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Team USA Raises the Bar: Basketball Stars Toast Triumphs with $73K Wine Collection

US Basketball Team Splurges on French Wine

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In a unique blend of sportsmanship and fine wine appreciation, the U.S. men's basketball team at the Paris 2024 Olympics has made headlines with their celebration plans. Following each victory, the team indulges in some of France's most prestigious

wines, with LeBron James playing a pivotal role in this luxurious tradition. The total expenditure on these exquisite selections amounts to approximately $73,000, a testament to the players' discerning taste and desire for the best.

The team's wine order features some of the most sought-after bottles from renowned French vineyards. A standout choice is the Chateau de Selle Cotes de Provence Clair de Noirs rosé by Domaines Ott, with 30 three-liter bottles purchased at $420 each, totaling $12,600. This rosé is celebrated for its delicate balance and vibrant character, making it a fitting choice for toasting their triumphs.

Notably, the team acquired four bottles of the illustrious Chateau Petrus 1985, a wine revered in the Pomerol region of Bordeaux. This vintage, known for its deep flavor profile and exceptional quality, cost $3,000 per bottle, contributing $12,000 to the overall expenditure. Equally prestigious is the Domaine de La Romanee Conti's Grands Echezeaux 2020, also at $3,000 per bottle, with four bottles adding another $12,000 to the total. This wine, sourced from Burgundy, is renowned for its complexity and depth, favored by collectors and connoisseurs alike.

The order extended to ten bottles of Trilogie de Le Pin 16-17-18, another gem from Pomerol, priced at $11,150. Additionally, the selection included ten bottles of Riesling Domaine Weinbach 2017, a wine known for its crispness and aromatic qualities, valued at $13,000 in total. To complete their celebratory collection, the team selected ten bottles of Roses de Jeanne Blanc de Noirs Les Ursules 2008, a champagne noted for its purity and finesse, priced at $12,000.

This indulgence in fine wines is part of the team's plan to enjoy their time in Paris, a city synonymous with romance and culinary excellence. According to a consultant involved in the team's operations, multiple players participated in the wine selection process, ensuring that the diverse palates of the team members were catered to. LeBron James, in particular, took the lead in choosing the wines, drawing on his extensive knowledge and appreciation for fine vintages. Known for his preference for red wines, James has a history of selecting exceptional bottles during his travels in France.

Beyond his influence in wine selection, LeBron James also had a prominent role in the opening ceremony of the Paris 2024 Olympics. He carried the U.S. flag alongside tennis star Coco Gauff, showcasing his leadership both on and off the court. Despite the rainy weather, James stood out in the American delegation, embodying the spirit of the team and the country.

This unique celebration tradition underscores the U.S. men's basketball team's approach to the Olympics, combining their quest for gold with a taste for the finer things in life. As the tournament progresses, fans and wine enthusiasts alike may be eager to see if the team's celebratory wines will be as memorable as their performances on the court.