

# swirligigs

Our roundup of the latest, greatest wine accessories and services, from the practical to the sublime



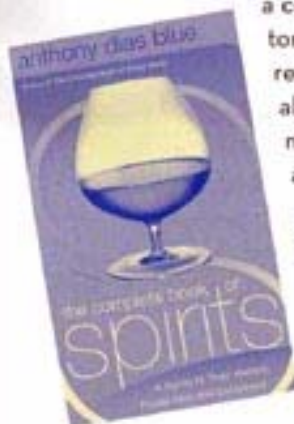
Long available only to the wine trade, **Le Nez Du Vin** can help anyone develop their sense of smell to distinguish such things as the type of wine, its age, components, and even its flaws.

The kit includes 54 glass vials of essential wine scents, illustrated information cards, and an instruction booklet. Item # WAO2-001, \$500 from [www.iwawine.com](http://www.iwawine.com) or call (800) 527-4072.

Le Creuset's new **Screwpull Trilogy Travel Corkscrew** uses a patented double-helix self-pulling and auto-ejection technology which removes the cork from the bottle and pushes it back off the screw effortlessly. It even works on the synthetic closures that can stymie rival tools. The 'up and over' handle, which clips tidily into the frame, adds leverage. \$25, from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



When you (or your friends) aren't drinking wine, check out Anthony Dias Blue's **The Complete Book of Spirits**, a comprehensive collection of history, lore, tasting tips, and cocktail recipes. If you've ever wondered about the difference between mescal and tequila, or American and Irish whiskeys, or what makes single malt Scotch so desirable, look no further. Hardcover, 336 pages. \$25, available from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or check with your local bookseller.



We love Crate and Barrel's **Leather Wine Rack** for its bold combination of retro and modern design. Its three padded tiers hold up to nine bottles of wine. The red leather (don't worry, it's faux) has white contrast stitching, and the support rods are gleaming chrome. Exclusively from Crate and Barrel. Item #462004, \$50 from [www.crateandbarrel.com](http://www.crateandbarrel.com), or call (800) 967-6696.



American tour company French Wine Explorers teams with authors Don and Petie Kladstrup for an exclusive tour based on their best-selling book **Wine & War**. The trip takes place April 5-13, 2005, just before the 60th anniversary of VE Day. Limited to 14 guests, who will meet prestigious chateau owners in Champagne, Burgundy, the Loire Valley and Bordeaux who struggled against the Nazis to save France's greatest treasure: its wine. \$6,595 per person, double occupancy. Call (877) 261-1500 or visit [www.wine-tours-france.com](http://www.wine-tours-france.com).



A fine complement to the rack shown above, Crate and Barrel's **Shiny Wine Cooler** is distinctive with or without its removable red leather handle. When empty, it's deep enough to use as a "spit bucket" (isn't there a better term for it?) if you're having a tasting. Made of polished nickel finish with a brass base. Exclusively from Crate and Barrel. Item #405361, \$33 from [www.crateandbarrel.com](http://www.crateandbarrel.com), or call (800) 967-6696.

