

GRAPE PRESS

"What makes a great wine retail experience?"

A human being who is present in the moment of interaction with a customer and actively listens to what that person is looking for. – Adapted from winefreedom.org

Three Cheers for Summer FROM TOP 50!

Top 50 is The Wine Sellers' annual salute to a grand trio: summer, summer wines and Harbor Country. How well they go together!

Our walk-around tasting event emphasizes wines that combine wonderful taste with smart value. Industry professionals are on hand to facilitate and answer questions. All wines are offered for order at a significant, that-day-only discount.

Top 50 2026 was held June 20 (eve of the summer solstice) on the patio of Timothy's Restaurant in Union Pier. Some of exciting wines we shared had never been in Michigan before. With wines from France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, New Zealand, Spain, California and Washington, Top 50 '26 was like a World Cup of wine tastings!

Once again, every single wine offered at the event had sales. It's a reaffirmation that Jacqui Schiewe's carefully curated selection, both at Top 50 and in the shop, is in sync with the tastes of our clients, who want to enjoy to the full their summer in Harbor Country.



Steve Wisnewski of Great Lakes Wine & Spirits presenting the Introduction to Mexico.

LOVE at First Sip

We often refer to an "aha" moment in wine appreciation. It's the sudden thrill when a new wine immediately captivates us from the very first taste. There always seems to be a few wines at Top 50 that have that effect. Based on sales and the compliments we hear, it's as if many of our guests shared an "aha" moment about the same wines. Three in particular that were exceptionally popular are in the shop for you to discover:



Ottella Lugana 2024 **\$23.95**

100% turbiana, bursting with tart pineapple, candied citrus, lemongrass, and the clean scent of wet stone after rain. Texture is bright and crunchy, with tropical fruit and a snap of lime. Perfect alone or with lighter fare.



Salcheto 2022 Vino Nobile **\$31.00**

Focused and nicely structured, with aromas of red plums, forest floor, crushed violets and tobacco that carry into a medium- to full-bodied palate. Tannins are firm but integrated, holding a vivid line of acidity that gives the finish clarity and tension. Drink or hold.

Three Cheers for Summer FROM TOP 50! Continued

BOSCO PROSECCO IS A *Beauty*

Top 50 always has its breakout stars, and this year's edition was no exception. The ***Bosco del Merlo Rosé Prosecco*** is exclusive to The Wine Sellers. At Top 50, we sold every bottle in the state of Michigan. We were fortunate to have another shipment recently arrive at the shop where a bottle of this special sparkler is ready to go home with you.

Jacqui first tasted this exquisite Brut sparkling wine last autumn at Vinitaly USA and was enamored. Then, as these serendipitous events often happen, she was invited to the Women in Wine event held in conjunction with Vinitaly, where she connected with Francesca Paladin of Bosco del Merlo. Jacqui worked with Francesca to introduce it to Michigan.

The wine is a blend of Glera and Pinot Nero and is light in alcohol at 11.5%. Aromas of pomegranate, pear and delicate florals adorn the dry, fresh flavor. Bosco del Merlo Rosé Prosecco is delicious, versatile and reasonably priced at \$24 per bottle.

Bosco del Merlo supports the Life in Rosé project begun in 2018 with the goal of promoting prevention of breast cancer, working with the Italian organization LILT Treviso. A portion of the winery's proceeds are donated to this cause.

We also carry the ***Bosco del Merlo Pinot Grigio Rosé*** (\$24.50). It's one of our Porch Wine selections (see below).



LOVE at First Sip

Continued



***Casa Magoni 2024
Sangiovese/Cabernet
Sauvignon, Baja California***
\$29.50

From our "Introduction to Mexico" component of Top 50. A blend of Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromas of cherries and red raspberries, with notes of black fruits. Well-integrated tannins, more cherry and plum, and a hint of black tea on the finish.



Jack Volz from Ballendine Winery pouring his 2021 Zinfandel. Matt Kirby from Imperial Beverage is to his left behind the table.



Annie Burch of AHD Vintners.

Three Cheers for Summer
FROM TOP 50! Continued

¡Hola, México!

In fact, we could say our entire selection of Mexican wines was one big “aha” moment.

One of our foremost goals at The Wine Sellers, and one that our clients greatly appreciate, is to introduce them to wines they haven't encountered before.

That's why a recent dinner was an inspiration for Top 50. Our key rep from Great Lakes, Wine and Spirits recently enjoyed a gourmet Mexican dinner at Houndstooth Restaurant with famous chef Cheyanne Galbraith. Mexican wines accompanied the meal.

Did you know that the oldest vines in North America are in Mexico? We didn't. We are close in distance to the country and yet distant in our familiarity with the wines from our neighbor to the south. This contradiction inspired Jacqui to curate an “Introduction to Mexico” component of Top 50.

At first, our guests might have viewed it as a curiosity. Then they sampled the wines! There was real interest and enthusiasm from then on. We just don't see Mexican wines in our marketplace, so it was a learning experience for all. But as our many sales proved, our introduction was more than education, it was a delightful new pleasure.



Our beautiful Top 50 guests.

In addition to the **Casa Magoni 2024 Sangiovese/Cabernet Sauvignon** mentioned above, wines featured in Top 50's Introduction to Mexico are available in the shop:



Bodegas Guanamá Red Blend 2022 \$34.00

40% Tempranillo, 40% Merlot, 10% Malbec, 10% Syrah. Ruby red with dense tears. A complex aromatic spectrum that combines ripe red fruits, balsamic and spicy notes such as eucalyptus and cloves. Undertones of cocoa and toasty flavors.



Bodegas Henri Curton 2022 Sauvignon Blanc, Baja California \$34.00

Clean pale robe with a discrete and elegant nose. Notes of grapefruit and jasmine with a hint of minerality and cassis buds gives an extra layer of aromatic richness. Exceptional freshness.



Casa Jipi 2022 Nebbiolo, Baja California \$29.00

Made entirely from Nebbiolo, this is not your average Piedmontese-style red. Lively notes of fresh rose, ripe raspberry, crushed blueberry, blood orange peel, wild herbs and underbrush. Restrained tannins, richer color and dark fruit aromas.



Casa Jipi 2024 Rosado, Baja California \$27.00

Peach-colored with salmon highlights; clean, crisp and charming. Expressively fruity nose of cherry, fresh plum and Jasmin. On the palate, creamy attack, mineral evolution and a tart touch with an aromatic aftertaste featuring grapefruit and raspberry. Only 200 cases produced!



Casa Magoni 2024 'Vino Blanco' 'Manaz' \$32.00

Blend of 80% Viognier and 20% Fiano. Aromatic white blend, offering enticing aromas of tropical fruit, citrus blossom and ripe pear, with hints of jasmine, honey, and fresh herbs. Lively and well-balanced on the palate, with refreshing acidity of pineapple, green apple and lemon zest. Finish is crisp and clean, with a lingering note of minerality and salinity.



El Bajío Sparkling Rosé, Queretaro \$26.00

80% Syrah, 20% Macabeo. 12% alcohol. Intense notes of currant, strawberry, blueberry and cherry. This sparkling wine is dry and graceful on the palate, with an elegant texture and notes of red fruits on the finish.



Llano Colorado 2023 Lágrimas Chardonnay \$31.00

Light and bright with golden sparkles. Aromatic and fresh with tropical notes of pineapple and banana, and citrus notes such as lime, accompanied by hints of chamomile, cloves and toasted almonds. Complex and intense.

PORCH WINES *for All Times*

From sunrise to moonset, from the sailboat to the golf course, from biking to barbequing (and always relaxing on the porch), one of enduring charms of Harbor Country is the myriad ways to enjoy summer here. However and with whomever you do your best summering, the Wine Sellers has fresh, light-drinking summer wines perfect for the before, during and after times. Porch Wines are but a select few that match the occasions, the vibes and all the possibilities that summer in Harbor Country has to offer.



Domaine De La Perrière 2024 Sauvignon Blanc ***'La Petite Perrière*** **\$17.95**

Pale gold in hue with light yellow tints. Intense bouquet with hints of grapefruit and peach. Palate is crisp and refreshing with citrus and exotic fruits. A steal of a deal from the Loire Valley.

Bosco del Merlo Pinot Grigio Rosè **\$24.50**

A pink Pinot Grigio! The harvest is fragmented to achieve the perfect balance between the acidity of the first pick with the aromatic and fruity notes of the second. The result is dry flavor and excellent sapidity with hints of blackberry, raspberry and acacia flowers.



Lenotti 2024 Bardolino Classico **\$16.50**

Just a great, chillable, everyday wine from one of the sweetest towns on Lake Garda. A blend of 65% Corvina, 25% Rondinella, 10% mix of other red grapes. A translucent ruby hue hints at its refreshing style. The nose offers aromas of red berries, floral tones and herbs. On the palate, its light body carries flavors of cherry, cranberry, and delicate spice, framed by gentle tannins and a lively acidity. A dry yet supple wine that practically dances across the tongue, leaving a clean, elegant finish.

In the Shop:

LION TAMER ROARS



Jacqui almost declined an invitation to Hess Persson Estates in Napa, as Hess is a familiar name in the wine world and their wines are widely distributed. **Good thing she changed her mind.** Tasting through their lesser-known small batch bottlings proved to be a real privilege.



One of the most memorable, now in the shop, is the **2023 Hess Lions Head "Lion Tamer" Cabernet Sauvignon (\$59)**. A small production (5,000 or less bottles), it's mostly Cabernet Sauvignon with some Malbec and petite Sirah. Inky with big aromatics. Aromas reveal layers of brown sugar, cardamom, boysenberry and toasted marshmallow. A soft, inviting entry on the palate carries the aromas seamlessly into rich flavors accented by cinnamon and black cherry. The finish is long and lingering, leaving a lasting impression of warmth and complexity.



From the Cellar: LAST CALL FOR ENGARDE

We bring out an archive wine from The Wine Sellers' climate-controlled cellar when the occasion calls for it. This time, the occasion is Special with a capital S.

Just transferred to the shop *is the last of the EnGarde Winery 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon*. It is an ultra-premium, one-of-a-kind wine that is exclusive to The Wine Sellers.

We've lauded EnGarde in the past. It was purchased at the 2019 Sonoma County Barrel Auction, where exceptional wines are the norm. The cab is rich with black currant, blueberries, dark chocolate and coffee on a lush, concentrated body, and a long, lingering finish. **Only 60 bottles were produced, each signed by winemaker Csaba Szakal.** It is drinking beautifully now.

Final call!

The wine is the final testament to its particular winery block, which was pulled after the Northern California fires of October 2017. When it's all gone, we hope you will be among the lucky ones with memories of this Special wine.

\$125.00



AUTUMN *is Calling*

We're not rushing summer out the door, but fall will be here before you know it. The Wine Sellers is ready, with Jacqui already busy on the fall trade tastings circuit. Sampling recently released wines is always a thrill, and it's how we keep our portfolio fresh and exciting.

Like the approach of autumn, change is in the air. The world's climate is changing. Consumer preferences are changing. We stay ahead of the curve not only with tastings but with information, accessing global harvest and production reports and the invaluable knowledge and experience of our trusted professional colleagues.



A hint of what's to come in the shop is the excitement over the **2022 Bordeaux vintage**. We've read reviews such as: **"World-class pedigree, elegance, and staying power;"** **"The high points of the vintage touch the sky;"** and **"The 2022 vintage is an unexpected legend, a once-in-a-lifetime masterpiece."** Expect choice selections from 2022 to soon make their way from our warehouse to our shelves. Perhaps some selections from the fabulous 2018 and 2019 Bordeaux vintages as well!

WINES TO WATCH

For the first time in forever, sales of white wine have surpassed red wine sales both globally and in the U.S. While it certainly relates to revised dietary habits we see today, with less red meats and more lighter fare, we never undervalue taste!



Benito Ferrara 2024 Greco di Tufo Vigna Cicogna **\$35.00**

A top seller at Top 50, this single vineyard offering from Campania is considered one of the 10 most important white wines in Italy. Extraordinary and delicious. Elegant with the tannic power typical of Greco wines. It has a light on its feet quality, a dainty minerality and a lemony freshness not commonly found in other Greco di Tufo wines.



Domaine des Aubuisières 2023 Vouvray Cuvée De Silex **\$27.95**

Chenin blanc is "having its moment" thanks to beauties such as this one. 100% chenin blanc opens with freshly sliced red apple, dried field grass and white nectarine aromas dusted with white blossom. Orchard fruit and crushed stone flavors emerge on the midpalate, followed by a kiss of lemon zest on the finish.

For more immediate, time-sensitive news, follow The Wine Sellers on [Facebook](#).



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10-percent day!
Buy one case
(even mix
or match),
10-percent off!

16409 B Red Arrow Hwy, Union Pier, Michigan 49129

The Wine Sellers is open Wednesday through Saturday from noon until 6:00 p.m., Sundays from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. through Labor Day, fewer days afterwards by chance or appointment. Just to make sure, phone first at (269) 469-7566.

We accept American Express, VISA, Mastercard, Discover and Diners Club.

The Wine Sellers is wheelchair accessible.