

The Wine Cabinet

Presents:

“France in June”

June Cabinet Pack

The history of French wine spans a period of at least 2600 years dating to the founding of Massalia in the 6th century BC by the Phoenicians with the possibility that viticulture existed much earlier. The Romans did much to spread viticulture across the land they knew as Gaul, encouraging the planting of vines in areas that would become the well known wine regions of Bordeaux, Burgundy, Alsace, Champagne, Languedoc, Loire Valley and the Rhone.

Over the course of its history, the French wine industry would be influenced and driven by the commercial interests of the lucrative English market and Dutch traders. Prior to the French Revolution, the Catholic Church was one of France's largest vineyard owners-wielding considerable influence in regions such as Champagne and Burgundy where the concept of terroir first took root. Aided by these external and internal influences, the French wine industry has been the pole bearer for the world wine industry for most of its history with many of its wines considered the benchmark for their particular style.



Macon is located in the historic wine growing region of Burgundy, noted for it's World Class Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays.

Macon was a major crossroad in Roman times, though the Celts were already cultivating grapes there by the time the Romans arrived. Burgundians were one of the Germanic people who filled a power vacuum after the collapse of the western half of the Roman Empire.

2007 Touzot Macon-Village.

Touzot is vinified from old vine Chardonnay, and the 07 vintage exhibits the perfect combination of qualities, wet stone minerality, crisp racy acidity, and soft Burgundian fruit, that represent the classic style of the Maconnais.

Limestone hills and alkalai clay represent the soil that contributes to these beautiful wines made within the Maconnais, pairing well with fresh shellfish, white meats, and cheeses.

The **Loire Valley** is known as the " Garden of France " and the " Cradle of the French Language ." evidence suggests that the Romans planted the first vineyards in the Loire during the 1st century AD and the subsequent viticulture was noted by the author Sidonius Apollinarus.

2007 Guy Saget Saison

This 100% Sauvignon Blanc exhibits the beautiful characteristics of the Loire Valley, more mineral driven possessing soft citrus fruit, zesty acidity with an understated elegance, less grass and gooseberry than the Sauvignon Blancs of New Zealand, and less power and concentration of fruit than the Sauvignon Blanc of California. Though often overshadowed by Sancerre, there is a great deal of high quality Sauvignon Blanc being produced in other areas within the Loire and the 2007 Guy Saget is a perfect of those high quality wines of great value.



Grapes for winemaking have been cultivated in **Provence** for at least 2600 years, since the Greeks founded the city of Marseille in 600 BC.

Throughout that long history, the diversity of cultural influences has left that legacy on the viticulture of the region. Provence has a classic Mediterranean climate due to its close proximity to the sea, mild winters, little rain and abundant sunshine. A diversity of local soil types, or "terrior" include limestone and shale, schist and quartz deposits, clay and sandstone.

2008 St Andre Figuiere Magali Rose

Rose rules here in Provence and the 2008 St Andre Figuiere " Magali " is a great example why we love Rose!! comprised of Grenache, Cinsault and Syrah this fine offering exhibits a floral nose, concentration of fruit, yet with elegance, and balance of structure. The wine gets its color from the skins of the grapes, so gentle pressing with short maceration times results in the beautiful light pink color in the wines of the Provence.



Languedoc-Rousillon is located in the central south of France, it's some 740,000 acres of vineyards comprise more than three times that of Bordeaux! Grapevines are said to have existed here since the Pliocene Era, long before we humans roamed the earth.

Like Provence, Languedoc-Rousillon is blessed with a Mediterranean climate perfectly suited for grape growing, overlooked for many generations by the world wine community, this important region within France is being recognized now throughout the world for its high quality winemaking.

The 2006 Coupe Rose Bastide from the Minervois Appellation is a perfect example of those high quality wines. earthy and fragrant on the nose, soft and velvety of fruit, with aromatics of subtle Mediterranean herbs.

This wine has been produced since Roman times in the **Rhone River Valley**.

In the mid 17th Century the right bank of the Cote Du Rhone District was issued regulations to govern the quality of the wines, and in 1737 the King ordered that casks of wines should be branded CDR.

Varietals include, Grenache Noir, Syrah, Mourvedre, Conoise, Carignane, Cinsault and Mourvedre.

The 2006 Ferraton Samorens Cotes Du Rhone Rouge is a stellar bottle French red composed of Grenache and Syrah. This beauty has ripe fruit, soft tannins, with a touch of game and earth, we think grilled meats, cheeses.



From 1875-1882 the vineyards in **Bordeaux** were almost completely ruined by Phyloxera infestation. The region's wine industry was rescued by the grafting of native vines to pest-resistant American rootstocks, and all Bordeaux vines that survive today are a product of that action. Bordeaux has an image of Grand Chateau's producing prestigious First Growths and Grand Cru wines, but the essence of Bordeaux for us remains those inexpensive beautifully made wines that are satisfying enough to drink everyday.

The 2005 Chateau Peyraud has all the things we love about good Bordeaux, ripe lush fruit, wood and earth notes, herbal aromatic and that unique Bordeaux terrior. Produced from Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, this house favorite of ours provides a versatile pairing with your favorite foods and since 2005 was such a stellar vintage we feel the Chateau Peyraud offers a fabulous quality to value price point