

Catalog & Program March 2, 2024 • Conrad Indianapolis

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Proceeds from this event will help provide care and food for the animals at the Indianapolis Zoo. Your gift is a valued contribution to our effort to connect the world's animals, plants and people and will help to positively impact the lives of the Zoo's 240 animal species.



Evening Schedule

Turkle & Associates and Phases Skin Care and Laser Center	
Patrons' Reception & Silent Auction	5pm
Silent Auction Area I Closes	6:40pm
Dinner	6:45pm
Silent Auction Area II Closes	7:15pm
Silent Auction Area III Closes	7:30pm
Live Auction presented by Moyer Fine Jewelers	8pm

Co-Chairpersons

Holiday W. Banta and T.J. Cole

Auctioneer

Darin Lawson Wickliff Auctioneers

Indianapolis Zoo President & CEO

Robert W. Shumaker, Ph.D.



IndianapolisZoo.com

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Menu for Dinner

Hors d'Oeuvres

Jollof Tofu and Rice on an Asian Spoon

Suya with Peanut Sauce

Àkàrà with Salsa Verde

Crab Ceviche on a Plantain Chip, Chili Avocado Crème

Nigerian Hand Pie with Ground Lamb and Vegetables with Apple Cider Sweet Chili Sauce

First Course

Hamachi Crudo, Micro Greens Salad, Citrus Herb Vinaigrette

Second Course

Peri-Peri Roasted Quail, Spaghetti Squash Provençal, Dandelion-Green Slaw

Third Course

Cola-Braised Beef Short Rib, Herbed Couscous, Sweet Potato Purée, Rainbow Carrots, and Pea Tendrils

Dessert Trio

Papaya Bavarian with Fig Marmalade Malva Chocolate Cake with Fresh Berries and Mint Toasted Coconut Cheesecake with Pineapple Compote

Michael Snyder, Executive Chef

Dinner Wine Offerings

Connoizooer

Daou Family Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon 2018 Hess Persson Estates Lions Head Collection Lion Tamer Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 Albert Bichot Domaine du Clos Frantin Gevtrey-Chambertin "Les Murots" 2019 Val di Suga Brunello di Montalcino DOCG 2016 Joseph Drouhin Puligny-Montrachet 2020 Kosta Browne One Sixteen Chardonnay 2021 Domaine Giraud Châteauneuf-du-Pape Tradition 2020

Patron

Caymus Vineyards California Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 Catena Zapata "Catena" La Consulta Malbec 2021 Duckhorn Vineyards Chardonnay 2022 Treana Sauvignon Blanc 2022 Martin Ray Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast 2022 Peyrassol Les Commandeurs Rosé 2022

Turkle & Associates and Phases Skin Care & Laser Center Patrons' Reception

Mumm Napa Brut Prestige NV King Estate "Inscription" Pinot Noir 2021 Austin Paso Robles Chardonnay 2022

Auction Lot Descriptions

The live and silent lot descriptions were prepared by Holiday W. Banta, T.J. Cole and Renée Wilmeth. Most of the lot description comments contained herein and on the silent auction bidder sheets were provided by the international wine expert Robert Parker (www.RobertParker.com), Wine Spectator magazine (www. WineSpectator.com) and Allen Meadows's Burghound (www.Burghound.com). We encourage you to visit these websites, which are invaluable resources for wine lovers. In all instances when we quote one of these sources or their wine ratings and maturity estimates, the source is given attribution directly thereafter at the bottom of the lot description. All such information obtained from these sources is subject to copyright owned by the respective source. All other auction lot comments were written by Holiday W. Banta, T.J. Cole and Renée Wilmeth, and they alone are responsible for their content.

Procedures

SILENT AUCTION: The Silent Auction will take place during the Reception and Dinner. All bids are binding. Please carefully read the following sections entitled "Buyer Information" and "Conditions of Sale."

BIDDING PROCEDURES: A brief description of the item and any specific terms of purchase will be located near each item. To bid on an item in the Silent Auction, guests should search by item description or lot number on their mobile devices.

CLOSING: Silent Auction bidding will close as determined during the evening of the Auction. When a Silent Auction lot closes, the highest bidder in the electronic bidding system will be considered to have purchased the item.

PAYMENT: All items, silent and live, must be paid for by the end of the evening. For those purchasing by credit card, you may swipe your card into our AuctionPay terminal, and all of your purchases will automatically be billed to your credit card, thereby saving you time at check-out.

PURCHASE REMOVAL, PICK-UP AND DELIVERY: All purchases, silent and live, must be removed from the premises by the purchaser by the end of the evening. All purchases (except dinners and trips, for which redemption details will be provided to the winning bidder) may be picked up at checkout after payment has been received.

LIVE AUCTION: The Live Auction will take place following dinner. For a description of the lots to be offered, please turn to that section of the catalog. Prior to the start of the Live Auction, you are encouraged to review the Live Auction items, which will be displayed in a room to the right of the check-in area and behind the West Foyer of the Ballroom. Once registered upon arriving at the Auction, guests will receive a paddle bearing a number. Bids can only be placed in both the Silent and Live Auctions by guests with bidding paddle numbers. All bids are binding. Please carefully read the following sections entitled "Buyer Information" and "Conditions of Sale."

DINNERS AND TRIPS: Unless a specific date and time are given in the lot description, dinners and trips are subject to dates and times mutually agreed upon by both the donor and purchaser.

Buyer Information

- 1. "Indianapolis Zoo" means the Indianapolis Zoo, the Wine Auction Committee, the auctioneer, and their respective members, agents, and representatives.
- 2. CONDITIONS OF SALE: Please study this catalog, including, but not limited to, the "Conditions of Sale" enumerated on the following page.
- 3. AUCTION LOTS: Wines and other items are grouped as lots as specified in this catalog. Lots are marked by lot number. The quantity offered and the donor's name are contained in the lot description. Unless otherwise announced by the Indianapolis Zoo or the auctioneer at the time of sale, all bids are per lot as numbered in this catalog.
- 4. BIDDING: Minimum bidding increments are at the discretion of the Indianapolis Zoo or the auctioneer.
- 5. ESTIMATED SALE PRICE AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX INFORMATION: An estimated sale price is printed with each lot. These prices are intended only as a rough guide for bidding and do not constitute a representation or assurance of the fair market value of the lot. Amounts paid in excess of the fair market value may be deducted for federal income tax purposes. Bidders should consult their own tax advisors.
- 6. SALES TAX: Pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-2.5 6-2.6, personal property purchased at the Auction is exempt from the Indiana State Gross Retail Tax.
- 7. **PAYMENT:** All buyers must pay the full purchase price (as defined in the "Conditions of Sale") on the evening of the Auction. All payments shall be in cash, certified or cashier's check, accepted credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, or American Express), or personal check with satisfactory proof of identity. All checks for items purchased shall be made payable to the Indianapolis Zoo.

TITLE TO ALL LOTS PURCHASED SHALL PASS IN THE STATE OF INDIANA. BIDDERS ARE REMINDED THAT VARIOUS STATES IMPOSE LAWS AND LIMITATIONS ON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT MAY BE PURCHASED AND BROUGHT INTO THEIR JURISDICTIONS FROM ANOTHER STATE. SOME STATES MAKE SUCH SHIPMENTS A CRIME. ALL BIDDERS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH LAWS AND LIMITATIONS AND TO DETERMINE THE MANNER IN WHICH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SHALL BE BROUGHT INTO ANOTHER STATE FROM INDIANA SO AS TO COMPLY WITH ALL OF SAID STATE'S REQUIREMENTS. THE INDIANAPOLIS ZOO DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSURING COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS, LIMITATIONS, OR REQUIREMENTS. PURCHASER AGREES TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE INDIANAPOLIS ZOO AS A RESULT OF PURCHASER'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY SUCH LAWS, LIMITATIONS, OR REQUIREMENTS. YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PURCHASE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM THE INDIANAPOLIS ZOO.

8. **REMOVAL OF AUCTION ITEMS:** All items must be removed by the purchaser at the end of the evening, unless special arrangements are agreed upon by the purchaser and one of the Auction's Co-Chairs, in writing.

Conditions of Sale

The property listed in this catalog, as may be amended by addendum sheet or oral announcement before or during the sale, is offered for sale subject to the following terms and conditions:

- ALL PROPERTY IS SOLD "AS IS" AND THE INDIANAPOLIS ZOO DOES NOT MAKE ANY WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, OF ANY KIND OR NATURE WHATSOEVER WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPERTY. In no event shall the Indianapolis Zoo be deemed to have made any representations or warranties of any kind or nature, including, but not limited to, merchantability, description, genuineness, attribution, provenance, or condition concerning the property. No statement, including, but not limited to, statements made in this catalog, made at the sale, made in the bill of sale, made in the invoice, or elsewhere, shall be deemed a warranty or representation or an assumption of liability. The Indianapolis Zoo shall not be liable for any incidental, special, or consequential damages arising from the sale of any property.
- 2. The shipping of wines, particularly of older wines, can be very risky. The Indianapolis Zoo cannot assume responsibility for deterioration of wines or damage to wines from conditions resulting from shipping.
- 3. Any statements as to authorship, attribution, origin, date, age, provenance, or condition of wine(s) is a statement of opinion and is not to be taken as a warranty or statement or representation of fact by the Indianapolis Zoo. The Indianapolis Zoo reserves the right, in forming its opinion, to consult and rely on any expert or authority.
- 4. As used in these "Conditions of Sale," the term "final bid" means the price at which a lot is knocked down to the buyer, and the term "the full purchase price" means the sum of the final bid(s) payable by the buyer.
- 5. The Indianapolis Zoo reserves the right to withdraw any lot before or at the sale or to combine two or more lots or add additional lots.
- 6. Some of the lots in this sale are offered subject to a reserve, which is the minimum price below which the lot will not be sold. Such reserve may or may not be confidential. The Indianapolis Zoo may implement the reserve by bidding through their representatives or by other means determined by the Indianapolis Zoo at the sale.
- 7. During the Live Auction, the highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid and to advance the bid at his absolute discretion and, in the event of any dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder or to reoffer and resell the article in dispute. Should there be any dispute after the sale, the Indianapolis Zoo's record of final sale shall be conclusive. Upon the fall of the auctioneer's hammer, the buyer assumes full risk and responsibility for the lot and will be required to supply his/her name and address and pay the full purchase price. Receipt of payment shall be deemed the completion of the sale. If the buyer fails to comply with any such requirement, the lot may be put up and sold again at the auctioneer's discretion.

- 8. If any terms and conditions contained in this catalog are not complied with by the buyer, the Indianapolis Zoo may, in addition to asserting all remedies available by law; (i) hold the buyer liable for the purchase price; (ii) cancel the sale, retaining as liquidated damages any payment made by the buyer; or (iii) immediately resell the property, with or without notice to the buyer. If the Indianapolis Zoo resells the property, the buyer shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs including, but not limited to, warehousing, the expenses of both sales, reasonable attorneys' fees, and all other charges due hereunder, and incidental, special, and consequential damages.
- 9. The Indianapolis Zoo reserves the right to refuse admission to the premises or attendance at the Auction, subject to its sole discretion.



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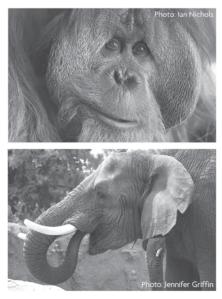


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Bid Early, Bid Often, Bid High!!

By placing your bids tonight you are creating a WIN(e) WIN(e) WIN(e) SITUATION!

- 1. You win...because you get to take home outstanding wines!
- 2. The Zoo wins...with the funding from this great event!
- 3. The Indianapolis community wins...because this funding will make our Zoo even better!



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Live Auction Lots

<u>Lот No. 1</u>

Let's Get This Party Started!

1 6.0L Imperial NV Billecart-Salmon Brut Reserve Champagne

Donation of John and Martha Tynan

Dried lemon, grapefruit, croissants and salted almonds here, with a flavorful palate. Creamy bubbles. Layered and delicious NV. 40% Pinot Meunier, 30% Chardonnay, and 30% Pinot Noir. **92 pts.** (James Suckling)

Estimate: \$1,100-\$1,500

<u>Lot No. 2</u>

A Matched Set

1 750mL 2017 Sine Qua Non Syrah The Hated Hunter

1 750mL 2017 Sine Qua Non Grenache The Gorgeous Victim

Donation of Gary and Lynn Pike

"To wine aficionados, Sine Qua Non (Latin for "without which there is nothing") needs no introduction. The brainchild of artist, iconoclast, and self-taught winemaker Manfred Krankl, Sine Qua Non, the epitome of a Cult Winery, produces extremely limited quantities of extraordinarily high-scoring idiosyncratic wines, available only to members of their tightly guarded mailing list, with the wine names and the label art (which Krankl paints himself) changing with each vintage. If ever there were wines made of Unobtanium, it is these."

—T.J. Cole

Hunter: Named after Manfred's grandfather, the 2017 Syrah The Hated Hunter is 82.4% Syrah, 7.8% Petite Sirah, 5.2% Mourvèdre, 2% Grenache, and the rest a mix of white varieties that spent just over 23 months in 59% new French oak. A classic 2017, it has an incredible nose of spice red and black fruits, ground pepper, dried flowers, and sandalwood. With full-bodied richness, no hard edges, gorgeous purity of fruit, and a finish that won't quit, it has everything you could want from a bottle of wine. **100 pts.** (Jeb Dunnuck)

Victim: Tasted from bottle, the deeply hued 2017 Grenache The Gorgeous Victim checks in as 76% Grenache, 10% Mourvedre, 9% Syrah, and the rest Petite Sirah and Viognier. This deep purple Grenache boasts a savory, almost bloody style that delivers full-bodied aromas and flavors of kirsch, blackberries, ground pepper, graphite, and iron. **98+ pts.** (Jeb Dunnuck)

Estimate: \$750-\$900

Almost Perfect

1 750mL 2015 Domaine Comte Georges de Vogüé Bonnes-Mares Grand Cru

Donation of John and Martha Tynan

"Anyone familiar with Burghound (i.e., Allen Meadows) will know that a 95 score from him is equivalent to a 99 score from any other reviewer."

—T.J. Cole

An extract of black cherry nose is interwoven with notes of earth, violet, spice and plum liqueur scents. The very dense and serious yet vibrant and relatively refined big-bodied flavors brim with dry extract that serves to mostly buffer the powerful and very firm tannic spine on the once again naturally sweet, sappy and massively long finish. As is often the case with the de Vogüé Bonnes Mares, this is a 'buy and forget you own it' wine. **95 pts.** Drink: 2035+. (Burghound)

Estimate: \$800-\$900

<u>Lot No. 4</u>

The Finest Chardonnay in America Pt. 1

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay Durell Vineyard

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay Dutton Ranch Vineyard

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay Hudson Vineyard

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay Hyde Vineyard

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay McCrea Vineyard

1 750mL 2019 Kistler Vineyards Chardonnay Vine Hill Vineyard

Donation of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Shoemaker

"Kistler Chardonnay is nearly impossible to find (available only to their mailing list and it's closed), but Bob Shoemaker has got you covered tonight. Come to think of it, it may be hard to find because it seems like Bob buys most of their production every year. Do yourself a favor and buy these beauties—you will thank yourself every time you open a bottle."

—T.J. Cole

LOT NO. 4 (continued)

Durell: The 2019 Chardonnay Durell Vineyard has a nose of fresh quince and white peaches, with toasty notes of roasted almonds and accents of grapefruit, jasmine and crushed stone. The medium-bodied palate is savory and expansive, taking time to flesh out from intense citrus to nutty, mineral-streaked character, and it finishes very, very long. It's so beautiful right from bottle but deserves more time in the cellar. **95+ pts.** Drink: now–2030. (Wine Advocate)

Dutton: The 2019 Chardonnay Dutton Ranch is energetic and tensile, beginning with grapefruit and lemon peel aromas that open over time to white peaches, dried lilac, beeswax and cashews. The palate is satiny and expansive. Its intense, floral-laced flavors are refreshed by youthfully tangy acidity, and it has an ethereal finish that just goes on and on. Wow! **97+ pts.** Drink: now–2036. (Wine Advocate)

Hudson: The 2019 Chardonnay Hudson Vineyard is incredibly distinctive this vintage, über marinelike with notes of iodine, nori and crushed stone floating over a core of white peaches and jasmine. The palate is exceptionally pure and intense, its satiny texture opposed by tangy acidity, and it finishes extraordinarily long and packed with flavor. It's a step up in quality in 2019, as if the volume of this wine's character has been turned up a notch. Give this generous, plush wine the time in cellar it deserves. **98 pts.** Drink: now–2036. (Wine Advocate)

Hyde: In classic Hyde style, the 2019 Chardonnay Hyde Vineyard begins with smoky graphite tones that take some time to open to saline, shell, white peaches and floral perfume. The palate is satiny and fragrant with a shimmering mineral character, tangy lift and an incredibly long, ethereal finish. This 2019 offers incredible class and personality, and its energy and nuance suggest it will blossom in bottle for 10 or more years. **98+ pts.** Drink: now–2032. (Wine Advocate)

McCrea: The 2019 Chardonnay McCrea Vineyard is soft, bright and energetic. It has delicate aromas of quince paste, hazelnuts, stone and white flowers. Its silky, expansive palate has incredible detail, precision and lift that carries the long, mineral-driven finish. **96+ pts.** Drink: now–2031. (Wine Advocate)

Vine Hill: The 2019 Chardonnay Vine Hill Vineyard begins with singular touches of seaweed and candle smoke that give way to preserved citrus, white peaches, beeswax and lush jasmine perfume. The palate is dynamic, with a crescendo of honeyed fruits, gently tangy acidity and shimmery mineral character uplifting the finish. It's Vine Hill Vineyard with the volume turned up! **98 pts.** Drink: now–2036. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,600

A Kid's Dolphin Dream Come True!

Exclusive Birthday Party for 10 Kids With Food, Kid-Friendly Drinks, Cupcakes and Ice Cream in the Ascension St. Vincent Dolphin Gallery

Donation of the Indianapolis Zoo

Party with the Pod! Celebrate your child or grandchild's birthday with the Indianapolis Zoo dolphin pod! This birthday bash will really make a splash with a private dolphin behind-the-scenes tour in the Dolphin Theater and a party in the Ascension St. Vincent Dolphin Gallery for up to 14 guests (minimum of 4 adults).

The private tour includes a meet-and-greet experience with dolphins! The birthday boy or girl will also experience a once-in-a-lifetime interaction when he or she serves as a junior dolphin trainer during the dolphin presentation and assists the dolphin trainers to cue natural dolphin behaviors. Party guests will also "ooh" and "aah" as they watch the dolphins swim around the dolphin underwater viewing dome. In the Ascension St. Vincent Dolphin Gallery, party guests will enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs, kettle chips, fruit cups, non-alcoholic drinks, ice cream and specially decorated and customized cupcakes.

Valid for one year. Excludes June and July.

Estimate: \$2,800-\$3,600

<u>Lot No. 6</u>

"It's 1961 Latour in Modern Clothes"

2 750mL 1990 Château Latour Pauillac

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

This is one of my favorite wines ever. Full-bodied, with layers of silky fruit and masses of currant, mineral and berry character. Amazing. It's a wine with perfect structure, perfect strength. It's 1961 Latour in modern clothes. It's hard not to drink it now. '89/'90 Bordeaux non-blind horizontal. **100 pts.** Drink: after 2008. (Wine Spectator)

Estimate: \$2,800-\$3,200

<u>3-Year Vertical of The Maiden!</u>

1 750mL 2012 Harlan Estate The Maiden

1 750mL 2013 Harlan Estate The Maiden

1 750mL 2014 Harlan Estate The Maiden

Donation of Mr. Bruce Willoughby

2012: The 2012 The Maiden is super-refined, polished and expressive. Crushed flowers, sweet red berries, mint, pine and cinnamon are some of the signatures. Open-knit and medium in body, the Maiden is racy and super-polished to the core. It is feminine, lifted in style and well-suited to near-term drinking. **93 pts.** (Vinous —Antonio Galloni)

2013: More serious and concentrated, bigger and denser, the 2013 The Maiden is one of the strongest efforts, and possibly the best Maiden tasted to date. Deep, with mulberry and blackberry fruit, some cedarwood, and terrific opulence, this is a stunner and a wine to drink over the next 20 or more years. **95 pts.** Drink: now–2036. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

2014: Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2014 The Maiden opens with a beautiful exotic spice and potpourri nose over a core of red and black currants, cedar chest, cloves and menthol plus a waft of fragrant earth. Medium to full-bodied, it has a lovely velvety texture and great freshness lifting the spicy flavors, finishing with lingering red and black fruit layers. **95 pts.** Drink: now–2035. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$1,200-\$1,400

<u>Lot No. 8</u>

Summer Safari and Supper in the City!

Animal Tour for Eight (8)

Safari Supper

Specialty Cocktails and Wine

Behind-the-Scenes Tours with African Elephants and White Rhinos

Donation of the Indianapolis Zoo

LOT NO. 8 (continued)

Who says safaris only happen in Africa? Enjoy a safari this summer as the sun sets over the Indianapolis Zoo! This is a one-of-a-kind safari tour that you won't want to miss!

On this up-close and unique safari in the city, you will go behind the scenes and meet the Zoo's white rhinos and African elephants. This will be an evening to remember (you'll want to bring your camera!) when you and your guests arrive at the Zoo and are whisked away to the African Plains. You will first sip refreshing summer cocktails, then embark on a special meet and greet with the Zoo's white rhinos and African elephants.

After your tour, you will enjoy a safari supper—with the cheetahs and African elephants in the background—just like on the African plains! Your meal will be grilled to perfection and served to you with fabulous wines—al fresco and elegant, just like a luxury African safari experience.

All guests must be 12 years of age or older. Valid July 1–Sept. 17, 2024.

Estimate: \$3,500 - \$4,000

<u>Lot No. 9</u>

The World's Most Prized Burgundy

1 750mL 1999 Domaine de la Romanée-Conti Vosne-Romanée Cuvée Duvault Blochet

Donation of John and Melissa Davis

"It is without question that the most highly sought-after wines from Burgundy are those produced by Domaine de la Romanée-Conti. You rarely even get the chance to purchase one of these legendary wines, except perhaps at 2-3 times retail on a wine list at a top restaurant in a large city. This wine has been reviewed twice by the legendary Burgundy wine critic Allen Meadows (aka Burghound) fifteen years apart (I provide both reviews below). He liked it better at 15 years old and thought it had more than 10 years left to keep at this level before declining. Anyone familiar with Burghound will know that a 91 or 92 score from him is equivalent to a 95 or 96 score from any other reviewer."

—T.J. Cole

(2002 review): A veritable spice cupboard of aromas greets the nose followed by ripe, effusive, supple, sappy, super saturated flavors and outstanding length. This is long, reasonably dense and finishes with a trace of chocolate. I very much like the intensity of the finish. **91 pts.** (Burghound)

(2017 review): A ripe and overtly spicy nose is now completely secondary in character though there is no sous-bois in evidence. The rich, round and utterly delicious middle weight flavors exhibit a subtle minerality on the focused finish that really fans out as it sits on the palate. To my taste this has now arrived at its peak and there is little, if any, further development to be had. With that said, this should have no problem holding at this level for another decade, perhaps even a bit longer. Tasted multiple times with consistent notes. **92 pts.** (Burghound)

Estimate: \$3,500 - \$4,500

<u>"A Wine that Just Gives so Much Pleasure</u> that it Seems Almost Immoral to Criticize"

2 750mL 1990 Château La Mission Haut Brion Pessac Léognan

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

The 1990 La Mission Haut Brion is a wine that just gives so much pleasure that it seems almost immoral to criticize. For sure, it is not in the same league as the awe-inspiring 1989, yet it has such an engaging, quintessential La Mission bouquet full of warm gravel, chestnut, morels and bay leaf scents that you just fall instantly under its charms. It seems to just grow in the glass. The palate is beautifully balanced with great depth but is still a little grainy in texture, and I noticed how it evolved almost a Musigny-like personality with time in the glass. I suggested back in 2014 that it might improve with continued bottle age. Perhaps now I believe that it has reached the top of its plateau, yet the substance and the persistence—the energy—of this Pessac-Léognan suggests that it will give 20 years of drinking pleasure. No, it's not as good as the 1989 La Mission Haut Brion, then again, few wines are. Tasted May 2017. **96 pts.** Drink: now–2037. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$2,700-\$3,500

<u>Lot No. 11</u>

Super-Luxury Private Bourbon Tasting for Eight

Tasting for Eight (8) Guests at a Private Bourbon Bar

Nothing is Off Limits

Unlimited Pours

Donation of David and Casey Trogden

If you know good Bourbon, then you appreciate getting to sample impossible-to-find treasures—and for this private collection—NOTHING IS OFF LIMITS! This is a private bourbon tasting for a group of eight at the Trogdens' home on Geist. The Trogdens' Bourbon bar is a Bourbon aficionado's dream (check out the photo in the live auction display area—how many unicorn bottles can you spot?). You and seven friends will sample whatever you would like from one of the most diverse and exclusive private bourbon collections in Indianapolis—over 200 bourbons including Pappy, Birthday Bourbon, Elijah Craig 23 (pre-fire), and countless other aged and rare bourbons (let's put it this way—Blanton's will be bottom shelf). Again—nothing is off limits! The tasting will be led by David, an Executive Bourbon Steward. Hire a driver for this one—no pours will be refused! (Includes appetizers for you and your group.)

Estimate: \$2,500-\$4,000

30-Year-Old California Cab Collection

1 750mL 1994 Anderson Conn Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Estate Reserve

1 750mL 1994 Dominus Estate Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Staglin Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Joseph Phelps Insignia Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains

1 750mL 1994 Mount Veeder Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Chateau Montelena Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley The Montelena Estate

1 750mL 1994 Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley

1 750mL 1994 Lewis Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Robert Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Napa Valley

1 750mL 1994 Peter Michael Les Pavots Knights Valley

Donation of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Shoemaker

"These wines are from what is unquestionably the finest wine cellar in Indianapolis and among the finest in the country. Who else could, year after year, go into his cellar and put together a lot of twelve 30-yearold Cabernets from California's finest producers? I've never physically been in Bob's cellar, but I feel like I know it intimately from cataloging his donations to this event over the last 20+ years. I imagine it looks like the final scene in Raiders of the Lost Ark where the camera pans through a huge warehouse full of wooden boxes. Holly and I have purchased these "30-year-old" collections a few times over the years, and the wines have been uniformly fantastic due to the perfect conditions in which they have been stored."

—T.J. Cole

Anderson: Marked by an appetizing gamy edge, the core of cedar and currant is dense and intense, finishing with big, chewy tannins and lots of finesse. Best to hold into 2001. **91 pts.** (Wine Spectator)

Dominus: Christian Moueix and his talented winemaking team continue to rewrite the definition of a Napa Valley reference point wine. I have had a difficult time keeping the corks in my bottles of 1994 Dominus. Eight-thousand cases were produced from a blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Cabernet Franc, 12% Merlot, and 4% Petit Verdot. In this vintage, 174 days passed between bud break and the harvest, a remarkable period of time for any wine region in the world. The 1994 is a strikingly thick, compellingly rich wine with the texture of a great Pomerol, despite being made primarily from Cabernet Sauvignon. The wine exhibits a dense purple color, and an incredibly fragrant nose of jammy black fruits, spice, smoke, and loamy, truffle-like scents. In the mouth, it is full-bodied, with thrilling levels of extract and richness, but no sense of heaviness or harshness. This seamless Dominus possesses no hard edges, as its acidity, tannin, and alcohol are beautifully meshed with copious quantities of ripe fruit. This wine offers early drinking, yet has the potential to last for 30+ years. **99 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

LOT NO. 12 (continued)

Staglin: Firm, tight and tannic, with a chewy edge to the earthy currant and black cherry flavors. Picks up pretty coffee and cedar notes on the aftertaste. Best to hold this dense, compact wine until 2001 or after. 4,000 cases made. **90 pts.** (Wine Spectator)

Phelps: The 1994 boasts an inky/purple color along with a glorious nose of black raspberries, blackberries and black currants that is still somewhat primary despite nearly 18 years in bottle. The Phelps team kept this cuvee in 100% new French oak for 28 months. Its magnificent structure, intensity and purity of fruit, ripeness, balance combined with authoritative power and the magnetic appeal of this full-bodied, Bordeaux-styled wine are extraordinary. This amazing effort is just coming into its best years, and should drink well for at least another 15–20 years. (Review is from 2013) **98 pts.** Drink: now–2033. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Ridge: This is the epitome of great Monte Bello—elegant, balanced, poised and focused. Flavors are fresh and lively, with notes of cassis, black currant and violets. Classic Monte Bello precision and balance without weight or heaviness. A beautiful wine—if only more Californian wines could have this grace and quiet confidence. (Review is from 2015). **97 pts.** (Jennie Cho Lee, MW)

Mount Veeder: The 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve is a more ambitious wine than the regular bottling, but it is dominated by too much oak. This seems to suppress the fruit, while giving the wine more tannin than it needs, and causing it to taste out of balance because of the blast of wood. It is medium to full-bodied, and appears to have good raw materials beneath the woody veneer, but I just can't get as excited about it as the regular bottling. Given how well its sibling is showing, this wine may eventually surprise me. **86 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Montelena: The 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate, which has been closed since bottling, has just begun to open and display its enormous potential. The saturated black/purple color is followed by aromas of gorgeously pure blackberry and cassis scents. Toasty oak notes are barely discernable given the wine's bombastic display of black fruits, huge, chewy glycerin level, and sensational finish. It will be exciting to follow the evolution of the 1994 and 1995. Modern-day society seems to always be in search of new stars, but this winery has been a super hero for great California Cabernet Sauvignon for nearly 25 years! Montelena's Estate Cabernet Sauvignons are equivalent to buying blue chip stock. They get better and better with age and as the vertical tastings I have attended so persuasively attest, they are still relatively young wines at 20 years of age! **95 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Silver Oak Napa: More backward than the Alexander Valley, the 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley displays structure and tannin, but not nearly the amount of toasty new oak found in the Alexander Valley. It possesses good power, as well as a layered, concentrated personality with fine extract and richness. Give it 3–5 more years of cellaring and drink it over the subsequent 18-20. These All-American Cabernet Sauvignons continue to be "can't miss" propositions with the majority of Cabernet lovers. **93 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Silver Oak Alexander: The 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley exhibits an opaque purple color, gobs of sweet, blackcurrant, plum, and raspberry fruitiness, along with some sexy, toasty oak. On the palate, this explosive Cabernet reveals layers of rich, jammy fruit, low acid, and that velvety texture that is so much a characteristic of this vintage. These All-American Cabernet Sauvignons continue to be "can't miss" propositions with the majority of Cabernet lovers. **94 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Lewis: This is a dramatic California Cabernet, rich and explosive, with layers of bold, ripe currant, black cherry, anise, plum and spice flavors framed by nuances of toasty, buttery oak and finishing long and full. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 1,900 cases made. **94 pts.** (Wine Spectator)

Mondavi: I had the 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve (97 points) a half-dozen times this year, and it may be the finest Cabernet ever from Mondavi. **97 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Peter Michael: The superb 1994 Les Pavots is, to my palate, the finest example of this wine Peter Michael has yet made. Since its bottling, this deep, saturated purple-colored wine has taken on a gorgeous nose of cassis intermixed with violets, licorice, and attractive spicy oak. Sweet, rich, and surprisingly showy for a Les Pavots, this medium to full-bodied wine possesses a luscious, multi-layered texture, outstanding depth, and attractively integrated tannin and acidity. When I tasted it, it was more evolved and delicious than I had anticipated given its recent bottling. **94 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Hoop There It Is!

18K White Gold 1.41ctw Diamond In/Out Hoop Earrings

Donation of Moyer Fine Jewelers

Every woman needs a fabulous pair of large diamond hoops. These 18K White Gold 1.41ctw Diamond Hoops sparkle from every angle. We love the added diamonds at the back of the hoop!

The earrings will be delivered immediately to the winning bidder's table.

Estimate: \$5,500-\$6,500

<u>Lot No. 14</u>

A Serious Amount of Serious Whiskey

1 750mL WhistlePig The Boss Hog X—The Commandments

Straight Rye Whiskey (116 Proof)

1 750mL Barrell BCS Gold Label Dovetail Whiskey (140 Proof)

1 750mL Hardin's Creek Jacob's Well Release No. 2—211 Months Old

Straight Bourbon Whiskey (109 Proof)

1 750mL High West A Midwinter Night's Dram—Act 10 Scene 5

Straight Rye Whiskey (98.6 Proof)

1 750mL Orphan Barrel Fable & Folly 14-Year-Old Whiskey (90 Proof)

Donation of Steven and Lauren Baldwin

"If you know anything about the world of whisk(e)y (yes, only we Americans and the Irish use the "e"), you know that obtaining bottles like these is not about having deep pockets but about actually getting lucky enough to be offered the chance to buy the bottle. Tonight is your lucky night."

—T.J. Cole

Boss Hog: The Boss Hog X transcends tradition with a double finish inspired by our own land of milk and honey. Each barrel of Straight Rye Whiskey is aged in new American Oak before completing its journey in two unorthodox finishing barrels. The first is seasoned with our own experimental spirit—distilled from rye and whey, infused with aromatic resins from the genera commonly known as Frankincense and Myrrh—delivering notes of creme brulée, lemongrass and rosemary to the final whiskey. The second and final finish is aged in craft mead casks, offering a mellow, round-bodied finish with hints of red berries and freshly crushed black pepper. (Distillery)

LOT NO. 14 (continued)

Barrell: Whiskey finished in rum, port, and Dunn Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon barrels. Over the past several years, Barrell Dovetail has become a highly regarded expression within our portfolio of products and the American Whiskey world. Following the success of BCS Gray Label Dovetail, we decided to apply the concept of "Dovetail" to our oldest, rarest stocks. BCS Gold Label Dovetail is created with the same finishing and blending method as our award-winning Dovetail, and incorporates whiskeys aged up to 25 years, resulting in a more powerful and robust blend. We left these component whiskeys in their finishing casks for longer and included some very high proof barrels to create a blend with an intensity matched only by its nuance and layering. (Distillery)

Hardin's Creek: The months specified on the label harken back to the original Jacob's Well bottling, which proudly bore the distinction of being an 84-month-old bourbon. The Batch 2 of Jacob's Well, officially announced on June 1, 2022, and approved by the TTB on July 21, 2023, undergoes an impressive aging process of 211 months (17.5 years). Bottled at 109 proof, it is a carefully curated blend of an 18-year-old traditional bourbon and a 17-year-old high-rye bourbon, representing the pinnacle of craftsmanship and patience. Both bourbons were originally distilled by Freddie Noe (aka "Little Book") and personally selected by him more than a decade and a half later. (Distillery)

High West: Like the works of our favorite playwright, William Shakespeare, a glass of A Midwinter Night's Dram is made to be savored, and over all too quickly. This limited-release whiskey is a sumptuous marriage of rye whiskeys finished in Port barrels. The rye forms a beautiful base of vanilla, caramel, and cinnamon while the port barrels provide notes of plum, dried fruit, and spice. Like a proper holiday plum pudding, it's brimming with lovely mulling spices, dried fruits, and crème anglaise. Sip it slowly through the coldest night. (Distillery)

Orphan Barrel: A unique blend of age and flavor, Orphan Barrel Fable & Folly 14-Year-Old Whiskey is a harmonious creation accenting the rich, creamy character of the last of several iconic historical Orphan Barrel releases. Our master blender married the remaining stocks of Barterhouse, Forged Oak, and various Rhetoric releases with a proprietary blend to create a masterpiece that pays homage to the original releases yet possesses a distinct profile all its own. This rare, perfectly aged reserve has a full complex flavor of subtly sweet toffee, hints of pepper spice, and a rich charred oak finish. Best enjoyed straight, either neat or on the rocks. (Distillery)

Estimate: \$2,500 - \$3,200

<u>Lot No. 15</u>

"Dinner at Renée's"

In-Home Wine Dinner for Eight (8) Guests In One of Indianapolis's Most Historic Apartments

Donation of Renée M. Wilmeth and Dennis Trinkle

"Some of the finest meals—not just home-cooked meals, but finest meals—I have had in Indianapolis have occurred at the table in Renée Wilmeth's dining room. Renée is a gourmet, talented chef, and consummate host. And Dennis Trinkle, her wine partner for this meal, has an amazing cellar full of a large variety of wonderful wines, from the justifiably famous to the obscure-but-excellent wines that you may not have encountered before. Bring your friends, sit back, and enjoy the food and wine while Renée and Dennis do all the work!"

—T.J. Cole

LOT NO. 15 (continued)

A dining extravaganza customized for you and your guests at the home of Renée Wilmeth.

Interested in an 8-course formal dining experience with passed hors d'oeuvres (foie gras torchon, perhaps?) or a casual French feast with duck confit and cassoulet? Caviar, lobster, sweetbreads, beef cheeks, French cheeses, oysters, escargot, and soufflés? What about an extravagant customized celebration like a Burns supper or black-tie affair?

How about a perfectly paired wine like a 1977 Petrus or a 1986 Chateau Canon La Gaffelière or a 2000 Chateau Cantemerle with beef cheeks? Or maybe a 1946 Montilla-Moriles Pedro Ximenez Don PX with your cheese course? A host of vintage tête de cuvée Champagnes? Old Burgundies? California cult favorites?

Renée and Dennis are both members of the Confrérie de la Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, and Commanderie de Bordeaux, so it's no surprise that any dinner they have their hands in is a model of great food, wine, and conviviality. Renée's home is a downtown historic gem that makes her dining room a venue that's as stunning as the meal. Dennis's cellar features some of France and California's most in-demand aged gems.

This year, you can purchase the chance to enjoy one of Renée Wilmeth's famous dinners, which will be held in dramatic fashion in front of her two-story stained-glass windows accompanied by storied wines from Dennis Trinkle's cellar. You and seven friends will enjoy a dinner party custom-crafted to your tastes. Oysters? Crab? Crown roast? Cheeses from New York? Homemade baguettes?

Dennis and Renée will serve as your sommelier, chef, and servers, as you and your guests sit back and enjoy a great dinner party—without lifting a finger! The dinner will be scheduled at a mutually agreed upon date.

Estimate: \$6,000 - \$8,000

<u>Lot No. 16</u>

Some Very Serious Burgundy

2 750mL 2013 Maison Joseph Drouhin Musigny Grand Cru

Donation of John and Martha Tynan

"Anyone familiar with Burghound (i.e., Allen Meadows) will know that a 93-96 score from him is equivalent to a 97-100 score from any other reviewer."

—T.J. Cole

A brooding and reticent nose only grudgingly displays notes of spice, menthol and liqueur-like black cherry aromas. The broad-shouldered flavors are big yet possess a notably more refined mouth feel while conceding nothing in terms of power and punch on the cool, pure and perfectly balanced finish that just seems to go on and on. This is not as big and robust as the Bonnes Mares but it's finer and has that extra dimension of depth and class that a great example of Musigny intrinsically possesses. In short, this is potentially a great wine. **93–96 pts.** Drink: 2030+. (Burghound)

Estimate: \$2,200-\$2,500

Fund-A-Need

Let's Party with the Primates! \$60,000 Needed to Support the International Chimpanzee Complex at the Indianapolis Zoo

In May, the Indianapolis Zoo will open a groundbreaking new exhibit—The International Chimpanzee Complex. The Complex will span three buildings across the Zoo. These buildings are connected by an overhead trail system that will serve as a travel corridor for the chimpanzees to move from one area to another. The exhibit is designed to house up to 30 chimpanzees. Right now, the Zoo is home to 21 chimpanzees, and we can't wait for you to meet them soon!

Chimpanzees are highly social, living in male-dominated societies. Members of their community regularly split into smaller groups to find food, travel or socialize and regroup later. Different populations have distinct cultures, where chimpanzees learn to use tools, socialize and communicate with each other in distinct ways.

Speaking of highly social, if you donate \$5,000 or more tonight to Fund-A-Need, you and a guest will be invited to attend a "Party with the Primates" at the Indianapolis Zoo! This **EXCLUSIVE**, *one-of-a-kind* reception will be the **only** one of its kind to be held before the International Chimpanzee Complex opens to the public in late May! This sneak peek "Party with the Primates" will be held inside the public-viewing side of the exhibit where you'll be eye-to-eye with the chimpanzees while you enjoy fine wines and specialty foods.

Tonight, won't you lift your paddle and help us raise \$50,000 to support the chimpanzees.

- \$20,000 will purchase a specialty Kubota vehicle just for the Chimpanzee Care Team
- \$10,000 will purchase two scales to aid in the chimpanzees' dietary and nutrition care.
- \$5,000 will provide exciting and stimulating enrichment items for the chimpanzees
- \$2,500 will provide wellness visits for the chimpanzees including medicine and veterinary care
- Fund-A-Need donations of \$250 and more will receive a photo with one of our animal guests this evening!

Did you know humans and chimpanzees share 98.4% of their DNA? Chimpanzees are the species most closely related to us, and they're endangered. Your help tonight will provide new equipment and items needed just for the chimpanzees at the Indianapolis Zoo!

"Chimpan-Zneak" Peek with Dr. Rob!

Personal Behind-the-Scenes Tour for Four (4) with the Indianapolis Zoo Chimpanzees and Zoo President & CEO, Dr. Robert Shumaker

Donation of the Indianapolis Zoo

Come meet the newest primates at the Zoo!

Chimpanzees are among the newest additions to the Indianapolis Zoo. The International Chimpanzee Complex opening Memorial Day 2024 will span a large portion of the Zoo's campus and provide an enriching, functional forest for approximately 30 chimpanzees. You could be one of the first to meet these contemplative creatures in a behind-the-scenes experience for four led by Zoo President & CEO, Dr. Robert Shumaker. Attending the Elegant Vintages International Wine Auction and bidding on auction items like this one supports the Indianapolis Zoo's efforts, which includes caring for these incredible animals. Winning this lot will give you a chance to experience their engaging personalities firsthand and up close.

This lot includes:

- A private behind-the-scenes visit and insider's view for up to four guests to meet members of the Chimpanzee community.
- A bonus behind-the-scenes tour the same day to meet an animal of your choice (certain exclusions could apply and plans must be made in advance).
- A chimpanzee plush.

This tour is available for four (4) guests. Minimum age 12. Certain date and weather restrictions apply—tour reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance.

Estimate: \$2,500 - \$3,000



<u>This Wine Will Outlive You</u> (if you can resist drinking it!)

2 750mL 1990 Petrus Pomerol

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

"This lot will be offered as 'bid per bottle,' meaning the bids will be taken as a bottle price until a winning bidder remains. At that point, the winning bidder may select one or both bottles at that price per bottle. If the winning bidder declines to purchase both bottles, then the remaining bottle will be auctioned again. This is an excellent chance to obtain two bottles of one of the most coveted wines in the world, but if your pocketbook does not allow that tonight, you still have the chance to vie for one bottle."

—T.J. Cole

The 1990 Petrus remains incredibly young, one of the least evolved wines of the vintage (along with Montrose and Beausejour-Duffau). This dense ruby/purple-colored effort is beginning to hint at the massive richness and full-bodied intensity lurking beneath its wall of tannin. The vintage's sweetness, low acidity, and velvety tannins are present in abundance, and the wine is massive in the mouth as well as incredibly pure and well-delineated. I thought it would be drinkable by now, but it appears another 5-10 years will pass before it begins to reach its plateau of maturity. This wine is capable of lasting at least four more decades. An incredible achievement! (Review is from 2009) **100 pts.** Drink: now–2054. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Estimate: \$5,000-6,000 (per bottle)

<u>Lot No. 20</u>

The Ocean Is Calling—And You Must Go!

Luxury Home for One Week in Cabo San Lucas— Three Bedrooms, Each with Private Bath

Valid Any Consecutive Seven Nights Between May 11-May 28

-or-

August 23 – September 7, 2024

(Maximum of Six People)

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

LOT NO. 20 (continued)

"The Cabo Package is the best decision we ever made at an auction! It's a top-notch vacation retreat. The property is serene, with many amenities available. The guest house is cozy and spacious. We were treated like royalty throughout our stay. We enjoyed car services, authentic Mexican cuisine created by the home chef, assistance with trip preparation and lunch/dinner reservations, and many excursions for art, cuisine and the local scene. To add to that, the Ladyhawke Yacht sunset cruise was spectacular! We swam in the Sea of Cortez and admired beautiful Cabo from the sea. We were able to enjoy walks on the beach, an ocean view with the infinity swimming pool (owner's home area), as well as the guest home's pool. This luxurious getaway met and exceeded our expectations! I wanted to go on and on! We're actually missing this year's Elegant Vintages Wine Auction because we bought it again and we are in Cabo!"

—Don & Angela Woodley

This Experience Includes:

- Round-trip airport transfer in Cabo
- Breakfast prepared for you daily
- Transportation to local restaurants in Cabo
- Beach access and three private pools
- Private charter half-day snorkel with sunset cruise—Captain and First Mate included

Life is better at the beach, and there's something for everyone in Cabo! Enjoy a perfect seven-night stay in this stunning guest house within the donors' private compound on Cabo San Lucas. Cabo San Lucas's outstanding beaches and desert landscapes make it a luxurious place to unwind, and the activities are endless: swimming, fishing, snorkeling, jet skiing, parasailing, diving and horseback riding. Dolphin and whale watching tours are also extremely popular in Cabo!

This dream house is just steps from a gorgeous beach and features three pools, including a beachfront infinity edge pool with a stunning view. Take advantage of your boat for one afternoon to snorkel with a sunset cruise to follow.

This package is available for seven (7) consecutive nights between May 11–May 28 or August 23– September 7, 2024. The winning bidder can bring up to five guests to the world-renowned destination. Enjoy a fresh breakfast prepared for you daily, snorkeling, a sunset cruise, and transportation to local restaurants in Cabo. The winning bidder will experience the trip of a lifetime!

This fantastic home is located in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Amenities include:

- Three bedrooms, each with queen-sized bed and en-suite bath with shower
- Stunning Sea of Cortez views from large palapa area
- Beachfront infinity edge pool
- Outdoor bar, dining and lounge area with Viking grill
- One-minute walk to the beach
- Outdoor private children's play area

This special experience is valid for six (6) guests maximum during your choice of seven nights between May 11-May 28 or August 23-September 7, 2024. No exceptions or date changes allowed. Owner is not legally liable for guests during stay on property.

Estimate: \$10,000 - \$12,000

"Decades of Longevity Ahead of it"

2750mL 1990 Château Margaux Margaux

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

The 1990 Château Margaux is really beginning to hit its stride at age 31, soaring from the glass with aromas of blackberries and cassis mingled with notions of licorice, cedar and violets, framed by subtle hints of vanilla and spice. Full-bodied, deep and multidimensional, it's seamless and complete, its velvety tannins and ripe acids entirely cloaked in a lavish but vibrant core of fruit. This is an especially dramatic, fleshy rendition of Margaux, yet it remains impeccably balanced and has decades of longevity ahead of it. (Review is from 2022) **100 pts.** Drink: now–2050. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

<u>Lot No. 22</u>

Instant Cellar

Donation of the Guests of the 2024 Elegant Vintages Auction

As most of you know, we ask each guest of the Auction to bring with them to the Auction one impressive bottle of wine for this lot.

There are often as many as 150 bottles or bottle equivalents in this lot (some guests bring magnums and double magnums!); that's more than twelve cases of wine. A different bottle of wine every day for almost five straight months!

At the Auction, the auctioneer will announce the total number of bottles in this lot before taking bids.

Watch the display outside the ballroom to see the spectacular selection of wine increase as guests arrive for the evening. You will be amazed at the generosity of our guests and the high quality of the wines donated. This is always fun—you'll want to get your paddle in the air in order to get a shot at this amazing lot!

Estimate: \$7,000 - \$10,000

Bionic Frog!

1 750mL 2009 Cayuse Syrah Bionic Frog Walla Walla Valley

1 750mL 2010 Cayuse Syrah Bionic Frog Walla Walla Valley

1 750mL 2012 Cayuse Syrah Bionic Frog Walla Walla Valley

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

2009: Like the 2009 Cailloux, the 2009 Syrah Bionic Frog was closed aromatically, yet offered incredible depth, richness and purity on the palate. Reluctantly giving up lots of dark fruits, chocolate, mineral and roasted herbs, as well as more exotic notes of blood orange and mint, this inky colored, full-bodied, beautifully concentrated Syrah should be forgotten for 3-4 years, yet will have 20 years or more of overall longevity. **97+ pts.** Drink: now–2031. (Wine Advocate)

2010: This insanely good 2010 Syrah Bionic Frog offers incredible notes of blood orange, liquid violets, cassis, seared meats, licorice and crushed rocks to go with full-bodied richness, ultra-fine tannic structure, perfectly integrated acidity and a blockbuster finish. Raised in roughly 20% new demi-muids and foudre, this is a heavenly Syrah that couldn't get any better. Give it 2-4 years in the cellar and enjoy bottles through 2030. **100 pts.** Drink: now–2030. (Wine Advocate)

2012: While a lot of the 2012s came in near the bottom of the barrel score, that wasn't the case with the 2012 Syrah Bionic Frog and this beauty flirts with perfection. Inky colored and purple to the rim, it offers extraordinary notes of black fruits, wild mushrooms, smoked earth and salty minerality. These all flow to a full-bodied, thrillingly concentrated, focused, structured and lengthy 2012 that needs 4-5 years of cellaring, and will knock your socks off over the following 15 years or more. **99 pts.** Drink: now–2034. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$1,300-\$1,500

<u>Lot No. 24</u>

Put It Around Her Neck Tonight!

Graziela 18k White Gold 0.50ctw Round Brilliant Diamond Floating Necklace

Donation of Moyer Fine Jewelers

Does her neck deserve a bit more sparkle? Look no further than this elegant diamond necklace from Moyer Fine Jewelers. The little touches add up in this great piece that is right on-trend, with floating diamonds. Seven white diamonds stationed throughout this 18k white gold bead chain.

The necklace will be delivered immediately to the winning bidder's table.

Estimate: \$3,500-\$4,500

An EXTREMELY RARE Bottle of Laphroaig

1 750mL 30-Year-Old Laphroaig Single Islay Malt Scotch Whisky 43% ABV Year 2000 Release (the original one) (in Original Wood Box)

Donation of Gary and Marie Koenig

This bottle is from the original 30yo release from the year 2000. Do not confuse it with the 2016 cask strength release of 30yo that was distilled 16 years later and (obviously) came from different casks—it is not as well-received and consequently sells for considerably less. Three further releases have appeared since the 2016 and none have exceeded the 2000 release in the estimation of aficionados.

This great dram has become extremely rare on the market. This version of the Laphroaig 30yo has garnered many plaudits, including a Double Gold Medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition 2005.

So, what's the deal? What's so special about Laphroaig distilled in the past (in this case, 1970)? Generally speaking, the production methods across the industry have seen significant alterations over the years and Laphroaig is no exception. Where once the barley was gently peated for many days by burning the peat at low temperatures (the key was that you wanted the peat to smoke and smolder, but not to have an open or detectable flame), the past fermentation times and yeast strains used resulted in sweeter flavors, the barley was malted on-site at the distillery's own malting floors, and the stock was aged in warehouses located on-site on Islay.

In more recent times, the peating process is done at high temperatures within several hours while using large industrial fans to quickly blow the smoke over the barley. Only 20% of the barley used is malted on-site, and much of the distillate is aged on the mainland instead of on Islay. So, the Scotch in this bottle is unreproducible.

As described by one reviewer: Aged to perfection, Laphroaig 30 year old single malt scotch carries on the international reputation for excellence that Laphroaig has come to be known for. The nose will recognize a wafting river of medicinal hues characteristic of this famous distillery, but with a much more fragile and soft feel about it. Hints of smoked bacon, breakfast eggs, and newly hung dried salmon served with fresh peaches, juiced grapes, and baked rosemary. The flavor is just as complex with even more herbaceous notes over layers of roasted oak, smoked salmon slivers, and just a touch of vintage tobacco leaves dressed in sweet pannacotta pastry and salted meat. Laphroaig 30 year old single malt scotch delights and enraptures you for a lasting finish that swathes your mouth in more smoke hues and a brush of salt brine.

Estimate: \$3,500 - \$4,500

40-Year-Old California Cab Collection

1 750mL 1984 Diamond Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Gravelly Meadow Napa Valley

1 750mL 1984 Diamond Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Red Rock Terrace Napa Valley

1 750mL 1984 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains

1 750mL 1984 Chateau Montelena Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley The Montelena Estate

1 750mL 1984 Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley

Donation of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Shoemaker

"These wines are from what is unquestionably the finest wine cellar in Indianapolis and among the finest in the country. See my notes above in Lot 12 regarding the quality of the cellar these wines have been sleeping in."

—T.J. Cole

Gravelly Meadow: The saturated ruby/purple color is followed by an intensely concentrated, closed, unevolved wine that is lighter than either the Red Rock Terrace or Volcanic Hill bottlings. Nevertheless, the Gravelly Meadow vineyard has produced a super-concentrated, rich, and potentially profound Cabernet Sauvignon if one has the patience to wait another 4–6 years. **92 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Red Rock Terrace: Although similar to the Volcanic Hill Cabernet, the Red Rock Terrace cuvee possesses a mineral/minty character. In addition, it reveals more evolution and complexity. Full, rich, and chewy, it can be drunk now, but ideally it should be cellared for 3–4 more years. **93 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Ridge: The decade of the 1980s was somewhat complicated for Ridge, but the 1984 Monte Bello is a real high point, opening in the glass with a classic bouquet of cigar box, red and black fruits and sweet soil. On the palate, it's medium to full-bodied and bright but powerful, with an ample core of rich fruit, melting tannins and a long, tangy finish. While it's drinking well today, and I don't see much to be gained from further aging, I'd expect this to cruise along in a cool cellar for the next decade. While it was somewhat overshadowed by the 1974 on this occasion, it's a fabulous Monte Bello and the best vintage of the decade. (Review is from 2018) **94 pts.** (Wine Advocate)

Montelena: Chateau Montelena's wines possess gorgeous potential when young and are even better when revisited later. The 1984 Cabernet Sauvignon exhibits the forward, jammy, cassis, and other black fruit character of the vintage, marvelously rich, full-bodied, concentrated flavors, high extract, gobs of glycerin, and moderate tannin in the finish. Its virtues—purity, richness, and opulence—along with a firm underpinning of tannin, should serve it well for another 10–15 years. **92 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Silver Oak Napa: More classic than the herb and olive-tinged Alexander Valley Cabernet, and not the least bit controversial such as the Bonny's Vineyard, the dark-colored, cassis, vanillin, and smoky-scented Napa cuvee possesses wonderfully rich, full-bodied flavors, underlying, unobtrusive tannin, and oodles of rich, creamy fruit. It is a lavishly rich, boldly-oaked Cabernet Sauvignon that admirably defines the "All American" style sought by winemaker/proprietor Justin Meyer. **93 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Estimate: \$3,000-\$4,000

Ridge Monte Bello Vertical

1 750mL 2007 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains
1 750mL 2008 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains
1 750mL 2009 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains
1 750mL 2010 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains
1 750mL 2011 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains
1 750mL 2012 Ridge Monte Bello Cabernet Sauvignon Santa Cruz Mountains

Donation of John and Melissa Davis

2007: The nose just bursts with blueberries, currants, and flowers. Full bodied, with a round and velvety tannin structure. The palate explodes with currants, ripe strawberries, and black pepper on the finish. This is muscular and toned, structured and balanced. This is still young and needs a minimum of five years of bottle age. Winemaker Paul Draper says that perhaps this is as great as the legendary 1991. Could be. **97 pts.** (James Suckling)

2008: The 2008 Monte Bello is striking. It is a decidedly muscular Monte Bello endowed with layers of dark fruit. Tobacco, mint, asphalt and crushed rocks develop in the glass, adding tons of complexity and finesse. A long, saline finish rounds things out beautifully. In 2008 the cold growing season stretched into October and the wine definitely has the feel of a cool vintage. The spring frost and the second year of drought conditions lowered yields significantly. Yields were just 1.25 tons per acre on average, but some of the older vineyards came in at less than 1 ton per acre. The balance of fruit, tannin and structure is simply extraordinary, but the wine needs time, most likely lots of it. In 2008 the blend is 72% Cabernet Sauvignon and 28% Merlot. **97+ pts.** Drink: now–2038. (Wine Advocate)

2009: The 2009 Monte Bello, 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot and 6% Petit Verdot is simply magnificent. Layers of dark red fruit, flowers, spices and graphite are all woven together in this utterly impeccable wine. The 2009 is an especially huge, intense Monte Bello, yet a sexy, silky core of fruit lies within its imposing frame. Everything comes together in this glorious, radiant wine. Last year the 2009 had some pretty stiff competition from the 2010, but today it is simply firing on all cylinders. Eric Baugher describes 2009 as a year with cold weather early on, followed by heat in early June and July. The fruit was brought in on October 12, just before an intense downpour swept through the region. There is a purity and silkiness supported by structure in the 2009 that is impossible not to admire. Simply put, this is another utterly magnificent, towering masterpiece from Ridge. **98 pts.** Drink: now–2049. (Wine Advocate)

2010: The 2010 growing season was long and cool, reflecting the influence of an El Niño year, defined by a short but intense heat wave in late August. But whereas Ridge's Sonoma County vineyards experienced a high of 117 degrees Fahrenheit for two days, Monte Bello ridge only reached 105 degrees. The ensuing 2010 Monte Bello is very classic in profile, offering up aromas of crushed cassis, plums, cigar tobacco, rich loamy soil, black tea and dark chocolate. On the palate, it's medium to full-bodied, with a deep and concentrated core of vibrantly crunchy fruit framed by velvety tannins, concluding with a long, tangy finish that's still youthfully chewy. Though the two vintages are very close in quality, the 2010 is very different in profile from the somewhat larger scaled 2012: it's less expansive but built around a brighter vertical line. I'd recommend cellaring it for an additional three or four years and don't expect it to truly hit its stride until after 2025. The blend is 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot and 2% Cabernet Franc, and it attained 13.2% natural alcohol. **96 pts.** Drink: now–2045. (Wine Advocate)

LOT NO. 27 (continued)

2011: The 2011 Monte Bello (87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc) emerges from the glass with tobacco, grilled herbs, smoke, incense and plums melding together in this soft, beautifully textured Monte Bello. The 2011 is a wine of exceptional textural finesse. The 100% new oak is totally integrated. In 2011, Ridge used a total of 18 of a possible 24 lots for the final blend. The presence of 88% Cabernet Sauvignon is the highest since the 1980s. I expect the 2011 to be a relatively early drinking Monte Bello, but time will be the judge. **93–95 pts.** Drink: now–2031. (Wine Advocate)

2012: The 2012 Monte Bello is a beauty, wafting from the glass with complex aromas of plums, blackberries, bitter chocolate, black truffles, cigar tobacco and hints of crème de cassis. Its new oak is already well integrated. On the palate, the wine is full-bodied, richly tannic and very deep, with a layered, concentrated core of fruit framed by chalky, fine-grained tannins. The 2012 is still quite youthfully chewy at this early stage, but there's a certain lavishness to its ripe blackberry fruit that suggests this will be a dramatic, even decadent Monte Bello in the style of the 2002 when it reaches maturity. Late September heat made for a record-setting harvest in only 16 days. The 2012 is a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc and 4% Petit Verdot, and it saw a small water addition to finish at 13.8% alcohol. **96 pts.** Drink: now–2060. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$2,500-\$3,250

<u>Lot No. 28</u>

600 Points

1 750mL 2020 Château Montrose Saint-Estèphe

1 750mL 2019 Château Pichon Baron au Baron de Pichon-Longueville Pauillac

1 750mL 2018 Château Trotanoy Pomerol

1 750mL 2020 Château Ducru-Beaucaillou Saint-Julien

1 750mL 2019 Château La Conseillante Pomerol

1 750mL 2020 Château Figeac Saint-Émilion

Donation of Mr. Allen R. Wilkie

"Six bottles of Bordeaux. All rated a perfect 100 points. What are you waiting for? Get your paddle in the air!"

—T.J. Cole

Montrose: Surpassing the 2019 and rivaling the 2016 as this estate's finest vintage of the last few decades, the 2020 Montrose is a monument in the making. Wafting from the glass with aromas of violets, dark berries, licorice, loamy soil, black truffle and subtle spices, it's full-bodied, deep and layered, with a seamless, elegantly muscular profile, terrific purity and energy, beautifully powdery tannins and a long, resonant finish. It checks in at 13.7% alcohol, the same as the superb 2009, but it is even deeper, more vibrant and more complex than the 2009. **100 pts.** Drink: 2030–2100. (Wine Advocate)

Pichon: The bouquet enchants by its expression of pure, crunchy fruit and florality without a trace of oakiness despite barrel-aging with 80% new wood. Some touches of graphite and subtle spices come into the aromatic mix. On par with the great 2016, this stunning wine has a palate that combines fleshy, velvety texture and linearity as well as remarkable length, and provides convincing testimony of the progress achieved by the estate's technical team. **100 pts.** (Decanter)

LOT NO. 28 (continued)

Trotanoy: Another heavenly Pomerol in the vintage, the 2018 Château Trotanoy checks in as 90% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc brought up in (I suspect) lots of new French oak (although it's certainly not apparent). Revealing a dense purple hue as well as a smorgasbord-like bouquet of blackcurrants, dried flowers, cured meats, violets, tobacco, and chocolate, it hits the palate with full-bodied richness, a sexy, seductive texture, building yet sweet tannins, and just a rich, concentrated, yet flawless profile on the palate that's already impossible to resist. Nevertheless, a good 7-8 years of bottle age are warranted, and this magical elixir is going to evolve for 40 years or more. **100 pts.** Drink: 2025–2058. (Jeb Dunnuck)

Ducru: Lastly, the 2020 Château Ducru-Beaucaillou is another legendary wine from this château that has been on an incredible run over the past decade. A blend of 81% Cabernet Sauvignon and 19% Merlot that was brought up all in new French oak, it has a saturated purple hue to go with an incredible, mineral-laced bouquet of crème de cassis, liquid violets, graphite, and tobacco leaf. More structured and concentrated than any of the Léovilles, this blockbuster, deep, concentrated, full-bodied Saint-Julien has off-the-charts purity, ultra-fine tannins, and a great, great finish. I wrote in my notes, "Like the 2010, only better." You won't find a more concentrated yet flawlessly balanced and elegant wine out there. It's going to need a decade of cellaring and will have 40, 50, if not 60 years of longevity. **100 pts.** Drink: 2030–2080. (Jeb Dunnuck)

Conseillante: An utterly brilliant Pomerol and the finest wine from this estate to date, surpassing even the 2016, the 2019 Château La Conseillante checks in as 84% Merlot and 16% Cabernet Franc and was raised in 70% new French oak. A wine of incredible finesse, purity, and precision, its deep purple hue is following by an incredible array of blueberries, crème de cassis, spring flowers, damp earth, and violets. Flawlessly balanced, full-bodied, and concentrated on the palate, it has a beautiful mid-palate, ultra-fine, utterly seamless tannins, and a heavenly finish. It doesn't have the sheer density or outright power of some of the other top Pomerols, but as I wrote in the barrel sample review, no one marries elegance with opulence as well as Conseillante. This magical Pomerol will take a decade to hit full maturity and will evolve for 30 years or more. This is haute couture at its absolute pinnacle, and as I wrote in the barrel review, hats off to Marielle Cazaux for producing one of the top wines of the vintage. **100 pts.** Drink: 2029–2059. (Jeb Dunnuck)

Figeac: The 2020 Figeac is the finest wine that has been bottled to date at this estate since its renaissance began a decade ago. Wafting from the glass with aromas of blackberries and raspberries mingled with cigar wrapper, pencil shavings, licorice and black truffles, it's medium to full-bodied, deep and concentrated, with a suave, harmonious profile, vibrant acids, and beautifully refined structuring tannins. This sapid, complex wine represents the essence of this great terroir. Two years after extensive soil studies of the estate were carried out, and the first growing season to see cover crops used in the vineyards year-round, the 2020 benefited from more coherently demarcated parcels and more precise élevage, which taken together help to account for its edge over the excellent 2019. **100 pts.** Drink: 2030–2065. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$2,000 - \$2,750

3-Year Vertical of Schrader CCS!

1 750mL 2010 Schrader Cabernet Sauvignon CCS Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard

1 750mL 2011 Schrader Cabernet Sauvignon CCS Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard

1 750mL 2012 Schrader Cabernet Sauvignon CCS Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard

Donation of Gary and Lynn Pike

2010: A wine that seems to hit all of the sweet spots on my palate is the 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard CCS made from clone 4. It possesses about the same amount of alcohol as the other wines (14.5%), and is aged 20 months in 100% new oak, but it reveals an opulence, voluptuousness and a seamless haute couture fashion. There is something Pomerol-like in the 2010 CCS that I have not noticed in previous vintages. That may be due to the upfront, appealing, stunningly rich, voluptuous style. This is a Cabernet Sauvignon of great nobility and character that, despite its precociousness, should age for 25+ years. Sadly, the production of 156 cases pales in comparison to the 520 cases made in 2012. Drink: now–2038. **98 pts.** (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

2011: Usually my favorite cuvée, the Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer To Kalon Vineyard CCS is a beauty in 2011. Made in a showy, flamboyant style, it boasts a dense ruby/purple color as well as sweet notes of creme de cassis, violets, licorice, forest floor and new oak. This supple, round effort is one of the superstars of this challenging vintage. It should drink well for 10-15 years or longer. **95 pts.** Drink: now–2028. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

2012: The 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer to Kalon Vineyard CCS is Clone 4 from another block, and always seems to hit all the sweet spots on my palate. It's aged 20 months in 100% new Darnajou barrels. The good news is there are 520 cases of it. Just a prodigious wine, this spectacular Cabernet Sauvignon is inky bluish/purple with a gorgeous nose of spring flowers, blueberry, blackberry and cassis fruit, a touch of background toast and graphite. It has a very full-bodied, multidimensional mouthfeel and a skyscraper-like finish. It is fabulously open, sexy and a total thrill to smell and taste. This should continue to drink well for two decades. **100 pts.** Drink: now–2034. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Estimate: \$1,600-\$1,800

Put It on His Wrist Tonight!

TAG Heuer Men's Stainless Steel Carrera Automatic with Black Dial & Stainless Steel Bracelet

Donation of Moyer Fine Jewelers

An iconic signature design, the TAG Heuer Carerra blends precision timekeeping with distinctive looks. The black dial is complemented by rhodium plated hands, hour markers, and an applied TAG Heuer shield. This stunning timepiece is a fully automatic mechanical watch, with no quartz crystal or batteries.

The watch will be delivered immediately to the winning bidder's table. Put it on his wrist tonight!

Estimate: \$4,500-\$5,500

<u>Lot No. 31</u>

Washington's Finest Cabernet

3 750mL 2020 Quilceda Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley

Donation of David and Julie DeWitt

The 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon opens with a lush, silky, rich, round nose with fresh and ripe notes that seduce and delight. Full-bodied, fresh and yet still tight, the wine offers a balanced structure and lifting tannins that elevate the mid-palate followed by juicy, fruit-forward layers and delightful oak spices. The Cabernet continues to show its depth and breadth, compounding its natural beauty. The Cabernet lingers on the ever-evolving, food-friendly finish and will benefit from another two years of bottle aging. The wine rested for 22 months in 100% new French oak. **98 pts.** Drink: 2025–2042. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$650-\$800

<u>30-Year-Old Vintage Ports</u> (Includes Wine Spectator's Co-Wines of the Year) 1 375mL 1994 Graham's Vintage Port 1 750mL 1994 Graham's Vintage Port 1 375mL 1994 Fonseca Vintage Port 1 750mL 1994 Fonseca Vintage Port 1 375mL 1994 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port 1 750mL 1994 Taylor Fladgate Vintage Port

Donation of Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Shoemaker

Graham's: In a port tasting, tasting Graham's is almost like tasting a big, rich, succulent Merlot after a group of blockbuster, tannic Cabernets. Sweeter and more obvious than many ports, the opaque purple-colored 1994 is fruity, powerful, and rich, with an addictive hedonistic quality. It will be ready to drink in 8-10 years and keep for up to 30. As always, this is a showy, flamboyant port that has the advantage of being slightly sweeter than other 1994s. A great Graham's. **96 pts.** Drink: now–2035. (Robert M. Parker, Jr.)

Fonseca: Hold on to your hat. This is the best Fonseca since 1977, and it's probably even better than that classic vintage--more like the breathtaking 1948. Mind-blowing, with masses of color, aroma and fruit flavor. Smells like fermenting berries, boasting loads of crushed grape, violet and berry character. Big, full-bodied and very sweet, with tons of tannins and a sweet finish. Tannic and huge, it's a long-term, great Port. *No. 1 Top 100 Wines of 1997. **100 pts.** (Wine Spectator)

Taylor: In a word, superb. It's full-bodied, moderately sweet and incredibly tannic, but there's amazing finesse and refinement to the texture, not to mention fabulous, concentrated aromas of raspberries, violets and other flowers. Perhaps the greatest Taylor ever, it's better than either the '92 or the '70, though it's very like the '70 in structure. *No. 1 Top 100 Wines of 1997. **100 pts.** (Wine Spectator)

Estimate: \$800 - \$1,100

Wowsers.

1 750mL 2018 Spottswoode Cabernet Sauvignon St. Helena Napa Valley
1 750mL 2019 Spottswoode Cabernet Sauvignon St. Helena Napa Valley
1 750mL 2020 Spottswoode Cabernet Sauvignon St. Helena Napa Valley

Donation of Don and Angela Woodley

2018: Composed of 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Cabernet Franc and 5% Petit Verdot, the 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon from Spottswoode explodes from the glass with bombastic notes of crushed blackcurrants, fresh blackberries and wild blueberries with hints of cardamom, lilacs, incense and fragrant earth, leading into wafts of pencil shavings and crushed rocks. Medium-bodied, elegant and yet so, so intense, it has layers of bright crunchy fruit and mineral sparks galore, framed by exquisitely ripe, finely pixelated tannins, finishing very long and energetic. Wowsers. **100 pts.** Drink: now–2060. (Wine Advocate)

2019: The 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon is a blend of 89.5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6.5% Cabernet Franc and 4.0% Petit Verdot. Deep garnet-purple in color, it needs of lot of swirling to unlock the most gorgeous perfume of bright black and red cherries, fresh blueberries and blackcurrant pastilles with hints of roses, cinnamon stick and orange peel. Medium-bodied, elegant and tightly wound, the palate shimmers with SO MUCH energy, featuring layer upon layer of floral, savory and crunchy black fruit notes, finishing long and minerally. This is a remarkably poised, seemingly effortless beauty that cannot fail to make your jaw drop. Forget it in the cellar for a good 3-5 years, at least, to allow all those nuances to fully emerge and then savor it over the next 30 years+. **100 pts.** Drink: 2024–2060. (Wine Advocate)

2020: Tasted blind, in a lineup that included vintages back to 2010, a barrel sample of Spottswoode's 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon stood out as being one of the most exciting efforts. Full-bodied, ripe and rich without being overbearing, it delivers concentrated black cherry and cassis fruit framed by supple, velvety-textured tannins. It's long on the finish, with an attractively soft, dusty-loamy texture and no overt signs of a fire-troubled Napa vintage. **98 – 100 pts.** Drink: 2024–2045. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$900-\$1,000

<u>"If You do Come Across the 1990 Montrose,</u> You are in the Presence of a King"

1 750mL 1990 Château Montrose Saint-Estèphe

Donation of a Friend of Elegant Vintages

Tasted at the Montrose vertical in London, the 1990 Montrose is a blend of 64% Cabernet Sauvignon, 32% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc (almost identical to the 1989 Montrose) and picked between 14 September and 3 October. It has a formidable reputation and for years it overshadowed the 1989. That said, it is well known that there are incidences of brettanomyces that compromise some bottles and the one bottle in London showed just a tincture of this. It still merited a score of 97/100, though it only served to highlight the ethereal delineation of the 1989. Then literally a couple of days later I was served blind a magnum of the 1990 Montrose in Cape Town, which had been purchased on release and stored in perfect conditions. Now, here was the real deal, unfettered by any infection, a regal Saint Estèphe. It shows approximately the same evolution as the 1989 in bottle, but unsurprisingly showed less bricking in magnum format. The bouquet is cut from a different cloth to the 1989 and attests to that warm vintage: hickory, clove, undergrowth and wild fennel, later garrigue-like scents and terracotta, the latter two more pronounced on the bottle format compared to the youthful magnum. The palate is full-bodied and powerful, yet the balance is perfect, a ballerina-like poise with the structure of the Forth Bridge. It is a multi-layered Montrose that offers enormous length, fresh and vibrant with the magnum demonstrating tangible mineralite and tension as it fans out on the crescendo of a finish—a fanfare for Saint Estèphe in all its glory. Improving all the time in the glass, this example of 1990 Montrose is a privilege to behold. One can speculate whether larger formats are a "safer bet" in terms of experiencing this behemoth without any brettanomyces. Perhaps. However, if you do come across the 1990 Montrose like this, you are in the presence of a king. Tasted January 2017. 100 pts. Drink: now-2050. (Wine Advocate)

Estimate: \$775 – \$925

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Estimate: \$2,000-\$3,000



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