

Gift and party wine ideas

By Mike Dunne, Sacramento Bee

Along with strands of colorful lights and sets of Nativity figures, sales of wine peak during the year-end holidays. But you may be asking what to buy, whether as a centerpiece for a Yuletide soiree or as a gift for your favorite wine geek.

When the holiday open house is relaxed and casual

If you pour solid, interesting and modestly priced representatives of the three most popular varietals, you aren't likely to disappoint your neighbors. Plus, throw in one outrider sure to surprise the resident wine authority in the gathering.

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