



KERMIT LYNCH
WINE MERCHANT

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

- NEW ARRIVALS
- KERMIT'S NEW BOOK
- TIMELY CHAMPAGNE DISCOUNT

OPEN • TUESDAY-SATURDAY 11 A.M. to 6 P.M. CLOSED • SUNDAY & MONDAY

DECEMBER 2004

— NEW ARRIVALS —

FRANCE

2003 CÔTE DE BROUILLY
NICOLE CHANRION

The 2003 great growths from the Beaujolais are of interest. I was impressed when Marcel Lapierre said he was setting aside a lot of magnums so he would have plenty of good stuff to drink in his old age. I had not thought to cellar any 2003s, because they show beautiful tannins but little acidity. I am going to listen to Marcel, however, because 2003 is an amazing vintage in the Beaujolais. The region lies between the freakish 2003 heat and drought of northern France and the ideal conditions in the south.

Chanrion's is ample with a crisp, dry finish. The nose and flavors are a treat. Yum! Of all the fruits in the big perfume, strawberry seems the most obvious, and to find spice and black pepper alongside makes it even better.

\$16.00 PER BOTTLE **\$172.80** PER CASE

2002 BOURGOGNE *BLANC*
HENRI DE VÉZELAY

Welcome to a perfect white Burgundy vintage. Our Vézelay has been called the best white Burgundy value being sold today, and here it is, probably their finest since the 1996. It is very expressive, ready to go, and a beautifully proportioned wine, especially the balance of Chardonnay fruit and minerality. Here is a great food wine with a long, long finish.

\$16.00 PER BOTTLE **\$172.80** PER CASE

2003 BOURGUEIL “BEAUVAIS”
DOMAINE DE LA CHANTELEUSERIE

Don't underestimate the fact that Beauvais has been considered for centuries one of the three or four greatest *terroirs* at Bourgueil. You can count on the *terroir* delivering in a year like 2003. Delivering what? Beauvais is hillside chalk, the famous “tuf” known for giving us Cabernets that do not strut their stuff right out of the gate. They can seem closed and tight. As they age the complexity deepens. You can age along with it!

The 2003 is rather grandiose on the palate. It is a mouthfiller.

\$14.95 PER BOTTLE **\$161.46** PER CASE

SAVOIE A. & M. QUENARD

2003 CHIGNIN

Typical, but more pleasurable than usual. How's that for a tasting note? I scribbled it down as I tasted this Chignin with Quenard last summer. Here is what I meant: typical Chignin character, atypically delicious. There is a minerality, but we have the 2003 heat wave at the foot of the Alps to figure into the recipe. Those grapes were luscious! Honey drippers. To those of you who have lived a life without Chignin (which isn't even listed in the index of Hugh Johnson's *Modern Encyclopedia of Wine!*): start with this one, and you will make a happy discovery.

\$13.95 PER BOTTLE **\$150.66** PER CASE

2002 CHIGNIN BERGERON “ÉLEVÉ EN Foudre DE CHÈNE”

Okay, folks, this is a breakthrough wine, required for KLWM clients, the fulfillment of a dream for me. The Bergeron is actually from the Roussanne grape. Quenard's are grown in a stony, steep (almost vertical) terraced vineyard. Natural yeasts, malolactic fermentation, aged in an oak *foudre*, bottled unfiltered. Taste it, drain it, ask yourself if you have ever tasted such a great Roussanne.

In the Savoie they named the Roussanne the Bergeron, after France's finest apricot variety, which thrives around Cornas and Tain l'Hermitage. Here you will comprehend why the Roussanne came to be called the Bergeron when it was planted at Chignin.

\$24.00 PER BOTTLE **\$259.20** PER CASE

2003 MONDEUSE VIEILLES VIGNES

And here is the Savoie's answer to the Syrah grape, and in a super ripe vintage, also aged in an oak *foudre*. It is opulent and dense, loaded with flavor, and boasts a chewy tannin. It is also the chance for you to experience the ripest Mondeuse perfume in history. Just think about that.

\$23.00 PER BOTTLE **\$248.40** PER CASE



— NEW ARRIVALS —

ITALY

2003 TOCAI FRIULANO • LA VIARTE

The vineyard is in the Colli Orientali del Friuli where the finest Tocai is produced. “Nowhere else does Tocai achieve the same perfect balance or comparable depth of flavor,” wrote Victor Hazan in *Italian Wine*. He continues, “Tocai’s whispery bouquet is a combination of fruity, floral, and herbal aromas, in which one might distinguish the scent of almonds and, more faintly, fennel. Flavor reaches the palate with a solid impact, cushioned by impressions of roundness and warmth. Acidity is moderate, but sufficient to impart vigor. The aftertaste is emphatic, with clearly emerging sensations of fennel and of an agreeable, peachpit-like bitterness.”

For your first sip, try to have on hand the best prosciutto you can find. Tocai is also a great treat with smoky, grilled fowl.

\$13.95 PER BOTTLE **\$150.66** PER CASE

2000 BRAZAN • I CLIVI

Brazan is the wine Superman’s parents enjoyed on the planet Krypton. Just kidding. This is an old-vine (forty- to sixty-year-old) blend of Tocai Friulano and Malvasia Istriana vinified exactly like a white Burgundy minus any oak. There is no filtration, no bottling machine, all is done by hand. The aromatic depth is unusual for an Italian white, and the amplitude, the sense of breadth and depth on the palate, is remarkable.

\$22.00 PER BOTTLE **\$237.60** PER CASE

1999 CHIANTI CLASSICO RISERVA
VILLA DI GEGGIANO

If I had a restaurant, I’d feature this one, it is such a lovely creation. And like the best ’99s from the Rhône Valley of France, it is a delight to drink now with its perfect proportions, its elegant fruit, its subtlety, and there is no question about its aging potential. It is built to last and will continue to divulge its loveliness.

\$24.00 PER BOTTLE **\$259.20** PER CASE



— BARGAIN SPOTLIGHT —

GUIDO PORRO

DID YOU SEE the poll showing that 99 percent of American wine buyers believe that price is like a score: the higher it is, the better the wine? Neither did I, but I would believe it.

Guido Porro's Piedmontese reds are two, three, four, even five times cheaper (in the case of his Barolo) than certain others, yet they are so full of flavor the bottle can barely contain them. Turn yourself on now while his fabulous 2003s are available.

2003 BARBERA "SANTA CATERINA"

Pick up a case, because you may never have a chance at another Barbera like this. It is black, it is beautiful. The texture is thick and soft: black, chewy velvet!

\$14.95 PER BOTTLE **\$161.46** PER CASE

2003 DOLCETTO "I PARI"

Dense, deep robe again. Sweet black fruits in a dry red. Not bad at all. The palate is huge and so are the tannins. It is a freak of a Dolcetto that you could water down and derive a lot of pleasure. Yields were minuscule, and according to three generations of Porros, such ripeness has never before been experienced.

\$14.95 PER BOTTLE **\$161.46** PER CASE

2003 PAESAN

This is a blend of Barolo (Nebbiolo) and 20 percent Barbera, ready to drink. There is sweet, luscious fruit, thick with Piedmont character and the taste of ripe grapes. Very unusual, such a pretty wine with such a big, chewy tannin.

\$16.00 PER BOTTLE **\$172.80** PER CASE

2000 BAROLO "LAZZAIRASCO"

What a broad, deep, elegant, civilized nose. But what a voyage as you get into it and it gets into you and crescendoes into a huge, regal, tannic, intensely Barolo finish. It is magical.

And this is not a special sale price. This is Porro's normal price translated by our Bush league dollar. Thus the Bargain Spotlight.

\$34.00 PER BOTTLE **\$367.20** PER CASE

INSPIRING THIRST



Vintage Selections from the
KERMIT LYNCH
Wine Brochure

INSPIRING THIRST

Ten Speed Press, 420 pages, \$40

Text by Kermit Lynch, photographs by Gail Skoff

THERE IS A PILLAR in the center of Richard Olney's kitchen in Provence which, over the years, Richard decorated by pasting his wine labels all over it. At lunch about ten or fifteen years ago my wife posed Richard and me clinking glasses in front of that pillar. Do I alone find her photo uplifting? Something of the spirit of wine is expressed by it: sharing good cheer and hoping for the best in the future.

I admit to having wondered at least a couple of times to myself, would anyone ever find the pieces in my brochures interesting enough to publish after I'm gone? Luckily, I won't have to wait that long. Ten Speed Press proposed the idea for this new book and the result is now available: brochure selections from 1974 to the end of 2003. I hope you will enjoy discovering or re-visiting such items as Alice Waters's "Fish Soup on the Floor," Daniel Brunier describing the smell of the *garigue* as most intense when he takes a leak outdoors under the Provençal sun, Wendell Berry's "Confessions of a Water Drinker," pig knuckles and lamb balls at Chave's with Boz Scaggs and Robert Parker, and let's not overlook providing wine recommendations for Elvis and Tricky Dick. Oh, there's some serious stuff in the book, too—some tasting notes, berries and cherries galore, vintage chatter, serving suggestions, diatribes, and so on. (Now if I can just get the CD I recorded with some top-flight musicians released, my aspirations will be fulfilled. I will have spent my youth on noble wines and songs and can then yield to gluttony, lechery, and licentiousness for the remainder. And when I say top-flight musicians, how about Bonnie Raitt's rhythm section, keyboard man Jim Pugh from the Robert Cray band, bluesman Alvin Youngblood Hart, fiddle by Laurie Lewis, and more? Shall I title it *Wine, Women, and Song?*)

~ I will be in the shop to sign my new book on Saturday, December 11, from 12 to 4 PM. Or by phone you can order signed copies to be shipped wherever you like. Our special price: \$34.

~ There is also a signing at Cody's on Fourth Street in Berkeley on December 4 at 6 PM. I'll read from the book and pour a taste of my Gigondas, 2001. Call 510-559-9500 for information.

~ I am crossing the Bay Bridge to discuss and sign *Inspiring Thirst* in San Francisco on Tuesday, December 7, at the Mechanics Institute, 57 Post Street, at 6 PM. Wine and cheese will be served. Reservations are necessary. Call 415-393-0100 or e-mail rsvp@mlibrary.org.

DECEMBER CHAMPAGNE DISCOUNT

WE ALWAYS OFFER special prices in November, but this year an important shipment was delayed, so we will make up for it by according the discount to you during Champagne's biggest month, December.

SANTÉ!

J. LASSALLE	REGULARLY	20% PER BOTTLE	30% PER CASE
BRUT RÉSERVE "CACHET D'OR"	\$35.00	\$28.00	\$294.00
BRUT "IMPÉRIAL PRÉFÉRENCE"	39.00	31.20	327.60
1994 BLANC DE BLANCS	56.00	44.80	470.40

<i>Paul Bara</i>	REGULARLY	20% PER BOTTLE	30% PER CASE
BRUT GRAND CRU ROSÉ	\$48.00	\$38.40	\$403.20
BRUT RÉSERVE "100% GRAND CRU"	42.00	33.60	352.80
BRUT RÉSERVE "100% GRAND CRU" tenths	21.00	16.80	352.80
1999 BRUT "100% GRAND CRU" magnums ...	115.00	92.00	483.00
1998 BRUT "100% GRAND CRU"	52.00	41.60	436.80
1998 SPÉCIAL CLUB	72.00	57.60	604.80
1996 COMTESSE MARIE DE FRANCE	75.00	60.00	630.00
1993 COMTESSE MARIE DE FRANCE	73.00	58.40	613.20



CHRISTMAS GIVING MADE EASY

CAN YOU FIND gifts elsewhere that will deliver more pleasure than the merchandise we stock right here at KLWM? We are going to make this Christmas easy for you.



THE EASIEST

Our gift certificates look classy, and you can order them sent anywhere in any denomination you choose.

You don't even have to come in.

Simply call us at 510-524-1524.

KLWM POSTER

FOR THE FIRST TIME we are offering a Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant poster. It is suitable for framing and measures 24 × 36 inches. A few years back I was given a Willi's Wine Bar poster in Paris. It is up on the wall in the store now and today is worth several thousand dollars. I am not saying the same will happen with the KLWM poster, but these things have a life of their own once they get out there. Hopefully the poster's artistic quality alone makes it desirable. Here's what it looks like. The price is \$20 per poster. Now, if you are asked why there's a photograph of an olive tree in a wine poster, you can say, "See that olive tree? That tree looks like a Kermit Lynch wine tastes." Or something like that.



KERMIT LYNCH
WINE MERCHANT



HENRY JAMES wrote a small, wonderful travel book, "A Little Tour in France," which provided me with a breakthrough, structurally, when I began to write *Adventures on the Wine Route, A Wine Buyer's Tour of France*. When James toured, he covered pretty much the same circular route I take, except in his day there were no automotive vehicles.

Here we present a little viticultural tour of France in a gift box. What a great gift idea, thanks to Michael Butler.

**THE “PERFECT GIFT”
FRENCH WINE SAMPLER**

	NORMALLY
2000 LUSSAC-ST. EMILION • CHÂTEAU DE BELLEVUE	\$22.00
2003 GRAVES <i>BLANC</i> • CHÂTEAU GRAVILLE-LACOSTE	14.95
2002 AUXEY-DURESSES <i>BLANC</i> • DOMAINE VINCENT	24.50
2001 E PROVE <i>ROUGE</i> • DOMAINE MAESTRACCI	16.00
2002 CHÂTEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE TÉLÉGRAMME • H. BRUNIER	24.95
2002 CHINON “LES GRÉZEAUX” • BERNARD BAUDRY	18.00
2001 SAUMUR <i>BLANC</i> • CHÂTEAU YVONNE	27.50
2001 GIGONDAS • DOMAINE DU CAYRON	27.00
2001 LIRAC • DOMAINE DU JONCIER	16.00
2001 SAINT JOSEPH <i>BLANC</i> • PHILIPPE FAURY	19.95
2002 CAHORS • CLOS LA COUTALE	12.00
2002 MORGON • MARCEL LAPIERRE	22.00

Normally \$244.85

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE • 25% DISCOUNT

\$183.00

(For \$16 more we will include in the sampler a signed copy of Adventures on the Wine Route. It's a gift that keeps on giving, you know, twelve delicious wines to uncork, 264 pages.)



OR HOW ABOUT this well-priced gift sampler, twelve bottles of French and Italian lovelies at an average of \$10.17 per bottle!

**THE GIVE-*THEM*-A-LOT-FOR-*YOUR*-MONEY
SAMPLER**

	NORMALLY
2002 BORDEAUX <i>BLANC</i> • CHÂTEAU DUCASSE	\$12.95
2002 PIC SAINT LOUP <i>ROUGE</i> • CHÂTEAU LA ROQUE.....	14.95
2000 RASTEAU • DOMAINE BEAU MISTRAL	14.95

2000 BEAUMES-DE-VENISE <i>ROUGE</i> • DOMAINE DE DURBAN	14.95
1999 CHIANTI CLASSICO • VILLA DI GEGGIANO.....	16.95
2003 CÔTES DU RHÔNE VILLAGES • DOMAINE SAINT LUC	12.95
2003 BARBERA “PIRONA” • ALDO MARENCO.....	12.50
2003 DOLCETTO “SURI” • ALDO MARENCO	13.50
NV PROSECCO VALDOBBIADENE <i>BRUT</i> • ADRIANO ADAMI	14.95
2003 MOSCATO D’ASTI “SORI’ GRAMELLA” ELVIO TINTERO	9.95
2002 CHINON “CUVÉE TERROIR” DOMAINE CHARLES JOGUET.....	15.00
2001 COTEAUX DU LANGUEDOC “MONTPEYROUX” DOMAINE D’AUPILHAC	21.50

Normally \$175.10

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE • 30% DISCOUNT

\$122.00



JODIE AREY suggested our final gift sampler. It is more expensive and there are fewer bottles, but what dazzling wines. Give this one to yourself, too:

THE I’M DREAMING OF A WHITE BURGUNDY SAMPLER

NORMALLY

2002 CHABLIS • OLIVIER SAVARY	\$18.95
2001 SAINT-AUBIN “LES COMBES” • COLIN-DELÉGER	39.00
2000 MEURSAULT “EN LA BARRE” • FRANÇOIS JOBARD	39.95
2001 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET • COLIN-DELÉGER	49.00
2001 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET “LES CHAUMÉES COLIN-DELÉGER	65.00
2002 POUILLY-FUISSÉ “LES REISSES” • ROBERT-DENOGENT	30.00

Normally \$241.90

SPECIAL SAMPLER PRICE • 25% DISCOUNT

\$181.00

WE ALSO HAVE single bottles of some of mankind's most fabulous creations, the late-harvest wines of Domaine Zind-Humbrecht. Your wine pal may never bring him- or herself to splurge on such a grand bottle, and would quite possibly appreciate your splurging for him or her. Consider one of these gems, and try to be present when your rare gift is poured.

PER BOTTLE

2001 GEWURZTRAMINER "CLOS WINDSBUHL" VT.....	\$96.00
2001 GEWURZTRAMINER "RANGEN" VT	120.00
2000 GEWURZTRAMINER "GOLDERT" VT	92.00
2000 PINOT GRIS "HEIMBOURG" SGN <i>tenth</i>	82.00
2000 PINOT GRIS "CLOS JEBSAL" SGN <i>tenth</i>	102.00
1999 GEWURZTRAMINER "HEIMBOURG" VT	71.00
1999 PINOT GRIS "RANGEN" VT	94.00
1998 GEWURZTRAMINER "GOLDERT" VT	81.00
1998 PINOT GRIS "ROTENBERG" VT	69.95
1994 PINOT GRIS "CLOS JEBSAL" SGN	250.00



OR, Heaven Forbid,

GIVE THE UN-WINE GIFT

MAUSSANE VIRGIN PROVENÇAL OLIVE OIL <i>liter</i>	\$37.00
NATURE PROVENCE* VIRGIN OLIVE OIL	16.95
NATURE PROVENCE* BLACK OLIVES	8.95
NATURE PROVENCE* RASPBERRY PRESERVES	8.95
NATURE PROVENCE* CASSIS PRESERVES.....	7.95
NATURE PROVENCE* MIRABELLE PRESERVES.....	6.95
NATURE PROVENCE* APRICOT PRESERVES	7.95
NATURE PROVENCE* LAVENDER HONEY	13.95
PRODUITS PIC MUSTARD	5.25
KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT T-SHIRT	14.95
DOMAINE TEMPIER T-SHIRT	14.95
VIEUX TÉLÉGRAPHE T-SHIRT	14.95
DOMAINE TEMPIER BASEBALL CAP (<i>très chic</i>)	19.95
KERMIT LYNCH WINE MERCHANT CORKSCREW	7.95

*Nature Provence French farmhouse products are certified organically grown.