KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT

OCTOBER 2021



Good rosé is not seasonal

© Gail Skoff

PINOT NOIR FROM FRANCE AND ITALY
HOUSE WINE SAMPLER • ITALIAN VALUES
REDS FROM CORSICA'S PREMIER AOC

MORETTO LAMBRUSCO

by Anthony Lynch

2020 LAMBRUSCO GRASPAROSSA DI CASTELVETRO SECCO • FATTORIA MORETTO

Have a whiff of this attractively frothy, deep purple beverage: does any other wine come close to matching its vivid scent? The three-dimensional fragrance leaps from the glass, hinting at freshly pressed grapes, wild mulberries, and crushed violets.

Produced from organically farmed hillside vineyards just outside of Modena, Moretto's Grasparossa is made for the notoriously rich cuisine of Emilia-Romagna, arguably the home of Italy's finest meats and cheeses. The bone-dry finish features bracing acidity and chalky tannins, designed to cut through the fat of a mortadella sandwich or chunks of aged Parmigiano. You can't go wrong pairing this sparkling *rosso* with virtually any dish from Emilian cuisine or a simple margherita pizza, but it also marries wonderfully with barbecue slathered in smoky sauce and carnitas seasoned with a bit of spice.

Serve it cool and plan smartly—at just 11.5% alcohol, a single bottle has been known to disappear before one's thirst has been fully quenched.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE

\$237.60 PER CASE

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Visit our retail shop or shop.kermitlynch.com between Tuesday, October 19 and Saturday, October 30 for our annual Anniversary Sale!

Dozens of selections span the . . . 49 years! . . . since we first opened our doors—longtime favorites and recent discoveries from France and Italy!

BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES

by Chris Santini, KLWM BEAUNE

2020 BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES "CUVÉE MARYLOU" • GUY BRETON

Breton's Marylou exemplifies all that is right with Beaujolais. Easy on the eyes (just look at that vibrant color!), easy on the head (alcohol and sulfur circumscribed), easy enough on the wallet (this is Guy Breton, living legend, after all!), and full steam ahead on the joy of it all.

\$28.00 PER BOTTLE

\$302.40 PER CASE

2020 BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES • ALEX FOILLARD

Alex may be young, but his wines show plenty of wisdom and depth. In fact, Alex's Beaujolais-Villages is a sort of tightrope act, looking for that Guy Breton-esque burst of airy pleasure, mixed with a, dare I say it, Jean Foillard-like depth and grip. I was hoping to avoid adding the inevitable mention of Jean when speaking about Alex's wines, but I just can't help but think of this as the most compelling and delicious Beaujolais cross-pollination one could wish for.



\$31.00 PER BOTTLE

\$334.80 PER CASE

2020 BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES "GRANDES TERRES" • QUENTIN HAREL

If you're looking for a fun experiment that requires drinking plenty of Beaujo-lais, please consider the following: get a bottle of each of the three wines on this page, pop the corks, and enjoy a comparative tasting. I'll bet you'll want to dive into the crystal-clear purity of Lake Breton. I've got a hunch you'll be seduced by the dark side of Foillard's force. And I guarantee you'll do a double take of Harel's "Grandes Terres" (be sure to taste it last). Why? I'll let you in on a little secret: the "Grandes Terres" parcel is an old field blend with Pinot Noir, a few old Swiss varieties, and some teinturier vines hidden amongst the Gamay. Not too many of course, but just enough to add another dimension, some complexity, and some stuffing to this turducken that makes it stand out and, most important of all, fun to drink!

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE

\$237.60 PER CASE

ITALIAN VALUES

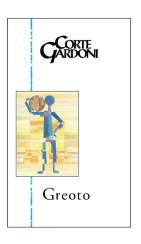
by Dustin Soiseth

2020 CUSTOZA "GREOTO" CORTE GARDONI

This is such an effortless white wine. It's always tasty and nimbly accompanies just about any food or occasion. The 2020 vintage offers lots of pear with a bit of citrus zest and an herbal note. Each sip is a crash of flavor up front followed by a brisk, delicate finish, like an ocean wave that breaks and then disappears into the sand.

\$14.00 PER BOTTLE

\$151.20 PER CASE



2020 VALLE D'ITRIA *BIANCO* "FARAONE" • I PÁSTINI



From vineyards on a plateau overlooking the Adriatic Sea, and made from Verdeca, a local variety related to Verdicchio, Gianni Carparelli's "Faraone" is refreshingly green, rich, and briny, like a bowl of Castelvetrano olives. There's lots to love for Sancerre and Corsica fans on a budget.

\$20.00 PER BOTTLE

\$216.00 PER CASE



\$21.00 PER BOTTLE

2018 ROSSO DEI DARDI FANTINO

How about a smooth, fruit-laden quaffer made by Barolo wizards? The Fantino brothers, Alessandro and Gian Natale, work their magic with grapes from the Dardi section of the famous Bussia *cru* in Monforte d'Alba. This everyday *rosso*'s perfumed Nebbiolo fruit and tender tannins encourage pulling the cork just for the sake of quenching one's thirst.

\$226.80 PER CASE

2019 LANGHE NEBBIOLO • TINTERO

Who says you have to pay big bucks for an authentic expression of terroir? Not Marco Tintero, the current generation running things at his family's 120-year-old estate. There's no mistaking this scrumptious red for anything other than Nebbiolo—perfectly ripe, dusty red fruit, gentle tannins, and the telltale scents of tar and roses.

\$14.00 PER BOTTLE **\$151.20** PER CASE



Cinzia, Marco, and Margherita Tintero

© Gail Skoff

PINOT NOIR FROM FRANCE AND ITALY

by Tom Wolf

As a rule of thumb at KLWM, we prize wines made from grapes that are indigenous to or traditional in a given region. We look for Chenin Blanc in the Loire Valley, Sangiovese in Tuscany, and Syrah in the northern Rhône. We rarely seek out bottles featuring famous grape varieties planted where they don't have a time-honored and deeply ingrained culture. But every now and then, we do come across a gorgeous, terroir-driven Sauvignon Blanc from Alto Adige or Chardonnay from Friuli, and we can't resist. After all, certain grape varieties are exceptionally chameleon-like, able to reflect the unique beauty of their surroundings as much as or more so than any core flavor profile of their own.

Arguably no grape epitomizes this more than Pinot Noir. The terroir transparency of Pinot Noir has made its home region, Burgundy, so fascinating and rewarding to dissect, given the countless expressions of the grape depending on the vine's microclimate, soil, exposure, and elevation, among other factors. As it has made its way farther and farther outside of Burgundy over the centuries, Pinot Noir's character has differentiated itself even more, resulting in a dizzying range of wines, from elegant and ethereal to ripe and intense. The wines below come from regions where this grape has thrived for a long time as well as from relative newcomers. All exquisite in their own way, they offer a vast range of the possibilities of Pinot Noir.

2019 SANCERRE ROUGE • DANIEL CHOTARD

Sancerre may be best known for its crisp white wines made from Sauvignon Blanc, but this village has also cultivated Pinot Noir for centuries. Chotard has crafted a delicious, complex, and elegant *rouge* that gives many village Burgundies a run for their money.

\$31.00 PER BOTTLE **\$334.80** PER CASE

2018 ALOXE-CORTON 1ER CRU "CLOS DU CHAPITRE" • FOLLIN-ARBELET

This outstanding *premier cru* bottling comes from the village of Aloxe-Corton in the heart of Burgundy and delivers a world-class rendition of elegant Burgundian Pinot Noir from one of the region's great traditionalists.

\$102.00 PER BOTTLE

\$1,101.60 PER CASE

2017 POMMARD 1ER CRU "LES CROIX NOIRES" LUCIEN BOILLOT ET FILS

On the other side of Beaune from Aloxe-Corton, Pommard is home to relatively muscular renditions of Pinot Noir. This red is deep and powerful, but the charming 2017 vintage and the Boillots' nearly hundred-year-old vines have endowed the wine with unusual elegance and refinement.

\$121.00 PER BOTTLE

\$1,306.80 PER CASE

2020 SAVOIE CHIGNIN PINOT NOIR A. & M. QUENARD

If any Pinot Noir on these pages is built for the Parisian bistro or Lyonnais bouchon, it is this one from the hills of Chignin, in Savoie. The vines' southeastern exposure gives them plenty of sunlight, resulting in a ripe and succulent *rouge* perfect for your next picnic or Thanksgiving table.

\$29.00 PER BOTTLE

\$313.20 PER CASE

2018 ALTO ADIGE PINOT NERO "FILARI DI MAZZÖN" • FERRUCCIO CARLOTTO

The *cru* of Mazzön, which stretches along an imposing limestone ridge above the town of Ora in northeastern Italy, has produced top-notch Pinot Nero for nearly two hundred years. The Carlottos' bottling, which evokes black cherries and blood orange, is one of Italy's most refined and age-worthy red wines made from this grape.

\$48.00 PER BOTTLE

\$518.40 PER CASE

2016 FRIULI COLLI ORIENTALI PINOT NERO "RONCO PITOTTI" • VIGNAI DA DULINE

Another of Italy's most sublime Pinot Neros, this Ronco Pitotti comes from vines planted in 1940 and 1980. Aged extensively in barrel and bottle, it delivers elegance, finesse, and complexity that you would expect from *premier* or *grand cru* Burgundy.

\$124.00 PER BOTTLE

\$1,339.20 PER CASE



ROSÉS

by Anthony Lynch

2020 VALLE D'ITRIA ROSATO "LE ROTAIE" • I PÁSTINI

Specializing in the native grape varieties of the Valle d'Itria, a small wine region hugging the Adriatic coast of Puglia, this organic family-run farm makes a rosé from the local Susumaniello grape. It's as fun to drink as it is to say, and its vibrant pressed-berry fruit is a lovely foil to late-season tomatoes, simple seafood preparations, and vegetarian pastas. The slightly deeper color, typical of southern Italian *rosato*, does not make it any less refreshing.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE

\$237.60 PER CASE

2020 CHINON ROSÉ • BERNARD BAUDRY

Matthieu Baudry makes his rosé from young Cabernet Franc vines on the gravelly banks of the Vienne, capturing both youthful fruit and energizing mineral textures. He does not inoculate with cultured yeast or inhibit the naturally occurring malolactic conversion, something rare in the world of rosé. These wholesome methods translate to authentic flavors of place enveloped in a gentle creaminess, with perfectly integrated fruit, acid, stone, and spice.

\$24.00 PER BOTTLE

\$259.20 PER CASE

2019 BEAUJOLAIS ROSÉ • DOMAINE DUPEUBLE

With carefully farmed Gamay vines up to seventy years old on granite terroir, it's no surprise the Dupeubles are as accomplished in pink as they are in red. Beyond its playful cherry fruit, this one has a crisp core coated in juicy flesh, with enough complexity to keep it highly satisfying well into its second year of life.

\$17.00 PER BOTTLE

\$183.60 PER CASE

ROSATO SPUMANTE BRUT "IL ROSA" SOMMARIVA

Wine snobs, I'll save you some time—this is not for you, so move along! But for those of you open to the charms of a fizzy pink pleasure bomb from Prosecco territory, read on. Cinzia Sommariva uses Raboso and Pinot Nero for this spritzy rosato with scents of *frutti di bosco* and wildflowers. Its raison d'être? It doesn't need one. Just chill it down and quaff away!

\$14.95 PER BOTTLE

\$161.46 PER CASE

HOUSE WINE SAMPLER

by Emily Spillmann, KLWM BEAUNE

N MY NEIGHBOR'S COFFEE TABLE lies a beautifully illustrated interior design book I sometimes flip through for inspiration. In the chapter on kitchens, my eye was recently drawn to an image of a glass-domed cake stand sitting pretty on a pristine marble countertop. "Keep it full of freshly baked specialties," the author recommends, "to ensure even unexpected guests feel you were waiting for them." This struck a chord with my American sense of hospitality before the image transformed in my mind's eye from cake stand to wine bottle. In France or Italy, when you drop by unannounced, you're more likely to be wined than dined, although you might have both.

Wine can be just as casual and comforting as baked goods. This sampler is meant to arm you with an exceptional array of prime "house" wine candidates so you can be ready for company, glass-domed cake stand or not! These are the best kinds of wines: easy to open, easy to pair with snacks or starters, and easy on the pocketbook. Included are thirst quenchers from the Veneto, Loire, and Savoie, a dark, spicy Corbières *rouge*, and several charming Italian and Loire Valley reds. There's one bone-dry rosé, and—particularly noteworthy—the Petit Royal from Seyssel: an Alpine sparkler so classy and so reasonably priced you might buy a whole case and call it a day. Imagine popping bubbly every time a friend drops by! Much more exciting than chocolate chip cookies in my book.

PER BOTTLI
2018 GAMBELLARA "EL GIAN" • DAVIDE VIGNATO \$18.00
2018 FRIULI COLLI ORIENTALI PINOT GRIGIO • LA VIARTE 19.95
2020 Savoie Chignin $Blanc \cdot A$. et M. Quenard 20.00
2019 Vin de France "Chenin Blanc" • Pascal Janvier 22.00
Vin de France Brut "Petit Royal" • Lambert de Seyssel 22.00
2020 Bardolino Chiaretto Rosé "Nichesole"
Corte Gardoni
2020 Vino Rosso • Tintero
2018 Barbera "Rosso Pietro" • Cantine Valpane 16.00
2019 Corbières $Rouge \bullet Domaine de Fontsainte 16.00$
2020 Beaujolais • Domaine Dupeuble 18.00
2017 Cerasuolo di Vittoria • Portelli 24.00
2015 CHINON "LES PETITES ROCHES" • CHARLES JOGUET 24.00

Normally \$226.90

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE \$181.00

(a 20% discount)

PATRIMONIO

REDS FROM CORSICA'S PREMIER AOC

by Anthony Lynch

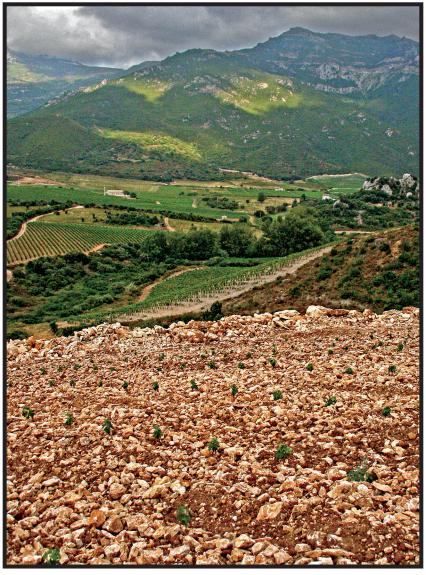
RANTED AOC STATUS IN 1968, Patrimonio represents Corsica's very first appellation, the veritable epicenter of a qualitative revolution at a time when the island was best known for producing bulk in high volume. While landowners in some parts of Corsica—notably the flatter, fertile east coast, where single estates extended over hundreds of hectares—planted high-yielding grapes and adopted shortcuts geared at increasing production, Patrimonio's vignerons proudly farmed small family plots via traditional methods. The appellation's pioneering producers by and large embraced indigenous grape varieties—Niellucciu for red, Vermentinu for white—and rejected industrial production techniques. Today, Patrimonio is a dynamic wine region featuring a mix of exciting young producers and established legends who paved the way. The entire appellation has also made a commitment to sustainability, becoming France's first AOC to ban synthetic herbicides.

Patrimonio's magic lies in its mosaic of soils, with glossy schist from the mountainous Cap Corse mingling with white limestone deposits and pockets of craggy granite. A sunny climate defined by opportune rainfall and the moderating influence of the nearby Mediterranean makes this a viticultural paradise comparable to the most renowned terroirs of southern France and coastal Italy.

Stylistically, red Patrimonio falls somewhere between the earthy, herbal nature of traditional Chianti, with which it shares the principal grape (Niellucciu being a Corsican descendant of Sangiovese), and the gamey rusticity of Bandol. A deep savory quality is standard, along with thick black fruit specked with licorice, spice, smoke, wild herbs, and a woodsy quality reminiscent of a walk through a Mediterranean forest.

This trio of reds offers three very different sides of Patrimonio. There is something striking about the pinpoint precision of Yves Leccia's *rouge*, its notes of iron, wet asphalt, and maquis herbs soaring over a chewy, yet chiseled tannic frame. Young Simon Giacometti, who already boasts several stellar vintages under his belt, crafts a more supple red in the Désert des Agriates, a remote corner of the appellation characterized by granite outcrops interspersed with dense thickets of fragrant shrubbery. The juicy, brambly fruit and hints of smoked meat come into perfect focus with a slight chill. Lastly, Muriel Giudicelli is the only one to age her Patrimonio in wood, opting for large *foudres* to impart a fine grain and satiny texture. Of the three, with its concentrated aromas of black cherry and plum, it shows the strongest kinship with Tuscany.

PER BOTTLE	PER CASE
2017 Patrimonio Rouge "E Croce" • Yves Leccia \$39.00	\$421.20
2018 Patrimonio <i>Rouge</i> "Cru des Agriate"	
Domaine Giacometti	270.00
2017 PATRIMONIO ROUGE • DOMAINE GIUDICELLI 52.00	561.60



Patrimonio © Gail Skoff

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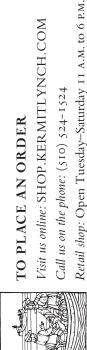
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Black is not the color of Burgundy. You must be able to see through a glass of it. The Pinot has a pretty robe, glistening and shimmering like a cat's eyes, sparkling like a diamond. It is a wine that enchants with its perfume. It must be fine and elegant, which does not exclude a solid structure. For me, a perfect Pinot is an alliance between great finesse and a tannin present but not dominant.

> -HENRI JAYER, APRIL 1988 NEWSLETTER

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