

2019 Barbanera Sangiovese Bianco Toscana, Italy



Bibi Graetz founded his winery in 2000 on the grounds of his family's home, Castello di Vincigliata which is located in the hills of Fiesole just north of Florence. The 7.4 acre vineyard that surrounds the Castello was planted by Bibi's parents in 1971. A graduate of the Accademia dell'Arte in Florence, this artist-turned-winemaker began producing classic Tuscan varietals in the 1990's when the family's vineyard contracts began to expire. In collaboration with consulting winemaker Alberto Antonini, Bibi produced his first vintage in 2000 and the wines quickly gained critical acclaim. From younger

vines, the Sangiovese grapes are immediately pressed of the skins. Fermentation take place in stainless steel and then the wine rested there for another 6 months. The fresh and easy-drinking result is not only fantastic, clean, and zippy, but also a unique experience. Wonderful with seafood and firm cheeses, the flavor profile exhibits nuances of red fruits yet combined with more classic citrus and tree fruit tones.

Thieves' price: \$10.99

2018 Hedges C.M.S. Red blend Columbia Valley, Washington



A Blend of 76% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, and 4% Syrah. The Hedges have concentrated their efforts on Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, and the concept of terroir since their first vintage in 1987. With Anne-Marie Hedges' roots and childhood in the Champagne region of France, it was only natural that a French-style chateau would be built on the slopes of Red Mountain amongst their vines. Their daughter, Sarah Hedges-Goedhart, is the head winemaker with their son Christophe Hedges being the General Manager. Hedges Cellars transitioned to Hedges Family Estate, and farming practices became more focused towards being organic, vegan, and some of their vineyards are being certified Demeter.

Black cherry, raspberry, warm mulling spices with a bit of cocoa, vanilla and anise. The palate is very soft up front, has a nice creamy center and while it does pack a slight punch, it lingers into a finessed finish. Flavors of chocolate, sarsaparilla, raspberry candy, clove and cinnamon, this wine is delicious, well rounded and sure to be a crowd pleaser.

Thieves' price: \$10.99

2018 Epiphany Grenache Blanc Rodney's Vineyard



Founded by Eli Parker at the turn of the century, Epiphany was at first intended as a creative outlet for the then adventurous winemaking son of Fess Parker. As the years progressed, Eli assumed the role of Brand Visionary, paving the way for winemaker Blair Fox to assume the enological reins at the winery. The Epiphany portfolio has become a highly coveted selection of mostly Santa Barbara County- designated Rhone-inspired wines, considered by leading critics to be a flagship producer from this vibrant growing region. Sourced entirely from Rodney's' Vineyard on the Fess Parker Home Ranch, this vibrant white springs to life on the nose with aromas of honeydew, candied ginger, white peach, and lemon. There's a slight hint of petrol on the wound-up nose of this bottling alongside lemon blossom, underripe mango and a hint of guava. The palate is very dry and mineral-driven, with a high-toned structure that delivers flavors of wet rocks and grapefruit pith. Try it with roasted chicken, pork tenderloin, halibut, or your favorite cheese.

Thieves' price: \$14.99

2018 Viña Progreso Cabernet Franc Progreso, Uruguay



Viña Progreso is a project from 4th generation winemaker, Gabriel Pisano. Gabriel was born in the vineyard, and his personality is that of an explorer. After studying oenology at Uruguayan Vine & Wine School, Gabriel traveled the world learning to make wine with world famous winemakers in the famed regions of Sonoma, California (with David Ramey); Priorat, Spain (Mas Doix), and Apalta, Chile (Michel Rolland). Intense and complex flavors, resulting from the slow ripening season typical of the cool temperate climate of the southern region of the Uruguayan coast. Between parallels 30 and 35, resting on the Atlantic Ocean, Uruguay shares the same latitude with the best viticultural regions of the Southern Hemisphere. Aromas are dense, round and exquisite recalling nuts, hazelnuts and green pepper. The palate is balanced, smooth, pleasantly tannic, slightly herbaceous, and persistent. This wine fits perfectly pasta with cream sauces, polenta with tomato sauce, and small game like hare, partridge and wild duck.

Thieves' price: \$16.99

2014 Paul Mathew Pinot Noir TNT Vineyard, Russian River Valley



Mat Gustafson's passion for wine began while working at his uncle's store in his home state of Michigan. By the young age of 18, Mat earned his hotel/restaurant degree and began managing restaurants. After a stop in Boulder to manage the Flagstaff House, he made his way to California, working with Joseph Phelps, Merry Edwards, and Dutton Estate. Mat is dedicated to low-input winemaking techniques. Whenever possible, indigenous yeast is used for fermentation as well as indigenous ML bacteria. He uses as little SO₂ as possible and

bottles the wine without filtration. The two acre TNT vineyard was planted in 1999 on a south facing slope with 4x4 spacing giving 2,700 vines per acre. Because of the close spacing it produces about 3.5 to 4 tons per acre with consistently high quality and great depth of flavor. Rich plump red fruits from the strawberry and raspberry to plum and cherry on the nose and palate, with robust tannins and mouthwatering finish. Amazing depth of flavor.

Thieves' price: \$36.99

2016 Blackbird “Arise” Meritage blend Napa Valley



A blend of 55% Merlot - 25% Cabernet Franc - 17% Cabernet Sauvignon - 3% Petit Verdot. “Arise” is a blend of four top notch Napa vineyards; **Blackbird Vineyard** in the Oak Knoll District, **Hudson Vineyard**, perched on a rolling hillside in the cool climate of Carneros, **Stagecoach Vineyard** - Atop the Vaca Mountains south of Pritchard Hill, and the Crocker & Starr Vineyard, in St. Helena. One of the Wine Thieves favorite California winemakers, Aaron Pott got his Oenology degree from the UC Davis, then got to work at Newton in 1990 where he met consulting winemaker Michel Rolland. Michel got him a job at Château Troplong Mondot and, in 1994, became director of Château La Tour Figeac in Bordeaux. From there he worked for St Clement, Quintessa, and now consults for

many wineries including Blackbird. The 2016 Arise offers a rich attack with sweet, plush tannins and notes of cherry, plum, and smoked duck in a long finish of coffee, plum, and blueberry. An ideal 2016 harvest season resulted in rich fruit of uncompromised character. The 2016 Arise is Blackbird at its core of supple winemaking.

Thieves' price: \$34.99