the early side.

2023 Chablis Grand Cru 'Les Clos'  
(Louis Michel & Fils)

Sale Price \$150.00

Les Clos is the "Grand Cru Daddy" of Chablis. This will unfold for another decade or two. Production was so small in 2023 that Michel bought fruit from another producer to have enough wine to warrant bottling.

## Viognier d'Orange

2024 Viognier (Domaine de la Janasse)

Sale Price \$29.99 – \$305.90 case of twelve

Sorry this wine took so long to get here. Thankfully the 2024 Viognier from Janasse has now arrived and it's gorgeous. It is full flavored and packed with peachy fruit and a ripe textured palate. Have with a spicy seafood and noodle dish.



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## Roditis—As Old as Greece

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2024 Roditis 'Asproolithi' (Rouvalis)

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



Greece, with its old vineyards filled with interesting grape varieties, is as exciting as any wine region there is today. This month we have a flavorful dry white made from Roditis, one of Greece's oldest grape varieties. This pink-skinned grape gives a beautiful herbal aroma and crisp lemon

flavor. Have this fresh white with a scampi or a broiled sea bass stuffed with fennel.

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## Sancerre's Friendly Neighbor

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2023 Menetou-Salon

'Morogues' (Domaines Minchin)

Sale Price \$19.99 – \$203.90 case of twelve

The success of Sancerre is incredible. Nearly every bottle produced is guaranteed a place on a restaurant wine list or a retail shelf the world over, and the prices reflect this. But there are a few alternatives. The closest one is Menetou-Salon, whose vineyards are a southwest extension of Sancerre located on a shelf of Kimmeridgian marl that runs all the way to Chablis. Domaines Minchin, located in the superior *lieu-dit* of Morogues, produces a rich, round Sauvignon Blanc with a crisp balance of fruit along with a zesty dry finish. Great with seafood, salads, and goat milk cheese.



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# Specialty Foods

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## RACLETTE!

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Get out the tabletop griddle and heat up your irons, because the raclette is lit and it's hittin' hard!

This traditional alpine cheese has a high moisture content, making it perfect for melting. The name raclette comes from the French *racler* ("to scrape"), as a half wheel is traditionally melted on a specialized grill and the melted portion scraped directly onto a plate piled with accompaniments. Even if you don't have a raclette grill, you can still make a meal of raclette at home.

Melt slices in the oven (a cast-iron pan works great, but a baking sheet will do) over roasted potatoes, cruciferous vegetables, gherkins, charcuterie, and/or toasted bread. Frankly all that stuff is optional; you could just eat the cheese! We recommend one pound for three adults, but you may want to err on the side of a little extra. The cheese is the main course, after all.



This year we have several new raclette styles to mix-and-match in addition to the classic Raclette de Savoie. All of our raclettes are available sliced to order at the deli counter (one pound minimum). Order five pounds or more and get 15% off the regular retail price.



**Raclette de Savoie (France) – \$22 per pound**

**Smoked Raclette (France) – \$28 per pound**

**Mustard Seed (France) – \$28 per pound**

**Wild Ramp (France) – \$28 per pound**

**Black Truffle (France) – \$34 per pound**

**The Wine and Cheese Cask**  
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## Wines of the Month – January 19, 2026 through February 14, 2026

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### 2024 Vinho Verde ‘Do Vale’ (Foral)

**Sale Price \$10.99 – \$118.69 case of twelve**

Vinho Verde is now a more serious dry white than those of its light and spritzy past. The 2024 Do Vale from Foral has ample concentration and a long dry finish.

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### 2024 Bullas ‘Revelare’ (Bodegas del Rosario)

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

Here’s our cheap red find of the year (so far). The Revelare Bullas is an organic Monastrell from southeast Spain. It’s packed with ripe fruit and fine dry finishing tannins.

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### 2024 Grüner Veltliner (Mantlerhof)

**Sale Price \$11.99 per Liter – \$129.49 case of twelve**

Mantlerhof’s Liter of Grüner is back. This fresh, dry, mineral white is perfect for a pork roast or sautéed white fish, and pile on the potatoes.

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### 2022 Bordeaux Rouge (Château Barrail Meyney)

**Sale Price \$11.99 – \$129.49 case of twelve**

The 2022 vintage in Bordeaux is a proven winner. Barrail Meyney is a ripe red with good depth, soft tannins, and a fine dry finish.

