

San Francisco Chronicle

Inside Scoop

Maison Corbeaux, ambitious wine and spirits shop from Wingtip team, now open in Pac Heights

By Esther Mobley | March 13, 2017

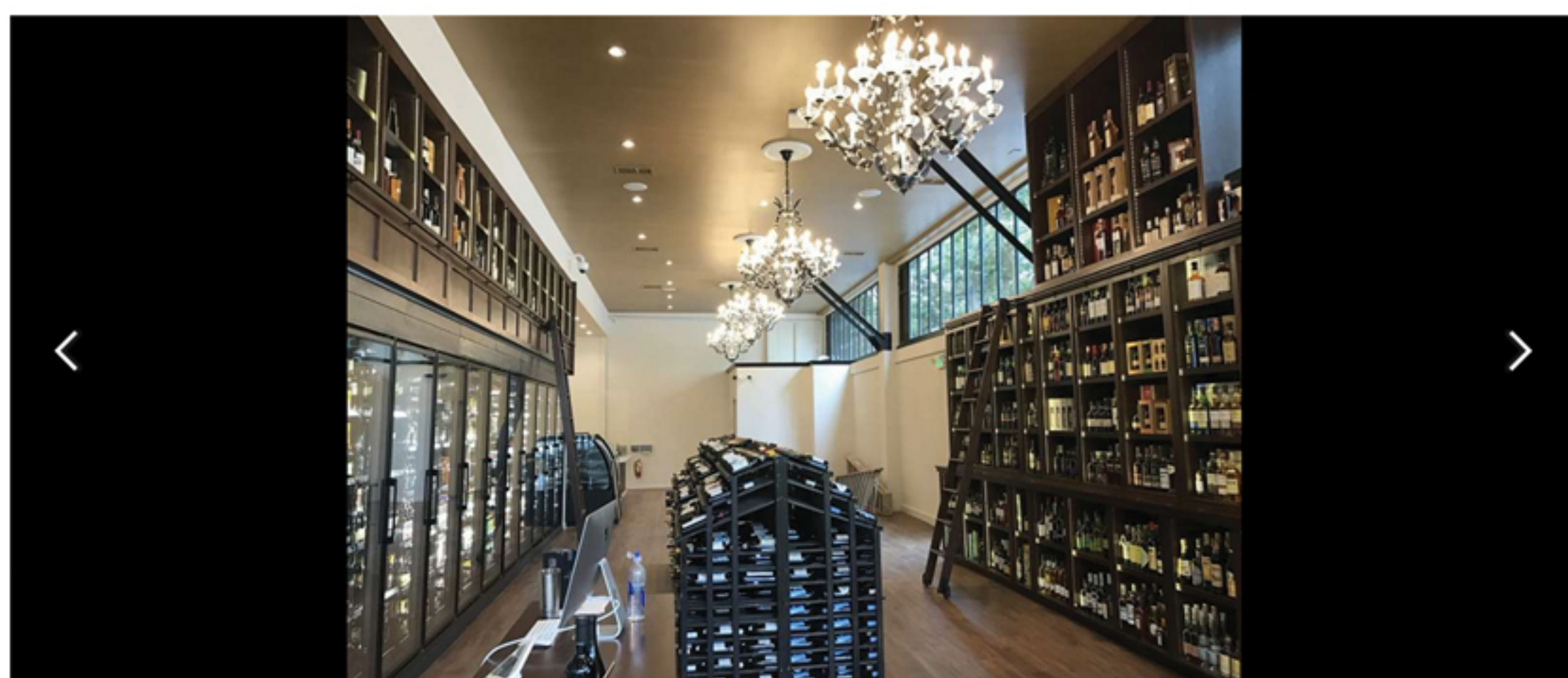


IMAGE 1 OF 3

Maison Corbeaux, a new wine, beer and spirits shop in Pacific Heights.

Maison Corbeaux, San Francisco's newest shop for fine wine, beer and spirits, has opened at the corner of Sacramento and Divisadero streets in Pacific Heights.

Led by general manager Kyle Nadeau, the Maison Corbeaux team has been running the Bank of Wine & Spirits, a shop on the ground level of the Financial District building that houses swanky members-only club Wingtip. The Bank of Wine & Spirits has changed its name to Maison Corbeaux, too, and will continue to operate under Nadeau. Though it's now a fully separate business from Wingtip, club members still get a discount at Maison Corbeaux.

"The idea was always to have this (the Sacramento St. location) as the flagship, and Wingtip as the satellite," Nadeau told Inside Scoop. (Wingtip's ground level now houses four separate luxury-focused businesses alongside the Maison Corbeaux space, including St. Croix menswear.)

The flagship store occupies the former London Market space. Its century-old sign will remain, at least for now. The 2,000-square-foot store features over 1,000 selections of wine and spirits -- an expanded version of what Nadeau's team offers in the FiDi.

Wine buyer Michael Hildbold (formerly of the Ritz-Carlton) named old and rare wines as a specialty. Rather than show partiality to particular wine styles, he plans to showcase ranges of styles from classic regions: traditional and modern takes from places like Napa Valley, Piedmont and Rioja. A shelf of under-\$20 wines at the front of the store sits next to a glass case of more expensive, and harder to find, collectible wines.

"I'm trying to bring a restaurant level of service," said Hildbold, who also helps customers organize and value their home cellars.



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As he expands inventory, Hilbold hopes to build particular depth in aged Nebbiolo.

Spirits are Nadeau's territory, and he has assembled an impressive collection with strengths in American whiskey, Scotch and rum, including new bottlings from Foursquare, Exclusive Malts and Samaroli.

One thing the Pac Heights location has that the FiDi one doesn't: beer. Thanks to buyer Scott Jeffrey, you'll find some brews that are hard to locate elsewhere in the city, including from Capitola's Sante Adarius Rustic Ales and Oregon's De Garde Brewing.

Soon to come: a deli counter in the back of the store, run by healthy, fast-casual purveyor Greenbox. Expect salads, charcuterie and sandwiches -- but at the moment, you won't be able to munch on it in the store (nor, sadly, can you open a bottle with your food).

Maison Corbeaux at London Market, 2901 Sacramento St. (at Divisadero), S.F. (415) 967-2098
www.corbeauxws.com Open 11 am to 7 pm Mon-Fri.

Maison Corbeaux at Wingtip, 550 Montgomery St. (at Clay), S.F. (415) 967-2098
www.corbeauxws.com Open 10 am to 6 pm Mon-Sat.



IMAGE 2 OF 3
General manager Kyle Nadeau, left, with wine buyer Michael Hilbold, at Maison Corbeaux.



IMAGE 3 OF 3
The spirits selection at Maison Corbeaux.