

KAHILL'S

STEAK - FISH & CHOPHOUSE

2010 WINE LIST

"There's one thing that I don't get," said a friend of mine many years ago. "Wine tastes like cherries, pears, apples, even pomegranates. How come it almost never tastes like grapes?"

It was a question that I have not forgotten. It's ironic that wine ~ which by nature ought to taste like grapes ~ usually doesn't. Instead, it can taste like all sorts of unexpected things from leather boots to pineapple. In part, the reason lies in the mind-bending complex process of fermentation, when all kinds of chemical transformations take place. Many compounds we know exist in other contexts are created. Diacetyl, for example, the compound that makes butter taste buttery, can be created. And if it is, then the wine literally tastes buttery.

Wine, in fact, seems to have no vocabulary of its own; we use the language of food, nature, and even fabrics. A wine can be raspberry-like, earthy, or silky ~ (as in the case of many Pinot Noirs) all three.

That said, I have put together a list of just a few words and brief descriptions. Hopefully, this will help you in your quest for tasting new wines.

-Jack Kahill

BODY : *Wines are described as full or light bodies, depending on how they are on your tongue. Imagine, for example, the relative weights of skim milk, whole milk, and half-and-half. Light bodied, medium-bodied, and full-bodied wine correspond. But don't mistake body for flavor intensity. A light bodied wine can still be extremely intense in flavor the way a sorbet is.*

TANNIN : *A compound found in grape skins, a tannin gives wine a firm structure. It also serves as a preservative helping a good wine to age gracefully and, in the right proportion, helps with balance. Is primarily responsible for the "bitter" taste in some wines.*

LEGS : *Term used when referring to the liquid rivulets that form on the glass when swirling the wine to evaluate the alcohol concentration present. Usually the higher the content the more impressive the rivulets appear because of reduced surface tension effects. complexity : Many wines have multiple layers of flavors and aromas. Each sip reveals something you didn't notice before. Complex wines are more fascinating than their opposite ~ simple wines.*

TOAST : *Many wines that have been fermented and/or aged in new oak barrels take on a toasty character not unlike buttered toast. The reason: during the barrel making process, the oak staves are toasted over fire to make them more malleable. While many wine drinkers like the toastiness (especially in Chardonnay), wines that taste exclusively of toast are poorly made. length: Long wines have flavors that linger in your mouth even after you swallowed (these end-run flavors are called the wine's finish). A long finish is one of the hallmarks of a great wine.*

BREATHE/BREATHING : *When wine is poured into another container, such as a wine glass, the admixture of the air seems to release pent-up aromas, which then become more pronounced, in many cases as minute's even hour's pass.*

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REDS

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

		GLS	BTL
Good Night	California	6.25	25
Liberty School	California	8	32
75 Beckstoffer	California	9.5	34
Leese-Fitch	California		23
Hahn	California		25
Avalon	California		26
Los Vascos	Chile		27
J. Lohr Seven Oaks	California		29
Francis Coppola	California		35
Greg Norman	California		37
Justin	California		47
Raymond Reserve	California		58

MERLOT

Leese-Fitch	California	5.75	23
Kunde Estate	California	7	28
Clos du Val	California	8.5	34
Baron Philippe Rothschild	France		18
Casillero del Diablo	Chile		20
Red Diamond	Washington		22
Veramonte	Chile		23
Santa Ema	Chile		28
Heron	California		30
Chateau Ste. Michelle Indian Wells	Washington		42
St. Francis	California		47

PINOT NOIR/BEAUJOLAIS

Carmenet	California	6.25	23
BearBoat Russian River	California	11	44
Castle Rock Mendocino County	California		26
Georges Duboeuf Beaujolais-Villages	France		26
Estancia	California		28
Firesteed	Oregon		30
Kim Crawford	New Zealand		37
Laetitia Estate Arroyo Grande	California		42
Au Bon Climat Santa Barbara	California		46
La Crema Sonoma Coast	California		50
Elk Cove Willamette Valley	Oregon		52
Sanford	California		72

RED ZINFANDEL

Marietta Cellars Old Vine	California	7	28
Gnarly Head Old Vine	California		25
Rosenblum Cuvee	California		28
C.G. Di Arie Sierra Foothills	California		33
Rosenblum Conta Costa	California		39
Plungerhead Dry Creek	California		42
Ridge Three Valleys	California		45
St. Francis Old Vine	California		48
Chateau Montelena	California		52

*"What though youth gave us love and roses,
age still leaves us friends and wine."*

-Thomas Moore

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REDS

SHIRAZ/SYRAH

		GLS	BTL
St. Hallet Faith Shiraz	<i>Australia</i>	8.25	33
Rosemount Shiraz	<i>Australia</i>		22
Angoves Red Belly Black Shiraz	<i>Australia</i>		25
Pefer Lehmann Shiraz	<i>Australia</i>		45
Wolf Blass Gold Label Shiraz	<i>Australia</i>		45
Renwood Syrah	<i>California</i>		21
Cline Syrah	<i>California</i>		26
E. Guigal Croze Hermitage	<i>France</i>		42

INTRIGUING REDS

Los Cardos Malbec	<i>Argentina</i>	6.5	26
Norton Malbec	<i>Argentina</i>		25
Gascon Malbec	<i>Argentina</i>		26
Trapiche Oak Cask Malbec	<i>Argentina</i>		29
Marquis Philips Roogle Red	<i>Australia</i>	5.75	23
La Vieille Ferme	<i>France</i>		20
Santa Ema Carmenere	<i>Chile</i>		27
Concannon Petite Sirah	<i>California</i>		29
Brassfield Eruption	<i>California</i>		32
D'Arenberg The Custodian Grenache	<i>Australia</i>		44

SPAIN/ITALY

Capezzana Conti Contini	<i>Italy</i>		27
Donna Laura Bramosia Chianti DOCG	<i>Italy</i>		32
Marques de Caceres	<i>Spain</i>		34
Prunotto Dolcetto D'Alba	<i>Italy</i>		38
Ruffino il Ducale	<i>Italy</i>		42

MERITAGE/BORDEAUX/CLARET

Sterling Meritage	<i>California</i>		24
Chateau Saint-Sulpice	<i>France</i>		32
Chateau La Grange Clinet	<i>France</i>		33
Hayman & Hill Meritage	<i>California</i>		35
Newton Claret	<i>California</i>		42
Chateau d'Arcins	<i>France</i>		42
Primus	<i>Chile</i>		48
Chateau Grand Duroc Milon	<i>France</i>		54

*"Quickly someone bring me a beaker of wine,
so that I may whet my mind and say something clever."*
-Aristophanes

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WHITES

CHARDONNAY

		GLS	BTL
Lindemans Bin 65	<i>Australia</i>	5.25	19
Sterling Organic	<i>California</i>	6.75	27
Clos du Val	<i>California</i>	8.5	32
Buehler Russian River	<i>California</i>		26
Bouchard Macon-Villages	<i>France</i>		30
Glen Carlou	<i>South Africa</i>		33
Wild Horse	<i>California</i>		37
Chateau Souverain	<i>California</i>		41
Au Bon Climat	<i>California</i>		44
Rombauer	<i>California</i>		65
Petaluma Picadilly Valley	<i>Australia</i>		67

PINOT GRIGIO/PINOT GRIS

Riff Pinot Grigio	<i>Italy</i>	6.75	26
Kris Pinot Grigio	<i>Italy</i>		29
Pighin Pinot Grigio	<i>Italy</i>		41
Elk Cove Pinot Gris	<i>Oregon</i>		38

SAUVIGNON BLANC

St. Supery	<i>California</i>	8.25	32
Kim Crawford	<i>New Zealand</i>	9	36
New Harbor	<i>New Zealand</i>		24
Veramonte	<i>Chile</i>		25
Brancott	<i>New Zealand</i>		35
Pascal Jolivet "Attitude"	<i>France</i>		47
Hall Napa Valley	<i>California</i>		53

RIESLING

Rudi Wiest Mosel River	<i>Germany</i>	6.5	24
Ste. Chapelle Dry	<i>Idaho</i>		22
Loredona	<i>California</i>		25
Von Buhl "Jazz"	<i>Germany</i>		36

GEWURZTRAMINER

Pacific Rim	<i>Washington</i>	6.5	25
Anne Laure	<i>France</i>		34
Trimbach	<i>France</i>		39

INTRIGUING WHITES/ROSE

Amano Moscato	<i>Italy</i>	6.5	25
Spanish Quarter Chardonnay-Albarino	<i>Spain</i>		24
Hugel Gentil	<i>France</i>		28
Michel Picard Vouvray	<i>France</i>		29
Lois Gruner Veltliner	<i>Austria</i>		32
Beringer White Zinfandel	<i>California</i>	4.75	16
La Vieille Ferme Rosé	<i>France</i>		18

CHAMPAGNE/SPARKLING

J. Roget	<i>California</i>		20
Roederer Estate	<i>California</i>		50
Schramsberg Blanc de Noirs	<i>California</i>		62
Veuve Clicquot Demi-Sec	<i>France</i>		79
Dom Perignon	<i>France</i>		165

"A bottle of wine begs to be shared;

I have never met a miserly wine lover."

-Clifton Fadiman

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RESERVE

		GLS	BTL
RIESLING			
Joh.Jos.Prüm Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese	Germany		65
CHARDONNAY			
Caymus Mer Soleil Silver	California		65
Far Niente	California		76
Cakebread	California		77
Newton Unfiltered	California		81
ZD Reserve	California		85
Joseph Drouhin Puligny-Montrachet	France		89
PINOT NOIR			
Gary Farrell Russian River	California		65
Joseph Drouhin Pommard	France		72
David Bruce Sonoma Coast	California		76
Dom. Maume 1er Gevrey-Chambertin	France		125
SHIRAZ/SYRAH/RHONE BLENDS			
d'Arenberg Dead Arm Shiraz	Australia		83
Ch. Rayas Fonsalette Cotes du Rhone	France		95
Ch. Rayas Pignan Chateauneuf du Pape	France		145
SPAIN/ITALY			
Marques de Riscal Rioja	Spain		42
Argentiera Poggio Al Ginepri	Italy		48
Monsanto Chianti Classico Riserva	Italy		64
UNIQUE RED BLENDS			
BV Tapestry	California		65
Franciscan Magnificent	California		72
Rodney Strong Symmetry	California		78
Alpha Omega	California		89
MERLOT			
Rombauer	California		65
Duckhorn Three Palms	California		68
Newton Unfiltered	California		79
Merryvale Reserve	California		82
Twomey	California		115
CABERNET/BORDEAUX			
Caravan by Darioush	California		59
Stag's Leap Artemis	California		75
Groth Oakville	California		76
Jordan	California		79
Robert Craig Mt. Veeder	California		80
Duckhorn	California		82
Chimney Rock Stag's Leap	California		84
Silver Oak Alexander	California		85
Caymus	California		86
Stag's Leap Fay	California		105
Viader	California		105
Silver Oak Napa Valley	California		115
Chateau Montelena 2005	California		130
Rubicon	California		140
Far Niente	California		140
Caymus Special Selection	California		156

"A meal without wine is like a day without sunshine."

-Anthelme Brillat Savarin