

THE MIRROR *Weekend Section*

Beer And Wine Cave Selections Cater To All Tastes And Budgets



Manager Matt Snyder says the Beer and Wine Cave “stocks a little bit of everything,” from exclusive selections to everyday choices.

MIRROR PHOTOS BY NANCY GAGNET



The Beer and Wine Cave on Heatherdowns Boulevard in south Toledo features a diverse assortment of wines as well as imported and micro brewed beer.

BY NANCY GAGNET
MIRROR REPORTER

Spelunking may be a fancy reference to cave exploration, but managers of the new Beer and Wine Cave hope local shoppers embrace the idea.

Located adjacent to Meats and More in the Colonial Village Shopping Center on Heatherdowns Boulevard, the Beer and Wine Cave stocks hundreds of different selections.

“It just seems like a natural pairing; people can buy their meat then come here and get their drink,” manager Matt Snyder said.

With a focus on unique flavors, the shop caters to those with distinctive tastes as well as those looking for everyday choices.

Featuring wines from around the world, including Chile, Argentina, Germany and the United States, the store carries “a little bit of everything.”

For example, it features Stag’s Leap, the 1976 Judgment of Paris winner that put Napa Valley wine on the map.

“It’s not something you find at the corner stop,” Snyder said.

It also stocks Shypoke Napa Valley Charbona, from a small boutique winery that makes only 280 cases per year.

“It’s a monster taste wine at only \$24.99 that tastes like a \$40.00 cabernet,” he said.

Snyder said he and his business partner Cissie Schnoering continually strive to offer the most to their customers while keeping a close relationship with their wholesalers.

“We’re always trying new products, and we recently met

with several different wine makers,” he said.

Relaxed soft lighting and smooth jazz music make an inviting atmosphere for shoppers.

“If someone wants to come in and get a little education about wine, I can help,” Snyder said.

However, he avoids being preachy.

“I don’t want to tell people what I like. I would rather put them in line with their taste so they can find something that’s right for them,” he said.

The Beer and Wine Cave also features champagne, sparkling, port and low-sulfite organic wines.

In addition, the Cave also stocks plenty of micro brews, domestic and imported beer.

“For the summer we have a real nice classic ruby red ale called Retro Red that goes great with grilled brats,” Snyder said.

He also carries Oberon beer that’s brewed in Kalamazoo, Mich.

“How would you not want to drink that?” he asked. “This

truly is a limited release beer.”

Price points for wine range from \$5.00 to more than \$200 per bottle.

“We know how to buy our product and pass the savings to our customers,” he said, referring to the fact that the store is now featuring Sam Adams beer for \$5.99.

In terms of when to have a spirit, Snyder believes anytime is the perfect time.

“It’s always noon somewhere, so why not make it today?” he asked.

Tastings take place each Wednesday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and wine or beer connoisseurs are encouraged to pull up a stool and relax next to a wine drum that serves as a table.

Cases of wine are also sold at a 10 percent discount and can be mixed.

Special orders are also available.

Additional information is available by calling the store at (419) 382-6221. Reservations are not required for the tastings.

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Monday, July 3rd
6:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Maumee St. Joseph Parking Lot

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Ice Cream & Candy
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