

## **Sparkling & White Wines:**

### **Villa Jolanda “I Love You” Prosecco, N.V., Veneto, Italy**

**\$11**

A fantastic package on a delicious sparkler that makes a perfect gift for your Valentine! Fragrant, fruity & just plain delicious. It offers lovely balance in a perfumed, crisp style defined by green apples, flowers and sweet spices. The finish is long and polished.

### **Gryphus Sauvignon Blanc, 2014, Maule Valley, Chile**

**\$12**

This delicious Sauvignon possesses a honeyed melon, richly fruity nose, and generous, ripe flavors. This dry, crisp, complex, medium-bodied wine is perfect for fresh seafood and shrimp or scallop dishes.

### **Podere del Giuggiolo White, 2013, Tuscany, Italy**

**\$13**

Yeah, we can't pronounce it either. But this blend of Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc & Incrocio Manzoni is spectacular. It offers excellent notions of crisp honeysuckle, vanilla, and buttered pear and citrus aromas. With medium body, zesty acidity, and loads of purity, it will provide immense enjoyment over the next year.

### **The White Knight Viognier, 2013, Clarksburg, California**

**\$14**

This Viognier from just north of Sacramento reveals the varietal's exotic, tropical fruit side with peach, apricot and honeysuckle, but at the same time, keeps everything in balance. It offers good acidity, medium body, a fresh character, and no noticeable oak. Drink this vibrant Viognier over the next several years.

# February Wine Bargains

## Red Wines:

### **Beau Chene Pinot Noir, 2012, France**

**\$12**

A 100% Pinot Noir that tastes like Burgundy for \$12? Well, this is the real deal. Don't expect a grand cru-like texture or nuance, but this medium-bodied Pinot Noir has plenty of raspberry and cherry fruit intermixed with damp earth and roasted herbs.

### **Esprit Barville Cotes du Rhone, 2012, Rhone Valley, France**

**\$13**

A blend of Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvedre, it exhibits a deep ruby/purple-tinged color along with a big, earthy, peppery bouquet with loads of blue and black fruits, licorice, and leather. There is great fruit on the attack and mid-palate, and the finish possesses supple tannin as well as a voluptuous texture.

### **Radio Boca Tempranillo, 2013, Valencia, Spain**

**\$10**

Purple-colored, this Tempranillo reveals an enticing nose of spicy black fruit leading to a succulent, balanced, round offering with no hard edges. This outstanding value is a crowd pleaser that will deliver pleasure over the next 4 years.

### **Oak Ridge "Old Vine" Zinfandel, 2012, Lodi, California**

**\$15**

Holy moly. This Zin is no joke. Gobs of juicy dark red fruit, lots of baking spice, tremendous richness and pepper, earth and spice on the finish. Begs for Barbecue.

### **Zolo "Signature Blend", 2012, Mendoza, Argentina**

**\$12**

This blend of 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Bonarda, 20% Merlot, 15% Malbec has an attractive bouquet of blackberry, cassis, violets and a touch of cedar. The palate is medium-bodied with fine, slightly grainy tannins. There is a core of earthy black fruit laced with licorice and tar, leading to a well-defined, very composed, peppery finish with a hint of dark chocolate on the aftertaste.

### **Finca el Origen "Reserva" Malbec, 2013, Mendoza, Argentina**

**\$12**

From Uco Valley vineyards high in the foothills of the Andes mountains, this wine has brilliant violet color with intense, sweet spice on the palate balanced by notes of plums, cassis, blackberries, and black cherries. It is creamy, smooth, and ripe in the mouth with soft, round tannins and a long silky finish.

### **Chateau Les Armes de Brandeau "Cuvee de Coeur", 2010, Bordeaux, France**

**\$13**

Another great package for your Valentine, the cuvee of the heart has oodles of licorice, incense, black currants and dried fruit notes in a medium to full-bodied, attractive, spicy style. Dark ruby/purple, this well-made blend of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Franc should be drunk over the next 5 years or more.

### **Charles & Charles Cabernet Sauvignon / Syrah, Columbia Valley, Washington**

**\$14**

The wine is bold, rich and textured but not over the top — it remains wonderfully restrained and focused. Aromatically, there are rich black plum and cherry notes along with smoke, herbs and gravel. The blend is 68% Cabernet Sauvignon and 32% Syrah.