

# Wine Wisdom

## File Away These Tips On Top Wines For Tax Time

(NAPSA)—Many people spend a lot of time and effort trying to find the right wine for a particular event or meal. In fact, there are even some who try to find the right wine for tax season.

So whether you find yourself in the red or in the black, due a big return or are hoping to score an extension, here are some affordable wines that might help you change your response from “I owe what?” to “Oh—good!” as you fill out your return.

If you're feeling on top of things, you might want to try a wine from “down under”—New Zealand, to be exact. Nobile Sauvignon Blanc is made in the area considered by many to be New Zealand's most important wine region—Marlborough. The area is known for its abundant sunshine, cool nights and flavorful wines.

For those who feel they have reason to celebrate, there's Woodbridge by Robert Mondavi Chardonnay in the 1½-liter bottle with enough to share with friends. It displays a blend of fresh citrus, apple and ripe tropical fruit character, with hints of orange blossom and spice.

If looking at receipts and columns of numbers has left your brain tied in a knot, there's a white wine that may be just what the doctor—or your accountant—ordered. Robert Mondavi's Private Selection Chardonnay features green apple and lemon blossom aromas and offers a hint of California's cool Central Coast.

If you would like to see some creativity from someone other than your accountant, there's Black Box Moscato from Argentina. This sweet, medium-bodied medal winner from Argentina's Mendoza region features peach, ripe apricot and white floral aro-



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mas. It comes packaged in an economical box that holds the equivalent of four bottles of wine.

Trying to secure an extension to filing on nothing more than your earnest smile and a promise may put you in the mood for Simply Naked Pinot Grigio. During stressful times, the simplicity of a fruit-forward, unoaked wine such as this may be just what you're looking for. The entire line from this winery is aged and fermented in stainless steel instead of oak—a method designed to let the varietal characteristics of each wine shine through.

Those who feel as if their financial situation involves one thorny issue after another may want to explore a wine from the Columbia Valley of the American Northwest, the Thorny Rose 2009 Red Blend—a combination of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah and Malbec grapes.

Once your calculations are complete and your taxes are filed, it may be time to chill out with a wine that's the product of cold Canadian winters—Inniskillin Icewine. Considered by some to be winter's gift to wine lovers, it's made from grapes that are harvested after they have frozen on the vine.

Taxpayers fortunate enough to secure a refund may want to celebrate with what has been a sparkling addition to many recent celebrations. Ruffino Prosecco is produced from grapes grown in highly sought-after vineyards located in the northeastern regions of Italy.

The wine is known for its refined bubbles, fruity aroma and a crisp clean taste with hints of apple, pear and citrus typical of the Prosecco varietal.

These are some of the reasons many feel that with the right wine, tax time doesn't have to be quite as taxing a period after all.