

Recent obsessions: Madeira



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Mondays through Fridays, Cap Times staffers share their pop culture fixations:

Madeira, the Portuguese fortified wine that is usually found on the "dessert wine" section of a fancy restaurant's menu, is one of my favorite things to drink after dinner year-round.

But when it's cold out, madeira's flavors of stewed fruit, spice and toasted nuts taste even better. Made from white grapes and fortified with brandy, madeira can **range in color** from light gold to a deep brownish-red — my favorites are on the darker end of the

spectrum.

Madisonians can find madeira at a half dozen restaurants and bars, like Heritage Tavern, Harvest and Maduro Cigar Bar. I think I've seen it around at Forequarter.

Best, though, is to get a decent bottle like the Savannah Verdelho Special reserve made by Rare Wine Co. Historic Series and drink it slowly. Because it's been cooked and shaken and fortified, it will never go bad.

— *Lindsay Christians*