

TRUCHARD, 1991 CARNEROS, NAPA VALLEY, \$160 (\$20) ★★★★★

Light-medium weight and aromatic in style, this is a Pinot with more flavor than its lightish color suggests. It has raspberry-and-rose petal character and noticeable new oak. [1993-1994] (707) 253-7153

WILD HORSE

- 1990 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, \$128 (\$16) ★★★★★
- 1991 CENTRAL COAST, \$128 (\$16) ★★★★★

Two excellent value Pinots. The '90 is softer and slightly richer (with strawberry, plum-like flavors); the '91 is more aromatic and finer in flavor (raspberry, violets), with firmer acidity and a very long finish. Both show positive notes of new oak. [1993-1994] (805) 434-2541

★★★ WINES ALSO RECOMMENDED

- Morgan, 1991 California, \$136 (\$17) (408) 422-9855
- Sanford, 1990 Santa Barbara County, \$136 (\$17) (805) 688-3300
- Robert Sinskey, 1990 Carneros, \$128 (\$16) (707) 944-9090

PINOT NOIR — Expensive:
\$201/case & Up (\$25.10/btl. & Up full retail)

CHEVAL SAUVAGE (WILD HORSE)

- 1989 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, \$136/6 btls. (\$34) ★★★★★
- 1990 PASO ROBLES, \$136/6 btls. (\$34) ★★★★★

These reserve-styled wines are fuller and more complex in flavor than Wild Horse's red label releases: the '89 is medium full bodied and intensely flavored (raspberry, clove, green leaf)—a more classically styled wine; the '90 is rich, ripe (even jammy), full bodied, and more rugged in style. Limited availability. [1993-1995] (805) 434-2541

DOMAINE SERENE, 1990 EVENSTAD RESERVE, WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON, \$224 (\$28) ★★★★★

Full bodied, somewhat toasty and oaky in flavor, with ripe berry and plum undercurrents. Finishes with oak in evidence. Limited availability. [1993-1995] (612) 473-9825

LA BOHEME VINEYARD, 1990 WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON, \$240 (\$30) ★★★★★

A wine with terrific character and flavor (raspberry, rose petal, clove, plum) on a medium weight framework. Has medium full body and a long, slightly rugged finish. From Elk Cove. Limited availability. [1993-1994] (503) 985-7760

WILLIAMS SELYEM

- 1990 SONOMA COAST, \$216 (\$27) ★★★★★
- 1990 OLIVET LANE VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, \$360 (\$45) ★★★★★
- 1990 ALLEN VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, \$360 (\$45) ★★★★★
- 1990 ROCHIOLI VINEYARD, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, \$440 (\$55) ★★★★★

This Pinot Noir producer is making wonderfully luscious, intensely fruity, somewhat leafy-herbal, and well-oaked wines. They are almost impossible to obtain, but are included here for the sake of comparison. Of them, the Sonoma Coast is the lightest (but not light) and most straightforward in style; the Olivet Lane and Allen Vineyard are richer (with raspberry, rose petal, tobacco, and vanilla flavors) and more complex, with more oak, as well. The '90 Rochioli Vineyard is stunning: extremely fruity and luscious, but with perfect balance, and tremendous length. [1993-1995] (707) 433-6425

Dates in brackets, e.g. [1993-94], refer to potential peak drinkability periods for wines, not aging potential. These are guidelines only.

GAMAY/GAMAY BEAUJOLAIS - 1 Price Category**COLUMBIA CREST, 1991 COLUMBIA VALLEY, WASHINGTON, \$60 (\$7.50)** ★★★★★

A light-medium bodied wine, with cherry and rose-like flavors, a hint of sweetness, and good balance. Fine value. [1993-1994] (509) 875-2061

GEYSER PEAK, 1991 SONOMA COUNTY, \$56 (\$7) ★★★★★

Softly textured, spicy and berry-like in flavor, and lightly tannic; an excellent wine, with a hint of sweetness. Made primarily from Pinot Noir. Great value. [1993-1994] (707) 857-9463

PEDRONCELLI, 1991 SONOMA COUNTY, \$56 (\$7) ★★★★★

Dry, very spicy and berry-like in flavor, medium in body, and well balanced; has a long, peppery finish. Just plain delicious. Exceptional value. 100% Napa Gamay. [1993-1994] (707) 857-3531 *Label pg. 15*

ZINFANDEL — Low Priced:
Up to \$57/case (Up to \$7.10/btl. full retail)

SHENANDOAH VINEYARDS, 1991 AMADOR COUNTY, \$56 (\$7) ★★★★★

A spicy-fruity, medium bodied wine, with some oak character. Gamay-like in its youthful appeal. [1993-1994] (209) 245-4455

SUTTER HOME, 1991 CALIFORNIA, \$52 (\$6.50) ★★★★★

Smooth, medium weight, and very fruity; an excellent wine, with distinctive character and good balance. Excellent value. [1993-1994] (707) 963-3104

★★★ WINES ALSO RECOMMENDED

- Riverside Farm, 1990 California, \$48 (\$6) (707) 433-7272
- Stevenot, 1989 California, \$56 (\$7) (209) 728-3436

ZINFANDEL — Medium Priced:
\$57-\$96/case (\$7.10-\$12/btl. full retail)

BELVEDERE, 1990 DRY CREEK VALLEY, \$82 (\$10.25) ★★★★★

Supple, ripe, and somewhat woody in style, with blackberry, vanilla, and bay leaf flavors. Has a long, rugged finish. [1993-1996] (707) 433-8236

BUEHLER VINEYARDS, 1990 NAPA VALLEY, \$84 (\$10.50) ★★★★★

A fruity (blackberry, strawberry jam), lightly tannic, medium bodied wine, with good balance. [1993-1995] (707) 963-2155

McDOWELL, 1990 McDOWELL VALLEY, \$80 (\$10) ★★★★★

Richly flavored (pepper, berry, oak) and somewhat rugged in style, but with good balance and a long, slightly oaky finish. [1993-1996] (707) 744-1053

PEDRONCELLI, 1990 DRY CREEK VALLEY, \$68 (\$8.50) ★★★★★

Spicy and ripely flavored, with intense Zin character (pepper, raspberry, blackberry), good balance, and a crisp, long finish. Shows some style. Excellent value. [1993-1996] (707) 857-3531

RABBIT RIDGE, 1991 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, \$88 (\$11) ★★★★★

Very ripe and fruity in flavor (blackberry), somewhat oaky, and rugged on the finish; a smoother, fruitier wine than the '90. Good value. [1993-1996] (707) 431-7128