

wine selections: wednesday, december 15, 2010

reds

kiona lemburger red mountain 2007 \$14

lemburger is always known as blaufrankish and hails from austria; this is a fantastic example of the grape; very fruity with black raspberry and cherry, incense; light and lithe body, nice tannins

au bon climat "la bauge au-dessus" pinot noir santa maria valley 2007 \$35

cinnamon rolled cherries, darker cherry flavor than expected for central coast pinot noir; earth and cherry cola; rich creamy body with good acidity; gorgeous

santa barbara winery santa rita hills pinot noir 2009 \$22

surprisingly balanced, rich pinot noir; tangy red raspberries & cherries, boisensberry; creamy dark cherry fruit on palate; good acidity, candied fruit finish

santa ema amplus cabernet sauvignon 2005 \$20

black fruits--black cherries, black raspberries, cassis, earth, cedar, creosote; nice finish

l'ecole #41 merlot columbia valley 2007 \$25

this is merlot with balls!; big black fruit flavors of black cherry, cassis, cedar, earth; sweet cherry & blackberry on palate; very floral on finish

turnbull cabernet sauvignon napa valley 2007 \$35

black cherry, cassis, cherry liqueur, violets; sweet chewy fruit; lengthy finish

terrabianca campaccio toscano 2006 \$36

black cherry flavors, super floral, toasted nuts, fruitcake; savory and richly textured on palate; I've always seen sangiovese as a bit foppish--absolutely delicious mind you--and the injection of 30% cabernet sauvignon gives it a healthy dose of hair 'round the necessities; gorgeous wine

kiona cabernet sauvignon/merlot 2004 \$14

blackberry, red cherry, earth and creosote on nose; red cherry, chocolate and cocoa on palate; very nice balance on an older vintage from washington state; this is actually a blend of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot, syrah, sangiovese