



Find the best wine store in NYC

By Marion Bernstein
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Appellation Wine & Spirits

Appellation is your one-stop shop for all wines organic, biodynamic and au naturel. Unsure of the difference between the three? Just ask owner Scott Pactor. He's often in the shop and always delighted to discuss the tenets of low-to-no intervention farming and winemaking.

Today, locavores can find plenty of eco-friendly vino to pair with their Greenmarket eats. It wasn't so when Scott Pactor—a finance guy turned assistant wine director at Balthazar—opened the city's first natural-wine-focused store in 2005. Pactor felt these offerings better reflected terroir, as their production included a minimal amount of human interference (added sulfites, pesticides, etc.). Since Pactor first stocked his shelves with green producers, a number of wine stores (such as Natural Wine Co.) and bars (Ten Bells and the Tangled Vine among them) have followed his lead. But you can still pop into this airy pioneering Chelsea storefront, which offers an inventory of mostly organic, sustainable and biodynamic wines.

Tastings info: In-store wine and spirits tastings are held on Friday and Saturday evenings at varying times (just check the website for the latest).



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