

WHITE WINE FLIGHTS - THREE 3 OZ. TASTES

		TASTE 3 OZ.	GLASS 6 OZ.
<p>DESIGNER ITALIAN WHITES \$14.75</p> <p>You've worn the suits. You carry the purses. You covet the shoes. Now drink the wine. Made in the same stylish tradition that dominates the fashion world, Italian white wines are in a renaissance period that is setting the world wide trend toward exciting, unique flavors.</p>	<p>1. 2003 ROCOLO GRASSI, 'LA BROIA', SOAVE SUPERIORE, GARGANEGA, VENETO, ITALY Like Armani this wine has timeless character reinterpreted in the language of our time. It's clean and stylish, pushing the bounds of flavor while maintaining an effortless grace. This spirit expresses itself through a lush floral, lavender nose leading to highlights of white peach, minerals and a light creaminess. Classic.</p> <p>2. 2004 FEUDI DI SAN GREGORIO, FALANGHINA, CAMPANIA, ITALY Fresh and flamboyant this wine incorporates Dolce & Gabbana's sophisticated elegance with the energy and inspirations of Swinging London. Sexy, glamorous and a bit irreverent, the tropical banana nose and fresh acid is played around a perfect base of rich fruit and tailor-made balance. A true iconoclast.</p> <p>3. 2004 VESEVO, GRECO DI TUFO, CAMPANIA, ITALY With the restrained romance of Missoni, this wine's conservative structure flows with a sensual undercurrent. With a fresh breath this classic grape of the Greeks is revitalized with an intermixing of modern urban rhythms and rich floral scents. Firm acids mix with tropical notes and the effects are pleasantly unexpected.</p>	\$5.75	\$11.25
<p>NAUGHTY NAPA \$14.50</p> <p>Making unique white wine in Napa is an act of rebellion. Napa produces some great vino but when it comes to white wine conformity is key. 70% of Napa grapes are Chardonnay and 22% are Sauvignon Blanc. The remaining 8% is the domain of Napa's naughtiest winemakers who are gleefully breaking the rules so that you have interesting wines to drink.</p>	<p>4. 2002 TRUCHARD, ROUSANNE, CARNEROS [.1% OF NAPA GRAPES] A Slip & Slide through a fruit salad. Wet and juicy with pink grapefruit, fresh pear, citrus and melon. Spicy on the finish.</p> <p>5. 2003 CAYMUS, 'CONUNDRUM', WHITE BLEND, NAPA VALLEY The only secret in this country that is better kept than our nuclear launch codes is the blend for Conundrum. I'm guessing that there's no Cabernet Sauvignon in it but, other than that, the specific combination that yields this fruity, floral, peachy wine remains a mystery.</p> <p>6. 2002 GREGORY GRAHAM, VIOGNIER, NAPA VALLEY [.7% OF NAPA GRAPES] Good Viognier is a delicate balancing act. Too much oak and butter and it starts tasting like a bad Chardonnay. Too ripe and it tastes syrupy and overly sweet. Greg Graham (winemaker for Rombauer) understands this and handles this variety with enough dexterity to make tight-rope walkers around the world envious. Floral citrus nose. Delicate tropical flavors and minerals in the mouth and, of course, great balance</p>	\$4.00	\$8.00
<p>BRENDAN'S WHITE PICKS (& 1 ROSE) \$10.50</p> <p>Brendan's fixation on finding interesting and unique white wines is of great concern to many in the psychiatric profession. This intense focus on exceptional wine serves him well as Director of Wine at Va de Vi, but makes him a below average air traffic controller. Try these three great wines and keep the friendly skies a safe place to fly.</p>	<p>7. EVOLUTION #8 (BY SOKOL BLOSSER WINERY), 9 UNIQUE VARIETIES, AMERICA From the label: "Happenstance? Coincidence? Chaos? Not a chance. This bottle is a deliberate, pre-meditated attempt to advance the entire wine universe a notch or two. Grandiose? Perhaps, but without Evolution we'd be slime crawling in ooze and that doesn't sound too appetizing." Light minerals, tropicals and citrus on the nose. Great acid with flavors of ripe pear, mango and peach. Yum!</p> <p>8. 2003 BRASSFIELD, 'SERENITY', SAUV. BLANC/ PINOT GRIGIO/GEWRTZ., CLEAR LAKE Sip. Taste. Swallow. Relax. -REPEAT Serenity is only a glass away... Soft, floral nose. Flavors of pear, peach and citrus.</p> <p>9. 2003 I'M (ISABEL MONDAVI), DRY ROSÉ, CABERNET SAUVIGNON, NAPA VALLEY It may be pink but this wine wants to be taken seriously by its darker Napa Cab cousins. There is no doubt that it's got the pedigree and the power. Dark cherry and berries on the nose. Packed with juicy watermelon and ripe cherries. Delicious layers of strawberries & cream.</p>	\$4.00	\$8.00
<p>PINOT GRIGIO-PINOT GRIS \$12.25</p> <p>The French call it Pinot Gris. The Italians call it Pinot Grigio. Americans can't make up their minds. There is no ambiguity, however, about why Pinot Gris/Grigio has become so popular, so fast in this country and around the world. Pinot Gris/Grigio can be soft without being light; fruity without being sweet and structured without being harsh.</p>	<p>10. 2004 TAZ, PINOT GRIS, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY A whirlwind of flavor. Named for the frenetic energy of legendary grape grower Bob Steinhauser, this juicy, delicious wine is the end result of the years that he has spent nurturing these vineyards in the Central Coast. Light tropical notes, cream and spice on the nose. Juicy peach, pear, mango and lychee in the mouth.</p> <p>11. 2004 INNOCENT BYSTANDER, PINOT GRIS, YARRA VALLEY, AUSTRALIA Australians are possibly the most competitive people on the planet. If you can drive it, jump off it or wrestle it, you can guarantee that an Aussie is at the head of the pack. This is especially true when it comes to alcohol. "Sure, other countries make Pinot Gris," They'll tell you, "But ya' haven't really had it until you've had it from an Aussie!" Subtle, tropical nose. Smooth mid. Hints of pear & nectarine. Great balance.</p> <p>12. 2004 VALLE ISARCO, PINOT GRIGIO, ALTO ADIGE, ITALY Drinking a citrus smoothie after a day at the spa. Mineral and floral notes with abundant citrus flavors and creaminess. Good, and good for you, too.</p>	\$3.25	\$6.50
<p>SPARKLING \$17.50</p> <p>If you think sparkling wines are just for special occasions, one sip of this line up will have you throwing parties every time the lines at the bank move faster than expected, pulling out confetti and streamers for your second-cousin's-schnauzer's birthday and dancing all night for National Beef Jerky Awareness Day.</p>	<p>13. NV SEGURA VIUDAS, ESTATE, BRUT ROSE, PINOT NOIR, CAVA A few sips of this pink sparkler and you'll be seeing the world through rose-tinted glasses. People will be nicer, the world will be happier and the wines will be tastier. Everything is prettier in pink. Beautiful bubbles filled with flavors of wild strawberries and rose petals.</p> <p>14. 2002 DOMAINE CARNEROS, BRUT, CARNEROS Carbonated strawberry shortcake. Light breadiness on the nose with soft strawberries and fruit on top. Yum.</p> <p>15. NV TAITTINGER, "LA FRANCAISE", BRUT, REIMS, CHAMPAGNE, FRANCE "Oh, my! Like Brigitte Bardot, this is a very elegant wine, well-proportioned, crisp, with a slightly tart (good tart) finish." Darryl Roberts, Wine X Magazine</p>	\$3.00	\$6.00
<p>CLASSIC CALIFORNIA CHARDONNAY \$21.00</p> <p>Although languishing in obscurity, we have a lot of hope that Chardonnay will catch on and become "the next big thing". Plucky young winemakers in small hamlets like the Napa Valley should be able to build on this varietals limited cult status and, who knows, if the word gets out it might even grow to be as big as Gruner Veltliner!</p>	<p>16. 2004 HESS ESTATE, CHARDONNAY, MONTEREY UNLEASH THE LIONS! Don't let the felines on the label fool you, this wine is a lap-cat to its core. Tons of rich, buttery flavor with sweet, tropical notes and ripe peaches along with a soft, rich middle that'll have you purring with every sip!</p> <p>17. 2004 CAKEBREAD, CHARDONNAY, NAPA VALLEY Cakebread is Old-School. They were in Napa before Napa was cool and they've been making this trend-setting Chardonnay since most other Napa winemakers were in diapers. Vision and experience have their benefits. Stellar Chard filled with layers of fresh apple, light spice and soft, lush layers of vanilla and cream.</p> <p>18. 2004 ROMBAUER, CHARDONNAY, NAPA VALLEY Like Chevy is to trucks and Liberace was to sequins, Rombauer is to Chardonnay. It is the Oak and Butter fantasy that all other Chardonnays are measured against.</p>	\$4.00	\$8.00
<p>CHARDONNAY 2: ANYTHING BUT NAPA \$12.50</p> <p>California seems to make Chardonnay in one of two styles, "Oakly" and "Oakier". Starting with a variation of the style that has made California famous, take a taste along a spectrum of flavors from around the world, to see what the Chardonnay grape can do.</p>	<p>19. 2004 GUM BEAR, UNWOODED, CHARDONNAY, COONWARRA, AUSTRALIA Why does this wine have a Koala on the label? Is he part of a secret Australian marsupial winemaking program? The answer is unclear but wine is great. Tons of fresh apple and pear flavor Light grass & minerals</p> <p>20. 2000 TARRAWARRA, ESTATE, CHARDONNAY, YARRA VALLEY, AUSTRALIA (drink me). Australia's Yarra Valley shares a birthday with the invention of morse code in 1838. This history has given the region tons of time to perfect unique age-worth chards with loads of creamy vanilla and hints of tropical mango and pineapple. (Yummy).</p> <p>21. 2003 D. BARAT, 1ER CRU, CHABLIS 'LES FOURNEAUX', BURGUNDY, FRANCE Burgundy is the brilliant but Obsessive-Compulsive uncle of the wine industry. The Obsessive-Compulsiveness is evident in the fact that every square inch of dirt in the entire region that has been analyzed, contemplated, recorded, organized and fought over for centuries. The brilliance is obvious when you try the wine. Delicious layers of minerals, citrus, fresh apple and pear. Remarkable depth.</p>	\$3.00	\$6.00
<p>SAUVIGNON BLANC \$11.00</p> <p>Sauvignon Blanc is Chardonnay's crazy cousin. Where Chardonnay is smooth and predictable, Sauvignon Blanc is fresh and wild. Where Chard is oaky and buttery, Sauv Blanc is crisp and fruity. Where Chard is mainstream, Sauv Blanc is cutting edge. Looking for a great white wine? When was the last time you got a little crazy?</p>	<p>22. 2004 ST. SUPERY, SAUVIGNON BLANC, NAPA VALLEY Saint Brigid of Ireland has a great job as the Patron Saint of Healers. Being the Patron Saint of sore throats, however, was probably not Saint Apollonia's first choice. St. Supery isn't a real saint, yet, but if he were he would definitely be the Patron Saint of crisp, fragrant Sauv Blanc, not a bad addition to Saint Lawrence (Saint of Cooks) and the occasional reluctant nod to Saint Bibiana (Saint of Hangovers).</p> <p>23. 2005 ZOLO, SAUVIGNON BLANC, MENDOZA, ARGENTINA Although the winery name sounds like some weird cross between a villain in a science fiction movie and a Led Zeppelin album, the tastes are all perfect Sauvignon Blanc. Light grapefruit and tropical flavors so juicy and delicious that even non-wine drinkers will find it irresistible.</p> <p>24. 2004 CRAGGY RANGE, SAUVIGNON BLANC, MARTINBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND Steve Smith loves great dirt. As a leading viticulturist (i.e. Vineyard Geek) and Master of Wine (i.e. Huge Wine Geek) he has dedicated his career to finding and developing the best vineyard sites in New Zealand. Blended from 13 small parcels on his estate vineyard this Sauvignon Blanc is his (and our) reward for such dedication. Big tropical & peach nose. Juicy flavors. Crisp acidity with hints of citrus & minerals.</p>	\$3.25	\$6.50