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IT CAME IN THE MAIL

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AQUA-PRUFF WATER BOTTLE/WINE BOTTLE

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An occasional look at products the travel industry insists we need.

WHAT: Aqua-Pruff Water Bottle/Wine Bottle

AIMED AT: Those on the road who want their swigs cold.

HOW MUCH: \$24.95 to \$29.95.

BUT DOES IT WORK? Nothing ruins a picnic or romantic rendezvous faster than lukewarm vino. The Aqua-Pruff wine tote is a narrow Neoprene bag with room enough for a magnum of Champagne or a teetotaler's favorite cold beverage. Folded up, it's about the size of a baseball cap with the heft of a paperback. It's machine-washable and available in four colors, plus it comes in camouflage for that white-zin-swilling hunter in your fold. Pop the two hot/cold packs in the freezer for 30 minutes before slipping them into the inside pockets (or in the microwave for a minute if you're drinking hot toddies). We grabbed a bottle of pinot gris and tucked it between the ice packs, then placed our cell phone in one outer pocket and keys and (slim) wallet in the other. By the time we reached our destination, the phone hadn't budged and the vino was temperature-perfect. Now if only there was an Aqua-Pruff that chilled the glasses as well . . .

-- Anne McDonough

Available at 434-316-0124, <http://www.aquapruff.com>.

