

Mel's Selections

☐ **2010 Luigi Bosca Lujan de Cuyo DOC \$27**

Malbec

A full Malbec from the only DOC in Argentina and one of the countrys top producers. The wine is rich and dark with lots of spice and cedar notes. The high elevation vineyardds keep the wine crisp and fresh.

☐ **2012 Principe Pallavicini Amarasco Cesanese \$22**

100% Cesanese

Pallavicini is located in Lazio (the knee cap). The name Amarasco refers to the typical aromas of the Cesanese grape variety, the violetta flower and sour cherry, also called “amarasco” in Italian. This wine comes from some of the oldest Pallavicini vineyards with 60 years old vines. The wine has broad aromas with notes of nutmeg, red rose and spicy nuances. The palate has great thrust but is balanced and mouth-filling with a long finish.

☐ **2011 Chateau Les Hauts de Plaisance Haut Medoc**

(\$14)

50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc

The Heights of Pleasure (Hauts de Plaisance) promises a lot and delivers. This second wine from Chateau Pontoise Cabarus has a complex aromatic nose of red fruit, berries, coffee, and spice. The palate has a delicious balance of fruit, tannins, and acidity this wine tastes of cherry and blackberry, with a hint of coffee and chocolate.

☐ **2011 Notre Dame des Pallières Les Ribes Rasteau**

(\$13)

75% Grenache, 15% Mourvedre, and 10% Cinsault.

Fuller-bodied, dry. This wine has a youthful purple color and a complex nose of clove and earthy tobacco. The palate is full of dark plum, mocha, and licorice followed by a very long finish of fine tannins.

Was \$17 now \$13

☐ **2011 Velenosi Brecciarolo Rosso Piceno**

(\$15)

70% Montepulciano, 30% Sangiovese

Il Brecciarolo refers to the broken stones typical of the soils in this area. The heartiness of the Montepulciano dominates while the Sangiovese lifts the aromatics and brightens it. Its tannins give the wine structure, but are so soft and refined they almost feel creamy, while great acidity follows through the finish.

☐ **2011 Hightower Cellars Murray Cuvée**

(\$15)

64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Malbec, 12% Petit Verdot, 6% Merlot

The Murray has aromas of red berry fruits and cassis mingled with herbal notes. The cool vintage acidity makes this wine mouthwatering and juicy with a fruity mid-palate, finely textured tannins and toasty oak notes on the finish.

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