

Wining & Dining Duos



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By [W. Moranville & R. Swearingen](#)

Wine, like chocolate, is totally approachable. You aren't afraid to experiment with chocolates, are you? Join our wine and food pros, Wini and Richard, each week as they share their finds, pairings, and information with you.

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[He Came. He Poured. He Conquered](#)

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Food and wine go together for a lot of reasons. The first is that like any liquid—water, milk, Orange Crush—wine clears your taste buds between bites and helps you better appreciate the flavors of your food. That's the primary purpose. Another reason is that wine has all kinds of wonderful and interesting flavors on its own, which like Orange Crush and the rest, make dinnertime more fun for your senses.

This is all great, until it comes to actually picking something from the Terrifying Wall O'Wine in the grocery store. For me, that's when it all falls apart. I taste a lot of wine every month, so I'm very confident on my way into the store; it's not until I actually have to take my hand off the grocery cart handle and reach...for...the...wine...

There's something about the potential for making a \$10 or \$12 mistake and being laughed at by dinner friends that just paralyzes me. Usually, I'm able to overcome whatever that's all about and buy wine, and amazingly, it's always pretty good.

But there's a better way. David Mirassou, the sixth generation of a California winemaking family, suggests turning it into more of a way to have fun. He visited the Better Homes and Gardens® Test Kitchen with David Katz, a chef and cooking teacher, to explain a really simple method. Read about it here: [mirassou.com](#)

As for recommending his wines, I'd start with the Mirassou California Sauvignon Blanc, if you like your drinks more on the tart lemonade side. If you're more a fan of drinks like sweetened ice tea, try the Mirassou California Riesling. Both are really good wines at a very reasonable price.

-- Richard
