

2008 La Frenz Semillon (BC - Naramata Bench, Canada)  
Wine - White \$28.99 (750mL)

Consistently shows off in a seamless layering of grassiness, citrus, lemon, grapefruit and honeycombe. Impeccably balanced. This wine's weight and intensity emulates premium Bordeaux from Graves. Great finesse. There is some Sauvignon Blanc in this wine. A double Gold medal winner at the all Canadian Wine Championships in 2009 and the Best of Class trophy. Limited availability.

2008 CARM Grande Reserva Branco (Douro, Portugal)  
Wine - White \$24.99 (750ml)

Aged eight months in French oak, this lovely, full-bodied white has intensity, citrus, lemon and vegetable notes on the nose. The palate has minerality, toast, mango and papaya. Tremendous acid and glycerin will allow it to pair nicely with bigger foods. A touch of smoke on the finish - this is a gastronomic wine.

91|2004 Dona Marian Reserva

There were 19,000 cases made, of which 4,000 were imported. The 2004 RESERVA is 25% Syrah, 50% Alicante (an Alicante Bouschet hybrid), and the rest divided equally between Cabernet Sauvignon and Aragones. It is a solid wine, projecting a feel of fullness in the mouth, without being overbearing in the least. It is very flavorful, nuanced with cherries, with tannins lurking underneath. As it comes into focus with air, it becomes more rightly wound, gripping and quite intense, but the sweet mid-palate fruit is always persistent. It should develop some character in the cellar, and after having it open for three hours, it was still a bit closed. It drank as well or better the next day. There were 4,200 cases produced, of which 2,000 were imported. Drink now-2016.

1997 Cortese Rabaja Barbaresco (Piedmont, Italy)  
Wine - Red \$51.99 (750mL)

James Suckling, Wine Spectator

Rating: 93

Absolutely gorgeous. Extremely harmonious. Lots of dried plum and raspberry aromas. Full-bodied, with superpolished tannins and a finish that goes on and on. Hard not to drink it now. Best after 2001. 1,400 cases made.

Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate

Rating: 92

The 1997 Rabaja is the finest Cortese Barbaresco I have tasted in over a decade. Aged completely in old foudres, it is a traditionally made Piedmontese exhibiting notes of root vegetables, raspberry and cherry jam, cedar and balsam wood, smoke, and minerals. The

wine is full-bodied, powerful yet elegant, supple-textured, and surprisingly deep as well as delineated. Drink this hedonistic as well as intellectually satisfying Barbaresco over the next 10-12 years.

2007 Château de Parnay Clos du Chateau (Loire Valley, France)  
Wine - Red \$23.99 (750mL)

This 100% Cabernet Franc from the Saumur wine region in the Loire is expressive with violets and wild flowers, with a fair dose of smoke and creaminess. Spicy yet flexible, it is a fairly big wine that will stand up to red meat. A terroir wine made from old vine stock.

2004 Phillippe Delesvaux Coteaux du Layon St. Aubin Clos du Pavillon (Loire Valley, France)  
Wine - Dessert \$26.49 (500mL)

Classic Chenin Blanc from the Loire Valley. With its warm golden hue color, this has hints of melon, quince, figs and honey. In the mouth, the mineral and pear and apple notes are stunning leading to a long sweet finish. Great with fruit based desserts, and one of the few excellent pairing with teriyaki sauce.