

## OntarioWineReview Vintages Release Guide

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



### OntarioWineReview: Vintages Release Saturday June 9, 2012

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.

This release is all about Father's Day (**FD**), Chile (**CH**) and Southern France (**SF**) ... Fathers seem to like a lot of boozy stuff (read: whiskey) and expensive wines ... the rest of this release is pretty self explanatory. Also look for the Best Buys (wines that deliver real value for their price - **BB**).

#### Argentina ...

**Altos Las Hormigas 2008 Reserva Malbec** (\$27.95 - #678987) - very dark brambly fruit with spice, lots of plum. (\*\*\*\*)

**Durigutti 2008 Bonarda** (\$17.95 - #275164) - super juicy with red raspberry, loads of easy drinking flavour. (\*\*\*/1/2+)

**Kaiken 2011 Malbec Rose** (\$14.95 - #169375) - nice red raspberry, cherry flavour with decent acidity on a finish with bite and spice. (\*\*\*/1/2)

**Zuccardi 2008 Q Tempranillo** (\$19.95 - #973503) - shows some real chocolatey layers. (\*\*\*/1/2+)

#### Australia ...

**D'Arenberg 2010 The Hermit Crab Viognier/Marsanne** (\$17.95 - #662775) - a very appealing pineapple note. (\*\*\*/1/2+)

**Mitchell McNicol Shiraz 2003** (\$45.95 - #278572) - real red fruit, juicy with a touch of red licorice and cocoa. (\*\*\*\*)

**The Lackey 2009 Shiraz** (\$17.95 - #005199) - good value, thoroughly enjoyable Shiraz. (\*\*\*/1/2+)

#### Canada ...

(British Columbia)

**Sandhill 2010 Small Lots Viognier** (\$24.95 - #126862) - floral, apricot and pineapple; juicy and lovely. (\*\*\*/1/2+)

(Ontario)

**Coyote's Run 2010 Black Paw Vineyard Chardonnay** (\$21.95 - #049775)

**Henry of Pelham 2011 Pinot Blanc** (\$14.95 - #618827) - \*\*\*/1/2+

**Hinterbrook 2011 Rose** (\$16.00 - #275818) - \*\*\*/1/2+

**Inniskillin 2010 Winemaker's Series Barrel Aged Pinot Gris** (\$19.95 - #177766) - \*\*\*/1/2+

**Lakeview 2007 Reserve Syrah** (\$19.95 - #264150) - \*\*\*\*

**Malivoire 2010 Guilty Men Cabernet Sauvignon / Merlot** (\$19.95 - #186247) - \*\*\*/1/2+

#### Chile ...

**Altair 2007 Sideral** (\$26.95 - #660837) - very minty, cinnamon role, juicy and jammy; just plain yummy. (\*\*\*\*) - CH

**Anakena 2010 Single Vineyard Pinot Noir** (\$15.95 - #208439) - black cherry, boysenberry, clove, mocha and quite juicy with a coffee-raspberry finish. (\*\*\*/1/2+) - CH

**Caliterra 2011 Tributo Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc** (\$14.95 - #283648) - nose is typical but with a softer palate of grapefruit which gives way to tropical notes, a real palate pleaser. (\*\*\*/1/2+) - CH

**Casas Patronales 2009 Reserva Privada Cabernet Sauvignon** (\$16.95 - #274134) - brambly black

fruit and elegant spice, a steal at this price. (\*\*\*\*) - **CH**  
*Concha y Toro 2009 Marques de Casa Concha Merlot* (\$19.95 - #939827) - more mocha-esque than fruit, but still juicy and enjoyable. (\*\* 1/2+) - **CH**  
*Concha y Toro 2009 Terrunyo Vineyard Selection Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$29.95 - #562918) - a real winner with concentration of fruit, sweet raspberry, cherry, sandalwood and smoke; nice super-juicy finish. (\*\*\*\*+) - **CH**  
*Concha y Toro 2011 Trio Reserva Sauvignon Blanc* (\$13.95 - #678656) - soft yet juicy, think Sauvignon Blanc on downers but still lots of fun. (\*\* 1/2) - **CH**  
*Cono Sur 2008 Limited Edition 20 Barrels Chardonnay* (\$24.95 - #127498) - finesse and fruit with good acidity and nice texture. (\*\* 1/2+) - **CH**  
*Emiliana 2010 Signos de Origen La Vinilla Chardonnay/Viognier/Marsanne/Rousanne* (\$19.95 - #063909) - shows some interesting creaminess with honeysuckle and nice spice and a full mouth feel. (\*\* 1/2) - **CH**  
*Maycas de Limari 2008 Reserva Especial Syrah* (\$19.95 - #269423) - incredible elegance, juicy, tasty, lots of lovely fruit and good acidity. (\*\*\*\*+) - **CH**  
*Maycas de Limari 2010 Reserva Especial Chardonnay* (\$19.95 - #162040) - pretty Chardonnay with a nice balance of fruit and wood character: vanilla oomph with spices, baked apple and peach. (\*\*\*\*) - **CH**  
*Oveja Negra 2008 The Lost Barrel* (\$24.95 - #273979) - an interesting blend that proves very herbal in the mouth. (\*\* 1/2+) - **CH**  
*Perez Cruz 2010 Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$14.95 - #694208) - minty, jammy and juicy; very Chilean in style. (\*\* 1/2+) - **CH**  
*Potro de Piedra Family 2008 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon/Cabernet Franc* (\$24.95 - #273995) - smoky black fruit at the beginning, continues on the palate with a nice sweet tobacco finish. (\*\*\*\*) - **CH**

## France ...

(Alsace)

*Jean Geiler 2010 Reserve Particuliere Gewurztraminer* (\$17.95 - #106864) - delicious, just like Alsace makes them with floral, lychee and hints of sweetness on a medium finish. (\*\*\*\*)

(Bordeaux)

*Chateau le Conseiller 2008* (\$25.00 - #135731) - smoky red berries along with currants and all spice. (\*\* 1/2)

(Burgundy)

*Domaine de Fussiacus 2009 Vieilles Vignes Pouilly-Fuisse* (\$23.95 - #276444) - quite the oak bound number, creamy-vanilla, and nice fruit cream, lovely finish. (\*\*\*\*)

(Midi)

*Domaine Piquemal Tradition 2009* (\$15.95 - #272419) - sweet fruit, sweet spice. (\*\* 1/2+) - **SF**

*Foncalieu 2009 Reserve du Sud Languedoc* (\$15.95 - #272443) - slight tang where smoke and blackberry dominate. (\*\* 1/2) - **SF**

*Gerard Bertrand 2009 Grand Terroir Grenache/Syrah* (\$18.95 - #147983) - a dichotomy of herbal, floral, spicy and fruity; very interesting. (\*\* 1/2)

*Hegarty Chamans No. 2 Grenache/Mourvedre Cinsault 2009* (\$21.95 - #277061) - smoky and sweet spiced, dried cherry sweetness on the finish. (\*\*\*\*) - **SF**

*Les Piliers 2010 Viognier* (\$15.95 - #669531) - definitely refreshing, nice grapefruit pith linger on the finish. (\*\* 1/2)

*Mont Tauch 2009 Le Tauch Fitou* (\$19.95 - #272484) - juicy raspberry, blueberry, white pepper and spice. (\*\*\*\*) - **SF**

(Rhone)

*Chateau du Trignon Gigondas 2006* (\$29.95 - #681817) - supple and smooth, easy drinking, black fruited and plummy. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Domaine des Fees Cotes du Rhone* (\$14.95 - #272450) - juicy, jammy, red and black fruit with herbal undertones. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Famille Perrin 2011 Tavel Rose* (\$19.95 - #680801) - deep pink colour, deep pink taste with strawberry as the dominant fruit. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Romain Duvernay Vacqueyras 2009* (\$24.95 - #280966) - sweet red fruit with chocolate, blackberry and licorice; nice concentration of everything. (\*\*\*\*)

## Germany ...

*Lingfelder 2010 Bird Label Riesling* (\$13.95 - #568634) - always good value in a very summery beverage. (\*\* 1/2+) - **BB**

## Italy ...

(Piedmont)

*Enrico Serafino 2011 Moscato D'Asti* (\$15.95 - #134833) - typical Moscato but still very yummy. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Pio Cesare 2010 Barbera D'Alba* (\$19.95 - #938886) - black raspberry, blackberry, black cherry and smoke. (\*\* 1/2+)

(Puglia)

*Masserie Pisari Primitivo 2010* (\$14.95 - #270306) - plummy, cherry cola, sweet fruit, this is a Zin-lovers Primitivo (\*\* 1/2) - **BB**

(Trentino)

*Bollini 2011 Pinot Grigio* (\$16.95 - #951319) - sweet lemonade with a good finish. (\*\* 1/2)

(Tuscany)

*Giacomo Mori Castelrotto Chianti Riserva 2008* (\$25.95 - #180026) - rustic black cherry, blackberry, spice and tannins. (\*\* 1/2+)

(Veneto)

*Valpantena 2009 Torre del Falasco Ripasso Valpolicella* (\$16.95 - #642421) - good plum, cocoa and dried cherry with spice. (\*\* 1/2+)

## New Zealand ...

*Hunter's Jane Hunter Sauvignon Blanc 2011* (\$19.95 - #280271) - grapefruit on the nose but the palate is something a little more interesting: grapefruit cocktail, lime pith, guava nectar and nectarine, all balanced with good acidity on the finish. (\*\*\*\*)

## Portugal ...

*Cabriz 2011 Rose* (\$11.95 - #030445) - candied red berries. (\*\* 1/2)

*Fonseca Bin No. 27 Reserve Port* (\$15.95 - #156877) - spicy plum and cherry, rich and succulent finish. (\*\*\*\*)

## Spain ...

*Codorniu Pinot Noir Brut Rose Cava* (\$17.95 - #665372) - very berry, very tasty. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Fernandez de Pierola Reserva 2004* (\$25.95 - #270579) - sweet, supple with both dried and fresh fruit along with mocha and spice with grippy tannins. (\*\* 1/2+)

## United States ...

*Easton 2004 Estate Bottle Zinfandel* (\$39.95 - #281501) - absolutely Zinfandel from nose to taste from the 15.1% alcohol to the sexy palate, a real pleasure. (\*\*\*\*+)

*J. Lohr 2007 Hilltop Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$38.95 - #686584) - juicy blackberry, black cherry and heavy tannins. (\*\* 1/2+) - **FD**

*McManis 2010 Chardonnay* (\$19.95 - #265983) - shows a nice balance of fruit, oak and other flavours, vanilla cream and lemon meringue finish; well-priced for Cali-Chard. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Simi 2009 Russian River Valley Reserve Chardonnay* (\$31.95 - #200881) - buttery, oaky, butterscotch and spice; this one's for you oaky Chardonnay fans. (\*\* 1/2+)

*Van Ruiten 2009 Old Vine Zinfandel* (\$23.95 - #058685) - juicy, blackberry, plum, cherry with spice on the finish. (\*\* 1/2)

(Washington)

*Chateau Ste. Michelle 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon* (\$NA - #269357) - irresistible wine from Washington which drinks well right not, full of fruit and full on flavour. (\*\*\*\*)

## If You Can Afford It ... wines that deliver even for their price point

*Barone Ricasoli Castello di Brolio Chianti Classico 2008* (\$59.95 - #942607) - pretty hefty stuff (\*\*\*\*) - **FD**

*Mitolo 2008 Savitar Shiraz* (\$54.95 - #659581) - super rich mocha-plum and spice. (\*\*\*\*)  
*Shafer 2009 Merlot* (\$59.95 - #346262) - the juiciness of Merlot is in this bottle. (\*\*\*\*) - FD

### What I'll Be Lining Up For ...

*Maycas de Limari 2008 Reserva Especial Syrah* (\$19.95 - #269423) - Chile

### 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.



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**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.



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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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