

## What's New...Beer, Wine, Spirits

Week of 2/25/08

### WINES

#### UNITED STATES

##### **HAVENS Syrah 2005**

\$13.99

Napa Valley, California

Offering up peppery, meaty, blackberry, and licorice characteristics, the medium to full-bodied 2004 Syrah Napa provides drinkers with silky tannins and a long, lusty finish.

#### SPAIN

##### **MONTEBACO 'Semele' 2004**

\$19.99

Ribera del Duero, Spain

The 2004 Semele is 90% Tempranillo and 10% Merlot aged for 12 months in used French and American oak. This purple-colored wine has a fragrant bouquet of cedar, spice box, blueberry, and blackberry which jumps from the glass. Medium-bodied with some elegance, it has a streamlined style with ample fruit, good acidity, and ripe tannin, all of which are nicely balanced. This well-made wine should continue to evolve for 2-3 years and drink well for a decade. It is also an excellent value.

#### SOUTH AFRICA

##### **BON CAP 'The Ruins' Chardonnay/Viognier 2007**

\$10.49

Robertson

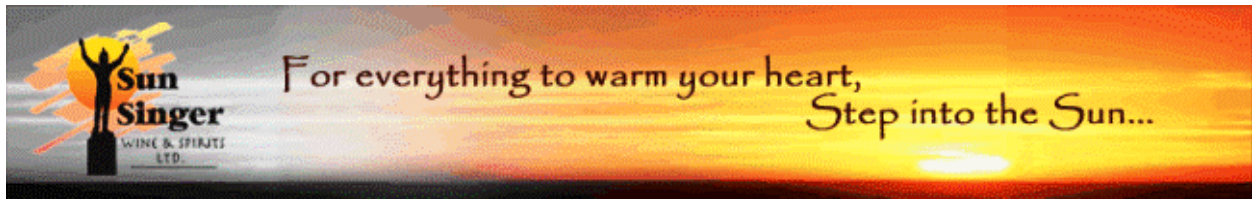
The blend of Chardonnay and Viognier shows dimensions of fresh citrus and limey flavours to more peachy apricot and honey blossom flavours. These are complimented by the soft entry and fresh mouth feel that is long and lingering, finishing of a well balanced multidimensional and complex wine without being too serious-to be enjoyed everyday.

##### **BON CAP 'The Ruins' Syrah/Cabernet/Merlot 2007**

\$10.49

Robertson

This medium-full bodied wine shows great complexity from its 2 noble varietal components: The Syrah dominates on the nose with loads of elegant white and black pepper spice and red berry fruits. The Cabernet's structure and length ensures a wine with backbone and enough substance to age for 2-3 years. This elegant yet structured wine will be a great companion to spicy red meat dishes and casseroles.



## FRANCE

**CHATEAU DU DONJON La Galiniere Merlot 2006** \$12.49

Vin De Pays Des Coteaux De Peyriac

Bursts onto the palate with expressive flavors of dark fruits, spices, and chocolate.

Sporting excellent depth, this fruit forward effort is an inexpensive Merlot with loads of character.

**PLUME BLEUE Grenache/Syrah 2006** \$13.49

Chateauneuf du Pape, Rhone Valley

A cheerful blend of 50% Grenache and 50% Syrah. It is a light wine, very ripe yet lively.

It is very fruit-driven, definitely a gulper, not a sipper.

**CHATEAU TOUR ST. JOSEPH 2002** \$17.99

Haut-Medoc, Bordeaux

Award winning wine. This excellent claret has fine colour and generous fruit tempered by a firm structure. Powerful but elegant nose. Quite delicious!!

## ITALY

**CUSUMANO Benuara 2006** \$16.99

Sicily

Surprisingly soft and juicy with good balance of acidity and deep, young berry fruit flavors. There is a hint of smoky spice on the nose, but just a bit fruit blast on the palate. Very serious wine for the money. Some grip on the back-palate, but a long, mid-intensity finish.