

## OntarioWineReview Vintages Release Guide

A bi-weekly report about the upcoming wines being released through LCBO's Vintages program.



### OntarioWineReview: Vintages Release Saturday September 14, 2013

I am using a 5-star rating system, which appears at the end of each review; here's the key to the stars:  
5 = Outstanding ... 4.5 = Excellent ... 4 = Very Good ... 3.5 = Good ... 3 = Average

**Key: Wine colour indicators - Red are red wines, Yellow are whites, etc.**

**The Foci ...** Where the LCBO should be all the time, Ontario (ONT)

**The Skinny ...** The LCBO is calling it "Shine On", their annual Ontario spotlight, yet at the tasting half of the wines weren't available for tasting – can't blame this one on the overseas shipping. Look for a couple of delightful Beaujolais wines.

#### Argentina ...

**Zuccardi 2011 Santa Julia Magna** (\$14.95 - #093799) – lovely bit of blackberry and mocha with hints of blueberry and mocha on the finish. (\*\*\*\*)

**Zuccardi 2011 Serie A Malbec** (\$15.95 - #167619) - pleasant and easy drinking, a good introduction to the grape with a nice spiced finish. (\*\* ½+)

#### Australia ...

**Penfolds 2010 Bin 28 Kalimna Shiraz** (\$34.95 - #422782) – nice mocha and spice with hints of black pepper, blackberry and a meaty undertone. (\*\*\*\*)

#### Canada (Ontario) ... *click on wine name for full review*

[Bachelor 2011 Niagara Chardonnay](#) (\$29.95 - #302083) - \*\*\*\* (ONT)

[Coyote's Run 2011 Red Paw Vineyard Pinot Noir](#) (\$22.95 - #079228) - \*\*\*\* (ONT)

[Daniel Lenko 2009 Gewurztraminer](#) (\$24.95 - 356832) - \_\_\_\_\_ (ONT)

[Featherstone 2012 Black Sheep Riesling](#) (\$16.95 - #080234) - \*\*\*\* ½+ (ONT)

[Flat Rock 2012 Riesling](#) (\$16.95 - #043281) - \*\*\*\* (ONT)

[Henry of Pelham 2007 Cuvee Catharine Blanc de Blanc "Carte Blanche"](#) (\$44.95 - #315200) - \*\*\*\* ½ (ONT)

[Le Clos Jordanne 2010 Village Reserve Pinot Noir](#) (\$30.00 - #033894) - \*\*\* ½+ (ONT)

[Norman Hardie 2010 Unfiltered County Chardonnay](#) (\$35.00 - #184432) - \*\*\*\*+ (ONT)

[Reif 2011 Vidal Icewine](#) (\$24.95 - #544791) - \*\*\*\* ½ (ONT)

[Tawse 2010 Growers Blend Pinot Noir](#) (\$26.95 - #130989) - \*\*\*\*+ (ONT)

[The Foreign Affair 2011 The Conspiracy](#) (\$19.95 - #149237) - \*\*\*\*+ (ONT)

[The Organized Crime 2011 Pipe Down](#) (\$22.20 - #356865) - \*\*\*\* (ONT)

[Vintage Ink 2010 Mark of Passion Merlot / Cabernet](#) (\$17.95 - #250209) - \*\*\*\* (ONT)

#### France (Beaujolais) ...

**Collin Bourisset 2011 Douce Folie Saint-Amour** (\$19.95 - #330118) – nice cherry, raspberry notes with full on fruit and some nice spice. (\*\*\*\*)

**Collin Bourisset 2011 Les Terres Bleues Brouilly** (\$16.95 - #330100) – ripe cherries that demand attention, fresh and lively, chill and enjoy; pure Gamay magic. (\*\*\*\*+)

#### France (Bordeaux) ...

**Chateau d'Aiguilhe 2009** (\$44.85 - #194092) – intensely spiced with robust fruit. (\*\*\*\*+)

**Chateau Preuillac 2009** (\$32.95 - #713925) – dusty blueberry, mocha and spice. (\*\* ½+)

#### France (Burgundy) ...

**Domaine Bernard Defaix 2010 Cote de Lechet Reserve Chablis 1er Cru** (\$33.95 - #017541) – nice mineral with pineapple, pear and mineral on the finish. (\*\* ½+)

**Domaine Raphael Sallet 2011 Macon Uchizy** (\$15.95 - #130450) – hints of butter with apple,

lemon zest and touches of sweet fruit on the finish. (\*\* ½+)

*Maison Roche de Bellene 2010 Savigny-les-Beaune Vieilles Vignes* (\$22.95 - #344283) – the cherry and strawberry notes in this wine really sing, there's also nice mineral and earthy notes as backdrop. (\*\* ½+)

**France (Loire) ...**

*Chateau Gaudrelle Brut Cremant de Loire* (\$19.95 - #339986) – floral and lemon notes along with some honey and breadiness. (\*\* ½+)

*Couly-Dutheil 2010 La Baronne Madeleine Chinon* (\$21.95 - #057059) – blackberry and smoke with smooth tannins, easy drinking. (\*\* ½+)

**France (Midi) ...**

*Nostre Pais 2011 Costieres de Nimes* (\$19.95 - #295410) – chocolate, cherry and raspberry with vanilla and spice mid-palate. (\*\*\*\*+)

**France (Rhône) ...**

*M. Chapoutier 2010 La Bernardine Chateauneuf-du-Pape* (\$49.95 - #972331) – balanced of fruit, spice and oak; quite flavourful. (\*\*\*\*)

**France (Southwest) ...**

*Aydie L'Origine 2010* (\$15.95 - #343566) – lots of red berry flavour. (\*\* ½+)

*Chateau Spencer La Pujade 2011 le P'tit Spencer Corbieres* (\$14.95 - #348821) – full of fruit and gentle of spice, with licorice and floral notes. (\*\* ½+)

**Greece ...**

*Kourtaki Muscat of Samos* (\$14.95 - #938407) – there's a hint of ginger and spice on this sweetie with exotic fruit backing it up. (\*\*\*\*+)

**Italy (Abruzzo) ...**

*Bucaro 2011 Montepulciano D'Abruzzo* (\$15.95 - #277491) – mocha with red and black berries with a black cherry finish. (\*\* ½+)

**Italy (Piedmont) ...**

*Clavesana 2010 Il Clou Dogliani Superiore* (\$16.95 - #344747) – sour cherry, hint of spiced blackberry and some smoky notes. (\*\* ½+)

**Italy (Puglia) ...**

*Resta Squinzano Rosso 2009* (\$15.95 - #338996) – mocha, black cherry, vanilla, tobacco and spice; complex wine especially for the price. (\*\*\*\*)

**Italy (Sicily) ...**

*Orestyadi 2011 Grillo* (\$13.95 - #348698) – charred pineapple and grilled peaches. (\*\* ½+)

**Italy (Tuscany) ...**

*Fattoria Le Fonti 2010 Chianti Classico* (\$19.95 - #292162) – chocolate and oak, raspberry-eartheness with vanilla and cedar; it's takes a glass of two to figure this one out, but it's worth it. (\*\* ½+)

**Italy (Veneto) ...**

*Belcanto di Bellusi Prosecco di Valdobbiadene Superiore* (\$17.95 - #053215) – light and frothy bubbly with hints of apple sweetness. (\*\* ½+)

**New Zealand ...**

*Amisfield 2009 Pinot Noir* (\$36.95 - #179754) – smoky, oaky, vanilla, mocha along with a hint of pomegranate; this is some interesting stuff. (\*\*\*\*)

*Mount Riley 2011 Pinot Noir* (\$19.95 - #060137) – cherry, raspberry and strawberry; good fruit bowl of flavours. (\*\* ½+)

*Thatched Hut 2012 Sauvignon Blanc* (\$18.95 - #262782) – tangy grapefruit with definite grassy notes. (\*\* ½+)

**South Africa ...**

*False Bay 2012 Peacock Ridge Chenin Blanc* (\$14.95 - #337576) – pleasant, fresh and fruit with lanolin, peach and lemon; nice length to the finish. (\*\*\*\*)

**Spain ...**

*Alvaro Palacios 2011 Camins del Priorat* (\$22.95 - #216291) – nice floral, bright berry flavour and pretty aromas. (\*\*\*\*)

*Bodegas Vizcarra JC Vicarra 2010* (\$28.95 - #214650) – sweet dark berries flavours along with

alluring aromas of black cherry and spice. (\*\*\*\*)

*Celler de Capcanes 2009 Costers de Gravet* (\$19.95 - #707059) – very flavourful with red and black fruit. (\*\* ½+)

*Lan 2005 Gran Reserva* (\$27.95 - #928622) – cedary and smoky with layers of dried and fresh red berries. (\*\*\*\*+)

**United States** (California) ...

*La Crema 2011 Pinot Noir* (\$31.95 - #719435) – juicy California version of Pinot with plenty of red fruit. (\*\*\*\*)

*McManis Family Vineyards 2011 Syrah* (\$19.95 - #658104) – very floral with sweet cherry and red licorice. (\*\* ½+)

*Mer Soleil 2011 Silver Unoaked Chardonnay* (\$28.95 - #220343) – funky clay bottle, very tasty unoaked Chardonnay, but a gimmicky bottle. (\*\* ½)

*Rodney Strong 2010 Chalk Hill Chardonnay* (\$24.95 - #275552) – big, fully realized Chard with lots of buttery, oaky and vanilla flavours with a touch of citrus zest. (\*\*\*\*)

**United States** (Washington) ...

*Chateau Ste. Michelle 2008 Ethos Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$44.95 - #209866) – earthy, mocha and plum with vanilla and cherry. (\*\* ½+)

**If You Can Afford It – wines worth their high price ...**

*Chateau Fleur Cardinale 2009* (\$64.85 - #197541) - \*\*\*\*+

*Pahlmeyer 2010 Pinot Noir* (\$94.95 - #148536) - \*\*\*\*

**What I'll Be Lining Up For – September 14, 2013 ...**

*Collin Bourisset 2011 Les Terres Bleues Brouilly* (\$16.95 - #330100) – France

*False Bay 2012 Peacock Ridge Chenin Blanc* (\$14.95 - #337576) – South Africa

*Kourtaki Muscat of Samos* (\$14.95 - #938407) – Greece

*Nostre Pais 2011 Costieres de Nimes* (\$19.95 - #295410) – France

Happy Shopping

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**About OntarioWineReview:** a website devoted to the love, enjoyment and promotion of Ontario's wines, wineries and lots more wine related issues – visit [www.ontariowinereview.com](http://www.ontariowinereview.com) to sign up for the free bi-weekly newsletter and feel free to browse around a little while you're there.



**What can the Grape Guy do for you ...** Michael Pinkus (Grape Guy) provides a variety of wine related services that you might be interested in taking advantage of: he gives lectures, leads seminars, conducts tastings, sets up tours; consults, selects and judges. He also gives interviews, broadcasts, podcasts and writes. [Contact the Grape Guy if you require any of these services or have any questions.](#)



**Psst, Pass It On ...** keep the good wine flowing. Pass this report onto to friends, family members, loved ones, or any other wine lover on your list of contacts.



**Socially Speaking ...**

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To contact me with feedback, article ideas, comments, concerns or questions – email [michael@ontariowinereview.com](mailto:michael@ontariowinereview.com). I look forward to hearing from you!

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