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RHONE VALLEY

The Benchmark

1990 Clos des Papes from an Incredible Cellar

On our first visit to Clos des Papes in 1987, we tasted treasures dating back to the 1960s. That afternoon convinced us that the Avril family made Châteauneuf du Pape's purest, most expressive wines. And despite a half dozen visits since, and the winemaking revolution that has transformed the region, nothing has come along to change our mind.

Then, as now, Paul and Vincent Avril were traditionalists, aging their wines in immaculate old *foudres*. Long a secret of insiders, Clos des Papes is finally getting the attention it deserves, thanks to the amazing 2003. But the domaine's benchmark wine continues to be the great 1990, the last vintage vinified with 100% stems, and a wine that, to all intents and purposes, has passed into legend. Regardless of provenance or condition, finding a bottle has become nearly impossible.

Thank Hugh Johnson

In the early 1990s, the British writer Hugh Johnson convinced a friend of his (a knowledgeable collector then devoted entirely to Bordeaux and Burgundy) to visit Clos des Papes with him. The friend was skeptical of the visit's value, but when he tasted the 1990 in the domaine's cellar, he was stunned. He bought as many cases as he could fit in his car and then headed home.

The wine went straight into his cellar in one of England's great country houses, where it has passed its days in the most privileged of conditions. Today, every



Clos des Papes' barrel room

bottle is glorious, with levels near the cork. Apart from the bottles in this collection, it would be hard to imagine finding 1990 Clos des Papes today in such perfect condition.

The collector has decided, reluctantly, to part with a small part of his prize. Please don't regret that you didn't buy some while you had the chance. Very limited.

1990 Clos des Papes*
from a great English cellar
96 Parker 95 Tanzer
\$179.95



Robert Parker: "From a fabulous vintage, the 1990 is one of the greatest offerings from Clos des Papes ... opulent, sweet, multidimensional, expansive... It has hit its plateau of maturity, where it should rest for 10-15 years." A year later, Parker wrote of a magnum: "... absolutely magnificent ... gorgeous perfume of sandalwood, sweet cherries, spice box, and flowers ... incredibly elegant ... could easily be mistaken for a great grand cru red Burgundy in a blind tasting."

Tanzer: "Brooding nose of blackcurrant, smoke, licorice and *garrigue* spices. Quite powerful attack. Profound black cherry and plum fruit is at once velvety-thick and subtle and complex. Great density and concentration ... An extraordinary wine ... may ultimately merit a substantially higher score."

RED BURGUNDY

Clos des Epeneaux

A Reverential Offering of Comte Armand's Legendary Pommard

In the eighteenth century, the Marey-Monge family assembled one of Burgundy's greatest domaines, including most of Romanée-Saint-Vivant and the best parts of Pommard. In fact, they were so in awe of one of their Pommard sites that they built a wall around it, naming it the Clos des Epeneaux.



Immense Wines

Since that time, the Clos des Epeneaux has come to be revered for its uniquely big and concentrated wines—arguably the Cotes de Beaune's most "Cotes de Nuits-like" reds. And for more than two centuries, the property has remained in the same family; only the proprietor's name has changed, when a Marey married an Armand in 1828.

Set on a slight slope with rock-laden soil providing excellent drainage, Clos des Epeneaux straddles the Grands and Petits Epenots. The site is densely plant-

ed to 12,500 vines per hectare, and because the Clos' Pinot Noir is believed uniquely adapted, the increase in density has been accomplished through a combination of *répiquage* and *sélection massal*.

Today, the vines' age ranges from 15 to over 75 years.

A New Era

While the *terroir* always guaranteed superb quality, it was not until 1985 that the Clos des Epeneaux found its greatest expression. In that year, Pascal Marchand became winemaker, introducing the biodynamnic farming and largely traditional vinification that continues today under the gifted Benjamin Leroux. The moderate amount of new oak is easily dominated by the Clos' very concentrated fruit.

The Clos des Epeneaux today is one of the singular wines of Burgundy; it is an honor to offer the following line-up of great recent vintages.

**1996 Pommard
Clos des Epeneaux**
97 Spectator 92+ Tanzer
\$95.00 bt. \$199.00 mag.



**2001 Pommard
Clos des Epeneaux***
93 Burghound
\$89.95

Wine Spectator: "The black fruit, game, mineral and currant notes fill the palate, proving how dense and thick this '96 red Burgundy is. A brilliant Pommard."

Tanzer: "Vibrant, perfumed aromas of cherry, plum and cocoa powder ... Great sappy sweetness ... Impeccably balanced. Finishes with a strong spine of noble tannins and an explosion of black cherry fruit."

Burghound: "Wonderfully complex aromas of ripe black fruit, crushed herbs and berries with unmistakable earth aromas ... powerful, concentrated fresh flavors ... with plenty of underlying material and sappy extract ... this finishes with a distinct note of velvet and fine, sneaky length. This is an extremely impressive effort and worth a special search."

1999 Clos des Epeneaux* 89.95 1995 Clos des Epeneaux* 95.00 2003 Clos des Epeneaux84.95

Burghound: "92 rating. Extravagant aromas explode from the glass with intensely spicy, black fruits together with a terrific inner core of pinot extract. Seductive, lush and extremely long with powerful, densely packed tannins completely wrapped in velvet, this should drink well both young and old. Exceptionally good with a lingering, almost haunting finish."

Wine Spectator: "91 rating. Serious red, offering sweet-tasting ripe fruit on the midpalate, lovely mineral, lead-pencil and earth complexity ... it's tempting now but should improve with cellaring."

Pierre Rovani: "93-95 rating . . . explodes from the glass ... crammed with superb flavors of red fruits (cherries and raspberries), dark berries (boysenberries, black cherries, cassis), licorice, and tar. Dense, velvety-textured, and fresh, it exhibits a persistent, structured, ripe tannin filled finish. Projected maturity: 2010-2020+."

RHONE VALLEY

A Steal in 2003 Hermitage

Delas' Astonishing Marquise de la Tourette

In *Hermitage*, 2003 rivalled 1990, 1978 and 1961 as a year of epic quality. But to realize the vintage's extraordinary potential meant selectivity and tiny production. The output at many domaines was down by as much as two-thirds, with inevitable upward pressure on prices.

So, while most of Hermitage's elite 2003s will be *very* expensive, one monumental bargain exists: Delas' Hermitage La Tourette. Made primarily from the great Les Bessards *climat*, La Tourette sees less than 10% new oak—hence the wine's purity and typicity.

The 2003 Hermitage La Tourette is sure to become highly sought-after in the years ahead. A mindblowing bargain, it should not be missed.

2003 Delas Hermitage*
"Marquise de la Tourette"
95 Parker
\$59.95 bt. \$129.95 mag.



Parker: "Produced from a crop size that was 60% less than normal, the 2003 Hermitage Marquise de la Tourette exhibits an inky/ruby/purple color as well as scents of charcoal, licorice, creme de cassis, and crushed rocks. It is full-bodied, powerfully tannic, and rich with marvelous purity and length, and a surprisingly low 13.5% alcohol. It should drink well for 20+ years."

Delas: A Promise Fulfilled

On paper, Delas always had the potential to make heroic wines. Founded in 1835 and blessed with an astonishing 25 acres of Hermitage—20 of them in Les Bessards!—Delas should have been at the very top. But for decades it wasn't.

Then, in 1977, nearing bankruptcy, the firm was sold to Deutz Champagne. Deutz did little with their treasure until, in 1993, it was bought by Roederer, which understood Delas' potential. To turn the company around, they hired Jacques Grange, who helped lead Chapoutier's meteoric rise in the early '90's. In

only his first Delas vintage, 1997, Grange made an Hermitage Les Bessards for the ages. And that was just the start of an incredible run of great Hermitages from this profound site.

Delas also makes a prodigious Côte Rôtie La Landonne—from 50+ year old vines in the original part of Landonne that preceded its 1974 expansion. Just 225 cases are made of this monumental Côte Rôtie.

For this offering, we have chosen three legendary—and spectacularly low-priced—examples of Bessards and Landonne. But hurry, quantities are very limited.

1997 Hermitage
"Les Bessards"
94 Parker
\$79.95

Parker: "... very profound ... a spectacular creme de cassis, mineral, spicy new wood, and floral-scented nose ... prodigious concentration and length, and unbelievable potential. This teeth-staining, mouth-coating wine ... will last for 25 years ... an amazing accomplishment."

1998 Hermitage
"Les Bessards"
96 Parker
\$95.00 bt. \$195.00 mag.

Parker: "The 1998 Hermitage Les Bessards reveals licorice, coffee, cassis, minerals, smoke, and meat scents, full body, great depth, teeth-coating tannin, and a persistent, sweet, well-delineated, 45-second finish. It will be at its peak between 2007-2035."

2003 Côte Rôtie
"La Landonne"*
96 Parker
\$149.95

Parker: "... a wine for the ages ... gorgeous aromas of graphite, scorched earth, bacon fat, blackberries, blueberries, figs, and espresso roast. Deep, full-bodied, tannic, and backward, it will benefit from 4-6 years of bottle age, and should last for two decades." 225 cases made.

CHABLIS

Transcendancy

Vincent Dauvissat's Amazing Chablis & Petit Chablis

Grand Cru and Premier Cru Chablis are prized by connoisseurs for their profound depth and minerality, as well as their unique elegance. But the *crus* represent only 20% of Chablis' acreage. What of the remaining 3,000 hectares that are classified as *village* Chablis or Petit Chablis?



Vincent Dauvissat

Vincent's brilliant viticulture and winemaking play a huge role, of course; but the real secret to these wines is the location of the vines. The Petit Chablis comes from a single plot above the greatest of the *Grand Crus*, Les Clos, sharing its full south exposure. It is typically the last of Dauvissat's vineyards to be harvested, bringing the fruit to full ripeness.

With one exception, no one makes consistently great wine from these sites. That exception is, of course, Vincent Dauvissat. While Vincent's rivals, the Raveneau brothers, have no holdings in either of these basic appellations, Vincent farms a hectare of Chablis and an even tinier amount of Petit Chablis. But the wines he makes from these plots surpass most producers' *Premier Crus*, and even a few *Grand Crus*.

Unparalleled

Like his vaunted Clos, Preuses and Forest, Vincent's Chablis and Petit Chablis transcend their appellations and have acquired loyal followings. Year after year, they display much of the richness and intensity of his greatest wines, along with their trademark minerality.

The Chablis parcel is adjacent to and faces Dauvissat's great Premier Cru La Forest. Forming opposite sides of a small valley, they share the classic Kimmeridgian soil, giving the Chablis the honeyed richness and 8- to 12-year aging potential of a *Premier Cru*.

This Offer

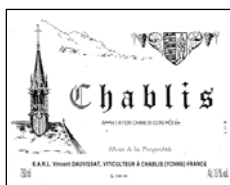
Of all of Dauvissat's wines, these are the rarest and often the hardest to find. Thus, we were delighted to locate parcels of each from the superb 2004 vintage, along with smaller amounts from 2000 and 2001. Please note that these are all the superior unfiltered bottlings for the European market. (See John Gilman's *View from the Cellar*, page 60, January 2006.)

A Note on the Labels: While Vincent Dauvissat farms all of his family's vineyards—and makes all the wines—some vines are owned by different family members. Thus, a portion of most of his wines, including the Chablis and Petit Chablis, appear under the "Dauvissat-Camus" label. As noted by both Tanzer and *Burghound*, the cuvées are *identical* to those appearing under the more familiar Dauvissat label.

**2004 R & V Dauvissat
(Dauvissat-Camus label)
Petit Chablis
\$20.95**



**2004 R & V Dauvissat
(Both labels available)
Chablis
\$26.95**



Burghound: "An impressive example of Petit Chablis with an expressively fruity yet complex nose that complements punchy and mineral-laden flavors that possess more body and depth than is typical for the appellation."

2001 R & V Dauvissat Petit Chablis23.95

Tanzer: "Pear, smoke and pepper on the nose. Juicy, pure and tight, with good density and chalky minerality for a Chablis at this level. But then these young vines are from a single parcel located on a plateau behind Les Clos."

John Gilman, *A View from the Cellar*: "An excellent follow-up to the stunning success of the 2000 and 2002 vintages ... The nose is complex and classic ... This is really good juice."

2000 R & V Dauvissat Chablis32.95

Tanzer: "Reserved citrus and mineral aromas. Dense, ripe and concentrated; full and flavorful but rather backward for village Chablis. Finishes with impressive length and aromatic persistence. This is better than most estates' premier crus."

Mas de Daumas Gassac

An Extraordinary Range of Vintages: 1985-1998


Over the past two decades, the wine map of France has been redrawn, as new areas and new estates challenge old regimes and ideas. When the final history of this "New France" is written, a special place will be given to Aimé Guibert.

In 1971, this leathersgoods manufacturer asked a University of Bordeaux professor, Henri Enjalbert, to evaluate the soil at his newly purchased Languedoc estate. The author of more than 15 wine books, Enjalbert noted a similarity between the soil and microclimate of Guibert's estate and that of the Medoc *grands crus*. So informed, Guibert planted vines, naming his estate *Mas de Daumas Gassac*.

Working with Enjalbert and Emile Peynaud, Guibert chose Cabernet to plant, and he built a cellar like that of a Bordeaux château. He even purchased barrels from Châteaux Margaux and Palmer.

A Sensation

The release of his first vintage, 1978, was greeted with immediate comparisons to Latour, Lafite and

 "In flavor it reminds me of a 30-70 blend of a great Bordeaux from Graves, say La Mission Haut Brion, and a great Châteauneuf du Pape, say Vieux Télégraphe. Don't Miss it."

Robert Parker

"The Lafite of the Languedoc" **Gault-Millau**

"Daumas Gassac is like no other wine." **Steve Tanzer**

other established stars. France's prestigious *Gault-Millau* anointed Mas de Daumas Gassac "The Lafite of the Languedoc."

The *Times* of London responded by writing that the wine was "more like Latour than Lafite ... with their enormous color and immense, hefty, tannic character." Meanwhile, Robert Parker described it as "a 30-70 blend of a great Bordeaux from Graves, say La Mission Haut Brion, and a great Châteauneuf du Pape, say Vieux Télégraphe."

After that auspicious beginning, Mas de Daumas Gassac became the first truly collectible wine in this part of France, and it acquired a loyal and passionate following for its rich, but elegant, style of red wine.

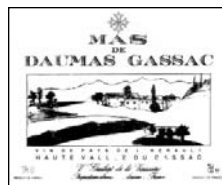
This Offer

A Parisian collector recently offered us an incredible range of Daumas Gassac vintages in both bottle and magnum. Perfectly cellared, these represent the estate's most famous wines of the past two decades. We are pleased to offer them at very attractive prices.

1998 Mas de Daumas Gassac*

92+ Tanzer

\$39.95



Steve Tanzer: "Smooth, thick and deep; an uncanny combination of dense texture and spine. Finishes very long and subtle, with superb vinosity and noble tannins that spread out to coat the entire palate. An outstanding vintage for Daumas Gassac."

1994 Mas de Daumas Gassac54.95

1994 Mas de Daumas Gassac Magnum 110.00

Michael Broadbent: "★★★★★"

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1991 Mas de Daumas Gassac 49.95

Tanzer: "91+ rating. "Covert power here in a classy package. A *vin de garde*."

1990 Mas de Daumas Gassac 75.00

Michael Broadbent: "★★★★(★)" Clive Coates: "This is *grand vin*."

1989 Mas de Daumas Gassac 75.00

Michael Broadbent: "★★★★★"

Tanzer: "93 rating ... very complex ... great richness and texture ... Impressive!"

1988 Mas de Daumas Gassac 79.95

Michael Broadbent: "★★★★★"

1986 Mas de Daumas Gassac59.95

Michael Broadbent: "★★(★)"

1985 Mas de Daumas Gassac89.95

1985 Mas de Daumas Gassac Magnum* 179.95

Steve Tanzer: "94 rating. Youthful, saturated medium red. Deep, fresh, brooding cassis and black cherry nose. Great silky richness and volume; this is mouthfilling and sweet ... A unique wine—reminiscent of no other region."

NORTHERN ITALY

Echoes of Pomerol's Past

I Clivi's Seductive 1998 Galea Rosso

For those who fell in love with wine in the 1960s and 1970s, that era's Pomerols had a special magic. Aged with little new wood, they were nearly Burgundian in texture, yet with aromatics unique to the *terroir*: blackcurrant mixed with a heavy influence of truffle, iron, tobacco and dark chocolate.



I Clivi's terraces of 50-year-old Merlot vines

The memory of those wines came rushing back to us a few months ago, when we drank an extraordinary eight-year-old Merlot from Italy's Friuli region. Made from 50-year-old vines grown in clay, with a mixed clay-limestone subsoil—soils much like those of Château Pétrus—the wine evoked the warm, fragrant character of those marvelous old Pomerols.

A Rarity

The wine was 1998 I Clivi Galea Rosso, and don't be surprised if you've never seen it. Only 200 cases were made, and not a bottle was shipped to the U.S. until this year, when the domaine let us have a few cases from their library. It's a wine you won't want to miss.

The man behind Galea Rosso is Ferdinando Zanusso, a former United Nations official who purchased the I Clivi estate in the early 1990s—attracted by the ten hectares of old vineyards planted on steep, terraced slopes. Ninety percent of the vines were white grapes; but there was a singular treasure: a small long-neglected plot of Merlot planted about 1953.

It took Ferdinando four years to bring the vines back to health, and in 1996 he finally produced enough

Merlot for his family and friends. By 1997 he was making 160 cases of Galea Rosso, and by '98 production reached 200 cases.

But the 1998 almost didn't happen. On the first day of harvesting, a storm approached and Ferdinando's crew was only big enough to bring in a tiny percentage of the crop before the rain. He chose to pick the Merlot—in his words “sacrificing the whites to save the red.” Yields were tiny: just 15 hl/H.

I Clivi's 1998 Galea Rosso was vinified and aged traditionally—very much like the old Pomerols. Only natural yeasts were used and aging was in a mixture of barrel and tank. Bottling was without filtration.

This is a wine of a bygone era, with a truly expressive and opulent character. Don't let it pass you by.

**1998 I Clivi
Galea Rosso**
\$39.95 *bt.* \$450.00 *cs.*



The expansive nose offers noble scents of blackcurrant, violets, sweet cigar box and cocoa. These are echoed on a palate remarkable for its gorgeous texture and its seamlessness. The fruit is subtle and pure, and the tannins are soft but ample. The long driving finish is highlighted by bright acidity, lingering blackcurrant and brown spice flavors, with outstanding balance. This wine is perfection today, but should age gracefully for another 5-7 years.

Hansel's Rare 2002 'Cahill' and 'Alyce' Chardonnays

Stephen Hansel's Russian River Chardonnays are like outsized Burgundies, made with 100% whole-cluster barrel fermentation and extensive lees stirring. The top wines are Cahill Lane and Cuvée Alyce, the latter a selection of his most flamboyant barrels. (This *cuvée* is

named for Stephen's colorful mother, whose personality he says mirrors the wine. Production is tiny.)

We've acquired a small amount of Stephen's already rare 2002 Cahill and Alyce. Very limited.

2002 Walter Hansel Chardonnay Cahill Lane 47.95

Parker: “94 rating ... A big, sweet nose of nectarines, pineapple, lemon butter, and flowers jumps from the glass of this hugely textured effort. With a Batard-Montrachet-like buttery-ness and opulence, this wine recalls some of the finest offerings from Michel Niellon.”

2002 Walter Hansel Chardonnay Cuvée Alyce 59.95

Parker: “96 rating ... the envelope is pushed in terms of intensity, ripeness, and richness ... a big, orange marmalade, buttered popcorn, hazelnut, guava, and papaya-scented bouquet ... one of the sexiest, most alluring efforts I tasted from this varietal in California.”

VENETO

Ascension

Tommaso Bussola's Monumental 2001 "TB"

Over the past half dozen years, Tommaso Bussola has emerged as the finest living maker of the Veneto's classic, explosively rich, nearly black, sweet wine, Recioto.

Yet, it has become apparent that Bussola is not content merely to have no rivals. He also wants to create something that has never been made before—a wine that blurs the line between liquid and solid. And so, with each passing vintage, his Recioto becomes richer, sweeter, darker, denser, more monumental.

Unprecedented

Thus, his newly released 2001 towers above every previous vintage of this wine, edging Bussola ever closer to his idea of the perfect Recioto. In fact, the statistics of this wine may be unprecedented in the Veneto, with 30% of its volume made up of solids (24% residual sugar plus 6% dry extract). It is even more concentrated than his legendary 1998 Recioto (98-rating from Parker).

Yet, this remarkable after-dinner wine is more than just massive. Despite the incredible weight, density and sweetness, it has an astonishing ease in the mouth and an effortless grace unheard-of in a wine so big and rich.

It is also a marvel of complexity, drawing its magic not only from the vineyard, but from the symphony of woods used for aging. While Veneto winemakers have long ventured beyond oak for their barrels, Bussola has turned such diversity into an art form, orchestrating casks of oak, acacia, cherry, mulberry and chestnut.

Of course, Recioto at this level can only be made by hand, and so in 2001 Bussola produced just 140 cases of half-liter bottles. This is not only a wine of great stature, it's a wine of great rarity, too. Don't miss it.

2001 Bussola Recioto "TB"

97 Daniel Thomases

\$95.00 500 ml



"A Stable of Thoroughbreds"

Bill Harlan's Bond Joins California's Cult Elite

Having made Harlan Estate the most nearly perfect of California's cult Cabernets, Bill Harlan has been working for more than a decade towards a new goal: "a stable of Napa Valley thoroughbreds" under a single label, Bond.



With winemaker Bob Levy, he identified several Napa Valley sites with *grand cru* potential, and working with their owners, began making small lots, using traditional methods for maximum expressiveness. By 1999, the

wines of two vineyards, Vecina and Melbury, became the first releases under the new Bond label. In 2001 St. Eden was added. With time, six different *cuvées* will be offered.

Today, it is clear that Harlan and Levy are achieving much of the same magic with these wines as they did with Harlan Estate. And the market is responding with surging demand and prices. This is a ground-floor opportunity, but quantities are *extremely* limited.

2001 Bond "Melbury" 249.95

Parker: "96 rating ... fabulous depth."

2001 Bond "St. Eden" 275.00

Parker: "97 rating ... nearly perfect."

2001 Bond "Vecina" 249.95

Parker: "96 rating ... tremendous density, brilliant upside potential, and marvelous purity."

2002 Bond "Melbury" 249.95

Parker: "96 rating ... A wine of great intensity, tremendous voluptuousness and opulence."

2002 Bond "St. Eden" 249.95

Parker: "96 rating. ... a seamlessness that must be tasted to be believed."

A Majestic Monprivato


The 2001 Sets a New Standard for Great Barolo

Among the greatest of all Barolos, Giuseppe Mascarello's Monprivato owes its stature partly to its site, a remarkable southwest-facing slope in Castiglione Falletto—its white calcareous-clay of active limestone offering unsurpassed conditions for growing great Nebbiolo. And Mascarello owns nearly every square inch of the vineyard, making this one of the few great Barolo crus in single ownership.

But the other key to Monprivato's greatness is the winemaker, Mauro Mascarello. Mauro has been the winemaker at his family's legendary estate for nearly 40 years, establishing himself as a giant among *barolisti*, making wines of consistent power and elegance.

A Towering Wine

Mauro has made many great Monprivatos in his career—the kinds of wines that most men would be happy to make just once in their lives. In fact, we count the

 "A wine no one who is passionate about Barolo should be without."
Antonio Galloni

1978, 1982, 1985, 1989 and 1990 Monprivatos among our desert island Barolos. But Mauro has just released a wine that could one day head the list: the monumental 2001.

Given Mauro's consistency in great vintages, it should come as no surprise that his 2001 Monprivato is transcendent. Rivalling 1999 and potentially even 1996 and 1989, the

2001 vintage offers a magical combination of superb structure and great richness. And the 2001 Monprivato possesses those qualities in spades.

We are pleased to offer the newly released 2001 Monprivato, at compellingly low prices and in sizes up to 3-liter. This is a wine that belongs in the cellar of anyone who loves great red wine.

2001 Barolo Monprivato

95 Piedmont Report

\$59.95 *bt.* \$129.95 *mag.*

\$269.00 *3-liter*



Mascarello's Brilliant 2003 Dolcetto

Like the Langhe's other great traditionalists, Mauro Mascarello makes his Dolcettos to the same high standard as his Barolos. In issue 3 of *Piedmont Report*, Antonio Galloni reminisces on past bottles, calling them "serious wines that convey terroir, varietal and vintage in a very pure way." We've had many Mascarello Dolcettos, but the 2003 combines that purity with great richness in a unique way. Grab this bargain while you can.

2003 Giuseppe Mascarello

Dolcetto d'Alba "Santo Stefano" ... 15.95/188 cs.

Antonio Galloni in *Piedmont Report*: "The 2001 Monprivato represents the highest level of elegance, with a captivating nose of roses, tar, and licorice, followed by layers of sweet dark fruit and minerals that evolved in a never-ending counterpoint of aromas and sensations, with much depth, precision, and freshness on the finish. Everything is perfectly in balance here—still my guess is that this great wine is showing only a hint of its potential. One of the finest Monprivatos in recent memory and a wine no one who is passionate about Barolo should be without."

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2002 AMERICAN WINE AWARDS IMPORTER

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