

OUR WATCH & JEWELRY EXTRAVAGANZA



Robb Report

FOR THE LUXURY LIFESTYLE™

The **FINEST**
WINES
SPIRITS
JEWELRY
& **WATCHES**

..... **100**

MORE THAN **OF THE MOST**
TASTEFUL WAYS TO CELEBRATE
THE HOLIDAY SEASON

.....

6 Custom-Made Cocktails
from the World's Best
Bartenders

..... *Plus*

**Bentley's New,
Big, Bold Drop-Top**

Very Light Jets Take Flight

NOVEMBER 2006



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** 2006 *Holiday* HOST GUIDE **

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Holiday Host Guide

Robb Report
Invites You to Celebrate
the Season in Style

{ White }

CHÂTEAU HAUT-BRION PESSAC-LÉOGNAN BLANC 2002

Though powerful and complex, this Bordelaise white never loses its finesse or pure fruit, which gives way gradually on the palate to nuttiness and spice. (\$225)

DOMAINE ROMANÉE-CONTI MONTRACHET 2002

If the Holy Grail of white wines exists, this Montrachet is surely it. A crystalline composition of extraordinary delicacy and strength, this opulent white from a stunning vintage layers lemon curd, tropical fruit, honeycomb, and gentle spice, one over the other, to form a sensory tissue as fine as gossamer. (\$1,800)

JOSEPH DROUHIN MONTRACHET MARQUIS DE LAQUICHE 2002

The unctuous mouthfeel of this dry Burgundian white prepares the taste buds for crisp white peach and delicate orange essences that carry through the lengthy finish. (\$360)

PRIDE MOUNTAIN VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY 2004

This Napa Valley white shows a leaner, more precise flavor profile than one commonly associates with Chardonnays from California. The flavors are dense—citrus, pit fruit, and mint—with a lean, mineral finish unhindered by heavy oak. (\$37)

Gifts for Wise Men

The three magi brought with them on their journey to Bethlehem gold, frankincense, and myrrh, gifts intended for a worldly king. Yet they possessed sufficient wisdom to recognize, as they arrived at the scene of the Nativity, that the sovereign they sought was of a different kind altogether.

For the wise men—and women—in our lives who make a daily present to us of their understanding and insight, these special boxes, though rare, are but tokens of appreciation for favors far beyond price.

CAKEBREAD CELLARS JACK'S COLLECTION

This complete horizontal from Cakebread Cellars' own caves comprises six red wines from the extraordinary 2001 vintage selected by Jack Cakebread himself. Highlights include the 2001 Three Sisters, the Benchland Select, and the Vine Hill Ranch Cabernet Sauvignons. (\$775)



FAR NIENTE BEST CASE SCENARIO COLLECTOR'S CASE

This custom-made, hand-finished collector's case is a collaboration between Napa Valley's Far Niente and artist Thomas Arvid, best known for his acclaimed painting, *Best Case Scenario*, from which this unique gift takes its name. In addition to a signed, numbered, limited-edition *giclée* print of this painting (a serigraph sketch of which decorates the case's inside lid), this unique package includes a six-bottle vertical of Far Niente's 2001, 2002, and 2003 Cabernet Sauvignons. (\$1,200)

STAGS LEAP DISTRICT 10TH-ANNIVERSARY APPELLATION COLLECTION

The prestigious producers of the Stags Leap Winegrowers Association have, for 10 years, assembled a selection of their Cabernet Sauvignons in a single package to showcase for wine lovers the distinctive character of this small section of southeastern Napa Valley. In addition to an impressive roster that includes Cliff Lede, Clos du Val, Hartwell, Pine Ridge, and Shafer, this collection of primarily 2003 vintages also features two new producers: Griffin Vineyards and Taylor Family Vineyards. (\$1,200)

VÉRITÉ LA JOIE COLLECTOR'S VERTICAL

Since the introduction of the 1998 vintage of Vérité in 2002, this "First Growth" Sonoma-Napa blend has captivated the palates of top wine collectors. Produced from Napa and Sonoma fruit, La Joie is a California wine in the style of Pauillac, according to French-born winemaker Pierre Seillan. Emphasizing Cabernet Sauvignon, each of these blends (vintages 1998 through 2003 are included) is characterized by intense fruit, strength of structure, and subtlety. (\$750)

VÉRITÉ LA MUSE COLLECTOR'S VERTICAL

Whereas its sister wine contains larger percentages of Cabernet Sauvignon, La Muse, like the finest Pomerols

from Bordeaux, enjoys a larger portion of the red fruit and smokiness of Merlot. This collection of six wines (including vintages 1998 through 2003) showcases the remarkable *terroir* of the Mayacamas Mountains, not to mention the talents of *vigneron* Pierre Seillan. (\$750)

Just Desserts

According to an 1892 article in *New York's Town Topics*, "[When] Mrs. William turns on the entertainment faucet the opalescence is sure to be dazzling."

One menu, designed by her son-in-law, gourmet Sam Ward, consisted of 21 courses, including potage tortue verte à l'Anglaise, selle d'agneau de Central Park with mint sauce, roasted plover, timbales à la Milanese, and ris de veau à la Parisienne. This marathon meal (all consumed in less than three hours) underscores the 19th-century necessity of serving a suitably bracing reward—a tradition that, in the best households and restaurants, remains with us today.

{ Red }

DOLCE LATE HARVEST NAPA VALLEY 2002

The perfect finale to a magnificent meal, the 2002 vintage is a richly textured wine that blends dried apricots, honey, custard, caramel, and spicy notes of sweet tobacco and exotic wood. (\$80, 375 ml)

DOW'S VINTAGE PORT 1994

This massive port has a full, mouth-coating texture that engulfs the taste buds. The flavors are a complex medley of candied grape, blackberry, dried cherry, violets, and hints of white pepper. (\$104)

LEACOCK'S BUAL MADEIRA 1966

With a radiant amber color, this vintage Madeira tastes of pure fruit, toasted rancio, honey, and spice. (\$200)

TAYLOR FLADGATE 2003 VINTAGE PORT

Dark, elegant, and beautifully structured, this vintage port robes the mouth in rich folds of berry and spice. (\$92)

{ White }

AVIGNONESI VIN SANTO 1993

A thick, mouth-enveloping treat that combines caramel-covered apples, molasses, butterscotch, and honey. The texture of this amazing wine is nearly erotic. (\$210, 375 ml)

BERINGER NIGHTINGALE 2002

A delightful confection made from Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc, this delicious dessert wine is redolent with apricots, fresh honey, and creamy vanilla. (\$40, 375 ml)

CASTELLO DI POMINO VIN SANTO 2001

This beautiful amber-gold dessert wine from Tuscany gives off a nutty spice on the nose, while the palate shows dried berries, cherry, orange zest, honey, and a walnut finish reminiscent of sherry. (\$40, 500 ml)

DARIOUSH SHAHPAR LATE HARVEST 2003

This limited-edition late-harvest blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon melts into pools of orange blossom, melon, honey, and apricot, before dissolving into a toasted-nut finish. (\$48, 375 ml)

INNISKILLIN VIDAL SPARKLING ICEWINE

NIAGARA PENINSULA 2002

This sparkling dessert wine is decidedly creamy, with notes of honey, apricot, and lychee that make the palate tingle. (\$90, 375 ml)

PEDRO DOMECQ PIEROPAN RECIOTO DI SOAVE

CLASSICO LE COLOMBARE 2001

This rare white is made from Garganega grapes and dried for several months before being pressed. The wine is sweet, creamy, and substantial. (\$44, 500 ml)

ROYAL TOKAJI TRUE ESSENCIA 1999

The dark, wood-finished color of this outstanding Hungarian classic belies the sweet lemon tea and apricot scents that greet the nose. The flavors are full and fruity, resplendent with marmalade, kiwi and apricot jams, and toffee. (\$500, 500 ml) ☒



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