

## **Red Wines**

### **Barbaresco:**

High quality red wine from the Piedmont region of Italy. Most are full bodied with enough tannins to age well, they also age slowly.

### **Barbera:**

Also a red wine varietal from Piedmont in Italy. Produces a good red wines in California as well.

### **Barolo:**

One of the best red wines produced in Italy, also from the Piedmont Region. The Barolo is similar to the Barbaresco with fuller flavors and ages even slower.

### **Cabernet Sauvignon:**

Cabernet Sauvignon is the most planted varietal in the Napa Valley in California and possibly the world. Cabernets are complex and can impart many flavors and combinations such as black current, green olives, herbs, bell peppers, mint, leather, and others, even chocolate. Because of the high tannins, many Cabernets age very well and soften or mature with age.

### **Cabernet Franc:**

Very similar to its' cousin, the Cabernet Sauvignon, this grape is also commonly used in blending.

### **Carignan:**

Widely planted in California and southern France, this grape produces large yields and fairly good everyday red wines.

Concord:

### **Gamay:**

A grape varietal used extensively in the Beaujolais region in France, so much so that it also referred to as Gamay Beaujolais. This grape produces wines that are fresh, fruity, slightly lighter that should be enjoyed relatively young. Both France and California release "Nouveau" wines in November just before Thanksgiving.

### **Lambrusco:**

Produced in northern Italy, these wines are light, sweet, and fruity.

### **Malbec:**

One of the five major grape varieties in Bordeaux, also planted in Argentina.

### **Merlot:**

Merlots are similar to its' brother the Cabernet Sauvignon. Merlots stand alone with more plum and cherry type characteristics than Cabernets. Also used in blending with Cabernets and/or Cabernet Francs to create great classic Bordeaux in France. Softer tannins means the bottles of Merlot can be consumed and enjoyed earlier in life yet still benefit from aging.

### **Nebbiolo:**

Nebbiolo is a red wine grape varietal popular in Italy.

**Pinot Noir:**

Some what lighter in color then most red wines, this varietal produce some of the worlds best wines in Burgundy France. This grape also produces the majority of the worlds Champagnes.

**Sangiovese:**

It is the primary grape variety of Chianti in the Tuscany region of Italy.

**Shiraz:**

Shiraz is the most widely planted grape in Australia. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, cuttings from the Syrah wines of the Rhone Valley of France were brought to the wine producing regions of Australia.

**Syrah:**

Syrah is originally from the Rhone Valley in France. Deep colors, full body and firm tannins are all characteristics of Syrah. Flavors are often smoky or likened to roasted peppers, firm tannins allows good long aging.

**Trebbiano:**

Trebbiano is an Italian workhorse grape grown all over Italy and in Cognac (for Brandy).

**Zinfandel:**

Zinfandel covers the widest spectrum of flavors and styles of any grape varietal. Both lighter and heavier full-bodied red Zinfandels are produced, usually with some spice characteristics. This varietal also creates the extremely popular blush wine, White Zinfandel.