

Connoisseur Collection

Connoisseur Whites

The **Connoisseur Whites Collection** gives you access to some of the world's best examples of the most spine-tingling white wines, including the **Jermann Pinot Grigio**, the **Michel Reddé Blanc Fumé de Pouilly 'Les Cornets'** and the bracing **Felton Road Chardonnay**...

PRODUCER	Josef Leitz	WINE	Rudesheimer Berg Roseneck Riesling Spätlese	VINTAGE	2004
REGION	Rheingau	COUNTRY	Germany		
DESCRIPTION	The Roseneck is a prime quartz and slate based Clos vineyard. A concentrated wine at 95° Oeschle and with 95g/l residual sugar. There is no hint of botrytis in this at all, very pure fruit. This resonates terroir with its myriad of taut racy flavours, spices and minerals, united by an ample, fleshy texture.				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Stephen Tanzer: Jan/Feb 06. Wild floral aromas combine with guava, cinnamon and nut oils. The luscious tropical fruit flavours along with a bacony tang come across as lively rather than sweet. Succulent and long on the finish. 90/100				

PRODUCER	Vinnaioli Jermann	WINE	Pinot Grigio	VINTAGE	2006
REGION	Friuli - Venezia Giulia	COUNTRY	Italy		
DESCRIPTION	An intense straw yellow colour with a faint tinge of old rose. Beautifully pure, elegant, floral Pinot Grigio. The bouquet is full and fruity. A touch of almonds and vanilla, a hint of fruit and spice on the palate, a smooth and dry full-bodied white which is particularly harmonious and accessible				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Decanter: Lovely nose of white flowers, grapes and hint of mineral. Fresh fruit characters with a crisp acidity; excellent balance and structure with a long and persistent finish.				

PRODUCER	Michel Redde et Fils	WINE	Blanc Fumé de Pouilly 'Les Cornets'	VINTAGE	2005
REGION	Loire	COUNTRY	France		
DESCRIPTION	Made with grapes from the Redde family's vineyard in the commune of Pouilly-sur-Loire which lie on Kimmeridgian shale soils - also known locally as Terre Blanche. Thierry Redde recommends that this wine can comfortably be cellared for 10 years.				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Jamie Goode: The grape here is Sauvignon Blanc, but not as you know it: this is serious, high-end Sauvignon, with real sophistication and class. The nose is savoury, taut and broad, and leads to a richly-textured palate that combines complex herby fruit with a mineral savouriness. This is a wine to serve to someone who thinks that Sauvignon Blanc is just about simple, bright, grassy, gooseberry fruit: there's another dimension to this wine altogether. 90/100				

PRODUCER	Yalumba	WINE	The Virgilius Eden Valley Viognier	VINTAGE	2004
REGION	Barossa Valley	COUNTRY	Australia		
DESCRIPTION	The Virgilius shows a montage of grape flavours; apricot nectar, lifted spice, lychees and orange blossom are typical aromas. The palate is long, opulent and rich with stone fruit flavours, finishing with citrus freshness.				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Stephen Tanzer: Jul/Aug 06. Green-gold. Tangy, incisive and fresh on the nose, with strong mineral, white peach and orange pith tones. Quite taut but also deep in the mouth, the fruit notes intertwined with serious stony qualities. This surprisingly youthful viognier should deepen and open up a bit with a year or so of bottle aging. Finishes juicy and long, with an emerging note of anise. 90/100				

PRODUCER	Domaine de Beurenard	WINE	Chateaufort de Pape Blanc	VINTAGE	2006
REGION	Rhône	COUNTRY	France		
DESCRIPTION	A bouquet of floral and exotic fruit aromas, with a mineral streak. On the palate, the same aromas of acacia, pineapple, pears, a hint of aniseed, and appealing minerality. Ample mouthfeel and well-balanced; hugely enjoyable when young, but can also be aged for a few years.				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Stephen Tanzer: Jan 08. Light yellow. Pungent pear and orange aromas are brightened by dusty minerals and white flowers, and complicated by a smoky undertone; this smells like a white Burgundy. Spicy orchard fruit flavours are firm by dusty minerals, with the finish showing very good clarity and lift. Refreshing stuff. 89/100				

PRODUCER	Felton Road	WINE	Chardonnay	VINTAGE	2006
REGION	Central Otago	COUNTRY	New Zealand		
DESCRIPTION	Colour of pale straw. A nose of stonefruits, with lemon and a distinct mineral edge. The palate leads with nutty stonefruit, following with crisp acid and cleansing minerality. Very rich and mouth-coating, yet with a bracing clean finish and plenty of grip. The tension is evident despite the riper flavours than we normally see in this wine; certainly no sign of New World fatness. A wine with considerable ageing potential.				
CRITIC'S NOTES	Wine Spectator: Intense, with a pretty array of lemon, Golden Delicious and whole wheat toast flavors. A hefty overlay of spicy vanilla oak shapes the finish. Drink now through 2008. 87/100				

Have you tried these wines yet?
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Connoisseur Collection

Connoisseur Reds

The **Connoisseur Reds Collection** gives you access to some of the world's best examples of powerhouse red wines, including the **Felton Road 'Calvert' Pinot Noir**, the **Webersburg Cabernet Sauvignon** and the richly layered **Kilikanoon 'Covenant' Shiraz**...

PRODUCER	Felton Road	WINE	Pinot Noir 'Calvert'	VINTAGE	2006
REGION	Central Otago	COUNTRY	New Zealand		

DESCRIPTION Deep garnet with purple tints. A nose of plum, dark cherry and herbs with oriental spice. Ripeness drives the palate, no jamminess but a rich, dark compote of black fruit laced with raspberry and chocolate. Ripe, dusty fine tannins complete the finish. The wine will drink well from release but will build in scale and complexity for at least 5 years
CRITIC'S NOTES Andrew Caillard MW: This wine shows fresh cranberry/ raspberry/ strawberry aromas and hints of herb garden. The wine has plenty of fruit sweetness and richness of flavour with cranberry/ strawberry flavours and velvety – almost plush tannins. Finishes firm and grippy. This is a really interesting wine as it moves away from the black cherry fruit profile. 87/100

PRODUCER	Chateau Petit Bocq	WINE	Chateau Petit Bocq	VINTAGE	2000
REGION	Bordeaux	COUNTRY	France		

DESCRIPTION Made up of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 50% Merlot. Bramble and blackcurrant fruit aromas. Ripe, pure, juicy fruit. Well-structured with perfect balance. Another superb effort from this emerging superstar. Worth every penny it rates in the top two or three of St Estèphe in recent vintages.
CRITIC'S NOTES Robert Parker: This St. Estèphe gem is fashioning ripe, primarily Merlot-based wines with a lot of sex appeal. The impressive, deep ruby/purple-colored 2000 reveals aromas of ripe fruit, underbrush, and new saddle leather. Full-bodied, opulent, and pure, this sleeper of the vintage is also a good value. Anticipated maturity: 2004-2012. 88-90/100

PRODUCER	Domaine Chante Cigale	WINE	Chateaufeuf du Pape	VINTAGE	2004
REGION	Rhône	COUNTRY	France		

DESCRIPTION Deep ruby in colour with a wonderful nose of spice and dark fruits this is a real winter warmer. The palate is rich and ripe with layers of fruit and spice supported by fine tannins.
CRITIC'S NOTES Stephen Tanzer: Jan/Feb 06. Medium ruby colour. Vibrant aromas of spicy red berries and rhubarb, with a touch of minerality. Here is another 2003 that betrays no overripe or stewed tones. At once sweet and lively on the palate, with red berry flavours given focus by firm but fine-grained tannins. Finishes with persistent fruit flavours and good grip. 90/100

PRODUCER	Webersburg	WINE	Cabernet Sauvignon	VINTAGE	2000
REGION	Stellenbosch	COUNTRY	South Africa		

DESCRIPTION Intense inky purple colour, with a mellow elegant cassis bouquet. This is a masculine big boned wine with a full, rich body. Cigar box and black cherry flavours come through in the mid-palate, while its savoury meat extract complexity show this to be a well matured, structured classy wine. A velvet mouthfeel with flavours of dark chocolate linger to give this wine a long solid finish.
CRITIC'S NOTES Wine Spectator: (Re 2004). Issue: Mar 31, 2007. A chewy, extracted style, with currant, beef, prune, coffee and sage flavours that run through a slightly chunky finish. Has character, but is a bit hard to warm up to. Drink now. 84/100

PRODUCER	Kilikanoon	WINE	Covenant Shiraz	VINTAGE	2005
REGION	Clare Valley	COUNTRY	Australia		

DESCRIPTION Intense crimson red with distinct youthful, purple hues. Lifted sweet plum and berry fruits combine and integrate with the menthol, char and smoky oak characters. A richly layered and textured palate. Chocolate and plum fruits create sweetness while classy French and American oak integrates and supports providing seamless length and flavour persistence.
CRITIC'S NOTES Robert Parker: The 2005 Shiraz "Covenant" from the Clare Valley exhibits cooler climate hints of mint and menthol, as well as mineral, pencil lead, blueberry, and blackberry liqueur. Elegantly styled, with excellent depth and concentration, it will evolve for 3-4 years, and drink well through 2020. 92/100

PRODUCER	Fontanafredda	WINE	Barolo La Serralunga d'Alba	VINTAGE	2003
REGION	Piedmont	COUNTRY	Italy		

DESCRIPTION Blood red with ruby highlights, it has a clear-cut, intense nose with overtones of vanilla, spices, withered roses and underbrush. The palate is dry, but soft, full bodied, velvety and well balanced, and is engagingly complex throughout the lengthy finish.
CRITIC'S NOTES Robert Parker: (Re 2000). The 2000 Barolo Serralunga uses exclusively the Nebbiolo of the township where Fontanafredda is located. The wine itself is something of a contrast to the normally robust and intense type of wine this part of the zone produces, fresh and sweet on the nose, well sustained by rather round tannins and already pleasurable. Drink 2005 - 2014. 92/100

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Connoisseur Whites & Reds

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