

## **March 2024 Santiam Wine & Bistro Red Cheap & Cheerful Six-pack \$85.50**

**2021 Paul Autard Cotes du Rhone \$16** The parcels of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvedre that go into this Cotes du Rhone are just outside the Chateauneuf-du-Pape appellation in the village of Courthézon. The vines are between 45 and 75 years old on a mix of soil types from loam to gravel and the famous *galets* that make Chateauneuf famous. Jean-Paul Autard works sustainably in his vineyards and picks grapes by hand to avoid damaging the fruit. Fermentation and aging take place in stainless steel tanks. The purity of fruit and suave texture of the wine come from this gentle philosophy. This is a rare sort of Cotes du Rhone that invites food pairing but does not demand it. Bright and clean-cut fruits meld easily with smoky, savory notes. Aromas of raspberry fruit leather, cherry, herbs de Provence, smoke, and black plum. The palate streaked with iron ore, raspberry and cherry cordial, and blackberry jam. Substantial and buttressed with sturdy, rough cut tannins. Have it with dishes that take a long time to cook, dishes with citrusy sauces, and hearty cheeses.

**2021 Honoro Vera Monastrell, Spain \$12** Deep-ruby to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of cassis, white chocolate, and licorice. Tannins seem heavy at first but then melt away to expose black-cherry, raspberry, clove, and cinnamon flavors. A note of lavender lingers into the finish.

**2020 Rocks of Bawn Cabernet Sauvignon WA. \$20** Cabernet Sauvignon from Red Mountain and the Horse Heaven Hills, a well-balanced and intense wine. If you're digging all day long, then this wine will soothe your aching bones! Don't be afraid to open well before serving to soften those tannins!

**2021 Seven Falls Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon Washington \$15** This Cabernet Sauvignon opens with black cherry, boysenberry, and other black fruits. Layered with notes of black tea, mint, herb, and spice. It's concentrated, full-bodied wine has a smooth lasting finish.

**2019 Bodegas Estefania Mencia Bierzo Tilenus Spain \$16** Color, deep cherry. Aroma, ripe fruit, dried herbs, creamy oak, balsamic herbs. Flavor, powerful, ripe fruit, spicy, round tannin.

**2021 Cana's Feast Two Rivers Red Blend Oregon \$16** A delicious blend of 43% Merlot, 21% Cab Franc, 17% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12 % Malbec, 7% Petite Verdot. Tasting notes: Bing cherry and herbal nuances combine with loads of blackberry and cassis, as well as a hint of olives and smoke. The mid-palate is soft and sweet on the entry, but soon gives way to a more classic style finish hinting of roasted coffee, bittersweet chocolate, and gravelly tannins.

## **Santiam Wine & Bistro's**

### **March 2024 White Cheap & Cheerful Six-pack \$77.40**

**2022 Portlandia Sauvignon Blanc, Oregon \$14** This bright and lively Sauvignon Blanc exudes flavors of grapefruit, gooseberry, and guava, balanced by delicate herbal notes of lime leaf and lemongrass. We love this wine salads, goat cheese or our favorite pairing, Oysters! What makes Portlandia special is its view on life-play hard, work later. Cheers!

**2022 Jean Sipp Pinot Blanc Les Terroirs, Alsace \$18** This wine is dry and gourmet, the nose opens with aromas from fleshy white fruit. This wine comes from three terroirs: Clay, Limestone, and sandstone.

**2021 Paizos Tokaji Furmint, Hungary \$14** Our Tokaji "T" estate wines are among our most loved wines. We sell about 100 000 bottles of our reductive-aged wines with dynamic fresh acidity. This category consists of two dry white wines of the most popular and best-known grape varieties: Furmint and Hárslevelű. Delicious!

**2022 Pajot Les Cépages, France \$12** The nose shows hints of citrus fruits, boxwood and exotic fruits with fresh attack and aromatic persistence. Looks light yellow, almost colorless. ALC 12.5% by Vol. Organic grapes Gros Manseng, Sauvignon Blanc, Ugni Blanc, and Colombard.

**2022 Pike Road Pinot Gris, OR. \$14** Pike Road Pinot Gris is made from 100% Willamette Valley fruit. Sourced from a combination of our estate vineyards and fruit grown by our longtime, trusted partners here in the Willamette Valley. We believe this "multi-vineyard" approach results in a more complex, flavorful wine. It is a Pinot Gris with character and complexity!

**2020 Sea Sun, Chardonnay, CA. \$14** Sea Sun 2020 Chardonnay is a lush, elegant, dry, medium-bodied Californian Chardonnay with ripe pear, red apple, buttery caramel, and well-integrated toasty oak spice flavors creamy and fresh on the palate. It is delicious! Food versatile, chill and enjoy it with mussels steamed in their own juices or try it with roast chicken. **91 Points Natalie Maclean**