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## This week's wine picks



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Press Democrat wine writer Peg Melnik scopes out restaurant wine lists around the North Bay, looking for good value and the occasional splurge. This week's picks (prices are retail; restaurant markup varies):

Line 39, 2010 North Coast Petite Sirah, 13.5 percent alcohol, \$10. A hearty petite sirah with cherry, tannin and toast. Nice length.

Novy Four Mile Creek, 2011 North Coast White Wine, 14.1 percent, \$12. A striking white with refreshing aromas and flavors of lemon, apricot and spice. Floral. Lovely.

James Oatley Tic Tok, 2010 Central Ranges, Australia Shiraz, 13.5 percent, \$14. Juicy. Aromas and flavors of black cherry, herbs and spice. Lingering finish.

Penfolds, 2010 Koonunga Hill South Australia Shiraz Cabernet, 13.5 percent, \$15. Aromas and flavors of blackberry, chocolate and cracked black pepper. Spicy finish.

Nick Goldschmidt's Boulder Bank, 2011 Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, 13.5 percent, \$15. Bright and lively. Grassy, with notes of grapefruit, mineral and pepper. Zesty.

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Rodney Strong, 2009 Sonoma County Merlot, 13.5 percent, \$15. Tangy cherry herbs and spice. Good acidity. A tasty merlot.

Hess Collection, 2008 Mount Veeder Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.6 percent, \$17. A tasty cab. Layered flavors of blackberry, herbs and spice. Briary. Nice length.

Raymond, 2009 North Coast Family Classic Cabernet Sauvignon , 13.5 percent, \$20. A cab with good bones. Full-bodied, with notes of cherry, blackberry and spice.

Rodney Strong, 2010 Estate Vineyards, Russian River Valley Sonoma County Pinot Noir, 14.5 percent, \$20. A tasty pinot. Bright cherry, toast and vanilla. Fleshy. Lingering finish.

Want to share a current wine on your favorite restaurant's list? E-mail [peg.melnik@pressdemocrat.com](mailto:peg.melnik@pressdemocrat.com) or check out her [Tasting Room blog](#) at [pressdemocrat.com](http://pressdemocrat.com).

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**Marie Brannon** · Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

White wine @ \$12 with refreshing aromas & flavors of lemon, apricot & spice. It's lovely. Nice layout of prices & varieties. I own a restaurant & I am taking services from <http://www.celebrationswineclub.com>. They are great at service & price is fair as well. They have a wide range of wines from classical Cabernet Sauvignon, Zinfandel, and Chardonnay from California wine clubs.

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