

RAISE YOUR WINE IQ

It takes a little to know a lot about wine



A sprinkle of education will carry you through a long and enjoyable relationship with wine. Here are six wines that come with a lesson.

Koehler-Ruprecht Weißburgunder (Pinot Blanc) Kabinett Trocken 2021

Azzura Wine Bar

Did you know Pinot Blanc is a white-berried mutation of the Pinot Noir grape? It has gained popularity in places like Northern Italy (where it's referred to as Pinot Bianco) and Germany (known as Weißburgunder), where it's considered a top-tier white grape. This wine is made entirely from Pinot Blanc grapes and is vinified to a bone-dry finish, offering delightful ripe and fruity flavors with every sip. \$48. Pair with a charcuterie board. azzurracucina.com.

Braida "La Regina" Langhe Nascetta DOC 2020

Amari Italian Kitchen & Wine Shop

Nascetta, a once highly praised grape from Italy's Piedmonte region, was nearly forgotten during the 20th century due to its difficult cultivation and unpredictable yield. In the mid-1990s, winemaker Valtor Fiasore brought attention to this indigenous white grape, which now stands among the great reds of Piedmonte, and Braida's bottling perfectly represents it. \$68. Pair with Pan-Roasted Halibut. amariiv.com.

Fattoria Selvapiana Chianti Rùfina DOCG 2020

Basilico Ristorante Italiano

Rùfina may be the smallest subzone of Italy's Chianti region, but it is highly notable. Located northeast of Florence, Chianti Rùfina's unique location against the Apennine mountains offers cool summer temperatures and consistently significant day-to-night temperature changes, ideal for producing elegant, fresh wines. This bottle of Selvapiana primarily blends Sangiovese with the small contributions of traditional blending grapes. It is an excellent example of the finesse and crispness the Rùfina subzone of Chianti delivers. \$51. Pair with Lasagna Emiliana. basilicolv.com.



Grounded by John Phelps, Sauvignon Blanc 2023

DW Bistro

Sauvignon Blanc is grown worldwide and can express itself in many ways depending on location. In California's Central Coast, the Mediterranean climate, influenced by the Pacific Ocean, helps the grapes retain acidity while allowing them to ripen fully, leading to balanced, fresh wines. This all-American wine showcases a slice of Sauvignon Blanc's California coastal expression. \$44/bottle; \$12 BTG. Pair with Curry Chicken. dwbistro.com.

Longaví Glup! Naranja Moscatel, 2022

Wineaux

A skin-contact wine is made from white grapes that ferment with their skins for an extended time, resulting in colors ranging from citrine yellow to deep amber (hence the name "orange wine"). Glup! Naranja, made from Moscatel de Alejandria grapes in Chile's Itata Valley, boasts a light topaz hue, indicating minimal oxidation, resulting in a pristine and characterful natural wine. Its engaging floral aroma contrasts with the wine's dry, fresh and savory palate, offering an irresistible sipping experience. \$44. Pair with Roasted Eggplant Dip. wineauxiv.com.

Movia Wine Tasting, Slovenia DB Wine & Spirits

There's the moon! The "biodynamic" winemaking method emphasizes the connection between the vineyard and the natural environment, using organic farming techniques and lunar cycles to guide planting and harvesting. This dedication to sustainable practices honors the origins of winemaking and enhances the unique characteristics and quality of Movia, a legendary Slovenian producer since 1820. Explore Movia's offerings on August 29 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Complimentary. dbwineandspirits.com.

