

2023 Zilzie Sauvignon Blanc Victoria, Australia



Victoria is home to over 21 wine subregions. Naturally cooler in the foothills of the Snowy Mountains and warmer across the undulating plains in the west and north, most regions enjoy warm summer days and cooler nights throughout the growing season. The abundance of lakes, billabongs, creeks and rivers that meander down from the Great Dividing Range in the state's east, create a vast array of micro-climates offering unique layers of character. Starting with their own meticulously grown vineyards in the Murray Darling, Chief Winemaker Jonathan Creek focuses on creating fresh, luscious wines with structure and crisp acidity. These individual batches underwent cool fermentation in stainless steel, followed by lees stirring to add length and roundness to the palate. Hints of citrus, passionfruit and melon on the nose. On the palate tropical fruit flavors with a crisp, lively citrus finish. Pair with grilled white fish with a lime and cilantro butter sauce, or avocado and tomato bruschetta with olive oil and balsamic drizzle.

Thieves' price: \$10.99

2022 Benton Hill Red Blend Columbia Valley, WA



A blend of 66% Syrah, 28% Merlot, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon. Benton Hills Vineyards is in a premier wine region in southeastern Washington state, comprising several arid southwest sloping hills that are home to many of the Columbia valley's most celebrated vineyards. Dr. Walter Clore, considered by many the "father" of the Washington wine industry, was impressed by the region's gentle, south-facing slopes and warm temperatures. He saw that this region had potential. This red blend opens with an expressive and dynamic nose showing aromas of black cherry and brambly fruit interwoven with enticing hints of mocha and intriguing notes of savory capers and a sprinkle of black pepper. On the palate, a succulent array of flavors includes round and juicy cherry, plum, and strawberry notes. Pair with braised short ribs, roasted parsnips, smoked bacon, or a burger.

Thieves' price: \$11.99

2023 Alturis Chardonnay Venezie Giulia, Italy



Friuli-Venezia Giulia is an important Italian wine region, situated high in the northernmost parts of the country, and close to the Slovenian and Austrian borders. Alturis shines in the excellence of the Friulian territory, known for its ability to express varietals of great intensity and finesse. This Chardonnay embodies the philosophy of Alturis, a winery that places respect for nature and a love for winemaking traditions at the heart of its production. On the nose, it opens with a complex bouquet, where fruity notes of green apple, peach, and tropical hints dominate, followed by a light nuance of vanilla and butter, a result of brief aging in barriques.

On the palate, the acidity is well-balanced, making it particularly lively and fresh, with a pleasant and long aromatic persistence. The structure is smooth, with an aftertaste that recalls citrus fruits and a nearly creamy finish that invites another sip. Perfect as an aperitif, it also pairs beautifully with light appetizers, fish, and white meats. Its elegance and versatility also make it ideal for accompanying vegetarian dishes or those with fresh cheeses.

Thieves' price: \$16.99

2017 Ramey Syrah Rodgers Creek, Sonoma Coast



A blend of 88% Syrah and 12% Viognier, co-fermented, Côte-Rôtie style (now that's a lot of Rôtie!) Ramey Wine Cellars directly influenced 21st century winemaking and set a new standard for what California could achieve. Success in launching the family's namesake winery was not preordained. Starting from humble origins, through intellectual leadership and hands-on experience, Ramey has risen to be considered one of the iconic wineries of California. The vineyard is set in from the Petaluma Gap on the cooler side of Sonoma Mountain, which provides the savory character that to us defines Syrah. This block was planted to our specifications in 2002 and is positioned 800 feet up the southwest face of the mountain. This vintage aged sur lies with monthly bâtonnage and rested 25 months in 100% new French barrels. Fresh and spicy with notes of wild lavender, smoked peppercorn, and blackberry coulis. Full-bodied, with good lift, it reveals crunchy plum fruit, ripe tannins, and a gravelly texture. Pair with grilled lamb chops, roasted eggplant, cassoulet, or prosciutto.

Thieves' price: \$ Inquire

2016 Chateau Haut Lariveu Fronsac, Bordeaux



Fronsac, otherwise known as part of the “right bank”, is a primarily Merlot appellation, adjacent to Saint-Émilion. Tasting the Hubau family’s 2016 Fronsac, you get the feeling that Bénédicte and Grégoire harvested their grapes not simply on the right day for ripeness but at the right minute. There is nothing overdone in this chiseled, elegant cuvée made from organically grown and pampered Merlot. The vineyard is a quaint 7.9 hectares, over 60 years old, with soils made of clay, limestone, and gravel. The vineyard is Demeter certified biodynamic. By growing grass between the vines and aerating the soil, they create a soil rich in natural microorganisms, so that the vines are optimally nourished. The consulting openologist for this wine is Michel Rolland, you might have heard of him! Aged in 25% new oak for

12-18 months depending on the vintage. The balance is *just* right. Evoking blackberries, black currant, and a hint of cocoa. Pair with Grilled red meat, lamb or beef. Hard cheeses.

Thieves’ price: \$38.99

2022 Brown Estate Chaos Theory Red Blend Sonoma Valley



A blend of 50% Merlot, 25% Petite Sirah, and 25% Zinfandel. The Brown Estate label was officially established in 1996 when they harvested what would become their first bottling of Brown Zin. In January 2000 they debuted their first three vintages at the annual ZAP (Zinfandel Advocates & Producers) Grand Tasting in San Francisco. A fragrant nose of exotic Asian apple blossom, crushed rose petals, and cloves. This wine delivers a mouthful of soft, silky texture that gives way to ripe, forward fruit balanced with layers of complexity. Cascading flavors of blackberries, black cherries, cappuccino, and tobacco lead to herbaceous earthiness with undertones of big game and fresh sage and rosemary. The perfect wine to pair with boldly sea-

soned grilled meats and garlicky potatoes with coarse ground mustard, or a comforting beef pot pie.

Thieves' price: \$31.99