



Join us for Saturday afternoon wine tastings, 2 to 6:30 p.m.

This Saturday, May 8th

Dalla Terra Winery Direct: An Italian Portfolio

Presented by Kate Cassidy, Northeast Manager, Dalla Terra Winery Direct

Whites

Alois Lageder Pinot Bianco, Alto Adige, 2008

The Alto Adige, also known as the Sudtirolo for its proximity to the Tyrol, is the most important region in Italy for white wines and Alois Lageder is one of the premier producers here. The Alto Adige borders Austria (of which it was once a province) to the north and the Trentino region to the south. Mountains dominate the landscape of this Tyrolean region, leaving space for vineyards only on the banks of the rivers Adige and Isarco. This area has been a crossroads of armies, cultures and grapes for centuries and the wines have certainly benefited. Alois Lageder makes wines that are truly expressive of the grape variety and the Pinot Bianco (Pinot Blanc) just sings with crisp, clear flavors of apple, pear and white peach.

Reg. \$15.99

Special \$14.39

Inama Soave Classico, Vigneto di Foscarino, 2006

Although Soave may have slipped from fashion a while ago, it's comeback is assured because of a handful of committed, quality-driven producers like Inama. Most of Inama's vineyards are on Monte Foscarino in the heart of the Soave Classico region whose volcanic soils produce wines of uncommon character from the Garganega grape. The Vigneti di Foscarino is made from a strict selection of grapes from Inama's traditional pergola vineyards on Monte Foscarino. Richer than the Soave Classico, this has a broad, full texture with flavors of almond and melon and puts a lot of similarly priced California Chardonnays to shame.

Reg. \$28.99

Special \$25.99

Reds

Badia a Coltibuono Chianti Classico, 2007

Badia a Coltibuono (which means Abbey of the Good Harvest), dates from the middle of the eleventh century. In 1051 the monks of the Vallombrosan Order, a Tuscan reform of the Benedictines, founded the Abbey and also began planting the first vineyards in the Upper Chianti area. Over the centuries they extended their land holdings over thousands of acres and developed flourishing wine production and commerce. In 1810, when Tuscany was under Napoleonic rule, the monastery was secularized. It has been owned by the same family since the mid-1800s and it was Piero Stucchi Prinetti, who passed away in 2002, who brought Badia into the premier level of Tuscan wine producers. Today, Piero's daughter, Emanuela Stucchi Prinetti (regal, beautiful and a big fan of Springsteen) manages the estate. From one of Tuscany's best vintages of the past decade, this is a truly fine example of Chianti from the Classico region.

Reg. \$24.99

Special \$22.49

Special pricing applies the day of the tasting only

10 Raymond Road, West Hartford, 860-233-1241, staff@westsidewines.com

Vietti Barolo, Castiglione, 2005

Vietti is based in the medieval village of Castiglione Faletto, one of the four villages that comprise the heart of Barolo. Vietti is a family winery and four generations have made Barolos of distinction. Second-generation Alfredo pioneered the production of single-vineyard Barolo in 1952, establishing *cru Barolo* as a category, as well as making Arneis Piedmont's most prominent white wine. Barolo Castiglione is made from estate-owned vineyards in the vineyard areas of Castiglione Falletto, Monforte, Barolo and Novello- who's who of Barolo vineyards. Aged 24 months in oak barrels, this has classic Barolo structure, great finesse, succulent fruit and is absolutely enjoyable already. 3,000 cases made.

Reg. \$52.99

Special \$47.69

La Valentina Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, "Spelt," 2005

Often Montepulciano d'Abruzzo is known as an inexpensive, hearty Italian red sold in magnum. Nonetheless, small, passionate wineries have been emerging committed to realizing the full potential of the Montepulciano grape in its native region. La Valentina was established in 1990 in the Pescara hills along the central Adriatic coast to focus on the Montepulciano grape. Made from La Valentina's best and lowest yielding vineyards, the Spelt is aged 18 months in oak barrels and one year in bottle before release. The result is a dark, rich, intense red that delivers the potential of the Montepulciano grape. The 2005 Spelt has received a Tre Bicchieri (Three Glasses) award, the highest award given by Gambero Rosso, Italy's top consumer wine publication. (NB- Tuscany has the place, Abruzzo has the grape).

Reg. \$24.99

Special \$22.49

- Jeff Gledhill

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