

AS SEEN ON
WWW.AZSTARNET.COM
THE ONLINE SERVICE OF THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR
JANUARY 4, 2006

FOOD

Here's how to make wine-shop visit successful

By Dorothy J. Gaiter and John Brecher
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

To us a wine shop is a playground. We stop at almost every one we see and always enjoy strolling along the aisles. It's fun to see old friends and even more fun to see labels that are new to us.

But we understand that many people find wine stores confusing, overwhelming or just plain annoying. All those wines, all those labels, all those neck cards claiming 90-point rating from someone for just about every wine on the shelf.

As a result, too many consumers fall back on the familiar, like that so-so chardonnay that's not great but certainly OK, or they choose entirely based on labels, which accounts for the herd of critter quaffers on shelves that feature enough animals to outfit an ark. This is a shame because good wine stores offer an ever-changing array of interesting wines at all price ranges.

For reds...

Petite Sirah

...it will probably be in the syrah section and also is usually a good bet.
If you choose a petite sirah, be prepared for a wine with real oomph.

