

2022 Valderba Chardonnay Vino de España



From Pago Ayles, one of only 20 Vino de Pago in the entire country of Spain, a grand cru classé for a single estate. In the Aragon province, near the medieval city of Zaragoza, the Ayles estate is in a remote area, where monks once made wine. It is an ecosystem unto itself, with a bird sanctuary to boot, and a certified organic vineyard. All the ingredients to make great wine. A very hot summer led to harvest dates two weeks earlier than normal. Spring rains and optimal flowering led to magnificent fruit. Temperature controlled fermentation in stainless steel tanks lead to long lasting aromas and flavors. Appealing notes of apple, citrus, and herbs. Very smooth with a long and silky finish and no oakiness. Perfect pairing with grilled chicken, or pork chops, feta cheese salad, or a rich, creamy brie.

Thieves' price: \$11.99

2021 Barista Pinotage South Africa



Pinotage has been cultivated in South Africa since 1925 as a cross between Pinot noir and Cinsaut (Cinsaut was known as "Hermitage" in South Africa at that time, hence the name). South Africa has a particularly long and rich history with winemaking, especially considering its status as part of the "New World." In the mid-17th century, the lusciously sweet dessert wines of Constantia were highly prized by the European aristocracy. Since then, the South African wine industry has experienced some setbacks due to the phylloxera infestation of the late 1800s and political difficulties throughout the following century. A burst of ripe mulberry, plum and Maraschino cherry meld with nuances of vanilla and mocha on the palate. Luscious tannins make this an accessible wine ready to be enjoyed.

Drink on its own or with seared duck breast, crisp pork belly

Thieves' price: \$11.99

or your favorite pizza.

2022 Assuli 'Dardinello' Zibibbo Sicilia, Italy



On the slopes between Marsala and Mazara del Vallo, on the western side of the island, lies Assuli. The vineyards and the cellars are located in the westernmost side of the island, almost 130 wholly-owned hectares, in an area of magical beauty. Throughout its history, spanning 3 generations, the Caruso family (Assuli winery) has always managed the business directly, making innovative and sometimes courageous choices, but always maintaining an unwavering respect for tradition and the land. Nature, with its rhythms, is the key to understanding Assuli. The recovery of an ancient baglio - the result of the painstaking and detailed restoration using local, ecological and natural materials - is the first step towards that sustainability always pursued in the vineyard and in the cellar. Aromas of peach and citrus fruits dominate the nose. On the palate, this varietal Zibibbo is dry, fresh, and soft with a pleasant balance between acidity and minerality. Pair with grilled Salmon, shrimp scampi, light pastas or fresh salads.

Thieves' price: \$17.99

2021 Nittardi 'Ad Astra' Rosso Maremma Toscana, Italy



A blend of Sangiovese 50%, Cabernet Sauvignon 25%, Cabernet Franc 20%, and Merlot 5%. In its natural state the Maremma is a very marshy area in Tuscany – its very name derives from the Spanish word Marisma, meaning 'marsh'. It was drained by first the Etruscans, then by the Romans, and finally in the 1930s (more than a millennium later) under Mussolini's fascist regime. Dante, the famous author of 'Inferno' in the Middle Ages referred to this region as "tangled thickets, wild animals on the horrible sands!" Now the keyword from this area is sand, where these vines grow sand is well-drained and imparts all kinds of minerality. The Nittardi Estate, on the boundary between the provinces of Siena and Florence, was originally a defensive tower known as early as 1183 by the name of "**Nectar Dei**" (The Nectar of the God). A suggestive nose of plums and berries and with a hint of licorice; a fine wine with a complex bouquet. Excellently suited to all variations of fish and appetizers, like grilled mushrooms, aged cheeses, and lamb satay.

Thieves' price: \$17.99

2015 La Quercia Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Colline Teramane, DOCG, Abruzzo, Italy



Although winemaking in Abruzzo dates all the way back to the Etruscans in the sixth century BC, like many regions in Italy, it experienced a slump following WWII. In the 1980's, however, Abruzzo began experiencing a renaissance - beginning with the creation of larger co-operatives and then expanding to include more boutique, family-owned estates, focusing on the Montepulciano grape. Over the last decade, La Quercia has quietly emerged as one of the most important qualitative wineries in Abruzzo. Antonio Lamona's (non-certified) organic, old-vine, low-yield recipe offers exceptional wines every year. The Col-

line Teramane DOCG Riserva is made from 20-50 year-old vines and aged for two years. Having started as an enologist in both Puglia and Abruzzo, Antonio Lamona today channels all his energies and expertise into La Quercia. Together with three lifelong friends, he oversees this gorgeous, rustic estate in the tiny Adriatic town where sea, sun and wind abound. Notes of cocoa, rhubarb, blackberry and herbs, it has a classic, yet lush mouthfeel.

Thieves' price: \$37.99

2022 The Vice “The Porterhouse” Petite Sirah Coombsville, Napa Valley



Established as an American Viticultural Area in 2011, Coombsville is Napa Valley's 16th and newest appellation. A five-minute drive from downtown Napa, the region expands 11,000 acres, but only 13% is planted to vineyards—the remainder are rolling hills of wild landscape dotted with homes and horses. The Vice was founded with the belief that the best wine is not the one with the highest price tag—it's the wine that's the most meticulously crafted. They craft wine from 15 of Napa's 16 sub-regions, and are currently the only vintner offering such a diverse portfolio of Napa Valley under one label. With a nose of cassis, blackberry, blueberry and a dusty mineral finish, this Petite Sirah bursts with savory and persistent flavor. Lightly tactile tannins combine with balanced acidity for a very long finish.

Pair with roasted or barbequed beef, Mongolian barbeque, tandoori lamb kebabs, eggplant parmesan, roasted and charred vegetables.

Thieves' price: \$36.99