

WINE ENTHUSIAST BUYING GUIDE

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2022

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Freshly harvested Grüner Veltliner grapes in the Wachau

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GRÜNER VELTLINER

Austria's most important white grape expresses itself

Austrian wine has made its definitive statement with Grüner Veltliner. And the world of wine continues to beat the same drum like a broken record reminding everyone that Grüner is a refreshing white with aromas and flavors of citrus and white pepper. In the right hands, Grüner transcends the character of the terroir and the winemaker's personality. It's little wonder it has long been Austria's signature white variety.

In the 1950s, it became the country's most widely planted grape, for the most part, thanks to Lenz Moser's development of the *hochkultur* (high culture) training system, which allows easy maintenance with the use of machinery. Grüner is a somewhat finicky grape known to overproduce, which can affect quality. Because of this and its sensitivity to dryness and certain fungal diseases, Austrians often view it as quite "needy."

Grüner is grown primarily in the northeastern part of the country and reaches its quality zenith

Grüner transcends the character of the terroir and the winemaker's personality, and has long been Austria's signature white variety.

in appellations along the Danube. Though, there are examples from Burgenland and Weinviertel that can impress, as well. As far as taste, Grüner is pretty neutral, allowing the soil and microclimate in which it's grown to be reflected by the wine.

Its performance in loess soil is unquestionable. This type of soil provides the perfect conditions for Grüner and results in ripe and full-bodied wines. Grüner doesn't like to struggle. So, wherever there is good water retention, it can grow successfully. Expressions from limestone soils, especially from Burgenland, can be world-class, making elegant and precise examples that let the mineral elements shine through. Austria plays a distinctive role, producing origin-specific wines within many of its appellations.

Though it may have declined in popularity in the past 20 years, Grüner is still Austria's most important grape as well as its unique contribution to the world of wine. —Aleksander Zecvic

GRÜNER VELTLINER

97 Weingut Knoll 2019 Ried Kreutles Loibner Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). This is an absolutely brilliant expression of classic Wachau. Fabulous aromas and flavors of pineapple, ruby grapefruit and mineral turn to honey and vanilla spice midpalate, with an exquisite harmony that echos throughout. Viscous and round, yet vibrant and full of energy, this is impressive now, but if you show some patience you will be rewarded with an unforgettable wine. Best from 2025 through 2045. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$58

95 Weingut Knoll 2019 Vinothekfüllung Loibner Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). This shows a powerful statement of craftsmanship, with an intense acidity that is matched by a broad spectrum of flavors, including peach, apple, honey-suckle, lemon and stone. The finish continues the complexity, leaving you wanting more, with a searing, saline aftertaste. It will benefit from aging even

more. Best from 2025 through 2045. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$99

93 Weingut Knoll 2020 Ried Kreutles Loibner Federspiel Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). Very impressive Federspiel that starts off with a yeasty, almost hoppy note, followed by an intriguing mix of floral, fruity and mineral details. The complexity and length have you come back for more. Drink now through 2032. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$55

93 Weingut Knoll 2019 Reid Loibenberg Loibner Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). A beautiful, velvety texture makes this white almost irresistible, while its forward flavors of roasted pineapple, almond oil, lentil and green tea add to the experience. Cleansing acidity takes over, leading this to an inviting finish. Best from 2024 through 2034. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$73

92 Christoph Hoch NV Hollenburger Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). This redefines what a Kamptal Grüner is, starting off with a hint of matchstick that signals soft reduction, but once blown off, there is an electric offering of melon, Meyer lemon, sage and lily that all sing in harmony. Then you notice the captivating texture, wrapping up the experience. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$18

92 Leindl 2020 Ried Seeberg 1.ÖWT Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). There is a nice balanced between ripeness and freshness here, with hints of lanolin starting off, followed by peach, fennel and a touch of chamomile tea. Slight bitterness hints that this will only get better with age. Best from 2023 through 2035. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$66

92 Rudi Pichler 2020 Ried Hochrain Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). This starts out fragrant and pungent, yet it is delicate, offering legume and white pepper notes that are typical, but then lily and quince flavors are introduced. Seductive texture puts a bow around it, making it an interesting expression of the classic. Drink now through 2032. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

92 Weingut Knoll 2019 Reid Schütt Loibner Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). A more subtle, but lush style, that shows loads of fruit and spice. Charming nectarine, apple and Bosc pear flavors are framed by notes of white pepper and all-spice. It will be a great match for fish and poultry, with some creamy sauces. Drink now through 2032. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$73

91 Ebner-Ebenauer 2020 Alte Reben Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). Vibrant and pure white, offering notes of spice and green tea that frame the core of peach and grapefruit. It is linear yet fleshy and superbly balanced, ending in a long mouthwatering mix of savory mineral elements. Drink now through 2030. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$51

91 Ebner-Ebenauer 2020 Reid Sauberg Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). This version's main themes are elderflower and nectarine flavors, shaded by grapefruit and herbal accents. It is fresh, with wet stone details emerging on the mouthwatering finish. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

91 Hager Matthias 2018 Vielfalt Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). This beats to its own drum with a cloudy appearance and a slight grip on the palate. It exhibits notes of ripe apricot, tangerine and sage honey, with good complexity and a fine

Continued on page 139

The Wine Enthusiast Buying Guide

The Buying Guide includes ratings and reviews of new-release and selected older beverage alcohol products evaluated by *Wine Enthusiast* magazine's editors and other qualified tasters. Regular contributors to our Buying Guide include Tasting Director Alexander Peartree, Executive Editor Lauren Buzzeo, Managing Editor Digital Emily Saladino, Assistant Tasting Director Fiona Adams, Contributing Editors Anna Lee C. Iijima, Christina Pickard, Mike DeSimone, Jeff Jenssen, Layla Schlack, Aleksandar Zecevic, Jessica Vargas and Spirits Editor Kara Newman in New York; European Editor Roger Voss in France; Italian Editor Kerin O'Keefe in Switzerland; Contributing Editors Virginie Boone, Jim Gordon and Matt Kettmann in California; Contributing Editor Sean P. Sullivan in Washington; and Beer Editor John Holl in New Jersey.

If a wine was evaluated by a single reviewer, that taster's initials appear following the note. When no initials appear following a wine review, the wine was evaluated by two or more reviewers and the score and tasting note reflect the input of all tasters. Unless otherwise stated, all spirit reviews are by Kara Newman and all beer reviews are by John Holl.

Each review contains a score, the full name of the product, its suggested national retail price, its alcohol (abv) as reported to us by the submitter and a tasting note. If price or alcohol content cannot be confirmed, NA (not available) will be printed. Prices are for 750-ml bottles unless otherwise indicated.

TASTING METHODOLOGY AND GOALS

All tastings reported in the Buying Guide are performed blind. Typically, products are tasted in peer-group flights of from 5–8 samples. Reviewers may know general information about a flight to provide context—vintage, variety or appellation—but never the producer or retail price of any given selection. When possible, products considered flawed or uncustomary are retasted.

ABOUT THE SCORES

Ratings reflect what our editors felt about a particular product. Beyond the rating, we encourage you to read the accompanying tasting note to learn about a product's special characteristics.

- Classic 98–100:** The pinnacle of quality.
- Superb 94–97:** A great achievement.
- Excellent 90–93:** Highly recommended.
- Very Good 87–89:** Often good value; well recommended.
- Good 83–86:** Suitable for everyday consumption; often good value.
- Acceptable 80–82:** Can be employed in casual, less-critical circumstances.

Products deemed Unacceptable (receiving a rating below 80 points) are not reviewed.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

Editors' Choice products are those that offer excellent quality at a price above our Best Buy range, or a product at any price with unique qualities that merit special attention.

Cellar Selections are products deemed highly collectible and/or requiring time in a temperature-controlled wine cellar to reach their maximum potential. A Cellar Selection designation does not mean that a product must be stored to be enjoyed, but that cellaring will probably result in a more enjoyable bottle. In general, an optimum time for cellaring will be indicated.

Best Buys are products that offer a high level of quality in relation to price. Wines meriting this award are generally priced at \$15 or less, and are designated Best Buys after surpassing a specific quality-to-price ratio benchmark.

SUBMITTING PRODUCTS FOR REVIEW

Products should be submitted to the appropriate reviewing location as detailed in our FAQ, available online via winemag.com/contact-us. Inquiries should be addressed to the Tasting & Review Department at 914.345.9463 or email tastings@wineenthusiast.net. **There is no charge for submitting products.** We make every effort to taste all products submitted for review, but there is no guarantee that all products submitted will be tasted, or that reviews will appear in the magazine. All samples must be accompanied by the appropriate submission forms, which may be downloaded from our website.

LABELS

Labels are paid promotions. Producers and importers are given the opportunity to submit labels only after the reviews have been finalized and assigned to a specific issue. Labels are reproduced and printed along with tasting notes and scores. For information on label purchases, contact Denise Valenza at 813.571.1122; fax 866.896.8786; or email dvalenza@wineenthusiast.net

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2018



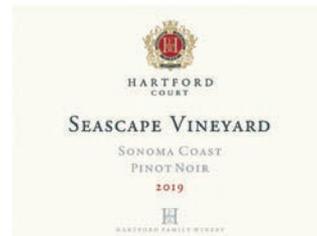
98 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Monvigliero (Barolo). This wine is just stunning, starting with aromas of fragrant blue flower, red berry, camphor, dark spice and underbrush. Reflecting the aromas, the smooth, delicious palate delivers raspberry compote, ripe cherry, and licorice accompanied by polished tannins while fresh acidity offers youthful tension. Drink 2024–2038. Bacchanal Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$110



97 Castello di Neive 2019 Albesani Santo Stefano (Barbaresco). Fragrant and refined, this compelling red has aromas of woodland berry, ground pepper, camphor and tilled earth. Full-bodied and structured, the youthfully tense palate features ripe red cherry, pomegranate, star anise and ground nutmeg. Tight, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity provide support and energy. It shows great aging potential. Drink 2029–2039. Winebow Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65



97 Elvio Cogno 2018 Ravera (Barolo). This beautiful, luminously hued Barolo opens with enticing scents of perfumed berry, dark spice, eucalyptus, violet and forest floor. The savory palate combines elegance and structure, delivering juicy red cherry, raspberry compote, star anise and wild mint framed in taut, refined tannins that give it a smooth but firm texture. Bright acidity keeps energized. What a stunner. Drink 2024–2038. Wilson Daniels Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$116



97 Hartford Court 2019 Seascape Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Sumptuous, lively and generous in dried herbs, allspice and forest floor, this is a memorably intense and complex coastal wine, thick in tannin and enduring structure. Red berry and citrus give it a lightness that boosts the lovely, lasting acidity. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$85



97 Ratti 2018 Conca (Barolo). One of the best Barolos of the vintage, this stunner opens with rose, forest berry, underbrush and new leather aromas. Drop dead gorgeous and just delicious, the full-bodied palate is loaded with flavor and finesse, featuring crushed raspberry, ripe red cherry, cake spice and licorice alongside taut, silky tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. While it's already fantastic, it also shows great aging potential. Drink 2024–2038. LUX Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$120



97 Sol Rouge 2018 Petite Sirah (Lake County). This powerful, delicious, fruit-packed wine is intensely concentrated and amazingly supple despite an abundance of tannin that plays out as velvety and plush in texture. Only neutral French barrels were used for aging, yet it offers wonderful spiciness. Hints of tobacco, mint and black earth accent irresistible blueberry, blackberry and dark chocolate flavors that linger long on the finish. Best through at least 2030. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60



96 **Contucci 2017 Mulinvecchio (Vino Nobile di Montepulciano).** Grilled Porcini, new leather, Mediterranean scrub and ripe black-skinned fruit aromas slowly take shape in the glass. Structured and delicious, the focused palate features Marasca cherry, raspberry compote, licorice and black tea supported by firm, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2025–2037. Specialty Cellars. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$55



96 **Copia 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles Willow Creek District).** Focused fresh aromas of blackberry jam and hot morning buns invite the nose into this bottling. The palate is very elegantly presented, with marble-like tannins that are firm yet polished and a persistent but not overbearing acidity that deliver roasted black cherry and comforting baking spice flavors. —M.K.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$65



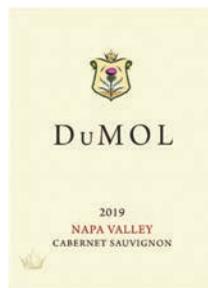
96 **Crown Point 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara).** Lovely aromas of black cherry cordial surrounded by chocolate sauce and oak make for a juicy, yet smoky, entry to the nose of this bottling. There are a lot of tactile touch points on the chalky palate, where generous flavors of milk chocolate, cherry sorbet and toasted coconut are held together by a taut structure. —M.K.

abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$150



96 **Crown Point 2018 Estate Selection (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara).** Dark and delicious aromas of black cherry and cassia are lifted by star anise and purple flowers on the cohesive nose of this bottling. There is plenty of that black cherry fruit on the palate as well, but it's presented in an elegantly restrained way, with rose petals, cocoa dust and crème brûlée flavors all arising by the long finish. —M.K.

abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$150



96 **DuMOL 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley).** This is a meaty, powerful wine made in a dense, full-bodied style that possesses underlying grace. Black fruit dominates around a secondary tier of currant, clove and iron, the oak is present and yet behaved and well-integrated. The tannins are lengthy and grippy in their youth. Best enjoyed from 2029–2034. *Cellar Selection.* —V.B.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$109



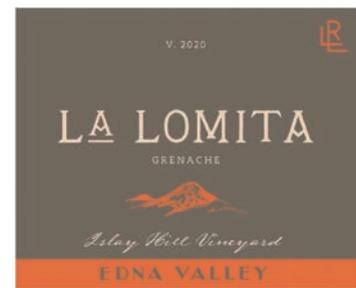
96 **Fontanabianca 2019 Bordini (Barbaresco).** Truffle, camphor violet and ripe berry aromas come together on this fragrant red. Full-bodied and full of flavor, the delicious palate doles out juicy Morello cherry, raspberry compote, baking spice and star anise while firm, refined tannins provide support. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2027–2039. Ethica Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$70



96 **Guado al Tasso 2019 Bolgheri Superiore.** This gorgeous, full-bodied red opens with layers of aromas including camphor, pipe tobacco, oak-driven spice and ripe black-skinned fruit. Boasting structure and finesse, the intense palate delivers ripe black plum, juicy cherry, licorice and menthol framed in ultrarefined tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2026–2039. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$140



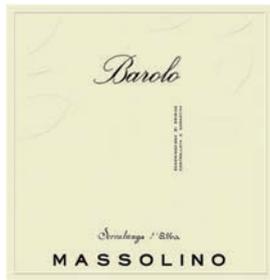
96 **La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Grenache (Edna Valley).** Grown on one of the only volcanic slope vineyards in the area, this bottling is punchy and fresh with strawberry sorbet and mint flavors, yet refined with an elegant balance. Lively and fresh raspberry flavors pop on the palate followed by waves of white pepper, sagebrush and toasted nuts. —M.K.

abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$52



96 **Lail 2019 Blueprint Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley).** Another stunning vintage of this perennially impressive, accessible wine, this year's includes 4% Petit Verdot. Lush layers of baked plum and blueberry are met by an undertone of tobacco, clove and toasted oak, with just a hint of crushed herb and rock. Full-bodied and concentrated in style, it carries its generosity with grace. *Editors' Choice.* —V.B.

abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$90



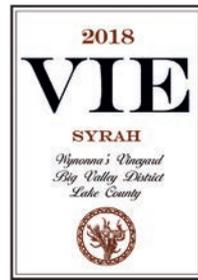
96 Massolino 2018 Barolo. In 2018 the estate didn't make its cru-specific bottlings so the best grapes are in this straight Barolo. And it shows. It opens with heady scents of eucalyptus, pine forest, hay, new leather and lilac. Extremely elegant, the savory, vibrant palate exhibits red cherry, juniper berry and star anise set against taut, refined tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Vineyard Brands. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$56



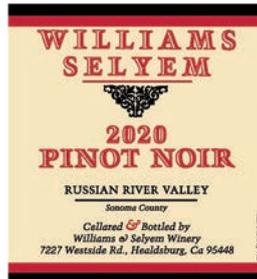
96 Ratti 2018 Marcenasco (Barolo). This stunning, delicious red boasts enticing scents of camphor, rose petal, small red berry and spice while the delicious palate stuns with strawberry compote, baking spice and star anise. Smooth, silky tannins and fresh acidity keep it perfectly balanced. Drink 2024–2030. LUX Wines. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$65



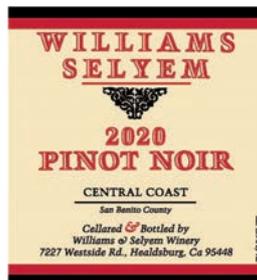
96 Ratti 2018 Rocche dell'Annunziata (Barolo). Aromas of pressed rose, wild red berry and baking spice come to the forefront on this gorgeous red along with a whiff of menthol. The elegant, structured palate has great tension, delivering juicy red cherry, strawberry compote, licorice and tobacco alongside taut, refined tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2026–2038. LUX Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$140



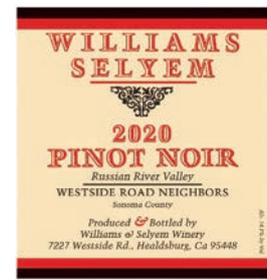
96 Vie Winery 2018 Wynonna's Vineyard Syrah (Big Valley District). This deep and concentrated wine offers impressive blackberry, black pepper and black cherry flavors with firm tannins but should become even more complex and smooth with time. Fermented with native yeast and using 15% whole clusters, it offers multiple layers and a good focus on savory aspects while its French oak accent stays in the background. Best 2026–2032. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$45



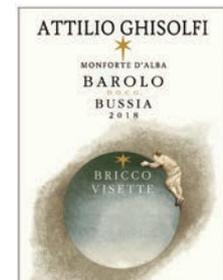
96 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Deliciously fresh and lively from start to finish, this wine shows exceptional balance, elegance and complexity, a stunning showcase for the appellation in a challenging and warm vintage. Baking spice, forest and citrus play around light, focused layers of tangy strawberry and cherry with just enough richness to enthrall. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$62



96 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (San Benito). This delicious bottling offers aromas of dark cherry that are ripe but polished, with toasted sagebrush and rugged violet elements making for a deep, penetrating and attention-grabbing nose. The palate is boldly appealing and hedonistic, showing wild herb, boysenberry and chai spice flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$39



96 Williams Selyem 2020 Westside Road Neighbors Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Tangy red fruit, crushed rock and notes of violet and rose permeate from the glass of this outstanding wine, a perennial showcase for the array of sites that consistently contribute to it. Well-structured and balanced, it is earthy and rich, with deliciously enticing accents of dried herb and mineral. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$78



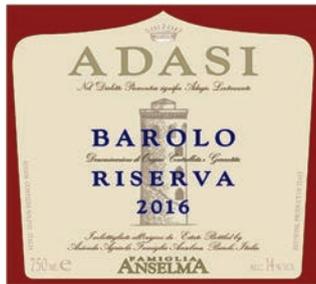
95 Attilio Ghisolfi 2018 Bricco Visette (Barolo). Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with new leather, pressed rose petal and wild berry. Full-bodied and savory, the palate shows ripe cherry marinated in spirits, raspberry, tobacco and licorice set against taut, refined tannins. Drink 2026–2033. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 15% Price: \$74



95 Bel Colle 2019 Pajorè (Barbaresco). Heady aromas of new leather, wild berry and iris mingle with orange zest and dark spice on this compelling red. The full-bodied, elegant palate shows class and intensity, delivering juicy Morello cherry, strawberry compote and the same orange slice and star anise notes from the nose accompanied by taut, fine-grained tannins. It's got great energy and nervous, youthful tension that will allow this to age for years. Drink 2027–2039. Quintessential Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50



95 Blue Farm 2019 Anne Katherina Estate Farmed Pinot Noir (Carneros). With a delicious nose of rose and orange peel, this wine is richly layered and substantive, developing into a midpalate of earth and forest and spicy hints of clove and nutmeg. Textural and ultimately bright, it has subtle power and enduring elegance. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75



95 Famiglia Anselma 2016 Adasi Riserva (Barolo). Fragrant purple flower, new leather and spiced plum aromas come to the forefront along with balsamic notes of camphor. Smooth and full-bodied, the elegant, savory palate offers dried cherry, raspberry, cocoa and star anise alongside velvety tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2026–2036. *Crus & Stills.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$94



95 Fontanabianca 2019 Barbaresco. Lovely aromas of violet, iris and perfumed berry lift out of the glass. Firmly structured and focused, the linear palate shows refinement and finesse, with taut, refined tannins framing juicy red cherry, strawberry compote and star anise. Fresh acidity keeps it vibrant and balanced. Best 2029–2039. *Ethica Wines. Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50



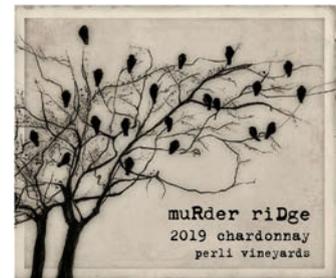
95 Hartford Court 2019 Land's Edge Vineyards Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Thick, tannic and herbal, this is an earthy and ethereal wine from the coast, aromatic in rose petal and forest floor. A notable backbone of acidity keeps it fresh and energetic in the glass amid a savory landscape of salty, silky structure. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55



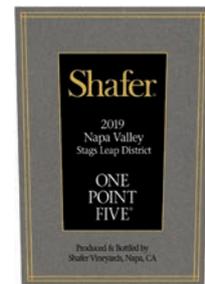
95 Hartford Court 2016 Outer Limits Vineyard Syrah (Sonoma Coast). Varietally intriguing and compelling in tobacco, clove and blackberry, this full-bodied wine is tremendously appealing, with dark, brooding layers of spice and garrigue. Rich and lengthy, it shows plenty of complexity around a supple core of inviting succulence and well-integrated tannin and oak. —V.B.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$55



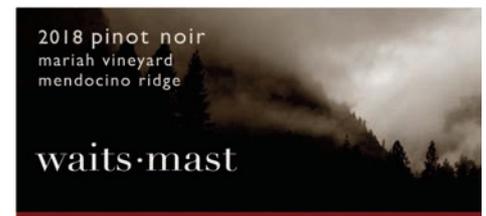
95 Mas Igneus 2013 Costers De Poblela (Priorat). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has aromas of bramble berries, butterscotch and dark chocolate. It is soft at first sip, with flavors of blackberry and black cherry, clove, eucalyptus, mocha and dried Mediterranean herbs. Opulent tannins settle onto the palate and slowly dissolve into a lengthy, fruit-filled finish. Drink through 2038. *W. Direct. Cellar Selection.* —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$175



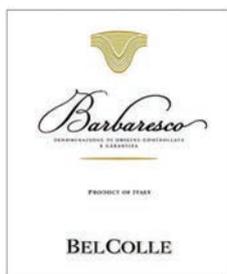
95 Murder Ridge 2019 Perli Vineyards Chardonnay (Mendocino Ridge). Impressive concentration, great balance and intriguing complexity give this full-bodied wine grown at 2,200 feet in elevation so much to like. Almond, vanilla, poached pear and brown butter flavors give it richness, breadth and depth across a creamy texture. Best through 2028. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$38



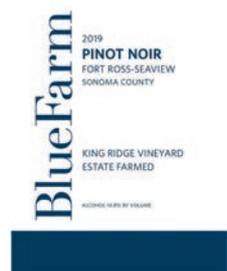
95 Shafer 2019 One Point Five Cabernet Sauvignon (Stags Leap District). A perennial powerhouse, this wine includes 12% Merlot, 3% Malbec and 2% Petit Verdot. Tight, tannic and brawny in style, it offers dense layers of rich earth, dried herb, soy and leather, with unmistakable muscularity that wraps itself around lushly dark, baked fruit. —V.B.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$110



95 Waits-Mast 2018 Mariah Vineyard Pinot Noir (Mendocino Ridge). Quite flavorful and nicely structured, this well-concentrated wine grown at 2,300 feet in elevation is worth keeping to enjoy how it develops over time. Engaging raspberry, red cherry and redwood aromas are followed by mouthfilling, ripe black fruit flavors on a full body braced by moderate, fine-grained tannins. Best from 2026. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$47



94 Bel Colle 2019 Barbaresco. Red berry, rose and new leather aromas mingle with whiffs of tobacco on this linear, elegantly structured red. Savory and bursting with finesse, the focused palate doles out juicy red cherry, black raspberry, star anise and white pepper alongside tightly knit, fine-grained tannins. Racy acidity lends balance and tension. Drink 2027–2039. Quintessential Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$37



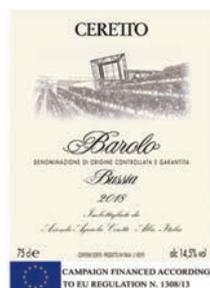
94 Blue Farm 2019 King Ridge Vineyard Estate Farmed Pinot Noir (Fort Ross-Seaview). Juicy red fruit highlights a lengthy midpalate of supple texture and refinement in this complex and intriguing coastal wine. From tight-spaced vines in Goldridge soil, the wine has a plushness and an ethereal quality, with a finishing note of forest and gravel. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$85



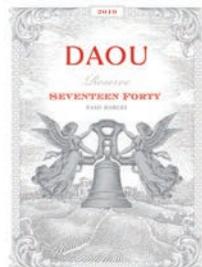
94 Borgogno 2018 Barolo. Lovely aromas of forest berry, rose, wild herb and violet waft out of the glass along with a whiff of new leather. On the elegantly structured, almost ethereal palate, notes of star anise and clove accent juicy red cherry, pomegranate and blood orange. Polished tannins and bright acidity keep it balanced. Drink 2023–2030. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$80



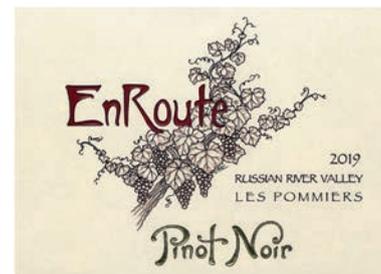
94 Borgogno 2017 Liste (Barolo). Iris, violet and ripe dark-skinned fruit aromas mingle with whiffs of leather and pipe tobacco. The full-bodied palate features prune, dried cherry and licorice alongside velvety tannins. Drink through 2029. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$160



94 Ceretto 2018 Bussia (Barolo). Rose, violet, camphor and oak-driven spice aromas come to the forefront on this lovely red. Focused and elegant, the vibrant palate features juicy red cherry, pomegranate, licorice and a hint of coconut framed in taut, refined tannins. It's well balanced, with bright acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Trincheri Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$150



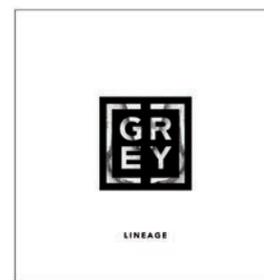
94 Daou 2019 Seventeen Forty Reserve (Paso Robles). Savory aromas of toasted walnuts, charred meat and dark berries make for a very savory impression on the nose of this blend of 51% Cabernet Franc and 49% Merlot. The tannins are expertly polished and land with a smooth coating, embracing flavors of roasted fruit, cocoa, fig and roasted almonds, with a delicate hit of acidity popping on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$75



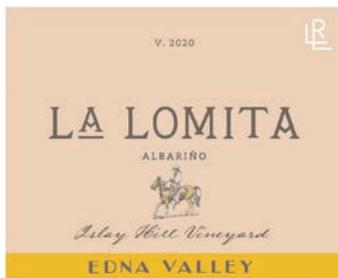
94 EnRoute 2019 Les Pommiers Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). With ample length and breadth, this full-bodied style of wine is an impressive showcase of the appellation, richly layered and textured. Rose petal, cherry and peppery baking spice accent tingling acidity that keeps it fresh and complex. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60



94 Furthermore 2018 Sierra Mar Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Quite delicious and attention-grabbing on the nose, this single-vineyard expression explodes with aromas of black cherry, mint and cola. The palate lands with a lush mouthfeel, but there's plenty of complexity from sage, sandalwood and incense to cut through that black-cherry focus. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$55



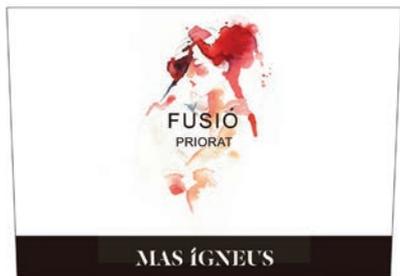
94 Grey Wolf Cellars 2019 Lineage (Paso Robles). Clean and rounded aromas of blackberry jam, delicate licorice, roasted strawberry and a hint of wood show on the nose of this blend of 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 28% Malbec, 24% Merlot and 4% Petit Verdot. There's a firm, chalky grip to the sip, where rich flavors of blackberry, cocoa and pepper ride a fresh acidity into the long finish. Drink now–2031. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50



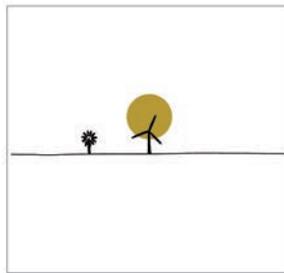
94 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Albariño (Edna Valley). This is a very serious, elegant and exciting take on Albariño from a region increasingly concerned with aromatic whites. Aromas of star fruit, kiwi and lychee meet with struck stone on the nose. The sip is very zippy and framed in an amazingly tense texture, showing sharp, energetic flavors of lime pith and chalk. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$38



94 Mark Ryan 2019 Lonely Heart Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). The aromas draw you in with notes of freshly roasted espresso bean, high cacao chocolate, dried herb and dark cherry. The palate shows richness and intensity to the dark-fruit flavors while still showcasing the polish and grace of the vintage. It has a pillowy, textured feel, with coffee notes lingering on the finish. Drink 2029–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$100



94 Mas Igneus 2018 Fusio (Priorat). This inky purple wine has aromas of cassis, Chambord and butterscotch that are followed by flavors of blackberry, pomegranate, milk chocolate and baking spices. A tight wall of tannins builds in volume and then evaporates into a bright note of cherry with a violet lift on the finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$125



94 Penley Estate 2020 Project Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon (Coonawarra). This walks a tightrope of power and freshness. Notes of cherry cola, licorice root, tobacco leaf, flower stalks and a hint of baking spice lead to a round and comfy palate. Chiseled, spicy, seemingly skins-derived tannins tighten the silky fruit. This feels less polished and more rustic, drink now–2030. Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$32



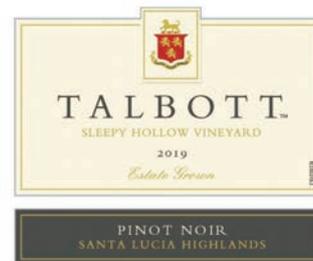
94 Principiano Ferdinando 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Aromas of underbrush, leather, eucalyptus and dark-skinned fruit lead the nose. Elegant and savory, the focused palate offers sour cherry, cranberry, star anise and a hint of game before an almost salty finish. Taut, refined tannins and bright acidity keep it well balanced. Drink through 2030. Porto Vino Italiano. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$58



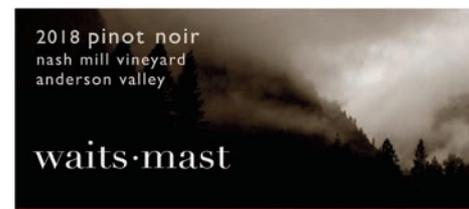
94 Ramirez de la Piscina 2017 Selección Reserva (Rioja). Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of cassis, dark plums and clove. It is very smooth on the palate, offering flavors of black cherry, blackberry, milk chocolate and licorice. Satin tannins hold back at first and then move onto the gums before dissolving into a toffee-filled finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$28



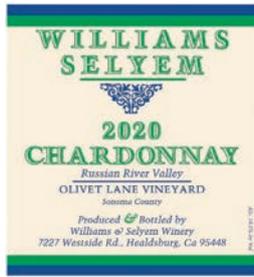
94 Sol Rouge 2018 Gypsy Rouge (Red Hills). Smoky, spicy nuances are beautifully integrated with rich, dark fruit flavors in this brooding, moderately tannic and full-bodied wine. Blended from Grenache and four other grape varieties, it goes the extra mile in terms of complexity and depth while keeping a fresh, mouthwatering texture. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$36



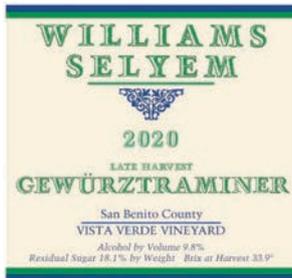
94 Talbott 2019 Sleepy Hollow Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Pleasantly bold and rugged aromas of smashed mulberry, plum, dried meat, mace and pepper make for a compelling nose on this bottling from a iconic vineyard. Soft tannins frame plush baked plum flavors on the palate, where nutmeg and cinnamon add complexity. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$42



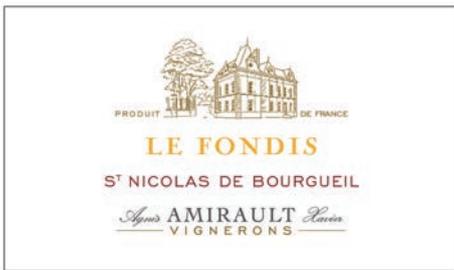
94 Waits-Mast 2018 Nash Mill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This elegant, silky smooth, unfiltered wine tastes of savory-spicy and feels broad and deep on the palate. It went through a native fermentation and was aged 15 months in 21% new French barrels. There are mellow mulled plums, woody notes and hints of cinnamon on a medium to full body soothed by fine-grained tannins. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$52



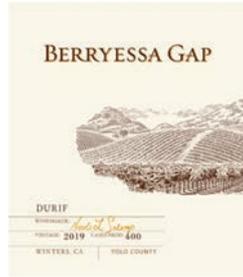
94 Williams Selyem 2020 Olivet Lane Vineyard Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). Crisp, complex and fresh in acidity, this wine is bold and beautifully crafted, with accents of anise, pear and orange blossom. The oak is supportive without being intrusive, adding weight and structure along with a lasting twist of clove and nutmeg. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65



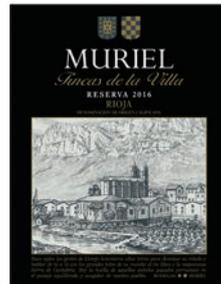
94 Williams Selyem 2020 Vista Verde Vineyard Late Harvest Gewürztraminer (San Benito County). Intense aromas of orange blossom, jasmine and plumeria are cut by orange peel and lemon juice on the nose of this always-delicious dessert wine. The palate is honeyed in all the right ways, with rose oil and plumeria flavors adding intrigue and elegance. —M.K.
abv: 18.1% **Price:** \$40



94 Xavier et Agnès Amirault 2018 Le Fondis (Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil). Smoothly textured, and ripe with red berry and smokiness, this is a beautiful wine—pure fruits and light tannins in a rich casing. The wine can age further, but is ready to drink. Organic and biodynamic. Vineyard Brands. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$46



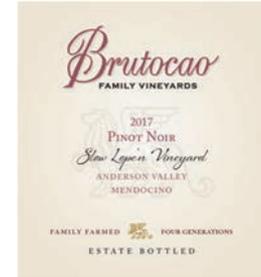
93 Berryessa Gap 2019 Durif (Yolo County). This huge but well-balanced wine (labeled with the French name for Petite Sirah) shows plenty of muscle in its full tannins, full body and ultraripe flavors, but stays appetizing to sip. Good underlying acidity and firm but not drying tannins keep it lively and bode well for further aging. Best 2025–2032. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$37



93 Bodegas Muriel 2016 Fincas de la Villa Reserva (Rioja). Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of raspberry, clove and espresso bean. Rigid tannins coat the palate, backing flavors of blackberry, black cherry, anisette, menthol and violet. Notes of ripe cherry and white flowers are at play on the lingering finish. Quintessential Wines. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22



93 Borgogno 2017 Cannubi (Barolo). Delicate scents recalling pressed rose, hay, eucalyptus and forest floor mingle with whiffs of spice. The full-bodied palate offers dried cherry, aniseed and ground clove alongside taut, fine-grained tannins that leave a drying close. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$215



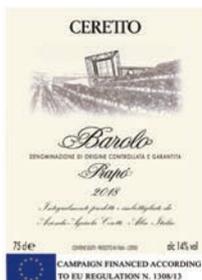
93 Brutocao 2017 Slow Lope'n Vineyard Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This medium-bodied wine sets a new standard for Brutocao Pinot Noir. It hits the mark of just-ripe flavors that retain a good tangy element while delivering abundant cherry and raspberry along with subtle baking spices. Light tannins and great balance make it extra appealing. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50



93 Caraccioli 2016 Blanc de Blancs Escolle Vineyard (Santa Lucia Highlands). Crisp aromas of lemon pith, Asian pear and chalk are clean and focused on the nose of this bottling, a promising indication of how this sparkling-focused winery is using its estate fruit. It's chiseled on the palate, with lemon curd, nectarine and white flower flavors, proving quite distinctive. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$85



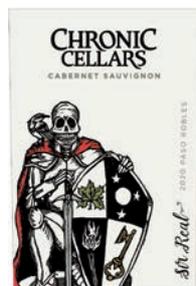
93 Caraccioli 2016 Escolle Vineyard Brut Rosé (Santa Lucia Highlands). A light salmon color in the glass, this elegant bottling shows pink rose petals, light chalk and the slightest hint of red fruit on the soft and welcoming nose. There's an almost lush tone to the palate, where strawberry and watermelon flavors are cut by lime spritz and light yeast. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$70



93 Ceretto 2018 Prapò (Barolo). Star anise, camphor, rose and underbrush aromas shape the nose. On the palate, tightly wound, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity accompany cranberry, orange rind and oak-driven spice before a grippy, rather drying close. Drink 2025–2035. Trincherro Family Estates. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$140



93 Chronic Cellars 2020 Sir Real Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Smoothly polished aromas of dark cherry and berry are dusted in red flower petals and slightly bitter herbs on the well-integrated nose of this bottling, always a good bang for the buck. The tannins and acidity are also well integrated on the palate, putting powerful flavors of dark red fruit, cocoa and coffee into a velvet glove. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.

abv: 14.3%

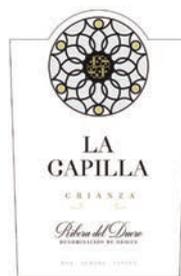
Price: \$17



93 Fesstivity 2018 Blanc de Blancs (Sta. Rita Hills). Lovely brioche, hazelnut and white flower aromas show the Chardonnay base of this sparkler, which also includes 14% Pinot Noir. That warmth continues to the palate, where nut and browned butter flavors are cut by lemon and grapefruit zest. —M.K.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$49



93 Finca La Capilla 2017 Crianza (Ribera del Duero). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has a nose of cherry, blackberry and hazelnut. It feels good in the mouth with sumptuous tannins and flavors of black cherry, raspberry, dulce de leche, violet and orange zest. Plush tannins power on into a milk chocolate and pomegranate finish. Vineyard Brands. —M.D.

abv: 14.5%

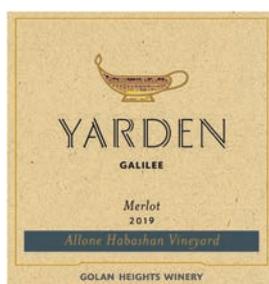
Price: \$35



93 García Figuero 2017 Noble (Ribera del Duero). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has aromas of bramble berries, charcuterie, black currant and pipe tobacco. It is spicy on the palate, with opulent tannins backing notes of licorice, anisette and clove alongside dark chocolate, cherry and purple fig that evaporate into a chocolate-covered-cherry finish. Quintessential Wines. —M.D.

abv: 15%

Price: \$170



93 Golan Heights Winery 2019 Yarden Allone Habashan Vineyard Merlot (Galilee). This deep garnet wine has a nose of black currant, rosemary and toast. Plush tannins support flavors of cherry, cassis, vanilla bean, bittersweet chocolate and violet that melt into a candied orange peel finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.

abv: 15%

Price: \$88



93 Goose Mountain by Goose Ridge 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Goose Gap). This is 100% varietal from a single block at the top of Goose Hill. The aromas bring notes of vanilla, red and black cherry, pipe tobacco, crushed rock, cassis and baking spice. Rich, luxurious black-fruit flavors follow, showing plenty of hang time on the finish. It's full on, unabashed hedonism with a lot of seriousness behind it. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.

abv: 15%

Price: \$75



93 Herdade do Esporão 2020 Esporão Private Selection (Alentejo). A wood-aged, finely textured wine rich with almond and spice as well as white fruits and great acidity. It is rich while also well textured and impressively balanced. This wine is now ready to drink. Now Wine Imports. —R.V.

abv: 14%

Price: \$45



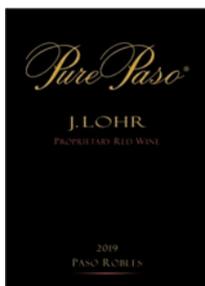
93 Herdade dos Grous 2018 Reserva (Alentejano). A blend that includes Alicante Bouschet and Touriga Nacional, the wine is still young. Solid with black plum fruits and rich tannins, the wine was wood aged. The concentration over the wine's texture promises further aging. Drink from 2024. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.

abv: 14%

Price: \$51



93 Herdade dos Grous 2020 Moon Harvested (Alentejano). Harvested following the influence of the moon cycle, this wine has rich Alicante Bouschet that is smoothing out. It is a complex wine, balancing dark tannins with spice and berry fruits. Acidity brings in a juicy character. Drink from 2025. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35



93 J. Lohr 2019 Pure Paso (Paso Robles). J. Lohr is a leader in both quality and quantity for Paso Robles, crafting standard flavor sets and then sharing them with the masses. This Cabernet Sauvignon-Petite Sirah blend is a perfect example, starting with aromas of dried meat, cola, Dr Pepper and black cherry. The palate is accessible yet serious, blending roasted cherry and hickory-smoked meat flavors with chalky tannins and a cocoa-laced finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$27



93 Lava Cap 2019 Reserve Zinfandel (El Dorado). Deep and well concentrated, this full-bodied wine seamlessly integrates moderate tannins with rich, inviting red and black fruit flavors. A velvety, lightly gripping texture carries dark chocolate, raspberry and light oak spices through a lingering finish. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$25



93 Little Giant 2018 Frediani Vineyard Merlot (Calistoga). From decades-old, dry-farmed vines, this red is herbal, dusty and earthy, with notes of sage, clove and bell pepper. Lively, it evolves into a rich midpalate of black cherry and dark cacao nib. —V.B.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$60



93 Mark Ryan 2019 Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Aromas of freshly ground espresso bean, high-cacao chocolate, plum and black cherry lead to luscious but still restrained chocolate and cherry flavors that linger for a long time on the finish. It's full on hedonism and old-vine goodness, but there's also freshness here that elevates the whole affair. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$80



93 Mark Ryan 2019 Water Witch (Red Mountain). Cabernet Sauvignon (62%) takes the lead on this wine, followed by Merlot (32%) and bits of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. There's a lot to love on the aromas, with restrained notes of toasty spice, plum, dried herb, flower and cherry. The palate is polished and flavorful, showing sneaky intensity. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$70



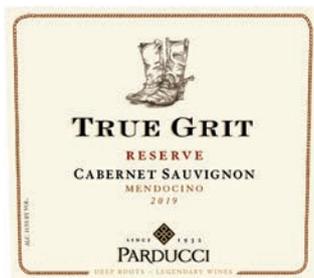
93 Mas Igneus 2019 M (Priorat). This deep violet colored wine has a bouquet of black currant, cocoa powder and coffee bean. It is savory on the palate, with flavors of blackberry, black cherry, braised fennel, roasted tomato and bittersweet chocolate. Deep-set tannins are uplifted by a bright fruit note that persists into the drawn-out finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$85



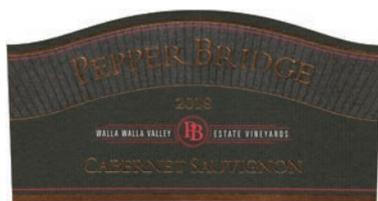
93 Matchbook 2019 Estate Bottled Petit Verdot (Dunnigan Hills). While very big in body and quite tannic in texture, this wine offers a quiet strength and focus in its deep, concentrated black fruit flavors that saturate the palate. Black cherry, dark chocolate, cocoa and cedar build in the mouth and reverberate on the finish. Best 2025–2032. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$17



93 Morgan 2019 Double L Vineyard Syrah (Santa Lucia Highlands). There's a wondrous combination of fresh and savory in this single-vineyard expression. Vibrant aromas of black raspberry are cut by dark meats on the nose, while the palate's light yet sticky tension carries through the cherry sorbet and graphite flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50



93 Parducci 2019 True Grit Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino). Bold and full-bodied but also polished, this wine is packed with black cherry and blackberry accented by cocoa and espresso notes, all wrapped in a velvety layer of fine-grained tannins. It checks all the boxes for a high-end California Cabernet. Best through 2029. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30



93 Pepper Bridge 2018 Estate Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley). This was a glorious vintage for Washington. This is another shining example. The aromas offer notes of barrel spice, black cherry, chocolate and vanilla. The palate is clenched at present, with plentiful dark-fruit flavors a lot of tannins. All of the stuff is there, but it needs time. Best after 2026. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70



93 Pertinace 2019 Barbaresco. Red berry, pine forest, truffle and botanical herb aromas lead the nose. Linear and focused, the youthfully austere, racy palate shows sour cherry, star anise and orange zest framed in taut, fine-grained tannins that lend a drying close. Drink 2026–2031. Freixenet Mionetto USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50



93 Recanati 2019 Reserve Wild Carignan (Judean Hills). Dark ruby in color, this wine has a bouquet of dark plums, bramble berries and a hint of summer farm stand. It has flavors of blackberry, ripe cherry, bittersweet chocolate, espresso bean and olive tapenade wrapped up in supple tannins. There is a pleasant but unexpected note of jalapeño on the finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$49



93 Robert Renzoni 2018 Estate Riserva Barbera (Temeucula Valley). A lighter shade in the glass, this estate-grown bottling is playful on the nose, showing vanilla, baked red plum and light incense aromas. There's a roasted pork, dried strawberry and turkey jerky flavor combination on the palate, which is fresh, savory and very drinkable. Vanilla returns for the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$64



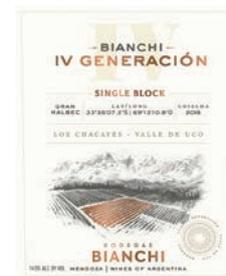
93 Summer Somewhere 2021 Rosé (Santa Barbara County). Loads of cotton candy, strawberry granita and bubblegum aromas pop on the nose of this bottling. But the palate is all about a tight, chalky texture, as citrus, pluot and crushed rock flavors linger in the zesty background. —M.K.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$34



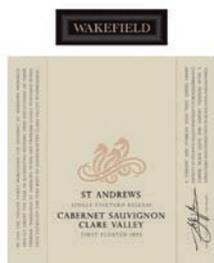
93 Summer Somewhere 2019 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). This appellation blend is a great way to check out this newer brand, which runs a tasting room in Malibu. Fresh aromas of strawberry and raspberry meet with rose petal and a touch of soil on the nose. Red fruit sorbet flavors pop on the palate alongside fennel and a tense structure. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$55



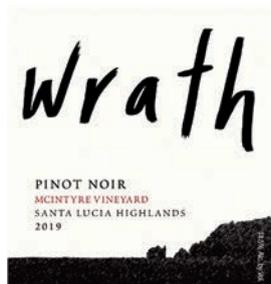
93 Tinto Amorio 2021 No Pasa Nada Rosé (Paso Robles). Though its colorful label bucks the traditional listings of grape (it's Zinfandel), place (Paso Robles) and even vintage, this is an undeniably delicious wine for all sorts of palates. Candied strawberry, blood orange and chalk aromas tempt the nose into a lively palate of cherry pie, wet stone and chalk. It's hedonistic and classical at once. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$46



93 Valentín Bianchi 2018 IV Generación Single Block Gran Malbec (Los Chacayes). The enticing nose offers aromas of chalk, black olives and baking spices. This full-bodied red contrasts intense blackberry and plum flavors with herbaceous and dark chocolate notes. It is big and concentrated, has gripping tannins, mineral character and nice acidity leading to a delicious lingering finish. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55



93 Wakefield 2018 St. Andrews Cabernet Sauvignon (Clare Valley). Rhubarb, currant and cassis aromas are threaded with peppery spices, black olives, a hint of dark chocolate, and as it warms, dried flowers. The palate takes its time opening but when it does, shows elegance and freshness amidst tightly wound, spicy tannins and lifted fruit. Drink until 2037. Taub Family Selections. —C.P.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$46



93 Wrath 2019 McIntyre Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Dried cherry and toasty brown spices are wrapped in a sandalwood box on the nose of this bottling. The palate deftly integrates roasted plum, pine needle and vanilla spice into a cohesive, satisfying sip. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$49



92 Bodegas Riojanas 2019 Monte Real Cuvée Crianza (Rioja). Deep violet-red in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of black cherry, aniseed and white chocolate. Flavors of blackberry, raspberry, smoked bacon and mocha are surrounded by a framework of forceful tannins. A touch of herbs de Provence with a pronounced note of lavender pops up at the finish. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22



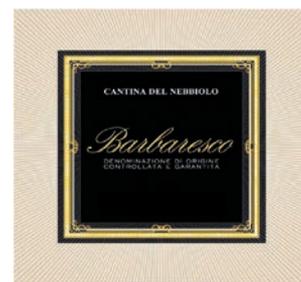
92 Broccardo 2018 Ravera (Barolo). Aromas of red-skinned berry, underbrush and new leather shape the nose. The elegantly structured palate offers raspberry jam, cinnamon and white pepper alongside taut but polished tannins and firm acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Indie Wineries. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65



92 Brutocao 2019 Reserve Estate Chardonnay (Mendocino). This rich and nicely spicy wine starts with a light toasty aroma followed by luscious flavors of poached pears and cream that are nicely lifted by a touch of crisp acidity for good balance. It was barrel fermented and aged in 30% new French barrels. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$32



92 Campo alle Comete 2021 Rosatella Rosato (Toscana). Inviting aromas of spring blossom, Mediterranean scrub and wild berry come to the forefront. Tangy and delicious, the bright palate features juicy red cherry, crushed raspberry, a hint of green melon and savory, almost salty notes recalling saline. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25



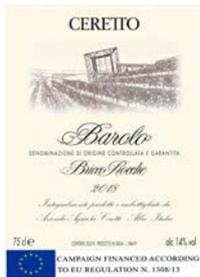
92 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2019 Barbaresco. Aromas of forest berry, blue flower and underbrush follow through to the linear, savory palate along with juicy cherry, star anise and clove. Bright acidity and taut, fine-grained tannins provide the framework. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25



92 Caraccioli 2016 Brut Cuvée Escolle Vineyard (Santa Lucia Highlands). There's an alkaline streak to the nose of this bottling, which shows citrus pith and crushed white rocks on the nose. A toasty hint of yeast comes through on the palate, which is also loaded with crisp flavors of green apple and warmer almond tones. —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$55



92 Ceretto 2019 Barbaresco. This has aromas of oak and toasted nut that come to the forefront while berry and spice stay in the background. Tightly wound and primary, the palate offers raspberry jam, vanilla and licorice alongside close-grained tannins that grip the close. Fresh acidity keeps it bright. 2027–2034. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75



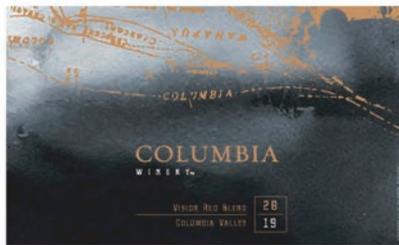
92 Ceretto 2018 Bracco Rocche (Barolo). Oak, toasted nut and underbrush aromas form the nose. The firmly structured palate is more expressive, offering ripe red berry, hazelnut and a dollop of vanilla. Tightly knit, close-grained tannins grip the close. Drink 2026–2033. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$270



92 Château de Berne 2021 Inspiration Rosé (Côte de Provence). This classically mouth-watering rosé is a blend of Grenache, Cinsault and Syrah. With its red berry flavors balanced by the wine's lively acidity, this is fruity, juicy and ready to drink. Provence Rose Group. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22



92 Château Miraval 2021 Rosé (Côte de Provence). Now jointly owned by Brad Pitt and the Stoli Group of vodka fame, this estate is run by the Perrin family of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. This is an impressive rosé, elegant with finely balanced fruit and texture. Citrus and raspberries shine through a taut structure. The aftertaste is crisp and fresh. Drink now. Vineyard Brands. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28



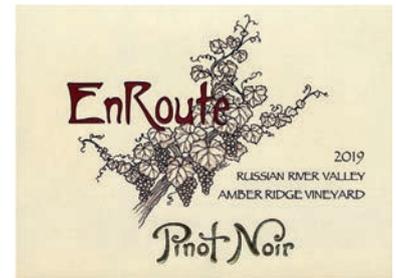
92 Columbia Winery 2019 Vision (Columbia Valley). A blend of Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre, the aromas are vibrant, with notes of plum, cranberry and baking spice. Ripe, lush, full-bodied flavors follow. It's full on hedonism, with the appeal as much about feel as flavors. Drink in the near term. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$45



92 Columbia Winery 2017 L2X Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This wine spent 22 months in 100% new French oak, and then the winery double-oaked 50% with additional new oak after blending. The aromas are pitch black, with notes of dried and fresh black cherry, dried herb and currant, with spice and smoke accents. Full-bodied but well-balanced flavors follow, with a layering and texture. It pulls no punches and delivers the goods. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$110



92 Duckhorn 2018 Three Palms Vineyard Merlot (Napa Valley). This is an intensely layered and powerful wine, burly in sage, tobacco and dried herb. The brawny concentration continues in the form of dark cherry, cacao nib and toasted oak. Tight in its youth, this wine will benefit from time in the cellar. Best enjoyed 2028–2033. *Cellar Selection.* —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$110



92 EnRoute 2019 Amber Ridge Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Subtle and ethereal, this wine offers lovely notes of berry, dried herbs and crushed rock. The texture is slate-like and intriguing, which balances the rich layers of full-bodied flavor and building intensity. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85



92 Flechas de los Andes 2017 Edmond de Rothschild Heritage Gran Malbec (Mendoza). Flowers, red berries, vanilla on the inviting nose of this wine. It's concentrated and fruit-forward, yet elegant. Plum, blackberry and cherry flavors blend beautifully with oak and herbal notes. It has depth and lively acidity, finishing with a light note of coffee. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20



92 G. H. Mumm 2013 RSRV Blanc de Noirs Brut (Champagne). Just mature, this Champagne is poised between textured fruitiness and layers of almonds and toast. The wine is rich, with white fruit flavors over fine acidity and spice. Drink now. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$54



92 G. H. Mumm NV RSRV 4.5 Brut (Champagne).

A young Champagne, full of fruitiness, apples and citrus with a textured character, this is a blend of 60% Pinot Noir and 40% Chardonnay. The wine is delightful, floral and ready to drink. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.

abv: 12%

Price: \$54

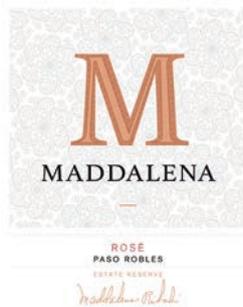


92 Herdade do Esporão 2016 Esporão (Alentejo).

A limited production Aragonez (aka Tempranillo), this is rich, full of structured black fruits and great richness. It is still developing, the tannins still firm, so keep this fine wine until 2024. Now Wine Imports. —R.V.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$50



92 Maddalena 2021 Rosé (Paso Robles).

A delicate shade in the glass, this bottling offers pink rose petal, chalk and light berry aromas on the nose. There's a firm grip to the palate, where bright grapefruit flavors meet with warmer strawberry and watermelon elements. —M.K.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$18



92 Monchiero Carbone 2018 Renesio Incisa Riserva (Roero Arneis).

Vinified and aged partly in amphora, this has delicate aromas suggesting Spanish broom, dried botanical herb, beeswax and stone fruit. The savory, rounded palate shows finesse, body depth and restraint, featuring dried apricot, ripe pear and hazelnut mineral notes recalling saline. Fresh acidity keeps it lifted right through a finish of unsweetened lemon drop. Tita Italian Import & Export. —K.O.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$NA



92 Pascual Toso 2019 Alta Barrancas Vineyard Malbec (Mendoza).

It's a juicy full-bodied red with aromas of plum, cherry, dark chocolate, and cinnamon. This Malbec has a balanced feel on the palate with layers of spice, black fruit, and chocolate framed by gripping tannins. The finish is long and shows cherry flavors. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.

abv: 14%

Price: \$50



92 Pertinace 2019 Marcarini (Barbaresco).

This fragrant red has enticing scents of iris, violet and perfumed berry. On the elegantly structured, savory palate, taut, bright acidity and fine-grained tannins accompany red cherry, orange zest, licorice and a candied note before a mouth drying finish. Freixenet Mionetto USA. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$70

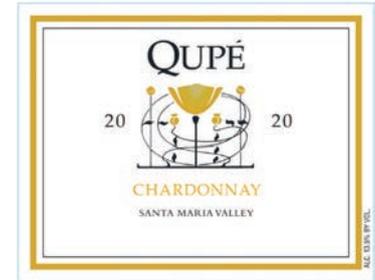


92 Private Property 2021 Rosé (Monterey County).

This more affordable second label from the Caraccioli family produces stunning wines, including this rosé, which pops with clean, precise and crisp aromas of watermelon granita, rose water and red apple slices. The palate is vividly energetic, with a chalky veil coating the strawberry and cherry flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.

abv: 13%

Price: \$20

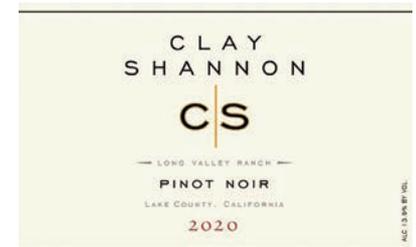


92 Qupé 2020 Y Block Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley).

There's an earthy aroma of seashells and seashore on the nose of this bottling along with brisk lime peel scents. The palate is very firm in texture, with a crushed shell element holding the lime leaf and tropical fruit flavors in check.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$22

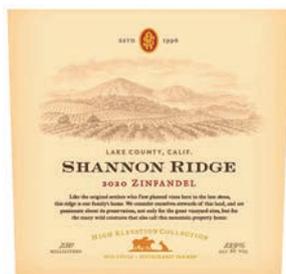


92 Shannon Ridge 2020 Clay Shannon Long Valley Ranch Pinot Noir (Lake County).

Full of red cherry, red currant and orange tea flavors, this multidimensional, full-bodied wine is a standout. It layers subtle cinnamon, clove and vanilla accents among the lively, ripe fruit flavors while good acidity and light tannins provide great balance. —J.G.

abv: 13.9%

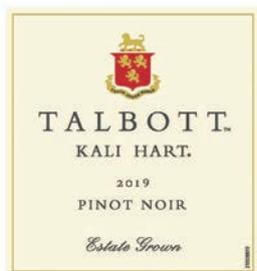
Price: \$40



92 Shannon Ridge 2020 High Elevation Collection Zinfandel (Lake County). Great black fruit flavors and a warm, broad texture are well supported by moderate tannins in this full-bodied, ripe and pleasing wine. Black plum, blackberry and a touch of black pepper are all vivid on the palate and lingering on the finish. —J.G.

abv: 13.9%

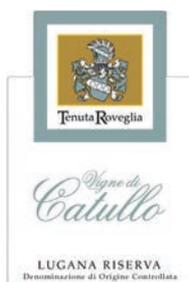
Price: \$23



92 Talbott 2019 Kali Hart Pinot Noir (Monterey). This is one of the best bangs for the buck out of the Central Coast every vintage. Aromas of cedar-grilled strawberry and cracked pepper lead into a roasted red fruit flavor on the palate, which is further spiced with mace and cumin notes. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.

abv: 14.8%

Price: \$26



92 Tenuta Rovaglia 2019 Vigne di Catullo Riserva (Lugana). Enticing, if delicate, scents of spring blossom, white stone fruit, citrus and botanical herb waft out of the glass. Round and savory, the palate delivers ripe honeydew melon, candied lemon drop, hazelnut and a hint of fennel seed while tangy acidity brightens the rich flavors. John Given Wines. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13%

Price: \$30



92 Tinto Amorio 2021 Jajaja Glou Glou Zinfandel (California). This fresh, semicarbonically fermented Zinfandel from Paso Robles pops on the nose with superfresh aromas of raspberry, hibiscus and watermelon bubblegum. The palate is zesty and tantalizing, loaded with strawberry sorbet, coconut and banana flavors. It's gluggable but also has some heft. —M.K.

abv: 13.9%

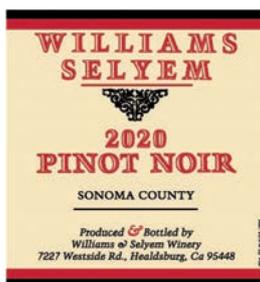
Price: \$45



92 Tinto Amorio 2021 Monje Skin-Contact Orange Gewürztraminer (Paso Robles). This uniquely delicious "amber" wine, which is more of a rosé color in the glass and comes from Gewürztraminer grown in Paso Robles, begins with complex aromas of muddled plum and herbal tea. The fascinating palate is zesty with crisp plum flavors, yet dusted in hints of oregano, mint and sumac. —M.K.

abv: 12.7%

Price: \$36



92 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (Sonoma County). This remains one of the best deals in the space, a wine that consistently overdelivers on its price point and shows remarkable blending and sourcing skill. Cool-climate characteristics of bright acidity, red cherry and strawberry are lifted aromatically by rose petal notes in this textured, light and elegant vintage. *Editors' Choice.* —V.B.

abv: 13.8%

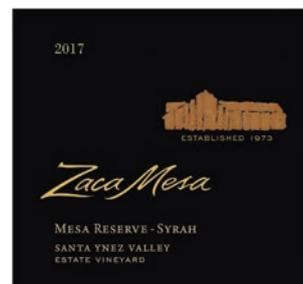
Price: \$39



92 Winzer Krems 2020 Kremser Kreuzberg Reserve Riesling (Kremstal). A pure and vibrant Riesling, with a core of rich yellow apple and nectarine flavors that are underscored by a firm backbone of acidity. Ginger and allspice power the intense, mineral-infused finish. This is delicious now, but you can cellar it with no regrets for at least a decade. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$27



92 Zaca Mesa 2017 Mesa Reserve Syrah (Santa Ynez Valley). Aromas of roasted plum, blackberry, crushed stone and a wide array of baking spices make for a layered nose on this bottling. There's an impressively firm and tight texture to the palate, upholding roasted boysenberry, plush flower and more chai spice flavors. —M.K.

abv: 14.8%

Price: \$54



91 Ana Beirut 2018 Grande Réserve Mount Lebanon (Bekaa Valley). Inky garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of raspberry, cassis and roasted nuts that are joined on the palate by flavors of black cherry, blackberry, aniseed, roasted fennel bulb and juniper berry. Deep-set tannins recede into a violet scented finish. J Tek LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14.5%

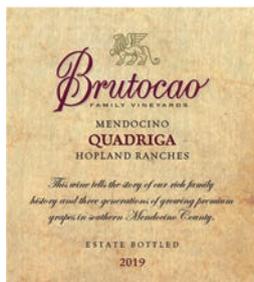
Price: \$35



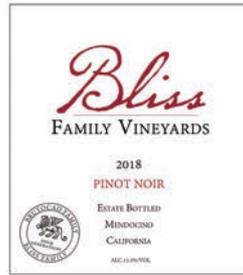
91 Antigal 2018 Uno Platinum Edition Malbec (Mendoza). This flavorful red opens with aromas of blackberry, baking spices, crushed pebbles and hints of herbaceous notes. Oak is well-integrated and blends beautifully with black fruit flavors. Tannins are a bit drying and firm, providing a good structure. While nice acidity freshens up the long finish. Cork Alliance. —J.V.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$20



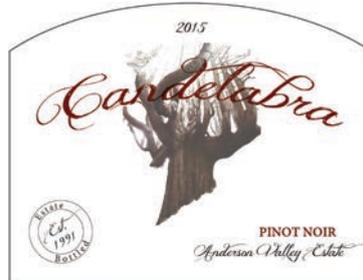
91 Beckmen 2020 Cuvée Le Bec (Santa Ynez Valley). This bottling always punches way above its price point, and this year's holder blend of 51% Syrah, 38% Grenache, 6% Mourvèdre and 5% Counoise is no different. Aromas of rose petal, cinnamon, nutmeg and oak spice lead into a tense palate of baked plums and cardamom, with plenty of wood spice on the finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$28



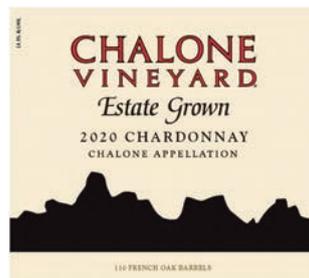
91 Brutocao 2019 Quadriga Hopland Ranches Estate (Mendocino). This well-balanced, full-bodied blend of Italian varietals offers warm spices and red fruits on light tannins for an especially appetizing expression. Plum, cherry and balsam flavors are lively and complex. It's made of Primitivo, Sangiovese, Barbera and Dolcetto, aged in 34% new (a mix of French and American) oak barrels. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$42



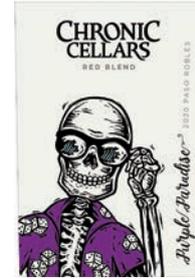
91 Brutocao 2018 Bliss Family Vineyards Estate Pinot Noir (Mendocino). A slightly tangy texture gives good balance to this unoaked, lively and lightly tannic wine. Aromas of raspberry and cranberry give way to generous strawberry and red cherry on the palate, subtly accented by clove and cedar. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18



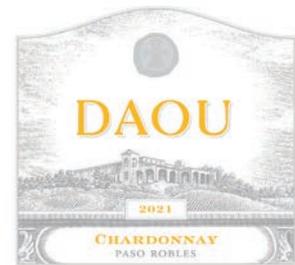
91 Brutocao 2015 Candelabra Estate Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). Woodsy, mushroomy aromas lead to almost smoky, mulled cherry and plum flavors in this appealing, late-release wine. It's silky in texture, has good touches of tannin and acidity for balance, and a lingering finish. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50



91 Chalone Vineyard 2020 Estate Grown Chardonnay (Chalone). There's a core of rocky minerality alongside sharp lime peel and melon rind on the nose of this bottling. The palate is very soil- and rock-driven, which is typical of this rugged appellation, with chalk and gravelly soil flavors giving structure to the dried lime peel flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30



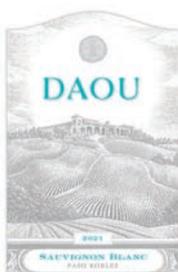
91 Chronic Cellars 2020 Purple Paradise (Paso Robles). This bottling always overdelivers. Elderberry, black plum, scorched earth, crushed rock and tar aromas show on the nose, while the palate proves heavy but well-structured. Flavors of roasted blackberry, toasted sage and asphalt complete the picture. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$17



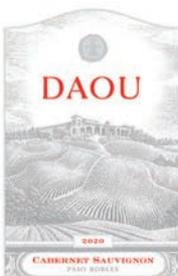
91 Daou 2021 Chardonnay (Paso Robles). There's a guava character to the nose of this bottling, yet it's cut by a river stone edge. A bright sizzle of acidity and a chalky flesh envelop the palate, with plumeria and more guava flavors at play. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22



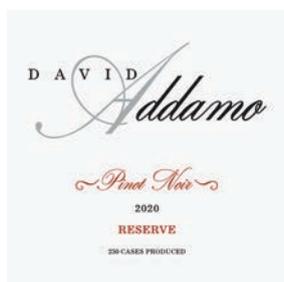
91 Daou 2021 Rosé (Paso Robles). This wine is a shade of cantaloupe, and that fruit shows on the nose of this bottling alongside ripe apple and bubblegum aromas. There's a firm tension to the palate, where melon flavors are cut by wet stone elements. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$24



91 Daou 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Paso Robles). Light aromas of Asian pear are cut by sharp, while pleasant, scents of cut grass on the nose of this bottling. There's a vibrancy to the fresh and bright palate, where green pear and grass flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$20



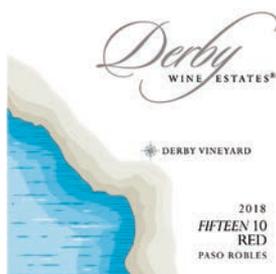
91 Daou 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Dark aromas of blackberry and tar mesh into the smoky roasted meat scent at the heart of the nose of this appellation blend. The palate is rich, smoky and loaded with a tarry, crushed asphalt minerality, as black plum sauce flavors ride a tannic edge. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30



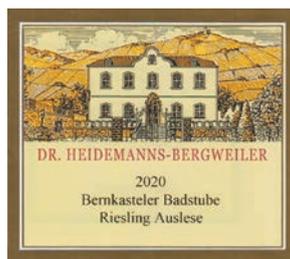
91 David Addamo 2020 Reserve Pinot Noir (Central Coast). The nose on this bottling is fairly subtle and innocuous, with light raspberry aromas and subtle touches of wood. The palate also follows a mellow line, offering raspberry jam as well as wild thyme and white pepper flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45



91 DeLille 2020 Métier Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Appealing, direct aromas of blueberry, plum, green pepper and cumin lead to plump, accessible blue-fruit flavors. Soft tannins back it all up. It brings a whole lot of undeniable appeal, made in a forward, accessible style. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30



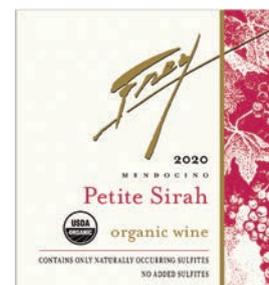
91 Derby 2018 Fifteen 10 Red Derby Vineyard (Paso Robles). Blistered plum and wood oil aromas show a solid amount of freshness on the nose of this blend of 56% Grenache, 20% Syrah, 20% Mourvèdre and 4% Cinsault. The lightly gamy palate zips with lively acidity through dark berry, toasted wood and finely cracked pepper flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$34



91 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Auslese (Mosel). Hints of dried ginger and saffron lend a spicy, smoky tone to honeyed peach and tangerine flavors. A zippy, light-footed sip marked by mouthwatering sweetness and bracing lemon acidity, it finishes with a delicate rim of tea tannins. Lovely young but should meld well through 2030. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$33



91 E. Guigal 2021 Rosé (Côte du Rhône). Crisp, mouthwatering notes of wild strawberry and black currant extend from nose to finish in this full-bodied yet briskly balanced Grenache-based blend of Cinsault and Syrah. A deep salmon pink in hue, it's a penetrating, intensely fruity rosé that's concentrated enough to drink well past the summer and into the autumn and winter months. Vintus LLC. —A.I.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20



91 Frey 2020 Organic Petite Sirah (Mendocino). This tightly wrapped wine boasts concentrated black fruits and black pepper on a firmly tannic texture. Its concentration and tannins counteract the funky, earthy notes that often come with no-sulfite-added wines. Singed herbs, wood smoke and darkest chocolate give it subtleties to savor. Best 2026–2036. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$20



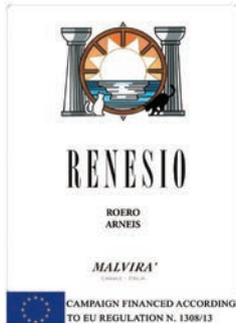
91 Klinker Brick 2021 Grenache Blanc (Lodi). This riveting, light-bodied wine blends the best of crisp, tangy acidity with vivid fruit flavors. Lemon and lime zest, green apple and mineral notes all come together on a lively texture. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$20



91 Lava Cap 2020 Sangiovese (El Dorado). Well-concentrated and well-built, this full-bodied wine coats good black raspberry and black cherry flavors in moderate tannins, bringing out complex sage, beef and white pepper accents with time in the glass. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28



91 Lucas & Lewellen 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Light earth aromas add nuance to the pomegranate, watermelon juice and bubblegum aromas on the nose of this bottling. The wine lands with a crisp texture on the sip and adds a bolder touch of cherry to those light red fruit elements. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$18



91 Malvirà 2020 Renesio (Roero). Aromas of peach blossom mingle with white stone fruit, wild herb and an inviting whiff of just-made bread dough. Savory and polished, the smooth palate shows juicy white peach, ripe Bartlett pear and hazelnut set against fresh acidity before closing with the barest hint of honey. Indigenous Selections. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$21



91 Marqués de la Concordia 2016 Lagunilla Reserva (Rioja). Inky garnet in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of cassis and thyme with a whiff of green bell pepper. It has flavors of black currant, blackberry, clove, rose petal and juniper berry. Vigorous tannins power on into a long finish marked with a note of cherry pipe tobacco. United Cellars, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19



91 Megan Anne 2019 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). This wine shows some reduction out of the gate. Beyond that are notes of coffee, dark cherry and mulch. Full-bodied flavors follow, bringing intensity and richness. It shows the variety's richer side while still keeping everything in balance. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30



91 Michael David 2019 Inkblot Petit Verdot (Lodi). A deep, dark color and powerful aromas of black currant and dark chocolate lead to huge, ripe flavors of blackberry and boysenberry. This is a full-bodied, jammy and lavishly tannic wine. Best through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$30



91 Michael David 2019 Inkblot Petite Sirah (Lodi). This ultrarich and super ripe tasting wine pours blackberry jam and blueberry syrup flavors over dense but soft tannins and a full body. It's a big, bold yet smooth wine that's ripe enough to drink like a Port. —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$30



91 Montoya 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey). Wet stone, tropical flowers and white melon aromas make for a compelling nose on this bottling of a widely available, downright cheap Chardonnay. The palate stays clean as well, with gardenia and stone fruit flavors working in tandem. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20



91 Parducci 2020 True Grit Reserve Petite Sirah (Mendocino). Super concentrated and richly tannic, this full-bodied wine is dark in color with a deep red rim and offers ripe, jammy intense blueberry, blackberry and dark chocolate flavors. Drinkable now due to a polished texture, but best from 2026. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30



91 Piattelli 2019 Trinità Grand Reserve (Mendoza). The nose shows cherry, raspberry and vanilla aromas with a hint of peppercorn. Full in weight, this wine offers red and black fruit along with peppery spices on the smooth palate. Oak flavors are a little intense but are balanced by good acidity. Long finish. Vinocopia. —J.V.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$27



91 Recanati 2019 Reserve David Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Galilee). Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of fruits of the wood, smoked meat and thyme. It is bright at first sip. Flavors of cranberry and pomegranate are joined by firm tannins and notes of dark chocolate and roasted almond. There is a touch of violet on the long finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30



91 Sean Minor 2020 4B Pinot Noir (California). Elegant and easy, but interesting and complex, too, this medium-bodied wine made from Central Coast and North Coast vineyards blends light oak spices like cinnamon and toast with delicious, tangy and ripe black cherry flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16



91 Sierra Norte 2020 Porta Regia 5 Months Monastrell (Jumilla). This wine offers a bouquet of black currant and black plum with hints of clove and flint. There are bright flavors of cherry and raspberry, followed by midweight tannins and notes of clove, mint and toffee. Bright fruit and orange zest regain power on into the finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17



91 Tenuta Rovaglia 2021 Limne (Lugana). Aromas of hawthorn, elderflower and white stone fruit lead the nose along with a whiff of crushed tomato leaf. On the savory palate, tangy acidity accompanies honeydew melon, grapefruit and ripe yellow pear. John Given Wines. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20



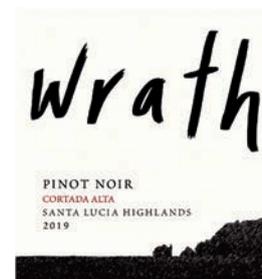
91 The Four Graces 2021 Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). Bright aromas of flower, whole melon, marzipan and hazelnuts lead to beautifully balanced fruit flavors that show depth and layering while remaining light on their feet. Tropical notes emerge on the lengthy finish. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21



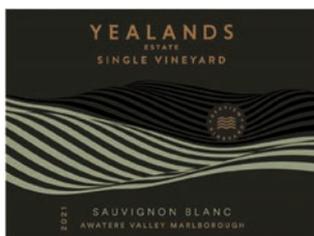
91 Tooth & Nail 2021 Destinata Rosé of Grenache (Paso Robles). Very pale in the glass, this bottling pops on the nose with chalk, citrus peel and ripe cantaloupe aromas. There's an earthy tension to the palate, with chalk and river stone flavors giving depth to the watermelon core. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29



91 Vite Colte 2018 Paesi Tuoi (Barolo). This opens with aromas of rose petal, scorched earth and tobacco. On the savory, solid palate, fine-grained tannins accompany ripe black cherry, star anise and clove. Drink 2023–2031. Opera Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50



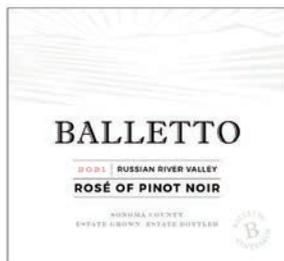
91 Wrath 2019 Cortada Alta Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Baked cherry aromas are layered in oregano, dried meat and toasted wood on the nose of this bottling. The palate runs right down the middle through classic flavors of black plum, light berry, smoke and dried herbs. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$49



91 **Yealands 2021 Estate Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Awatere Valley).** The heady aromas we've come to expect from NZ Sauvignon Blanc are out in full force here: freshly sliced green bell pepper, passionfruit, guava, lime and grapefruit pith, with a little of that feline pungency. It's balanced, fresh, slippery and crisp with the ultimate drinkability factor. Palm Bay International. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24



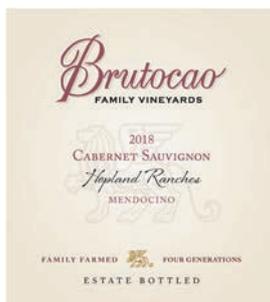
90 **Antigal 2019 Uno Malbec (Mendoza).** The aromatic nose offers flowers, cinnamon, ripe blackberry and blueberry aromas. This savory Malbec is medium-bodied and has smooth tannins. On the palate, herbs and black fruit flavors are followed by light notes of coffee and licorice. It has a medium finish with ripe fruit flavors. Cork Alliance. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$18



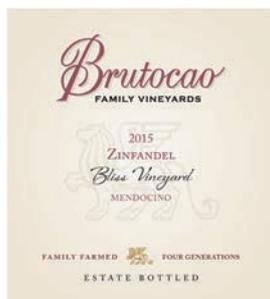
90 **Balletto 2021 Estate Grown Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley).** Stainless steel fermented, this wine is high-toned in citrus, a mix of grapefruit and lemon peel that gives it a quenching quality. Strawberry and cherry add to the mid-palate along with a slatey, linear focus of freshness. —V.B.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$22



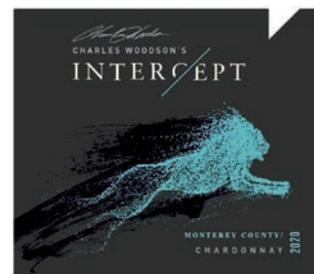
90 **Bodegas Nekeas 2019 El Chaparral de Vega Sindoa Old Vines Garnacha (Navarra).** Bright ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of cherry, white chocolate and violet talc. It is soft in the mouth, starting off bright and then getting spicy, with flavors of raspberry, pomegranate, licorice and aniseed. It has velvety tannins and a note of honeysuckle on the pleasing finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$16



90 **Brutocao 2018 Hopland Ranches Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino).** This full-bodied wine emphasizes the fruity, savory qualities of the varietal with only subtle oak flavors showing through. Good black cherry, cranberry and black olive notes are supported by moderate tannins and good, balancing acidity. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36



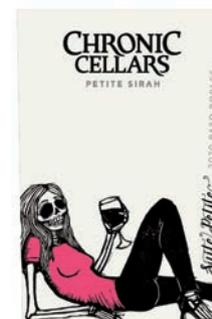
90 **Brutocao 2015 Bliss Vineyard Zinfandel (Mendocino).** This bold, well-structured, late-release wine starts with sage and toast aromas, then brings rich blackberry and raspberry flavors on a full body with moderate tannins. It's oaky but balanced and fresh tasting. Best through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30



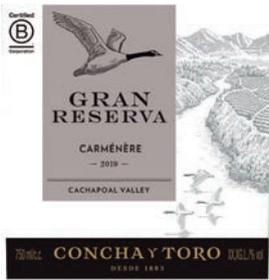
90 **Charles Woodson's Intercept 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey County).** Honeysuckle, light pineapple and a pinch of French toast spices show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is clean and crisp with pear and apple slice flavors, as white flower blossoms add some elegance. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20



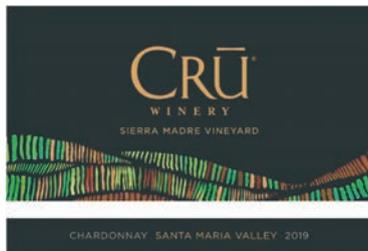
90 **Château Magnol 2019 M de Magnol (Haut-Médoc).** The second wine of this Haut-Médoc estate is lightly structured and shows well-wrought black fruits and tannins. It has spice and ripe berry flavors that will soften well. Drink from 2025. Barton & Guestier USA. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA



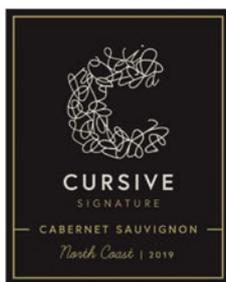
90 **Chronic Cellars 2020 Suite Petite Petite Sirah (Paso Robles).** Tar, dried beef, scorched earth and crushed rocks give plenty of depth to the core of dark purple fruits on the nose of this bottling. Sandy tannins provide a creamy mouthfeel on the palate, where dried meat and elderberry flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$17



90 Concha y Toro 2019 Serie Riberas Gran Reserva Ribera del Cachapoal Carménère (Cachapoal Valley). Paprika, peppercorn and cumin blend with plum and cherry aromas are found on the enticing nose. Hints of cooking spices alongside ripe cranberry and plum flavors are featured on the palate. It is balanced, with smooth tannins and black fruit on the finish. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17



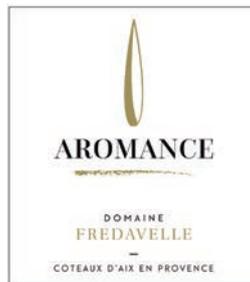
90 Crū 2019 Sierra Madre Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). Toasty aromas of wood meet with seared lemon and turned earth on the nose of this bottling. Bold flavors of lemon glaze and caramelized toast are floating across fresh acidity on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$40



90 Cursive 2019 Signature Cabernet Sauvignon (North Coast). Nicely layered black fruits, tobacco and olive flavors fill out the big frame of this full-bodied, moderately tannic wine. It's well-balanced, complex and reasonably concentrated. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$16



90 Domaine de Cala 2021 Cuvée Prestige Rosé (Coteaux Varois en Provence). This is a fine, ripe wine with attractive acidity under brilliant red fruits. It is a warm, sun-kissed wine, lively while rich. Drink from late 2022. Wine Warehouse Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28



90 Domaine Fredavelle 2021 Aromance Rosé (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Produced from old-vine grapes, the wine is densely textured and full of red berry fruits. Acidity and brightness are balanced by a touch of pepper and spice. Drink this attractive wine now. HB Wine Merchants. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18



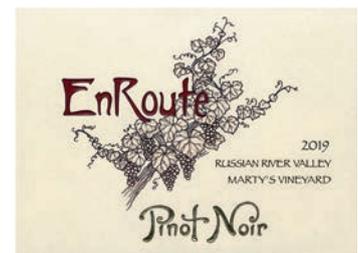
90 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett Riesling (Mosel). Crisp white melon and stony mineral notes intensify from nose to palate of this light-bodied, yet richly concentrated kabinett. Luscious melon and green apple flavors are juxtaposed by spine-tingling acidity and long finish marked by a lingering veil of sugar and salt. Best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$23



90 Edna Valley Vineyard 2021 Winemaker Series Rosé (Edna Valley). Light pink-fleshed fruit aromas meet with chalk on the clean and fresh nose of this bottling. Light strawberry cream flavors emerge on the midpalate, but the chalky texture holds firm into the earthy finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$30



90 Elk Cove 2021 Estate Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). The aromas start out light, with notes of herb, pear, star fruit and other tropical fruits. Broad-feeling flavors follow, showing depth and layering. There's pleasing balance to it all. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22



90 EnRoute 2019 Marty's Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). This wine offers great contrast and complementary style in its grasp of cranberry and blood orange set against an intrigue of forest floor and baking spice. Tannins are grippy and full, accentuating the wine's innate richness and generosity. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85



90 Estancia Los Cardones 2019 Flor de Cardón Cabernet Sauvignon (Argentina). The aromatic nose offers blackberry, plum, peppercorn and tobacco. In this Cabernet Sauvignon the pyrazine character of the grape variety is overpowered by black fruit flavors. It's balanced with smooth tannins, nice acidity and a long finish with smoky notes. *Vino Del Sol.* —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22



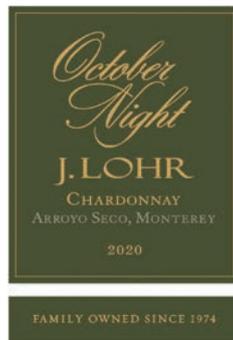
90 Fox Creek NV Maslin (Australia). This non-vintage blend—the exact varieties of which are unknown—is a deep cherry hue, hinting at the power to come. Densely layered, expressive aromas waft from the glass: brambly blackberry and raspberry jam, briny black olives, eucalyptus, tar, chocolate and a slightly charred, smoky note. The palate is gripped by raspy, austere and somewhat drying tannins. But there's generous fruit and an earthy, savory backbone. Decant now or hold until 2027. *Paradigm Collection.* —C.P.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$23



90 G. H. Mumm NV Grand Cordon Brut (Champagne). With its hallmark red diagonal stripe, this is a familiar bottling. It is now drier than before and with elegance and freshness as well as a fine touch of nuttiness. Enjoy now. *Pernod Ricard.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$30



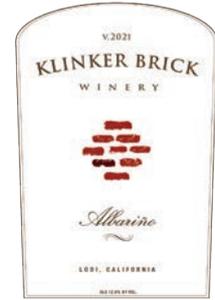
90 García Figuero 2019 Tinto 4 (Ribera del Duero). This inky purple wine has a nose of cassis, dried thyme and flint. It is juicy in the mouth, with silky tannins and flavors of black currant, blackberry, dark chocolate and anisette. There is a coffee bean note on the finish. *Quintessential Wines.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22



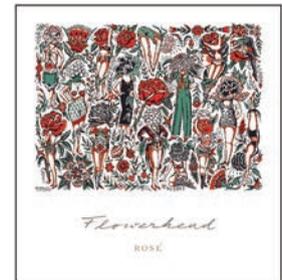
90 J. Lohr 2020 October Night Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). Sharp lemon blossom, ripe melon and lime zest aromas cut through the nose of this bottling. There's a lime tonic kick to the palate, where riper apple flavors arise in the midpalate. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25



90 Juan Gil 2019 Jumilla. Bright violet in the glass, this wine has aromas of raspberry, cherry and nutmeg. It is soft on the palate with prominent spice flavors of clove and menthol backed by black cherry, blackberry, dark chocolate and a note of espresso on the finish. *Gil Family Estates.* —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$16



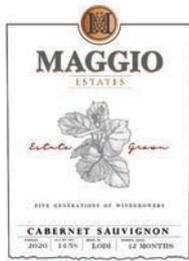
90 Klinker Brick 2021 Albariño (Mokelumne River). This crisp, steely wine offers intense citrus and kiwi flavors on a racy texture lifted by good fruit acidity. It's perfect for palate-cleansing refreshment at lunch time or early evening. —J.G.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$17



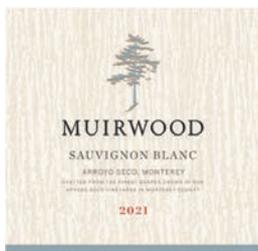
90 Lu & Oly 2021 Flowerhead Rosé (Columbia Valley). This is a very visually appealing pale peach color with an orange tinge. Strawberry, apricot, herb, kiwi and candied banana aromas lead to dry, sleek flavors. It's a very refreshing wine. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20



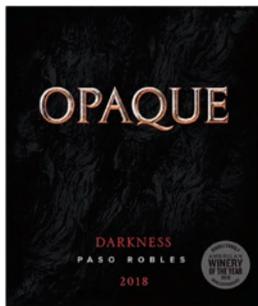
90 Lucy 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Soft hints of peach blossom, strawberry and lemon pith show on the delicate nose of this bottling. There's a leathery texture to the palate, where pluot and red apple flavors align into a fresh display. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$22



90 **Maggio 2020 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Lodi).** Full-bodied, but fresh and brilliantly fruity, this estate-grown wine offers rich black fruits, hints of black pepper, and great balance due to moderate tannins and good acidity. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30



90 **Muirwood 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Arroyo Seco).** Apple juice, passion fruit, apricot jam and peach aromas make for a riper nose on this bottling. The palate is much more complex, with ashy, cheese-rind flavors alongside honeysuckle and petrol notes. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16



90 **Opaque 2018 Darkness (Paso Robles).** Blackberry jam aromas meet with mahogany and cedar on the nose of this bottling. The wood-spice elements carry to the palate and pick up tobacco as well as black plum flavors, with an ample serving of brown spice. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$30



90 **Parducci 2020 Small Lot Petite Sirah (Mendocino County).** Packed with boysenberries and black figs, this rich and full-bodied wine is quite drinkable due to a velvety texture of fine-grained tannins that supports the extreme fruitiness in a way that balances the wine nicely. Best 2023–2030. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$18



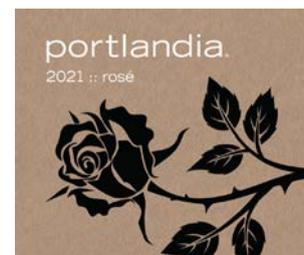
90 **Peter Zemmer 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige).** The delicate nose offers inviting aromas of sun-warmed hay, white stone fruit and a whiff of bread dough. On the elegant, linear palate, savory notes suggesting saline accent ripe yellow pear before closing a note of hazelnut. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18



90 **Piattelli 2021 Reserve Malbec (Luján de Cuyo).** Chocolate and blackberry aromas open the nose of this young red. A light note of crushed pebbles adds to the bouquet. Medium in weight, the palate offers plum, blackberry and earthy flavors supported by chalky tannins. It has a medium finish with chocolate flavors. Vinocopia. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17



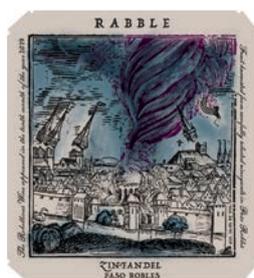
90 **Poggio al Tesoro 2021 Solosole Vermentino (Bolgheri Superiore).** This savory white starts off with inviting aromas of gooseberry, elderflower and citrus. Full and rounded, the polished palate features juicy white grapefruit, ripe apricot and a hint of saline before closing on bitter almond. Maze Row Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$23



90 **Portlandia 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley).** This rosé is an eye-catching pale-salmon color. Melon, yellow strawberry and banana-chip aromas lead to dry, tart flavors with citrus on the finish. It begs for another glass. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18



90 **Post Summit 2020 Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco).** Lime pith and chalk aromas make for a crisp, focused nose on this bottling. There's a tight weave to the palate, where flavors of ash and lime pith ride a firm texture into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25



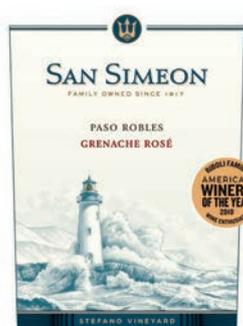
90 Rabble 2019 Zinfandel (Paso Robles). Tightly wound aromas of blackberry, red flower and wood spice show on the nose of this bottling. Smoked mesquite, roasted strawberry and dusty sagebrush flavors come together for a pleasing palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$25



90 Rivetti Massimo 2019 Froi (Barbaresco). Star anise, pipe tobacco, leather and forest berry aromas emerge from the glass. Young and primary, the focused palate shows knife-like precision, featuring sour cherry, cranberry and star anise and a hint of hazelnut alongside firm acidity. Grainy tannins leave a rather raspy finish. Private Reserve Fine Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55



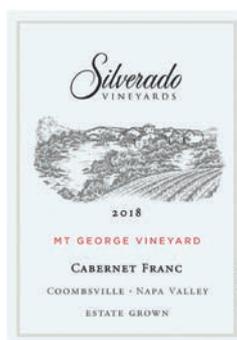
90 Robert Hall 2019 Artisan Collection Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). There's a strong aroma of dark woods like mahogany on the nose of this bottle as well as a fresher, slightly tart strawberry tone. Dried mushroom and forest duff flavors meet with ripe strawberry and cracked pepper on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20



90 San Simeon 2021 Stefano Vineyard Rosé of Grenache (Paso Robles). A pale shade of yellow in the glass, without much pink at all, this delicate take on rosé begins with aromas of Pink Lady apple and pear flesh aromas on the nose. It's quite light on the palate, offering soft white flower and white melon flavors, served atop a subtle but ever present tension. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19



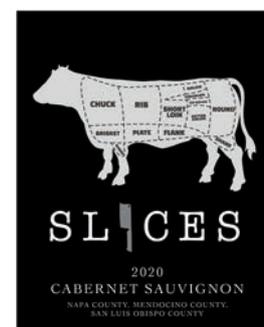
90 Shannon Ridge 2020 Buck Shack Whitetail Chardonnay (Lake County). This lush, buttery wine is all dolled up in vanilla, almond and cream flavors on a smooth-as-silk texture. It's full-bodied, broad and soft on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$35



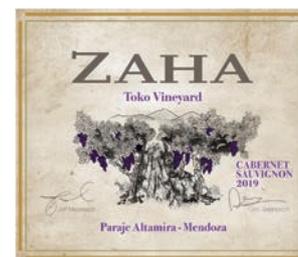
90 Silverado 2018 Mt. George Vineyard Estate Grown Cabernet Franc (Coombsville). Sanguine in leather, black licorice and baking spice, this is a thick, moderately complex wine from the coolish-climate appellation. Structured, it shows plenty of tannin and oak around dark, rich fruit. —V.B.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$65



90 Single Post 2020 Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Penetrating tangerine and lemon flavors are etched with hints of caramel and saffron in this thirst quenching, delicately sweet Riesling. Light bodied and lean, yet juicy and reverberating, it's a fresh-fruited, value white to accompany soft cheeses and white meats. HB Wine Merchants. —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$17



90 Slices 2020 Napa, Mendocino, San Luis Obispo, Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This fruity, savory and well-balanced wine offers the classic varietal flavors of black cherry and black olive lifted by moderate tannins. Good ripeness, subtle oak spices and a rich mouthfeel make a good combination. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25



90 TeHo 2019 Zaha Toko Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Paraje Altamira). The aromatic nose presents green bell pepper, cherry, red plum and salt. This is a medium-bodied red with soft tannins and good acidity. Coming from Paraje Altamira, it has the mineral character that defines this region. Green notes and red fruit flavors with a touch of smoke lead to a pleasant short-medium finish. Vino Del Sol. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30



90 **Tooth & Nail 2021 The Squad Sauvignon Blanc (Central Coast).** Dried apple peels and flesh meet with damp but drying cement on the nose of this bottling. There's a vibrant texture to the palate, where grass, lime peel, lemongrass and rainy sidewalk flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$20



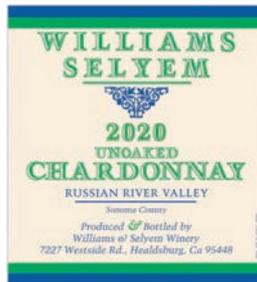
90 **Txomin Etxaniz 2021 Getaria (Getariako Txakolina).** This wine has a bouquet of green apple, olives and pickled jalapeño. There is something pleasantly briny about it, with flavors of grapefruit and pineapple infused with a soft saline note and a light floral lift. A hint of jalapeño continues on the palate and is notable on the finish. Fine Estates From Spain. —M.D.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$25



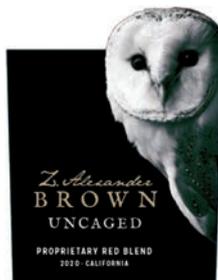
90 **Viñedos Marchigüe 2020 Panilonco Chief of Lions Reserva Merlot-Malbec (Colchagua Valley).** There are a lot of spices on the aromatic bouquet. Clove, cinnamon and green bell pepper shine in the glass. It's full-bodied, with supple tannins and good acidity. Cumin, chocolate and light notes of black fruit are featured on the palate of this blend of Merlot and Malbec. It has a lingering finish. Evaki Imports Inc. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20



90 **Vite Colte 2019 La Casa in Collina (Barbaresco).** Underbrush, toasted hazelnut and eucalyptus aromas waft out of the glass. Austere and tightly wound, the firm palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, licorice and rosemary framed in rather astringent, drying tannins. Opera Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35



90 **Williams Selyem 2020 Unoaked Chardonnay (Russian River Valley).** High-toned and crisp, indeed showing no oak, this white is balanced and breezy in style, with a lightness and elegance that gives it an enduring freshness that appeals. Lemon candy and wet stone contribute to the flavor and steely texture. —V.B.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$39



90 **Z. Alexander Brown 2020 Uncaged (California).** This full-bodied blend of mostly Zinfandel, Syrah and Petite Sirah has plenty of delicious red and black fruit flavors accented lightly by oak spices like cinnamon, cedar and vanilla. Moderate tannins give it a nice, appetizing grip. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18



89 **Cline 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (North Coast).** This smooth and fruity, full-bodied wine blends black cherry, black olive and a touch of dried herbs on light tannins for an attractive, traditional take on Cali Cab. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$17



89 **Fox Creek NV Willunga (Australia).** This is a ripe, big-boned but decently structured wine (the exact blend of which is unknown) from the Vale's Willunga sub zone, where red and brown loamy soils rule. Aromas of dark chocolate, black olive, damson plum, cherry, ground pepper and bay conjure a winter-warming vibe. The palate is dense, with some alcohol heat and oak showing, but there's a nice lift of acidity, fruit and spice. Muscular tannins are on the chewy, impenetrable side. Paradigm Collection. —C.P.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17

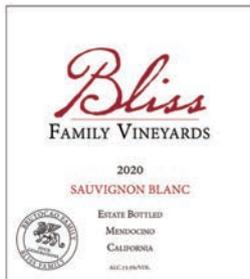


88 **Domaine de Cala 2021 Rosé (Coteaux Varois en Provence).** Bright red fruits shine throughout this lively wine. It has a vivacious character, bright acidity and pure, clean fruitiness. Drink now. Wine Warehouse Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$19

BEST BUY



91 Beronia 2019 (Rioja). This dark ruby colored wine has a nose of blackberry, vanilla and violet. It offers a winning combination of cherry, black currant, clove, milk chocolate and white flower flavors wrapped up in silky tannins that fade into an orange zest finish. Gonzalez Byass USA. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14



91 Brutocao 2020 Bliss Family Estate Sauvignon Blanc (Mendocino). Light touches of butter and vanilla add an extra dimension to this nicely balanced, citrusy wine. A medium body, good acidity and moderate fruitiness all come together very well. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15



90 Antigal 2019 Uno Malbec (Mendoza). This wine shows good concentration and freshness. Aromas of eucalyptus, strawberry, cherry, and chalk shape the nose. There is a balance between red fruit, oak, tannin, and acidity. Notes of chocolate and mint add complexity to the palate. It's great value. Cork Alliance. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$15

BEST BUY



90 Biutiful NV Brut Nature (Cava). With persistent bubbles in the glass and aromas of green pear, hazelnut and almond blossom, this sparkling wine has flavors of Granny Smith apple, baking bread, toasted nuts and jasmine. Bold acidity washes over the side palate and holds on into the finish. Grapes of Spain. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: NA **Price:** \$15

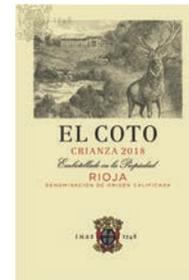


90 Blue Canyon 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey). Buttered aromas of macadamia nut and nectarine meet with a wet clay minerality on the nose of this bottling. The palate is complex, with peach oil and jasmine flavors as well as a grippy texture, proving quite satisfying. **Best Buy.** —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$14



90 Clos du Bois 2019 Chardonnay (California). Enticing aromas of toasted peanuts and buttered popcorn lead to fresh apple and pear flavors nicely accented by vanilla and caramel notes. This medium- to full-bodied wine has lots of personality in a buttery style. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

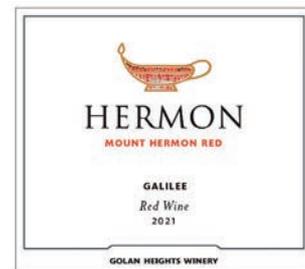
BEST BUY



90 El Coto 2018 Crianza (Rioja). Dark garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of black currant, licorice and Marcona almond. Its smooth tannins feel good on the palate. Opening flavors of bitersweet chocolate and mint hit the tastebuds first, followed by flavors of blackberry and raspberry that are joined by touches of vanilla and baking spice on the finish. Opici Wines. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

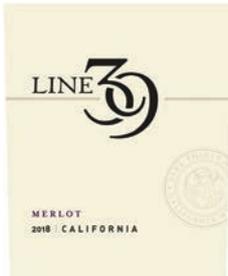


90 Estancia 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). A full body and a mouthfilling texture support just-ripe apple, melon and peach flavors in this generous, fruity and well-balanced wine. It has more concentration and length than many. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

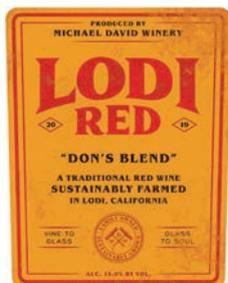


90 Golan Heights Winery 2021 Mount Hermon Red (Galilee). This dark garnet wine has aromas of black cherry, caramel and violet. It is very smooth in the mouth, with velvety tannins, flavors of blackberry, raspberry, butterscotch, lavender and juniper and a floral finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

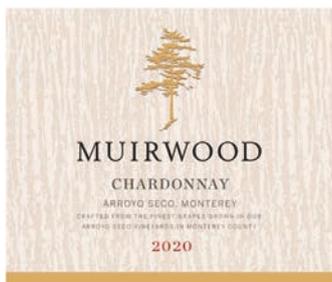
BEST BUY



90 **Line 39 2018 Merlot (California).** This handsome wine shows plenty of ripe blackberry and black cherry flavors supported by light tannins on a full body. Modest oak spices like cinnamon and vanilla add a tasty complexity. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11

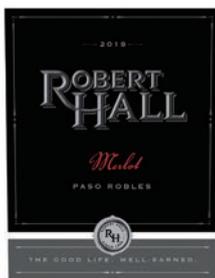


90 **Michael David 2019 Lodi Red Don's Blend (Lodi).** Dark, deep and smooth, this nicely polished, sweet-seeming wine overflows with blackberry jam, blueberry, mint and dark chocolate. It's delicious, indulgent and mouthfilling. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$15



90 **Muirwood 2020 Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco).** Smooth aromas of hazelnut, white peach and butter are pleasantly subtle on the nose of this bottling. The palate is rich with lemon butter, marshmallow and toasted nut flavors. **Best Buy.** —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$15

BEST BUY



90 **Robert Hall 2019 Merlot (Paso Robles).** Blackberry, dark wood, mocha and slate aromas make a compelling and complex nose on this bottling. The palate is intensely structured and layered in flavors of dark berry, cocoa powdery and leathery wood. **Best Buy.** —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$15



90 **Séance 2020 Pinot Noir (California).** This smooth and well-balanced wine offers a gentle mix of warm red and black fruit flavors and light baking spice accents. It's so easy to sip that it should please a crowd. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15



90 **Yealands 2021 Sauvignon Blanc Rosé (Marlborough).** This ballerina pink rosé is a balanced and refreshing drop that drinks like a straight SB. The varietal vegetal characters are out in full force on the aromatic nose. Summer veg garden notes of green bell pepper and tomato leaf mingle with pink grapefruit, pineapple and passionfruit. The palate is bone dry with zingy acidity and crunchy green veg and juicy fruit flavors. There's a bit of a sulphuric burn towards the finish, but overall a highly crowd-pleasing drop. Palm Bay International. **Best Buy.** —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

BEST BUY



89 **Chateau Souverain 2020 Chardonnay (California).** A rich texture carries delicious poached pear and white peach flavors in this full-bodied, rather soft-textured wine. It offers light oak spices and good balance, too. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

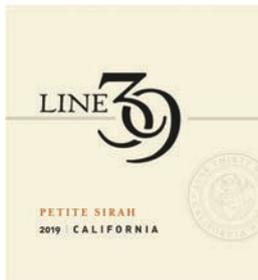


89 **Clos du Bois 2020 Pinot Grigio (California).** This charming, dry and delicately fruity wine shows great balance, a light body and winning but subtle flavors of green apples, white peaches and fennel bulb. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$11



89 **Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Riesling (Mosel).** Bold streaks of sun-drenched yellow peach and nectarine are accented by hints of saffron and cut stone in this delightfully honeyed white. Semidry in style yet balanced by a piercing spine of acidity, it's a juicy, intensely fruity sip that's immediately welcoming. Miller Squared Inc. **Best Buy.** —A.I.
abv: 8.5% **Price:** \$13

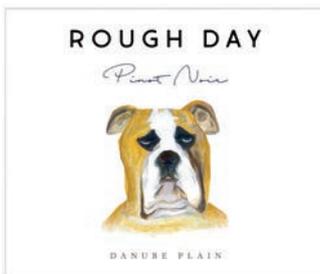
BEST BUY



89 Line 39 2019 Petite Sirah (California). Strong flavors of cinnamon and clove spice up this full-bodied, dark and generous wine while firm tannins bolster its blackberry jam flavors. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11



89 Protos 2021 Criado Sobre Lías Finas Verdejo (Rueda). Medium gold in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of white peach, clementine and rose petal. It fills the palate with bright flavors of lychee, peach, cocoa butter and Turkish delight that culminate in a floral finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$14



89 Rough Day 2020 Pinot Noir (Danube Plain). Garnet colored in the mouth, this Bulgarian Pinot Noir has aromas of cotton candy, powdered sugar and black cherry. In the mouth there are flavors of pomegranate, cocoa and cranberry with soft tannins and a soft finish. G&B Importers. **Best Buy.** —J.J.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

BEST BUY



89 Sierra Batuco 2019 Reserva Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon (Maule Valley). Spices and a light note of cigar box appear on the nose. The palate features nutmeg and peppercorn, with mild red-fruit flavors on firm drying tannins. It's medium bodied and has a bitter finish, with notes of dark chocolate. Invina. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

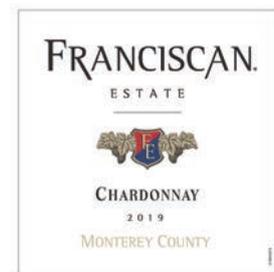


89 Veramonte 2021 Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Herbs and lime appear on the nose of this fresh and lively white. It's medium bodied with vibrant acidity. Citrus and green flavors are intense leading to a lemony finish. It's great value. Gonzalez Byass USA. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14



88 Estancia 2018 Merlot (Central Coast). Dark strawberry and toasted wood aromas make for a familiar, down-the-middle expression on the nose of this bottling. There's a touch of tannic tension on the palate, where leather, wood and dark fruit flavors combine. **Best Buy.** —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

BEST BUY



88 Franciscan 2019 Chardonnay (Monterey County). Melted marshmallow, Pink Lady apple and gardenia aromas make for a buttery but very clean expression of Chardonnay on the nose. Roasted apple, lemon butter and honeysuckle complete the rich picture. **Best Buy.** —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13



88 Kirkland Signature 2021 Ti Point Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). The nose is a fire-cracker of lemongrass, peach pit, lime leaf and dried herbs, while the palate is juicy with length and oodles of appealing fruit. Acidity is on the shrill side and there's what feels like a hefty dose of sulphur, but nevertheless this makes for easy weeknight sipping with a summer salad or goat cheese. DC Flynt MW Selections. **Best Buy.** —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$7



88 Line 39 2020 Chardonnay (California). Bold oak flavors of wood char and toasted walnuts dominate ripe Bosc pear flavors in this full-bodied, mouthfilling wine. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

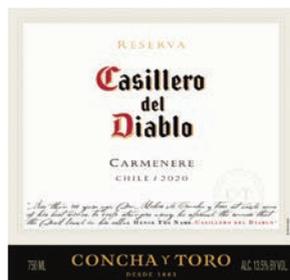
BEST BUY



88 Ventisquero 2021 Las Cartas Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Aromas of pineapple, pear and lemon appear on the nose of this refreshing white. The creamy palate is balanced by vibrant acidity. Green-apple, pear and citrus-fruit flavors are lively. The finish is medium and a bit warm. Vino Del Sol. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

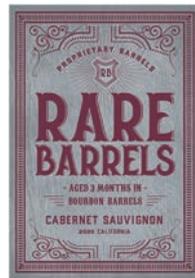


87 Chateau Souverain 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (California). This medium-bodied, enjoyable and straightforward wine offers light thyme and parsley flavors and a slightly tangy texture. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$11



87 Concha y Toro 2020 Casillero Del Diablo Reserva Carmenere (Chile). Herbaceous notes blend with black-fruit and tomato-leaf aromas on the nose of this red. The palate delivers mild flavors of fig and plum and notes of oak. It's medium bodied, has light tannins and medium acidity. Fetzer Vineyards. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

BEST BUY



87 Rare 2020 Bourbon Barrels Cabernet Sauvignon (California). Indulgent fruit flavors from blueberry to black fig fill out the soft frame of this exuberant, rich-tasting wine. It is full-bodied and light on tannins and has a mouthcoating fruitiness. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$10



86 Carnivor 2019 Zinfandel (California). A toasty, spicy aroma and rich blackberry jam and maple flavors give this rather soft wine an easy, almost-sweet expression. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11



86 Chateau Souverain 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). This medium-bodied wine is very neutral in flavor but has a smooth texture and a touch of good acidity to make it refreshing. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$11

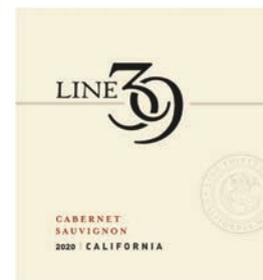
BEST BUY



86 Chateau Souverain 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This smooth, easy-going and ripe-tasting wine is rather soft in texture and low in tannins. It offers blackberry jam flavors and a fruitiness that verges on sweetness. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11



86 Chateau Souverain 2019 Merlot (California). Rich, smooth and almost sweet, this super-fruity and superchocolaty wine is rather soft in texture, oozing jammy flavors over low tannins. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11



86 Line 39 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). Lavish oak spices like cinnamon, nutmeg and vanilla coat the palate over rich and jammy blackberry and strawberry flavors in this medium-bodied wine. It's low in tannins and easy to drink. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

SPIRITS



96 Uncle Val's Zested Gin (USA; 3 Badge Beverage, Sonoma, CA). Warm star anise, cinnamon bark and a teasing whiff of cocoa nibs perfumes this gin. The palate opens with a sweet, tingly mintiness that lifts off the palate, winding into a citrusy finish laced with lime peel astringency. **Abv:** 45% **Price:** \$39



92 Canerock Finest Spiced Rum (Jamaica; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT). Pleasant and moreish, this rum has a murky amber hue and rich scent suggesting maple and allspice. The palate opens with maple sugar, cocoa and hazelnut, finishing with black pepper, ginger and cayenne zing. Finished in ex-sherry casks. Producer recommends mixing in a highball with coconut water. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 40% **Price:** \$30



92 Navigator Reserve Rum (Panama; Precision Wines & Spirits, St. Helena, CA). Pleasing vanilla aromas lead into a velvety palate with plenty of vanilla bean, brown sugar and a hint of coffee. The exhale dries to oak and walnut skin. Aged five years. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 40% **Price:** \$30

SPIRITS



91 Hard Truth Toasted Coconut Rum (USA; Hard Truth Distilling, Nashville, IN). The producer says this rum is made with "toasted flaked coconut with cane sugar and natural sea salt." Look for a bold, sweet coconut aroma and syrupy-thick palate loaded with vanilla, almond and toasted coconut. The salt adds a pleasing, addictive quality, like a tropical version of salted caramel. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 21% **Price:** \$28



91 Plantation Stades Rum Bond No 8 (Barbados; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT). Look for nuanced vanilla, banana and coconut aromas. The palate opens with oak and brown sugar tones. Ginger tickles the sweet brown sugar finish. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 43% **Price:** \$25



90 Navigator London Dry Gin (USA; Navigator, American Canyon, CA). Star anise aromas lead the nose. The first sips open gently with spearmint and a faint chocolaty note, leading into a bracing finish framed by grapefruit and lemon peel, plus white pepper sparks. Lengthen into G&Ts. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 44% **Price:** \$30

SPIRITS



90 Plantation Rum Stades Beach Vat No 1 (Barbados; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT). This white rum offers mild coconut on nose and palate, mixed with vanilla sugar. The finish is warmed by a sprinkle of cinnamon and clove heat. **Best Buy.** **Abv:** 43% **Price:** \$25

BEER



94 Fullsteam Rocket Science (American IPA; Fullsteam Brewery, NC). For the first few sips there is something pleasingly simple about this IPA, it scratches an itch of old school IPA desire. Then it opens up and becomes so much more. Clear gold, there is a fruitiness caress and resinous slap, floral citrus comes on net and with each sip the taste buds are bathed in pleasingly bitter lupulin. **Abv:** 7% **Price:** \$13/12oz 6 pack



94 Wren House Spellbinder with Galaxy (International IPA; Wren House Brewing, AZ). Peach and guava slam together in this juicy, murky golden yellow IPA that offers a full expression of the Australian hop Galaxy. It's prickly, with flavors of pineapple, and a semi-dry finish that has just a hint of creeping bitterness. A beer that exposes the full scope of a single hop in a delicious way. **Abv:** 7% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

BEER



91 Alvarado Street Mai Tai IPA (International IPA; Alvarado Street Brewing, CA). The name is apt on this IPA as it has many of the tropical notes one would require of the name, including a coconut oil-like flavor at the end of each sip. It's not heavy, and the hop bitterness keeps some of the sweetness in check. Vanilla, orange, a little bit of lime, and some cedar undertones are enjoyable components to a well-constructed IPA.

abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

ish that invites you for another sip. It is a wine that makes you think. Volker Wine Company. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

91 Leindl 2020 Ried Eichelberg Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). Vibrant and pure white, this offers ripe flavors of tropical fruit and durian. It is fleshy, but nicely balanced, ending in a long, mouth-watering mix of citrus and mineral. Drink now through 2030. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$36

91 Leth 2020 Reid Scheiben 1.ÖWT Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). Here is a lovely white, with good complexity, showing a good balance between its austerity and flashiness, featuring notes of yuzu, white chocolate, hazelnut oil and quince. Finish is persistent. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

91 Stift Göttweig 2020 Ried Gottschelle 1.ÖWT Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). This is floral, revealing a touch of fizz at first, fueling white raspberry and yellow peach, along with Meyer lemon flavors. Its ripeness is offset by a vivid acidity that keeps it long and focused. Drink now through 2030. Circo Vino. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$63

91 Weingut Knoll 2020 Ried Trum Loibner Federspiel Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). Beautiful texture is the hallmark of this complex Federspiel. It is precise and focused, as well, with a mix of orchard and tropical fruit that is backed by mouthwatering acidity. Drink now through 2030. Circo Vino. —A.Z.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$61

90 Ebner-Ebenauer 2020 Reid Hermansbachern Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich).

This is harmonious and supple, exhibiting peach, apple, lentil and white pepper aromas and flavors. It is tangy, with bitter lemon oil note that marks the well-defined finish. Drink now through 2029. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$36

90 Gebrüder Nittnaus 2020 Reserve Grüner Veltliner (Burgenland). There is a nice intensity to this white, with peach, citrus and white pepper lingering at the core, all buoyed along by lively acidity. A wine that shows precision and balance. GP Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

90 Georg Frischengruber 2020 Ried Steiger Federspiel Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). Hints of smoke, pepper and sage frame the core of green peach and Meyer lemon in this linear white. It shows good complexity and length, picking up a touch of grip on the finish. Schatzi Wines. —A.Z.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

90 Hager Matthias 2018 Urgestein Natural Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). This shows oxidative qualities that are well integrated. Its flavors of walnut and candied ginger play nicely and are balanced by a lively acidity. It shows good length. Volker Wine Company. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

90 Jurtschitsch 2020 Belle Naturelle Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). Elegant and flavorful white, this is nicely integrated and it displays mineral and vegetal notes of the grape. The structure is firm, yet this is approachable and leaves off a mineral aftertaste. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Jutta Ambrositsch 2018 Revision Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). This has a deep well of mineral and citrus notes, while white raspberry and nectarine flavors emerge midpalate and are flanked by leesy notes. Bright acidity lifts up the finish and leaves a mouthwatering impression. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$37

90 Lesehof Stagård 2019 Handwerk Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). This is expressive, with salt and white pepper gliding along the flavors of peach, green tea and savory spice. Texture is silky and pleasant, while mineral accents emerge bringing freshness and intrigue on the finish. Schatzi Wines. —A.Z.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Leth 2020 Ried Brunthal 1.ÖWT Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). This charming version shows notes of smoke, white pepper, citrus and lanolin. It is nicely balanced and subtle, with good length on the well-defined finish. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

90 Petra Unger 2018 Ried Gottschelle Kremstal Reserve Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). An ele-

gant expression that shows flavors of pear, Golden Delicious apple and white raspberry. The midpalate turns a bit vegetal, with spicy notes gliding along. It is elegant overall with a lasting finish. Authentic Wine Selections. —A.Z.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

90 Rudi Pichler 2020 Terrassen Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). Hopy notes open up this extremely floral and fine white, which features a light, lively frame. The core is filled in notes of mint, shiso and white raspberry. The acidity is high, but well-integrated, providing balance and focus. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$38

90 Tegernseerhof 2020 Bergdistel Smaragd Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). The heady scent of citrus and orchard blossoms mark this white, whose nectarine and apple notes are wrapped in the firm structure and lean texture. It is a Smaragd that exhibits elegance rather than power. Drink now through 2032. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

90 Wiener 2020 Viena Hills Grüner Veltliner (Vienna). A sleek white, with ripe notes of quince, yellow apple and almond oil and a light touch of bitter herbs. It is balanced, ending with a mineral detail. Drink now through 2028. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

90 Winzer Krems 2019 Reserve Ried Kremser Wachtberg Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). This offers a rich, fruity aroma, with concentrated flavors of crisp apple, grapefruit, and mineral. The finish lengthens out nicely, with nutmeg spice and apricot parfait. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

89 Domäne Wachau 2020 Smaragd Terrassen Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). This is a refreshing and steely white that shows a crisper side of the grape, with a mix of orchard and stone fruit, underscored by spice and bright acidity. Lingering finish is pure and refreshing. Gonzalez Byass USA. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

89 Gebrüder Nittnaus 2021 Selection Grüner Veltliner (Burgenland). Idiosyncratic version, this shows cidery and hoppy notes, but it is nicely balanced and delivers pleasure. It will find its fans. GP Imports. —A.Z.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$21

89 Laurenz V. 2020 Charming Reserve Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). This offers a mix of beeswax and lanolin, followed by apple and citrus that are married to a lean profile. Sleek and lively on the finish. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —A.Z.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$27

89 Leindl 2020 Langenlois Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). Here is a linear white that is led by floral and peach aromas and flavors, with a texture that verges on velvety. It is balanced by bright

acidity and finishes with a stony detail. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$26

89 R&A Pfaffl 2021 Zeisen Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This is taut and savory, but shows great focus to the smoked sea salt, yuzu sauce and herbal details. Finish shows some complexity and length. Taub Family Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$19

89 R&A Pfaffl 2020 Zeisen Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This is a textbook example, sporting notes of citrus, orchard fruit and white pepper. It shows good length and charming texture. Taub Family Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$19

89 Ruttenstock 2020 Ried Reipersberg Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This white is refreshing with mineral, a touch of ginger spice, and Bosc pear. It is a bit vegetal in a good way and shows persistence. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$20

89 Sohm & Kracher 2020 Lion Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This charming Grüner shows a mix of white raspberry and lemon, with baking spice notes gliding along the edges. It features a moderately long finish. Schatzi Wines. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$21

89 Weingut Knoll 2020 Loibner Federspiel Grüner Veltliner (Wachau). A delicate version, with citrus and orchard blossom at the center, while wet stone and chamomile notes linger in the background. It shows persistence and focus. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$47

89 Winzer Krems 2020 Kellermeister Privat Ried Kremser Goldberg Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). This starts off showing some fizz, which is quickly blown away. Overall, it is a mineral-driven example, that is focused and delivers without making you overthink. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$20

88 Anton Bauer 2020 Ried Gmirk Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). This shows typical spice, hints of chrysanthemum, and orchard fruit. The finish is savory and moderately long. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$18

88 Diwald 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). This white features notes of nutmeg spice and apple, with a smooth, silky texture. It is balanced with some complexity on the finish. Shiverick Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$NA

88 Ebner-Ebenauer 2020 Poysdorf Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). A bright and lively white that is marked by apple, grapefruit and

vegetal flavors. It is balanced with a brisk, citrus-infused finish. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$25

88 Jurtschitsch 2020 Terrassen Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). This is sleek and filled with herbal and vegetal details, which are nicely flanked by green peach and sea salt. It is a forward style, but a great refreshment. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$16

88 Laurenz V. 2020 Friendly Langenlois Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). This features a vivid underlying acidity, which guides the floral, peach and grapefruit flavors. Finish is clean and citrusy. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$22

88 Leth 2020 Ried Steinagrund Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). Here is a leaner style with a firm backbone of acidity underscoring citrus and orchard fruit notes. It is not very showy, but shows balance. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$20

88 Malat 2020 Crazy Creatures Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). Not the most complex Grüner, but shows good balance, with refreshing mix of citrus and mineral that persist on the mouthwatering finish. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$23

88 Müller 2021 Göttweiger Berg Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). Very floral expression of the grape, this shows notes of orchard blossom and quince flower, followed by a tropical fruit mix. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$14

88 Netzl 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Carnuntum). This gives off floral and white raspberry notes on a delicate frame. It is silky smooth and superpleasant with a moderately long finish. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$16

88 Petra Unger 2019 Q Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). This white exhibits a peppery and smoky frame with green apple and chrysanthemum at the core. It is nicely crafted, with a mineral-driven finish. Authentic Wine Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$26

88 R&A Pfaffl 2021 Haiden Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). A delicate white that features notes of graphite upfront, with floral elements gliding along the core of apple and almond. It is balanced from start to finish. Taub Family Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$21

88 Sohm & Kracher 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This shows floral notes, with some bittersweet almond on backend. It has a nice, smooth texture and good length, with citrus echoing on the finish. Schatzi Wines. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$17/1 L

88 Stift Göttweig 2020 Messwein Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). Classic mix of lentil, white pepper and lemon zest marks this refreshing white. Finish shows moderate length. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$26

87 Laurenz V. 2020 Singing Grüner Veltliner (Kamptal). This is crisp and typical, evoking white pepper, citrus and orchard blossom notes. It is round midpalate with a moderate finish. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

87 R&A Pfaffl 2020 Vom Haus Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). Lively and delicate white, this shows white pepper and vanilla spice, along with orchard fruit and lily notes. Finish is moderately long. Taub Family Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$16

87 Stadt Krems 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). Turmeric and herbal notes mark this Grüner Veltliner that is full of vegetal and umami tones. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$18

87 Winzer Krems 2020 Kremser Sandgrube Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). This shows a nice balance with mineral, beeswax and herbal notes, underscored by a vibrant acidity. It shows decent length. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$15

86 Familie Bauer 2020 Hollo trio Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). This is cloudy in appearance and is begging to be loved, yet it falls short to deliver more than citrus and mineral notes. It is still a pleasant sipper. Savio Soares Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$23

86 Höppler 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Burgenland). This is subtle, with soft lentil and white pepper, but a firm backbone of acidity. Finish is refreshing. USA Wine Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

86 Hugl-Wimmer 2020 Wimmer Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This white sports aromas and flavors of yuzu and chamomile, featuring umami on the moderate finish. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$17/1 L

86 Josef Ehmoser 2020 Terrassen Grüner Veltliner (Wagram). White pepper and green apple are the hallmarks of this typical Grüner expression. The finish is quite quick. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$16

86 Lustig 2020 Classic Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). Herbaceous bittersweet accents mark this white, while apple adds pleasant

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flavors. It shows moderate length. Artisans & Vines. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$19

86 Rutenstock 2020 Klassik Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This is mineral driven, showing almost a slight fizz, along with spice, orchard fruit and lentil. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

85 Buchegger 2020 Holzgasse Grüner Veltliner (Niederösterreich). A simple offering of lemon zest and elderflower that ends with a mouth-watering impression. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$15

85 Hugl-Wimmer 2020 Hugl Grüner Veltliner (Weinviertel). This is a typical version, with citrus and white pepper notes. It shows moderate length. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15/1L

85 Von Donabaum 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Mittelburgenland). Here is a rounder, savory style with a bitter-sweet flavor profile. Volker Wine Company. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$14

85 Vorspannhof Mayr 2020 Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). This is a fair example of the grape, with citrus and white pepper spiced up with some nutmeg. Quick finish. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15/1L

84 Sonnhof Social Club 2019 Grüner Veltliner (Weinland Österreich). This is delicate with acidity taking the front seat. Spice emerges on the finish. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$16/1L

RIESLING

92 Jutta Ambrositsch 2019 Utopie Riesling (Weinland Österreich). This is slightly cloudy in appearance, evoking flint and matchstick aromas and flavors, followed by dried mango and singed orange peel. It is a firm and expressive wine, with bright acidity that conducts the harmony, and a savory element marking the finish like a fading trumpet. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$40

92 Malat 2020 Furth Riesling (Kremstal). Expressive and spicy, this shows flavors of green mango, baked pineapple and vanilla hints. Firmly structured, but delivering a lot of joy. Crystallized honey and passion fruit butter accent the finish. Try it with Al Pastor tacos. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$32

92 Winzer Kreams 2020 Kremser Kreuzberg Reserve Riesling (Kremstal). For full review see page 16. Saranty Imports.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$27

90 Lesehof Stagård 2019 Handwerk Riesling (Kremstal). This is clean and lean, with mean acidity that is tamed by ripe notes of yellow apple, rich tropical fruit and sea salt element. Its texture is smooth, with a bracing overall impression. Schatzi Wines. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$25

90 Salomon-Undhof 2020 Alma Amphora Riesling (Austria). Aromatic white, with a light-bodied profile and unconventional flavors of elderflower, lavender honey and Mirabelle plum. It is smooth and silky, with a persistent, mouthwatering finish. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$35

90 Schauer 2020 Kitzreck-Sausal Riesling (Südsteiermark). An interesting version, with hints of caramelized apple leading the way, while apricot and baked pineapple emerge midpalate. It shows good persistence on the savory finish. The Sorting Table. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$30

90 Wienering 2019 Vienna Hills Riesling (Vienna). This is mineral-driven, with savory notes gliding along the edges, while its core shows a perfect balance between fruit and austerity. It is elegant, not loud, but it plays its tunes well. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 14% Price: \$21

89 J&P Brundlmayer 2019 Kaiserstiege Riesling (Kremstal). This is focused and sleek, with vibrant acidity underscoring the notes of apple, apricot and sage. It is nicely balanced, just fades slightly on the finish. Ideal Wine and Spirits. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$21

88 Nastl 2020 Langenlois Riesling (Kamptal). A lightweight example that is clear as a bell, featuring notes of apricot, slivered almond and mineral, all linked by a vivid acidity. Solstars. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$18

PINOT BLANC

89 Malat 2020 Ried am Zaum Pinot Blanc (Niederösterreich). Citrusy and mineral white, with grapefruit and smoked sea salt notes leading the way. It is medium-bodied, with bright, lively acidity leaving its mark on the mouthwatering finish. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$39

89 Weingut Mad 2020 Pinot Blanc (Leithaberg). This is round and juicy, with texture leaning on the creamy side, but its acidity cuts through, revealing a well-meshed mix of flavors. It loses panache on the finish. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

88 Kracher 2020 Trocken Pinot Blanc (Burgenland). This is elegant, with conventional aromas and flavors of bright apple and cream. It

features fresh acidity that fuels it. Terlato Wines International. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$20

ROSÉS

88 Günter & Regina Triebaumer 2020 Von Der Blaufränkisch Reserve Rosé (Austria). Red cherry and strawberry notes give charm to this rosé, while savory mineral notes add intrigue and mark the moderately long finish. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$25

87 Hugl-Wimmer 2021 Zweigelt Rosé (Niederösterreich). A straight shooter rosé (Niederösterreich). A straight shooter rosé that evokes notes of crushed strawberry, watermelon and violet. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.Z.
abv: 12% Price: \$18

86 Malat 2020 Crazy Creatures Rosé (Niederösterreich). This is vibrant with herbal notes framing the core of ruby grapefruit and sour cherry. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$23

84 Strehn 2020 Rosé Blaufränkisch (Mittelburgenland). There is a touch of sweetness to this spontaneously fermented rosé delivering straight forward, fruity flavors. Volker Wine Company. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$18

ZWEIFELT

92 Netzl 2019 Rubin Carnuntum Zweigelt (Carnuntum). A medium to full-bodied red, showing nice concentration of flavors, including ripe dark plum, black currant and touch of loamy earth. Dried savory spice accents the midpalate, followed by a lasting finish. Drink now through 2032. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

90 Günter & Regina Triebaumer 2019 Zweigelt (Burgenland). This is juicy with cola and dried cherry flavors. It is well rounded with firm structure, yet soft tannins, finishing off on a nice leathery, gamy note. Delicious to drink now, but you can age it. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 13% Price: \$26

90 Winzer Kreams 2020 Kellermeister Privat Qualitätswein Trocken Zweigelt (Niederösterreich). This is a polished and harmonious red, with a silky charm and elegant frame that offers bright acidity and notes of cherry, tobacco and touch of game. It is all backed by well-integrated tannins. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$23

88 Winzer Kreams 2019 St. Severin Zweigelt (Niederösterreich). This is round and fruity, featuring black cherry and red licorice flavors, bal-

anced by the well-integrated tannins. It shows moderate length. Saranty Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

87 Vorspannhof Mayr 2019 Zweigelt (Weinland Österreich). This is medium to full-bodied with a velvety feel, showing notes of dark fruit and violet. Finish is moderately long. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15/1L

86 R&A Pfaffl 2021 Vom Haus Zweigelt (Niederösterreich). This is mostly about texture, caressing the palate, while the flavors are a little shy. It is an easy sipper. Taub Family Selections. —A.Z.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

BLAUFRÄNKISCH

93 Hillinger 2017 Blaufränkisch (Leithaberg). This is marked by both power and poise, showing terrific purity to the spiced plum, juicy black cherry and raspberry notes. It delivers refined tannins and dusky spice flavors that build richness and texture. Its acidity plays the directing role, keeping all elements in check. Drink now through 2035. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$39

93 Wachter Wiesler 2017 Ried Weinberg Reserve Blaufränkisch (Eisenberg). This red introduces itself with a stream of succulent blackberry and currant flavors, and then unravels its iron and loam notes that give it a steady beat, while its acidity plays the rhythm. It is somehow dense and racy, with a certain type of intensity that leaves you wanting more. Best from 2024 through 2038. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$47

91 Wachter Wiesler 2018 Reserve Blaufränkisch (Eisenberg). This is a handsome red that is supple, vibrant and filled with lithe cherry, toasted spices and a savory mineral element. It has a zesty finish, which gives this a lift. It could use another year, but would work nicely with grilled meat now. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

91 Weingut Mad 2018 Haus Marienberg Ried Marienthal Blaufränkisch (Leithaberg). Cherry and plum flavors are wrapped in a cloak of vanilla and sweet cherry in this modern-styled red. Assertive tannins leave an impression, along with a mix of mulling spice on the lasting finish. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$81

90 Wachter Wiesler 2018 Béla-Jóska Blaufränkisch (Eisenberg). This red shows good focus, with silky tannins supporting the black cherry, cola, floral and light gamy flavors. It has bright acidity which gives it a sense of freshness. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$19

90 Weingut Mad 2018 Blaufränkisch (Leithaberg). This is an elegant, well-structured example with a classic flavor profile, featuring floral and dark fruit elements, underscored by a lively acidity. Ripe tannins add interest and give this an added dimension. Circo Vino. —A.Z.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

RED BLENDS

94 Netzl 2018 Ried Bärnreiser IÖTW Anna-Christina (Carnuntum). Here is a classic expression, with a very pure offering of kirsch, raspberry pâte de fruit and licorice, wrapped in a full-bodied profile. It features ripe, corduroy-like tannins that give this structure, but also a sense of depth and complexity. A subtle mineral element chimes in on a finish. Drink now through 2035. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$69

92 Netzl 2018 Edles Tal Göttlesbrunn (Carnuntum). This is fresh and perfumed in feel, with a silky texture decorated with red currant and pomegranate joined by sandalwood and Breakfast tea nuances. It is firmly-structured, but beautifully balanced, showing good length on the finish. Artisanal Cellars. —A.Z.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

90 Wachter Wiesler 2018 Rotes Handgemenge (Weinland Österreich). This is appealingly gamy, offering alluring, tightly focused notes of dried cherry and singed sage and a whiff of loamy earth. It is medium-bodied and well-structured with light-grained tannins. Bowler Wine. —A.Z.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

89 Gernot and Heike Heinrich 2018 Naked (Burgenland). This shows a lithe profile with a distinctive savory element that accentuates the rose petal and raspberry core. Earthy notes mark the focused finish. Winebow Imports. —A.Z.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

88 Nastl 2018 Klassik Cuvée Zweigelt-Merlot (Niederösterreich). This shows a good balance between ripe dark fruit and melting tannins. It is juicy and velvety, and only missing a little kick of acidity for freshness, but tasty. Solstars. —A.Z.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

GERMANY

GROSSES GEWÄCHS RIESLING

96 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling GG Gold Cap (Mosel). Sourced from the grey Devonian slate of the Laurentiuslay vineyard, this luminous, light-footed dry Riesling offers sun-kissed white peach and yellow-plum flavors etched by streaks of salt, smoke and crushed slate. A deeply penetrating, pure-fruited sip with fresh fruit and floral tones that are a bit more hedonistic in youth than many of this produc-

er's 2020 GG's but still profoundly concentrated enough to improve for decades. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$78

95 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Hölle Riesling Trocken GG (Rheingau). Subtle notes of spice and smoke lend a seductive veil to pristine grapefruit and Mirabelle flavors here. Full-bodied and weighty on the palate, it's a boldly structured, stately Riesling with a steely, bracing undertow. Seductive young but will improve through 2035 and hold longer still. Miller Squared Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$59

95 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG (Rheingau). While demure on the nose, this complex, chiseled dry Riesling offers ebullient white-peach and yellow-cherry flavors edged by veins of stone, salt and earth. It's gloriously fresh-fruited yet intensely mineral too, a wine with finesse and dimension that should be held till at least 2025. It will gain texture and nuance well through 2035 and hold much longer. Miller Squared Inc. *Cellar Selection.* —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$49

95 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Mehrlinger Layet Riesling GG Gold Cap (Mosel). Sourced from grey-blue Devonian soils, there's a seductively spicy, smoky tone on the nose of this sharply honed dry white. Yellow plum and grapefruit flavors are pristine and spine tingling, a touch tightly wound in youth but likely to gain richness and breadth with time. Hold till 2026 at least, it should reward well through at least 2040. HB Wine Merchants. *Cellar Selection.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$60

95 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Ockfener Bockstein Riesling GG Gold Cap (Mosel). Swirls of smoke, crushed slate and zesty pineapple introduce this laser-edged, profoundly mineral wine. Dry and piercing, it's salty, earthen complexities are a fine homage to the perilously steep, sun-drenched slopes of the Bockstein vineyard. Zippy lime and lemon tones need time to open and expand. A wine that should gain presence and texture from 2028 and continue to improve for decades. HB Wine Merchants. *Cellar Selection.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$60

94 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling GG Gold Cap (Mosel). In contrast to Nik Weis' also-excellent array of GG wines from his home turf in the Saar, the Goldtröpfchen expresses the scintillating tropical fruit of the Middle Mosel. Struck by tangs of honey and spine tingling lemon-lime acidity, it's a zesty, smoky sip that juxtaposes piercing mango and pineapple flavors against a steely spine of minerality. Best approached from 2026, it should improve through 2040 and hold further still. HB Wine Merchants. *Cellar Selection.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$48

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94 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Schodener Saarfeliser Marienberg Riesling GG Gold Cap (Mosel). Pert yellow plum, peach and nectarine flavors lend a sunny tone to this spine tingling, laser-edged dry Riesling. While lean and linear in structure, it's deeply concentrated in yellow fruit and bolstered by a delicate kiss of tangerine pith on the finish. While still a bit nervous in youth, it can be approached from 2025–2035 but will hold much longer. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$55

87 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Piesporter Goldtropfchen Riesling Trocken GG (Mosel). Hits of dried sage and thyme edge this dry, savory expression of the Piesporter Goldtröpfchen. Crisp white-peach and yellow-plum flavors are refreshingly tart on the palate with a cutting finish marked by subtly earthen, smoky undertones. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$24

TROCKEN RIESLING

94 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Domdechane Riesling Trocken Erste Lage (Rheingau). Compared to this producer's slightly rounder Kirchenstück Erste Lage trocken, this Domdechane highlights sharper lime, lemon and crisp white-peach flavors honed with steel and stone. Full bodied yet svelte and rejuvenating in style, it's seductive young but likely to improve well through 2030. Miller Squared Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$38

92 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Trabener Gaispfad Riesling Trocken (Mosel). The salty, slaty nose on this spry, steely white points you unmistakably to the cool slate slopes of the Mosel. Bracing in acidity and piercing with lime, lemon and tart-white peach flavors, it's a revitalizing dry Riesling that's lovely young and likely to maintain peak through 2026. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$23

91 Bastgen 2020 Berncastel-Cueser Weisenstein Riesling Trocken (Mosel). A crush of smoke and slate accent rich white peach and grapefruit in this svelte, penetrating dry white. Pristine yet fleshy in fruit and backed by a revitalizing spine of acidity, it's a stately, immediately enjoyable wine likely to maintain peak through 2027. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$41

91 Domdechant Werner 2020 Guts Riesling Trocken (Rheingau). This is a revitalizing dry Riesling marked by grapefruit and quince flavors etched with salty, stony minerality. While pert and juicy in fruit, it's a sleek, medium-bodied white that's ready to drink now. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Peter Nicolay 2020 Ürziger Würzgarten Dry Riesling (Mosel). A step up from their basic dry bottling, this single-vineyard Riesling high-

lights the spice and stone of the Ürziger Würzgarten alongside juicy grapefruit and tangerine flavors. Zesty and thirst quenching, it's ideal tasted young but should hold well through 2025. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

90 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Single Vineyard Ürziger Würzgarten Dry Riesling (Mosel). Hits of crushed white pepper, slate and salt extend from nose to finish in this spine tingling, delightfully juicy wine. While dry in style it's packed with crisp nectarine and tangerine flavors along with a piercing core of lime-lemon acidity. Delicious now but should hold well through 2025. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

89 Dr. Wagner 2020 Saar Riesling Trocken (Mosel). Honed with steel and bracingly linear, this dry Riesling highlights the intensely salty, stony minerality of the Saar alongside a piercing lime palate. Angular and thirst quenching, it would pair beautifully with raw clams and oysters on the half shell—no squirt of lemon needed. Artisans & Vines. —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$26

89 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Dry Riesling (Mosel). Mouthwatering and intensely peachy yet dry racy, this light bodied sip balances sunny stone fruit flavors against streaks of lime and lemon acidity. An invigorating sip ideal alongside steamed crab or lobster. Best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$15

89 Peter Nicolay 2020 Dry Riesling (Mosel). This is a svelte but juicy dry Riesling packed with flavors of ripe gooseberry and Mirabelle plum. Richly textured yet anchored by a zesty spine of acidity, it's an elegant, everyday white best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$16

89 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Enkircher Ellergrub Alte Reben Riesling Trocken (Mosel). Lip smacking hits of lime pith, salt and stone edge this saber-edged, sprightly Riesling. Crisp yellow peach and nectarine flavors on the palate are brisk in concentration but thirst quenching and fresh. A peppery dry white best enjoyed now—2025. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$21

89 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Gourmet Riesling Trocken (Mosel). This fresh-fruited, invigorating white is dry in style yet plump with green-apple and white-peach nectar. Accented by hints of steel and crushed salt, it's a perfect pairing with briny seafood pastas or grilled oysters. Best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$14

89 Villa Huesgen 2020 By The Glass Riesling Trocken (Mosel). Crisp yellow-plum flavors are juxtaposed by bracing strikes of lime and green-

apple acidity in this dry, rejuvenating white. Slim in profile and steely on the finish, it's ideal as an aperitif or alongside a buttery sole meunière. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Raimund Prüm 2020 Solitär Riesling Trocken (Mosel). Struck by tangs of lime and lemon, this light-footed yet supple dry white offers mouthwatering pear and apple flavors with a stony, mineral finish. A silky, textured wine best enjoyed young. Taub Family Selections. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$14

87 Villa Huesgen 2020 Schiefer Trabener Würzgarten Riesling Trocken (Mosel). Cool strikes of cut stone and green apple introduce this light bodied yet fleshy dry white. A softer expression of the Mosel with profoundly ripe white grapefruit and pear flavors. Best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$32

KABINETT RIESLING

94 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Slim and steely yet pulsating with flavors of white grapefruit and Mirabelle plums, this spear-edged kabinett is a gorgeous expression of the sundrenched slate amphitheater of the Ockfener Bockstein vineyard. Off dry in style and vibrantly balanced in acidity, it's a nervy, spine tingling sip that's gorgeous young but likely to improve well through 2035. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$31

94 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Piesporter Goldtropfchen Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Pineapple, melon and mango flavors are struck by salt and slate in this nervy, honey-kissed kabinett. Light as a feather yet bold and piercing, it finishes long on puckering hits of lime, lemon and steel. Gorgeous young but will continue to improve through 2030 and hold further. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$31

93 Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Thanisch) 2020 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). A Margarita-like rim of salt and smoke edges sun-drenched lime, lemon and green apple flavors in this true-to-type kabinett from the Middle Mosel. Luminous in fruit yet steely and spry, it's an immediately thirst quenching, hedonistic delight with a penetrating, long finish. Artisans & Vines. —A.I.
abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$39

93 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Wiltinger Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Shards of crushed slate and salt accent piercing pineapple and mango in this electric, intensely fruity Riesling. Off dry and mouthwatering in style, it's a zippy, feather-light sip balancing exuberant tropical fruit against a bracing spine of acidity. A scintillating, gorgeously mineral

wine with a penetrating finish. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 7.5% Price: \$23

92 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Piercing and linear, this svelte, off-dry Riesling sourced from the sun-drenched Wehlener Sonnenuhr vineyard is a step up from the producer's excellent range of entry-level 2020 kabinett. Deeply concentrated in quince and grapefruit flavors but also finessed by steely tangs of minerality, it's a spine tingling, electric sip with a deep, reverberating finish. Delicious young but should maintain peak through 2008 and hold further. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9.5% Price: \$30

92 SJ Montigny 2020 Kreuznacher Riesling Kabinett (Nahe). This bright-fruited semi-sweet Riesling opens on pleasantly candied notes of yellow cherries and honey tangerines. Light footed and bracing in acidity, it's a delightfully spry, invigorating sip with a lingering, lacy sweetness on the finish. Seductive young but should hold well through 2028. Wein Bauer Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10% Price: \$20

91 Bastgen 2020 Paulinsberg Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Cut stone and tart pineapple aromas introduce this light-bodied, electrifying kabinett. Just a hint sweet on the palate, its bold lemon, lime and green-apple flavors are juxtaposed by spine tingling acidity and a long, lingering crush of salty, smoky minerality. Heavenly young but should maintain peak through 2026 at least. Kysela Père et Fils. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 8.5% Price: \$25

91 Peter Nicolay 2020 Bernkastel Badstube Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Sun drenched yellow peaches and apricots extend from nose to palate in this light-footed but piercing kabinett. Off dry and delightfully juicy, it's irresistible, fruit-focused sip ideal as an aperitif or with delicate cheeses. A thirst quenching, zesty wine with a long, subtly smoky finish best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9% Price: \$20

91 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Trabener Gaispfad Riesling Kabinett Feinherb (Mosel). Initially reductive notes of smoke and earth dissipate with aeration to reveal a pulsating core of crisp white peach and lime flavors here. With just a whisper of sweetness on the palate, it's a zingy, electric sip that finishes with staccato hits of acid and minerality. Delicious young but likely to meld a bit further from 2023. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9.5% Price: \$25

91 Villa Huesgen 2020 Enkircher Steffensberg Riesling Kabinett Feinherb (Mosel). Zesty and spry, this almost-dry feinherb Riesling highlights cutting white grapefruit and green apple flavors struck with veins of steel, salt and bitter lime pith. Light bodied and delightfully breezy, it's a

thirst quenching white best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10.5% Price: \$18

91 Villa Huesgen 2020 Riesling Kabinett Feinherb (Mosel). Just a whisper off dry in style and held upright by a scintillating spine of acidity, this light-footed feinherb Riesling offsets juicy lime and green melon flavors with a piercing, steely undertow. Edged with salt and crush of stony, smoky earth tones, it's a classically Mosel-style thirst quencher that's delightful young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10.5% Price: \$18

90 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Riesling Kabinett (Rheingau). This is a thirst quenching, penetrating off-dry Riesling packed with sun-drenched, flavors of crisp Asian pear, lemon and white peach. Delicately sweet yet braced by streaks of acid and cut-stone minerality, it's a revitalizing sip that begs to be enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 8% Price: \$25

90 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett Riesling (Mosel). For full review see page 22. Miller Squared Inc.
abv: 7% Price: \$23

90 Single Post 2020 Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). For full review see page 25. HB Wine Merchants.
abv: 7.5% Price: \$17

89 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Tropical streaks of mango, pineapple and tangerine are braced by spine tingling acidity and bristling minerality in this intense, penetrating kabinett. A lip smacking semidry sip with a juicy-sweet preserved-peach finish. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9% Price: \$18

89 Karl Kaspar 2020 Riesling Kabinett (Mosel). Juicy, sun-drenched yellow-cherry and peach flavors abound in this spry but richly concentrated off-dry Riesling. It's a cheeky, charming sip packed with stone fruit and citrus delights but maintains a penetrating spine of acidity that's revitalizing. Best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 8.5% Price: \$13

87 Carl Ehrhard 2020 Rudesheim Berg Roseneck Riesling Kabinett (Rheingau). Notes of fresh green herb and smoke introduce this uniquely perfumed off-dry Riesling. A touch fleshy and overripe in fruit profile, it's a weightier expression of kabinett from the Rheingau with a mouthfilling density of white peach and pear flavors edged by tart veins of lime and lemon pith. Best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9% Price: \$18

86 Carl Ehrhard 2019 Rudesheim Riesling Riesling Kabinett Feinherb (Rheingau). Bites of tannin and savory spice accent lemon and yellow apple in this slim, nearly-dry Riesling. Bracing in acidity and steely on the finish, it's a subtle, savory white best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$18

SPÄTLESE RIESLING

94 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Kirchenstück Riesling Spätlese (Rheingau). Piercing streaks of lime and sweet white peach are juxtaposed by plumes of spring blossom in this spine tingling, palate stirring sip. Light as a feather yet powerfully concentrated, it's a mouth watering semidry Riesling with an endless, penetrating finish. Delicious now but should mature beautifully well through 2030 and hold further. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9% Price: \$33

91 Weingut Georg Albrecht Schneider 2020 Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Spätlese (Rheinhessen). Layers of white-peach candy and guava nectar penetrate through this gorgeously perfumed, fresh-fruited Riesling. Deft and dancing on the palate, it's a zippy, semisweet white with a crystalline mineral backdrop. While exuberant in youth, it should hold nicely through 2026. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 9.5% Price: \$21

88 Seebrich 2020 Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Spätlese (Rheinhessen). Shards of crushed stone accent juicy white-peach and tart green-apple flavors in this pristine yet profoundly ripe Riesling. Slim in structure and honed by spine tingling acidity, it's a juicy semisweet white best enjoyed young. Artisans & Vines. —A.I.
abv: 9% Price: \$28

87 Weingut Georg Albrecht Schneider 2020 Vom Rotliegenden Niersteiner Trocken-Dry Riesling Spätlese (Rheinhessen). Fresh white pear and grapefruit flavors are braced by racy lime acidity in this bristling, light-bodied white. A fully dry wine made from late-harvest Riesling grapes, it's a thirst quenching sip finishing with a pleasant grip of tannins and saffron. Best enjoyed young. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$19

AUSLESE RIESLING

93 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Stielweg Riesling Auslese (Rheingau). Honey and sweet summer melons take a deep, penetrating swirl on the palate of this mouth clinging Riesling. A luscious, sweet sip balanced by strikes of honed steel and crisp lime acidity, it would be a decadent accompaniment to bloomy cow cheeses or foie gras. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 8.5% Price: \$43

BUYINGGUIDE

93 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Piesporter Goldtropfchen Riesling Auslese (Mosel). Intensely smoky, earthen notes of crushed stone and pine resin juxtapose bright yellow peach, apricot and mango in this gorgeously spry yet piercing Riesling. Sweet on the palate yet vibrantly fresh with acidity, it's a well-balanced, invigorating sip that's delicious young yet capable of holding on for decades to come. HB Wine Merchants. —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$36

93 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Piesporter Günterslay Riesling Auslese (Mosel). Shards of slate and salt collide with piercing lemon and lime flavors in this model expression of the Mosel. It's a gorgeously fruity wine, packed with sweet-tart citrus flavors catapulted by spine tingling acidity and an endless, salt-edged finish. Effortlessly delicious in youth but should gain depth for decades to come. Miller Squared Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$35

91 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Auslese (Mosel). For full review see page 18. Miller Squared Inc.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$33

90 Von Schleinitz 2018 Weissenberg Riesling Auslese (Mosel). This is a boldly fruity, intensely concentrated auslese packed with flavors of preserved peach and apricot glazed with streaks of honey and caramel. Framed by a tingly spine of acidity and bites of saffron and spice, it's a sweet-tart, lusciously textured Riesling with a long, rippling finish. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$36

OTHER RIESLING

93 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Wiltinger Alte Reben Riesling (Mosel). There's a kiss of raspberry on the nose of this dry yet gloriously fruity Riesling. While light footed and spry, its packed with piercing guava, tangerine and grapefruit flavors etched by hints of smoke, salt and crushed earth. A youthful, exuberant wine to enjoy while you're waiting for the producer's GG's to mature. HB Wine Merchants. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$35

93 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Trabener Gaispafad Urschiefer Réserve Riesling Feinherb (Mosel). Streaks of pink grapefruit and yellow cherry are edged by bracing hits of lime and lemon pith in this nearly dry feinherb Riesling. While light in body, it's a supple, silk-textured wine anchored in smoky, slaty mineral tones. Lovely young but likely to hold well through at least 2030. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$24

91 Domdechant Werner 2020 Classic Riesling (Rheingau). Just a touch of residual sugar lends richness to zippy lime, lemon and greengage flavors in this supple, off-dry Riesling. A classic expression of the Rheingau in its plump, fleshy

mouthfeel yet balanced sharply by a steely, salty spine of minerality. At peak now—2025. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

90 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Single Vineyard Wehlener Klosterberg Offdry Riesling (Mosel). A subtle whiff of jasmine blossom introduces this delightfully fruity, floral white. Off dry in style with just a juicy kiss of sweetness on the palate, it's packed with plush yellow peach and grapefruit flavors edged by a grip of tea tannins, pollen and crushed earth. Nuanced yet thirst quenching, it's ideal now—2025. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Fitz-Ritter 2020 Dürkheimer Riesling (Pfalz). A touch of spritz and bracing lime acidity introduces this dry, delightfully tonic Riesling. Full bodied yet spry and racy on the palate, it's a zesty, lemony white to enjoy with raw oysters or mild cheeses. Best enjoyed now—2025. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

90 Peter Nicolay 2020 Wehlener Klosterberg Off Dry Riesling (Mosel). Smoky, slaty minerality mingles into perfumed notes of rose petal and musk in this aromatic, juicy white. Off dry in style, it highlights fleshy yellow-plum and grapefruit flavors lifted by a zingy spine of acidity. A boldly fruity yet light-footed kabinett with a profoundly stony finish. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Clean Slate 2020 Riesling (Mosel). Wisps of smoky, stony minerality abound in this delicately off-dry, juicy Riesling. Penetrating in lemon and lime flavors, it maintains the characteristic verve and elegance of the Mosel at an impressively low price. Best enjoyed young. Winebow Imports. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$12

89 Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Müller-Burggraef) 2020 Riesling Feinherb (Mosel). Just a whisper of green-apple sweetness keeps this spine tingling, mineral sip in perfect balance. Light as a feather yet packed with a laser-honed intensity of lime and lemon flavors, this salt-edged expression of Riesling offers the slaty, smoky intensity of the Mosel at a value price point. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$18

89 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Riesling (Mosel). For full review see page 28. Miller Squared Inc. *Best Buy.*
abv: 8.5% **Price:** \$13

89 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Blitz Riesling (Mosel). Pretty white peach and nectarine flavors are accented with honey and blossoms in this delightfully juicy, off-dry sip. A fantastically well-priced, immediately approachable white with just enough stony minerality to claim elegance too. Enjoy young. Miller Squared Inc. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$11

89 Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Offdry Riesling (Mosel). Ripe, piercing flavors of tart white grapefruit and tangerine are etched with bitter edges of lime pith and stone in this delightfully fruity, salty white. Off dry in style yet balanced by thirst quenching lemon-lime acidity, it's a juicy aperitif with a lingering fresh-pear finish. Best now—2005. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$18

89 Raimund Prüm 2020 Essence Riesling (Mosel). Lovely white floral and smoky mineral tones on the nose mingle into crisp white peach and lemon on the palate of this of semidry Riesling. It's a penetrating, bright-fruited wine backed by a reverberating spine of acidity. Best enjoyed young. Taub Family Selections. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$14

89 Richard Böcking 2019 Devon Riesling (Mosel). Pops of fresh thyme and green melon rind lend an herbaceous freshness to juicy white grapefruit in this bristling dry Riesling. Slim and piercing in its linearity, it's a spine tingling, electric sip with a steely, intensely mineral finish. Kindred Vines. —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Sturmwolken 2020 Riesling (Pfalz). A streak of fresh lime extends from nose to finish in this bright, zesty Riesling. While a shade off dry in style, sweetness is barely perceivable on the palate, serving instead as a juicy cushion to bristling lemon and white-grapefruit flavors. A refreshing, mineral aperitif or accompaniment to seafood best enjoyed young. W. Direct. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$22

89 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Gourmet Riesling Feinherb (Mosel). Barely a whisper of sweetness laces through this salty, pleasantly mouth puckering feinherb Riesling. Packed with racy lime and lemon acidity, it's a piercing, intensely mineral sip best enjoyed young. Miller Squared Inc. *Best Buy.* —A.I.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$14

89 Von Schleinitz 2020 VS Riesling (Mosel). Earthen notes of dried slate and clay juxtapose juicy white peach and guava in this massively fruity sip. Semidry and luscious on the palate, it's a hedonistic, easy quaffing wine with wide appeal. Best enjoyed young to capture its exuberant fruit and perfume. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$16

88 Dr. Leimbrock 2020 Estate Riesling (Mosel). This is a slim, penetrating white marked by lemon-lime flavors edged by tangs of crushed stone and salt. Just a touch off dry in style, it's a well-priced but bracing, intently mineral introduction to classically Mosel Riesling. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.I.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$19

88 Hansen-Lauer 2020 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling (Mosel). Fragrant notes of jasmine and Mirabelle plum extend from nose to finish in

this sleek, powerfully perfumed white. While nearly dry on the palate, it's packed with mouthwatering white peach and grapefruit flavors that linger sweetly on the finish. A vibrantly balanced, blossomy Riesling that's a peak now. Kysela Père et Fils. —A.I.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

88 HighDef 2019 Qualitätswein Riesling (Mosel). This is a mouthwatering off-dry Riesling that hits the palate with zesty shards of sweet-tart lemon and lime candy. Light bodied yet richly concentrated, it's a thirst quenching white ideal as an aperitif or picnic quaffer. Best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$13

88 Single Post 2020 Riesling (Mosel). Whiffs of peach marmalade and tangerine candy introduce this lip smacking, deeply fruity Riesling. Just a shade off dry in style, it's a refreshing, juicy wine that would be ideal alongside simple pastas dressed in olive oil or seared scallops. Best enjoyed young. HB Wine Merchants. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 10% **Price:** \$13

88 The Seeker 2019 Riesling (Mosel). Juicy white peach and tangerine flavors are accented by hints of wet stone and lime pith in this zesty, off-dry Riesling. A fresh, easy drinking sip with a pristine finish best enjoyed now—2024. Kobrand. —A.I.

abv: 10% **Price:** \$15

88 Von Schleinitz 2020 Dry Riesling (Mosel). Crushed stone and white blossom notes perfume this dry but intensely honeyed Riesling. Plush in texture yet sprightly and fresh, it's an immediately approachable wine best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

88 Von Schleinitz 2019 Weissenberg Riesling (Mosel). There's a stony mineral edge to bright yellow-peach and yellow-cherry flavors in this fruity semidry Riesling. While light in body, it's a plump, textured wine with a clean, refreshing finish. Best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.

abv: 10% **Price:** \$21

88 Wilhelm Bergmann 2018 Slate QbA Riesling (Mosel). Crisp green apples and slate are appropriate label images for this zesty, subtly smoky wine packed with cutting green apple and pear flavors. Semidry in style yet balanced pertly in acidity, it's an easy drinking, zippy sip best for youthful consumption. Knows Imports. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 9% **Price:** \$10

87 Nebel 2020 Riesling (Rheinhessen). Stony mineral notes and a hint of white blossom on the nose meld into bright apricot and lemon flavors in this off-dry, easy drinking sip. Sunny in fruit yet briskly balanced, it's an uncomplicated white best

enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$12

87 Peter Mertes 2020 Platinum Riesling (Mosel). Flavors of tangerine and honeyed lemon are mouthwatering and fresh in this light-bodied, delicately sweet Riesling. Accented by hints of cut stone and just a touch of hazelnut, it's an easy quaffing, zingy white with a pleasantly candied finish. Banks Channel. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$10

87 Peter Nicolay 2020 Riesling (Mosel). Lifted notes of crisp white pear introduce this elegant semidry Riesling. While penetrating in lemon, apple and tangerine flavors, it's a subtly stony, zesty white wine that would make an excellent accompaniment to goat cheese. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.

abv: 8.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Tussock Jumper 2020 Riesling (Rheinhessen). Sweet-tart notes of green-apple candy and lime sorbet are etched by a delicate veil of sugar in this semidry, easy drinking white. Pristine in fruit, it's an invigorating, immediately approachable Riesling that should pair smartly with creamy pasta or sautéed white fish. Tri-Vin Imports. —A.I.

abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$13

87 Weinbiet 2020 Classic Riesling (Pfalz). Tangy strikes of green apple and lime accent this fresh, thirst quenching white. Nearly dry in style, it's a slim yet juicy Riesling ideal for youthful drinking. Terroir Connections. —A.I.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

87 Wilhelm Bergmann 2020 Big Apple Riesling (Nahe). This sun-drenched, juicy Riesling highlights mouthwatering bites of sweet red apple against a pleasant ring of honey tangerines. Semisweet and sprightly, it's best enjoyed young. Knows Imports. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 10% **Price:** \$11

87 Wilhelm Bergmann 2020 Desert Fox Riesling (Nahe). A kiss of sweetness lends softness to sunny lemon and green-apple flavors here. Uncomplicated and refreshingly fruity, it's an immediately enjoyable Riesling for everyday enjoyment. Knows Imports. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 11% **Price:** \$11

86 Carl Ehrhard 2020 Old School Riesling Feinherb (Rheingau). Matured six months on its lees in neutral oak, there's a subtle vein of spicy, smoky woodiness in this supple yet slim Riesling. A touch off dry in style, its sappiness balanced by bright white grapefruit and pear flavors. The finish is marked by a grip of tea tannins. Ready to drink now. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$20

86 Clear Night 2020 Riesling (Pfalz). While a touch earthen in tone, this easy drinking Riesling offers bright lemon and white grapefruit flavors on the palate. An uncomplicated white with

a touch of residual sugar best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$11

86 HighDef 2020 Qualitätswein Riesling (Mosel). This delicate semidry Riesling highlights sweet green-apple and honeydew flavors held taut by sunny lemon acidity. Juicy and immediately approachable, it finishes on pops of fresh mint and gooseberry. Best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.

abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$13

86 Landshut 2020 Riesling (Mosel). Straight-forward, juicy peach and tangerine flavors have a touch of smoky minerality in this light bodied, fruit-forward white. Semidry in style but balanced by zingy lemon and lime acidity, it's an approachable, easy drinking wine to enjoy young. Prestige Beverage Group. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$6

86 Sun Garden 2020 Riesling (Nahe). This fresh-fruited semisweet Riesling balances crisp red apple and tangerine flavors against cutting lemon-lime acidity. It's an accessible, easy drinking white with a pleasantly puckering finish. Best enjoyed now. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.

abv: 9.5% **Price:** \$12

86 Von Der Leyen 2019 Riesling (Nahe). Bites of lime pith and fresh fennel abound in this zesty off-dry Riesling. Just a touch of sweetness offsets brisk acidity and a cutting green-plum finish. Drink now. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. **Best Buy.** —A.I.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$11

OTHER WHITE WINES

93 Domdechant Werner 2020 Hochheimer Kirchenstück Rieslaner Trocken Erste Lage (Rheingau). A whiff of pear eau de vie introduces this full-bodied yet freshly balanced dry Riesling. Lemon, yellow-peach and tart-tangerine flavors are cutting and spry on the palate, accented by hints of white pepper and a lingering grapefruit pith finish. An elegant white that's approaching peak just now but likely to gain depth well through 2030. Miller Squared Inc. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

93 St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Mehninger Alte Reben Rieslaner (Mosel). While slim and spry in footprint, this elegant dry Riesling offers penetrating but crisp nectarine and yellow peach flavors anchored by an earthen, stony undertone. It's deliciously nervy young but should continue to improve well through 2035. HB Wine Merchants. —A.I.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$35

90 SJ Montigny 2020 Kreuznacher St. Martin Gewürztraminer Spätlese (Nahe). Breathless whiffs of fresh white peach and lychee introduce this profoundly fruity, piercing Gewürztra-

BUYINGGUIDE

miner. Packed with pristine apricot and tangerine flavors, it's a medium-sweet, sprightly sip with an invigorating acidic lift on the finish. A fantastic value best enjoyed young. Wein Bauer Inc. —A.I.
abv: 9% **Price:** \$20

89 Alde Gott 2020 Grauburgunder Spätlese Trocken (Baden). Hints of saffron and incense perfume this profoundly spicy, vanilla-kissed Grauburgunder, or Pinot Gris, vinified dry from late-harvest grapes. Richly concentrated and weighty on the palate, it's a delicately tannic, boldly structured wine with a lingering finish marked by flavors of preserved peach and smoky tea leaves. Terroir Connections. —A.I.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

89 Ulrich Langguth 2020 Madeleine Reichensteiner (Mosel). Twists of lime, gooseberry and bramble introduce this lithe, smoky wine made from the rare Reichensteiner grape. Grown in the Mosel, it's a delightfully mineral-focused sip marked by crisp green floral and citrus notes. Light bodied and accented by crushes of white pepper, it's an intriguing wine with just a kiss of sweetness that lingers on the finish. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$19

87 Paul Anheuser 2020 Blanc de Noir Pinot Noir (Nahe). Pinot Noir vinified as a white wine, this barely-blush sip offers delicate black cherry flavor etched by hints of caramelized sugar and spice. Low in alcohol yet voluminous and juicy, it's an unusual wine that tip toes between a white and rosé style. The finish is marked by a touch of sweetness. Drink young. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$15

86 Carl Ehrhard 2020 Rudesheim Spätburgunder Blanc De Noirs Spätburgunder Trocken (Rheingau). Hints of tea leaf and peppery spice accent muted blackberry and plum flavors in this dry, delicately concentrated wine. Made from Spätburgunder, or Pinot Noir grapes, vinified like a white wine, it's just a touch peach in hue. Backed by a spine tingling streak of acidity, it's a refreshing wine best enjoyed young. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$17

86 Köster-Wolf 2020 Halbtrocken Müller-Thurgau (Rheinhessen). Pretty white-blossom notes meld into flavors of lime and lemon candy in this semidry expression of Müller-Thurgau, Riesling's lesser-known cousin. Opulent in mouthfeel and primary in fruit, it's an easy drinking white accented by a swathe of fresh basil on the finish. Best enjoyed young. Artisans & Vines. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18/1L

86 Wilhelm Bergmann 2020 Binger St. Rochuskapelle Auslese (Rheinhessen). A blend of 80% Müller-Thurgau and 20% Riesling, this sweet white wine offers uncomplicated, juicy white-peach and red-apple flavors in a luscious, mouthcoating sip. Light in alcohol and balanced with sunny tan-

gerine acidity, it's an immediately accessible wine best enjoyed young. Knows Imports. **Best Buy.** —A.I.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$11

85 Sun Garden 2020 Gewürztraminer (Pfalz). Hints of caramel, sweet spice and rose petals perfume this off-dry, intensely fruity white. Flavors of peach and tangerine are a touch overripe and confected on the palate but it's a juicy, uncomplicated sip with a touch of hazelnut skin that lingers on the finish. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$12

ROSÉS

90 Schäfer 2020 Dry Made With Organic Grapes Rosé (Rheinhessen). While tasted in spring of 2022, this elegant dry rosé made from organic Pinot Noir highlights penetrating black cherry and blackberry flavors accented by strikes of crushed anise and stony minerality. Lifted by tart streaks of raspberry acidity, it's a refreshing, nuanced wine with a lingering black-pepper finish. Winesellers, Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

90 Weingärtner Clebronn-Güglingen 2021 Sagenhaft Trocken Rosé (Württemberg). Refreshingly low in alcohol compared to its more voluptuous Provençal cousins, this spry, ballet-pink rosé is packed with zesty red cherry and raspberry flavors. Made from a blend of Trollinger and Lemberger grapes, it's a light-footed dry wine that balances juicy red fruit against a vibrant frame of acidity and salty mineral accents. Best enjoyed young. Terroir Connections. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

BORDEAUX WHITE WINES

BORDEAUX BLANC

91 Château du Tertre 2019 Tertre Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). The wine has softened well, leaving spice and touches of wood aging alongside the white fruit, citrus and acidity. It is a fine, grassy wine that is ready to drink. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$32

91 Château Guiraud 2020 Blanc Sec (Bordeaux Blanc). A grassy wine with hints of honey behind the white and citrus fruits, this comes from the Sauternes classed growth estate. It is still young with a complex character behind the brilliant fruit. Drink the wine from 2023. Multiple U.S. importers. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Caves de Rauzan 2021 Le Noble (Bordeaux Blanc). A delicately perfumed wine, this is fresh, textured and bursting with bright fruitiness. Acidity and lemon flavors predominate, giving the

wine great freshness. Drink now. OSLO Enterprise LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

90 Château Boisson 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a full, ripe wine. Its zesty fruitiness is complemented by the wine's creamy texture. It is a delicious wine, ready to drink. Wegmans. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Château de Haux 2021 Reserve des Propriétaires (Bordeaux Blanc). With Sauvignon Gris in the blend, this wine has a faint pink tinge. It is fresh with a fine perfumed character to go alongside the baked apple spice. Drink now. Wine Traditions. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

90 Château de Rayne Vigneau 2021 Le Sec de Rayne Vigneau (Bordeaux Blanc). Pure fruit aromas of citrus rounded by pear, give a wine that is smoothly textured. There is a hint of spice as well as bright acidity and honey at the end. Drink now. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

90 Château du Tertre 2020 Tertre Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). Crisp and bright with green fruits shining through the tangy texture, this is a young and fruity wine. It has plenty of pure fruitiness with acidity and citrus squeezed into the brightness. Drink the wine from 2023. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$32

90 Château la Commanderie de Queyret 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine's great fruitiness is revealed in the tangy green fruits and lively acidity. It is full of textured minerality with a touch of spice. Drink now. Vigneron Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

90 Château Reynon 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This tangy wine is textured, tight with acidity and grassy Sauvignon Blanc flavors. The wine's freshness is palpable, giving an attractively youthful aftertaste. Drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$28

90 Château Roquefort 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Perfumed and with fine fruit, the wine is full of baked apple fruitiness. Its rounded spicy aftertaste gives the wine complexity and a fine tangy aftertaste. Drink now. Duclot La Vinicole. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

90 Clarendelle 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a ripe wine, full of apples and kiwi fruits. Given weight and richness by the spice and nutty character, the wine is full, ready to drink now. Louis Glunz Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Château d'Arche 2021 A (Bordeaux Blanc). A perfumed wine with attractive acidity and a tangy texture that shows well against the wine's

spicy white fruits and acidity. It is full of fruit, ready to drink. Solstars. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

89 Château de Parenchère 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Hints of tropical fruits are delicious as a complement to the lime citrus flavors. The wine is clear, full of forward fruitiness. Drink now. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

89 Château Haut Mouleyre 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A strong lemon and pink grapefruit character permeate this wine. With its lively acidity and clear white fruits at the end, the wine is ready to drink. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

89 Château la Peyruche 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Crisp, fruity and layers of white fruits and citrus, this is a tangy wine. A touch of spice adds complexity to the wine's fruitiness. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

89 Château Roc de Minvielle 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Bright and fruity, the wine's apple and grapefruit flavors are taut and textured. It is a lively young wine, better from later this year. LVC Las Vegas Inc. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$13

89 Château Suau 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A lively, vivid wine, this has citrus and white fruits in abundance. The wine's freshness and tangy texture are still young, so wait to drink until later this year. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 Axel des Vignes 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Tangy, ripe with full, grassy fruits and acidity, the wine is vividly textured. Its fragrance and lively citrus flavors are intense. The wine is ready to drink. Tri-Vin Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$11

88 Barton & Guestier 2021 B & G Bordeaux Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). The wine is soft with rounded acidity and a texture that is gentle with red apples. A crisper citrus comes through at the end. BGPL USA. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

88 Cap Royal 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. An attractive grassy wine with a bright herbal element. The wine is perfumed and attractively fresh. Drink now. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Cave Mystère 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Bright and with a touch of spice, this wine is fragrant and refreshing. Its acidity and freshness are a fine contrast to the wine's intense texture. Drink now. Steep Hill Importing. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

88 Château Belle-Garde 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Full, rounded and with fine yellow and white fruit flavors, this is a ripe style of wine. It has plenty of fruitiness along with a touch of spice. It is ready to drink. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Château Bonnet 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A crystal clear wine with pure fruit aromas and crisp acidity, this is immediately refreshing. The wine's freshness is infectious. Drink now. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Château de Seguin 2021 Sauvignon de Seguin (Bordeaux Blanc). The wine's perfumed acidity and brightness are the attractive characters of this wine. Its white fruit and citrus flavors have combined easily in a fresh fruitiness. Drink now. Plume Ridge. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$7

88 Château Fleur Haut Gaussons 2021 Pierre Blanche (Bordeaux Blanc). This is a fresh wine with touches of spice and acidity. It has a nutmeg character that gives extra flavors and contrasts with the bright fruits. Drink now. Z Wine Gallery Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$27

88 Château Haut-Rian 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A crisp and fruity wine with attractive green apple flavors that will fill out with a more creamy character as it matures. The wine is lively with acidity and a zesty aftertaste. VOS Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Château l'Oiseau 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A gently fruity wine with a touch of spice to go with the wine's apple and kiwi fruits. It is attractive, with a fine bite of acidity. Drink now. Saranty Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

88 Château La Gabarre 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is packed with green fruits, rounded by kiwi and acidity. The wine is fragrant with great final freshness. Drink now. Michael Corso Selections. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$10

88 Château La Rame 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine is young, its acidity still right up front. The wine's texture and crispness are taut and nervy. So it all needs to soften and calm down over the next few months. Drink from later this year. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

88 Château La Rose Saint Germain 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A crisp apple flavored wine with green fruits and fine contrasting acidity, this is well-balanced. Its freshness is just right. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Château Petit Moulin 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Bright and fruity, the wine is textured and delicious. It has a freshness and lift that gives a refreshing texture. Drink now. Barrique Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

88 Château Pilet 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine is full of ripe white fruits. Peach and kiwi add a more exotic character to the wine's fruitiness and youthful texture. It is ready to drink. HB Wine Merchants. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$12

88 Château Reynaud Lacoste 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Tangy and textured, the wine has a mineral edge that will soften. That will give a wine that is dedicated to fruit and to white berry flavors. Drink from later this year. Wine Wine Situation. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

88 Château Thieuley 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A tight, young wine, this has the potential of bright fruits that are decidedly crisp. The wine is full of acidity that needs to soften. Drink from later this year. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Maison Raymond 2021 Les Hauts de Lagarde (Bordeaux Blanc). Freshly cut grass aromas are followed by a steely edge to a wine that is crisp and taut. The wine is edgy and mineral, ready to drink from later this year. Winc. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

88 Yvon Mau 2021 Premius Sauvignon Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). Tangy, taut and with a mineral edge, the wine is full of texture. With its freshness and bright acidity to balance the ripe flavors, the wine is satisfyingly full and ready to drink. MHW, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

87 Chai de Bordes 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A rounded style of wine with attractive spice and acidity, this is zesty and full of fruit. Citrus and a lively freshness are right up front. Drink now. MHW, Ltd. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$9

87 Château Allégret 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine is crisp with delicious green fruits and acidity. It is full of bright flavors that show well against the background texture. Drink the wine now. Turquoise Life. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château Bois Malot 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine is rounded with bright fruits, acidity and ripe white fruit flavors. With a tangy touch and freshness, the wine is ready to drink. Main Street Wine Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

87 Château Briot 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Grapefruit flavors are dominant in this herbal,

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crisp wine. It is textured and tangy with fine acidity and lively bright fruitiness. Drink now. Europvin USA. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Château d'Haurets 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A simple, fruity wine, open with bright fruits and acidity, this is an easy wine. It is ready to drink with its fresh, lightly textured wine and vibrant crispness. Drink now. Serge Doré Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Château de la Vieille Tour 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Lime and grapefruit citrus are predominant in this wine. Its acidity and herbal edge are young, exuberant. The wine is ready to drink. Wine Traditions. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

87 Château des Antonins 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Crisp lemon and herbal flavors shine out of this Sauvignon Blanc dominated wine. From vineyards in the east of the Bordeaux vineyard, the wine is bright with acidity and a zesty texture. Drink now. Multiple U.S. importers. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château des Arras 2021 Cuvée Gaïa (Bordeaux Blanc). Spice and ripe fruits give this wine a warm character. They go with the citrus fruitiness and creamed apple flavors. Drink now. Storage Unit Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$19

87 Château la France 2021 Cuvée Neutre Carbone (Bordeaux Blanc). The wine is young, masking its fruits at this stage, but promising a rounded character and tangy white fruits. Drink from later this year. Plume Ridge. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château La Loubière 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. White peach forms a contrast with the wine's green apple and citrus flavors. It is still tight and will be better from later this year. Killian Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

87 Château Lamothe 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Softly textured with fragrant acidity, the wine has a crisp character. Bright apples and a lively texture are right up front. Drink now. Polaner Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

87 Château Lamothe-Vincent 2021 Heritage (Bordeaux Blanc). A fresh and fruity wine, bursting with bright citrus and lively acidity, this is crisp and herbal. It's attractive now, but will improve over the next few months. La Ville Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château Lansade 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A herbal wine, layering green fruits and grassi-

ness. The wine has gooseberry along with a touch of spice. Drink now. Wine Circle Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

87 Château Larroque 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Bright and textured, the wine shows vibrant white fruit and citrus flavors. Its acidity and zesty aftertaste are crisp and ready to drink. BNP Distributing. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

87 Château le Grand Verdus 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Crisp and fruity, the wine is bright and lightly textured. It has plenty of citrus and green apple freshness, ready to drink now. Wines LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Château Recogne 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a soft wine, rounded with a generous texture. It has a full body, apples and citrus melding together. Drink now. Vintus LLC. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

87 Château Reynier 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Pure apple fruitiness gives this wine a lively, fresh character. The tangy texture offers an edge of steeliness at the end. Drink now. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

87 Château Roques Mauriac 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A buoyant wine with fine acidity and crisp fruit, this is full of citrus and herbal flavors. The wine's brightness is infectious and refreshing. Drink now. Saranty Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

87 Château Toulouse-Lautrec 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a freshly fruity wine with crisp, mineral acidity and a tight texture. The wine is lively, bright and ready to drink. Freedom Beverage Co. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

87 Citran 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A soft wine, rounded with a gently texture, the wine is open and fruity. Green apples are smoothed with pears to give a wine that is all about fruit. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

86 Château Argadens 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Taut and full in the mouth, the wine is packed with fruit that is encased in a tight texture. Its acidity and citrus flavors are a little young, so the wine will be better from later this year. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

86 Château Croix Saint-Martin 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). A simple wine, registering crisp acidity, citrus and a light herbal character. It has freshness and a bright aftertaste. Drink now. Wine Source International. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$11

86 Château de Bonhoste 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. A crisp wine, full of lemon flavors, this is attractive and with a tight textured character. The wine's acidity gives it a sharp aftertaste. Drink from later this year when the wine will have softened. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

86 Château Haut Grand Champ 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. With textured acidity and a closed character, this is a nervy wine that needs a little aging. Drink from later this year. MHW, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

86 Château Haut Mondain 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a creamy wine with its ripe fruit that are still developing. It has a toasty edge with zesty fruits. Drink now. The House of Burgundy. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$13

86 Château l'Orangerie 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. Crisp with bright citrus flavors, the wine is lively and fresh. It will soften over the next few months. Drink later this year. David Milligan Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

86 Haussmann 2020 Baron Eugénie Moelleux (Bordeaux Blanc). A vaguely medium sweet wine, this comes from a long tradition of such wines in Bordeaux. It has acidity to partner the pineapple and spice flavors. Drink the wine now. My House-land. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

85 Château Bellevue 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine is bland with only the lightest of fruit flavors. With its acidity and brightness at the end it is ready to drink. Taub Family Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

85 Château Doyac 2021 Le Pélican (Bordeaux Blanc). An intensely crisp wine, this is fully textured. It is young, full of fruit that will soften as it matures. Drink this wine from later this year. Free Run Wine Merchants. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

85 Château Tour de Goupin 2021 Bordeaux Blanc. The wine's light freshness and attractive aftertaste give a crisp, textured character with vibrant acidity. Drink the wine now. Baron Francois Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$12

85 Maison Sichel 2021 Sirius Blanc (Bordeaux Blanc). There is a touch of bitterness here that needs to blow off to give a wine that has freshness and tight acidity. Premier Sellers. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

85 Vignobles Raguénot 2020 French Can Can (Bordeaux Blanc). Get past the earthy aroma and this is an attractive perfumed wine in a can. The high proportion of Muscadelle gives a floral char-

acter with green fruits and maturing acidity. Drink now. Vivino Selections. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$5

84 **Château de l'Aubrade 2021 (Bordeaux Blanc).** A simple crisp wine with lively acidity and bright green fruits, this is immediately attractive. Drink now. Profile Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

93 **Château Picque Caillou 2020 Pessac-Léognan.** While this wine is still young, it has all the elements of aging potential. The bright green and citrus fruits are spiced with wood aging and a vivid, taut texture. The wine is sure to develop, to be ready to drink from 2024. Aquitaine Wine Company. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$60

90 **Château Latour-Martillac 2020 Lacroix-Martillac (Pessac-Léognan).** A bright half and half blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon has ripe, creamy white fruits that are laced with more herbal citrus flavors. The balance is just right, freshness and smoothness combined. Drink the wine now. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

90 **Château Tour Léognan 2019 Pessac-Léognan.** A rounded wine, with a balanced blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon, the wine is full, spicy with wood aging and richness. It has a pure line in citrus acidity that will soften as the wine matures. Drink from 2024. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

GRAVES

88 **Barton & Guestier 2020 Thomas Barton Réserve (Graves).** An attractive blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon, this is crisp and full of green fruits. Bright acidity and a racy minerality give a final lift. Drink now. BGPL USA. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

CRÉMANT DE BORDEAUX

90 **Celene NV Cuvée Royale (Crémant de Bordeaux).** A rich, creamy mousse gives this wine a generous feel. The wine is rounded and full of fruit, apples balancing citrus. Drink now. Wine Wine Situation. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

90 **Vignobles Dulon NV Pur Grand Jean (Crémant de Bordeaux).** A wonderful creamed apple flavored wine, this is full of fruit. Its acidity balances the ripe fruitiness of this delicious, ready-to-drink wine. Lompian Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$30

88 **Château Cazeau NV Crémant de Bordeaux.** Crisp with green apple and light citrus flavors, here is a fine wine. It has lemon and bright fruit flavors and a finely judged mousse. Drink now. Hemispheres. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

88 **Monsieur de Bordeaux NV Crémant de Bordeaux.** A blend of Merlot and Cabernet, the wine is fresh, juicy with fine apple and bright spice flavors. It has a vivid, refreshing character that is all ready to drink. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

88 **Vignobles Bayle-Carreau NV Blanc Brut (Crémant de Bordeaux).** This is a rich wine with ripe apple and pear flavors, filled with warm acidity. It is a fine, fruity wine that is ready to drink. Lompian Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 **Grand Bellot NV Rosé Brut (Crémant de Bordeaux).** A bright and fruity wine with a fine tang of citrus and touches of red fruits. The wine is crisp, vividly fresh and ready to drink. Drinks LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

87 **Les Notables de Maucaillou 2021 Tentation par Maucaillou (Crémant de Bordeaux).** An apple and spice flavored wine, this has an attractive mousse with perfumed acidity and a bright aftertaste. It is ready to drink. The Wine Care Group. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

86 **Grand Bellot NV Brut (Crémant de Bordeaux).** Crisp and herbal the wine is pure and floral. That gives acidity and a texture that brings out considerable acidity. It is ready to drink. Drinks LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

ROSÉS

90 **Château Bel-Air l'Espérance 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** A refreshing, delicious wine that has bright fruits and plenty of acidity, this is lively with red currant fruits. It is a balanced wine, poised between crispness and ripe fruits. Drink now. WP Wine Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

89 **Château de la Dauphine 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** A fine, fruity wine with attractively balanced red fruits and bright acidity, this is a refreshing wine. With its liveliness well to the fore, the wine is ready to drink. Wine VIP. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

89 **Château de Lisennes 2021 Cabernet Franc Rosé (Bordeaux Rosé).** This is a bright fruity wine, packed with red berry flavors and balanced

acidity. There is a fine texture that gives the wine shape. Drink now. M2GR LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

89 **Château La Croix de Queynac 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Crisp, layering acidity with red currant flavors, the wine is fresh with a light texture. It has a brightness and plenty of crispness at the end. Drink now. Michael Corso Selections. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$10

88 **Château des Antonins 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Plenty of crisp red berry fruits give this wine a delicious freshness as well as a light texture. Dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon, it has a fine tang at the end. Drink now. Multiple U.S. importers. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 **Château du Claouset 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** A well balanced wine that has attractive acidity and bright, crisp freshness. It has a pure line of red fruits and acidity, giving a refreshing aftertaste. Drink now. Road Cru. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$13

88 **Château Haut Mouleyre 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Touches of red currant flavors give the wine a fine, fruity character. It has an edge of tannins along with the strawberry fruitiness. Drink now. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$20

88 **Château Landereau 2021 La Vie en Rosé (Bordeaux Rosé).** Perfumed acidity and bright fruits give a lively, fragrant wine. With an edge of tanginess to give texture, the wine is perfectly ready to drink. Lanterna Distributors Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

88 **Château Maubert 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Full of ripe red berry fruits, the wine is delightfully crisp with spice and acidity in happy balance. The wine is ready to drink. New Frontier Wine Co. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

88 **Château Renard 2021 Rose Ruse (Bordeaux Rosé).** Tight and crisp with red berry flavors and layers of acidity, the wine is full of bright fruits. It is fresh and vibrant, ready to drink now. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

87 **Château de Belcier 2021 Fleurs de Belcier (Bordeaux Rosé).** Bright with red fruits and plenty of acidity, this is full of crisp textures and attractive acidity. Red currant flavors are lifted and given a lively aftertaste. Drink now. Vintage Imports, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 **Château de l'Aubrade 2021 (Bordeaux Rosé).** Lightly creamy with ripe red fruits and a touch of spice, the wine is attractive with

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some complexity. It is ready to drink. Profile Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

87 **Château Ferreyres 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** In a crisp style, bringing out red currant flavors, this is a fresh wine. Its acidity and tanga texture are well in balance. Drink now. Vigne Direct. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 **Château Ferreyres 2021 Le Petit Bouchon (Bordeaux Rosé).** In a crisp style, bringing out red currant flavors, this is a fresh wine. Its acidity and tanga texture are well in balance. Drink now. Vigne Direct. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 **Château Petit Moulin 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Defiantly crisp, the wine has acidity and taut minerality. The red currant flavors are lifted by citrus to give further freshness. Drink now. Barrique Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$13

86 **Château Vermont 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** A crisp wine that is full of red currant flavors. Piercing acidity will soften to give a wine that is both lively and well textured. Drink now. Touton Selection. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

86 **Domaine de La Tourbeille 2021 l'esprit de Jeanne (Bordeaux Rosé).** A fruity wine that has delicate red berry flavors. Lightly perfumed, the wine is crisp and zesty, ready to drink now. Avenue Terroir. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

86 **Gauthier Pertignas 2021 Le Rose de Pertignas (Bordeaux Rosé).** Tanga with a zesty citrus and red fruit mélange of flavors, the wine is full of acidity with a touch of spice. It is ready to drink. Petit Vin. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$13

86 **Secret de Sauman 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** A smooth texture contrasts with crisp red berry fruits and tight acidity in this balanced wine. It is rounded with a crisp aftertaste. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

85 **Axel des Vignes 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Fresh and fruity with a light texture and plenty of red fruits, this is a forward wine. It is ready to drink. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$11

85 **Château Fage 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Textured with a hint of tannins, the wine is taut and structured. It needs to soften, so wait to drink until later this year. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$14

84 **Château Marot 2021 Bordeaux Rosé.** Raspberry fruitiness is matched by a candy pink

color. It is somewhat confected. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

84 **Vignobles Raguenot 2020 French Can Can (Bordeaux Rosé).** The color of this Merlot dominated rosé in a can is orange pink, suggesting it is aging. However the fruit is crisp enough with red currant hints and plenty of crisp acidity. Definitely to be drunk now. Vivino Selections. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$5

SAUTERNES

94 **Château d'Arche 2018 Sauternes.** The wine, with its honey and spice is still young, rich and with great potential. The dry botrytis core gives a fine balance with the acidity and the density of this fine wine. Drink from 2025. Fine Vines. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA/375 ml

94 **Château d'Arche 2015 Sauternes.** Still developing, this intensely rich wine has great ripeness and sweetness. That is balanced by the dry botrytis at the wine's core as well as the fully integrated acidity that provides the contrast in the wine. It is a wine that will develop further. Drink now or from 2025. DJK Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

93 **Château d'Arche 2015 Sauternes.** While the wine is still young, it shows so much promise. It comes with a core of dry botrytis over which is laid orange marmalade, honey that are balanced by fine acidity. The wine is rich, but so poised that its richness is well integrated. Drink from 2027. Multiple U.S. importers. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$85

90 **Château d'Arche 2019 Soleil d'Arche (Sauternes).** Designed as an early-drinking wine, this is well honeyed with apricot fruits and ripe orange peel flavors. The acidity lies behind giving the proper freshness and contrast to the wine's sweetness. Drink now. Latitude Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

88 **Château d'Arche 2018 Perle d'Arche (Sauternes).** This classed growth estate in Sauternes has produced some attractive, early-drinking wines. This is fruity with apricots and spicy bitter orange jelly flavors. They go over sweetness and acidity in fine balance. Drink the wine now. Solstars. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

88 **Château Laribotte 2019 Sauternes.** With some luscious marmalade flavors, this velvet textured wine is deliciously rich. Acidity is a good balance to the ripeness of the wine. It is likely to be ready to drink from 2023. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40/375 ml

88 **Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Sauternes).** A luscious wine that has developed quickly to give honey and yellow fruit flavors. There is just a hint of drier botrytis in the heart of the wine, but it is certainly ready to drink. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

BORDEAUX RED WINES

BORDEAUX

90 **Château la Freynelle 2020 Petit Verdot (Bordeaux).** A rare example of 100% Petit Verdot shows a fine example of how this grape now ripens more easily in an era of climate change. It is rich, seriously structured, balancing black fruits and juiciness. The wine is complex and rich, will be ready to drink from 2024. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 **Château La Maroutine 2019 Bordeaux.** This château in Cadillac has produced a rich, dense wine that is full of juicy acidity and black fruits. It is fine and ripe, full and concentrated. Drink from 2025. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

89 **Château Haut Dambert 2018 Cuvée Grand Chêne (Bordeaux).** The wine has richness with ripe tannins and blackberry fruits. Structured still, the wine is full of a ripe, generous texture that will allow it to age further. Drink from 2023. Serge Doré Selections. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

89 **Château Nicot 2020 Bordeaux.** Dominated by 70% Merlot, this is obviously a wood-aged wine. But the toastiness is balanced with ripe black fruits and fine concentrated tannins to give a wine that will age well. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

88 **Château des Judes 2020 Bordeaux.** The wine is rich with fine tannins and dense blackberry fruits. Layering black fruitiness and spice, the wine is ready to develop. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

88 **Château Peyrouley 2020 Cuvée Elegance (Bordeaux).** The wine is dense with wood-aging flavors at this stage. It is firm, spicy blackberries laced with acidity to give a wine that will be finely balanced as it matures. Drink from 2024. Organic. SGWS. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

88 **Château Pierrousselle 2020 Cabernet Franc (Bordeaux).** An attractive, perfumed wine, this also has weight along with dense black fruits.

There is a strong smoky character, boosted by solid tannins. Drink this wine from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Domaines Comtesse de Malet Roquefort 2019 Comtesse de Malet Roquefort (Bordeaux). The wine is fresh with layers of blackberry fruits touched by black currant. The acidity and the wine's texture suggest it needs time to fill out. Drink from 2024. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château Croix Saint-Martin 2021 Bordeaux. Ripe and spicy fruit lifted with acidity and touches of pepper, the wine is full in the mouth showing bold Merlot juiciness. Drink this wine from 2023. Wine Source International. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$11

87 Château Grand Meynaud 2019 Bordeaux. Stalky with black currant fruits and some still-firm tannins, the wine has aging potential. Its structure is young while showing ripeness to come. Drink from 2024. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château Haut Dambert 2019 Cuvée Clemence (Bordeaux). A young wine with stalky textures that need so soften. As they do, that will bring out the black currant fruits and spicy aftertaste. Drink the wine from 2023. Serge Doré Selections. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$19

87 Château le Vinata 2019 Bordeaux. Juicy Merlot from the Entre-deux-Mers region, this is lightly perfumed with fresh acidity. Black currant fruits and spice complete this attractive wine. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Château Motte Maucourt 2020 Bordeaux. Ripe black fruits and firm tannins mark a wine that is solid and concentrated. It has an enticing juiciness that will allow the wine to develop further. Drink from 2024. Allied Importers, USA, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

87 Château Reynaud Lacoste 2019 Bordeaux. A rounded wine that has ripe blackberry fruits and a touch of spice, this is lightly structured. Tannins and the fruitiness are well integrated, giving a relatively quick development for the wine. Drink from 2023. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Château Roc de Ségur 2020 Bordeaux. Still young, the wine has ripe tannins that need to develop. It is full of juicy black currant fruits. Drink from 2024. MS Walker. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

87 Haussmann 2019 Baron Eugénie (Bordeaux). Light tannins and ripe black currant fruits are well balanced in this juicy wine. The wine is

gently structured and open, ready to drink. My Houseland. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

87 Maison Ginestet 2020 Citran (Bordeaux). A fine Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon blend, this is already softly textured. Juicy black fruits and gentle tannins give the wine an immediately accessible character. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$20

87 Maison Ginestet 2020 Mascaron (Bordeaux). This fruity wine with its fully integrated tannins is designed for early drinking. It has attractive black currant fruits that are lifted by acidity and a juicy aftertaste. Drink from 2023. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

86 Château Chillac 2020 Bordeaux. A ripe, straightforward wine, with blackberry fruits and a texture that is already soft, this has acidity and fruit in balance. It has a juicy aftertaste and is ready to drink. Organic. Grape Expectations (CA). —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

86 Vignobles Raguénot 2020 French Can Can (Bordeaux). A pleasingly soft wine in a can, this has black currant flavors and light tannins. It is a ripe wine, touched by spice and ready to drink. Vivino Selections. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$5

85 Château le Sable 2019 Bordeaux. This is a light wine with a fruity character and soft tannins. It has simple black currant flavors and is ready to drink. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

BORDEAUX SUPÉRIEUR

90 Château Roc de Levraut 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. Produced in the heart of the Entre-deux-Mers region, the wood-aged wine is rich and spicy. With layers of dense toast, it is a fine, spicy and juicy wine, balanced already. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

89 Château Peyrouley 2018 Cuvée Prestige (Bordeaux Supérieur). A rich, smoky wine that is almost ready to drink. With its fine berry fruits and spicy flavors, the it is ripe and promising further aging. Drink from 2023. Organic. SGWS. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Cap Royal 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. Developed with the participation of Jean-René Matignon, winemaker of Pichon Baron in Pauillac, this wood-aged wine is rich, concentrated, well textured and developing well. It should be ready

to drink from 2023. Suitable for vegans. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Château Darmagnac 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. With solid tannins and black fruits, this is a big, extracted wine. Its weight and ripe berry flavors give a wine that is massive. The happy contrast is with the wine's fine acidity and juicy aftertaste. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

88 Château du Tasta 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. A fruity wine with black currant fruits and perfumed acidity, this is balanced and packed with spice and a broad texture. Drink from 2023. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$10

88 Château la Verrière 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. The wine is dense and concentrated, black with dark plum fruits. It is still young, of course, with tannins and acidity still developing. The wine is likely to be ready from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Château Les Gravières de la Brandille 2015 Arne (Bordeaux Supérieur). Rounded and structured with mature tannins, the wine is totally dominated by Merlot. That gives richness, lifted by the acidity and spicy layers. The wine is ready to drink. Old World Wines Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

88 Château Trocard 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur. Tannins still show strongly in this ripe wine. They give a firm edge to the blackberry fruits and the attractive acidity. The wine will develop well. Drink from 2024. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Château Virecourt 2019 Pillebourse (Bordeaux Supérieur). The wine has ripeness that contrasts with black currant acidity. Its structure brings out tannins that will allow the wine to age. Spice and a crisp aftertaste give it some potential. Drink from 2024. Aquitaine Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

88 Haussmann 2019 Baron Eugénie (Bordeaux Supérieur). Named after the Baron Haussmann who created the boulevards in Paris in the 19th century, this wine is structured with tannins balancing the blackberry fruits. Its dry core promises some aging. Drink from 2023. My Houseland. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 Château du Ballandreau 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. This superrich wine is full of dark tannins and ripe black fruits. Dominated by ripe Merlot, it is a big wine spoiled by a touch of pepper from the alcohol. Drink from 2023. Vinamericas, Inc.. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$19

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87 Château Haut Claribès 2020 Bordeaux Supérieur. A over rich wine with dense tannins and youthful black fruits, this is concentrated. Its weight and dark black fruits are lightly touched by acidity. The wine will need some more time, drink from 2024. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$25

85 Château Leroy-Bauval 2019 Bordeaux Supérieur. Dense, with solid tannins, the wine has too much weight for its own good. It is unbalanced with extraction, dark cocoa and licorice flavors and a massive character. Drink from 2024. North Berkeley Imports. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

CASTILLON CÔTES DE BORDEAUX

92 Château Rocher de Joanin 2019 Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux. Under the same ownership as classed growth Château Corbin Despagne in Saint-Emilion, this estate has produced a richly textured wine, packed with juicy Merlot and that is vibrant and already delicious. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

90 Château la Perrière 2020 Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux. Based around a 13th century castle, this estate has produced a spicy, smoky Merlot-dominated wine. Its rich tannins are balanced with fine blackberry fruits shot through with acidity. It will be ready from 2025. Latitude Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Domaine de la Grande Courraye 2019 Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux. An attractive wine, blending Merlot and Cabernet Franc, this is balanced and full of juicy black fruits. It has weight with acidity and youthful tannins still very present. Drink from 2025. Organic. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

89 Château Tourtirac 2020 Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux. With 80% Merlot in the blend, this is a big wine. Its open tannins and velvet texture suggest it is aging quickly. But there is structure that will give the wine the chance to age. Drink from 2025. Grape Expectations (CA). —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$16

CÔTES DE BOURG

90 Château Beaulieu 2019 Cuvée Arthur (Côtes de Bourg). Apart from the heavy bottle, this is a fine, ripe wine. Solid tannins show it is still maturing, acidity and black fruits in the ascendant. The wine has a good future, so wait to drink until 2025. Chemin Des Vins. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Château Fontvieille 2019 Côtes de Bourg. With 80% Merlot, the wine is generous and rounded. It does also have a firm structured character that promises aging. With a juicy, smoky aftertaste, the wine will continue to mature. Drink from 2024. Chemin Des Vins. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

86 Château Haut-Rousset 2020 Côtes de Bourg. The wine is soft and rounded with ripe berry flavors and generous dark tannins. It is an open wine, rounded from the 100% Merlot. Drink from 2023. Suitable for vegans. Organic. Wine Source International. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

LALANDE DE POMEROL

92 Château de Chambrun 2019 Lalande de Pomerol. This is an elegant wine, balancing juicy black fruits from Merlot with rich tannins. The wine's structure and impressive balance are already apparent, promising plenty of aging potential. Drink the wine from 2025. Calvert Woodley Fine Wines & Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Château des Arnauds 2020 Cuvée des Capucins (Lalande de Pomerol). A ripe, smoky wine full of generous Merlot black fruits, this dense and with fine aging potential. Spice and dark tannins go with the blackberry flavors and acidity. Drink from 2025. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

92 Château des Baraillots 2020 Lalande de Pomerol. Packed with rich black fruits, dark tannins and the potential of jammy Merlot, the wine shows concentration and a young structure. Its potential is there, wait to drink from 2025. MHW, Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$39

92 Château Moncets 2019 Lalande de Pomerol. A fine, ripe, juicy wine with balanced tannins, this is rich in Merlot and fine spice. The wine's structure and its solid texture show fine potential. Drink this concentrated wine from 2025. Cognac One, LLC. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

91 Château la Croix Bellevue 2019 Lalande de Pomerol. With its balanced blend of half Merlot with the two Cabernets, this wine is complex, condensed and full of dark tannins. It has weight from ripe blackberry fruits and a spicy aftertaste. Drink from 2025. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

91 Château Vieux Chaigneau 2017 Lalande de Pomerol. Now mature, this Merlot-dominated wine has rich black plum fruits and a solid core of dark tannins. Aged for a year in wood, it shows toastiness as well as ripe spice. Drink now.

Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$27

89 Château la Croix des Moines 2019 Lalande de Pomerol. This is a ripe wine, smoothly textured with a backdrop of tannins and acidity. With 80% Merlot it is obviously a dense and concentrated wine. The touch of pepper from the alcohol gives a bite at the end. Drink from 2025. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Château Vieille Dynastie 2018 Lalande de Pomerol. Rich in Merlot, this wine has tannins that are now maturing, giving juicy concentration and ripe blackberry flavors. The wine is ready to drink. Old World Wines Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$42

MARGAUX

93 Château du Tertre 2016 Les Hauts du Tertre (Margaux). The second wine of the classified growth Château du Tertre is now rich and just mature. It is smoothly textured with blackberry and spice flavors and a great depth of richness and concentration. Drink the wine now. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

93 Château Marquis de Terme 2018 Cuvée 1762 (Margaux). This second wine is named after the founding date of this estate. It is a smoothly textured wine, almost mature. With its fine black currant flavors and bright touches of acidity, it shows a juicy character that will allow it to age further. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$40

93 Château Petit-Serlin 2020 Margaux. A smooth and spicy wine that has fine integrated tannins. This tiny property of 1.7 acres is planted entirely with Cabernet Sauvignon, giving structure as well as juicy black currant fruits. It is wine to age, so wait until 2026. Latitude Beverage Company. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Château du Tertre 2018 Les Hauts du Tertre (Margaux). The second wine of Margaux classed growth Château du Tertre is rich while also stylish. Its generous tannins are balanced by juicy black currant fruits and smoky acidity. Drink this wine from 2023. Advantage International. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

91 Château d'Arsac 2019 Diagonale d'Arsac (Margaux). This fine estate at the west of the Margaux appellation has produced an, elegant second wine. It is juicy with a blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Black currant fruits give the wine

a youthful character. Drink from 2025. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 **Château du Tertre 2015 Les Hauts du Tertre (Margaux).** This mature wine now has secondary flavors to balance the acidity and the remaining smoky tannins. This second wine of classed growth Château du Tertre is full and attractive. Drink now. Advantage International. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

90 **Château Tayac 2020 Margaux.** From an estate in the northern part of Margaux, the wine is smoothly textured with a firm slug of tannin to give structure and aging potential. It has spice, black fruits and a fine, ripe aftertaste. Drink from 2026. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

88 **Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Margaux).** This stylish wine still has some firm tannins that promise aging. Attractive black currant fruits are there, waiting to come through. Drink this wine from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$50

MÉDOC

92 **Château Côtes de Blaignan 2019 Cru Bourgeois (Médoc).** An estate managed by women for 150 years, this is in the north of the Médoc. This latest release has 50% Cabernet Sauvignon that brings fine structure and black currant fruits. It is a fruity wine, lightly touched by wood aging. Drink from 2024. Grape Expectations (CA). *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

91 **Château Haut Queyran 2019 Cru Bourgeois (Médoc).** With its 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine is ripe, juicy and strong on black currant fruits. It has a structure that is firm, still young, exuding tannins. This fine wine is well balanced and will smooth out well. Drink from 2025. Serge Doré Selections. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

91 **Château Ricaudet 2018 Médoc.** This is a rich, wood-aged wine. Its dense texture of tannins and black fruits is richly constructed. Mint and spice combine with the black plum flavors in a fine wine. Drink this still-young wine from 2025. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

90 **Château Moulin de Cabanieu 2018 Médoc.** This wood-aged wine has a rich structure and ripe black fruits. With its dense texture and strong spice and wood-aging flavors, it needs some time still. Drink from 2024. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

90 **Château Poitevin 2019 Cru Bourgeois (Médoc).** A fine black currant flavored wine

that has ripe tannins and a juicy character. It is balanced with acidity, fruit, layered with tannins. Drink this wine from 2025. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

88 **Château Bernon 2020 Médoc.** Almost equal quantities of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon give this wine its texture and fine mix of black currant and berry fruits. It needs to develop further to soften the tight acidity. Drink from 2025. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

88 **Château Bourbon la Chapelle 2018 Médoc.** Now almost mature, this is a juicy wine that has plenty of blackberry flavors and fine tannins. It is an attractive wine, one that will be fully developed in 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

88 **Château La Branne 2019 Cru Bourgeois (Médoc).** The use of wood has obviously been generous, because this wine tastes more woody than fruity. Its structure is firm and the wine is certainly young. Hopefully that wood will integrate. Try again in 2025. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

87 **Château Cabanieu 2020 Médoc.** The youthful tannins set the scene for a juicy wine that is full of black currant fruitiness. It is still bright, emphasizing freshness. Over the next few years, the wine will open up. Drink from 2025. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

86 **Les Vignerons d'Uni-Médoc 2020 Simply Médoc (Médoc).** The wine is full of fruit, blackberry and spice. With its youthful acidity and juicy aftertaste, it needs a little more time to develop and soften. Drink from 2023. W. Direct. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

PAUILLAC

93 **Château Bellegrave 2019 Pauillac.** An elegant wine, this comes from a small estate in the heart of Pauillac. With its stylish Cabernet Sauvignon black currant flavors, balanced tannins and acidity, the wine is still developing. Drink from 2026. Aquitaine Wine Company. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

93 **Château Grand-Puy Ducasse 2019 Prélude à Grand-Puy Ducasse (Pauillac).** This is the second wine of classed growth Grand-Puy Ducasse. With half-and-half Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, it obviously has much of the Merlot that did not make the cut for the top wine. That means the wine has smoothness and accessibility and will mature relatively quickly. The wine is full and dense with

fine smokiness as well as tannins. Drink from 2025. Serge Doré Selections. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

92 **Château Gaudin 2019 Pauillac.** Still with its firm tannins, this dense wine is promising. Its ripe blackberry fruits and concentrated tannins will shortly begin to soften into a well-rounded, balanced and juicy wine. Drink from 2026. Misa Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

91 **Château Gaudin 2018 Pauillac.** A finely perfumed wine that has touches of mint aromas and new wood flavors. It has a polished feel to it, ripe with black currants and light spice. Drink this well balanced wine from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

90 **Collection 1933 2018 Pauillac.** Produced by the cooperative of Listrac-Médoc, the wine celebrates the year this co-op was created. The wine itself, with 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, is structured with ripe black currant flavors and an elegant texture. Drink the wine from 2025. José Moura Selections. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

90 **Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Pauillac).** A firmly structured wine, this is rich and with plenty of layers of black currant fruits and balanced tannins. The wine is ripe, with aging potential. Drink from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$55

PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

93 **Château Haut-Vigneau 2020 Pessac-Léognan.** A ripe wine, full of smooth berry fruits. They are backed by tannins and structure that will allow this wine to mature. Owned by the Perrin family of Château Carbonnieux, the wine is going to develop well. Drink from 2025. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

92 **Château Tour Léognan 2019 Pessac-Léognan.** This wine, owned by the Perrin family of Graves classed growth Château Carbonnieux, has produced a ripe, juicy, spicy wine from the young vines of the estate. It shows rich tannins as well as structured black currant fruits and a juicy aftertaste. The wine is developing well and should be ready from 2025. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

90 **Château Latour-Martillac 2017 Lacroix-Martillac (Pessac-Léognan).** A solid, rich wine with fine tannins and juicy acidity, this is the second wine of Château Latour-Martillac. It is smooth, the textures now fully matured with a light touch of smokiness. Drink now. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

BUYINGGUIDE

87 Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Pessac-Léognan). Beyond the barnyard aroma, this is a structured wine with some firm tannins and black currant fruits. There is an austere edge that, hopefully, will soften. Drink from 2023. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$35

POMEROL

93 Château la Fleur des Rouzes 2019 Pomerol. This small seven-acre estate has given us a wine that has a rich proportion of Merlot, dense and fruity. Black plum flavors vie with spice and a perfumed aftertaste to give a wine that will be ready from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

93 Château Lafleur du Roy 2018 Cuvée Excellence (Pomerol). A fine, bold wine with rich tannins and juicy acidity, this Merlot-dominated wine is powerful and concentrated. Spicy, smoky, the tannins still softening, the wine will be ready from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

91 Clos de la Vieille Eglise 2019 Pomerol. The dominance of Merlot has resulted in the high alcohol of this wine. In terms of weight, the wine is dense. At the same time it has plenty of juicy black fruits along with a smooth texture from wood aging. Drink this big wine from 2025. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

90 Vieux Château Brun 2019 Tradition (Pomerol). Owned by the same family for four generations, this estate's latest release is dense with black fruit and dark chocolate flavors. It is full-bodied, needing some more aging. Drink from 2024. Wine Source International. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

88 Chateau Porte Chic 2019 Pomerol. Merlot and Cabernet Franc give this wine weight and a perfumed edge. It is a ripe, juicy wine, full of both black fruits and acidity. With its concentration and alcohol, there is a bite of pepper at the end. Drink from 2025. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

88 Maison Ginestet 2020 Collection Grandes Appellations (Pomerol). A young Merlot-dominated wine, this is still packed with solid tannins. They are submerging the weight of black fruit at this stage but this will soften over the next few months. Drink from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

SAINT-ÉMILION

93 Château de l'Annonciation 2019 Saint-Émilion. This is a satisfyingly ripe blend of Merlot and Cabernet Franc. It is juicy with a smooth texture and dense background tannins. The wine's

velvet character promises well for the future. Drink from 2025. DHI Selections. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

93 Château Fleur Cardinale 2019 Saint-Émilion. After 12 months in wood, the wine has a fine spicy edge. That balances the rich black fruits with their floral character. This is a ripe wine that has plenty of potential. Drink from 2026. J.J. Buckley Fine Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$43

92 Château Armens 2019 Saint-Émilion. Owned by the Malet Roquefort family of classed growth Château Gaffelière, this estate is at the eastern end of Saint-Émilion. The wine is juicy, bright with fresh black currant fruits and lush with a dense texture. The wine is of course still developing and should be ready from 2026. Vineyard Brands. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$38

92 Château Fleur Cardinale 2019 Intuition de Fleur Cardinale (Saint-Émilion). A ripe, dark chocolate flavored wine, this is rich with juicy Merlot flavors. Its density and black plum skin textures are enhanced by the depth of the wine, its concentration. Drink from 2025. J.J. Buckley Fine Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

91 Château Croix Cardinale 2019 Saint-Émilion. A ripe and smoothly delicious wine, this wood-aged wine is finely balanced. Its black fruits are fully integrated with the spice and the velvet texture. Drink the wine from 2024. J.J. Buckley Fine Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

91 Château la Chapelle 2020 Saint-Émilion. A fruity pure Merlot wine that has spice and tannins as well as juicy black fruits. Smoky with a jammy character that still allows room for acidity, the wine is likely to be ready to drink from 2025. Organic. Vinovia Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Château Eglise d'Armens 2019 Saint-Émilion. The Malet Roquefort family, owners of grand cru classé La Gaffelière in Saint-Émilion, also own this property. The wine is full of juicy acidity, perfumed spice and layers of dark tannins. It is going to be a fine wine, drink from 2026. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

90 Château Fleur de Lisse 2019 Saint-Émilion. With over 90% Merlot, the wine, inside this heavy bottle, is solidly rich. There is an opulent feel with ripe black fruits that are smoothed by wood aging. The wine is dense while balanced with the juicy character still in play. Drink from 2025. Pinnacle Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Château Monlot 2019 Saint-Émilion. This is a big wine, solid with dark tannins and dark

fruits. It has power, dark chocolate and spice flavors that have a juicy, black plum edge. Drink the wine from 2024. Trellis Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

90 Château Pailhas 2018 Vieilles Vignes (Saint-Émilion). From old vines, this wine has fine concentration and rich black fruits. Its richness is balanced by juicy black currant freshness and acidity. From a chateau based on the plain towards the Dordogne river has produced a wine that will be ready now. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Clos Dubreuil 2019 Saint-Émilion. The wine does not need the massively heavy bottle to make its point. That's for the ripe, full-bodied wine to do. With young tannins and a rich structure, the wine is not shy. It will develop further and be ready from 2026. Eads Family Vineyards. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

89 Château Cruzeau 2019 Saint-Émilion. This 16th century chateau almost in the city of Libourne, has produced a finely structured, perfumed wine from rich tannins and juicy black fruits. It is likely to be ready to drink from 2025. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Domaines Comtesse de Malet Roquefort 2019 Dame de Gaffelière (Saint-Émilion). The Malet Roquefort family has been in Saint-Émilion since 1705. This wine is rich with the elegance associated with Château la Gaffelière. Black currant fruits are shot through with acidity that will soften. Drink the wine from 2025. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Saint-Émilion). A smoothly textured wine, showing ripe Merlot flavors and rich black fruits. The wine is dense, full of lush fruitiness, finishing with a smoky aftertaste. Drink from 2023. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$35

88 Château Franc la Rose 2019 Saint-Émilion. The wine's richness gives it a massive feel. Along with the high alcohol (thanks to the Merlot in the blend), this wine is dense, lightly peppery. The black fruits are ripe, full of concentration. Drink this big wine from 2024. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

88 Château la Chapelle aux Moines 2019 Saint-Émilion. The wine comes from an estate in the east of Saint-Émilion. It is young still, richly structured with dark tannins and fine black currant fruits. The wine is spicy, full of juiciness and should be ready from 2025. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

SAINT-ESTÈPHE

91 **Château Faget 2019 Le Croisé (Saint-Estèphe)**. From a small estate at the heart of the Saint-Estèphe appellation, the wine is balanced and elegant. Its tannins are still young supporting the fine black currant fruits and acidity. The wine will be ready from 2025. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Editors' Choice*. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

91 **Château Phélan-Ségur 2018 La Croix Bonis (Saint-Estèphe)**. This wine, produced at Château Phélan Ségur, is elegant with ripe berry fruits and a layer of tannin that is still full of potential. It has great spice and layered acidity. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

90 **Château Ségur de Cabanac 2018 Saint-Estèphe**. This is a ripe, juicy fruity wine with smoky tannins and great black currant fruits. The wine is fine with great acidity. Drink from 2026. Victory Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 **Maison Ginestet 2019 Collection Grandes Appellations (Saint-Estèphe)**. Properly dry and structured from this appellation, the wine also shows fine blackberry and black fruit flavors. The balance will be just right, acidity and concentration for the future. Drink from 2024. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 90% **Price:** \$35

OTHE RED WINES

94 **Château Teynac 2018 Saint-Julien**. From one of the rare Saint-Julien estates that is not classified, the wine is spicy and stylish with finely wrought tannins. Black currant fruits from the Cabernet Sauvignon dominate the wine, giving further potential. Drink from 2025. MS Walker. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

93 **Château Tessendey 2019 Fronsac**. This property is owned by the d'Arfeuille family who also have estates in Saint-Emilion. It is a ripe, juicy wine, deliciously fruity now, bringing out spice and solid tannins. Merlot and a blending of Cabernet Franc work well together in this wine that will be ready from 2025. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

92 **Château Moulin de la Rose 2018 Saint-Julien**. This property owned by the Delon family of classed growth Léoville las Cases, is richly textured, full of juicy acidity and ripe tannins. It is a classy wine, richly concentrated and with a fine future. Drink from 2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

91 **Château Bourdieu 2019 Absolu (Blaye Côtes de Bordeaux)**. This wine comes from selected grapes grown on the best vineyards of the estate. That makes for a powerful, concentrated wine with dark tannins and superripe Merlot fruits. Wait for the wine to open up and drink from 2025. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$35

91 **Château Lalande Mause 2016 Fronsac**. Now just mature, this is an impressive wine. Rich in tannins and black fruits, ripe with layers of acidity contrasting with the structure, the wine has power and density. Drink from now, although the wine will age further. Aquitaine Wine Company. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

90 **Château Fourcas Dupré 2018 Les Jardins de Fourcas-Dupré (Listrac-Médoc)**. This second wine from Château Fourcas-Dupré is already an attractive and is ready to drink. Juicy black currants, fine tannins that have softened and plenty of acidity, give a wine that is open and very drinkable now. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Editors' Choice*. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

90 **Château Grimont 2018 Altime (Cadillac Côtes de Bordeaux)**. A limited production, superrich wine this is 100% Merlot. Big on structure and tannins with juicy acidity and wood aging flavors, the wine is spicy and with some pepper from the high alcohol. Drink this powerful wine from 2024. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$23

90 **Château Magnol 2019 M de Magnol (Haut-Médoc)**. For full review see page 21. BGPL USA.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 **Domaine de la Solitude 2019 Chapelle de la Solitude (Graves)**. Produced by the wine-making team of Domaine de Chevalier in Pessac-Léognan, this wine shows rich, smooth tannins that are full of potential. It is balanced with the acidity, black currant flavors. Drink the wine from 2025. Serge Doré Selections. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

89 **Château Romefort 2019 Haut-Médoc**. With time in both tank and wood, this wine, under the same ownership as cru bourgeois Lamothe-Bergeron, is structured with black currant flavors mingling with the tannins. The wine is balanced, just needing time. Drink from 2025. EU Family Estates. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 **Château Gardut Haut Cluzeau 2020 Blaye Côtes de Bordeaux**. A blend that is dominated by 70% Merlot gives ripe black fruits associated with generous tannins. The acidity and fruit give a juicy, smoky character to the wine from this

family estate. Drink from 2023. Organic. Wine Source International. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$23

88 **Château La Mothe du Barry 2021 French Kiss (Bordeaux Clairet)**. Crisp fruit accompany what is a light colored Clairet. That gives great freshness to the wine while also introducing a smoky aftertaste. Drink now. Elite Wines Import. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

88 **Château Laulan 2018 Francs Côtes de Bordeaux**. From a small appellation at the far east of the Bordeaux vineyard, this wine with its blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon is packed with generous black fruits. It will age further, drink from 2024. Total Wine & More. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$19

88 **Château les Tours de Bayard 2019 Cuvée Prestige (Montagne-Saint-Émilion)**. A smoothly textured wine with rich Merlot and some structure from Cabernet Franc. This is a fine, open and already drinkable wine. Its black fruits and weight are ripe and dense. Drink from 2023. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$14

87 **Château Croix de Rambeau 2019 Lussac Saint-Émilion**. Dense tannins mark a seriously structured wine. It has high extraction that gives the wine a bitterness as well as licorice flavors. It will soften slowly and with difficulty, so wait to drink until 2025. Spec's. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

87 **Château Penin 2021 Clairet (Bordeaux Clairet)**. Clairet's dark rosé color brings with it tannins and a red berry flavors. The wine is definitely for food, textured while ready to drink. Steep Hill Importing. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

CHAMPAGNE

VINTAGE BRUT

97 **Bollinger 2014 La Grand Année Brut (Champagne)**. With the hallmark Bollinger richness that is derived from fermentation in wood and a high percentage of Pinot Noir in the blend, this grand wine is ripe, full of apple and spice flavors. It is drinkable now, but still young. Keep until 2024. Vintus LLC. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$190

95 **Bollinger 2014 La Grand Année Rosé Brut (Champagne)**. After eight years from harvest, this Champagne is beautifully balanced. Touches of toast and a rounded texture still are lifted by the taut, minerality and complexity. This is an impressive wine with a long, lingering, memorable aftertaste that will age further, although it is ready to drink. Vintus LLC. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$240

BUYINGGUIDE

95 Joseph Perrier 2014 Cuvée Josephine Brut x Jordane Saget (Champagne). The latest release of this producer's prestige cuvée comes in a bottle designed by artist Jordane Saget. It is a fine, 40/60 blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay giving white fruits and tight citrus flavors. The Champagne's elegance and mature fruitiness is impressive. Drink now or keep. Baron Francois Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

95 Perrier Jouët 2013 Belle Epoque Rosé Brut (Champagne). This famed Champagne in its Belle Epoque flower label remains a very fine wine. This latest release is still in its vibrant fruit stage, showing no signs of aging. The hints of strawberries are balanced against the fine texture. The wine is ready to drink. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 De Saint Gall 2008 Orpale Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru Brut (Champagne). This is a beautifully mature Champagne, with ripe Chardonnay from the Côtes de Blancs now just hinting at toastiness. The wine's freshness is still apparent so that the balance with maturity is just right. Drink this fine wine now, but also age. Saranty Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Perrier Jouët 2012 Belle Epoque Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne). In the soft style that is the hallmark of Belle Epoque, this Champagne is very accessible and beautifully textured. It is a fine wine, balanced and poised between fruit and yeasty maturity. Drink now. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$167

93 Pommery 2008 Grand Cru Royal Brut (Champagne). A fine, mature Champagne, this is beautifully textured. Fruit is still there, a fine underlay of bright acidity, surmounted by toastiness and minerality. Drink this impressive wine now. Vranken Pommery America. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$70

92 G. H. Mumm 2013 RSRV Blanc de Noirs Brut (Champagne). For full review see page 14. Pernod Ricard.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$54

89 G. H. Mumm 2015 Brut Millésimé (Champagne). The Champagne's balance between fruit and maturity is just right. Brightness and spice come together with a touch of yeast and fine final acidity. The wine is ready to drink. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$48

NONVINTAGE BRUT

93 Dernière-Ansiot NV Brut Blanc de Blancs (Champagne). This producer, based in Oger on the Côte des Blancs has produced a beautifully

textured Champagne with a taut character that is ready to relax as the bottling ages. Drink this fine wine from the end of the year. Veritas Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$41

93 Labryère NV Page Blanche Grand Cru Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne). Tight, textured with strong minerality and deliciously perfumed freshness, this Champagne is very fine. Zesty with citrus flavors and floral with green apples, this bottling is just ready to drink. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Philippe Fourrier NV Intimiste Brut (Champagne). A period of fermentation and aging in wood and aging on the lees have given this Champagne great richness and concentration. The wine is finely textured, crisp with acidity while also having a perfumed aftertaste. Drink now. J & J Winery. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$180

92 Charles Coquet NV Cuvée Dandy Grand Cru Brut (Champagne). This special cuvée from the producer based in Ambonnay on the Montagne de Reims has created a 50/50 blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The Champagne's fine outlines and tightly crisp acidity have been aged for five years after disgorgement. That gives ripeness and a rounded final texture. Drink now. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$60

92 G. H. Mumm NV RSRV 4.5 Brut (Champagne). For full review see page 15. Pernod Ricard.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$54

92 G. H. Mumm NV RSRV Rosé Foujita Brut (Champagne). There is some fine aging on this balanced rosé Champagne. It moves easily between fresh citrus and touch of almonds and toast giving a fine, elegant wine that is very ready to drink. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$54

92 G. Richomme NV Les Courbes de Marguerite (Champagne). This Champagne comes from selected parcels of old vines. It is perfumed and smooth with a touch of age on the bottling. Ripe apples and citrus are present while in the background there are spice and touches of toast. Drink this fine wine now. Select Beverage Company. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$108

92 José Dhondt NV Brut (Champagne). A crisp, still-young bottling, this is tightly textured with strong minerality from the Côte des Blancs. With intense acidity that will soften as the Champagne matures, this is full of potential. Drink the bottling from later this year. Veritas Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$43

92 Philippe Fourrier NV Cuvée Prestige Brut (Champagne). This beautifully mineral Blanc de Blancs Chardonnay shows the touches

of maturity of its for years aging. It has richness as well, giving a perfumed character to the Champagne's crisp edge. Drink now. J & J Winery. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$70

92 Philippe Fourrier 2014 Cuvée Millésime Brut (Champagne). This producer is based in the southern Aube region, where Pinot Noir forms the majority of planting. With its maturity assured, this Champagne is beautifully ripe and smooth. The taut edge of acidity gives shape to this finely perfumed wine. Drink now. J & J Winery. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$90

91 De Saint Gall 2015 Grand Cru Le Blanc de Blancs Millésimé Brut (Champagne). This Champagne, produced by the cooperative in Avize on the Côte des Blancs has, of course, produced a fine Chardonnay-driven wine. This has tight minerality, still young and vibrant. The apple and citrus fruitiness is softening towards maturity, but not quite yet. Drink the wine from 2023. Saranty Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$60

91 Gremillet NV Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne). With three years on its lees, this Champagne shows plenty of ripeness and concentration that is delicious. It is full of ripe apple and lime flavors, contrasting with the zesty acidity and texture. Drink now. Golden State Wine Co. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$47

91 Philippe Fourrier NV Blanc de Noirs Brut (Champagne). Pinot Noir from the Aube has a softness to it, a more rounded texture than from the Marne further north. That is the fine essence of this Champagne with its richness and crisp aftertaste. Drink now. Votto Vines Importing. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$55

91 Philippe Fourrier NV Réserve Brut (Champagne). Aged for four years after disgorgement, the Champagne has a fine touch of maturity with toastiness just beginning to show against the blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The wine has a fine tang of perfumed acidity at the end. Drink now. Vitis Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$65

90 Camille Savès NV Cuvée Blanche Brut (Champagne). The nonvintage cuvée from this producer is gently textured with a fine pure line of acidity set against the citrus and white fruit flavors. The Champagne is dominated by Pinot Noir from the Montagne de Reims, giving great freshness and texture. Drink now. Veritas Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$39

90 Camille Savès NV Cuvée Rosé Brut (Champagne). This producer, based in Bouzy on the Montagne de Reims has produced a rich style of rosé. With hints of toastiness over a strong mineral edge from the 60% Chardonnay in the blend, this

is a fine Champagne that is ready to drink. Veritas Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$53

90 Charles Coquet NV L'Élégant Grand Cru Brut (Champagne). Nutty and with touches of toastiness, this Champagne is already delicious with its rich fruits. With a light texture and apple fruit flavors, the wine is beautifully ready to drink. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$50

90 G. H. Mumm NV Grand Cordon Brut (Champagne). For full review see page 23. Pernod Ricard.
abv: 12% Price: \$30

90 G. Richomme NV La Fusionnelle Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne). The producer has made a crisp, mineral and apple flavored Champagne. It is delicately textured, perfumed and with a fine citrus edge. The wine is ready to drink. Select Beverage Company. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$75

90 Gremillet NV Blanc de Noirs Brut (Champagne). The Champagne has weight and structured richness from ripe Pinot Noir. Layers of acidity and perfumed fruits are given a textured character from the wine's weighty fruitiness. Drink now. Golden State Wine Co. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$43

90 Gremillet NV Brut Sélection (Champagne). This is the nonvintage cuvée from this family company in the Aube region. It has perfumed white fruits with a ripe and lightly structured feel from the Pinot Noir in the blend. It is a very accessible Champagne that is ready to drink. Golden State Wine Co. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$36

90 Philippe Fourrier NV Rosé de Saignée Brut (Champagne). A delicately colored rosé, this has fine ripe Pinot Noir fruits, given a mineral edge with Chardonnay. The Champagne is floral, with hints of tannins and a fragrant aftertaste. Drink the bottling now. J & J Winery. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$70

89 Louis Morette NV Grande Réserve Brut (Champagne). The blend of mainly red grapes gives a Champagne that has a light structure and density. The wine's citrus fruits and freshness are balanced by the ripe fruits. An attractive wine, it is ready to drink. G.K. Skaggs, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$30/375 ml

89 Perrier Jouët NV Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne). This is a soft Champagne with comfortable white fruit flavors and the lightest hint of minerality. It is an appealing wine that is ready to drink. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$65

88 De Saint Gall NV Le Tradition Premier Cru Brut (Champagne). Ripe and soft, this is a

creamy Champagne. Its edge of minerality gives a freshness and citricity to the wine's texture. Drink this bottling now. Saranty Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$40

88 Gremillet NV Brut Rosé (Champagne). A fresh Champagne, that is light with its color and with its bright acidity. It is fresh with red fruits and tangy with a touch of minerality. Drink now. Golden State Wine Co. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$38

88 Jacques Picard NV Brut (Champagne). The Champagne is in a fruity style, exuding apple and bright acidity along with a fine mix of minerality and freshness. The bottling is ready to drink. Meycorr. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$59

88 Louis Morette NV Grande Réserve Brut Rosé (Champagne). Soft red fruits allied to bright acidity give the Champagne a fresh while rounded character. It has lively acidity to go with the vigorous mousse. The wine is ready to drink. G.K. Skaggs, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$30/375 ml

88 Perrier Jouët NV Blason Rosé Brut (Champagne). An attractively fruity wine with touches of yeast set against bright red and citrus fruits. This is an accessible drinkable Champagne open and ready. Pernod Ricard. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$65

88 Philippe Fourrier NV Pinot Meunier Brut (Champagne). A limited production Champagne, this has ripe fruit from the Meunier grape. While the texture is initially soft, it has a fine fruity intensity and minerality that bring texture. Drink the wine now. Vitis Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$70

88 Prystasz NV Brut Grande Réserve (Champagne). Made for Château Roubine, this crisp, seriously dry Champagne is mineral driven and taut. It is a young bottling that shows acidity, so it would be better to age for a few months and drink later this year. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$35

88 Serveaux Fils NV Carte Noire Brut (Champagne). This producer at the western end of the Marne Valley has made a fine, softly textured Champagne, with 50% Meunier in the blend. It is already a delicate, perfumed and brightly ready-to-drink wine. Favorite Brand. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$38

87 Charles Coquet NV Rosé Chic Grand Cru Brut (Champagne). The hints of red fruits in this Champagne show a fine texture alongside the acidity and tight minerality. The wine is ready to drink. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$55

87 Heidsieck & Co Monopole NV Blue Top Brut (Champagne). This Champagne is lightly

structured, balancing between the citrus and red fruit flavors and crisp acidity. It is a young wine, but is ready to drink. Vranken Pommery America. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$40

BRUT NATURE

95 Pommery 2006 Cuvée Louise Brut Nature (Champagne). This wine is proof that dry Champagnes age so well. It is complex, full of impressive white fruits that are still fragrant and fresh enough to shine against the almond and toast flavors. The wine is fully balanced now. Vranken Pommery America. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$230

94 Labryère NV Paradoxe Grand Cru Blanc de Noirs Brut Nature (Champagne). Verzenay is noted for its Grand Cru Pinot Noir and this Champagne shows that well. With structure and fine maturity mainly from the 2016 vintage, the wine is generously textured, rich and impressively ready to drink. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$NA

EXTRA BRUT

93 Labryère NV Anthologie Rosé Grand Cru Extra Brut (Champagne). Exclusively from Grand Cru vineyards, this Champagne shows a good amount of maturity. That is balanced by a fine structure and perfumed red fruits. Drink now. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$NA

92 Labryère NV Prologue Grand Cru Extra Brut (Champagne). A Champagne that is dominated by Pinot Noir from Verzenay in the Montagne de Reims, this is a finely textured, taut and mineral in character. It also has richness and fine white and citrus fruits that are still full of freshness. Drink now. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$NA

90 Champagne Dunoyer de Ségonzac 2015 Blanc de Blancs Premier Cru Extra Brut (Champagne). With its age, this vintage Champagne has softened its dryness to give a creamed apple character while keeping fine minerality. The wine is crisp still, with bright acidity over the texture and the white fruit aftertaste. Drink now. ABCK Corp. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$95

LOIRE VALLEY WHITE WINES

COTEAUX DU GIENNOIS

91 Clement et Florian Berthier 2020 Terre de Caillette (Coteaux du Giennois). One of a series of wines from this producer highlighting different soils, this wine comes from a stony vineyard. It has

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a steely texture, fresh green fruits and citrus bright with vibrant acidity. Drink the wine from 2023. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

91 **Clement et Florian Berthier 2020 Terre de Sillex (Coteaux du Giennois).** From flint soils, typical of Pouilly Fumé just to the south, this wine is strongly mineral and textured. It has intense acidity and a structure that needs aging. Drink from 2023. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

90 **Clement et Florian Berthier 2020 Terre de Marne (Coteaux du Giennois).** A rounded, ripe wine, part of a series from different soil types. This comes from clay soils giving the wine its weight and richness. With ripe apple, taut with a herbal texture, the wine is now just ready to drink. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

MONTLOUIS-SUR-LOIRE

93 **Domaine Vincent Denis 2020 Terres Blanches (Montlouis-sur-Loire).** Despite being described as dry, the wine's rich and ripe apple flavors give it an off-dry character. Rich acidity and a dense, crispness, nuts and spice, the wine is complex and will take its time. Drink from 2024. Gruppo I Vinai. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

92 **Domaine Vincent Denis 2020 Terres Nobles (Montlouis-sur-Loire).** The wine is young with immense potential. Its tangy citrus character is balanced with acidity, creamy apples and is lightly off dry. The wine needs to develop, the wine will be ready from 2024. Gruppo I Vinai. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

92 **Domaine Vincent Denis 2005 Coulées Antérieures (Montlouis-sur-Loire).** Very mature with ripe secondary flavors, acidity and citrus flavors, this wine is wonderfully ripe and just off dry. Honey and spice go with the freshness that is still remarkably present. Drink this very fine wine now. Gruppo I Vinai. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

MUSCADET SÈVRE ET MAINE

93 **Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2018 Le Pallet (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** From the Muscadet cru village of Le Pallet, the wine is ripe, richly textured and just ready to drink. It has an extra concentration and density from the long aging on the lees. Chemin Des Vins. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$27

92 **Domaine Batard Langelier 2019 Monnières Sant-Fiacre (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** From one of the cru villages in Muscadet, this wine has extra aging before bottling. That gives the wine

a richer dimension, balancing the freshness against mature flavors with softened acidity. Drink this ripe wine now. Organic. Savio Soares Selections. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$38

92 **Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2020 Les Pieds sur Terre Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** The wine is smoothly textured, showing ripe apples as well as crisper acidity. It is rich, dense with fine citrus at the end to give a vibrancy to the wine. Aromatic and full of energy, the wine is now ready to drink. Chemin Des Vins. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$29

91 **Château de la Ragotière 2020 Cuvée Amélie Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** A ripe and creamy textured wine, this has density from the lees aging (*sur lie*). That balances acidity and lemon flavors. There is a touch of pepper giving the wine an extra tang. Drink now. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

91 **Domaine Batard Langelier 2019 Château-Thébaud (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** The granite soils of this Muscadet cru region has produced a strongly mineral wine. Its acidity marches with the wine's tight structure and lemon fruits that have softened. Drink the wine now. Organic. Savio Soares Selections. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$38

91 **Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2017 Monnières Sant-Fiacre (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** One of two wines from family vines in cru villages, the wine is fresh, still bursting with bright citrus that is just softening. The wine is tangy, zesty, textured. It will be ready from later this year with foresight of five generations. Chemin Des Vins. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$27

90 **Château de la Ragotière 2020 Les Vieilles Vignes Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** From old vines planted on schist soils, this wine is distinctly mineral. Its acidity and crisp lemon flavors are balanced by a ripe green apple freshness. The wine is textured and will benefit from further aging. Drink from 2023. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

90 **Domaine Batard Langelier 2020 Metaphore (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** Packed with fruit, this is an immediately refreshing wine. Its acidity and minerality chime well together in a wine that is now softening and filling out. Drink this fine wine now. Savio Soares Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$23

90 **Domaine Batard Langelier 2019 Didascalie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** Granite and volcanic soils are in evidence in this finely evolved wine. With its acidity and its apple fruits softened together into a ripe wine, this is a lovely wine. It is ready to drink. Savio Soares Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$21

90 **Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2020 Accostage Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** Linking the mineral soil and the nearby ocean in its name, this wine is textured, creamy with baked apples and a line of fine acidity that cuts through the fruitiness. It has density from lees aging, ready to drink now. Organic. Chemin Des Vins. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

90 **Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2020 Pour l'Histoire Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** From selected parcels, this wine is aged for 10 months on lees enhancing the wine's density. Ripe apples and acidity that has paced its intensity give the wine freshness and a fine soft aftertaste. Drink now. Organic. Chemin Des Vins. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

88 **Château de la Ragotière 2020 Les Schistes Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** A firm mineral edge gives this wine its structure. That goes along with crisp citrus and green apple freshness, vivid acidity and a tight final texture. Drink the wine now. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

87 **Domaine Batard Langelier 2021 Polaris Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** A fruity, crisp wine, with bright acidity and a youthful vivacity, this is fresh and ready to drink. It bounces along with its brightness and lively aftertaste. Drink now. Savio Soares Selections. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

SANCERRE

94 **Domaine Laporte 2020 La Comtesse (Sancerre).** This fine, aromatic wine is one of the top cuvées from this producer. Its fruit is soft, full-bodied and densely powerful. The structure is shot with minerality and citrus and kiwi fruits. It is well-balanced, intense and will be ready from 2023. Organic. Martine's Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$42

93 **Domaine Laporte 2020 Le Grand Rochoy (Sancerre).** This is a tautly balanced wine, rich and with a cool character that brings in minerality and a texture that is still young. Its freshness is just right, with great citrus and apple fruitiness coupled with a structure that will allow the wine to age further. Drink from 2023. Organic. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$42

93 **Domaine Laporte 2020 Les Garennes (Sancerre).** From two small parcels of vines, this richly intense wine is concentrated and impressively rich. Its acidity is still young. Once it softens, this will be a major wine, ripe, full of superb fruits and tension. Drink from 2023. Organic. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$42

91 **Domaine Laporte 2021 La Terre des Anges (Sancerre).** While young, the wine's ripe

fruits give it a soft texture. Acidity and green fruits are filled with warm apple and pear flavors to give a fine contrast between the richness and cooler after-taste. Drink the wine from 2023. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$39

TOURAINE

86 Alain de la Treille 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Touraine). Bright and herbal, this grassy wine is classic Sauvignon Blanc from Touraine. Its green fruit and citrus flavors are intense with a touch of minerality at the end. Drink now. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

86 Antoine Simoneau 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Touraine). A really grassy, intense style of wine, grapefruit laced with gooseberries. Its concentration is still young, meaning the wine needs a little time. Drink from 2023 when it has softened. American Northwest Distributors Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

86 Le Charmel 2021 Touraine. A typical grassy, herbal Sauvignon Blanc, this is crisp, textured and with a tangy character. The lemon zest flavors add to the brightness of the wine. Drink now. Winesellers, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

OTHER WHITE WINES

93 Château Gaudrelle 2019 Clos le Vigneau (Vouvray). Aged in old barrels to give an oxidative effect, this wine shows a beautiful honey and almond character. Its freshness is still present, giving a lift to this impressive wine, ripe while still full of brightness. Drink now. Kysela Père et Fils. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

91 Château Gaudrelle 2020 Clos le Vigneau (Vouvray). Rich Chenin Blanc, still bursting with youthful energy, is packed with flavor. Ripe apples dominate, giving the wine great ripeness. It is a tangy wine with fruitiness and texture. Drink from 2023. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

90 André et Edmond Figeat 2021 Les Origines (Pouilly-Fumé). Still in its infancy, this wine is intense with spice and white fruits. Its future is assured, the richness of the wine and its balanced citrus flavors point to a fine wine from 2024. Loire Valley Distribution. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

89 Bougrier 2020 Famille Bougrier Confidences (Touraine Chenonceaux). The vineyards for this wine are on the slopes above the fairytale chateau of Chenonceaux. It is rich, with mango and pineapple fruits that are lifted by acidity and a zesty

aftertaste. Watch the alcohol and drink this ripe wine now. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$19

88 Clement et Florian Berthier 2020 Pouilly-Fumé. The wine is still young with minerality and acidity dominating. The zesty fruits and the wine's tight texture will soften well over the next few months, bringing out citrus fruits and a herbal texture. Drink from 2023. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

88 Domaine Armand David 2020 L'Enchanteur (Saumur). The 14 months in wood have smoothed out the freshness of the wine while keeping the creamy honey and baked apple flavors. Balanced and with fine acidity in the background, the wine is ready to drink. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

87 Paris-Simoneau 2021 Domaine de la Rablais (Val de Loire). A ripe lemon acidity gives this wine great freshness. It is fruity, crisp, still full of vivid fruitiness and with a mineral texture. Drink now. American Northwest Distributors Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

86 Bougrier 2021 Famille Bougrier Collection (Val de Loire). This dry style of Chenin Blanc brings out nuttiness as well as citrus and honey flavors. It is fresh, shot through with acidity and ready to drink. Total Wine & More. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$11

CRÉMANT DE LOIRE

92 Xavier et Agnès Amirault NV Amirault Brut (Crémant de Loire). This is a beautifully textured wine with a fine blend between apples and ripe pear flavors. Along with the acidity and vibrant structure, the wine is elegant and ready to drink. Organic and biodynamic. Vineyard Brands. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

90 Château Gaudrelle NV Ammonite (Crémant de Loire). This blend of half and half Chenin Blanc and Chardonnay is crisply perfumed and bright with acidity. Apples and a touch of honey balance easily with the wine's fruitiness and final nutty flavors. Drink now. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

89 Xavier et Agnès Amirault NV Les Quarterons Brut (Crémant de Loire). This ripe, apple flavored wine is a lively blend of Chenin Blanc, Cabernet Franc and Chardonnay. It is fresh but it has a smoother element that balances the vivid fruits. Drink the wine now. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$32

ROSÉ DE LOIRE

86 Le Charmel 2021 Rosé de Loire. An crisp, fruity rosé, blending Cabernet Franc and

Gamay from Touraine. It is bright with attractive red fruits laced with citrus. The wine is ready to drink. Winesellers, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

84 Bougrier 2021 Pure Loire (Rosé de Loire). This is a soft wine with red berry fruits and gentle acidity. It has a touch of caramel as well as pepper. Drink now. Total Wine & More. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

83 Bougrier 2021 Famille Bougrier (Rosé de Loire). This is off dry with acidity and a candied aftertaste. A blend that includes Grolleau, a grape rarely found outside the Loire, the wine is rounded and ready to drink. Total Wine & More. —R.V.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$13

OTHER ROSÉS

90 Domaine Laporte 2021 Les Grandmontains Rosé (Sancerre). This is ripe Pinot Noir, soft with red cherry flavors and a rich texture. It is a rounded wine, the acidity underlining the fruitiness that combines with a lightly yeasty aftertaste. Drink the wine now. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$33

88 Domaine de la Rochette 2021 Pineau d'Aunis Pineau d'Aunis (Touraine). Pineau d'Aunis is a pale colored grape that lends itself to rosés. This wine, from the Cher Valley in Touraine, is lightly colored, full of citrus and red currant flavors. Crisp acidity completes a light, buoyant wine. Drink now. Bowler Wine. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

90 Domaine des Herbauges 2021 Eléon d'Or Rosé (Val de Loire). Jérôme Choblet, located in the Muscadet region, has produced this attractive rosé, bright with red berry and light spice. It comes from small parcels of old vines, concentrated and intense with final acidity. Drink now. Lanterna Distributors Inc. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

LOIRE VALLEY RED WINES

CHINON

93 Couly-Dutheil 2018 Clos de l'Echo (Chinon). One of the single vineyard wines from this producer, this is rich, dense, beginning to mature. Its blackberry fruits are structured with some firm tannins. That gives the wine concentration and adds to the wine's ripeness. Drink this fine wine from 2024. Cynthia Hurley Wine Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$40

92 Couly-Dutheil 2018 Clos de l'Olive (Chinon). A single vineyard wine, it is ripe and

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smoothly textured. The wine has power from its alcohol while also showing layers of tannins and dense black fruits. The wine is juicy, smoky, likely to be ready from 2024. Cynthia Hurley Wine Imports. —R.V.

abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$55

90 Couly-Dutheil 2020 Les Gravières d'Amador Abbé de Turpenay (Chinon). The wine is ripe, full of soft young tannins. Blackberry fruits have a smoky edge that shows well against the wine's structure and acidity. It will certainly age and will be best from 2024. Kindred Vines. —R.V.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

86 Bougrier 2021 Famille Bougrier Confidences (Chinon). A simple, stinky and smoky wine that pushes red berry fruits right to the fore. It will soften over the next few months, so drink from 2023. Total Wine & More. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

OTHER RED WINES

94 Xavier et Agnès Amirault 2018 Le Fondis (Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil). For full review see page 9. Vineyard Brands. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$46

90 Xavier et Agnès Amirault 2020 La Ferme des Fontaines (Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil). Bottled with low sulfur and with a strong line of acidity and generous tannins, this is a forward, fruity wine. The wine's bright red berry fruits are young and bursting with energy. Drink the wine from 2023. Organic and biodynamic. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Domaine Vincent Denis 2020 Terres Profondes (Touraine). Ripe Malbec with spice and stinky textures and rich black fruits, this is a young wine. It is dense and has potential for several years. Drink the wine from 2024. Gruppo I Vinai. —R.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

88 Clément et Florian Berthier 2018 La Croix Renaud Sancerre. Aged 50/50 in barrels and tank, this is a rounded, perfumed wine. Red fruits and acidity give the wine a fresher side as a contrast with the wine's texture. It is a smooth wine that is now ready to drink. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

87 Domaine Armand David 2020 Cuvée Siebrist (Saumur). A typical, stinky and smoky young Cabernet Franc, this is lightly textured with spice and plenty of acidity. Its berry fruits are right up front, giving the wine a juicy character that will allow the wine to age. Drink from 2023. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

87 Paris-Simoneau 2020 Oiso (Val de Loire). A soft, red cherry flavored wine with light tannins that are already soft enough to drink. This is a fine, juicy wine that has a touch of spice and crisp acidity at the end. American Northwest Distributors Inc. —R.V.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

85 La Fille Couillaud 2020 Bernier Pinot Noir (Val de Loire). A light wine, with cool acidity that contrasts with the red cherry flavors. The wine is fresh, softly textured, bright at the end. Drink now. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

PROVENCE WHITE WINES

COTEAUX D'AIX-EN-PROVENCE

90 Château Calissanne 2021 Clos Victoire (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). With light wood aging, this blend of Rolle with Sémillon is crisp, lemon and spice flavored and shot through with acidity and white fruits. The wine will age further, so drink from 2023. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Château la Coste 2020 Les Pentes Douces (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Vermentino and Sauvignon Blanc are in a lively, fruity blend. There is a touch of spice from wood aging that just underlines the fruitiness of the wine. It will age a little longer, so drink from 2023. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Domaine la Cadenière 2021 Vallon d'Escalé (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). This is a rounded, wood-aged wine. Its white fruits and citrus are permeated by spice and by delicious tangy acidity. The wine is full, concentrated with fine, fruit flavors and acidity at the end. Drink from 2023. Wine Wine Situation. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

89 Château Paradis 2020 Terre des Anges (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Sauvignon Blanc is in charge with this wine that is complex with white fruits that are now mature. Touches of wood aging have brought extra richness to this ripe wine. Drink now. Bridge Imports. —R.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

88 Château Calissanne 2021 Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence. Mainly Rolle (Vermentino) this juicy, crisp acidity wine has citrus and tight texture. It is tangy with cool freshness and a lilt of perfume. Drink from 2023. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

88 Domaine la Cadenière 2021 Cuvée Léonie (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Fresh and fruity with herbal Sauvignon Blanc and the white fruit flavors of Rolle, give this wine a crisp, fresh

character. It is lively and ready to drink. Organic. Wine Wine Situation. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

87 Château la Coste 2021 Le Blanc (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Lightly herbal, the wine is floral with green fruits and crisp apple acidity. Its tangy edge is refreshing, bringing a touch of mineral texture to the wine. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

87 Commanderie de la Bargemone 2021 Blanc (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). Half-and-half Sauvignon Blanc and Vermentino, the wine is crisp and herbal. Its acidity and spice are attractive going along with fragrant flavors in a wine that is ready to drink. Organic. Hand Picked Selections. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$23

84 Château Paradis 2020 Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence. An earthy wine with barnyard flavors that mask the wine's white fruits and herbal edge. Bridge Imports. —R.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

COTEAUX VAROIS EN PROVENCE

91 Château d'Ollières 2021 Haut du Pigeonnier (Coteaux Varois en Provence). This partly wood-aged wine has richness allied to spice and generous fruits. It is finely textured with extreme freshness. Still young, this ripe wine will be at its best from 2023. Rising Wine Domains. —R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$37

90 Château d'Ollières 2021 Prestige (Coteaux Varois en Provence). A beautifully textured wine, this has a fine perfumed character from the 95% Rolle (Vermentino) in the blend. It is verdant and ripe and is now ready to drink. Rising Wine Domains. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$29

88 Château d'Ollières 2021 Coteaux Varois en Provence. The wine is fragrant, fresh with fine perfumed fruits and with lively acidity. It is tangy and lightly herbal showing great freshness at the end. Drink now. Rising Wine Domains. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

CÔTES DE PROVENCE

93 Château Roubine 2020 Lion & Dragon (Côtes de Provence). A luscious blend of Sémillon and Rolle this dry wine is honeyed with yellow fruits and ripe apples. Its acidity and generous texture balance each other, giving a beautifully textured wine that is just ready to drink. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$32

91 Château Grand Boise 2019 Cuvée 1610 (Côtes de Provence). Aged in a mix of wood and

amphorae, the wine is beautifully smooth. While retaining plenty of white and citrus fruits, it is a broad texture that gives the wine richness and the ability to age further. Drink from 2023. Organic. Soilair Selection. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$43

90 **Château du Carrubier 2021 Cuvée de Zélie (Côtes de Provence).** This estate, close to the sea in La Londe des Maures has produced a deliciously aromatic wine with perfumed white fruits and acidity. It is crisp and tangy at the end. Drink from later this year. DB Wine Selection. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 **Château Roubine 2021 Premium (Côtes de Provence).** A ripe wine that has juicy yellow fruit and apple flavors over a fine structure of acidity and a floral flavor. It is elegant and ripe, fruity and textured. Drink from 2023. Organic. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

90 **Domaine de la Sanglière 2021 Spéciale (Côtes de Provence).** This is a ripe wine with intense acidity and bright, sunny white fruit flavors. It has plenty of freshness while also having a dense texture with aging potential from the spice. Drink from 2023. Cru Selections. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

88 **Château Grand Boise 2020 Vermentino (Côtes de Provence).** Partly fermented in wood, the wine is lightly spicy. With its citrus and green herbal flavors, the wine is fresh and crisp. Drink this attractive wine now. Organic. Soilair Selection. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$32

88 **Château Saint-Esprit 2021 (Côtes de Provence).** This is a soft, perfumed wine that has attractive white fruit flavors. With its clear acidity bringing freshness to the wine. This is refreshing and ready to drink. Drinkable Arts Importers. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 **Les Vignobles Gueissard 2021 Cuvée G (Côtes de Provence).** Tangy and zesty with a mineral edge, this fruity wine is perfumed and juicy with white fruits. It is delicious, fresh and ready to drink. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

88 **Sainte Béatrice 2021 Cuvée B (Côtes de Provence).** Packed with fruit, yet surprisingly light and poised, the wine is crisp, tangy and refreshingly delicious. Drink now. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

OTHER WHITE WINES

92 **Château de Crémat 2019 Bellet.** Produced almost entirely from Vermentino, this wine from the hills just inland from Nice is approach-

ing delicious maturity. Its creamy character along with white fruits that are touched by white pears is impressive. Drink the wine from later this year. Mr. Wine & Spirits USA. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

90 **Château Vannières 2020 Bandol.** This small production wine is ripe, now maturing well. With the local Clairette grape in dominance, the wine is tightly crisp, lemon flavored and rounded. Drink the wine from later this year. H. Mercer Wine & Spirit Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$36

89 **Château Val d'Arenc 2021 Bandol.** From a vineyard facing northwest to keep a cool atmosphere, the wine is vivid with white fruits and a floral lightness. With a blend that is 95% Clairette, the wine has a saline edge that reminds how close the vines are to the sea. Drink the wine now. Alaine Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$33

88 **Château Bertaud-Belieu 2020 (Var).** Mainly Rolle (Vermentino) with just a touch of Sémillon, this is an attractive wine that has fresh acidity and bright white fruit flavors. It is juicy, fruity and ready to drink. Park Street Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

CÔTES DE PROVENCE ROSÉS

92 **Château de Berne 2021 La Grande Cuvée Rosé (Côtes de Provence).** Partially wood aged, this wine produced from old vines, is serious rosé. Its freshness is balanced by a smooth texture from the barrel aging and with fine richness. The wine's red fruits are sophisticated and the wine will be even better with some aging. Wait until 2023. Provence Rose Group. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

88 **Domaine de Tamary 2021 Rosé (Côtes de Provence).** Grenache and Cinsault dominate this wine, with its ripe raspberry fruits and a tangy line of acidity. It is spicy, hinting at pepper and finishing with bright acidity. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

87 **Domaine des Diables 2021 Les Petits Diables Rosé (Côtes de Provence).** Syrah, Grenache and Cinsault have been brought together in this crisp wine. It is in a light style, bright with acidity and red fruits. The finish brings a little pepper. Drink now. Planet Wine. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

OTHER ROSÉS

94 **Château Gassier 2019 Elevae Rosé (Côtes de Provence Sainte-Victoire).** Aged for two years in Austrian oak barrels, the wine is a blend of five grapes, with an important role for Cinsault and Syrah. The richness and bite of spice, now at

its peak, is finely textured with hints of toast. This is an impressive wine, now ready to drink. Organic. Cannon Wines Limited. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$100

92 **Château Gassier 2021 Pas de Moine Rosé (Côtes de Provence Sainte-Victoire).** The name of the wine refers to the height in meters (3103 feet) to the top of the mountain behind the vineyard. It was lightly wood aged adding spice to the ripe, perfumed red fruits and acidity. It is complex and needs to age. Drink from 2023. Organic. Cannon Wines Limited. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$70

89 **Château de la Noblesse 2021 Rosé (Bandol).** This 34-acre vineyard, in the same family for five generations, has produced a rich style of rosé. With half Mourvèdre and ripe red berry fruits, the wine is tangy and will definitely be just right with food. Drink now. T. Elenteny Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

88 **Domaine de la Garenne 2021 Cuvée M Rosé (Bandol).** This softly textured, Mourvèdre-dominated wine is full of red currant and caramel flavors. It has tannins, a touch of pepper from the Grenache and intense acidity at the end. Drink the wine now. Specialty Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

PROVENCE RED WINES

BANDOL

94 **Château Vannières 2019 Bandol.** Almost entirely Mourvèdre, the wine is beautifully perfumed rich in spice and with black fruits that have a seriously structured character. With its density and its firm tannins, the wine should develop further. Drink from 2025. H. Mercer Wine & Spirit Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

93 **Château Guilhem Tournier 2017 Cuvée Luisa Jeanne (Bandol).** This ripe, smoothly textured and polished wine is now approaching maturity. It still has tannins under the black fruits and licorice flavors, while everything has come together. This is a fine wine ready to drink from 2023. Kysela Père et Fils. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

92 **Château Val d'Arenc 2019 Bandol.** This rich wine, with 90% Mourvèdre, is perfumed and solidly structured. It has ripe tannins that give a broad strength to the wine and will allow it to age further. Drink this fine wine from 2024. Organic. Alaine Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$41

92 **Domaine Roche Redonne 2019 Cuvée les Bartavelles (Bandol).** Big, black fruits with some serious tannins as well as dryness at the core,

BUYINGGUIDE

suggest this wine is still young. It has ripe wood-aged flavors that go alongside the black plum skin texture and dark coffee flavors. Drink the wine from 2025. Kysela Père et Fils. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$44

92 **Moulin de la Roque 2017 Les Adrets (Bandol)**. Almost pure Mourvèdre this is a powerful wine with obvious further aging potential. Wood aged, showing spice and with dense black fruits, the wine is still developing, revealing richness and concentration. Drink from 2025. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$27

91 **Les Vignobles Gueissard 2018 Marcel (Bandol)**. Produced from three parcels in Bandol, the wine is a fine exposition of Mourvèdre. Touched by licorice and black truffles, the wine's blackberry fruit is still young, certainly spicy and with rich tannins. Drink from 2025. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$30

89 **Les Vignobles Gueissard 2018 Bandol**. This rich and smooth wine is well structured and perfumed. It has fine acidity and ripe blackberry fruits that have the potential for further aging. The wine is likely to be at its best from 2024. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$26

88 **Château Guilhem Tournier 2019 Cuvée la Malissonne (Bandol)**. The wine is all spice and black, stalky still young fruits. Its structure and its dry core promise aging. Acidity and tannins will soften and the wine will be ready from 2025. Gregory Condes Wines. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$50

COTEAUX D'AIX-EN-PROVENCE

94 **Château Calissanne 2020 Rocher Rouge (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. The wine is smoothly textured and powered by rich tannins. The wine's acidity just shows up the black fruits and the density of the texture. Juicy and still young, the wine will age. Drink from 2026. JP Bourgeois. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$80

93 **Château la Coste 2017 Grand Vin Rouge (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. From selected parcels of old vines and aged in new wood, this perfumed wine is only now beginning to show its true richness and promise. Its tannins and dense texture bring out spice as well as a polished edge from the wood aging. Drink this impressive wine from 2024. Organic. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$65

92 **Château Calissanne 2020 Clos Victoire (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. This is a ripe wood-aged wine, a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Mourvèdre with rich tannins and dense black fruits. It has weight, fine aging potential with its acidity

and dry core. It's impressive and deserves plenty of time. Drink from 2025. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$60

91 **Domaine la Cadenière 2020 Cuvée Léonie (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. This young wine has fine fruit with blackberry flavors and balanced acidity. Grenache, Cabernet Sauvignon and Cunoise come together to give spice and spice as well as the fruitiness. Drink from 2024. Organic. Wine Wine Situation. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$25

90 **Château la Coste 2017 Les Pentes Douces (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah make a fine blend of richness and structure. The wine is still young, already perfumed, juicy and packed with black fruits backed by tannins. It has weight and ripeness and should be ready from 2024. Organic. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$40

90 **Château Paradis 2018 Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence**. With a strong showing from Cabernet Sauvignon, this is a structured, wood-aged wine. It has black currant and spice flavors along with some still firm tannins. Drink this concentrated wine from 2025. Bridge Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$23

89 **Château Calissanne 2020 Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence**. This is a young, stalky wine that shows plenty of fruit. The wine's density, black fruits and its tannins are still young, promising some aging. Drink from 2024. JP Bourgeois. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$35

89 **Château la Coste 2019 Le Rouge (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. Made without wood aging, this wine exudes structured fruits. A dry core gives aging potential while the black currant flavors are bright and showy. Drink the wine from 2024. Organic. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$22

89 **Château Paradis 2021 Terre des Anges (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence)**. Aged for a year in wood, this blend of Syrah, Grenache and Cabernet Sauvignon, this spicy wine is also stalky, its richness masked by a herbal character. Licorice and bitterness show the youth of this concentrated wine. It needs to open up, so wait to drink until 2025. Bridge Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$23

CÔTES DE PROVENCE

93 **Château Roubine 2019 Lion & Dragon (Côtes de Provence)**. This impressive blend of Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot is unusual on omitting any local Provence grapes. The result though is concentrated with dark tannins over balanced acidity and black fruits. The wine is still to

age further. Drink from 2025. Organic. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$32

93 **Domaine des Féraud 2017 Grande Cuvée (Côtes de Provence)**. A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah gives a rich structure to a dense, powerful wine. It is still developing with its concentration, its layers of black fruits and acidity over the dry heart of the wine. Drink from 2024. Vins & Vignobles. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$22

92 **Château Roubine 2019 Premium (Côtes de Provence)**. A blend that includes Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah gives a weighty wine, full of dense black fruits and a rich, youthful tannins. The wine is still developing, ready to shed its tight structure and open out. Wait until 2024. Organic. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$26

92 **Château Roubine 2017 Inspire (Côtes de Provence)**. Wood aged and now mature, the wine is rich while also have elegance and balance. Syrah gives perfumed while Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot bring structure and black currant flavors. This is a fine wine, ready to drink. Organic. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$45

92 **Château Saint-Esprit 2020 Quintessence (Côtes de Provence)**. This blend of Mourvèdre and Syrah is solid, dense with tannins and rich. It has flavors of wild herbs, spice and black fruits that are firm now although ready to soften. Drink the wine from 2025. Drinkable Arts Importers. *Cellar Selection*. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$35

92 **Domaine des Féraud 2017 Indigène Vieille Syrah (Côtes de Provence)**. From a parcel of old Syrah vines planted 40 years ago, this wine has concentration and perfumed density. Black fruits and ripe tannins, spice and a dry core have come together in this juicy, now mature wine. Drink now. Organic. Vins & Vignobles. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$22

91 **Château Grand Boise 2019 Cuvée 1610 (Côtes de Provence)**. This is developing into a fine, smoothly textured wine. With its juicy black fruits and generous tannins, it is both spicy from partial wood aging and packed with acidity. Drink the wine from 2024. Organic. Soilair Selection. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$43

90 **Les Vignobles Gueissard 2019 Cuvée G (Côtes de Provence)**. Aged in wood, the wine is ripe and firmly textured. That means it has potential as the black fruits and the tannins integrate. A blend of Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon, the wine will age and should be ready from 2024. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$19

88 **Château Saint-Esprit 2020 Signature (Côtes de Provence).** Based in the heart of the Côtes de Provence region, this estate has produced a fruity, juicy red wine. With its red berry flavors and soft tannins, the wine is developing quickly. It will be ready from 2024. Drinkable Arts Importers. —R.V.

abv: 14%

Price: \$25

88 **Sainte Béatrice 2019 Cuvée B (Côtes de Provence).** With Merlot as part of the blend, this wine has a jammy character. That goes with a spicy texture, a bite of pepper and juicy black currant fruits. The wine is ready to drink. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.

abv: 13%

Price: \$18

87 **Domaine de la Navicelle 2019 Côtes de Provence.** This is a young, slightly stinky wine with black fruit acidity over tannins and spice. It needs some time, so drink from 2024. Chamber's Bay. —R.V.

abv: 13%

Price: \$25

85 **Les Vignobles Gueissard 2020 Les Papilles (Côtes de Provence).** This is a fresh wine with perfumed Syrah and a stinky texture. Still young, the wine has acidity, black fruits and the promise of softening as it matures. Drink from 2023. Winebow Imports. —R.V.

abv: 13%

Price: \$13

OTHER RED WINES

93 **Château d'Ollières 2019 Haut du Prieuré (Coteaux Varois en Provence).** Grown on rough, mountainous slopes, this is a seriously textured wine, full of still-young tannins and powerful black fruits. It has a juicy aftertaste among the final dryness. Drink from 2024. Rising Wine Domains. —R.V.

abv: 14%

Price: \$42

90 **Château d'Ollières 2019 Prestige (Coteaux Varois en Provence).** A ripe, slightly stinky wine with a line of tannins that will soften. The wine has structure and spicy, southern herbal flavors that give the potential of a fuller wine as it matures further. Drink from 2024. Rising Wine Domains. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$30

89 **Château de Crémat 2019 Bellet.** Produced from mainly Folle Noire (a grape that is very local to Bellet), this wine is lightly structured with a deliciously juicy character that brings out black currant flavors and high acidity. It comes from vineyards high above the city of Nice. Drink the wine now. Mr. Wine & Spirits USA. —R.V.

abv: 13%

Price: \$39

85 **Château Saint-Esprit 2020 Var West (Var).** Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre come together in a soft, openly fruity wine. It's light tex-

ture and perfumed acidity are immediately drinkable. Drinkable Arts Importers. —R.V.

abv: 13%

Price: \$13

RHÔNE VALLEY

TAVEL

92 **Domaine Maby 2021 Prima Donna Rosé (Tavel).** Rich, penetrating layers of strawberry and red-cherry candy extend from nose to finish in this full-bodied, boldly structured rosé. Powerfully fruity yet anchored by a deep undertow of rocky, smoky minerality, it's a delightfully thirst quenching, substantive wine that should drink well through 2024 in both hot and cooler seasons. DB Wine Selection. —A.I.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$25

91 **Château de Manissy 2021 Langoustière Rosé (Tavel).** Hints of tarragon and thyme add smoky, herbal nuances to crisp red currant and raspberry flavors in this piercing, concentrated rosé. A blend of organically grown Grenache, Syrah and Cinsault, it deftly balances the density of a red wine with the thirst quenching zip of white wine. Fringed by a kiss of tannins and licorice, it's a solid evergreen rosé that will drink well through 2024. Weygandt-Metzler. —A.I.

abv: 14%

Price: \$29

91 **Château de Manissy 2021 Trinité Rosé (Tavel).** Tangs of blood orange and tart tangerine lend vibrance to this full-bodied, mouthwatering blend of organically grown Grenache, Clairette, Cinsault and Syrah. A deep rose in hue and penetrating with raspberry and red-cherry flavors, it's a zesty, firmly structured wine with a cooling, stony finish. A rosé ideal for drinking year round and likely to hold up well through 2024 at least. Weygandt-Metzler. —A.I.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$19

91 **Domaine Maby 2021 La Forcadière Rosé (Tavel).** A kiss of cherry blossoms introduce this perfumed, fresh-fruited expression of Tavel. While characteristically deep in color and richly concentrated in strawberry and raspberry flavors, it stands out for its fresh, floral flair and lingering Maraschino-cherry finish. Voluminous and weighty yet briskly balanced, it's a wine to enjoy now—2024 in any season. DB Wine Selection. —A.I.

abv: 14%

Price: \$22

87 **Château de Manissy 2020 Tête De Cuvée Rosé (Tavel).** Equal parts savory and fruit-focused, this dusty-rose wine offers delicate blackberry and plum flavors flecked with hints of crushed peppercorns, dried herbs and stone. Tasted in early spring of 2022, it's showing glimpses of maturity and restraint but finishes on a lovely kiss of kirsch liqueur. Drink now. Weygandt-Metzler. —A.I.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$24

OTHER ROSÉS

91 **Domaine de Fondrèche 2021 Rosé (Ventoux).** Veins of crushed stone and red currant acidity lend vibe and freshness to this penetrating rosé made from Cinsault, Syrah and Grenache. Accented by savory hints of smoke and game, pepper and fresh herb, it's a slender, elevated wine that should drink well year round through the end of 2023. French Libation. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$23

90 **Château du Trignon 2021 Rosé (Côtes du Rhône).** Bold streaks of strawberry and raspberry flavors introduce this full-bodied, gorgeously fruity rosé. Just a hint of peach in hue, it's refreshingly crisp and dry but deeply concentrated with fresh, summery stone-fruit and berry flavors. Best enjoyed this summer or early fall. David Milligan Selections. *Editors' Choice.* —A.I.

abv: 13%

Price: \$NA

90 **Domaine la Cavale 2021 Petite Cavale Rosé (Luberon).** A blend of equal proportions of Grenache and Cinsault, this full-bodied, juicy rosé highlights Grenache's plump, strawberry and cherry flavors with Cinsault's zesty, peppery frame. Accented with hints of mint and sage, it's an elegant, subtly herbaceous sip that should accompany both seafood and game well into the autumn months. Planet Aura. *Best Buy.* —A.I.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$14

88 **Château La Tour De Béraud 2021 Rosé (Costières de Nîmes).** Slightly candied plum and raspberry tones extend from nose to palate in this full-bodied, richly concentrated wine made from organic grapes. A dusty peach in color, it highlights bold flavors of preserved peach and marmalade lifted by a streak of tangerine acidity. A robust dry rosé best enjoyed young. Kindred Vines. —A.I.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$17

88 **Château La Verrerie 2021 Rosé (Luberon).** Top notes of Cinsault, Mourvèdre and Carignan lend zingy, herbal accents to broader strawberry and peach flavors of Grenache in this bold, fruity rosé. While dry on the palate, it's a richly concentrated sip packed with fleshy orchard-fruit flavors and a lingering grapefruit finish. Best now. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —A.I.

abv: 13%

Price: \$14

88 **Les Dauphins 2021 Grenache-Syrah Rosé (Côtes du Rhône).** This blush-hued blend of 85% Grenache and 15% Syrah offers mouth-watering white-peach, watermelon and tangerine flavors framed by bites of grapefruit and lifting minerality. Fresh and fruity yet light-footed and spry, it's an ideal summer sip best enjoyed young. Plume Ridge. *Best Buy.* —A.I.

abv: 12%

Price: \$13

RED WINES

87 Cave De Pazac 2020 Le Pigeonnier Rhône-style Red Blend (Costières de Nîmes). Hints of sun-scorched sage and bay leaf accent concentrated, pleasantly candied raspberry and strawberry flavors in this juicy rosé. Submitted for review in early 2022, it's still a fresh-fruited, thirst quenching sip that finishes on a lingering kiss of burnt caramel. Drink now. Drinkable Arts Importers. —A.I.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

OTHER FRANCE WHITE WINES

ATLANTIQUE

86 Maison Ginestet 2021 Atlantique. A fresh, crisp blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon, this brings out citrus and bright acidity. The wine zings with vivacious fruitiness. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$15

MEDITERRANÉE

91 Château la Coste 2020 Grand Vin Blanc (Méditerranée). This full, spicy and wood-aged wine is ripe, full of concentrated fruit. A blend of Vermentino and Chardonnay, it has ripe pear and apple flavors over toast and acidity. The wine will be ready from 2023. Organic. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

87 Domaine Terre de Mistral 2021 Pauline (Méditerranée). The Colombard grape, more commonly associated with southwest France makes its appearance in this herbal, bright and tangy wine. With acidity aplenty and fine freshness, the wine is ready to drink. Z Wine Gallery Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

85 Château Roubine 2021 Cuvée R (Méditerranée). This is a light and fruity wine, bright with crisp green apple acidity and lifted further by citrus. The wine has a final tang and is ready to drink. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

VIN DE FRANCE

90 Famille Sumeire 2021 L'Orange (Vin de France). The wine is orange-pink in color, made from long maceration on the skins of the Ugni Blanc grape. The result is freshness and a bright, crisp quince-flavored wine texture that is enhanced by slight oxidation. Drink the wine now. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$17

89 Domaine Ménard-Gaborit 2020 Ex Nihilo (Vin de France). This blend of four grapes is in the style of a Muscadet with both Melon de Bourgogne and the crisper Folle Blanche in the mix. It is a lively, tight citrus flavored wine, with minerality and taut acidity. The wine is ready to drink. Chemin Des Vins. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

88 Clos Dubreuil 2019 Dubreuil Chardonnay (Vin de France). Here is a rare wine, a Chardonnay produced in Bordeaux (hence the Vin de France category). It's a pleasant wine, touching on almonds and acidity as well as a tangy, citrus character. The wine is ready to drink. Eads Family Vineyards. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Couly-Dutheil 2020 Blanc de Franc Cabernet Franc (Vin de France). Cabernet Franc, bottled as a white wine, gives a ripe tangy texture and plenty of apple acidity. The wine is perfumed, still fresh and ready to drink. Cynthia Hurley Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

87 Domaine Laporte 2021 Le Bouquet Sauvignon Blanc (Vin de France). A herbal, bright wine that is light with gooseberry and spice, with acidity and a tangy texture. The wine is fruity and ready to drink. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

85 La Fille Couillaud 2020 Bernier Chardonnay (Vin de France). This is an attractive, creamy textured wine with fresh acidity. From grapes in the Loire Valley, the wine has apple and spice along with a smooth aftertaste. Drink now. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

85 Sainte Béatrice 2021 Cuvée des Princes (Vin de France). This soft wine is herbal with green tea aromas and touches of citrus. It is a light wine, that is ready to drink. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

SPARKLING WINES

88 Domaine Vincent Denis 2020 Terres de Lunes Rosé Pétillant (Vin de France). This sparkling wine, pétillant because it is lower pressure than a crémant-style wine, is fruity and rich with intense red fruits and a crisp acidity. The wine is ready to drink. Gruppo I Vinai. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

88 Les Vignobles Gueissard NV Le Brut Nature Rosé (Vin de France). It's described as a rosé, but the color is white. It's a crisp wine with a yeasty edge that will blow off as the young bottling matures. Green apples and citrus show strongly in this blend of Grenache, Cinsault and Mourvèdre. Drink now. Winebow Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$30

ROSÉS

87 Vignobles Dulon 2021 Rosé des Sables Rosé (Vin de France). A really fruity blend of mainly Cabernet Sauvignon with a touch of Merlot, this is bright, crisp and fresh. It has lively acidity, a light wine that is ready to drink. Lompian Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

86 Maison Ginestet 2021 Mimbeau Rosé (Atlantique). The two Cabernets from the west of France are united in a lightly perfumed and structured wine. It is fruity with red currant flavors and vivid acidity. Drink now. Misa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$15

OTHER FRANCE RED WINES

VIN DE FRANCE

90 Château Grand Boise 2017 Liberté Chérie Syrah (Vin de France). From the highest vineyard in Provence at 2,099 feet, this pure Syrah is structured with a strongly perfumed character. Aged in wood and amphorae, it has rich black fruits and layers of spice and tight, textured acidity. Still structured, drink this wine from 2023. Organic. Soilair Selection. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$77

87 Domaine Vincent Denis 2020 Terres Mêlées (Vin de France). This is a smooth blend of Malbec, Gamay and Cabernet Franc that has ripe berry fruits and a tangy, lightly pepper character. The wine's red fruits are right up front. Drink now. Gruppo I Vinai. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

87 Sainte Béatrice 2019 Cuvée des Princes (Vin de France). Grenache, Syrah and Merlot create a soft, spice and blackberry fruit flavored wine. It has an initial stalky character that suggests tannins. However, it does open out into a easy, fruity wine. Drink now. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

OTHER RED WINES

90 Château de Biran 2019 Cuvée Roxane (Pécharmant). This small appellation close to the city of Bergerac gives a rich, structured wine and juicy acidity. It is a dense wine, dominated by Merlot and powered by tannins that are still young. Drink from 2024. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$12

87 Château Roubine 2019 Cuvée R (Méditerranée). This is a soft, comfortable wine, a blend of Syrah and Grenache. With a floral touch over spicy black fruits, the wine has an open char-

acter and is ready to drink. Royal Wine Corporation. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$18

PORTUGAL WHITE WINES

ALENTEJANO

91 Herdade da Malhadinha Nova 2019 Malhadinha (Alentejano). Ripe and fruity, with toasty flavors alongside a mineral texture. The wine is rich but its structure gives it a fine future. Yellow fruits are shot through with citrus and spice in a wine that will be ready to drink from 2023. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$55

91 Herdade dos Grous 2020 Reserva (Alentejano). Floral and perfumed, the wine has potential. Its crisp texture and vibrant, young feel are still developing, giving a wine that will be rich, densely textured and brightly tangy. Drink the wine from 2023. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$27

90 Adega do Monte Branco 2020 Alento Branco Reserva (Alentejano). This wine from the city of Estremoz, whose streets are paved with marble, is tangy with orange zest and spice flavors. The wine is crisply textured with green apple and citrus fruitiness. Drink now. Alt Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$25

90 Adega Mayor 2020 Reserva do Comendador Branco (Alentejano). This lightly wood-aged wine is finely textured with taut minerality and a crisp zingy citrus and apple fruitiness. This fine wine has aging potential, so it should be best from 2023. Nossa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$20

90 Herdade da Malhadinha Nova 2019 Monte da Peceguina (Alentejano). A ripe, full-bodied wine with soft acidity and flavors of peach and ripe kiwi, this is deliciously ready to drink. Its richness and creamy texture are delicious now. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$25

90 Herdade dos Grous 2020 Alentejano. Full of creamy white fruits, this is a fine wood-aged wine. It has richness along with touches of spice. The wine's texture, rounded and ripe retains a tangy character that is perfumed and delicious. Drink from later this year. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$17

90 Herdade Paço do Conde 2018 Reserva (Alentejano). This smooth wine, with its nutty and toasty edge, is rich. It has hints of lemon as well as pineapple and spice. It's a wine that is full and delicious, so drink now. Diniz Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$30

90 Howard's Folly 2020 Sonhador (Alentejano). This ripe and creamy field blend of grapes is a wine for dreamers (sondahars). This wine has rich apple flavors and bright acidity. Developing well, with the vibrant fruitiness now softened and spicy, the wine is delicious, ready to drink now. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$25

90 Torre de Palma 2021 Arinto-Alvarinho (Alentejano). A blend of Arinto and Alvarinho, this wine in its tall, Vinho Verde style bottle, has crisp lemon flavors and bright acidity. It is a light textured wine, fresh with citrus and juicy with a tangy texture. Drink from 2023. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$35

89 Adega do Monte Branco 2019 LOUca (Alentejano). A ripe, wood-aged wine with apricot and pineapple fruits, giving a tropical warm feel to the wine. The contrast is with the wine's acidity and crisper spicy texture. Drink the wine now. Alt Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$45

89 Herdade do Rocim 2021 Alentejano. A fruity young wine with bright citrus and a zesty texture. It has an attractive freshness and a bright, vibrantly fruity character. Drink now. Shiverick Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$20

89 Quinta do Paral 2019 Reserva (Alentejano). This wine is soft, with a creamy texture. Its blend of Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc emphasizes apple and spice as well as citrus. Drink this attractive wine now. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$34

88 Adega do Monte Branco 2019 louCA (Alentejano). A rounded, soft wine, this is gently textured. Spice, green fruits and apples come together in a wine that is textured. Bright acidity comes through at the end. Drink now. Alt Wines. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$45

88 Quinta do Paral 2019 Colheita Seleccionada (Alentejano). This lightly toasty wine is fruity with bright acidity and a tangy texture. It is a vivid wine that is deliciously ready to drink. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$20

87 Adega de Redondo 2019 Maré Viva Reserva (Alentejano). Still full of fruit, this lightly toasty wine has bright acidity that lifts the lemon and kiwi fruit flavors. The wine remains fresh and is nutty and ready to drink. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

87 Herdade da Malhadinha Nova 2020 Antão Vaz da Malhadinha-Vinha da Peceguina (Alentejano). The signature white grape of Alentejo has given a crisp, fresh, citrus and green apple flavored wine. With bright fresh acidity and lively

acidity, the wine is textured and ready to drink. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$33

87 Herdade Paço do Conde 2020 Antão Vaz e Verdelho (Alentejano). A perfumed wine with a light texture sustained by light, bright acidity, this is crisp and ready to drink. Its freshness has softened to give an attractive wine. Drink now. Diniz Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$21

85 Cartuxa 2020 EA (Alentejano). An attractive youthful wine with bright apple freshness, this is juicy and succulently ready to drink. Cartuxa wines support the Engénio de Almeida Foundation in Évora. Tri-Vin Imports. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$9

85 Herdade do Esporão 2021 Monte Velho (Alentejano). This big-selling brand is gently ripe with fine acidity and rounded white fruits. Cut with the citrus, the wine is immediately attractive. Drink now. Now Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$12

ALENTEJO

93 Herdade do Esporão 2020 Esporão Private Selection (Alentejo). For full review see page 10. Now Wine Imports.
abv: 14% Price: \$45

92 Quinta do Quetzal 2014 Quetzal Família Grande Reserva (Alentejo). The wine is definitely mature, with some fine ripe tropical fruits laying over spice and almond flavors. The mineral texture of this fine wine is still very present, giving context to the secondary flavors and final acidity. Drink now. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$90/1.5L

91 Quinta da Fonte Souto 2020 Alentejo. Lightly wood aged, this open and spicy wine is ripe and full. There is a strong texture with fine minerality and freshness, benefiting from the vineyards in the cooler northern Alentejo. Drink now. Premium Port Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$26

91 Quinta do Paral 2018 Vinhas Velhas (Alentejo). The wine comes from the cru region of Vidigueira. It is full of toast, spice as well as mature yellow and kiwi fruits. With attractive acidity and hints of minerality, the wine shows both richness and a cool aftertaste. Drink now. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$46

90 Adega de Borba 2019 Reserva (Alentejo). Creamy textured and with ripe white fruits, this is a delicious wine that is ready to drink. Its tangy character is reinforced by a mineral texture that pairs with the spice and the wine's developing

BUYINGGUIDE

potential. Drink later this year. LGL Imports LLC. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

90 Adega de Portalegre 2019 Portalegre (Alentejo). Old vines at 1,800 feet bring a fine cool feel to the crisp fruit of this wine. Partly fermented in wood, the wine has a smooth texture, lifted with spice and white fruit acidity. It is finely tuned wine, ready to drink. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

90 Freixo 2019 Reserva (Alentejo). Ripe and richly fruity, this wine is full of apple and pear flavors that are spiced with some wood aging. The wine's intense acidity is still that of a young wine, so wait to drink until 2023. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$36

90 Herdade de Coelheiros 2018 Tapada de Coelheiros (Alentejo). Wood aged with a fine mix of citrus and bright acidity, this wine is richly textured. There is a fine, spicy and tangy character that offers both ripeness and a mineral aftertaste. Drink now. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

89 Dona Maria-Júlio Bastos 2019 Dona Maria Amantis Reserva (Alentejo). A rounded, lightly perfumed wine, this has yellow fruit flavors, apricot and peach in a textured structure. The wine, named after a mistress of Portuguese king João V, is ripe and full of fine acidity. Drink now. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

89 Freixo 2020 Alvarinho (Alentejo). A ripe, warm wine with a fine zesty texture, this is pure, creamy Alvarinho. There is a buzz of acidity as well as perfumed citrus and apple flavors. Drink now. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$29

88 Freixo 2019 Terroir (Alentejo). Crisp and fruity this wine made from vines that are cultivated organically, is full of bright citrus and herbal flavors, with a tight mineral edge. It is a refreshing wine that is ready to drink. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

88 Herdade de Coelheiros 2021 Coelheiros (Alentejo). With bright apple fruits that are touched with kiwi and pineapple, this is a delicious, refreshing wine. There is a base of tight minerality along with crispness at the end. Drink now. Organic. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 Quinta do Paral 2019 Alentejo. White fruits and a touch of juicy peach give this wine a delicious simplicity. With its touches of spice and fine acidity, the wine is fruity and ready to drink. Kindred Vines. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$13

87 Adega de Portalegre 2020 Conventual Alentejo (Alentejo). Bright apple flavors and a light kiwi edge give this wine a fresh fruit and crisp edge. It is lively and ready to drink. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$13

87 Adega de Portalegre 2019 Conventual Alentejo Reserva Branco (Alentejo). From a cooperative in northern Alentejo, this wine has an attractive vibrant character. Bright acidity and crisp textures work together with citrus flavors. Drink now. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$26

87 Cartuxa 2020 Colheita (Alentejo). This is bright with fine acidity and juicy citrus flavors. With intense freshness and a lively texture, the wine is ready to drink. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

87 Companhia das Quintas 2021 Portas da Herdade (Alentejo). This soft wine with a blend of Antão Vaz, Arinto and Verdelho is perfumed, bright with acidity and crisp apple flavors. It is a gently textured wine that is ready to drink. Sarmen-to's Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$13

86 Adega de Borba 2021 Talhas de Borba (Alentejo). Aged in amphora, the wine is softly textured with a little oxidation. Its white fruits and bright acidity are gently moulded and fruity. The wine is ready to drink. LGL Imports LLC. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

85 Adega de Borba 2021 Alentejo. Full of crisp green apple flavors and bright acidity, this is a lively bright wine with citrus edges and tangy aftertaste. Drink the wine now. LGL Imports LLC. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$8

VINHO VERDE

89 Howard's Folly 2018 Alvarinho (Vinho Verde). From the northern Vinho Verde region of Monção and Melgaço, the wine is in a rich, now mature style of Alvarinho. It shows the grand side of the grape with its acidity toned down and melded and the fruits now mature. The wine is ready to drink. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

ROSÉS

89 Torre de Palma 2021 Rosé (Alentejano). A crisp wine with youthful intense acidity, this is packed with red currant flavors. The wine's bright character, vivid with light fruits, is fragrant and perfumed. Drink now. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$35

88 Quinta da Fonte Souto 2021 Rosé (Alentejo). A soft and fruity wine made from Aragonez

grown on the estate's hillside vineyards. That has given a wine that is crisp, tight with acidity and a fine cool character. Red fruits shine at the end. Drink now. Premium Port Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

87 Adega de Redondo 2020 Maré Viva Rosé (Alentejo). Light and fruity with soft acidity and texture, this wine, a blend of Aragonez and Castelão, is open and rounded. It is bright and with attractive touches of red berry flavors. Drink now. Saraiva Enterprises. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$9

PORTUGAL RED WINES

TEJO

91 Fiuzza 2020 Eminente Reserva (Tejo). A rich wine, with smoky tannins under black fruits, this wine was partially aged in wood. It has full-blown black fruits along with dense, juicy fruits. This is a fine wine that needs to age, drink from 2023. Votto Vines Importing. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Fiuzza 2020 Canto do Pedro Vinhas Velhas Reserva (Tejo). A blend of Touriga Nacional, Cabernet Sauvignon and Tinta Francisca gives a finely structured wine. Some firm tannins form the backdrop to ripe, juicy black fruits and ripe berry flavors. This is a fine wine, still a little young, so drink from 2024. Votto Vines Importing. *Best Buy.* —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

90 Fiuzza 2020 Ducado do Infante Reserva (Tejo). Smooth fruits and texture with ripe black fruits, this is a balanced, wood-aged wine. The blend of Touriga Nacional and Alicante Bouschet gives power and density, generously structured. The wine will be ready to drink from 2023. Votto Vines Importing. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

90 Fiuzza 2020 Escriba Reserva (Tejo). A densely textured wine, this has rich tannins and some powerful black fruits. The wine's Douro-style blend of 50/50 Touriga Nacional and Sousão, gives the wine richness and plenty of structure for aging. Drink from 2024. Votto Vines Importing. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Fiuzza 2020 Oceanus Reserva Touriga Nacional-Alicante Bouschet (Tejo). A softly textured wine, this blend of Touriga Nacional and Alicante Bouschet is generously ripe and packed with blackberry and plum fruits. It is a fine wine, ready to drink from 2023. Votto Vines Importing. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

88 **Fiuza 2020 Oceanus Reserva Touriga Nacional-Merlot (Tejo).** The Merlot in this blend acts as a smoothing element to the perfumed, structured Touriga Nacional. It also gives richness, bold spice and ripe tannins. Blackberry fruits, juiciness to the fore, adds ripeness. Drink the wine from 2023. Votto Vines Importing. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

87 **Fiuza 2020 Miratejo Reserva (Tejo).** An attractive, ripe wine, named after the banks of the Tagus (Tejo) river close to the winery. With its rounded black fruits and light tannins, the wine is approachable, ready to drink later this year. Votto Vines Importing. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$10

86 **Fiuza 2021 Oceanus (Tejo).** Lightly oak aged, the wine is fresh and fruity. Red berry flavors and lively acidity come together easily and gently. The wine is ready to drink. Votto Vines Importing. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$9

ALENTEJANO

94 **Herdade da Malhadinha Nova 2019 Malhadinha (Alentejano).** This is the top estate wine from the Soares family. It is an impressive wine showing rich tannins and powerful dark fruits. It is a young wine, one with a fine future as the black plum flavors develop and the smoky, spicy character is enhanced by aging. Drink this richly fine wine from 2025. Wine In-Motion. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$75

93 **Adega Mayor 2017 Reserva do Comendador Tinto (Alentejano).** This top-of-the-line wine from this producer is dense, concentrated with black fruits and bold tannins. It is still not quite mature, with bright black fruits as well as tannins still up front. However, it will be a fine wine as it reaches its best form. Drink from 2024. Nossa Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$75

93 **Herdade dos Grous 2020 Moon Harvested (Alentejano).** For full review see page 11. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. **Editors' Choice.**
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

93 **Herdade dos Grous 2018 Reserva (Alentejano).** For full review see page 10. Aidil Wines/Old World Import.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$51

93 **Herdade Paço do Conde 2017 Winemakers Selection (Alentejano).** A blend of Alicante Bouschet and Touriga Nacional, aged in wood, this is rich and juicy, full of generous black fruits. It has a smoky edge along with perfumed berry flavors and a smooth texture as the tannins have matured. Drink this fine wine now. Diniz Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

93 **Howard's Folly 2016 Reserva (Alentejano).** This is a fine, mature wine, a blend of Syrah and Alicante Bouschet. It gives great richness from both grapes, plus ripe black fruitss that are just developing secondary flavors. Wood aged, the wine is beautifully ready to drink. Tuscan Wine Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$55

93 **Quinta de San José de Pêramanca 2016 Pêra Velha Grand Reserve (Alentejano).** Well mature, the wine is bold and concentrated, dense and packed with black fruits. They are just matating into secondary flavors, giving spice and richness that will allow the wine to age further. Drink this fine wine now, or wait until 2024. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$95

93 **Quinta do Carmo 2014 Reserva (Alentejano).** Smooth and velvet textured, this mature wine is at its peak. Black fruits with juicy acidity and layers of spice and gentle tannins come together in an impressive wine that is ready to drink now. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

92 **Adega do Monte Branco 2017 Monte Branco (Alentejano).** This is a powerful wine with solid tannins and a dense texture. Even at five years, it shows no sign of losing its concentrated black fruits. The wine's ripeness gives it juiciness along with a bold structure. Drink now or let it age. Alt Wines. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

92 **Adega Mayor 2016 Grande Reserva Pai Chão (Alentejano).** This is a serious, complex wine, full of dark tannins and rich black fruits. Now just mature, it has fine tannins that give strength and power to the wine's structure. It is impressive and ready to drink. Nossa Imports. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$50

92 **Herdade do Rocim 2020 Alicante Bouschet (Alentejano).** This wine is seriously young, tannins and dark black fruits still just beginning to develop. With a rich, smoky character, alongside black plum flavors, the wine needs further aging. Drink from 2025. Shiverick Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$23

92 **Howard's Folly 2018 Sonhador (Alentejano).** Partially a field blend of old vines up to 50-years-old, the wine comes from the hills in northern Alentejo. It is a rich wine, powered by dark fruits, blackberry and plum along with ripe tannins. It is impressive and worth aging for longer. Drink from 2024. Tuscan Wine Imports. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

91 **Herdade da Malhadinha Nova 2019 Monte da Peceguina (Alentejano).** With its distinctive label of a zebra, drawn by the Soares kids of the family, this wine still shows its tannins. They come

with black plum skin flavors and a texture that is solid and concentrated. Drink the wine from 2024. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

91 **Herdade dos Grous 2019 Alentejano.** A rich, smoky wine, full of black fruits and the richest tannins and berry flavors. There is a contrasting elegance in the smooth texture and concentration. The wine needs further aging, wait to drink until 2024. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

91 **Torre de Palma 2019 Basílii (Alentejano).** Inspired by the Roman villa of the Basílii family that is at the estate, this wine solid and concentrated. Firm tannins are balanced by the ripe black fruits and juicy character that will give the wine its future. Drink from 2025. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$29

90 **Herdade dos Grous 2020 23 Barricas (Alentejano).** A selection of 23 barrels of Syrah and Touriga Nacional, the wine is perfumed, violets and spice. Firm tannins still predominate with concentration and a solid texture. Drink the wine from 2024. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

90 **Parras Vinhos 2019 Montaria Escolha do Ano (Alentejano).** This is an unusual choice of grape variety for Alentejo. Petite Syrah gives a richly perfumed, smoky wine that has juiciness, blackberry fruits and spice. The wine is open, ripe and ready to drink. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

90 **Quinta de San José de Pêramanca 2018 Pêra Grave Reserve (Alentejano).** A ripe, smoky wine with hints of wood aging alongside the firm tannins. The wine's balance and spicy black fruit richness are perfumed and dense. This wine is a just ready to drink. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

89 **Adega do Monte Branco 2019 Alento Tinto (Alentejano).** A ripe wine, full of firm fruits that are balanced by the red berry flavors and fine acidity. The wine is textured, showing tannins as well as juicy flavors. Drink this structured wine now. Alt Wines. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

89 **Dorina Lindemann 2017 Tinta Barroca (Alentejano).** Made from a vine normally found in the Douro, this wine has fine berry flavors along with juicy acidity. It is a vibrant, forward wine, still full of youthful fruit. Drink now. Elixir Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$29

89 **Quinta do Carmo 2018 Alentejano.** The wine is just approaching maturity as the tannins soften and the berry fruits integrate. It is a ripe wine, a blend of Alicante Bouschet, Aragonez

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and Trincadeira, dense and ready to drink. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

88 Dorina Lindemann 2019 Touriga Nacional (Alentejano). Young and juicy, the wine is accessible and packed with fruit. Light ripe tannins and a dry core will let the wine age further, although it is bright and ready now. Elixir Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$25

88 Herdade do Rocim 2021 Alentejano. With soft black fruits, blackberry mousse and light tannins, this is a wine that emphasizes fruit. Generous berry flavors. The wine is made to be drunk young and will be ready from later this year. Shiverick Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$24

88 Herdade do Rocim 2020 Indígena (Alentejano). A young and fruity wine has light tannins and pure, clean black fruits. This is a rounded wine, just a hint of dryness at the core from the tannins. Drink now. Organic. Shiverick Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

88 Herdade Paço do Conde 2019 Alentejano. The Alicante Bouschet in this blend gives the wine density and some powerful tannins. It has rich juicy blackberry fruits that are aligned with acidity and a full-bodied structure. Drink this wine from 2023. Diniz Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

88 Herdade Paço do Conde 2018 Alentejano. Despite its high alcohol, this wine has a poise as well as freshness. It is full, generous with its blackberry fruits and youthful tannins. The wine needs a little time, drink from 2023. Diniz Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$21

88 Howard's Folly 2020 Freshco? (Alentejano). Bright and juicy, this is a fruit-driven wine. Its ripe berry fruits and freshness give a wine that is deliciously vivid and ready to drink. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

88 Quinta de San José de Pêramanca 2019 Pêra Grave (Alentejano). A full, rich wine, still with its tannins and a dry core, the wine also has juicy acidity. It is dense with its structure and spicy aftertaste. Drink now. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$18

88 Quinta do Paral 2018 Colheita Seleccionada (Alentejano). A ripe and balanced wine showing fine acidity and a fresh character. Black currant fruits are right to the fore in this blend of four grapes. It is juicy and will be ready from 2023. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

87 Adega de Redondo 2018 Maré Viva Reserva (Alentejano). Wood aged and with spice as

well as black fruit flavors, this wine is firm with a dry core that permeates the wine. It has a hard edge that comes from heavy extraction. Drink from 2023. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

87 Dorina Lindemann 2019 Reserva Tinto (Alentejano). A blend of Tinta Barocca, Touriga Nacional and Touriga Franca, the wine is young, packed with fine blackberry fruits and soft tannins. It is softly textured, with spice and acidity at the end. Drink now. Elixir Wine Group. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$19

87 Monte das Ânforas 2020 Alentejano. A fruity, friendly wine with soft tannins and approachable red fruits. The wine is bright and fruity, red berries and spice showing well. Drink now. Wine In-Motion. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$7

87 Parras Vinhos 2020 Montaria Reserva (Alentejano). Balanced and fruity with ripe red fruit flavors, this is fully developed. Its tannins have softened well into the vivid, juicy fruits. Fresh and lightly textured, the wine is ready to drink. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

87 Quinta do Paral 2019 Alentejano. A smooth and ripe wine with generous tannins that have an edge of dryness and rich black currant fruit flavors. The wine is ready to drink. Kindred Vines. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$13

86 Cartuxa 2018 EA (Alentejano). A rounded, softly textured wine with light tannins, this is open and full of black currant fruits. The wine is juicy and ready to drink. Cartuxa wines support the Engénio de Almeida Foundation in Évora. Tri-Vin Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$9

86 Herdade dos Machados 2019 Morgado da Canita (Alentejano). Known as Morgado da Canita, José Maria dos Santos founded the estate in the 19th century. This wine is soft and fruity with a light texture and attractive acidity. Full of red fruits and gentle balanced tannins, it is ready to drink. Sarmento's Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$8

86 Quinta do Carmo 2019 Dom Martinho (Alentejano). The wine is lightly textured with berry fruits and gentle tannins. It has a simple structure, leaving an aftertaste full of fruitiness. Drink now. Wine In-Motion. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$10

85 Herdade dos Machados 2020 Toutalga (Alentejano). An easygoing summer wine with its light tannins and bright red fruits, this is gently structured and accessible. The wine is soft and ready to drink. Sarmento's Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$7

85 Parras Vinhos 2021 Montaria (Alentejano). A simple, soft and fruity wine that has bright acidity and fresh red fruits. The blend of Trincadeira, Aragonez and Alicante Bouschet is lightly textured and refined. Drink now. MS Walker. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$10

84 Adega de Redondo 2020 Maré Viva (Alentejano). An earthy wine, with rustic black fruits set against light tannins and a dry core. This is ready to drink. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$9

ALENTEJO

98 Mouchão 2013 Mouchão Tonel No. 3-4 (Alentejo). A single-vineyard Alicante Bouschet wine aged in tonels 3 and 4, two handsome wood casks big enough to walk through. The wine is only released in selected years. This vintage, now almost mature, shows both aging potential and great power as well as elegance. There is a fine juicy character that gives it unique freshness while it matures. Drink now or just wait until 2024. Wine In-Motion. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$250

95 Mouchão 2014 Alentejo. This wine is legendary and remains a benchmark for Alicante Bouschet. This release has powerful tannins with juiciness balanced by bold black plum fruits. It is an impressive wine, rich and drinkable now, but with further aging ahead of it. Wine In-Motion. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$75

94 Herdade do Rocim 2019 Grande Rocim Reserva (Alentejo). Packaged in a super-heavy bottle, the wine is powerful and impressive. Rich tannins and dark fruits shine in a wine that is produced in the best years. It is a dense, structured wine that needs time. Drink this fine wine from 2025. Shiverick Imports. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$95

94 Quinta da Fonte Souto 2018 Vinha do Souto (Alentejo). The top wine from this estate, purchased in 2017 as the Symington Family's first venture outside the Douro, is in the Portelegra hills of northern Alentejo. This is a dense wine layering Alicante Bouschet and Syrah into a harmonious rich wine. It will develop with powerful textures alongside the black fruits and mineral tannins. Drink this wine from 2025. Premium Port Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

93 Dona Maria-Júlio Bastos 2016 Dona Maria Grande Reserva (Alentejo). This is a fine, rich wine. Full of dark fruit, ripe tannins and a powerful texture, the wine is impressive and dense. Wood aged, the wine has spice as well as a perfumed, smoky character. Drink now. Organic. MS Walker. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

93 Herdade de Coelheiros 2013 Tapada de Coelheiros Garrafeira (Alentejo). Now perfectly mature, the wine has rich tannins and dark fruits. It is smoky, full of secondary flavors and with great density and fine ripeness. This well-aged wine is very ready to drink. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$100

93 Howard's Folly 2017 Alentejo. Winemaker David Baverstock, who guided the winemaking at Herdade do Esporão and in the Douro, has fashioned a solidly rich and perfumed wine from Touriga Nacional. It is concentrated and with ripe tannins and black currant fruits. Just approaching maturity, the wine will be ready from 2023. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55

92 Adega de Borba 2014 Grande Reserva (Alentejo). A powerful wine, now obviously mature, but still with fine juicy black fruits, this is fine and concentrated. It is vibrant with spicy black fruits and rich tannins, berry and secondary flavors well in balance. Drink the wine now. LGL Imports LLC. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$33

92 Adega de Borba 2012 Garrafeira (Alentejo). There is a fine ripeness to this dense wine and an amazing youthfulness. Juice and red fruit flavors are balanced along with a core of still firm tannins. Drink this fine wine now. LGL Imports LLC. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

92 Freixo 2018 Family Collection (Alentejo). Selected grapes form the basis of this wine. It is impressively dense with dark tannins and ripe black fruits, layers of richness that are freshened by the final acidity. The wine should age further and be ready from 2024. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

92 Herdade do Esporão 2016 Esporão (Alentejo). For full review see page 15. Now Wine Imports.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

92 José Maria da Fonseca 2017 J de José de Sousa (Alentejo). With grapes foot trodden in open lagars and then aged in old amphorae, the wine is densely textured and richly complex. It blends Grand Noir (itself created by crossing two undistinguished grapes Petit Bouschet and Aramon) with Touriga Franca and Touriga Nacional. The result is a rich wine, layered with now mature juicy black fruits and generous tannins. Drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

92 Quinta da Fonte Souto 2018 Alentejo. Produced by the Symington family, best known for their Ports and Douro wines, this comes from a new venture in the Portalegre region of Alentejo. The wine is richly structured, elegant and with fine black fruits and tannins. The wine, still young, is

full of potential. Drink from 2024. Premium Port Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

92 Quinta do Quetzal 2018 Reserva (Alentejo). This family estate in Vidigueira has a produced rich, full-bodied wine. The weight is balanced by the juicy black fruits and fine acidity. There is a stony, chewy edge to the wine that shows that it is still young. As it ages further, it will become seriously impressive. Tuscan Wine Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30

92 Quinta do Quetzal 2016 Quetzal Familia Grande Reserva (Alentejo). The wine, from the de Bruin-Heijn family of art collectors with a museum at the winery, is only produced in exceptional vintages. It has weight and richness with spice and bold ripe berry flavors. Densely textured and with powerful tannins and juicy acidity, the wine is impressive. It has aged well, but is still not ready. Wait for this wine until 2024. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90/1.5 L

91 Carmim 2017 Reguengos Garrafeira dos Sócios Reserva (Alentejo). This wood-aged wine, powered by juicy black fruits and rich tannins, is spicy, and full of black plum and berry fruits. It is a ripe wine, its smoky flavors balanced by the strong line of acidity and a succulent aftertaste. Drink from 2024. Saraiva Enterprises. *Editors' Choice.* —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$28

91 Freixo 2018 Reserva (Alentejo). This estate, created in 1808, has produced a finely textured blend of Alicante Bouschet and Touriga Nacional. Its ripeness and dark color both give richness to this intense wine. With its density and rounded aftertaste, the wine is ready to drink. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$49

91 Herdade do Rocim 2020 Olho de Mocho (Alentejo). A blend of Alicante Bouschet and Trincadeira, this wine comes from a single vineyard. Wood aged and impressively smooth and dense, the wine is concentrated and smoky. Hints of pepper from the high alcohol are a shame, for the wine's richness and power are palpable. Drink this fine wine from 2024. Shiverick Imports. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

91 José Maria da Fonseca 2017 José de Sousa Mayor (Alentejo). This is a rich wine, full of smooth mature fruits. Its structure and concentration are just right, giving juicy blackberry flavors and tannins that are now fully softened and integrated. Drink this fine wine now. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

91 Mouchão 2019 Dom Rafael (Alentejo). The second wine from this great estate is dense and concentrated. It has dark tannins, smoky and juicy black fruits. With its ripeness and power, the

wine does need to age further. Drink from 2024. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

90 Adega de Portalegre 2018 Portalegre (Alentejo). The Portalegre vineyards are in the hills in the north of Alentejo. This wine with is made with old vines. They have given a full-bodied concentrated and almost mature wine. The ripe black fruits are dense and juicy, balancing against the smoky character of the wine. Drink now. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

90 Carmim 2019 Monsaraz Alicante Bouschet (Alentejo). This is a massive wine, powered by dark tannins and concentrated perfumed black fruits. With its richness and peppered black currant fruits, the wine has a while to go. Drink from 2024. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$16

90 Cartuxa 2018 Alentejo. Bold and juicy, the wine is ripe and rich. Its spice and tannins have integrated well with the black plum fruits and plum skin texture. Drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Quinta da Fonte Souto 2019 Alentejo. While this grape is normally found in the mountainous Dão region further north, it has produced a richly concentrated and successful wine, powered by tannins and by rich black fruits. Drink from 2023. Premium Port Wines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

90 Quinta do Quetzal 2019 Winemaker's Selection (Alentejo). A wood-aged wine produced from José Portela and Rui Reguinga's selection of fruit across the estate. The wine is still young, packed with black fruits and ripe tannins. It has weight and firm blackberry and spice flavors. Drink from 2024. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

89 Freixo 2019 Terroir (Alentejo). Expressing the landscape of the area around Redondo, this is a rich, balanced wine full of juicy black fruits and generous tannins. There is a core of dryness in this wine suggests it still has a way to go. Drink from 2024. Millennial Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

88 Adega de Portalegre 2020 Conventual Alentejo Red Reserva (Alentejo). Wood aged, the wine is structured with tannins that are still young. It has fruity black currant flavors set against light spice and bright final acidity. Drink from 2023. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$26

88 Carmim 2020 Monsaraz Reserva (Alentejo). This is a dense wine, a powerful expression of ripe, dark fruits. It pushes the envelope of red wine, giving a concentrated, rich wine that has

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some potential. Drink from 2024. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Companhia das Quintas 2020 Portas da Herdade Seleção do Enólogo (Alentejo). Rich red fruits are layered with smooth tannins and a youthful vivacity in this wine. From selected parcels, the wine is juicy with a light, fully integrated structure. Drink from later this year. Sarmiento's Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

88 Herdade de Coelheiros 2019 Coelheiros (Alentejo). An attractive, fruity wine with generous tannins and plenty of black fruit flavors. The wine still has a firm core and will need aging further. Drink from 2024. Organic. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

88 Herdade de Coelheiros 2016 Tapada de Coelheiros (Alentejo). With solid tannins and a dark, black fruit character, the wine is full and rich. Big tannins and concentration are unfortunately edged by pepper from the alcohol. Drink now. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

88 Herdade dos Machados 2018 Reserva (Alentejo). The wine is soft, now smoothly textured and with generous tannins under the black fruits. It has spice from light wood aging as well as layers of still-fresh acidity. Drink now. Sarmiento's Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

88 José Maria da Fonseca 2019 José de Sousa (Alentejo). A bold, ripe wine that has juicy fruits and generous tannins, this is all about blackberries and black plums. The wine is full and rich, ready to drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

87 Adega de Borba 2021 Talhas de Borba (Alentejo). Fruity, fragrant and fresh, the wine is juicy with black currant and spice flavors. It is young but softly textured from aging in amphora. Drink from later this year. LGL Imports LLC. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

87 Adega de Redondo 2020 Maré Viva Selection (Alentejo). Red berry and ripe, spice flavors give this wine its richness. This blend of Castelão, Aragonez and Trincadeira, has generous juicy acidity that and the promise of richness to come. Drink from 2023. Saraiva Enterprises. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

87 Carmim 2020 Monsaraz Tradição (Alentejo). This is an attractive, fruity wine with bright, young fruits and fresh berry flavors. The wine is balanced, juicy and ready to drink. Tri-Vin Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$9

87 Herdade dos Machados 2018 Premium (Alentejo). A wine that is full of black fruits and soft tannins. It has an enticing softness with an edge of dryness just there to keep shape and balance. Drink now. Sarmiento's Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

86 Carmim 2020 Reguengos (Alentejo). A fine barbecue wine, with some bright fruits, plenty of tannins for balance and a fine, juicy, succulent aftertaste. Drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. **Best Buy.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$8

86 Companhia das Quintas 2020 Portas da Herdade Touriga Nacional (Alentejo). Pure Touriga Nacional gives a perfumed wine with some firm tannins. The wine has black fruits that give a violet flavor to the wine. It will be ready from 2023. Terroir Connections. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

86 Herdade dos Machados 2019 Moura (Alentejo). A soft, fruity wine with gentle tannins, this is full of red berry flavors. It is ready to drink with its acidity and spicy aftertaste. Sarmiento's Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

86 Quinta do Quetzal 2016 Alentejo. This structured wine with its ripe black currant flavors is now mature. The maturity has not quite softened the tannins and the dry core that give the wine a firm character. Drink the wine now. Tuscan Wine Imports. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

85 Adega de Portalegre 2019 Conventual Alentejo Red (Alentejo). A lean wine, with tannins and cool black fruits, this has juicy acidity and bright fruitiness. The wine is ready to drink. Brands of Portugal. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$13

85 Carmim 2020 Reguengos Reserva (Alentejo). A soft wine, fruity and juicy with red fruits. It is an accessible wine, lightly structured and with pleasing acidity at the end. Drink now. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$13

85 Herdade de Coelheiros 2012 Vinha do Taco (Alentejo). The wine is now mature, possibly drying out. The fruit is diminished and the wine has a tough edge. Drink fast. Grape2Glass. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$53

SPAIN WHITE WINES RÍAS BAIXAS

91 Adegas Tollodouro 2020 Pontellón Albariño (Rías Baixas). Aromas of green apple, lemon zest and jasmine set the stage for flavors of lemon,

Valencia orange, orange blossom and salted almond. It is bright on the palate from first sip to the grapefruit splashed finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

91 Altos de Torona 2021 Albariño (Rías Baixas). This light yellow colored wine has aromas of pineapple, orange blossom and rose petal. Flavors of lemon, white peach, passion fruit, dried thyme and almond wind down to a savory finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$35

91 Altos de Torona 2021 Cova Do Seixo Albariño (Rías Baixas). Aromas of lemon-lime, lemon curd and honeysuckle set the stage for flavors of lemon, pineapple, vanilla and baked apple. This wine is smooth on the palate and offers a note of citrus zest on the finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$32

90 Adegas Gran Vinum 2021 Esencia Diviña Albariño (Rías Baixas). With aromas of Bartlett pear, toasted almond and toffee, this wine offers opening flavors of Granny Smith apple and lychee that wash across the palate before being joined by notes of hazelnut and thyme. It has good mouthfeel that drops away into a soft finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$24

90 Adegas Tollodouro 2021 Blanquito White Blend (Rías Baixas). This wine has a nose of lemon, vanilla and hillside brush. It is full in the mouth, starting out savory with flavors of dried herbs that are followed by citrus and rosewater. Floral notes linger into the finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$27

90 Adegas Tollodouro 2021 Xovial Albariño (Rías Baixas). This wine has aromas of pineapple, grapefruit and orange blossom. It feels good in the mouth and has flavors of grapefruit, lemon-lime and white flowers. There is a touch of saline on the bright finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

90 Bodegas Chaves 2021 Castel De Fornos Albariño (Rías Baixas). This medium straw colored wine has aromas of pineapple and lemon zest. It offers flavors of grapefruit, passion fruit and toffee with a note of salinity on the bright finish. Table 31 Imports. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$21

90 Pazo De Villarei 2021 Albariño (Rías Baixas). Pale yellow in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of lemon, lychee and matchstick. It is soft in the mouth, with flavors of pink grapefruit, caramelized pineapple and yellow bell pepper that culminate in a very bright finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Rectoral do Umia 2021 Calazul Albariño (Rías Baixas). This wine has a nose of toasted almonds, brioche and orange zest. It is round on the palate with a dusting of light tannins

and flavors of green pear, Granny Smith apple, toast and vanilla. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$16

89 Altos de Torona 2021 Torre De Ermelo Albariño (Rías Baixas). This wine has a bouquet of green pear and Gala apple. Flavors of yellow cherry, yuzu, butterscotch and rose petal are joined by a note of thyme on the finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$25

RUEDA

89 Cuatro Rayas 2021 Organic Verdejo (Rueda). This wine has a bouquet of peach, lemon zest and white flowers. Fruit flavors of Bartlett pear and nectarine are joined on the palate by notes honeysuckle, lemon zest and hazelnut. There is a nice note of toasted nuts on the finish. 4Front Imports, LLC. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$14

89 Protos 2021 Criado Sobre Lías Finas Verdejo (Rueda). For full review see page 29. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13% Price: \$14

89 Viñas Murillo 2019 Chapiroete Fermentado en Barrica Verdejo (Rueda). This light gold colored wine has a nose of apricot and lemon zest. It is bright on the palate, offering flavors of lemon-lime, Granny Smith apple, toffee and almond blossom that coalesce in an almond-scented finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$43

88 Valdehermoso 2021 Lagar Del Rey Verdejo (Rueda). Deep straw in the glass, this wine offers aromas of lemon, lime zest and peach. It is full in the mouth, with flavors of nectarine, apricot, white chocolate and lemon peel and a note of orange blossom on the soft finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$21

85 Valdecuevas 2021 Flor Innata Verdejo (Rueda). Medium straw to the eye, this wine has aromas of grapefruit and cut grass. Flavors of apple, peach, vanilla and toast wind down to a soft floral finish. Toros & Vinos LLC. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$8

GETARIAKO TXAKOLINA

90 Txomin Etxaniz 2021 Getaria (Getariako Txakolina). For full review see page 26. Fine Estates From Spain.
abv: 11% Price: \$25

90 Zudugarai 2021 Txakoli Malda (Getariako Txakolina). Light golden yellow in color, this wine has a bouquet of lemon zest, jasmine and Turkish delight. It is zesty in the mouth with fla-

vors of lemon-lime, Granny Smith apple, lychee and orange blossom. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 11% Price: \$20

89 Hiruzta 2020 Berezia (Getariako Txakolina). This deep straw-colored wine has a nose of lemon curd and toasted hazelnut. It is round on the palate with flavors of caramelized pineapple, nectarine, toast, and roasted nuts. Savory notes dominate the palate briefly, but bright fruit comes back on the finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$25

87 Lasalde Elkartea 2020 Getariako Txakolina. Medium yellow to the eye, this wine has aromas of yellow plums and white peach. It is bright at first sip with a bold nectarine flavor, followed by savory notes of toffee, rose petal, salted almond and brioche. Scoperta Importing Co. Inc. —M.D.
abv: 11% Price: \$18

VINO DE LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA Y LEON

92 Ossian 2019 Capitel (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León). Light yellow to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of Bartlett pear, nectarine and orange blossom. It is full on the palate, with flavors of lemon, lime, lychee, vanilla, dried Mediterranean herbs and nutmeg that dissolve into a lemon zest finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$125

91 Ossian 2019 Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León. Medium yellow in the glass, this wine has aromas of lychee and white cherry. It is zesty on the palate, with flavors of pink grapefruit, yuzu, roast cashews and hazelnuts and a touch of lemon zest that continues into the bright finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$50

90 Ossian 2019 Quintaluna (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León). Light straw in color, this wine has aromas of white peach, lemon and orange blossom. It is very bright on the palate with flavors of lemon, grapefruit, thyme, vanilla and juniper berry. It is creamy in the mouth and offers a long finish. Classic Wine Imports, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$25

OTHER WHITE WINES

91 Bodegas Ondarre 2019 Valdebarón (Rioja). Medium gold to the eye, this wine has aromas of peach, dried apricot, rose petal and toast. It offers luxurious mouthfeel amid flavors of peach and Granny Smith apple with rounded notes of butterscotch and salted almonds. There is a splash of Valencia orange on the finish. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$18

90 Celler Piñol 2020 Portal (Terra Alta). Pale straw in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of green apple and nectarine. Flavors of pear, ripe summer peach, vanilla, caramel and toasted hazelnut wind down to a smooth finish. Olé Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$25

90 Dominio de Punctum 2020 Vaiven Blanc de Noir Biodynamic Vineyards (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla). This medium straw colored wine has a nose of Bartlett pear and white flowers. It is round in the mouth with flavors of toffee, vanilla, Gala apple and pineapple, with an almond blossom finish. Terroir Wine Group. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$15

90 Txakoli Primo 2021 Txakoli de Álava. Medium straw in the glass, this wine has aromas of Valencia orange, lime zest and a hint of petrol. It is bright at first sip with bold citrus flavors joined by dried Mediterranean herbs and a touch of orange blossom. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 11% Price: \$24

89 Masua 2021 Txakoli de Álava. Medium straw to the eye, this wine has a nose of grapefruit and hillside brush. It is bright on the palate with flavors of pink grapefruit, yuzu, salted almond and juniper that power on into a high-acid finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$25

88 Enlightenment 2020 Catalunya. Aromas of apricot, honeydew melon, and white chocolate prepare the palate for flavors of cantaloupe, pineapple, chirimoya and vanilla with a touch of nutmeg sprinkled on the soft finish. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$18

86 Legado del Moncayo 2020 Campo de Borja. Light straw in color, this wine has the scent of lemon with a whiff of petrol. It offers flavors of lemon, grapefruit, white peach and baking spices with a perfumed finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$16

84 Gorka Izagirre 2019 G22 (Bizkaiko Txakolina). Medium gold in color, this wine offers a bouquet of peach, lemon zest and honeysuckle that are followed by flavors of Bartlett pear, gala apple, vanilla and orange blossom. Each note is pleasant on its own, but the elements are not cohesive on the palate. Palmateer Wine Group. —M.D.
abv: 13% Price: \$23

BRUT NATURE

94 Alta Alella 2010 10 Pujol Busquets Guillén Gran Reserva Brut Nature (Cava). Medium gold in color with persistent bubbles, this wine has a nose of baked apple, nutmeg and toasted almond. On the palate it offers a mix of bright fruit and oxidative notes that include lemon, Valencia orange, almond and toasted hazelnut with a touch of juni-

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per berry on the finish. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$200

93 **Alta Alella 2016 Mirgin Exeo Paratge Qualificat Vallcirera Brut Nature (Cava).** Steady bubbles rise to the surface in this medium yellow colored wine. It offers a bouquet of green pear, lemon pound cake and rosewater. On the palate, it is more savory than the nose lets on, with flavors of lemon, lychee, dried Mediterranean herbs and tangy green olives. There is a nice note of lemon zest on the finish. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$95

92 **Alta Alella 2017 Mirgin Opus Paratge Qualificat Vallcirera Brut Nature (Cava).** Deep straw in color and with a soft effervescence, this wine has aromas of red Delicious apple, canned peach and almond blossom. It offers flavors of toast with lemon curd, lime zest, grated coconut and a soft hint of mocha that are followed by a burst of citrus on the finish. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$66

90 **Albet I Noya 2019 Efecte Reserva Brut Natural Méthode Ancestral (Penedès).** A light effervescence is apparent in the glass. This sparkling wine offers aromas of green apple, Bartlett pear and caramel. It is very light on the palate, with flavors of lemon, Gala apple and caramelized nuts that culminate in a bright finish. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$29

90 **Alta Alella 2018 Laietà Gran Reserva Brut Nature (Cava).** This wine is medium yellow colored with a gentle smattering of petite bubbles. It has a nose of peach, green apple and honeysuckle. It is bright in the mouth with flavors of Bartlett pear, nectarine, buttered toast and a coffee bean finish. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$38

90 **Alta Alella 2018 Mirgin Gran Reserva Brut Nature (Cava).** This sparkling wine features a soft smattering of bubbles in the glass. It has aromas of almond toffee, lemon zest and vanilla bean that presage flavors of lemon-lime, Bartlett pear and lavender. A note of coffee bean lingers on the finish. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. —M.D.
abv: 12% Price: \$28

90 **Biutiful NV Brut Nature (Cava).** For full review see page 27. Grapes of Spain. *Best Buy.*
abv: NA Price: \$15

90 **Llopart 2014 Leopardi Brut Nature (Cava).** Medium yellow to the eye with a firm column of bubbles, this wine has a bouquet of nectarine, apricot and rose petal. Flavors of Granny Smith apple, lemon-lime, white chocolate and bricoche wash over the palate before dissolving into an

espresso bean flavored finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$40

90 **Llopart 2010 Original 1887 Brut Nature (Cava).** This deep gold colored wine has small bubbles and aromas of orange marmalade, baking bread and jasmine. It is bright at first sip, opening with flavors of green pear and Gala apple that are followed by notes of sourdough, lilies, and vanilla. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$70

89 **1+1=3 NV Cygnus Sador Brut Nature Reserva (Cava).** This sparkling wine has a bouquet of toasted almond, lemon zest and rising pizza dough, and it offers a soft column of bubbles in the glass. It is bright on the front palate with grapefruit and green apple flavors. Notes of roasted nuts and buttered toast linger into a finish marked with a splash of lemon. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 11.5% Price: \$22

87 **Castell de Sant Pau NV Brut Nature (Cava).** A strong column of large bubbles helps to disperse aromas of hazelnut, caramel and citrus zest. This sparkling wine features flavors of green apple, lychee, butterscotch and toast with hints of baking spice and citrus notes that linger on the palate. Misa Imports. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 11% Price: \$10

SPAIN RED WINES BIERZO

91 **Luna Beberide 2019 Finca (Bierzo).** This black cherry colored wine features a nose of bramble berries, tapenade and honeysuckle. Plush tannins play backup to flavors of cassis, blackberry, dark chocolate and clove that fade into a lifted floral finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

90 **Puerto Del Monte 2019 Bierzo.** Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of blackberry, black currant, leather and Sevilla orange. There is a simultaneous sense of brightness and weight on palate with flavors of black cherry, blackberry, salted caramel, almond and mocha wrapped in a sheath of chewy tannins. Cranberry and butterscotch flavors arrive just in time for the long finish. Artisans & Vines. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$19

89 **Luna Beberide 2020 Bierzo.** The color of blueberry pie, this wine has aromas of cassis, cherry and tomato leaf. It offers a mélange of savory and fruit flavors, including raspberry, pomegranate, dried Mediterranean herbs and clove. It starts off bright and then grippy tannins make their presence known before washing away into a cranberry-tinged finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$19

TORO

96 **Teso La Monja 2017 Alabaster (Toro).** This inky garnet colored wine has a bouquet of blackberry, cassis and lavender. It is soft at first sip, with flavors of black cherry and blackberry backed by silky tannins and notes of milk chocolate, menthol, flint and violet. There is a nice floral note on the elegant finish. Drink through 2037. Fine Estates From Spain. *Cellar Selection.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$250

94 **Carodorum 2016 Selección Especial Reserva (Toro).** Dark ruby in the glass, this wine has a nose of black cherry, Chambord and milk chocolate. It offers plush tannins and flavors of blackberry, raspberry, white chocolate, toasted hazelnut, orange zest and a nice savory thyme note that coalesce in a caramel-coated finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$75

94 **Carodorum 2016 Único Crianza (Toro).** Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of pomegranate, clove and black olive paste. It has flavors of black cherry, crème de cassis, licorice, vanilla, espresso bean and toasted hazelnut. Opu- lent tannins melt away into toffee-infused finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$100

94 **Teso La Monja 2018 Victorino (Toro).** Deep violet to the eye, this wine has a nose of blackberry, cherry cola and cinnamon. It is brighter on the palate than expected with flavors of cherry and pomegranate set into a frame of plush tannins with notes of toffee, salted almond, red apple peel, clove and ground coffee. There is a touch of spice on the lasting finish. Fine Estates From Spain. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$65

93 **Lui & William 2018 Abelis William Crianza (Toro).** The color of blackberry preserves, this wine offers aromas of dark plum, hillside brush and juniper. A tight wall of tannins that backs flavors of cassis, roasted cherry tomato, bittersweet chocolate, clove and dried thyme slowly drops away to reveal bright cherry finish. Well Crafted Wine & Beverage. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$41

93 **San Román Bodegas y Viñedos 2018 San Román (Toro).** Inky purple in the glass, this wine has aromas of black cherry, vanilla bean and hillside brush followed by flavors of cassis, dark plum, dark chocolate and dried Mediterranean herbs. It is full on the palate with chewy tannins that linger into a ripe, cherry splashed finish. Grapes of Spain. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$65

92 **Legado de Ormiz 2018 Triens (Toro).** Inky purple in the glass, this wine has aromas of blackberry, cassis and leather. It offers flavors of black currant, dark plums, clove, dark chocolate and thyme. Forceful tannins fade into a long finish

marked by a return of fruit flavors. Vinamericas, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$35

92 **Lui & William 2018 Abelis Lui (Toro).** The color of blueberry pie, this wine has a nose of black cherry, black currant and anisette. Plush tannins provide a backdrop for flavors of blackberry, Chambord, clove, menthol and milk chocolate that dissolve into an espresso bean flavored finish. Well Crafted Wine & Beverage. —M.D.
abv: NA Price: \$28

92 **Lui & William 2016 Fighting Bulls Abelis Carthago (Toro).** The color of blueberry pie, this wine has a bouquet of black currant, clove and violet. A frame of sturdy tannins supports flavors of black plum, cassis, anisette and dark chocolate. The tannins steadily lessen in impact, dropping off into a chocolate and espresso bean finish. Well Crafted Wine & Beverage. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$75

89 **Estancia Piedra 2019 Cantadal Joven (Toro).** Aromas of black currant, dark chocolate and flint pave the way for flavors of dark plum, blackberry, anise and licorice wrapped up in a web of silky tannins. The lingering finish is marked with a note of white flowers. Vanguard Foods Trading. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

87 **Munia 2018 Especial (Toro).** This dark purple wine has a bouquet of cassis, toast and baking spices. It is spicy in the mouth, with opening flavors of licorice, anisette, eucalyptus and dark chocolate. As vigorous tannins dissolve, flavors of butterscotch, black currant and black plums are revealed. This wine tastes and feels good but acidity is lacking. Votto Vines Importing. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$44

RIBERA DEL DUERO

94 **Arzuaga 2014 Gran Reserva (Ribera del Duero).** This deep violet colored wine has a bouquet of cherry pie, vanilla and baking spices. It is round in the mouth with plush tannins and flavors of raspberry, blackberry, chocolate covered caramel, coffee bean and butterscotch. There is a nice note of coffee on the finish. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$135

94 **Emilio Moro 2017 La Felisa (Ribera del Duero).** Aromas of raspberry, roast grape tomato and cedar chest emanate from this black cherry colored wine. Bright fruit flavors of pomegranate and cherry fill the palate alongside notes of white chocolate, orange zest and caramel. Sturdy tannins take their time on the tongue before dropping off into a Valencia orange and toasted almond finish. Moro Brothers. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$50

94 **Pago de Carraovejas 2016 El Anejón (Ribera del Duero).** This bright ruby colored wine offers fruit forward aromas of blackberry and cherry with hints of vanilla and clove. It is spicy in the mouth with notes of clove and menthol alongside flavors of black cherry and black currant. Mid-weight tannins and a touch of vanilla linger into the satisfying finish. Drink now through 2036. Classic Wines, Inc. *Cellar Selection.* —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$140

93 **12 Linajes 2018 Finca los Arenales (Ribera del Duero).** Deep violet red to the eye, this wine offers a nose of raspberry, cherry and clove. It is bright at first sip with flavors of pomegranate and strawberry. Glossy tannins roll onto the palate bearing flavors of milk chocolate, mint and baking spices with a cranberry note on the finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$60

93 **Dominio Basconillos 2017 Viña Magna (Ribera del Duero).** This dark ruby colored wine has a bouquet of fruits of the wood, dark chocolate and freshly ground coffee. It is rich on the palate with flavors of black currant, blackberry pie, clove and baking spices set into a web of lush tannins. Fruit flavors weigh out over spice notes, carrying on into a ripe cherry finish. Classical Wines. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$40

93 **Emilio Moro 2017 (Ribera del Duero).** Dark ruby in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of black currant, dark plum and chocolate covered espresso bean. It offers nice spice notes on the palate, with licorice, anise and eucalyptus backing up fruit of the wood flavors and dark chocolate notes. Velvety tannins peel away to reveal a luscious milk chocolate and mint finish. Moro Brothers. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$28

93 **Finca La Capilla 2017 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).** For full review see page 10. Vineyard Brands.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$35

93 **García Figuro 2017 Noble (Ribera del Duero).** For full review see page 10. Quintessential Wines.
abv: 15% Price: \$170

93 **Milsetentayseis 2018 Tinto (Ribera del Duero).** Inky garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of black cherry, blackberry and vanilla. It is smooth in the mouth, offering satin tannins and flavors of dark fruit, clove, licorice, aniseed and a drawn out floral finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$80

93 **Vega Clara 2016 Dacán (Ribera del Duero).** Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of blackberry, vanilla and violet talc. It is juicy on the palate with flavors of raspberry and black cherry. At the same time, there is a sense of substance derived from firm tannins and deeper notes of bittersweet

chocolate, salted almonds and flint. Dark chocolate lingers on the palate into a grippy finish. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50

93 **Viña Vilano 2018 Terra Incognita (Ribera del Duero).** This dark ruby colored wine has aromas of black plum, mocha and juniper berry. It feels good on the palate, with opulent tannins and flavors of cassis, blackberry, clove and chocolate covered espresso bean that fade into a classic orange zest finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$60

92 **Lleiroso 2014 Sergio Hernández Edición Especial (Ribera del Duero).** Aromas of raspberry and pomegranate with a hint of jalapeño set the scene for flavors of cassis, blackberry pie, milk chocolate and violet. Glossy tannins peel away to reveal a note of orange zest on the lingering finish. Beviemo International. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$75

92 **López Cristóbal 2017 Viracocha (Ribera del Duero).** Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has aromas of black cherry, black currant and vanilla. It is slightly juicy on impact with flavors of pomegranate and cherry followed by notes of dark chocolate, roasted tomato and marjoram. Plush tannins alight on the palate and fade into a floral finish. Key Wines. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$82

92 **Señorío de Sotillo 2014 Gran Reserva (Ribera del Duero).** Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of dark plums, mocha and violet. Flavors of raspberry, ripe cherry, milk chocolate, honey-suckle and a splash of Valencia orange are followed by note of milk chocolate. Velvet tannins meander on the palate into a drawn-out finish. Vinamericas, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$60

92 **Viejo Mundo 2017 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).** Aromas of cassis, orange zest and flint waft from this deep violet colored wine. A network of chewy tannins plays host to flavors of blackberry, black cherry and citrus zest with notes of dark chocolate, anisette and orange blossom. Hefty tannins remain on the palate through the long finish, undercut by a lingering sense of fruit brightness. Vintage Wine Marketing. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$22

91 **Finca La Capilla 2017 Vendimia Seleccionada (Ribera del Duero).** Inky violet in color, this wine has a nose of dark plum, blackberry and coffee bean. It is savory on the palate with flavors of cranberry, cherry, dried Mediterranean herbs, cocoa powder. It has midweight tannins that fade to reveal a note of licorice on a slightly spicy finish. Vineyard Brands. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$53

91 **Pago de Carraovejas 2019 Ribera del Duero.** Dark violet in color, this wine offers a bouquet of blackberry, caramel and espresso. Substan-

BUYINGGUIDE

tial tannins play host to flavors of black cherry, raspberry, dark chocolate, orange zest and violet that dissolve into a mocha finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$55

90 **García Figuero 2019 Tinto 4 (Ribera del Duero).** For full review see page 23. Quintessential Wines.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

90 **Pinna Fidelis 2019 Roble (Ribera del Duero).**

Deep violet in color, this wine has aromas of bramble berries and Mediterranean herbs and flavors of clove, menthol, black cherry, raspberry, milk chocolate and violet. It is very smooth on the palate, with velvet tannins and a soft floral lift on the finish. Consortium & Spirits LLC. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

90 **Pinna Fidelis 2018 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).** The color of blueberry pie, this wine has aromas of cherry, blackberry and cocoa powder. It feels good on the palate, with downy tannins and flavors of black cherry, raspberry, and dark chocolate covered mints. Consortium & Spirits LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 **Protos 2018 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).**

Inky garnet in color, this wine has a nose of blackberry, cassis, milk chocolate and marjoram. It is soft in the mouth, with flavors of black currant, black cherry, bittersweet chocolate and dried hillside herbs. A tight wall of tannins loosens up to reveal a touch of violet on the finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 **Viña Vilano 2019 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).**

This bright ruby colored wine offers aromas of black cherry, caramel and lavender and flavors of cherry, pomegranate, cocoa powder and violet. Plush tannins peel away to reveal a touch of candied orange peel on the finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 **Bodegas y Viñedos Tábula 2019 Damana 5 (Ribera del Duero).** This blackberry jam colored wine has aromas of pomegranate, cassis and orange blossom. On opening it offers dark berry flavors followed by bright cranberry, dark chocolate, violet, butterscotch and aniseed. Bold tannins patiently wend their way to a spicy finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$23

89 **Peñalba Herraiz 2019 Aptus 8 Meses Barrica (Ribera del Duero).** Deep garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of black currant, tobacco and violet. A sheath of hefty tannins supports flavors of fruits of the wood, black plum, dark chocolate and licorice that dissolve into a floral finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$20

89 **Viña Mayor 2014 Gran Reserva (Ribera del Duero).** Dark violet-red to the eye, this wine has aromas of black currant, dark chocolate and flint. Smooth tannins provide a frame for flavors of blackberry, black cherry, milk chocolate and eucalyptus that drop off into an orange zest finish. USA Wine West. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

88 **CVNE 2019 Selección de Fincas (Ribera del Duero).** Dark red-violet to the eye, this wine has a nose of pomegranate, clementine and espresso bean. Vigorous tannins settle on the tongue and gums bearing flavors of cranberry, strawberry, mocha and tobacco leaf that continue into the long finish. Arano LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$16

88 **Finca Torremilanos 2018 Montecastrillo (Ribera del Duero).** This dark ruby colored wine has a bouquet of cassis, blackberry and coffee bean. It is juicy on the palate, with flavors of black cherry, pomegranate, dark chocolate, clove and anise, and a soft finish. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$12

88 **Pago del Cielo 2018 Celeste Crianza (Ribera del Duero).** Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has a nose of cherry, raspberry and vanilla. It is spicy and a touch savory, with soft tannins and flavors of clove, eucalyptus, thyme and fruits of the wood. There is a violet lift on the finish. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

88 **Protos 2019 Ecológico 9 Meses en Barrica Made with Organic Grapes (Ribera del Duero).** The color of blueberry pie filling, this wine has aromas of black cherry, milk chocolate and lavender. It is bright at first sip with flavors of cherry and pomegranate; then hefty tannins set in bearing notes of butterscotch, roasted yellow pepper and dark chocolate. A bright note of raspberry permeates the finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17

88 **Viña Mayor 2019 Roble (Ribera del Duero).** This inky garnet colored wine has a bouquet of cassis, orange zest and leather. It is full on the palate with plush tannins and flavors of black cherry, blackberry, bittersweet chocolate and thyme. There is a splash of pomegranate on the drawn out finish. Vinum International. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

87 **López Cristóbal 2018 Crianza (Ribera del Duero).** Deep garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of raspberry and dried Mediterranean herbs. It is very soft in the mouth, with featherweight tannins and flavors of raspberry, strawberry, white chocolate and roast fennel bulb. Key Wines. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$10

85 **Bodegas Peñafiel 2013 Miro de Ribera Reserva (Ribera del Duero).** This wine has a nose of blackberry, black cherry and espresso bean. Powerful tannins back flavors of pomegranate, cranberry, dark chocolate and leather that don't completely come together on the palate. Independence Wine & Spirits. —M.D.

abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$NA

NAVARRA

90 **Bodegas Nekeas 2019 El Chaparral de Vega Sindoa Old Vines (Navarra).** For full review see page 21. Jorge Ordóñez Selections.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$16

90 **Príncipe de Viana 2018 Crianza Vendimia Seleccionada (Navarra).** Deep red-violet in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of raspberry, cherry cola and cigar box. It is savory on the palate with flavors of roast tomato, cherry pipe tobacco and dried Mediterranean herbs backed by notes of cranberry and pomegranate. Midweight tannins evaporate into a tobacco leaf finish. The Sorting Table. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$19

88 **Castillo de Monjardin 2019 La Cantera (Navarra).** Violet-red in the glass, this wine has aromas of blackberry, cassis and Mountainside herbs. It has jammy flavors of raspberry and black cherry with notes of milk chocolate, black pepper and herbs of Provence. Satiny tannins evaporate into a refreshing finish. Winebow Imports. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

RIOJA

94 **Ramirez de la Piscina 2017 Selección Reserva (Rioja).** For full review see page 8. Jorge Ordóñez Selections.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$28

94 **Sierra Cantabria 2016 Colección Privada (Rioja).** Inky violet red in the glass, this wine has aromas of cassis, blackberry, hillside herbs and black olives. It has flavors of black cherry, black currant, dark chocolate, toasted hazelnut and freshly ground coffee, as well as tenacious tannins that hang on into a bright, satisfying finish. Drink through 2036. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. **Cellar Selection.** —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

93 **Bodegas Muriel 2016 Fincas de la Villa Reserva (Rioja).** For full review see page 9. Quintessential Wines.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

93 **Bodegas Ugalde 2017 Reserva (Rioja).** Red violet to the eye, this wine offers a nose of black currant, blackberry, leather and green bell pepper. This is a classic style Rioja with bold tannins and fruit of the wood flavors backed by notes

of leather, tobacco, and dark chocolate. The finish is surprisingly bright, with a splash of cranberry and a note of almond. 4Front Imports, LLC. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$42

93 Casa Primicia 2016 Viña Diezmo Reserva (Rioja). The color of blackberry preserves, this wine has a bouquet of black plum and mocha infused with earthy notes. It feels good on the palate, with flavors of raspberry, ripe summer cherry, milk chocolate, espresso bean and black olive paste. Enduring tannins slowly dissolve into a cranberry infused finish. W. Direct. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$42

93 Cuenta Viñas 2019 CDVIN (Rioja). Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of black currant, violet and freshly ground black pepper. Bright fruit flavors of cranberry and pomegranate open on the palate before notes of milk chocolate, butterscotch, thyme and lavender weave their way into the palate. Durable tannins linger into a drawn out finish. Drink now through 2034. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. *Cellar Selection.* —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$80

93 Marqués del Silvo 2015 Gran Reserva (Rioja). Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of blackberry, dark chocolate and dried Mediterranean herbs. Black cherry and cassis flavors hit the tastebuds first and are followed up by notes of anise, Chambord and chocolate covered mint. Tannins slowly extend their influence on the palate, playing backup to a mélange of flavors that winds down to a soft finish marked with notes of cranberry and milk chocolate. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$32

93 Sierra Cantabria 2016 Única Reserva (Rioja). Dark red violet to the eye, this wine has aromas of raspberry, black currant and violet talc. It is spicy on the palate with flavors of anise and clove backed by notes of dark plum and cherry. Sturdy tannins are at play on the palate, supporting ongoing spice flavors mingling with bright notes of pomegranate. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

92 Baron De Ley 2018 Finca Monasterio (Rioja). Aromas of raspberry, juniper and freshly ground coffee emanate from this inky garnet colored wine. It has glossy tannins, with cooling herb flavors on the palate such as licorice, clove and menthol that are joined by black cherry and raspberry. Bright fruit notes overtake the sense of coolness on the drawn-out finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

92 Baron De Ley 2015 Gran Reserva (Rioja). Violet red in color, this wine has aromas of dark plum and cassis with a hint of leather. It is soft at first sip, then smooth tannins build in volume, backing flavors of pomegranate, cherry, roast yellow pepper, dark chocolate and eucalyptus with a lingering sense of brightness. Midweight tannins evolve on the palate and then drop off into a but-

terscotch and orange finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

92 Bodegas Corral 2018 Don Jacobo Crianza Selección Vino Ecológico (Rioja). Blackberry, vanilla and violet aromas emanate from this inky garnet colored wine. It is well textured with soft tannins and flavors of black plums, black currant, butterscotch and olive tapenade. There is a touch of salted caramel on a ripe cherry splashed finish. Terroir Connections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

92 Bodegas Olarra 2018 Añares Reserva (Rioja). This garnet-colored wine has aromas of blackberry, clove and black olives. It is soft in the palate, with satiny tannins and flavors of cassis, dark chocolate, anisette and herbs de Provence. A splash of cranberry lingers on the juicy finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

92 Bodegas Olarra 2018 Cerro Añon Reserva (Rioja). Deep ruby in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of black currant and blackberry with a touch of green bell pepper. Flavors of cassis, Chambord, bittersweet chocolate, clove and roasted fennel bulb are set into a web of velvet tannins that dissolve into a drawn out finish with note of orange zest. Tri-Vin Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

92 Bodegas Ondarre 2018 Valdebarón (Rioja). Dark ruby in color, this wine features aromas of raspberry, cassis and vanilla. Fruit fills the mouth at first sip, with flavors of pomegranate and strawberry that are rapidly followed by milk chocolate, salted almonds and lavender. Tannins start out light and then build in volume, slowly dwindling towards a butterscotch infused finish. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

92 Bodegas Ondarre 2015 Gran Reserva (Rioja). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine features a bouquet of cherry, raspberry and toffee. It is very smooth on the palate with velvety tannins and flavors of raspberry, purple plum, juniper berry, mocha and toasted almonds. There is a toffee note on the long-lasting finish. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$38

92 Bodegas Riojanas 2019 Monte Real Cuvée Crianza (Rioja). For full review see page 13. Bodegas Riojanas.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

92 CVNE 2017 Cune Reserva (Rioja). This deep ruby colored wine has a bouquet of cherry, vanilla and baking spice. It is soft at first sip; then plush tannins build in volume, backing flavors of black cherry, raspberry, white chocolate, coffee bean and orange zest that taper off to a bright finish. Donna White Communications. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

92 Launa 2016 Selección Familiar Reserva (Rioja). This violet-red colored wine offers a bouquet of cherry, blackberry and milk chocolate. It is soft at first with flavors of black cherry, raspberry, anisette and cedar. Robust tannins move onto the palate and gums before eventually winding down to a soft, fruit filled finish. Aviva Vino. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

91 Beronia 2019 (Rioja). For full review see page 27. Gonzalez Byass USA. *Best Buy.*
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

91 Bodegas Leza García 2016 Reserva (Rioja). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine offers a nose of fruits of the wood, coffee bean and flint. It is bright on the palate, with flavors of pomegranate, cherry and butterscotch. Firm tannins settle down into a dark chocolate finish. Schlossadler Inc. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$27

91 Bodegas Riojanas 2018 Monte Real Reserva (Rioja). Red-violet to the eye, this wine has aromas of raspberry, milk chocolate and black olive paste. It is juicy in the mouth on opening; then flavors of blackberry and cassis set in with notes of dark chocolate, violet and almond toffee. Plush tannins remain on the palate into a long finish. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

91 Bodegas Ugalde 2018 Crianza (Rioja). This deep violet red colored wine has a bouquet of blackberry, violet and clove. It is smooth on the palate, with satiny tannins and flavors of black cherry, raspberry, milk chocolate and orange zest. There is a hint of florality on the finish. 4Front Imports, LLC. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Finca Montote 2015 Altos de Montote (Rioja). Aromas of blackberry, cherry cola, cocoa butter and clove prepare the taste buds for flavors of blackberry pie, Chambord, vanilla, anise and orange zest. Plush tannins wend their way into a butterscotch finish. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

91 Finca Montote 2014 Altos de Montote (Rioja). Dark ruby in color, this wine offers a nose of black cherry and raspberry with a touch of saddle leather. It is bright on impact with flavors of ripe summer cherry and pomegranate backed by notes of dark chocolate, eucalyptus and licorice that are wrapped in a sheath of opulent tannins. The finish is marked by notes of orange zest and violet. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

91 Marqués de la Concordia 2016 Lagunilla Reserva (Rioja). For full review see page 19. United Cellars, Inc.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19

90 Aldonia 2016 100 (Rioja). Bright ruby to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of cassis, dried hillside herbs and black olive paste. It features

BUYINGGUIDE

flavors of black cherry, pomegranate, black tea, dark chocolate and pickled jalapeño. Substantial tannins coat the palate before evaporating into a spicy finish. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —M.D.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$35

90 Bodegas Olarra 2019 Olarra Clásico Crianza (Rioja). This black cherry colored wine offers aromas of blackberry, milk chocolate and clove. It has soft tannins and flavors of raspberry preserves, cranberry, charcuterie, butterscotch and toasted almond. There is a note of iodine on the finish. Tri-Vin Imports. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

90 Bodegas Olarra 2018 Reciente Reserva (Rioja). Deep garnet in color, this wine has a nose of black cherry, licorice and dried oregano. It is bright at first sip with flavors of cherry and pomegranate. Velvet tannins move onto the palate bearing notes of white chocolate, roasted tomato Mediterranean herbs. There is a nice splash of cranberry on the finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$27

90 Bodegas Riojanas 2019 Monte Real Crianza (Rioja). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of cassis, jamon Serrano and tobacco leaf. Forceful tannins support flavors of blueberry, black cherry, roasted yellow pepper and dried Mediterranean herbs that evaporate into a coffee bean finish. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$18

90 Bodegas Ugalde 2019 Señorial Crianza (Rioja). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of cranberry, roast tomato and flint. Glossy tannins bolster flavors of black cherry, blackberry, roasted red pepper, dried Mediterranean herbs, vanilla and licorice. 4Front Imports, LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

90 El Coto 2018 Crianza (Rioja). For full review see page 27. Opici Wines. **Best Buy.**

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

90 Gómez de Segura 2017 Reserva (Rioja). Aromas of blackberry, saddle leather and flint emanate from this black cherry colored wine. Grippy tannins back flavors of dark berries, eucalyptus, anisette, chocolate and juniper berry that dissolve into a savory finish. W. Direct. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

90 Muga 2018 El Andén de la Estación Crianza (Rioja). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of pomegranate and espresso with a sense of earthiness. Velvet tannins play backup to flavors of black cherry, pomegranate, caramel, roasted yellow pepper and tomato leaf that wind down to a savory but bright finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

90 Viña Olabarrí 2016 Reserva (Rioja). This dark garnet colored wine has aromas of cassis, clove and white flowers. Durable tannins back

flavors of black cherry, raspberry, milk chocolate, licorice and violet. There is a splash of orange zest on the finish. Hidalgo Imports, LLC. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

90 Vivanco 2016 Parcelas de Garnacha (Rioja). This deep red violet colored wine has aromas of dark plums, black currant, leather and tobacco leaf, with flavors of cherry, raspberry, orange zest and milk chocolate. It is very smooth in the mouth, with somewhat stiff tannins that are overcome by zesty pomegranate notes on the finish. Guarachi Wine Partners. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

89 Bodegas Faustino 2018 Crianza (Rioja). Deep ruby in color, this wine offers aromas of dark plum and black cherry with a touch of olive tapenade. It is savory on the palate, with hefty tannins and a sense of earthiness underlying flavors of thyme, oregano, blackberry, cassis and dark chocolate. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

89 Bodegas Ondarre 2018 Primeur (Rioja). A bouquet of raspberry, cherry and roasted nuts wafts from this dark ruby colored wine. It has soft tannins and flavors of cranberry, pomegranate, butterscotch and almond. The bright finish is marked with a touch of iodine. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Bodegas Riojanas 2015 Monte Real Gran Reserva (Rioja). This inky garnet colored wine has aromas of cassis, raspberry and summer farm stand. Chewy tannins support flavors of black currant, black plum, juniper, green bell pepper and black olive paste. There are notes of sage and oregano on the short finish. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

89 Bodegas Riojanas 2015 Viña Albina Gran Reserva (Rioja). Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of bramble berries and green bell pepper. Grippy tannins take hold of the palate amid flavors of cranberry, cherry cola, bittersweet chocolate, salted toffee and almond, and they don't let up until a note of jasmine punctuates the finish. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

89 Finca de la Rica 2017 El Buscador Rioja Alavesa (Rioja). Violet-red in the glass, this wine has aromas of raspberry and thyme. It is bright at first sip with opening flavors of cranberry and pomegranate. Spice and savory notes take hold of the palate, notably tobacco leaf, roasted yellow pepper, dried herbs and bittersweet chocolate that are wrapped in a web of forceful tannins. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Finca Valpiedra 2017 Petra de Valpiedra (Rioja). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of cherry, raspberry and anisette. Bold tannins support flavors of cranberry, pomegranate,

dark chocolate and dried herbs that reveal a bright splash of orange on the finish. Winebow Imports. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$68

89 Ilurce 2017 Rio Mazos (Rioja). This wine offers fragrances of black cherry and violet. It starts out spicy in the mouth with flavors of clove and anise followed by cherry, blackberry, dark chocolate and white flowers. Soft tannins evaporate into a floral finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

88 Antaño 2016 Reserva Tempranillo (Rioja). This deep garnet colored wine has aromas of black currant, dark plum and a touch of summer farm stand. It is bright on the palate with flavors of cherry and pomegranate backed by notes of cocoa powder, black olive paste and freshly ground coffee. A tight wall of tannins slowly drops off into a bright, fruit splashed finish. CIV/USA. **Best Buy.** —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Bodegas Riojanas 2018 Viña Albina Reserva (Rioja). This deep violet colored wine has a nose of cassis, licorice and dark chocolate. It is spicy on the palate, with flavors of clove, eucalyptus and chocolate covered espresso bean that are joined by notes of cranberry and pomegranate with touches of dried herbs. Fruit is overpowered by savory notes and grippy tannins that linger on the palate. Bodegas Riojanas. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

88 Union de Viticultores Riojanos 2014 Viña Otano Reserva (Rioja). Dark violet-red in the glass, this wine has aromas of pomegranate, toasted nuts and summer farm stand. Bold tannins support flavors of raspberry, cassis, salted toffee, honeysuckle and a note of leather. There is a touch of iodine on the lengthy finish. USA Wine Imports. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

88 Vivanco 2018 Selección de Familia Crianza (Rioja). Dark red violet to the eye, this wine has a nose of black plum, leather and tobacco leaf. It is a classic style Rioja, with flavors of fruits of the wood, dark chocolate, dried Mediterranean herbs and olive paste set into chewy tannins that don't let up. Guarachi Wine Partners. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

87 Rioja Vega 2016 9 Barricas (Rioja). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has a nose of dark plum with a hint of green bell pepper. It has grippy tannins and flavors of blackberry, black cherry, chocolate, eucalyptus and caramel. An underlying sense of bright fruit holds on into the cranberry finish. First Growth Brands. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

87 Sierra Cantabria 2017 Rioja. This deep ruby colored wine has aromas of black plum, cassis and violet. Smooth tannins play backup to flavors of black cherry, blackberry, vanilla and clove with a tight burst of orange zest on the finish. It

tastes good and feels good on the palate but lacks acidity. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$30

86 Manzanos 2018 Voché Selección Graciano (Rioja). Deep violet in color, this wine has a nose of black plum and Mediterranean herbs. It has deep set tannins with flavors of blackberry, raspberry, jasmine, butterscotch and iodine and a note of honeysuckle on the finish. It is pleasant tasting but doesn't come together on the palate. Manzanos Wines USA. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$32

86 Vine Roots 2017 Rioja. Dark violet red in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of raspberry, apple peel and coffee bean. It is tart at first sip, with flavors of cranberry, yellow cherry, dark chocolate and toasted nuts set into forceful tannins. There is a sense of brightness on the palate that never quite overcomes the power of the tannins. Terroir Connections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50

84 Vine Roots 2018 Rioja. This dark ruby colored wine offers aromas of black currant, thyme and rosemary. Flavors of cranberry, Sevilla orange, honeysuckle and dried Mediterranean herbs never come together on the palate. Terroir Connections. —M.D.
abv: 14% Price: \$50

CALATAYUD

91 Bodega Virgen de la Sierra 2019 OGV Garnacha (Calatayud). Inky violet to the eye, this wine has a nose of blackberry preserves, clove and hillside brush. It feels good in the mouth, with flavors of black cherry, blueberry pie, mocha, thyme and roasted fennel bulb. Plush tannins dissipate into a lingering finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$23

90 Intruso 2019 Garnacha (Calatayud). This garnet-colored wine has a nose of black currant with a light touch of summer farm stand. It is bright at first sip with flavors of black cherry and raspberry that are joined by notes of roasted tomato, Serrano ham and smoke. Midweight tannins wind down to a savory finish marked by splashes of bright fruit. Saranty Imports. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$15

88 Acentor 2019 Garnacha (Calatayud). This bright red-violet colored wine offers a bouquet of raspberry, butterscotch and lavender. It is light on the palate, with soft tannins and savory flavors of Mediterranean herbs and toasted nuts that outweigh cranberry and cherry fruit notes. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$15

PRIORAT

95 Mas Igneus 2013 Costers De Pobleda (Priorat). For full review see page 6. W. Direct. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 15% Price: \$175

94 Mas Igneus 2018 Fusio (Priorat). For full review see page 8. W. Direct.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$125

94 Merum Priorati 2018 El Cel (Priorat). The color of blackberry preserves, this wine has a nose of cherry pie, white chocolate and coffee bean. It offers flavors of blueberry, black cherry, dark chocolate, anisette and mountainside herbs backed by bold tannins that coat the tongue and gums until a final note of pomegranate and cranberry refreshes the palate. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$64

94 Perinet 2017 Vinya Pendants (Priorat). This wine has a richly perfumed nose of cherry, violet, espresso bean and fennel pollen. Cooling herbs such as menthol and clove alight on the palate, joined by fruits of the wood and dark chocolate wrapped in a sheath of sleek tannins. A note of lavender wafts onto the taste buds and endures into the drawn-out finish, where it is joined by a touch of orange zest. Phase 2 Cellars. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$120

93 Cellers Unió 2015 Roureda Llicorella Anyada Clàssic (Priorat). Ruby in color, this wine has a nose of blackberry, purple fig and aniseed. Flavors of cassis, dark plum, lavender, chocolate covered espresso bean and thyme are set into plush tannins that peel away to reveal notes of mint and milk chocolate on a lingering finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$30

93 Mas Igneus 2019 M (Priorat). For full review see page 11. W. Direct.
abv: 15% Price: \$85

93 Merum Priorati 2019 Destí (Priorat). This bright ruby colored wine has a bouquet of black cherry and thyme. It is soft in the mouth, with featherweight tannins and flavors of cherry, pomegranate, milk chocolate, roasted fennel bulb and a note of clementine on the finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$50

93 Merum Priorati 2019 El Cel (Priorat). Inky garnet in color, this wine has aromas of raspberry, black cherry and lavender. A nice note of violet and silky tannins underlie flavors of blackberry, pomegranate, toffee, almond and marjoram. There is a nice lift of lavender on the smooth finish. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$90

93 Merum Priorati 2018 Destí (Priorat). Red violet to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of blackberry and raspberry with a hint of jalapeño. Flavors of ripe summer cherry, black currant, milk chocolate, braised fennel bulb and anise seed are supported by a network of forceful tannins that slowly back off into a ripe fruit finish with a touch of clove. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$49

93 Soliterra 2017 Esfèric (Priorat). Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of cherry, candied apple and violet. The concentration of fruit feels almost sweet at first, with flavors of black cherry, blackberry, vanilla, clove and licorice. As opulent tannins set in, fruit flavors become brighter and rounder and dominate the palate into a long, fruit-filled finish. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$80

93 Soliterra 2017 Icònic (Priorat). A bouquet of cherry pie, toffee and lavender emanates from this deep garnet wine. It is very smooth on the palate with luxurious tannins and flavors of cassis and Luxardo cherry. Notes of milk chocolate are joined by anisette and fennel seed, which continue on the palate until cherry returns on the satisfying finish. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$120

92 Casa Gran del Siurana 2012 Gran Cruor (Priorat). This black cherry colored wine has a savory bouquet of dried hillside herbs and black olive paste with a whiff of cranberry. Flavors of black currant, Chambord, bittersweet chocolate, olive tapenade, clove and aniseed are woven into a backdrop of silky tannins. Spice notes ride high on the lingering finish. Vinovia Wine Group. —M.D.
abv: 15% Price: \$57

92 Mas Martinet 2018 Martinet Bru (Priorat). Blackberry, hillside brush and ground black pepper aromas waft from this deep ruby colored wine. Flavors of black cherry, cassis, vanilla, licorice and dried Mediterranean herbs are set into silky tannins that wend their way towards a violet and anisette finish. Arano LLC. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$35

92 Miguel Torres 2019 Familia Torres Secret Del Priorat (Priorat). Dark garnet to the eye, this wine offers aromas of blackberry, raspberry and vanilla. A network of delicate tannins supports flavors of pomegranate, raspberry, menthol and cocoa powder. Notes of candied orange peel and violet arrive on the finish. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

91 Sokatira 2018 Idees (Priorat). Inky garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of raspberry, clove and lavender. A framework of velvety tannins supports flavors of pomegranate, cherry, toffee, salted almonds and herbs de Provence that fade into a lingering milk chocolate finish. Terroir Connections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$39

VINO DE LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA

94 Micaela Rubio García 2017 Mikaela (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla). This blueberry pie colored wine has a bouquet of blackberry, dark plums and hillside herbs. It offers a frame of robust tannins that showcase flavors of cassis, Chambord, vanilla, mocha and clove with hint of violet on the spicy finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. *Editors' Choice.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Micaela Rubio García 2016 La Infanta (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla). Deep violet in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of black plum, cassis and saddle leather. Flavors of black currant, blackberry, roasted almonds, dried kitchen herbs and dark chocolate are set into a web of potent tannins that melt away into a bright finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$130

92 Micaela Rubio García 2018 El Reflejo de Mikaela (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla). This wine offers aromas of black plums, bramble berries and dark chocolate. Cranberry opens on the palate followed by darker berry flavors that are backed by notes of salted caramel, coffee bean, and dried Mediterranean herbs. Tannins feel stiff as they make their presence known, then soften and peel away into an orange-splashed finish. Jorge Ordóñez Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

UTIEL-REQUENA

91 Bodegas Murviedro 2018 Cepas Viejas (Utiel-Requena). Bright garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of pomegranate and strawberry. It is bright on opening with cherry and cranberry flavors, then satin tannins set in bearing notes of milk chocolate, cherry pipe tobacco and eucalyptus. Minty notes are prominent on the lingering finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

91 Vicente Gandia 2017 BO Único (Utiel-Requena). This bright garnet colored wine has aromas of raspberry and black tea. A note of freshly brewed black tea continues on the palate, softly backing flavors of ripe cherry and cranberry. Notes of dark chocolate, coffee bean and thyme join the fray, wrapped up in a cloak of toasty tannins. Vicente Gandia USA. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

90 Raices 2017 Utiel-Requena. Deep ruby in color, this wine has a nose of black currant and thyme. It is smooth on the palate with silky tannins and flavors of cherry, pomegranate, marjoram, toffee and toasted almonds. Notes of milk chocolate and Valencia orange appear on the drawn out finish. Crescent Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Chozas Carrascal 2018 Las Dos Ces Tinto (Utiel-Requena). Bright red violet to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of cassis and violet talc. It has flavors of black cherry, blackberry, clove, and violet. Glossy tannins slowly subside to reveal a note of iodine on the finish. Hidalgo Imports, LLC. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Toro Loco 2019 Superior Made With Organic Grapes (Utiel-Requena). This ruby colored wine has aromas of raspberry and butterscotch. It is fresh in the mouth, with flavors of blackberry, pomegranate, black tea and a splash of cranberry on the finish. Medium weight tannins pile on and then quietly slip away. Hemispheres. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

JUMILLA

94 El Nido 2019 El Nido (Jumilla). The color of blackberry preserves, this wine has a nose of black currant, butterscotch and dried Mediterranean herbs. Plush tannins support flavors of blackberry, purple fig, dark chocolate, thyme, oregano and roasted fennel bulb that dissolve into a violet infused finish. Drink through 2034. Gil Family Estates. *Cellar Selection.* —M.D.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$145

92 Bodegas Carchelo 2014 Canalizo (Jumilla). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has a nose of blackberry, clove and violet. It starts with bright cherry and raspberry flavor, then clove and menthol fill the palate, backed by opulent tannins. It has nice notes of caramel and blackberry on the pleasing finish. Cordelina Wine Company. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

92 Bodegas Carchelo 2013 Selecto (Jumilla). Dark ruby in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of dark plum and menthol. Luxurious tannins provide a framework for flavors of black cherry, blackberry, clove, licorice and milk chocolate that last into the lingering finish. Cordelina Wine Company. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$27

92 Ego Bodegas 2020 Acuma (Jumilla). This deep garnet colored wine offers aromas of pomegranate, hillside herbs and black olive paste. It is bright at first sip with flavors of cranberry and raspberry, then a layer of velvety tannins coats the palate bringing notes of bittersweet chocolate, roasted yellow pepper, and violet. As tannins drop away, notes of orange zest and white chocolate alight on the tastebuds and stick around into a long finish. Tri-Vin Imports. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

92 El Nido 2019 Clio (Jumilla). Deep purple in color, this wine has a nose of dark plums, black cherry and clove. It fills the palate with flavors of blackberry, Chambord, licorice, clove, and dark chocolate wrapped in a web of polished tannins

that fades into a long, satisfying finish marked with vanilla and coffee bean. Gil Family Estates. —M.D.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$45

91 Bodegas Carchelo 2016 Muri Veteres (Jumilla). This dark garnet colored wine has a bouquet of cassis, leather and hillside herbs. It is savory on the palate, offering notes of thyme, roasted fennel bulb and toasted almonds with flavors of black cherry and pomegranate. Vigorous tannins fade into the long finish. Cordelina Wine Company. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$74

91 Ego Bodegas 2020 Finca del Tuerto Parcela 11 Vegan (Jumilla). Inky garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of blackberry, cassis and thyme. There is a sense of brightness on the palate with flavors of raspberry, black cherry, caramel and dried Mediterranean herbs. Weightless tannins touch down on the palate and dissolve into an orange zest finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

91 Ego Bodegas 2019 Fuerza (Jumilla). Deep ruby in color, this wine has a bouquet of cranberry sauce, Chambord and vanilla. It offers a nice touching of cooling herbs such as licorice and menthol wrapped in a sheath of velvety tannins backed by flavors of black currant and raspberry. Tri-Vin Imports. *Best Buy.* —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$14

91 Finca Bacara 2018 HI (Jumilla). Bright violet to the eye, this wine has a nose of raspberry, orange zest and clove. It offers satiny tannins and flavors of Chambord, black cherry, violet, anisette and vanilla. There is a splash of tangerine on the finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$65

91 Finca Bacara 2016 HI (Jumilla). Deep purple in the glass, this wine offers aromas of black plum, summer farm stand and black olive paste. It has flavors of dark berries, butterscotch, clove and menthol. While robust tannins coat the tongue and gums, there is always a sense of bright fruit on the edges of the palate that continues into the finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$65

90 Bodegas Bleda 2020 Pinodonce Black (Jumilla). This deep ruby colored wine has a bouquet of blackberry, Mediterranean herbs and jasmine. It is juicy in the mouth, offering flavors of black cherry, raspberry, white chocolate, a splash of Valencia and a note of violet on the pleasant finish. Tricana Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Hacienda del Carhe 2020 Taus Selección (Jumilla). Dark ruby to the eye, this wine has a bouquet of black plum, roasted fennel bulb and thyme. Satiny tannins support flavors of blackberry, black currant, orange zest and dark chocolate. There is a touch of lavender on the lengthy finish. La Vida Escorchada. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

90 Juan Gil 2019 Jumilla. For full review see page 23. Gil Family Estates.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$16

90 Juan Gil 2019 Silver Label (Jumilla). This deep garnet colored wine has a nose of bramble berries, black currant and licorice and flavors of cherry, black raspberry, milk chocolate and caramel. Silky tannins give way to a violet-laced finish. Gil Family Estates. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$16

90 Viña Elena 2019 Paraje Marín (Jumilla). Aromas of black cherry, blackberry and anise seed prepare the palate for flavors of blueberry, cherry, clove and mint. This wine is juicy on the palate with silky tannins and a nice note of violet on the soft finish. Spanish Acquisition. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

90 Viña Elena 2018 Parcela Vereda (Jumilla). This deep garnet wine offers a bouquet of cassis, licorice and hillside brush. Barely there tannins back flavors of black plum, blackberry, anise, eucalyptus and butterscotch that dissolve into a bright finish. Spanish Acquisition. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Arloren 2015 Miriar Rubi Reserva Single Vineyard (Jumilla). This wine has aromas of blackberry, cherry pipe tobacco and flint. It features a cooling herb profile with mint and eucalyptus at the forefront backed by flavors of cherry pie, vanilla and toffee. Bright fruit holds on into a long, minty finish. Vanguard Foods Trading. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

89 Bodegas Bleda 2018 Crianza (Jumilla). Garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of black cherry and clove. Flavors of raspberry, pomegranate, olive paste and dried Mediterranean herbs with note of salinity come wrapped in soft tannins. Tricana Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Bodegas Bleda 2018 Pinodonce 12 Meses (Jumilla). This ruby colored wine has a nose of blackberry, leather and summer farm stand. Fleecy tannins support flavors of black cherry, cherry cola, mint, juniper and clove that wind down to a soft, bright finish. Tricana Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Crápula 2019 Soul Cr (Jumilla). Dark garnet to the eye, this wine has a nose of cherry, caramel and oregano. It is smooth in the mouth, with flavors of blackberry, raspberry, toffee and violet. Mellow tannins drop off into an orange zest finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Hacienda del Carche 2021 Taus Joven (Jumilla). Bright violet in color, this wine has a fruit forward aroma of blackberry preserves. It starts out a little spicy with flavors of clove and menthol, then bright notes of cherry and pomegranate slide onto the palate wrapped in glossy tannins

that fade into a milk chocolate and orange zest finish. La Vida Escorchada. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

88 Bodegas Bleda 2019 Castillo De Jumilla (Jumilla). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has a nose of dark plum and matchstick with a touch of earthiness. Featherweight tannins play backup to flavors of black currant, blackberry, menthol, bitersweet chocolate and sauteed mushroom. There is a burst of orange zest on the finish. Tricana Imports. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$12

88 Bodegas Bleda 2019 Castillo De Jumilla Made With Organic Grapes (Jumilla). This dark ruby wine has aromas of cassis, raspberry and a hint of green bell pepper. It is a bit savory with midweight tannins and flavors of dark chocolate, Mediterranean herbs, olive tapenade, cherry cola and a splash of cranberry on the finish. Tricana Imports. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Bodegas Bleda 2020 Castillo De Jumilla (Jumilla). Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of cassis and vanilla. It is very soft in the mouth, with featherweight tannins and flavors of pomegranate, strawberry and milk chocolate. There is a touch of orange zest on the finish. Tricana Imports. **Best Buy.** —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$12

84 Sierra Norte 2019 Porta Regia 12 Months (Jumilla). This deep black cherry colored wine offers a bouquet of blackberry and green bell pepper. It may be a little too minty for most tastes, with flavors of cranberry, pomegranate, menthol and olive paste that don't quite come together on the palate. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

OTHER RED WINES

94 Alto Moncayo 2016 Aquilon Garnacha (Campo de Borja). Aromas of cassis, toasted nuts and a touch of green bell pepper emanate from this inky garnet colored wine. A frame of forceful tannins supports flavors of cherry cola, Chambord, menthol and dark chocolate. The lingering finish is marked with a bright cranberry splash and a surprisingly savory dried Mediterranean herb note. Winebow Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —M.D.
abv: 16% **Price:** \$200

93 Albet I Noya 2016 Martí Reserva Organic (Penedès). Dark garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of fruits of the wood and caramel with just a hint of summer farm stand. It feels good on the palate with plush tannins and a savory earthy undertone backing flavors of black cherry, raspberry, roasted root vegetables, dark chocolate and a touch of baking spice that taper off towards a drawn-out finish. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

94 Lezcano-Lacalle 2017 Cigales. Aromas of cassis, Chambord and licorice waft from this deep garnet colored wine. Downy soft tannins offer a backdrop to flavors of blackberry, black currant, anise, dark chocolate and violet. There is a note of vanilla on the lingering finish. Misa Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$49

93 Espectacle 2017 Montsant. Black cherry colored, this wine has a bouquet of raspberry, caramel, and herbs de Provence. It is gentle on the palate, with satiny tannins and flavors of pomegranate and cherry backed by notes of butterscotch, toasted almond, clove and violet. A savory dried herb note appears on the fruit-filled finish. Europvin USA. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$150

93 Mauro 2018 Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León. This garnet colored wine has a bouquet of Chambord and blackberry pie with a hint of green bell pepper. It is soft in the mouth with bright berry flavors backed by notes of mocha, butterscotch and thyme. Hefty tannins pile up on the palate and then recede into a bright fruit finish. Europvin USA. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$52

93 Miguel Torres 2017 Familia Torres Grans Muralles (Conca de Barberà). This deep garnet colored wine has a nose of blackberry, lavender and black pepper. It is round in the mouth, with plush tannins and caramel and butterscotch notes backing flavors of black currant, Chambord, and roast fennel bulb. A distinct floral note lingers on the pleasing finish. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$153

92 Alma das Donas 2019 Alma3once (Ribeira Sacra). Deep garnet in the glass, this wine has aromas of cherry preserves and caramel. Rigid tannins support flavors of blackberry, black cherry, milk chocolate, eucalyptus and violet. It offers pleasing notes of orange zest and vanilla on the lengthy finish. Misa Imports. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

92 Obergo 2016 Antiqua Old Vine (Somontano). Dark ruby in color, this wine offers aromas of raspberry, dark chocolate and mint. It is smooth on the palate, with glossy tannins and flavors of cherry, blackberry, mocha, caramel and salted almond that linger into an orange zest laden finish. Terroir Connections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

92 Ramblas Reales 2016 Reserva (Catalunya). Aromas of blackberry pie, vanilla and clove waft from this deep violet colored wine. There is a pleasing mélange of bright fruit and spice notes including cherry, pomegranate, dark chocolate, anise and menthol that are nicely wrapped up glossy tannins that dissolve into a fruit-filled finish with a hint of butterscotch. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$NA

91 Viñas del Vero 2017 Secastilla Viñedos Viejos de Altura Produccion Limitada (Somontano). This deep garnet wine features aromas of blackberry, milk chocolate and baking spices. A light dusting of tannins supports flavors of blackberry, raspberry, cocoa powder and violet talc. There is a soft floral lift and note of orange zest on the finish. Gonzalez Byass USA. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

90 Albet I Noya 2017 Les Timbes Organic (Penedès). Aromas of black currant, violet and anisette set the stage for flavors of cherry and cranberry. This wine is bright on impact, then supple tannins move in, backed by notes of milk chocolate and black olive paste with a hint of peppermint. A bright note of pomegranate graces the subtle finish. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

90 Manuel Manzaneque Suárez 2017 Mil Cepas (Valencia). Aromas of fruits of the wood, coffee bean and violet set the scene for flavors of black cherry, raspberry, chocolate covered caramel and almond blossom. Sturdy tannins power on into a dried herb finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

90 Reserva de la Tierra 2013 5 Barrels (Terra Alta). Deep violet in the glass, this wine has a nose of Chambord, cassis and black pepper. It is spicy on the palate, with flavors of clove, licorice, menthol, dark chocolate, black currant and cranberry. Downy tannins fade to reveal an unexpected splash of tangerine on the finish. State Wines Selections. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Paco & Lola 2019 Paco (Valdeorras). Deep ruby to the eye, this wine has aromas of dark plum, charcuterie and coffee. It is soft on three palate, with flavors of cherry, black currant, dark chocolate, black olive paste and salted Marcona almond. There is a distinct note of fresh ground coffee on the fruit-filled finish. Dreyfus, Ashby & Co. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

NORTHEAST ITALY

PINOT BIANCO

94 Cantina Produttori San Michele Appiano 2021 Schultahuser Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Creamy and delicious, this polished white has delicate but inviting aromas of summer orchard fruit, sun-warmed hay and Spanish broom. On the elegant, medium-bodied palate, fresh acidity balances ripe yellow pear, apple and a mineral note recalling graphite before closing on a hints of fennel seed and hazelnut. Incredible value given the stellar quality. Winebow Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

93 Tiefenbrunner 2021 Merus Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Showing how wonderful Pinot

Bianco can be in Alto Adige, this has aromas of white spring blossom, green apple and Alpine herb. On the polished, savory palate, fresh acidity accompanies green melon, Bartlett pear and Alpine herb before a tangy mineral close suggesting oyster shell. Winebow Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

92 Cantina Produttori Bolzano 2021 Dellago Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Delicate, inviting scents of white stone fruit, hay and spring field flower shape the nose. On the elegantly structured palate, tangy saline and hazelnut notes accent a core of creamy pear and white peach. It's balanced, with fresh acidity. Matchvino. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$29

92 Erste Neue 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Polished, smooth and delicious, this is another fantastic wine that proves how great Pinot Bianco can be in Alto Adige. Lovely floral aromas of broom, white stone fruit and a yeasty whiff of bread dough segue into a creamy palate boasting savory flavors of ripe yellow pear, apple and white almond before a tangy saline close. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced and bright. Oliver McCrum Wines. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

92 Nals Margreid 2020 Penon Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Spring blossom, white stone fruit and sun-warmed hay aromas waft out of the glass on this polished white. Round, full-bodied and delicious, the enveloping palate features ripe pear, creamy yellow apple, fennel and saline mineral notes. Fresh acidity lifts the finish. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$27

91 Cantina Tramin 2021 Moritz Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of white spring wild flower and white stone fruit come to the forefront. The polished, creamy palate displays ripe green apple, pear and a hint of green melon alongside fresh, tangy acidity. A hint of saline on the close gives it even more energy and some depth. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

91 Elena Walch 2020 Kristalberg Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of white stone fruit, hazelnut and dried Alpine herb shape the inviting nose. Partially fermented in French oak, the polished, medium-bodied palate features ripe yellow apple, Bartlett pear and walnut alongside fresh acidity. It finishes on a saline mineral note. USA Wine West. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

91 Nals Margreid 2021 Berg Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). This smooth, savory white offers aromas of white stone fruit, Alpine herb and Spanish broom. The palate is creamy and polished, featuring juicy Bartlett pear, ripe yellow apple and hazelnut before a lemon drop close. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

91 Pfitscher 2021 Langfeld Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Enticing, delicate scents recalling orchard fruit and spring blossom shape the nose. On the polished, savory palate, bright acidity accompanies ripe yellow apple, pear and a hint of honeydew melon before a saline mineral close. Vera Wine & Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

90 Cantina Kurtatsch 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). This Pinot Bianco opens with aromas of white stone fruit, baking spice and beeswax. The savory, balanced palate offers Golden apple, white peach and hint of ginger alongside fresh acidity. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Cantina Kurtatsch 2020 Hofstatt Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of spring blossom, lime and wet stone waft out of the glass. Grown in high-altitude vineyards and in mineral-rich soils, the elegant palate delivers ripe yellow apple, tangy lime and fennel seed framed in fresh acidity. Aging in large cask lends complexity. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Elena Walch 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of white stone fruit, spring blossom and a whiff of chamomile lead the way. The savory, creamy palate offers Bartlett pear, white peach and hazelnut alongside fresh acidity. USA Wine West. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

90 Englar 2019 Berg Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Elegantly structured, this understated white has a delicate nose recalling mature white stone fruit, toasted hazelnut and Alpine herb. The medium-bodied palate exudes finesse, delivering creamy Bartlett pear, apple and a saline mineral note set against bright acidity. A hint of walnut lingers on the close. Bizou Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

90 Peter Zemmer 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of honeydew melon and spring blossom follow over to the rounded, medium-bodied palate along with ripe yellow apple and white peach. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Tiefenbrunner 2020 Anna Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of stone fruit, oak and hazelnut take shape in the glass. On the elegant, creamy palate, fresh acidity accompanies ripe pear, white peach and fennel seed before an almond finish. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

89 Kettmeir 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of ripe Bartlett pear and a whiff of banana follow through to the polished, medium-bodied palate along with apple and white almond.

Tangy acidity keeps it fresh. Santa Margherita USA. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

88 Castelfeder 2020 Vom Stein Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). This has aromas recalling hazelnut, chamomile and ripe yellow stone fruit. The aromas follow over to the palate along with ripe pear and bright acidity. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Colterenzio 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). The shy nose doesn't give much away but the linear palate has an understated finesse, recalling ripe yellow apple, pear and a tangy hint of saline. Bright acidity keeps it fresh. Ideal Wine and Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

88 Kellerei Kaltern Caldaro 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). This vibrant white has delicate scents recalling summer orchard fruit and elderflower. The linear palate offers pear, white peach and a hint of tangy saline alongside bright acidity. Enotec Imports, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

88 Kupelwieser 2021 Fritz Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Spring blossom, white stone fruit and hazelnut aromas shape the inviting nose. On the polished palate, bright acidity accompanies ripe Bartlett pear and yellow apple before closing on a hint of almond. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$21

88 Rottensteiner 2021 Carnol Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Alpine herb and white stone fruit emerge from the glass. The smooth palate offers ripe Gala apple, acacia honey and a hint of ginger alongside fresh acidity. Massanois Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

88 Tolloy 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Aromas of white spring flower and ripe pear follow over to the savory, smooth palate along with apple, lime and a hint of hazelnut. Bright acidity keeps it vibrant. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

87 Rottensteiner 2021 Pinot Bianco (Alto Adige). Subtle aromas of white stone fruit and hay slowly emerge from the glass. The straightforward palate recalls Golden apple, ginger and a hint of almond. Massanois Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

PINOT GRIGIO

92 Elena Walch 2020 Vigna Castel Ringberg Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Showing Pinot Grigio's elegant side, this has a delicate nose offering hawthorn, white stone fruit and Alpine herb. Bright and savory, the polished palate features creamy white peach, ripe pear and a hint of lime alongside a saline note. Fresh acidity keeps it bright

while a bitter almond note signals the close. USA Wine West. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

90 Cantina Produttori Bolzano 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). A serious, savory take on this popular varietal, this lovely white opens with delicate aromas of spring wild flower, white stone fruit and a hint of nut. Reflecting the nose, the medium-bodied palate features ripe yellow pear, white peach and candied lemon drop before a bitter almond close. Matchvino. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

90 Erste Neue 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Aromas of field flower, white stone fruit and hazelnut form the nose. On the savory, polished palate, fresh acidity accompanies yellow apple, ripe pear and bitter almond. Oliver McCrum Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

90 Nals Margreid 2021 Hill Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Aromas of green apple and white peach follow over to the tangy, rounded palate along with a hint of green melon before a white almond close. Fresh acidity keeps it bright. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

90 Peter Zemmer 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). For full review see page 24. HB Wine Merchants.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Elena Walch 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Aromas of green apple and honeydew melon follow through to the rounded palate before a slightly bitter finish recalling almond. Tangy acidity keeps it fresh. USA Wine West. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

89 Kofererhof 2020 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Vinified partly in French casks, this has aromas of oak, toasted nut and sun warmed hay. The medium-bodied palate offers mature yellow apple, coconut and toasted hazelnut alongside tangy acidity. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Kurtatsch 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Aromas of hawthorn and green apple come to the forefront along with whiffs of Alpine herb. The savory palate features honeydew melon, grapefruit and white peach alongside bright, tangy acidity. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Kurtatsch 2020 Penon Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Vinified partially in barriques and aged in casks, this has aromas of yellow stone fruit, citrus and wet slate. On the medium-bodied, notes of lime and a hint of butterscotch accompany dried peach, pear and cantaloupe. Bright acidity lifts the rich flavors. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Tolloy 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Aromas of spring blossom and white stone fruit come to the forefront along with a whiff of botanical herb. Savory and medium-bodied, the palate offers ripe yellow pear, green melon and a hint of saline before a white almond close. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

88 Kettmeir 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Granny Smith apple, white spring blossom and tropical fruit aromas lead the nose. The tangy, medium-bodied palate exhibits ripe pear and candied lemon drop before a bitter almond close. Santa Margherita USA. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

88 Rottensteiner 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). Subtle aromas of white stone fruit and beeswax slowly emerge from the glass. The forward palate offers ripe Golden apple, lemon jam and a hint of acacia honey. Drink soon. Massanois Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

87 Castelfeder 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). The subdued nose eventually reveals suggestions of ripe apple and honeydew melon that carry on to the brisk palate along with a hint of steel. A bitter almond note signals the close. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

86 Kellerei Kaltern Caldaro 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). This informal white has a shy nose that eventually reveals hints of Granny Smith apple. The lean, racy palate offers suggestions of pear and a metallic note set against brisk acidity. It closes on a hint of bitter almond. Enotec Imports, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

85 Kupel Wieser 2021 Fritz Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). This easygoing white has aromas of green melon and banana. On the simple, somewhat diluted palate, pleasant acidity accompanies suggestions of pear and a hint of saline. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

85 Santa Francesca 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). This everyday, light-bodied white has aromas suggesting white stone fruit and beeswax. On the informal palate, bright acidity accompanies hints of pear and bitter almond. Savorian Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

85 Santa Giada 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). This informal white has a shy nose that eventually offers apple and white almond. The aromas follow over to the simple palate alongside crisp acidity. Savorian Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

SAUVIGNON

95 Cantina Produttori San Michele Appiano 2020 Sanct Valentin Sauvignon (Alto Adige). The benchmark wine for Sauvignon in Italy, this classy white opens with varietal aromas of elderflower, stone fruit, citrus and a botanical herb. Showing elegance and restraint, the delicious palate delivers succulent grapefruit, peach and fennel seed while a mineral note suggesting oyster shell lends depth before a lemon drop finish. Bright acidity keeps it energized. Drink through 2028. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

93 Nals Margreid 2020 Gennen Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Here's a serious Sauvignon that shows restraint and elegance as well as great flavor. Opening with delicate but inviting aromas of spring blossom, citrus, Alpine herb and stone fruit, the vibrant, linear palate delivers white peach, apricot, white grapefruit and flinty mineral. Crisp acidity lends great tension and energy. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Pfitscher 2019 Mathias Riserva Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Aromas of citrus and smoke shape the nose along with whiffs of oak. Reflecting the aromas, the racy, linear features apricot, unsweetened lemon drop, lime and hazelnut alongside the barest hint of butterscotch before a flinty mineral close. Racy acidity keeps it energized and balanced. Vera Wine & Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

92 Nals Margreid 2020 Mantela Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Classic varietal aromas of elderflower, crushed tomato leaf and citrus come to the forefront. The full-bodied palate features juicy grapefruit, peach, dried herb and saline framed in racy acidity. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$43

92 Pfitscher 2020 Saxum Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Aromas of grapefruit, graphite and botanical herb carry on to the racy, linear palate along with yellow peach and flinty mineral. A hazelnut note lingers on the close while crisp acidity keeps balanced and vibrant. Vera Wine & Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

92 Rottensteiner 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige). This polished, full-bodied white has aromas suggesting elderflower, citrus and green melon. Showing restraint and finesse, the fresh, savory palate features juicy grapefruit, peach and gooseberry alongside hints of Alpine herb. Massanois Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$27

91 Elena Walch 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige). White spring blossom, white stone fruit and citrus aromas waft out of the glass. Showing elegance and restraint, the savory palate offers green

melon, grapefruit and gooseberry alongside a hint of wet stone. Bright acidity lifts the finish. USA Wine West. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

91 Erste Neue 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Tangy and delicious, this opens with varietal aromas of elderflower, citrus and crushed tomato vine. It's bright and savory, offering succulent grapefruit, gooseberry and white peach alongside vibrant acidity. Oliver McCrum Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 Cantina Produttori Bolzano 2019 Greel Riserva Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Full-bodied and structured, this mineral-driven white opens with aromas reminiscent of granite, graphite, camphor and citrus. The aromas carry over to the palate along with lemon zest and a hint of coffee bean. It cries out for food and can accompany a whole meal. Matchvino. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$49

90 Nals Margreid 2021 Stein Sauvignon (Alto Adige). This expressive white has classic varietal aromas of elderflower, tropical fruit and crushed tomato vine. The full-bodied, generous palate doles out ripe cantaloupe, juicy grapefruit and tangy gooseberry accompanied by racy acidity. A flinty mineral note on the finish lends interest. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

90 Tiefenbrunner 2020 Turmof Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Aromas of oak, toasted hazelnut and yellow stone fruit form the nose. The medium-bodied palate has a surprisingly firm structure, offering dried apricot, grapefruit and candied lemon slice before closing on bitter almond. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

89 Cantina Kurtatsch 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Varietal aromas of crushed tomato vine, elderflower and citrus peel lead the nose. On the palate, bright acidity accompanies juicy grapefruit, ripe yellow peach and candied notes before a bitter almond finish. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

89 Englar 2019 Fumé Sauvignon (Alto Adige). If you like your Sauvignon oaked, you'll love this smoky white. Aged in tonneaux, it opens with aromas of toasted nut, graphite and botanical herb while the full-bodied palate offers grapefruit, fennel seed, gooseberry and oak-driven spice. Racy acidity keeps it energized. Bizou Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$24

89 Kellerei Kaltern Caldaro 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Upfront aromas of tropical fruit, crushed tomato vine and citrus almost jump out of the glass. On the palate, tangy acidity accompanies juicy grapefruit, pineapple packed in syrup and candied lemon drop before closing on hint of fennel seed. Enotec Imports, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

86 Alessandro Berselli 2020 Signature Collection Sauvignon (Alto Adige). Aromas of tropical fruit and citrus form the nose. On the light-bodied, rather diluted palate, crisp acidity accompanies suggestions of grapefruit and pineapple. Inbo Wines. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

RIESLING

92 Nals Margreid 2020 Pitzon Riesling (Alto Adige). Aromas of white rose, yellow stone fruit, Alpine herb and citrus shape the lovely nose. Vibrant and linear, the savory palate features juicy grapefruit, ripe apricot, lemon drop and mineral notes recalling oyster shell. Bright acidity keeps it energized. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$41

91 Peter Zemmer 2021 Riesling (Alto Adige). Heady aromas of white spring flower and yellow stone fruit form the nose. Bright and polished, the savory palate delivers juicy white grapefruit, ripe yellow peach and a tangy mineral note recalling saline. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

90 Englar 2019 Riesling (Alto Adige). Aromas of beeswax, yellow stone fruit and a whiff of petrol shape the nose. The savory palate is racy but also shows depth, delivering juicy apricot, yellow peach and tangy mineral notes suggesting flint and saline. It's balanced and full of energy thanks to vibrant acidity. Bizou Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

88 Cantina Produttori Bolzano 2021 Hochkofler Riesling (Alto Adige). Aromas suggesting yellow stone fruit and lime come to the forefront on this lively white. Racy and linear, the vibrant palate offers yellow peach, apricot and a hint of grapefruit alongside crisp acidity. Matchvino. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$27

OTHER ALTO ADIGE

93 Tiefenbrunner 2020 Feldmascall Von Fenner Müller-Thurgau (Alto Adige). Made from one of the highest vineyards in Alto Adige, this delicious white has aromas of spring blossom, yellow stone fruit and hazelnut. Fermented in concrete tanks and large casks, the elegantly structured palate features ripe apricot, juicy peach, fennel seed and lemon drop. Mineral notes suggesting wet stone and bright acidity lifts the rich flavors. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$65

91 Cantina Kurtatsch 2020 Amos White Blend (Alto Adige). A blend of Pinot Bianco, Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon and Kerner, this full-bodied white has delicate aromas of white stone fruit, spring field flower, graphite and a yeasty whiff of just baked bread. The dry, elegantly structured palate reveals yellow apple, ripe Bartlett pear,

flinty mineral and hazelnut set against bright acidity. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$44

91 Nals Margreid 2021 Fels Kerner (Alto Adige). Aromas reminiscent of graphite, ripe apricot, thyme and flint carry over to the full-bodied palate along with candied tangerine slice and saline. Fresh acidity brightens the rich flavors. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$24

90 Cantina Produttori Bolzano 2021 Puntwscheit Kerner (Alto Adige). The aromas are rather subdued but still alluring, showing citrus, Alpine herb that carry on over to the linear, racy palate along with ripe yellow stone fruit and juicy grapefruit. Zesty acidity lifts the spicy finish. It's an incredible value for this quality level. Editor's choice. Matchvino. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$27

ALTO ADIGE VALLE ISARCO

94 Pacher Hof 2021 Kerner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Delicate scents of tropical fruit, cake spice and citrus shape the inviting nose on this stunning white. The delicious, medium-bodied palate delivers juicy peach, grapefruit, nutmeg and wild herb while white almond and flinty mineral notes lend depth. It's vibrant, with bright acidity. Vias Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

93 Abbazia di Novacella 2020 Praepositus Kerner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). This elegant, full-bodied white has delicate but alluring aromas of crushed Alpine herb, citrus and yellow stone fruit. Bright and structured, the palate shows finesse and restraint, offering ripe apricot, lemon zest and nutmeg before a flinty mineral finish. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$29

93 Pacher Hof 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). A serious Pinot Grigio for wine connoisseurs, this racy white is made from high altitude grapes in Alto Adige's Valle Isarco. Aged partly in large casks, it boasts depth and complexity, featuring ripe apple, pear, hazelnut and a dollop of vanilla alongside bright acidity. Fennel seed and flinty mineral note lingers on the close. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Pacher Hof 2021 Sylvaner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Elegantly structured and vibrant, this opens with heady aromas of white spring blossom, honeydew melon and a hint of hazelnut. The savory, polished palate features ripe apricot, pear and citrus notes alongside tangy mineral and Alpine herb sensations that lend depth. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. Vias Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

92 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Grüner Veltliner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Aromas of canteloupe, Granny Smith apple and smoke follow over to the vibrant palate along with lemon drop, white pepper and wild herb. Bright acidity and flinty mineral notes impart fabulous energy. Abbazia di Novacella USA. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

92 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Riesling (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Aromas of yellow stone fruit, white rose and wild thyme waft out of the glass. Linear, racy and showing lively tension, the dry, savory palate delivers juicy grapefruit, apricot and mineral notes suggesting slate. Vibrant acidity underscores the savory flavors and keeps it energized. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

92 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Kerner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Enticing scents recalling orange zest, white spring blossom and Alpine thyme come to the forefront. Racy and delicious, the vibrant palate features juicy apricot, nectarine and tangerine along with a hint of nutmeg. Bright acidity keeps it tense and balanced. Abbazia di Novacella USA. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$23

92 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Sylvaner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Extremely refined, this lovely white opens with delicate scents of spring blossom, white stone fruit a whiff of graphite. The delicious, elegant palate delivers creamy pear, ripe honeydew melon and apple alongside savory mineral notes that lift the juicy finish. Abbazia di Novacella USA. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

92 Abbazia di Novacella 2020 Praepositus Sauvignon (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Aromas of elderflower, crushed tomato vine, oak and tropical fruit lift out of the glass. Racy and linear, the elegant palate offers juicy grapefruit, tangy gooseberry, pineapple and hints of oak-driven spice. Racy acidity keeps it vibrant and balanced. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

92 Cantina Valle Isarco 2021 Kerner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Aromas of yellow stone fruit, Alpine herb and citrus come to the forefront on this vibrant, full-bodied white. Offering a great depth of flavor, the palate features ripe yellow peach, grapefruit and smoky mineral before closing on notes of hazelnut and nutmeg. USA Wine West. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

92 Pacher Hof 2021 Grüner Veltliner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). White spring flower, Alpine herb and spice aromas mingle with white stone fruit on this radiant white. On the savory, polished palate, bright acidity lifts ripe Bartlett pear, nutmeg, white pepper and citrus notes before closing on hazelnut and saline. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

92 Pacher Hof 2021 Müller-Thurgau (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Citrus, yellow stone fruit and Alpine herb aromas come to the forefront on this crisp white. Dry and savory, the racy palate features ripe peach, juicy grapefruit and hints of gooseberry before closing on notes of saline and fennel seed. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

92 Pacher Hof 2021 Riesling (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Grapefruit and ripe yellow peach aromas carry through to the dry, savory palate along with juicy apricot, tangerine drop and saline mineral notes. Bright acidity keep it intense and balanced. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

91 Kofererhof 2020 Rieslaner (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Crisp and savory, this opens with delicate scents of sun-warmed hay, Alpine herb and pineapple. Linear and vibrant, the palate shows juicy apricot, grapefruit, mineral notes recalling oyster shell and a dollop of honey alongside bright acidity. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

90 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Elderflower, stone fruit and citrus aromas mingle with Alpine herb and crushed tomato leaf. Bright and savory, the rounded palate shows ripe apricot, succulent grapefruit and aniseed alongside a tangy saline finish. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

90 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Müller-Thurgau (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Aromas of yellow spring flower and tropical fruit jump out of the glass on this crisp white. The savory, refreshing palate features Granny Smith apple, green melon and juicy grapefruit alongside vibrant acidity. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$23

90 Abbazia di Novacella 2021 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). White orchard fruit, Alpine herb and spring blossom aromas waft out of the glass along with a hint of banana. The rounded, medium-bodied palate offers honeydew melon and ripe pear before closing on a hint of hazelnut. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

90 Cantina Valle Isarco 2021 Sauvignon (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Classic varietal aromas of elderflower and gooseberry carry on to the savory palate along with yellow peach, grapefruit and tangy saline notes. Bright acidity keeps it energized. USA Wine West. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Abbazia di Novacella 2020 Praepositus Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige Valle Isarco). Fermented and aged party in barriques and partly in large casks, this has aroma of French oak, toasted hazelnut and Alpine herb. On the racy palate, vibrant acidity accompanies yellow apple skin,

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oak-driven spice and coconut. Abbazia di Novacella USA. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

FRIULI COLLI ORIENTALI

91 Sirch 2021 Friulano (Friuli Colli Orientali). Delicately scented, this has inviting aromas of ripe white stone fruit, sun-warmed hay and a hint of hazelnut. The elegant, savory palate shows flavor and restraint, offering ripe pear, grapefruit and nutmeg before finishing on a saline mineral note. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Terlato Wines International. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

91 Sirch 2021 Sauvignon (Friuli Colli Orientali). Fruity aromas of gooseberry, grapefruit and tropical fruit follow through to the savory, linear palate alongside saline mineral notes that lend depth. It shows elegant restraint while bright acidity keeps it crisp and balanced. Terlato Wines International. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

91 Terlato 2020 Estate Bottled Pinot Grigio (Friuli Colli Orientali). White orchard fruit, hay and hazelnut aromas come to the forefront on this polished white. The rounded, savory palate delivers creamy yellow pear, beeswax, saline and the same hazelnut note from the nose. Tangy acidity lifts the finish. Terlato Wines International. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 Sirch 2021 Ribolla Gialla (Friuli Colli Orientali). This lovely, refreshing white has aromas of spring blossom, white stone fruit and a whiff of wild botanical herb. Elegant and vibrant, the palate features yellow pear, white peach and a hint of honeydew melon alongside tangy saline notes. Crisp acidity keeps it bright. Terlato Wines International. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

90 Sirch 2020 Pinot Grigio (Friuli Colli Orientali). Spring flower, white stone fruit and a hint of Alpine herb shape the delicate nose. The medium-bodied palate offers ripe pear, Granny Smith apple and white almond alongside bright acidity. Terlato Wines International. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

VIGNETI DELLE DOLOMITI

92 Castelfeder 2020 Ralf Sauvignon (Vigneti delle Dolomiti). This expressive white has classic varietal aromas of crushed tomato leaf, elderflower and citrus. Racy and medium-bodied, the tangy, delicious palate offers succulent grapefruit, tart gooseberry and green melon before closing on hints of fennel seed and saline. Volio Vino. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Castelfeder 2021 Lahn Kerner (Vigneti delle Dolomiti). Savory and medium bodied, this tangy white has aromas of yellow stone fruit, grapefruit and jasmine. On the bright palate, vibrant acidity accompanies ripe apricot, peach and nutmeg. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Tiefenbrunner 2021 Pinot Grigio (Vigneti delle Dolomiti). Crisp and tangy, this savory white delivers green apple, juicy citrus and honeydew melon flavors underscored by vibrant acidity. Notes of white almond and saline signal the close. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Mezzacorona 2020 Filobianco White Blend (Vigneti delle Dolomiti). A blend of Riesling and Sylvaner, this opens with heady aromas of white spring flower, yellow stone fruit and Alpine herb. Reflecting the nose, the tangy palate offers ripe apricot, yellow peach and a hint of candied lemon drop accompanied by fresh acidity. Prestige Beverage Group. *Best Buy.* —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

87 Casata Monfort 2021 Pinot Grigio (Vigneti delle Dolomiti). This copper-colored Pinot Grigio, a result of skin-contact during vinification, has aromas of tropical fruit and honeysuckle. The no-frills palate offers honeydew melon, passion fruit and pink grapefruit before finishing on a bitter note. Tricana Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

TRENTINO

90 Castel Firmian 2020 Riserva Pinot Grigio (Trentino). Pretty aromas of white spring blossom and stone fruit waft out of the glass. On savory, polished palate, tangy acidity lifts Bartlett pear, yellow peach and white almond. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

90 Infiné 1939 2019 Pinot Grigio (Trentino). Lightly scented, this has delicate, pretty aromas of spring blossom, ripe orchard fruit and a whiff of hazelnut. The elegant palate offers ripe yellow pear, apple and lemon zest alongside bright acidity. It closes on a hint of bitter almond. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$27

88 Bottega Vinaia 2021 Pinot Grigio (Trentino). This enjoyable white has delicate aromas recalling summer orchard fruit and spring blossom. On the rounded palate, fresh acidity lifts green apple and honey dew melon before closing on a hint of almond. Palm Bay International. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Casata Monfort 2021 Pinot Grigio (Trentino). This tangy, enjoyable white has aromas of Granny Smith apple and green melon. The

aromas carry over the bright palate along with bitter almond. Tricana Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Castel Firmian 2021 Sauvignon (Trentino). Aromas of crushed tomato vine, elderflower and tropical fruit shape the nose. On the zesty, light-bodied palate, crisp acidity frames pineapple, grapefruit and passion fruit. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Castel Firmian 2021 Müller-Thurgau (Trentino). Aromas of yellow stone fruit and wild herb form the delicate nose. On the palate, tangy acidity accompanies ripe yellow peach, green melon and bitter almond. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

86 Castel Firmian 2021 Pinot Grigio (Trentino). The shy nose eventually reveals suggestions of almond and chamomile. The aromas carry over to fresh, light-bodied palate and a hint of pear. It's simple but well made. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

CUSTOZA

90 Poggio alle Grazie 2020 Fermentazione Spontanea White Blend (Custoza). Made with organically cultivated grapes and fermented with wild yeasts, this has aromas of hazelnut, bread crust, botanical herb and ripe white stone fruit. On the dry, rounded palate, fresh acidity accompanies yellow apple, white peach, citrus and bitter almond before closing on a hint of graphite. This isn't an aperitivo white but should accompany first courses or white meat dishes. MROI LLC. —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

87 Giovanna Tantini 2021 White Blend (Custoza). Aromas of tropical fruit and a whiff of honeysuckle lead the nose. On the light-bodied palate, tangy acidity accompanies banana and green melon. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

86 Corte Fornello 2021 White Blend (Custoza). Aromas of spring blossom, citrus and wild herb come to the forefront. On the palate, crisp acidity accompanies lime, green melon and tropical fruit before a closing on a candied pineapple note. It's simple but well made. All Star Wine Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$19

SOAVE

90 Mainente 2021 Pigno Garganega (Soave). White spring flower, tropical fruit and pear aromas form the delicate nose. The light-bodied palate is rounded and savory, delivering creamy

white peach and honeydew melon before closing on a white almond note. Jansen International. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Mainete 2020 Netroir Garganega (Soave). The shy nose eventually reveals subdued aromas suggesting spice and exotic fruit. Fermented and aged in barrels, the full-bodied, densely concentrated and monolithic palate shows oak-driven spice, candied lemon drop and pineapple packed in syrup alongside bright acidity. Jansen International. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 Albino Armani 2020 Incontro Garganega (Soave). Made partially with dried grapes, this has aromas of lychee, white stone fruit and a whiff of botanical herb. The rounded, straightforward palate offers ripe yellow pear, candied tangerine drop and passion fruit alongside bright acidity. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

SOAVE CLASSICO

94 Gini 2019 La Frosca Garganega (Soave Classico). Made with organically farmed Garganega, this beautiful white offers aromas of spring flower, stone fruit and flinty mineral. Linear and dry, the elegant palate offers ripe pear, apple and lemon alongside tangy acidity. A saline mineral note joins bitter almond on the close. de Grazia Imports, LLC. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$34

94 Inama 2019 Carbonare Garganega (Soave Classico). Spring blossom, citrus and flinty mineral aromas come to the forefront on this lovely, understated white along with aromas of Alpine herb. Dry, vibrant and loaded with finesse, the linear palate shows Meyer lemon, saline, hazelnut and crushed marjoram set against vibrant acidity. Hold for even more complexity. Drink through 2029. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

93 Inama 2020 Carbonare Garganega (Soave Classico). Made entirely with Garganega grown in volcanic soils, this bone-dry, elegantly structured white offers aromas of flint, hazelnut, botanical herb and citrus. Linear and boasting racy tension, the savory, mineral-driven palate features juicy Meyer lemon, saline and peach before closing on a bitter almond note. Bright acidity keeps it energized. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

91 Gianni Tessari 2021 Tenda Scalette Garganega (Soave Classico). Lychee, white stone fruit and hazelnut aromas come to the forefront. The linear, light-bodied palate offers green melon, ripe pear and bitter almond before a saline close. WP Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

91 Gini 2021 Garganega (Soave Classico). Tropical fruit, Spanish broom and white stone fruit aromas form the delicate nose. The tangy, savory palate offers white peach, citrus and a hint of green melon alongside bright acidity and tangy saline before closing on bitter almond. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

88 Le Mandolare 2021 Menini Garganega (Soave Classico). Tropical fruit and elderflower aromas lead the nose. The medium-bodied palate offers banana, candied lemon drop and bitter almond alongside tangy acidity. Valley View Wine Sales. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

VALDADIGE

87 Albino Armani 2021 Terradeiforti Colle Ara Pinot Grigio (Valdadige). This copper-colored wine has subtle aroma suggesting hay, chamomile and stone fruit. On the no-frills palate, tangy acidity accompanies suggestions of pear, peach and honeydew melon. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

87 Confetti! 2021 Pinot Grigio (Valdadige). Aromas of Granny Smith apple and green melon follow through to the bright, tangy palate along with a hint of white almond. Crisp acidity gives it a clean finish. Palm Bay International. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

86 Cavit 2021 Pinot Grigio (Valdadige). Simple but well made, this fresh white offers honeydew melon, banana and green apple flavors. Bright acidity keeps it tangy. Palm Bay International. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

85 Albino Armani 2021 Corvara Pinot Grigio (Valdadige). Aromas of ripe banana and tropical fruit carry over to the simple, rather diluted palate. Tangy acidity accompanies the fruity flavors. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

84 Albino Armani 2021 Pinot Grigio (Valdadige). This informal white has intense banana aromas. The aromas follow over to the simple, brisk palate along with cantaloup and candied notes. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

OTHER WHITE WINES

92 Cavalchina 2020 Amedeo White Blend (Custoza Superiore). Delicately scented, this has alluring aromas suggesting spring blossom, Alpine herb and white stone fruit. The elegant, medium-bodied offers yellow peach, pear, apricot and white almond notes alongside bright acidity. A tangy

saline note lingers on the finish. de Grazia Imports, LLC. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

90 Sandro de Bruno 2019 Monte San Piero Garganega (Soave Superiore). Bone dry and linear, this has subtle aromas reminiscent of yellow spring flower, orchard fruit and wet stone along with whiffs of Alpine herb. Showing an understated elegance, it offers dried apricot, tangy saline and toasted hazelnut alongside fresh acidity. With its rather austere structure and subtlety, this is to pair with a meal as opposed to sip as an aperitivo. Drink through 2027. Tanaro River Imports LLC. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

TUSCANY WHITE WINES

BOLGHERI

90 Casa di Terra 2021 Vermentino (Bolgheri). This opens with aromas of spring blossom, tropical fruit and a whiff of Mediterranean scrub. Savory and elegantly structured, the full-bodied palate offers grapefruit, hazelnut and ripe pear before a saline close. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Guado al Tasso 2021 Vermentino (Bolgheri). Elderflower, citrus and vegetal aromas suggesting crushed tomato leaf lead the nose on this vibrant white. Savory and bright, the linear palate features yellow pear, peach and hints of gooseberry and sea salt alongside crisp acidity. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

88 Tenuta Meraviglia 2021 White Blend (Bolgheri). Made with 90% Vermentino and 10% Viognier, this opens with subdued aromas of tropical fruit and Mediterranean herb. The rounded palate suggests ripe apricot, passion fruit and a candied note. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

OTHER WHITE WINES

90 Poggio al Tesoro 2021 Solosole Vermentino (Bolgheri Superiore). For full review see page 24. Maze Row Wine Merchant.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$23

88 Mezzacorona 2021 Pinot Grigio (Delle Venezie). This bright white opens with aromas of white spring flower and white stone fruit. On the refreshing palate, crisp acidity accompanies Granny Smith apple, tangy saline and a hint of white almond. Prestige Beverage Group. *Best Buy.* —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Tenuta Le Colonne 2020 Vermentino (Costa Toscana). Made with organically farmed grapes, this has a shy nose that eventually reveals

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beeswax, yellow stone fruit and botanical herb. The rounded palate suggests dried apricot, grapefruit and a hint of honey alongside soft acidity. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$21

TUSCANY RED WINES BOLGHERI

93 Campo alle Comete 2019 Stupore (Bolgheri). Aromas of forest floor, leather, ripe black-skinned berry and fragrant blue flower mingle with whiffs of sea breeze. The polished, savory palate doles out ripe black cherry, black berry, truffle, mocha and salty mineral notes alongside smooth tannins. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Podere Conca 2019 Agapanto (Bolgheri). This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Cilieggiolo opens with aromas of red-skinned berry, forest floor and culinary spice. The savory, balanced palate offers raspberry jam, star anise and clove alongside polished tannins. Drink through 2027. Terrestoria. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55

89 Bell'Aja 2019 Bolgheri. Made with 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, this has aromas of violet, green bell pepper and mocha. The solid, full-bodied palate offers baked plum, vanilla and roasted coffee bean alongside chewy tannins. Vision Wine & Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$38

89 Podere Prospero 2018 Bolgheri. Aromas of black-skinned berry, underbrush and cedar emerge from the glass. The savory palate offers blackberry, clove and toasted hazelnut alongside polished tannins. Drink through 2025. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$47

89 Tenuta Sette Cieli 2019 Bolgheri. This blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc opens with aromas of black-skinned berry, cedar and tilled soil. The firm, medium-bodied palate offers blackberry jam, mocha and tobacco alongside close-grained tannins. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

88 Ruppiano 2019 Bolgheri. This has aromas of mature dark-skinned fruit, scorched earth and baking spice. The straightforward palate shows baked plum, toasted hazelnut and clove alongside pliant tannins. Drink soon. Alma Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

BOLGHERI SUPERIORE

96 Guado al Tasso 2019 Bolgheri Superiore. For full review see page 4. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$140

96 Ornellaia 2019 Bolgheri Superiore. This deeply hued, elegant red has enticing aromas suggesting ripe blackberries, juniper berries, purple flower and sandalwood. Firmly structured and boasting class and finesse, the palate is still young and austere, offering black cherries, currants, black pepper and tobacco. Tightly wound, fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity keep balanced. Drink 2029–2039. Vintus LLC. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$260

95 Castello di Bolgheri 2019 Bolgheri Superiore. Underbrush, pipe tobacco, leather and blackberry aromas come to the forefront on this full-bodied, classy red. Enveloping and delicious, the palate shows concentration but is almost weightless at the same time, doling out dried cherry, black plum, cocoa and licorice alongside velvety tannins. Drink through 2029. Total Beverage Solution. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$90

91 Tenuta Argentiera 2019 Bolgheri Superiore. Made with 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, this offers aromas of mature black-skinned berry, aromatic herb and a hint of bell pepper. The structured palate features mature black currant, espresso and licorice alongside fine-grained tannins. Drink through 2027. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$150

89 Bell'Aja 2019 Bolgheri Superiore. Made with 95% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, this opens with violet, toasted oak and mocha aromas. The densely concentrated palate offers prune, licorice and roasted coffee bean alongside close-grained tannins. Vision Wine & Spirits. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$60

89 Tenuta Argentiera 2020 Poggio ai Ginepri (Bolgheri Superiore). A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc, this has aromas of dark-skinned fruit, Mediterranean scrub and baking spice. The round palate offers blackberry jam, star anise and mocha alongside lithe tannins. Drink through 2026. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$28

CHIANTI CLASSICO

92 Colombaio di Cencio 2017 Gran Selezione (Chianti Classico). This focused, fragrant red offers aromas of woodland berry, new leather, wild herb and pipe tobacco. The linear palate exhibits dried cherry, mocha and toasted nut set against

close-grained tannins that leave a drying finish. Drink 2023–2029. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

91 Colombaio di Cencio 2020 Monticello (Chianti Classico). Vinous aromas of just pressed grapes meld with violet, freshly crushed berry and a whiff of scorched earth. The medium-bodied, savory palate starts out smooth and easygoing, with ripe Morello cherry, orange zest and licorice before fine-grained, rather drying tannins take over the close. Drink through 2026. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Colombaio di Cencio 2018 Massi del Colombaio Riserva (Chianti Classico). This opens with subdued aromas recalling dark-skinned fruit, underbrush, toasted nut and leather. The smooth palate offers juicy black cherry, game and grated nutmeg alongside fresh acidity and dusty, drying tannins. Drink 2024–2028. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

90 Certosa di Belriguardo 2020 Chianti Classico. Made with 90% Sangiovese and 10% Merlot, this offers aromas of dark-skinned fruit, underbrush and leather. The solid palate offers dried blackberry, mocha and licorice alongside chewy tannins. Drink through 2027. Trinity Beverage Group. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

TOSCANA

97 Le Macchiole 2018 Paleo (Toscana). Combining varietal sensations of Cabernet Franc as well as sunny aromas recalling the Tuscan coast, this fantastic red opens with aromas recalling raspberries, black currants, Mediterranean scrub and violets. The smooth, delicious palate combines body and elegance, offering juicy blackberries, star anise and wild herbs before a saline mineral finish. Fresh acidity and supple tannins provide seamless support and balance. Vintus LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$160

96 Masseto 2019 Toscana. Aromas of iris, raspberry, camphor and Mediterranean scrub mingle with oak-driven spice on this 100% Merlot. Enveloping and concentrated, it also possess remarkable, almost weightless finesse, delivering black currant, Morello cherry, fruitcake and star anise alongside smooth, velvety tannins. Fresh acidity lifts the finish. Drink 2025–2039. Vintus LLC. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$800

94 Michele Satta 2019 Cavaliere (Toscana). Opening with lovely aromas of underbrush, blue flower, Mediterranean scrub and wild berry, this polished red shows the potential of Sangiovese in this part of the Tuscan coast. Showing great elegance, the smooth, savory palate doles out juicy Morello cherry, fruitcake and star anise before a

mineral finish recalling saline. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$60

VINO NOBILE DI MONTEPULCIANO

96 Contucci 2017 *Mulinvecchio (Vino Nobile di Montepulciano)*. For full review see page 4. Specialty Cellars. *Cellar Selection*.
abv: 14% Price: \$55

95 Contucci 2017 *Pietra Rossa (Vino Nobile di Montepulciano)*. Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with ripe dark-skinned fruit, underbrush and pipe tobacco on this firmly structured red. All about class and finesse, it's still youthfully austere, delivering juicy Morello cherry, crushed raspberry, licorice and crushed mint framed in tightly wound, noble tannins. Give it a few more years to fully develop. Drink 2025–2037. Specialty Cellars. *Cellar Selection*. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$49

93 Contucci 2017 *Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*. Aromas of fragrant purple flower, new leather, forest floor and camphor form the enticing nose. Savory and elegantly structured, the focused palate features juicy black cherry, truffle, and cake spice set against taut, fine-grained tannins. Surprisingly fresh acidity for the vintage keeps it balanced and provides youthful tension. Drink 2023–2029. Specialty Cellars. *Editors' Choice*. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$39

OTHER RED WINES

97 Biondi-Santi 2015 *Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino)*. New leather, pressed rose and mature berry aromas slowly appear in the glass along with whiffs of underbrush and pipe tobacco. On the structured, elegant palate, firm but ultra-refined tannins provide the backbone for juicy Morello cherry, crushed raspberry, licorice and cake spice. While it promises decades of evolution, it's already rewarding and almost at the start of its long drinking window. Drink 2025–2045. Wilson Daniels Ltd. *Cellar Selection*. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$728

90 Terralsole 2017 *Rosso di Montalcino*. Delicate aromas of iris, scorched earth and cedar emerge from the glass. The savory palate offers dried black cherry, vanilla and clove alongside polished tannins. Drink through 2027. Verity Wine Partners. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$35

90 Villa Poggio Salvi 2020 *Rosso di Montalcino*. Aromas of red-skinned berry, violet and underbrush lead the nose. On the juicy palate, polished tannins accompany raspberry jam, clove and cinnamon. Enjoy through 2027. FX Magner Selection. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$22

PIEDMONT WHITE WINES

LANGHE

93 Ettore Germano 2020 *Herzu (Langhe)*. Savory and stunning, this radiant white has enticing scents recalling yellow stone fruit, spring blossom, Alpine herb and citrus. The vibrant palate boasts energy and finesse, delivering a great depth of flavor including a vein of tangy saline that underscores juicy yellow peach, apricot and Myer lemon. Crisp acidity keeps well balanced. Enjoy now for the succulent fruit or hold for more complexity. Drink through 2028. Sussex Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 13% Price: \$NA

91 Rivetto 2019 *Vigna Lirano (Langhe)*. Certified biodynamic and fermented with wild yeasts, this earthy white has aromas of underbrush, scorched earth, yellow stone fruit and baking spice. The savory, unusual palate features apricot, lemon drop, black olive and saline alongside tangy acidity. Aged partially in terracotta, it has a rustic appeal and isn't for everyone, but fans of wines teetering on the wild side will be intrigued. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 13% Price: \$NA

90 Massolino 2020 *Langhe*. Fermented in steel and resting on its lees for nine months while a small part ages in amphora, this opens with delicate scents recalling chamomile, stone fruit and the barest hint of petrol. Linear and elegant, the palate shows restrained finesse, featuring ripe apricot, hazelnut and a hint of saline. It's balanced, with crisp acidity. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$38

ROERO

93 Marchisio 2020 *Costa delle Rose Vinificato in Anfora (Roero)*. Made with organically farmed grapes and vinified in amphora, this has delicate but enticing aromas suggesting vineyard dust, seasoned hay, crushed stone and orchard fruit. The polished, delicious palate delivers ripe pear, white peach and saline mineral notes before a hazelnut close. Bright acidity keeps it energized. Transparent Wine Company. *Editors' Choice*. —K.O.
abv: 13% Price: \$30

92 Monchiero Carbone 2018 *Renesio Incisa Riserva (Roero Arneis)*. For full review see page 15. Tita Italian Import & Export.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$NA

91 Chiesa 2020 *(Roero)*. Beeswax, orchard fruit and delicate whiffs of Spanish broom form the nose. Linear and polished, the bright palate features ripe yellow apple, pear, hazelnut and honeyed mineral. Communal Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13% Price: \$20

91 Deltetto 2021 *Daivej (Roero)*. Delicately scented, this offers aromas suggesting spring blossom and white stone fruit. Made with organic grapes, the linear, savory palate offers juicy white peach, ripe yellow pear and fennel seed alongside tangy acidity that gives it a clean finish. Tradizione Imports. *Best Buy*. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15

91 Malvirà 2020 *Renesio (Roero)*. For full review see page 19. Indigenous Selections.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$21

PIEDMONT RED WINES BARBARESCO

97 Castello di Neive 2019 *Albesani Santo Stefano (Barbaresco)*. For full review see page 3. Winebow Imports. *Cellar Selection*.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$65

97 Francesco Versio 2019 *Barbaresco*. Truffle, toasted hazelnut and berry aromas come together along with whiffs of freshly cracked pepper. Elegant, tense and primary but already delicious, the linear palate delivers ripe Morello cherry, raspberry, star anise and ground clove while firm, refined tannins provide support. It's well balanced, with vibrant acidity that imparts great aging potential. 2029–2044. Artisanal Cellars. *Cellar Selection*. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$65

97 La Ca' Nova 2019 *Montestefano (Barbaresco)*. Classic varietal aromas of violet, forest floor and camphor come to the forefront along with spicy notes on this gorgeous red. Savory and structured, the delicious palate shows raspberry compote, juicy Morello cherry and baking spice alongside taut, refined tannins and fresh acidity. A licorice note lingers on the close along with hints of truffle. Drink 2027–2039. Weygandt-Metzler. *Cellar Selection*. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

97 Rizzi 2019 *Pajorè (Barbaresco)*. Love the aromas of wild berry, star anise, leather and meat juices on this full-bodied red. Elegantly structured and delicious, the palate shows succulent red berry, baking spice, crushed mint and a hint of grilled Porcini alongside firm, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it beautifully balanced. Drink 2025–2034. The Sorting Table. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$70

96 Ada Nada 2019 *Elisa (Barbaresco)*. Fragrant and refined, this opens with aromas of star anise, botanical herb, wild berry and earthy whiffs of new leather and underbrush. The savory palate is elegant and focused, exhibiting ripe red cherry, crushed raspberry, star anise and ground clove set against a backbone of refined tannins. It's well balanced and loaded with energy thanks to vibrant

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acidity. 2027–2039. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

96 Ada Nada 2019 Valeirano (Barbaresco). Forest floor, camphor and blue flower aromas mingle with fennel seed on this fragrant, delicious red. Reflecting the nose, the linear, focused palate features juicy red cherry, pomegranate, cinnamon and star anise set against taut, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it energized and gives it serious aging potential. Drink 2027–2039. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

96 Albino Rocca 2019 Cottà (Barbaresco). Inviting aromas of toasted hazelnut, violet and ripe forest berry waft out of the glass along with a whiff of leather on this stellar red. Firmly structured and elegant, the savory palate is still young and primary but already shows juicy Morello cherry, cranberry, star anise and a hint of coffee bean alongside a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Vibrant acidity keeps it bright and balanced. Drink 2029–2044. de Grazia Imports, LLC. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

96 Albino Rocca 2019 Ovello (Barbaresco). Iris, rose and baking spice aromas take center stage on this beautiful red. It's young and tight but already delicious, featuring ripe red cherry, star anise and ground clove set against a backbone of bright acidity and noble tannins. It will age well for years. Drink 2029–2039. de Grazia Imports, LLC. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$68

96 Albino Rocca 2019 Ronchi (Barbaresco). Floral aromas of rose and violet align with Morello cherry and aromatic herb on this fragrant red. Precise and savory, the palate is still youthfully tense, delivering red cherry, pomegranate and licorice alongside tightly wound, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Give it time to fully develop. Drink 2029–2039. de Grazia Imports, LLC. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

96 Castello di Neive 2019 Barbaresco. This fragrant red opens with aromas of blue flower, resin, star anise and underbrush. Full-bodied and elegantly structured, the savory palate offers ripe raspberry, cranberry and baking spice alongside firm, fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2027–2034. Winebow Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

96 Elvio Cogno 2019 Bordini (Barbaresco). Fragrant, focused and loaded with finesse, this impressive red opens with aromas of iris, red berry, spice and camphor. Elegantly structured and savory, the vibrant palate features juicy raspberry, Morello cherry, star anise and wild mint framed in taut, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it well bal-

anced. Drink 2024–2034. Wilson Daniels Ltd. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

96 Fontanabianca 2019 Bordini (Barbaresco). For full review see page 4. Ethica Wines. **Cellar Selection.**
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

96 Fontanabianca 2019 Serraboella (Barbaresco). Aromas of new leather, menthol, licorice and dark-skinned berry shape the nose on this perfumed red. Juicy and savory, the radiant palate delivers succulent black cherry, crushed raspberry, star anise and cinnamon set against a backbone of firm, fine-grained tannins. It's vibrant, balanced and youthfully tense, with nervous acidity. Drink 2029–2039. Ethica Wines. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$96

96 Giuseppe Cortese 2019 Rabajà (Barbaresco). Enticing scents of blue flower, crushed mint, berry and vineyard dust form the nose along with a whiff of new leather. The firmly structured, focused palate shows cherry marinated in spirits, black raspberry and licorice alongside a backbone of fine-grained tannins. It's well-balanced, with vibrant acidity. 2027–2039. Winebow Imports. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

96 Prunotto 2019 Secondine (Barbaresco). Another fantastic 2019 from the estate, this has aromas of leather, ripe berry, baking spice and toasted notes. On the elegant, structured palate, firm, fine-grained tannins support juicy raspberry, black cherry and baking spice. Fresh acidity provides balance and energy. Drink 2027–2039. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$80

96 Sottimano 2019 Basarin (Barbaresco). Mocha, blue flower, menthol and forest berry aromas lift out of the glass. Firmly structured but elegant, the linear palate exhibits pomegranate, wild strawberry, star anise and white pepper alongside a backbone of fine-grained tannins and racy acidity. Drink 2029–2044. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

96 Sottimano 2019 Cottà (Barbaresco). Dark spice, forest floor, rose and new leather aromas shape the nose along with a whiff of wild berry on this fragrant, radiant red. Tightly wound and linear, the focused palate offers red cherry, licorice and toasted nut alongside firm tannins and racy acidity. Austere and elegant, it needs time to fully develop. Drink 2029–2039. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

96 Sottimano 2019 Fausoni (Barbaresco). Enticing aromas of rose, iris, culinary spice and botanical herb take shape in the glass along with whiffs of crushed berry on this fragrant red.

The focused, linear palate is still tightly wound and austere, offering juicy red cherry, star anise and thyme set against bright acidity and firm, close-grained tannins. It's loaded with nervous energy and needs time but already shows great class. Drink 2029–2044. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

95 Adriano Marco & Vittorio 2019 Basarin (Barbaresco). Balsamic aromas of camphor and leather mingle earthy whiffs of forest floor, violet and wild berry. Savory, focused and youthfully firm, the palate delivers crushed raspberry, star anise and baking spice framed in taut, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2027–2039. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

95 Albino Rocca 2019 Montersino (Barbaresco). Underbrush, dark cherry and hazelnut aromas form the nose along with a pretty whiff of blue flower. Firmly structured, the savory palate offers ripe Morello cherry, ground clove and licorice framed in tightly knit, fine-grained tannins. Give it a few more years to fully unwind. Drink 2027–2034. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

95 Bel Colle 2019 Pajorè (Barbaresco). For full review see page 5. Quintessential Wines. **Cellar Selection.**
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

95 Bera 2019 Serraboella (Barbaresco). Forest floor, red berry, leather and toasted hazelnut aromas waft out of the glass. It's full-bodied and savory, featuring flavors of raspberry jam, licorice and vanilla set against tightly knit, fine-grained tannins bright acidity. Drink 2027–2035. Panebianco. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55

95 Cascina Luisin 2019 Rabajà (Barbaresco). Aromas of rose, violet and spice greet the nose along with a whiff of new leather. Savory and structured, the palate offers juicy raspberry, cherry compote and star anise accompanied by taut, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2027–2039. Artisan Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$90

95 Castello di Verduno 2019 Rabajà (Barbaresco). Delicate aromas of blue flower, red berry and a hint of underbrush waft out of the glass. Elegant and firmly structured, the savory palate offers crushed raspberry, ripe cherry and baking spice alongside taut tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. 2027–2039. Polaner Selections. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$47

95 Enrico Serafino 2019 Bricco di Neive (Barbaresco). Aromas recalling eucalyptus mingle with lavender, pipe tobacco and black-skinned berry on this full-bodied red. The smooth, youth-

fully austere palate doles out licorice, crushed raspberry and ground clove set against bright acidity and firm, velvety tannins. Drink 2025–2034. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$105

95 Figli Luigi Oddero 2019 Rombone (Barbaresco). This elegant red has enticing scents of wild berry, blue flower, botanical herb and baking spice. Savory and focused, the palate features sour cherry, cranberry and star anise framed in taut, refined tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2024–2031. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

95 Fontanabianca 2019 Barbaresco. For full review see page 6. Ethica Wines. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 14%

Price: \$50

95 Giuseppe Cortese 2019 Barbaresco. Fragrant purple flower, red berry and wild herb aromas mingle in the glass together with a whiff of camphor. Tightly wound and linear, the youthfully austere palate shows crushed raspberry, Marasca cherry and star anise framed in taut, tightly knit tannins and bright acidity. Drink through 2031. Winebow Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$40

95 La Ca' Nova 2019 Barbaresco. Woodland berry, violet, forest floor and new leather aromas take shape in the glass along with whiffs of star anise. Delicious and elegantly structured, the focused palate shows juicy red cherry, ripe raspberry, baking spice and crushed mint alongside firm, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it impeccably balanced. 2027–2039. Weygandt-Metzler. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

95 La Ca' Nova 2019 Montefico (Barbaresco). Aromas of violet and prune emerge from the glass along with new leather and forest floor. The full-bodied palate is still young but already offers cherry marinated in spirits, baked plum, vanilla, game and licorice set against a backbone of noble tannins and fresh acidity. Drink after 2029. Weygandt-Metzler. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

95 Lodali 2019 Rocche dei 7 Fratelli (Barbaresco). This savory red has great aromatics, including ripe red cherry, dark spice, underbrush and new leather. Still young but showing class and incredible aging potential, the vibrant palate features ripe red cherry, licorice, mint and white pepper set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it vibrant and lends great aging potential. Drink 2027–2039. Vino Veritas. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$60

95 Massolino 2019 Albesani (Barbaresco). From one of the most celebrated vineyard sites in the denomination, this opens with aromas of camphor, iris, pipe tobacco and wild berry. Showing structure and elegance, the focused palate deliv-

ers juicy red cherry, crushed raspberry, cake spice and aniseed framed in firm, refined tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2025–2034. Vineyard Brands. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$110

95 Oddero 2019 Gallina (Barbaresco). Enticing scents of blue flower, red plum, resin and new leather come to the forefront. Tightly wound with youthful tension, the linear palate shows sour cherry, pomegranate, star anise and black tea alongside nervous acidity and close-grained tannins that grip the close. Give it time to fully unwind and develop. Drink 2029–2039. Polaner Selections. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

95 Paitin 2019 Serraboella (Barbaresco). Sandalwood and culinary spice aromas mingle with rose leather and camphor. Showing structure and a racy finesse, the vibrant palate is young and loaded with nervous energy at this stage but already delicious, offering juicy Morello cherry, raspberry and star anise framed in taut, refined tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2029–2044. Chambers & Chambers. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$50

95 Poderi Colla 2019 Roncaglie (Barbaresco). Truffle, woodland berry, leather and violet aromas shape the nose along with spice notes. It's still young and full of nervous tension but already offers juicy raspberry, star anise and white pepper. Tightly knit, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity keep it balanced. 2027–2034. The Source Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$71

95 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Montestefano Riserva (Barbaresco). New leather, camphor, cedar and dark spice aromas form the subtle but compelling nose. On the firmly structured palate, tightly knit, noble tannins support fleshy Morello cherry, crushed raspberry star anise and baking spice. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$85

95 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Muncagota Riserva (Barbaresco). Mountain hay, cedar, new leather and pipe tobacco aromas take center stage. Full-bodied and concentrated, the savory palate offers fleshy black cherry, licorice and botanical herb set against a backbone of close-grained tannins. A minty note lingers on the close. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$85

95 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Rabajà Riserva (Barbaresco). This fragrant, full-bodied red has aromas of iris, woodland berry, dark spice and cedar. Firmly structured but also showing finesse, the savory palate exhibits fleshy raspberry, ripe black cherry and licorice framed in tightly knit, fine-grained tannins. Best from 2024 to 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$85

95 Prunotto 2019 Bric Turot (Barbaresco). A lovely fragrance of camphor, iris and perfumed berry leads the nose. Linear, focused and delicious, the palate offers juicy red cherry, raspberry and cake spice alongside taut, refined tannins. It's young but already well-balanced, with bright acidity. Drink 2027–2034. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. —K.O.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$61

95 Rizzi 2019 Nervo (Barbaresco). This fragrant red has aromas of baking spice, violet, vineyard dust and blue flower. The savory, elegant palate shows ripe Morello cherry, star anise and clove framed in vibrant acidity and taut, refined tannins. Drink 2027–2034. The Sorting Table. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$70

94 Adriano Marco & Vittorio 2019 Sanadaive (Barbaresco). Aromas evoking blue flower, perfumed talcum powder and fragrant berry waft out of the glass. Polished and lithe, the juicy palate offers bright red cherry, strawberry and cinnamon alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. It's well balanced, with fresh acidity. It's already accessible but will drink well for several years or more. Drink through 2029. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$32

94 Bel Colle 2019 Barbaresco. For full review see page 7. Quintessential Wines. *Cellar Selection.*

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$37

94 Bera 2016 Rabajà Riserva (Barbaresco). This has a great nose of ripe dark-skinned fruit, leather, star anise and underbrush. Firm and elegantly structured, the palate shows ripe blackberry, cherry and baking spice set against taut, refined tannins. Drink through 2030. Panebianco. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$85

94 Borgogno F.lli Serio e Battista 2019 Barbaresco. Fragrant and refined, this has enticing aromas of rose, violet, berry and vineyard dust. The palate is still tight and youthfully austere but polished and savory, delivering Morello cherry, star anise toasted almond and a hint of coffee bean. Close-grained tannins and fresh acidity provide support. Drink 2026–2034. Skurnik Wines, Inc. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$40

94 Cantina del Pino 2019 Albesani (Barbaresco). Underbrush, new leather and dark spice aromas mingle together in the glass along with a balsamic note of camphor, rose. Full-bodied and savory, the palate offers fruitcake, cherry marinated in spirits and licorice alongside taut, fine-grained tannins that leave a rather drying finish. Drink through 2030. Vinity Wine Company. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$60

94 Cantina del Pino 2019 Gallina (Barbaresco). This needs a few swirls of the glass to release subtle aromas of ripe berry, forest floor,

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culinary spice and new leather. The full-bodied palate features dried cherry, pomegranate, licorice and hazelnut alongside seasoned tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Vinity Wine Company. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

94 Cascina Luisin 2019 Asili (Barbaresco). New leather, forest berry and spice aromas come to the forefront along with an earthy whiff of underbrush. On the taut, youthfully austere palate, fine-grained tannins accompany ripe raspberry, strawberry compote and grated nutmeg. This still benefit with a few more years in the bottle aging. Drink 2027–2034. Artisan Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$90

94 Cascina Rabaglio 2019 Meruzzano (Barbaresco). Heady scents of iris and violet mingle with forest berry, underbrush and star anise on this fragrant red. On the linear, racy palate, taut, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity accompany juicy raspberry, Marasca cherry, baking spice and licorice. Combining energy and elegance, it shows great aging potential. Drink 2027–2039. Liliium Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30

94 Cascina Vano 2019 Canova (Barbaresco). Enticing scents of ripe forest berry, truffle, new leather and blue flower pipe take shape in the glass along with a whiff of tobacco on this fragrant red. The full-bodied, enveloping palate offers ripe Morello cherry, raspberry jam and licorice set against firm, refined tannins. It closes on a flinty note. Drink 2023–2030. Golden Vines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

94 Francone 2019 Gallina (Barbaresco). Red berry, rose and botanical herb aromas shape the nose along with whiffs of new leather and underbrush on this fragrant red. Vibrant and focused, the structured palate is youthfully austere, showing juicy pomegranate, spiced cranberry, ground clove and white pepper alongside taut, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity. Cherio Holding & Trading. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

94 La Ganghija 2019 Barbaresco. This spicy red opens with aromas of star anise, botanical herb, new leather and forest floor. The savory palate is elegant but also bursting with energy, doling out ripe raspberry, cherry compote and baking spice before a minty close. Taut, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity provide great balance and age-worthy structure. Drink 2027–2039. Vias Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$56

94 Musso 2019 Rios Sordo (Barbaresco). Wild rose, forest berry, new leather and camphor aromas come to the forefront along with a whiff of pipe tobacco. The firm, vibrant palate offers raspberry jam, vanilla and licorice while tightly wound, fine-grained tannins offer support. Panebianco. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

94 Mustela 2019 Karmico (Barbaresco). Aromas of forest floor, wild herb and new leather mingle with whiffs of rose and black tea. Savory and elegant, the linear palate shows dried cherry, crushed mint and baking spice alongside taut, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2027–2039. Davigna Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

94 Paitin 2019 Basarin (Barbaresco). Aromas of forest floor, new leather and dark spice mingle together in the glass along with a whiff of camphor on this fragrant red. Showing a racy elegance and youthful tension, the taut palate features juicy Morello cherry, blood orange and licorice framed in close-grained tannins and vibrant acidity. It's youthfully austere and will benefit with more bottle age. Drink 2029–2039. Chambers & Chambers. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

94 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Montefico Riserva (Barbaresco). Cedar, truffle, scorched earth and a whiff of blue violet form the nose along with ripe berry. Full-bodied and structured, the palate offers raspberry jam, black cherry, cake spice and star anise alongside taut tannins. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

94 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Pajè Riserva (Barbaresco). Balsamic aromas of camphor oil and new leather unite with mature dark-skinned fruit. Smooth, full-bodied and offering a weightless concentration, the palate offers raspberry, cherry marinated in spirits and star anise framed in firm, fine-grained tannins that grip the close. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

94 Sottimano 2019 Pakorè (Barbaresco). Truffle, red berry, rose and sandalwood aromas slowly take shape in the glass. Taut and linear, the palate reveals truffle, dried cherry, orange zest and star anise accompanied by fine-grained, rather drying tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2027–2034. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Adriano Marco & Vittorio 2016 Basarin Riserva (Barbaresco). Lovely scents of blue flower, ripe berry, new leather and spice waft out of the glass. The full-bodied palate offers fleshy raspberry, licorice, liquor soaked cherry and nutmeg accompanied by firm, refined tannins. Drink through 2029. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$55

93 Albino Rocca 2018 Angelo (Barbaresco). Iris, wild berry and sandalwood aromas form the nose. The savory, elegant palate offers sour cherry, orange zest, licorice and coffee bean alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2030. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$109

93 Barale Fratelli 2019 Serraboella (Barbaresco). This structured red offers inviting aromas of violet, woodland berry, leather and forest floor. The savory palate exhibits ripe cherry, cranberry and star anise accompanied by firm, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity. Drink after 2029. Williams Corner Wine. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$75

93 Bera 2019 Barbaresco. Inviting, enticing aromas of ripe berry, baking spice, hazelnut, violet and leather come to the forefront. On the palate, firm, fine-grained tannins support raspberry jam, candy-coated licorice and cake spice. Firm, fine-grained tannins, fresh acidity 2027–2034. Panebianco. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55

93 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2019 Meruzzano (Barbaresco). Aromas of hazelnut, wild herb, and forest floor lead the way. Linear and precise, the focused palate shows tension and finesse, delivering juicy red cherry, star anise and ground clove framed in tightly wound, refined tannins. Vibrant acidity provides balance and fantastic energy. Drink 2027–2039. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

93 Cascina Rabaglio 2019 Gaia Principe (Barbaresco). Rose, hay, wild herb and red berry aromas mingle together in the glass. Savory and linear, the palate delivers ripe raspberry, cherry jam, vanilla and cinnamon set against a backbone of bright acidity and firm, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2027–2039. Liliium Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

93 Castello di Neive 2017 Albesabi Santoi Stefano Riserva (Barbaresco). Iris, violet, leather and ripe dark-skinned fruit aromas come to the forefront alongside a tobacco note. The big, chewy palate features crushed raspberry, licorice and baking spice alongside dense, fine-grained tannins. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$0

93 Cigliuti 2018 Bricco di Neive Vie Erte (Barbaresco). This fragrant red has heady aromas of truffle, star anise, violet, plum and hint of menthol. The palate is a bit more restrained at this stage, offering dried cherry, licorice and mocha alongside tightly wound tannins. It's still young and needs time to fully develop. Drink 2025–2030. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Grimaldi 2019 Manzola (Barbaresco). The stunning nose offers iris, cedar, new leather and Asian spice. It's linear and youthfully tight, exhibiting ripe red cherry, orange zest, star anise and earthy hints of truffle and game set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it well balanced. Drink 2025–2034. Enotec Imports, Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

93 La Ganghija 2019 Giacosa (Barbaresco). This savory red opens with earthy aromas of truffle, eucalyptus, rose, violet and forest berry. The taut, full-bodied palate delivers juicy strawberry, orange zest, licorice and salted game before a minty finish. Firm, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity provide the framework. Drink 2027–2034. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$58

93 Lano 2018 Rocche di Massalupo (Barbaresco). Aromas recalling white truffle, blue flower, leather and hazelnut appear in the glass on this fragrant red along with cherry extract. Palate is still youthfully taut, offering juicy Morello cherry, raspberry compote, crushed mint and star anise alongside firm, refined tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2026–2034. Transparent Wine Company. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Paitin 2019 Faset (Barbaresco). Grilled herb, blue flower, sandalwood and wild berry aromas emerge from the glass. Tightly wound and structured, the linear palate offers cranberry, licorice and cinnamon alongside a backbone of close-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Chambers & Chambers. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Paitin 2019 Serraboella Sori Paitin (Barbaresco). Intensely spicy aromas recalling sandalwood and star anise join scents of botanical herb, violet and new leather on this fragrant red. The focused palate is still youthfully austere and primary, offering tart pomegranate, orange zest and licorice set against racy acidity and tight, close-grained tannins. Drink 2029–2044. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Pertinace 2019 Barbaresco. For full review see page 12. Freixenet Mionetto USA.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Piero Busso 2018 San Stunet (Barbaresco). New leather, underbrush, camphor and tobacco leaf aromas come to the forefront. The full-bodied, polished palate offers juicy black raspberry, licorice, cherry marinated in spirits and cake spice alongside elegant tannins. Drink 2023–2030. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

93 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Asili Riserva (Barbaresco). Floral aromas of iris and pressed rose come to the forefront along with hay, eucalyptus and spice. Full-bodied and rather concentrated, the palate recalls cherry marinated in spirits, licorice and ground clove alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

93 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Ovello Riserva (Barbaresco). Menthol, star anise and blue flower aromas mingle with botanical herb. The full-bodied palate recalls cherry extract, lico-

rice, fruitcake and baking spice alongside densely woven, fine-grained tannins. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

93 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Rio Sordo Riserva (Barbaresco). The nose offers cedar, raspberry and balsamic notes suggesting camphor. On the chewy palate, tight, fine-grained tannins support ripe Morello cherry, licorice, mint and a hint of coffee bean. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

93 Prunotto 2019 Barbaresco. Fragrant and loaded with finesse, this has aromas of red berry, iris, leather and forest floor. The youthfully austere palate offers sour cherry, cranberry and licorice alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it vibrant and balanced. Best 2027–2034. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$44

92 Bera 2016 Basarin Riserva (Barbaresco). Forest floor, leather, scorched earth and grilled herb aromas shape the nose. Firmly structured, the palate offers licorice, dried cherry, prune soaked in spirits, oak-driven spice and mint alongside close-grained, drying tannins. Panebianco. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

92 Bosio 2019 Boschi dei Signori (Barbaresco). Scents of violet, star anise and a potpourri of dark spice mingle with new leather on this perfumed red. Savory and intense, the elegantly structured palate delivers juicy red cherry, raspberry compote and licorice alongside firm, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2026–2034. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$37

92 Bruno Rocca 2019 Barbaresco. This tightly knit red has aromas of licorice, violet, raspberry jam and oak-driven spice. The firmly structured palate is still young and shy, offering pomegranate, star anise and clove alongside taut, fine-grained, drying tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2027–2034. Soilair Selection. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$62

92 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2019 Barbaresco. For full review see page 13. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

92 Cascina Alberta 2018 Giacone (Barbaresco). Leather, truffle, black spice and menthol aromas lead the nose. The palate offers steeped prune, grilled Porcini, vanilla and licorice alongside fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity before a minty finish. 2023–2030. Cherio Holding & Trading. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

92 Castello di Verduno 2019 Barbaresco. Tight, tannic, young and primary, this has subtle

aromas of red berry, forest floor and leather. The firm, racy palate offers unripe cherry, white pepper and a hint crushed herb set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2025–2031. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

92 Ceretto 2019 Barbaresco. For full review see page 13. Trincherio Family Estates.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

92 Grasso Fratelli 2019 Vallegrande (Barbaresco). Sour cherry, violet and camphor aromas shape the nose along with a whiff of spice. Savory and structured, the full-bodied palate delivers juicy Morello cherry, licorice and almond liqueur set against taut, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2024–2034. Joseph Decaro. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Icardi 2019 Montubert (Barbaresco). Ripe cherry, violet, tobacco and thyme aromas follow through to the firm, racy, palate along with star anise, truffle and orange zest. A backbone of youthfully austere, tightly knit tannins and brisk acidity give it age-worthy support. 2029–2039. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

92 Lodali 2019 Lorens (Barbaresco). Forest floor, rose and tobacco aromas mingle with botanical herb. On the tightly wound, linear palate, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity accompany dried cherry, licorice and a hint of espresso before a drying close. Drink 2027–2034. Vino Veritas. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$78

92 Massolino 2019 Barbaresco. Forest berry, blue flower and botanical herb aromas lift out of the glass. Linear and vibrant, the palate has racy tension that lifts juicy strawberry, red cherry, blood orange and star anise alongside taut, tightly wound tannins. Give it a few more years to fully develop. Drink 2024–2029. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$54

92 Musso 2019 Pora (Barbaresco). Aromas of hay, botanical herb and sour cherry follow over to the full-bodied palate along with raspberry compote and star anise. Bright acidity and dusty tannins provide support. Panebianco. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

92 Nada Giuseppe 2019 Casot (Barbaresco). Aromas reminiscent of chamomile, hay and minestrone soup carry over to the palate along with raspberry jam, crushed mint, licorice and a candied note. Smooth tannins provide support. Vintage '59 Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Negro Giuseppe 2019 Gallina (Barbaresco). Aromas of red berry, menthol, star anise and French oak form the nose. The linear, precise palate has knife like precision and is youthfully aus-

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tere, offering licorice, coconut, coffee bean and red cherry set against firm, close-grained tannins and bright acidity before a mocha close. Franciacorta Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

92 Paitin 2016 Serraboella Vecchie Vigne Riserva (Barbaresco). Hazelnut, violet, oak-driven spice and underbrush aromas mingle with whiffs of menthol. The austere, firmly structured palate shows dried cherry, pomegranate and star anise alongside firm, close-grained tannins before closing on a sage note. This definitely needs several more years to fully develop. Drink 2028–2036. Chambers & Chambers. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$100

92 Pasquale Pelissero 2019 Cascina Crosa (Barbaresco). Aromas of ripe forest berry, toasted hazelnut, pipe tobacco and leather fill the glass. Linear and firmly structured, the austere palate delivers raspberry, coconut and oak-driven spice before a licorice close. Taut, close-grained tannins and bright acidity keep it balanced. Drink 2029–2039. Massanois Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$35

92 Pertinace 2019 Marcarini (Barbaresco). For full review see page 15. Freixenet Mionetto USA.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$70

92 Piazza 2019 Ange' (Barbaresco). Blue flower, botanical herb and wild berry aromas come to the forefront. Full-bodied and focused, the elegant, structured palate offers succulent Morello cherry, raspberry, star anise and cinnamon. Fresh acidity and firm, refined tannins provide support and balance. Drink 2026–2031. Angelini Wine. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$35

92 Piero Busso 2018 Albesani Vigna Borgese (Barbaresco). Inviting aromas of sandalwood, blue flower, resin and mocha come to the forefront. The aromas follow through to the savory, rounded palate along with dried cherry, anisette and ground clove. It's polished and accessible, with fine-grained tannins. It closes on the warmth of alcohol. Drink through 2028. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.

abv: 15%

Price: \$NA

92 Pierpaolo Grasso 2019 La Fenice (Barbaresco). Aromas of underbrush mingle with dog rose, wild berry, sandalwood and botanical herb. Elegantly and savory, the smooth palate offers juicy wild cherry, star anise, cake spice and a hint of mocha alongside lithe, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it bright. Drink through 2029. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$NA

92 Produttori del Barbaresco 2017 Pora Riserva (Barbaresco). Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with cedar, underbrush and dark spice. The austere palate shows dried cherry, prune soaked in spirits, licorice and clove alongside taut, close-

grained tannins that leave a somewhat drying finish. Drink through 2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$85

92 Ressa 2019 Canova (Barbaresco). Aromas of truffle, leather, exotic spice and woodland berry come to the forefront on this young, vibrant red. The palate is still young and primary, presenting sour cherry, licorice and white pepper punctuated by earthy notes recalling game and black olive. Firm tannins provide support. Tradizione Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$45

92 Rizzi 2019 Barbaresco. Red berry, blue flower and ground nutmeg aromas come to the forefront. Linear and already accessible, the palate offers sour cherry, spiced cranberry and star anise accompanied by fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity. Drink through 2029. The Sorting Table. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$50

92 Ugo Lequio 2018 Gallina (Barbaresco). This has aromas of pine forest, underbrush, crushed berry and a whiff of molten chocolate. The brawny palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, orange zest, licorice and ground clove alongside close-grained tannins that leave a rather drying tannins. Blue House Wines. —K.O.

abv: 15%

Price: \$61

91 Bruno Rocca 2018 Rabajà (Barbaresco). Camphor, ripe berry, oak-driven spice and leather and aromas pave the way. The full-bodied palate offers cherry extract, coffee bean and candy coated licorice alongside taut tannins. Drink through 2028. Soilair Selection. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$115

91 Cantina del Pino 2019 Barbaresco. Rose, botanical herb, underbrush and leather aromas mingle with whiffs of woodland berry. The linear, austere palate offers sour cherry, blood orange and licorice alongside bright acidity fine-grained, rather drying tannins. It closes on an almost salty note. Vinity Wine Company. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$40

91 Cascina Morassino 2019 Ovello (Barbaresco). This has an earthy nose recalling orest floor, violet, hazelnut and new leather. Extremely tight quite closed at this stage, it doesn't give much away, suggesting pomegranate, sour cherry and star anise alongside firm tannins and racy acidity set against a tannic backbone. It closes on a hazelnut note. It needs time to fully unwind. Drink after 2029. AP Wine Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$70

91 Ceretto 2019 Gallina (Barbaresco). Iris, rose, new leather, toasted nut and eucalyptus oil are just some of the aromas you'll find on this firmly structured red. Linear and on the lean side, the firm palate offers sour cherry, anisette, cherry marinated in spirits and star anise alongside a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it

balanced. It's still youthfully and austere and needs time to unwind. Drink 2027–2039. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

91 Col dei Venti 2018 Tufoblu (Barbaresco). Aromas recalling eucalyptus, blue flower, woodland berry and peppercorn mingle with a whiff of forest floor. The solid palate is straight-forward, showing dried cherry, orange zest and star anise alongside dusty, drying tannins. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$36

91 Giacosa Fratelli 2019 Basarin Vigna Gianmatè (Barbaresco). Aromas of camphor, pipe tobacco and red woodland berry take shape in the glass along with notes of forest floor. Showing knife-like precision, the linear palate is loaded with energy, featuring sour cherry, pomegranate, star anise and briny notes set against firm acidity and tightly wound, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2027–2037. Montcalm Wine Importers. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$45

91 Manera 2019 Rizzi (Barbaresco). Very tight and austere, this opens with aromas recalling spearmint, forest floor and iris. The structured palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, blackberry and dark culinary spice alongside fresh acidity. Firm, close-grained tannins grip the close. Drink 2027–2034. Vintner's Stash. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$38

91 Marchesi di Barolo 2018 Serragrilli (Barbaresco). Ripe berry, leather and iris aromas mingle with a whiff of sun-warmed hay. The linear, elegant palate offers dried cherry, espresso and licorice alongside tight, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$NA

91 Piazza 2019 Pajorè (Barbaresco). Blue flower, dark spice and leather form the nose along with berry aromas and a whiff of sawdust. Extremely tight, the linear, rather austere palate offers dried cherry, tart cranberry, spearmint and star anise alongside fresh acidity and grainy tannins that leave a drying close. Drink 2026–2034. Angelini Wine. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$47

91 Piercarlo Culasso 2018 Faset (Barbaresco). This opens with aromas red berry, oak-driven spice, violet and underbrush. Elegant and accessible, the palate offers juicy cherry, star anise, coconut and cake spice alongside polished tannins and fresh acidity. Drink through 2028. Origen Selections. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$NA

91 Rizzi 2017 Vigna Boito Riserva (Barbaresco). Rose, cedar and balsamic aromas of eucalyptus mingle with new leather. The firm, structured palate offers dried cherry, star anise and botanical

herb set against tightly wound, close-grained tannins that grip the close. The Sorting Table. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$100

91 Socré 2019 Barbaresco. This earthy red opens with aromas of blue flower, ripe berry, game and a whiff recalling olive brine. Reflecting the nose, the full-bodied palate offers raspberry compote, crushed black olive, truffle and cake spice. Drink 2026–2034. AP Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$32

90 Bruno Rocca 2018 Currà (Barbaresco). This opens with aromas of leather, licorice and French oak. Reflecting the nose, the firmly structured, full-bodied palate offers black cherry extract, licorice and espresso set against close-grained tannins that leave a drying finish. Soilair Selection. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$115

90 Ca' Moranda 2019 Ancerno (Barbaresco). Camphor, dark spice, new leather and crushed berry aromas come to the forefront. Tightly wound and youthfully austere, the palate shows sour cherry, orange rind, menthol and star anise. Firm, close-grained tannins and bright acidity provide the backbone. Drink 2029–2039. Cantiniere Imports & Distributing, Inc.. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$30

90 Cantina del Bricchetto 2018 Gallina (Barbaresco). Aromas of blue flower, resin, sandalwood and ripe berry form the nose. On the accessible palate, dusty, drying tannins accompany vanilla, raspberry jam, licorice and a hint of cured meat. Drink through 2028. Classic Wine Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$48

90 Cascina Alberta 2019 Giacone (Barbaresco). Aromas suggesting oyster shell, botanical herb and camphor lead the nose. On the racy palate, tight, close-grained tannins and bright acidity accompany sour cherry, orange zest and nutmeg before finishing on notes recalling bitter almond and saline, almost briny. Cherio Holding & Trading. —K.O.
abv: NA Price: \$40

90 Cascina Morassino 2019 Morassino (Barbaresco). Still tightly closed and primary, this has aromas of forest floor, leather and rose. On the tight, racy palate, vigorous acidity accompanies sour cherry, cranberry and star anise alongside taut tannins. Give it time to fully come together. Drink after 2029. AP Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50

90 Ceretto 2019 Asili (Barbaresco). Aromas of blue flower, woodland berry, forest floor and spice shape the nose. The taut, rather austere palate is less expressive, exhibiting dried cherry, hazelnut and vanilla alongside grainy tannins that leave a firm, drying finish. Give it several years to

unwind then drink sooner rather than later. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$NA

90 Ceretto 2019 Bernadot (Barbaresco). Oak, underbrush and coconut aromas lead the nose. On the firm palate, close-grained, rather drying tannins accompany dried cherry, toasted hazelnut and licorice alongside bright acidity. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$NA

90 Cigliuti 2018 Serraboella (Barbaresco). Underbrush, grilled Porcini, dried rose and eucalyptus oil aromas take shape in the lass. It's firmly structured, recalling candy coated licorice, cherry marinated in spirits, orange zest and roasted coffee bean while close-grained tannins grip the close. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 15% Price: \$NA

90 Francone 2019 I Patriarchi (Barbaresco). Rather closed, this has a shy nose that eventually reveals suggestions of underbrush, leather and toasted hazelnut. The linear palate is firm and needs time to fully integrate and open up, showing sour cherry, orange zest and Porcini mushroom set against an acidic backbone. Tightly-knit, grainy tannins grip the close. Drink 2029–2039. Cherio Holding & Trading. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$38

90 Musso 2017 Pora Riserva (Barbaresco). Getting French oak on this. This opens with aromas of underbrush, mocha, hazelnut and French oak. It's full-bodied, showing flavors of molten chocolate, espresso and baking spice but it's rather lean on fruit richness. Firm, close-grained tannins provide gripping support. Give the tannins a few years to soften a bit then drink sooner rather than later to capture the remaining freshness. Panebianco. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50

90 Mustela 2017 Meruzzano L'Ultimo degli Onesti Riserva (Barbaresco). Subdued, earthy aromas suggesting blue flower, game and black olive follow over to palate along with dried cherry, orange zest and star anise. Firm, grainy tannins leave a rather drying tannins astringent finish. Davigna Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$90

90 Nada Giuseppe 2017 Casmar Riserva (Barbaresco). Eucalyptus leather underbrush and licorice aromas. Linear, firmly structured palate offers dried cherry orange zest coffee bean same licorice note as nose alongside grainy tannins, drying tannins. Vintage '59 Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$75

90 Pasquale Pelissero 2019 Bricco San Giuliano (Barbaresco). Rather closed, this has a shy nose that eventually shows aromas of French oak, camphor rose and berry. The firm, linear palate is youthfully austere, with sour cherry, blood orange, black tea and star anise. Tightly wound,

close-grained tannins clench the close. Massanois Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$40

90 Piercarlo Culasso 2019 Faset Duesoli (Barbaresco). Pretty aromas of red berry, violet, botanical herb and underbrush float out of the glass. On the palate, taut tannins accompany orange zest, pomegranate, candied licorice and crushed mint. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

90 Prinsi 2019 Gaia Principe (Barbaresco). Floral aromas of rose mingle with orange zest and oak-driven spice. Linear and precise, the tight, racy palate offers juicy sour cherry, ground clove and star anise framed in taut, close-grained tannins that clench the finish. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2029–2039. Fine Wine Importers. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$43

90 Produttori del Barbaresco 2018 Barbaresco. Violet and red berry aromas mingle with dark spice, leather and camphor. The full-bodied palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, orange rind, black tea and a hint of menthol alongside solid tannins. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 15% Price: \$45

90 Rivetti Massimo 2019 Froi (Barbaresco). For full review see page 25. Private Reserve Fine Wines.
abv: 14% Price: \$55

90 Taverna 2019 Cottà Senteundes (Barbaresco). This opens with earthy aromas of rose, new leather, grilled Porcini and forest berry. The full-bodied palate offers cherry soaked in spirits, toasted nut, game and a hint of black olive set against a backbone of bright acidity. It's youthfully austere, with tight, grainy tannins that grip the close. Zeman Global Selections. —K.O.
abv: 15% Price: \$59

90 Tenute Cisa Asinari dei Marchesi di Gresy 2019 Martinenga (Barbaresco). This opens with aromas of French oak, toasted nut and eucalyptus. The lean, linear palate reflects the nose, featuring coconut, oak driven spice and roasted coffee bean alongside close-grained, drying tannins that clench the finish. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$70

90 Tenute Cisa Asinari dei Marchesi di Gresy 2018 Martinenga Gajun (Barbaresco). Aromas of underbrush and eucalyptus mingle with whiffs of toasted hazelnut oak-driven spice. The medium-bodied palate offers tart cherry, cake spice and espresso alongside astringent, drying tannins. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$95

90 Vite Colte 2019 La Casa in Collina (Barbaresco). For full review see page 26. Opera Wine Imports.
abv: 14% Price: \$35

89 Cascina Rabaglio 2019 Barbaresco. Earthy, almost funky aromas of truffle, new leather and black olive follow through to the palate along with ripe berry and salted game. Firm, rather grainy tannins and bright acidity provide support before a licorice close. Give it time to fully integrate. Drink after 2029. Liliium Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Demarie 2018 Barbaresco. This offers ripe dark skinned fruit, mocha and truffle aromas. Juicy and accessible, the no-frills palate shows Morello cherry, baking spice and crushed mint set against fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity. It closes on a note of green walnut. Uva Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Marchesi di Barolo 2018 Tradizione (Barbaresco). Aromas recalling minestrone soup, dried herb, hay and spearmint take shape in the glass. The medium-bodied palate shows prune, licorice and chamomile alongside drying tannins. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

89 Pertinace 2019 Nervo (Barbaresco). Aromas suggesting weedy underbrush, oyster shell and camphor lead the nose. The tight palate shows dried cherry, licorice and spice alongside tight, grainy tannins that grip the close. Freixenet Mionetto USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

89 Pietro Rinaldi 2018 San Cristoforo (Barbaresco). Blue flower, resin and a hint of nail polish form the nose along with a whiff of spiced plum. The aromas carry over to the palate along with licorice and hazelnut while tightly wound, chalky tannins provide support. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

89 Punset 2016 Basarin Riserva (Barbaresco). Forest floor, truffle, blue flower and hint of cellar floor form the nose. The palate shows prune, star anise and crushed mint before closing on a note of black olive alongside dusty, drying tannins. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

89 Rivetti Massimo 2019 Barbaresco. Aromas of red berry, cellar floor and star anise form the nose. The austere, lean palate recalls unripe sour cherry, tart cranberry, black tea and licorice. Firm, close-grained tannins grip finish alongside brisk acidity. Private Reserve Fine Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

89 Rivetti Massimo 2019 Terre di Carlin (Barbaresco). Aromas of coconut, butterscotch, oak-driven spice and candied berry lead the nose along with leather and forest floor. The austere palate is lean in terms of fruit richness, offering oak-driven spice, orange zest and unripe cherry. Drying

tannins and vibrant acidity provide the setting. Private Reserve Fine Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

89 Rivetto 2018 Marcarini (Barbaresco). Camphor, underbrush, wild rose and mocha aromas take shape in the glass. The full-bodied, rather extracted palate recalls dried cherry, powdered sage and green walnut set against dusty, drying tannins. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$34

88 Bersano 2018 Mantico (Barbaresco). Iris, camphor, forest floor and star anise aromas slowly take shape in the glass. Palate shows prune, licorice, powdered sage and candied notes but not much fruit. Astringent tannins grip the close. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

88 Francone 2017 Riserva (Barbaresco). Camphor, rose and forest floor aromas mingle with red berry. The full-bodied, solid palate presents black cherry jam and licorice alongside close-grained tannins. Cherio Holding & Trading. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

88 Luigi Giordano 2019 Cavanna (Barbaresco). Earthy aromas of truffle and leather come to the forefront along with spice and blue flower. The palate has a rustic charm, offering game, berry and mint alongside dusty tannins and lively acidity. Two bottles, same score. The Piedmont Guy. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

88 San Biagio 2018 Montersino (Barbaresco). Aromas of oak, toasted nut and pine forest form the nose. The brawny palate exhibits coconut, candy coated licorice, espresso and powdered sage but it's shy on fruit richness. Astringent tannins clench the close. Votto Vines Importing. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

88 Tenute Cisa Asinari dei Marchesi di Gresy 2017 Martinenga Camp Gros Riserva (Barbaresco). Scorched earth, French oak and toasted hazelnut come to the forefront along with underbrush aromas. The firm palate is lean in terms of fruit richness, offering suggestions of dried cherry, roasted coffee bean and grilled sage alongside astringent tannins that clench the finish. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$130

87 Ada Nada 2017 Rombone Cichin Riserva (Barbaresco). Aromas of grilled Porcini, coconut, oak and butterscotch carry over to firm palate along with coffee bean and green sage. It lacks fruit richness while grainy, drying tannins grip the close. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

87 Cantina del Bricchetto 2017 Albesani (Barbaresco). This has aromas of toasted hazelnut, underbrush and scorched earth. The palate shows both sweet and bitter sensations, offering candied licorice, raspberry jam, blood orange and

bitter black olive alongside extremely drying tannins. Classic Wine Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

87 Cascina Saria 2019 Colle del Gelso (Barbaresco). Oak, toasted nut and forest floor aromas carry over to the robust, one-dimensional palate along with cherry marinated in spirits and candy-coated licorice. Close-grained, drying tannins grip the close. Aventine Hill LLC. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$55

87 Cecilia Monte 2018 Serracapelli (Barbaresco). Crushed thyme, camphor and rose aromas shape the nose. The firm, brawny palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, roasted coffee bean and star anise framed in grainy tannins that leave a drying, astringent close. Yountville Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

87 Icardi 2019 Staderi (Barbaresco). Aromas of eucalyptus, rose and forest floor come to the forefront. On the austere, linear palate, notes of black tea and white pepper accompany unripe sour cherry, tart cranberry and orange rind alongside grainy tannins that dry out the finish. It's lean, with brisk acidity. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90

87 Punset 2016 Campo Quadro (Barbaresco). This red is on the funky side, offering aromas of truffle, prune, crushed black olive, violet and a whiff of barnyard. The lean palate is shy on fruit richness, offering star anise, dried cherry and game before a rather bitter finish. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$48

87 Roberto Sarotto 2017 Riserva (Barbaresco). Aromas of underbrush, hazelnut and oak meld with ripe berry. The tight palate shows roasted coffee bean, mocha, vanilla and a suggestion of prune set against dusty, drying tannins. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

87 Taverna 2019 Duicru (Barbaresco). Aromas of weedy underbrush, eucalyptus, leather and whiffs of sardine come to the forefront. Lacking fruit richness, the austere palate isn't very expressive, suggesting unripe cherry alongside grainy tannins that leave a raspy finish. Zeman Global Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$49

87 Tenuta Carretta 2018 Garassino (Barbaresco). This has aromas of mocha, Porcini, prune and toasted notes. The tight palate is lean in fruit richness, offering the same Porcini sensation from the nose together with hazelnut and dried herb. Astringent tannins leave a mouthdrying close. Specialty Cellars. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

87 Vite Colte 2015 Spezie Riserva (Barbaresco). Aromas of camphor, grilled porcini and

prune carry over to the austere, rather lean palate along with dried tobacco leaf. Astringent tannins leave a drying finish. Opera Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: NA **Price:** \$70

86 Alessandro Rivetto 2018 Montersino (Barbaresco). This opens with aromas recalling grilled Porcini, prune and weedy underbrush. The aromas follow over to the palate along with black olive, game and whiff of barnyard. Conexport Italy. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

86 Pelissero 2018 Tulin (Barbaresco). Aromas of coconut, vanilla and raw oak dominate the nose. The astringent palate lacks fruit richness, showing oak-driven spice, green notes of powdered sage and hints of stewed prune steeped in spirits alongside raspy, clenching tannins. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$100

BAROLO

99 Cavallotto 2016 Vignolo Riserva (Barolo). Enticing aromas recalling new leather, pressed rose, eucalyptus and sandalwood come to the forefront on this gorgeous, compelling wine. Full-bodied, structured and loaded with finesse, the precise palate is young but already delicious, delivering juicy Marasca cherry, raspberry, licorice, truffle and white pepper alongside a backbone of taut, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it energized and will fuel decades of evolution. Drink 2026–2056. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$220

98 Brovia 2018 Brea Vigna Ca' Mia (Barolo). Fragrant and loaded with finesse, this beauty opens with heady scents of woodland berry, new leather, violet, spice and the barest whiff of truffle. The full-bodied, delicious palate features juicy Marasca cherry, crushed raspberry and baking spice before a long licorice close. Bright acidity and taut but ultra-refined tannins provide seamless support. Drink 2026–2038. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

98 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Monvigliero (Barolo). For full review see page 3. Bacchanal Wine Imports.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$110

97 Brovia 2018 Garblèt Sue' (Barolo). Aromas of camphor, rose and violet mingle with woodland berry and forest floor on this fragrant, gorgeous wine. Full-bodied and all about elegance, the savory palate features strawberry compote, juicy red cherry and licorice alongside taut, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it vibrant and well balanced. Drink 2023–2030. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

97 Brovia 2018 Villero (Barolo). Aromas of forest berry, new leather, dark spice and cam-

phor come to the forefront on this gorgeous red. Full-bodied and delicious, the elegantly structured palate doles out crushed raspberry, licorice, orange zest and mint while bright acidity lends youthful, nervous tension. Taut, refined tannins provide structure and impeccable balance. Drink 2026–2038. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

97 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Barolo. Heady aromas of blue flower, perfumed berry, balsamic herb and sandalwood are just some of the aromas that lift out of the glass on this fragrant, stunning red. All about tension and extreme elegance, the delicious palate presents juicy red cherry, raspberry compote, licorice and almost salty mineral notes that impart depth and added flavor. Refined tannins provide the perfect framework while bright acidity imparts incredible energy. Drink 2024–2033. Bacchanal Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

97 Elvio Cogno 2018 Ravera (Barolo). For full review see page 3. Wilson Daniels Ltd. **Cellar Selection.**
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$116

97 Ettore Germano 2017 Vignarionda (Barolo). From one of the most hallowed sites in the denomination, this gorgeous red starts out with heady aromas of crushed berry, camphor, iris and dark spice. Combining the vineyard's celebrated combination of finesse and structure, the delicious palate serves up raspberry compote, ripe Morello cherry and star anise framed in firm, refined tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it impeccably balanced. Drink 2025–2042. Sussex Wine Merchants. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$165

97 Francesco Rinaldi 2016 Cannubi Riserva (Barolo). This drop-dead gorgeous wine opens with enticing aromas of rose petal, small red berry, new leather and pipe tobacco. Delicious and smooth, the elegant palate delivers juicy red cherry, spiced cranberry, licorice and cake spice alongside taut, polished tannins. It's well balanced and vibrant, with bright acidity. Drink 2024–2036. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$165

97 Massolino 2016 Vigna Rionda Riserva (Barolo). Rose, ripe black-skinned berry and dark spice aromas mingle with camphor and forest floor on this full-bodied red. Combining structure and finesse, the firm palate delivers ripe Morello cherry, black raspberry and licorice. Bright acidity keeps it energized. Give it time to fully develop. Drink 2026–2046. Vineyard Brands. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$416

97 Ratti 2018 Conca (Barolo). For full review see page 3. LUX Wines. **Cellar Selection.**
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$120

96 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Acclivi (Barolo). Rose, new leather, tilled earth and red forest berry aromas emerge from the glass on this fragrant, lovely red. Elegantly structured, the focused, savory palate features cinnamon, star anise and crushed mint that accent a core of juicy red cherry and crushed strawberry. Taut, refined tannins and bright acidity provide great balance and tension. It's already drinking beautifully and will evolve for years. Drink 2023–2033. Bacchanal Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$95

96 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Castelletto (Barolo). A new entry for the estate, this cru-designated Barolo has lovely aromas of violet, camphor, red-skinned berry and forest floor. The tightly-wound palate is focused and savory, offering strawberry compote, crushed raspberry, licorice and baking spice framed in taut, fine-grained tannins. Vibrant acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2026–2038. Bacchanal Wine Imports. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

96 Figli Luigi Oddero 2018 Rocche Rivera (Barolo). Forest floor, eucalyptus, woodland berry and new leather are just some of the aromas you'll find on this stunning, full-bodied red. Delicious and elegantly structured, the focused, vibrant palate delivers mature red berry, licorice and dried mint alongside firm, fine-grained tannins. It's well balanced, with bright acidity and shows great aging potential. Drink 2026–2038. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

96 Figli Luigi Oddero 2018 Vignarionda (Barolo). Enticing aromas of forest berry, fragrant blue flower, camphor and dark culinary spice slowly take shape in the glass. Smooth, full-bodied and captivating, the delicious palate offers raspberry compote, ripe Morello cherry, licorice and cake spice framed in polished, velvety tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it beautifully balanced. Drink 2026–2036. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

96 Fratelli Alessandria 2018 del Comune di Verduno (Barolo). Rose, woodland berry, pine forest and culinary spice are just some of the aromas you'll find on this fragrant, fantastic red. Smooth, full-bodied and polished, the savory palate delivers ripe red cherry, crushed raspberry, star anise and white pepper alongside velvety tannins. Fresh acidity keeps bright. Drink 2026–2033. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$62

96 Massolino 2018 Barolo. For full review see page 5. Vineyard Brands. **Editors' Choice.**
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$56

96 Michele Chiarlo 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). Underbrush, ripe dark-skinned berry, baking spice and floral notes of rose are just some of the aromas you'll find on this fragrant, enticing wine.

BUYINGGUIDE

Showing an earthy elegance, the palate shows a great depth of flavors including truffle, juicy raspberry, cake spice and licorice. It's balanced, with tightly knit, velvety tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Kobrand. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$127

96 Michele Chiarlo 2018 Cerequio (Barolo). Forest berries, underbrush, rose and menthol aromas lead the nose along with a potpourri of varied spices. Hailing from La Morra in one of the denomination's top sites, the palate is a stunning combination of structure and finesse, delivering small red berries, baking spices and the vineyard's iconic minty accents framed in silky tannins. Licorice notes lingers on the finish. Drink 2025–2035. Kobrand. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$127

96 Ratti 2018 Marcanasco (Barolo). For full review see page 5. LUX Wines. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

96 Ratti 2018 Rocche dell'Annunziata (Barolo). For full review see page 5. LUX Wines. *Cellar Selection.*

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$140

95 Attilio Ghisolfi 2018 Bricco Visette (Barolo). For full review see page 5. Quintessential Wines.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$74

95 Barale Fratelli 2018 Bussia (Barolo). Dried rose petal, eucalyptus, wild herb and red berry aromas come to the forefront on this fragrant, focused. Bright, full-bodied and linear, the savory palate shows wild strawberry, red cherry, star anise and the same wild herb note from the nose alongside fresh acidity and tightly wound but refined tannins. It's still youthfully austere and will need a few more years to unwind. Best 2026–2033. Williams Corner Wine. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

95 Barale Fratelli 2018 Castellero (Barolo). Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with earthy whiffs of new leather, rose, underbrush and wild berry. Made with organically farmed grapes, the delicious, linear palate features red cherry, spiced cranberry, ground clove and star anise framed in fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2024–2030. Williams Corner Wine. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

95 Brandini 2018 Cerretta (Barolo). Boasting an earthy elegance, this opens with aromas of new leather, underbrush, rose and forest berry. Savory and loaded with finesse and youthful energy, the focused palate delivers juicy wild strawberry, crunchy red cherry, star anise and truffle alongside tightly wound, fine-grained tannins. It's still young but balanced, with nervous acidity. Drink 2028–2038. Liber USA. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$130

95 Brezza 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). From the classic heart of Barolo's most famed vineyard, this lovely, fragrant wine boasts compelling aromas including camphor, pressed rose, new leather and woodland berry. Firm, elegantly structured and delicious, the focused palate delivers juicy red cherry, crushed raspberry, licorice and baking spice set against taut, refined tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it beautifully balanced and should keep it evolving for years. Drink 2026–2038. Young's Fine Wines. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

95 Brezza 2018 Castellero (Barolo). This racy red opens with aromas of red forest berry, new leather, violet and underbrush. Classically crafted and made with organically farmed grapes, the bright, savory palate delivers juicy red cherry, spiced cranberry, star anise and crushed mint alongside vibrant acidity and taut, refined tannins. Drink 2026–2038. Young's Fine Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

95 Brezza 2018 Sarmassa (Barolo). Varietal aromas of rose, camphor, new leather and ripe dark-skinned berry lead the nose. Firmly structured and still youthfully austere but already delicious, the palate delivers ripe Marasca cherry, cranberry, licorice and tobacco alongside a tannic backbone. Vibrant acidity keeps it balanced and loaded with energy. Drink 2028–2038. Young's Fine Wines. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$70

95 Brezza 2016 Sarmassa Riserva (Barolo). Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with new leather, pipe tobacco and forest floor. On the full-bodied, concentrated palate, firm, velvety tannins envelop ripe blackberry, cherry marinated in spirits and licorice. Drink 2026–2036. Young's Fine Wines. —K.O.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$95

95 Cavallotto 2018 Bricco Boschis (Barolo). Capturing the freshness and finesse of the vintage, this has classic varietal aromas of rose petal, forest berry, camphor and underbrush. Reflecting the nose, the vibrant, focused palate delivers ripe red cherry, crushed raspberry, wild mint and star anise set against taut, refined tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. While you won't have to wait years before enjoying this, it will also age at least another decade or more. Best 2024–2033. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$120

95 Famiglia Anselma 2016 Adasi Riserva (Barolo). For full review see page 6. Crus & Stills.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$94

95 Figli Luigi Oddero 2018 Specola (Barolo). Violet, forest berry, cedar and spice aromas come to the forefront on this perfumed red. Agile and delicious, the lithe, full-bodied palate brings home succulent red cherry, raspberry compote

and baking spice while taut, smooth tannins give it a silky texture. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Already accessible, it will also age well for several years or longer. Drink through 2030. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

95 Fontanafredda 2018 Vigna La Rosa (Barolo). Floral aromas of rose and iris mingle with bright red berry and mint on this fragrant, elegantly structured red. All about finesse, the vibrant palate features red cherry, pomegranate, star anise and cinnamon alongside smooth, silky tannins. Bright acidity provides balance and energy. It's already showing beautifully but will age well for years. Drink 2023–2033. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$130

95 Fratelli Alessandria 2018 Monvigliero (Barolo). Heady aromas of camphor, rose petal and red forest berry come to the forefront along with whiffs of pipe tobacco and new leather. Full-bodied but refined and well-balanced, the savory palate features ripe Marasca cherry, crushed raspberry, licorice and mint alongside velvety tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2026–2033. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$96

95 G D Vajra 2018 Bricco delle Viole (Barolo). Heady aromas of violet, camphor, leather and tobacco lead the way on this fragrant red. On the palate, tightly knit, fine-grained tannins accompany ripe Marasca cherry, crushed raspberry and licorice. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2025–2035. Winebow Imports. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90

95 Luigi Baudana 2018 Baudana (Barolo). New leather, forest floor and woodland berry aromas come to the forefront along with a whiff of blue flower. It's opens smooth and savory but its true structure shows up midpalate, delivering juicy Morello cherry, licorice and hazelnut framed against a backbone of fresh acidity and tightly-wound, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2026–2036. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90

95 Paolo Scavino 2018 Barolo. Heady aromas of wild berry, blue flower and graphite lift out of the glass on this fantastic red along with a hint of menthol. Full-bodied, smooth and delicious, the polished palate delivers juicy Morello cherry, raspberry compote and star anise before closing on a notes of white pepper and savory, almost salty mineral. Taut but seamlessly integrated tannins give it a smooth texture. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

95 Paolo Scavino 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). Wild herb, iris, red berry and oak-driven spice aromas come to the forefront. Full-bodied but with so much finesse it seems almost weightless, the taut, tense palate features ripe Morello cherry, raspberry compote, coconut and licorice before closing on a hint of espresso. Tightly knit, close-grained tannins

provide firm support while bright acidity keeps it vibrant. Drink 2028–2038. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$106

95 Paolo Scavino 2018 Carobric (Barolo). Smooth and enveloping, this opens with delicate scents of blue flower, pipe tobacco, camphor and new leather. It's full-bodied and savory, with flavors of raspberry jam, licorice and crushed mint set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins. While it's concentrated, it also has a weightless finesse. Drink 2023–2033. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

95 Paolo Scavino 2018 Monvigliero (Barolo). Aromas of fragrant purple flower, camphor, wild berry and oak-driven spice drive the nose. Full-bodied and concentrated but also endowed with an airy finesse, the firm, savory palate delivers ripe Morello cherry, crushed pomegranate, licorice and mocha. Tightly knit, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity provide structure and balance. Drink 2026–2038. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$80

95 Paolo Scavino 2018 Ravera (Barolo). Woodland berry, blue flower and wild mint aromas fill the glass on this fragrant red along with whiffs of dark spice. Focused and linear, the vibrant palate delivers juicy pomegranate, spiced cranberry, star anise and menthol alongside tightly wound, fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2026–2038. Skurnik Wines, Inc. **Cellar Selection.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

95 Rivetto 2018 del Comune di Sertralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Intensely fragrant, this stunner has enticing scents of crushed mint, rose a hint of pine forest and a potpourri of spice. Made with organically farmed grapes, it's linear, with knife-like precision that frames pomegranate, red cherry, licorice and tobacco. Tightly-knit, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity keep balanced. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$44

94 Anselma Giacomo 2014 VignaRionda Riserva (Barolo). Delicate scents of iris, new leather and underbrush mingle with ripe berry and camphor on this just-released Riserva. Elegant, with surprising concentration for the cool, wet vintage, the palate offers raspberry compote, cherries marinated in spirits, licorice and fruitcake alongside crushed velvet tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink through 2032. Weygandt-Metzler. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$155

94 Barale Fratelli 2018 del Comune di Barolo (Barolo). Floral aromas of rose and violet mingle with red berry, cake spice and forest floor on this fragrant, classic Nebbiolo. Bright and tangy, the elegant, savory palate delivers pomegranate, juicy red cherry, white pepper and a hint of truffle alongside taut, refined tannins. It's already acces-

sible but will offer good mid-term aging potential. Drink 2023–2028. Williams Corner Wine. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

94 Barale Fratelli 2018 Monrobiolo di Bussia (Barolo). Camphor, violet, stewed prune and oak-driven spice aromas shape the nose. Firmly structured and savory, it has an almost weightless concentration, delivering raspberry compote, ripe Morello cherry, baking spice and tobacco set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Williams Corner Wine. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$95

94 Borgogno 2018 Barolo. For full review see page 7. Ethica Wines.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$80

94 Borgogno 2017 Liste (Barolo). For full review see page 7. Ethica Wines.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$160

94 Brandini 2018 R56 (Barolo). Aromas of forest floor, sour cherry, camphor and a whiff of grilled Porcini come to the forefront. Linear and focused, the palate shows youthful tension, with bright acidity and firm, refined tannins that accompany pomegranate, orange rind, spirits-soaked cherry and licorice. Drink 2027–2033. Liber USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

94 Ceretto 2018 Bussia (Barolo). For full review see page 7. Trincherio Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$150

94 Elvio Cogno 2018 Cascina Nuova (Barolo). Floral aromas of rose and iris mingle with red berry and tilled earth on this perfumed red. Elegantly structured, the vibrant palate offers juicy red cherry, crushed raspberry and star anise before a savory, almost salty finish. Taut, refined tannins and bright acidity keep it balanced. Drink through 2030. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$74

94 Figli Luigi Oddero 2018 Barolo. Rose, red berry, tilled earth and mint aromas emerge from the glass. The linear, elegantly structured palate features sour cherry, pomegranate, star anise and the same hazelnut note from the nose. Polished tannins and fresh acidity provide support. Drink 2023–2030. Rosenthal Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

94 Fontanafredda 2016 Riserva (Barolo). Rose, forest floor, camphor and a potpourri of dark spice form the nose. The full-bodied, elegant palate features juicy Morello cherry, raspberry, cake spice, almond and a hint of tobacco. Fresh acidity and velvety tannins provide balance and finesse. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

94 G D Vajra 2018 Albe (Barolo). Lovely Nebbiolo aromas of rose, violet, red berry and botanical herb shape the fragrant nose. Smooth and

savory, the elegant palate features juicy red cherry, crushed raspberry and cake spice alongside polished tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. It's already drinking beautifully but also promises years of pleasure. Enjoy through 2030. Winebow Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

94 Luigi Vico 2018 Prapò (Barolo). Fragrant and refined, this has enticing scents of red woodland berry, pipe tobacco and blue flower. The palate is linear and elegantly structured, featuring Marasca cherry, raspberry, licorice and a smoky note set against fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity. Drink 2024–2032. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

94 Mauro Veglio 2018 Paiagallo (Barolo). Floral aromas recalling red rose mingle with menthol, woodland berry and dark spice. Firm and elegantly structured, the bright, savory palate delivers ripe Morello cherry, orange zest and licorice alongside tightly wound, fine-grained tannins. It's young and nervous, with vibrant acidity. Drink 2026–2038. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90

94 Michele Chiarlo 2018 Tortoniano (Barolo). Inviting aromas recalling truffle, wild mint, woodland berry and spice escape the glass along with whiffs of rose. The aromas carry over to the savory, elegant palate together with crushed raspberry and star anise while taut, fine-grained tannins provide structure. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. It's already approachable but also shows great mid-term aging potential. Best 2024–2030. Kobrand. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

94 Oddero 2015 Vignarionda Riserva (Barolo). This opens with aromas of camphor, marzipan, prune and underbrush. It's full-bodied, with flavors recalling dried cherry, orange rind, licorice and green tea framed in tightly-knit, close-grained tannins that clench the finish. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

94 Paolo Scavino 2018 Bric del Fiasc (Barolo). Forest floor, camphor, pipe tobacco and crushed mint aromas come together in the glass along with a whiff of violet. Combining power and finesse, the full-bodied palate features cherry marinated in spirits, licorice and mocha. Velvety tannins provide support while fresh acidity keeps it bright. Drink 2026–2033. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$106

94 Paolo Scavino 2016 Rocche dell'Annunziata (Barolo). Aromas of French oak, camphor and dark-skinned berry form the nose. The full-bodied palate offers coconut, licorice, dried cherry and espresso before a long licorice finish. Taut, fine-grained tannins provide support. Drink 2028–2036. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$231

94 Principiano Ferdinando 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). For full review see page 8. Porto Vino Italiano. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$58

94 Sandrone 2018 Le Vigne (Barolo). Camphor, violet, red berry and oak-driven spice are front and center on this fragrant red. Elegantly structured and vibrant, the focused palate delivers juicy red cherry, crushed strawberry, star anise and a hint of mocha alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2026–2033. Vintus LLC. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Borgogno 2017 Cannubi (Barolo). For full review see page 9. Ethica Wines. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$215

93 Brandini 2018 Annunziata (Barolo). Balsamic aromas of camphor mingle with forest berry, rose petal and spice on this fragrant red. The linear palate is light on its feet, offering sour cherry, orange rind and star anise alongside taut, polished tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2023–2030. Brandini USA. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$130

93 Brezza 2018 Barolo. This opens with enticing varietal aromas of small red berry, rose, camphor and dark spice. Made with organically-farmed grapes, it's full-bodied and elegant, featuring ripe Marasca cherry, licorice and suggestions of almond liqueur framed in firm but polished tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it balanced. Drink 2025–2030. Young's Fine Wines. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Bruna Grimaldi 2018 Bricco Ambrogio (Barolo). Red berry, botanical herb and forest floor aromas appear in the glass along with a floral whiff of violet. Firmly structured and savory, the palate offers juicy Morello cherry, raspberry compote and star anise framed in fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps vibrant. Drink 2025–2030. Massanois Imports. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$80

93 Castello di Verduno 2019 Rabajà-Bas (Barolo). Aromas of leather, underbrush and blue flower emerge from the glass. Tight and tannic, the linear, focused palate offers raspberry compote, licorice, oak-driven spice and nutmeg set against firm, tightly wound tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced and vibrant. Drink 2027–2039. Polaner Selections. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$36

93 Castello di Verduno 2018 Barolo. This silky, fragrant red offers scents of woodland berry, crushed mint, violet and pine forest. It's linear and savory, featuring juicy red cherry, baking spice and licorice flavors framed in taut, smooth tannins and bright acidity. Drink through 2028. Polaner Selections. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Ceretto 2018 Prapò (Barolo). For full review see page 10. Trincherio Family Estates. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$140

93 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). This has a delicate nose that eventually reveals new leather, forest floor and dark spice. On the linear palate, notes of licorice and ground clove accent a core of wild cherry while tight tannins and bright acidity provide support. Drink 2026–2033. Bacchanal Wine Imports. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$104

93 Enrico Serafino 2016 Briccolina Riserva (Barolo). Enticing aromas of dark-skinned fruit, underbrush, violet and camphor form the nose. On the smooth, full-bodied palate, notes of licorice and orange zest accent ripe Marasca cherry and hints of hazelnut set against firm, refined tannins. Drink 2026–2031. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$270

93 Ettore Germano 2018 Cerretta (Barolo). Floral aromas of rose and iris mingle with bright red berry and mint on this fragrant, elegantly structured red. All about finesse, the vibrant palate features red cherry, pomegranate, star anise and cinnamon alongside smooth, silky tannins. Bright acidity provides balance and energy. It's already showing beautifully but will age well for years. Drink 2023–2033. Sussex Wine Merchants. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$75

93 Ettore Germano 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Aromas recalling red berry, toasted hazelnut, menthol and forest floor take shape in the glass. Full-bodied, polished and structured, the palate features cherry soaked in spirits, pomegranate, crushed mint and star anise alongside a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Drink 2024–2030. Sussex Wine Merchants. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Fontanafredda 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Aromas of eucalyptus join ripe red berry, rose, new leather and dark spice. Elegantly structured, the focused, taut palate exhibits crushed raspberry, star anise and menthol alongside firm, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity keeps it vibrant and balanced. Drink 2025–2033. Taub Family Selections. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Francesco Rinaldi 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). This has earthy aromas recalling black olive, new leather and ripe dark-skinned fruit that mingle with underbrush and violet. Savory and ripe, the full-bodied palate also has an earthy charm, offering game, truffle, raspberry compote, cherry steeped in spirits, licorice and mint framed in tightly knit, fine-grained tannins. Fresh acidity provides balance. Polaner Selections. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 G D Vajra 2018 Coste di Rose (Barolo). Linear and tightly wound, this opens with aromas

of crushed mint, spice and forest floor. Full-bodied and firmly structured, the palate is still rather austere, offering crushed raspberry, ripe cherry, clove and tobacco set against a backbone of fine-grained tannins. Drink after 2028. Winebow Imports. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$75

93 G D Vajra 2018 Ravera (Barolo). This focused, fragrant red offers aromas of woodland berry, new leather, wild herb and pipe tobacco. The linear palate exhibits dried cherry, mocha and toasted nut set against close-grained tannins that leave a drying finish. Drink 2023–2029. Winebow Imports. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$90

93 Giacomo Fenocchio 2018 Cannubi (Barolo). Aromas of underbrush, new leather and botanical herb mingle with a whiff of tobacco. Linear and vibrant, the full-bodied palate shows tart red cherry, red currant and star anise before finishing on a green walnut note. Tight, close-grained tannins and bright acidity keep provide support. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Gregorio Gitti 2018 Castello di Perno Castello (Barolo). Aromas of black-skinned berry, tilled soil and leather emerge from the glass. The elegantly structured palate offers ripe black cherry, tobacco and star anise alongside fine-grained tannins and firm acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Tanaro River Imports LLC. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$80

93 Luigi Baudana 2018 Cerretta (Barolo). Taut and linear, this opens with ripe berry, crushed mint, leather and forest floor aromas. The bright, elegantly structured palate shows juicy raspberry, star anise and orange zest aromas accompanied by fine-grained tannins and fresh acidity before finishing on a hint of rusty nail. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$90

93 Marcarini 2017 Brunate (Barolo). Licorice, new leather and crushed blue flower aromas form the nose. The licorice note segues over to the firm, elegantly structured palate along with dried cherry, raspberry compote, truffle and white pepper. Polished tannins provide support. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$NA

93 Paolo Scavino 2018 Bricco Ambrogio (Barolo). Aromas of camphor, purple flower, ripe dark-skinned berry and spice come to the forefront. Full-bodied and enveloping, the palate offers ripe raspberry, truffle, cherry marinated in spirits and licorice alongside velvety, fine-grained tannins before closing on the heat of evident alcohol. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O. **abv:** 15% **Price:** \$NA

93 Principiano Ferdinando 2018 Ravera di Monforte (Barolo). Soulful and savory, this opens with aromas suggesting crushed black olive,

truffle, new leather and ripe dark-skinned fruit. The juicy palate doles out raspberry compote, orange zest, salted game and licorice alongside velvety tannins and bright acidity. It's funky but in a good way. Drink 2023–2033. Porto Vino Italiano. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$90

93 Sandrone 2018 Aleste (Barolo). Fragrant purple flower, woodland berry and menthol aromas form the nose along with whiffs of spice. The elegant, medium-bodied palate offers juicy pomegranate, red currant and oak-driven spice set against an acidic backbone. Taut, fine-grained tannins leave a drying close. Drink 2025–2033. Vintus LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Borgogno 2017 Fossati (Barolo). Aromas of red berry and violet waft out of the glass along with dark culinary spice. Full-bodied but surprisingly lithe, the palate shows spiced cranberry, sour cherry, star anise and blood orange framed in taut, fine-grained tannins before a steely mineral finish. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$135

92 Brandini 2018 del Comune di La Morra (Barolo). This fragrant, lovely red has aromas of rose, iris, small red berry and wild mint. Savory and medium-bodied, the elegant palate reveals juicy strawberry, sour cherry and star anise before a saline close. Taut tannins and bright acidity keep it balanced. It's rather light on its feet but will offer several years or more of sheer pleasure. Best 2023–2028. Liber USA. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

92 Brandini 2018 Meriame (Barolo). Aromas recalling oak, toasted hazelnut and underbrush form the nose along with a whiff of violet. The already accessible but elegant palate offers pomegranate, sour cherry and the same hazelnut note as the nose alongside fine-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Brandini USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$160

92 Broccardo 2018 Ravera (Barolo). For full review see page 13. Indie Wineries.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

92 Ceretto 2018 Bricco Rocche (Barolo). For full review see page 14. Trincheri Family Estates.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$270

92 Curto Marco 2018 La Foia (Barolo). Ripe black-skinned fruit aromas mingle with new leather, game and underbrush. The full-bodied palate has an earthy elegance, offering the same gamy note from the nose along with fleshy black cherry, truffle and black olive. August Wine Group. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

92 Famiglia Anselma 2017 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Floral aromas of iris mingle with red berry on this full-bodied red. The spicy, savory palate features juicy Morello cherry,

orange rind and star anise before a white pepper finish. Lithe, polished tannins provide seamless support. Drink soon to capture the fruit richness and freshness. Crus & Stills. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$49

92 Fontanafredda 2018 Proprietà in Fontanafredda (Barolo). Camphor, nutmeg and pipe tobacco aromas come to the forefront along with a floral note suggesting pressed rose. Elegantly structured, the linear palate recalls juicy pomegranate, strawberry and star anise alongside taut, chalky tannins that leave a rather drying finish. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$105

92 Giulia Negri 2018 Serradenari (Barolo). Small red berry, camphor and oak-driven spice mingle with a whiff of rose on this vibrant red. On the linear palate, brisk acidity and fine-grained tannins accompany pomegranate, sour cherry and baking spice before a tight, somewhat drying finish. Give it a few years to fully integrate. Drink 2026–2033. Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Gregorio Gitti 2018 Castello di Perno (Barolo). This opens with aromas of violet, underbrush and culinary spice. On the juicy, balanced palate, firm tannins accompany dried black cherry, clove and white pepper. Drink 2023–2030. Tanaro River Imports LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

92 Luigi Baudana 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). This opens with lovely scents of iris, woodland berry, tilled earth and a whiff of eucalyptus. Smooth as silk and already providing lots of pleasure, the polished palate features ripe red cherry, star anise and crushed mint alongside fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. It closes on a hint of cocoa. Drink through 2028. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

92 Luigi Vico 2018 del Comune di Serralunga (Barolo). Smooth and savory, this has aromas of red berry, star anise and floral notes of violet. On the polished, already rather accessible palate, fine-grained tannins support crushed raspberry, licorice and spearmint alongside bright acidity. Drink 2023–2028. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

92 Marcarini 2018 del Comune di La Morra (Barolo). Aromas of eucalyptus oil and rose mingle with forest floor and red berry. It's linear and polished, showing cherry soaked in spirits, raspberry compote and licorice alongside taut, fine-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Marcarini 2018 La Serra (Barolo). Floral aromas of rose and violet waft out of the glass along with whiffs of dark spice and menthol. Linear and elegant, the taut, medium-bodied palate offers

red cherry, crushed raspberry and star anise alongside bright acidity. Tightly wound, fine-grained tannins leave a somewhat drying finish. Drink 2025–2030. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Marziano Abbona 2017 Ravera (Barolo). Rose petal, forest floor and culinary spice aromas shape the nose. The elegantly structured, savory palate offers dried black cherry, tobacco and cinnamon alongside fine-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2032. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

92 Mirafiore 2018 Paiagallo (Barolo). Violet, perfumed berry and baking spice aromas mingle cedar notes on this fragrant Barolo. Made with organically farmed grapes, the linear palate features juicy red cherry, orange zest and star anise alongside taut, chalky tannins that leave a firm, mouthdrying close. Bright acidity keeps it light on its feet. Trinity Beverage Group. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$130

91 Bersano 2015 Badarina Riserva (Barolo). Aromas of ripe black-skinned berry, camphor and leather emerge from the glass. The rich, savory palate offers dried black cherry, vanilla and licorice alongside velvety tannins. Drink through 2030. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$89

91 Broccardo 2018 Paiagallo (Barolo). Forest floor, black-skinned berry and eucalyptus aromas lead the nose. The savory, balanced palate offers black cherry, clove and tobacco alongside fine-grained tannins. Drink 2024–2033. Indie Wineries. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

91 Bruna Grimaldi 2018 Camilla (Barolo). Balsamic aromas of menthol mingle with dark spice, underbrush and blue flower. The full-bodied palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, licorice and a hint of coffee bean alongside taut, close-grained tannins that grip the close. Massanois Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

91 Ceretto 2018 Brunate (Barolo). Forest floor, toasted notes, coconut and a whiff of iris form the delicate nose. Lithe and rather light on its feet, the linear palate suggests red currant, dried herb and fennel seed alongside dusty, drying tannins and nervous acidity. Trincheri Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

91 Collina San Ponzio 2018 Fossati (Barolo). This opens with aromas of black-skinned berry, culinary spice and leather. The elegantly structured palate offers ripe black cherry, licorice and black pepper alongside youthfully austere but polished tannins and firm acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Well Crafted Wine & Beverage. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

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91 Fontanafredda 2018 Barolo. Violet, rose and woodland berry aromas mingle with a whiff of leather on this medium-bodied red. It's polished, savory and already at the start of its drinking window, with juicy red cherry, strawberry and baking spice flavors accompanied by lithe tannins and fresh acidity. Drink through 2028. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$46

91 Giulia Negri 2018 La Tartufai (Barolo). Aromas of toasted nut lead the nose along with underbrush and a whiff of eucalyptus. The linear palate offers sour cherry, vanilla, hazelnut and grilled Porcini alongside close-grained tannins. Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$85

91 Marziano Abbona 2017 Cerviano-Merli (Barolo). This opens with aromas of dark-skinned fruit, new leather and tilled soil. On the savory palate, polished tannins accompany ripe blackberry, licorice and ground clove alongside polished tannins. Drink 2023–2029. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$72

91 Marziano Abbona 2017 Pressenda (Barolo). Aromas of violet, scorched earth and cedar emerge from the glass. The rich, already accessible palate offers ripe black plum, tobacco and star anise alongside polished tannins. Drink 2023–2029. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$68

91 Mauro Veglio 2018 Barolo. Aromas of red berry, underbrush and oak-driven spice waft out of the glass. Elegant and already accessible, the savory palate features sour cherry, orange zest, star anise and mocha alongside chalky, drying tannins. Drink through 2028. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

91 Pio Cesare 2018 Pio (Barolo). Underbrush, hazelnut and new leather aromas come to the forefront along with a whiff of eucalyptus. Linear and already accessible, the palate offers toasted nut, dried cherry and licorice before a coffee close. Polished, refined tannins provide support. Drink through 2028. Maisons Marques & Domaines USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

91 Vite Colte 2018 Paesi Tuoi (Barolo). For full review see page 20. Opera Wine Imports.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

90 Ascheri 2018 Barolo. The shy nose offers whiffs of violet, damp underbrush, leather and camphor. The palate has an earthy, almost rustic charm, offering truffle, black olive, botanical herb and Morello cherry before finishing on notes recalling salted game. Tight, dusty tannins leave a drying finish. Martignetti Companies. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

90 Bersano 2018 Nirvasco (Barolo). Dark-skinned fruit, chopped herb and tobacco lead the nose. The full-bodied palate offers sour cherry, licorice and clove alongside firm tannins. Drink 2023–2030. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

90 Broccardo 2018 I Tre Pais (Barolo). This opens with aromas of red-skinned berry, cooking spice and toasted hazelnut. The taut palate offers raspberry, star anise and cinnamon alongside youthfully austere tannins. Drink 2024–2032. Indie Wineries. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

90 Broccardo 2018 San Giovanni (Barolo). Aromas of black-skinned berry, underbrush and leather emerge from the glass. The elegantly structured palate offers dried black cherry, licorice and white pepper alongside firm, polished tannins. Drink 2024–2033. VOS Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

90 Broccardo 2016 San Pietro Riserva (Barolo). Aromas of red-skinned fruit, leather and baking spice emerge from the glass. The linear palate offers red cherry jam, white pepper and star anise alongside polished tannins. Drink through 2031. Indie Wineries. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

90 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2018 Barolo. Aromas of dark-skinned fruit, cedar and underbrush lift out of the glass. The savory shows blackberry, clove and tobacco alongside firm, polished tannins. Drink 2023–2030. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Collina San Ponzio 2018 Barolo. Aromas of rose petal, chopped herb and tilled soil lead the nose. The savory palate offers crushed raspberry, star anise and tobacco alongside taut, refined tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2024–2033. Well Crafted Wine & Beverage. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$44

90 Kirkland 2018 Barolo. Aromas of red-skinned berry, scorched earth and culinary spice lead the nose. The solid palate offers red plum, cinnamon and star anise alongside firm tannins. Drink 2023–2030. Ethica Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

90 Luca Bosio 2018 Passato (Barolo). This opens with aromas of cedar, dark-skinned fruit and baking spice. The savory, already accessible palate offers ripe blackberry, clove and tobacco alongside dusty tannins. Drink 2023–2030. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$54

90 Marchesi di Barolo 2018 Tradizione (Barolo). This has a subtle nose that eventually reveals camphor, forest floor, violet and oak-driven spice. The polished, already accessible palate is rather light on its feet, offering strawberry compote,

sour cherry and star anise alongside bright acidity. Fine-grained tannins leave a rather drying finish. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

90 Marrone 2018 Bussia (Barolo). Earthy aromas of scorched earth, cedar and dark-skinned fruit lead the way. The firm palate offers blackberry jam, clove and licorice alongside dusty tannins. Drink through 2023–2030. The Sorting Table. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

90 Marrone 2018 Pichemej (Barolo). This opens with delicate aromas recalling violet, baking spice and tilled soil. The solid palate offers ripe black plum, tobacco and sage alongside close-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2030. The Sorting Table. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

90 Mauro Veglio 2018 Arborina (Barolo). Red cherry, oak-driven spice and botanical herb aromas form the nose. Linear and brisk, the palate shows red currant, pomegranate, coffee bean and a hint of licorice alongside firm acidity. Close-grained tannins leave a drying, grippy finish. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Varej 2018 Barolo. Aromas of underbrush, leather, game and red berry mingle together in the glass. The linear palate offers juicy red cherry, baking spice and a hint of black olive alongside lithe tannins. Drink through 2028. Taub Family Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

90 Vite Colte 2018 del Comune di Barolo Essenze (Barolo). Aromas of cedar, violet and mocha emerge from the glass. The firm palate offers ripe black plum, clove and toasted hazelnut alongside close-grained tannins. Drink 2024–2030. Opera Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

89 Antico Monastero 2018 Barolo. This opens with aromas of scorched earth, baking spice and tobacco. The forward palate offers cherry marinated in spirit, star anise and mocha alongside polished tannins. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

89 Broccardo 2018 Bricco San Pietro (Barolo). Aromas of red-skinned fruit, underbrush and leather lead the way. The linear palate shows sour cherry, white pepper and clove alongside taut tannins. Drink 2023–2030. Indie Wineries. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

89 Cantine Povero 2017 Priore (Barolo). Aromas of dark-skinned fruit, scorched earth and cooking spice form the nose. The no-frills palate offers Marasca cherry, star anise and ground pepper alongside solid tannins. Drink 2023–2029. Volio Vino. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

89 Ceretto 2018 Barolo. Aromas of French oak, coconut and culinary spice carry over to the linear palate along with unripe cherry and bright acidity. It's rather light on its feet, with dusty tannins that leave an astringent, drying finish. Drink 2023–2028. Trinchero Family Estates. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Luca Bosio 2018 Barolo. Aromas of camphor, dark-skinned fruit and tobacco waft out of the glass. The solid palate offers ripe blackberry, licorice and vanilla alongside chewy tannins. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

89 Natale Verga 2018 Barolo. Aromas of dark-skinned fruit, tilled soil and cooking spice emerge from the glass. The no-frills, solid palate recalls raspberry jam, tobacco and clove alongside chewy tannins. Drink 2023–2030. Jandell Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$31

89 Oddero 2018 Barolo. Forest berry, fragrant blue flower and culinary spice aromas come to the forefront along with hints of underbrush. The linear palate is more subdued than the nose, suggesting sour cherry, orange rind and fennel seed alongside chalky, drying tannins that leave an extremely astringent close. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

89 Vite Colte 2016 Essenze Riserva (Barolo). Aromas of dried rose, espresso and toasted oak lead the way. The tight palate offers baked plum, licorice and roasted coffee bean alongside assertive, rather astringent tannins. Drink 2024–2030. Opera Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$80

89 Voerzio Martini 2018 Cerequio (Barolo). Black-skinned berry, mocha and tobacco aromas form the nose. The full-bodied, forward palate offers dried black cherry, vanilla and espresso alongside polished tannins. Drink through 2030. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

89 Voerzio Martini 2018 La Serra (Barolo). This opens with aromas of dark-skinned fruit, underbrush and cedar while the medium-bodied palate offers blackberry jam, mocha and licorice. Close-grained tannins provide support. Drink 2024–2030. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

88 Bava 2018 Scarrone (Barolo). Aromas of rose petal, mocha and cedar emerge from the glass. The medium-bodied palate offers sour cherry, toasted hazelnut and espresso alongside dusty, drying tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Broad-bent Selections, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$90

88 Bosio 2018 Borgo Castagni (Barolo). Subtle aromas of cedar, scorched earth and tobacco

shape the nose. The tight, solid palate offers prune, mocha and clove alongside close-grained tannins that grip the finish. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Bosio 2018 Famiglia Bosio (Barolo). Scorched earth, mocha and ripe dark-skinned fruit come together on this. The medium-bodied palate offers prune, clove and star anise alongside close-grained tannins. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

88 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2018 del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba (Barolo). Subdued aromas of toasted oak, espresso and tobacco slowly form the subtle nose. The solid palate offers baked plum, roasted coffee bean and licorice alongside assertive tannins. Drink after 2024. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$33

88 Cantina del Nebbiolo 2018 Perno (Barolo). The shy nose eventually reveals French oak, mocha and scorched earth. The tight palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, espresso and coconut alongside close-grained tannins. Drink 2023–2028. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

88 Dogliotti 1870 2017 Barolo. Aromas of baked plum, scorched earth and cooking spice lead the way. The solid palate offers blackberry jam, licorice and vanilla alongside dusty tannins. Drink 2024–2029. R.S. Lipman Co. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

88 Icollirossi 2017 del Comune di Monforte d'Alba (Barolo). Subdued aromas suggesting scorched earth, cedar and mocha slowly appear in the glass. The straightforward, solid palate offers prune, espresso and clove alongside close-grained tannins. Drink after 2023. Jandell Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$36

88 Luca Bosio 2018 Truffle Hunter Leda (Barolo). Subdued aromas recalling cedar, espresso and scorched earth emerge from the glass. The tight palate suggests prune, roasted coffee bean and cocoa alongside assertive, rather astringent tannins. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$46

88 Marrone 2018 Barolo. Aromas of grilled herb, mocha and culinary spice lead the nose. The linear palate exhibits plum, vanilla and toasted hazelnut alongside assertive tannins. The Sorting Table. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

88 Voerzio Martini 2018 Monvigliero (Barolo). The shy nose eventually reveals aromas recalling scorched earth, toasted oak and mocha. The tight palate offers baked plum, roasted coffee bean and sage alongside assertive tannins. Drink after 2023. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

87 Bosio 2018 Boschi dei Signori (Barolo). Subdued aromas suggesting tilled soil, toasted oak and culinary spice slowly appear in the glass. The straightforward, solid palate offers cherry marinated in spirits, mocha and sage alongside assertive, rather astringent tannins. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

87 Luca Bosio 2018 Valentina Collection Nebbiolo (Barolo). This has aromas of espresso, coconut and baking spice. The dense palate offers prune, sage and roasted coffee bean alongside close-grained, astringent tannins that clench the finish. Quintessential Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$41

87 Vinchio Vaglio 2017 Barolo. This has subdued aromas of toasted oak, mocha and tilled soil. The densely concentrated palate offers prune, roasted coffee bean and sage alongside assertive, astringent tannins and the heat of evident alcohol. Direct Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$NA

87 Voerzio Martini 2018 Barolo. Aromas of baking spice, toasted oak and espresso slowly emerge from the glass. The tight palate offers prune, toasted hazelnut and roasted coffee bean alongside tightly wound, astringent tannins. HB Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

GRIGNOLINO D'ASTI

92 Braida di Giacomo Bologna 2021 Limonte (Grignolino d'Asti). Enticingly fragrant, this offers heady scents recalling wild rose, hay, red berry and a whiff of anise. The bright, savory palate features juicy strawberry, tart cherry and wild raspberry while white pepper and ground clove lend depth. Taut, refined tannins and fresh acidity keep it balanced and energized. Drink through 2026. Soilair Selection. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

89 Franco Roero 2021 Grignolino d'Asti. White pepper, red forest berry, botanical herb and dark spice aromas mingle together in the glass. Bright and savory, the lithe, straightforward palate offers juicy raspberry, wild strawberry and ground clove alongside taut tannins and vibrant acidity. Drink through 2024. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$18

89 Marchesi Incisa della Rocchetta 2020 Grignolino d'Asti. Delicate aromas recalling red berry, rose and whiffs of wild herb waft out of the glass. Bright and savory, the easygoing palate features juicy strawberry and white pepper alongside taut tannins and fresh acidity. Serendipity Wine Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

89 Zoppi Cristina 2020 Grignolino d'Asti. Aromas recalling flinty mineral, pressed rose, hay and crushed thyme shape the delicate nose.

Made with organically grown grapes, the light-bodied, understated palate recalls dried cherry, fennel seed and peppercorn before a pleasantly bitter close. Chalky tannins leave drying close. Drink soon. Porto Vino Italiano. —K.O.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Aresca 2021 Testa Balorda (Grignolino d'Asti). Rose petal, red berry and ground clove aromas lift out of the glass on this pretty red. The aromas segue over to the light-bodied, enjoyable palate along with strawberry, white pepper and taut tannins. Drink soon. Jack Edwards Collection. —K.O.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

87 Bersano 2021 Valdesanto (Grignolino d'Asti). Delicate scents of rose petal and white pepper carry over to the light-bodied palate along with sour cherry and dusty, drying tannins. It closes on a note of bitter almond. Drink soon. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$14

86 Ca' de Lion Ghione 2021 L'Equilibrata (Grignolino d'Asti). Light scents recalling rose and strawberry waft out of the glass. On the simple palate, chalky tannins accompany strawberry and a hint of peppercorn before a drying close. Drink soon. One Vine Wines. —K.O.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

LANGHE

93 Giuseppe Rinaldi 2020 Langhe. Loaded with personality, this delicious, fragrant red opens with aromas of camphor, leather, rose, strawberry and a whiff of game. The structured palate delivers juicy black cherry, crushed mint, black olive and ground clove framed in firm tannins. It's balanced and fresh, with bright acidity. Drink through 2030. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$90

91 Brezza 2021 Langhe. Aromas of strawberry, culinary spice and a whiff of eucalyptus waft out of the glass. Made with organically grown grapes, the savory palate is still quite young, featuring ripe black cherry, culinary spice and star anise alongside a tannic backbone. Fresh acidity keeps it energized. Drink through 2025. Coeur Wine Co. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Famiglia Anselma 2017 Langhe. Floral aromas of iris mingle with red berry on this full-bodied red. The spicy, savory palate features juicy Morello cherry, orange rind and star anise before a white pepper finish. Lithe, polished tannins provide seamless support. Drink soon to capture the fruit richness and freshness. Crus & Stills. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$29

RUCHÈ DI CASTAGNOLE MONFERRATO

93 Cantine Sant'Agata 2018 Na Genesi Riserva (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Violet, baking spice, resin and prune aromas slowly take shape in the glass along with a whiff of leather. The concentrated, delicious palate boasts an almost weightless elegance, doling out cherry marinated in spirits, fruitcake, nutmeg and cocoa alongside smooth, velvety tannins that give it a creamy mouth feel. Thanks to the dense, chewy fruit, you really don't detect the hefty alcohol content. Drink through 2028. Canon de Colorado. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

92 Bava 2021 Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato. Deeply colored and intensely fragrant, this medium-bodied red has aromas of dog rose, white pepper, wild berry and a whiff of geranium. The aromas carry over to the smooth, savory palate along with juicy Marasca cherry, star anise, fresh acidity and polished tannins. Drink through 2025. Broadbent Selections, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

92 Cantine Sant'Agata 2020 Na Vota (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Pressed rose aromas meet a potpourri of culinary spice and fresh hay on this medium-bodied red. Rounded and full-bodied, the delicious palate features baked plum, fleshy Marasca cherry, ground pepper and nutmeg set against velvety tannins. Drink through 2025. Canon de Colorado. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$23

91 Zoppi Cristina 2020 Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato. Pronounced aromas of red rose mingle with leather, tilled earth, spice and truffle. On the savory palate, fresh acidity and chalky tannins accompany blackberry, Morello cherry, peppercorn and an earthy hint of game. Drink through 2025. Porto Vino Italiano. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Cantine Sant'Agata 2018 Pro Nobis (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Deeply hued, this has subtle aromas recalling pressed rose petal, crushed mint and a potpourri of dark spice. Concentrated and enveloping, the dense, palate recalls peppercorn, star anise, menthol and prune marinated in spirits. Taut, velvety tannins provide support. Canon de Colorado. —K.O.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$29

89 Bersano 2021 San Pietro Realto (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Delicate but alluring scents recalling rose, violet and dark spice waft out of the glass. On the savory palate, supple tannins accompany fleshy black cherry, ground pepper and a hint of nutmeg. Drink through 2024. 8 Vini, Inc. —K.O.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Cantine Sant'Agata 2020 Il Cavaliere (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Classic aromas

of rose petal mingle with spice and whiffs of warm hay. The lithe palate offers red currant, ground pepper and clove alongside dusty tannins before closing on a hint of bitter almond. Canon de Colorado. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

88 Vinchio Vaglio 2020 Rebus (Ruchè di Castagnole Monferrato). Heady floral aromas of rose mingle with hay, spice and dark-skinned fruit. The palate is between medium and full-bodied, offering prune, dried cherry and ground pepper alongside seasoned tannins. Drink through 2024. Direct Wine Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

OTHER RED WINES

96 Villa Guelpa 2019 Boca. The newest red in the firm's already stellar line-up, this gorgeous red has enticing scents of rose, spice, hay and wild red berry. A blend of 70% Nebbiolo and 30% Vespolina grown in volcanic soils, it's smooth and absolutely delicious, doling out juicy red cherry, strawberry compote, white pepper and crushed mint before a saline mineral close. Elegant tannins and fresh acidity keep it beautifully balanced. Drink 2024–2044. T. Edward Wines Ltd. *Cellar Selection.* —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

94 La Badina 2018 Coste della Sesia. New leather, forest floor, dried rose petal and peppercorn aromas waft out of the glass. Elegant, structured and savory, the initially understated palate continues to expand in the glass, revealing with every sip more depth of flavor including raspberry, cherry, white pepper and menthol notes. Firm, refined tannins and bright acidity carry it through to the aniseed finish. Drink 2024–2030. Fass Selections. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

92 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2020 Verduno. Delicious and fragrant, this spicy red opens with inviting aromas of ground pepper, ripe dark-skinned berry and a whiff of rose. Lithe and smooth, the savory palate delivers juicy Morello cherry, pronounced white and pink pepper and a hint of orange zest. Supple tannins offer seamless support. Drink through 2024. Bacchanal Wine Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Fratelli Alessandria 2021 Speziato (Verduno). Speziato means spicy in Italian and true to its name, this lithe, delicious red has aromas and flavors of white and black pepper that add depth to a core of juicy Marasca cherry. Supple tannins and fresh acidity keep it well balanced. Drink through 2024. North Berkeley Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Cascina Gilli 2017 Superiore Arvele (Asti). Aromas of French oak, stewed prune and baking spice shape the subtle nose. On the full-

bodied, rather concentrated palate, fine-grained tannins support dried cherry, vanilla and mocha before a bitter almond close. It's savory now but drink sooner rather than later to capture the fruit and freshness. *Vino Veritas*. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

88 Il Chiosso 2021 Colline Novaresi. White pepper, wild rose and dark-skinned berry aromas emerge from the glass. The light-bodied, linear palate features the same white pepper note as the nose, ripe Morello cherry and a hint of star anise before dusty, drying tannins grip the close. *Vias Imports*. —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

88 Mirù 2021 N54 (Colline Novaresi). Aromas reminiscent of white and pink pepper mingle with rose and red berry. The pepper notes follow through to light-bodied, racy palate along with juicy black cherry, black berry and star anise. Dusty, drying tannins provide support. Drink 2023–2026. *RB Selezioni*. —K.O.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

88 Vinchio Vaglio 2020 Le Nocche (Piemonte). Varietal aromas of rose, pepper corn and red berry come to the forefront. Reflecting the nose, the savory, easygoing palate offers juicy strawberry, red cherry and ground clove. Lithe tannins provide seamless support. Drink soon. *Direct Wine Imports*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

LOMBARDY WHITE WINES

LUGANA

92 Cà dei Frati 2020 Brolettino (Lugana). This lovely, savory white opens with aromas of Alpine hay, white stone fruit, rosemary and hazelnut. Aged in large casks, the fresh, elegant palate delivers ripe apricot, grapefruit and a dollop of vanilla before a saline finish. *Santa Margherita USA*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

92 Marangona 2020 Cemento (Lugana). From one of the denominations top vignaioli and certified organic, this delicious white delivers ripe yellow apple, apricot, citrus and almond flavors. Tangy acidity and saline mineral notes keep it energized. *Oliver McCrum Wines*. *Editors' Choice*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$27

92 Marangona 2020 Tre Campane (Lugana). Heady aromas of spring blossom, green apple and hazelnut come to the forefront. Made with organically farmed grapes, the savory, linear palate features green melon, white peach and bitter almond alongside tangy acidity. *Oliver McCrum Wines*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

92 Tenuta Rovaglia 2019 Vigne di Catullo Riserva (Lugana). For full review see page 16. *John Given Wines*. *Editors' Choice*.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

91 Marangona 2021 Lugana. Heady aromas of spring blossom, green apple and hazelnut come to the forefront. Made with organically farmed grapes, the savory, linear palate features green melon, white peach and bitter almond alongside tangy acidity. *Oliver McCrum Wines*. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

91 Tenuta Rovaglia 2021 Limne (Lugana). For full review see page 20. *John Given Wines*. *Editors' Choice*.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

90 Pasini San Giovanni 2020 Lugana. Made with organically cultivated grapes, this has delicate aromas of white stone fruit, spring blossom and a whiff of hay. Polished and understated, the savory palate features creamy yellow pear, fennel seed and green melon before a bitter almond close. *Coeur Wine Co.* —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Perla del Garda 2019 Superiore Madonna della Scoperta (Lugana). Aromas of hay, Spanish broom and yellow stone fruit mingle with a whiffs of hazelnut and flint. The flinty note carries over to the elegant palate along with yellow grapefruit and white almond. *Bottega Sirvino*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$34

89 Cà dei Frati 2021 I Frati (Lugana). Aromas of dried botanical herb, white spring flower and a whiff of green melon. On the rounded palate, tangy acidity accompanies pineapple, candied lemon drop and ripe yellow peach. *Santa Margherita USA*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

89 Le Morette 2021 Mandorlara (Lugana). Aromas of tropical fruit and white spring blossom come to the forefront. On the juicy palate, tangy acidity accompanies yellow peach, ripe pineapple and bitter almond. *Uva Imports*. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Montonale 2019 Orestilla (Lugana). Aromas of spring blossom and yellow stone fruit lead the way along with a whiff of tropical fruit. The tangy palate offers pineapple packed in syrup, ripe yellow peach and candied lemon drop before closing on a suggestion of saline. *Vias Imports*. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Ottella 2021 Lugana. Floral aromas of peach blossom and botanical herb mingle with stone fruit. The rounded palate shows ripe yellow pear, apricot and beeswax before finishing on a note reminiscent of honeyed nut. Tangy acidity keeps it fresh. *Lyra Wine*. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$22

89 Perla del Garda 2021 Bio (Lugana). Made with organically farmed grapes, this has aromas of spring blossom, honeydew melon, white stone fruit and citrus. On the savory palate, fresh acidity accompanies ripe yellow pear, green melon and grapefruit. *Bottega Sirvino*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

89 Perla del Garda 2018 Madre Perla Riserva (Lugana). Made with organically farmed grapes, this has aromas of toasted nut, stone fruit and a yeasty whiff of bread dough. Reflecting the nose, the medium-bodied palate offers ripe apricot, brewer's yeast and bitter almond alongside tangy acidity. *Bottega Sirvino*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$34

89 Pilandro 2020 Tere Crea (Lugana). Aromas of lime, ripe pear and chamomile follow over to the savory palate along with yellow apple before a bitter almond close. Bright acidity keeps it fresh and balanced. *Omniwines Distribution*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

89 Zenato 2021 San Benedetto (Lugana). White spring blossom and Granny Smith apple aromas take center stage. The green apple aroma follows through to the crisp palate along with cantaloupe before a bitter almond close. *Winebow Imports*. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19

88 Allegrini 2021 Oasi Mantellina (Lugana). Subtle aromas of elderflower and citrus shape the nose on this bright white. The tangy palate shows juicy grapefruit, gooseberry and a hint of fennel seed alongside crisp acidity. *Maze Row Wine Merchant*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

88 Cà Maiol 2020 Molin (Lugana). This opens with aromas of chamomile and toasted hazelnut. The aromas carry over to the rounded palate along with ripe yellow apple, honey and a hint of beeswax. *Santa Margherita USA*. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Monte Cicogna 2020 Imperiale (Lugana). Aromas of yellow spring flower, ripe pear and hazelnut follow over to the rounded palate along with mature yellow apple. Tangy acidity keeps it fresh. *The Harvest Importing*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

88 Monte Cicogna 2020 S. Caterina (Lugana). This pretty white has a delicate nose reminiscent of white stone fruit and spring blossom. On the polished palate, tangy acidity lifts creamy yellow pear and white peach before closing on a hint of bitter almond. *The Harvest Importing*. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

88 Perla del Garda 2021 Perla (Lugana). This opens with aromas of elderflower, stone fruit and citrus. Reflecting the nose, the tangy pal-

BUYINGGUIDE

ate offers grapefruit, white peach and gooseberry alongside bright acidity. Bottega Sirvino. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Sansonina 2019 Fermentazione Spontanea (Lugana). Opening with delicate scents of white spring flower and a whiff of honey, this linear white has an understated elegance. Fermented with indigenous yeasts, the palate offers creamy pear, yellow apple and a hint of bitter almond alongside fresh acidity. Winebow Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

88 Santi 2020 Folar (Lugana). White orchard fruit, hay and hazelnut aromas come to the forefront on this polished white. The rounded, savory palate delivers creamy yellow pear, beeswax, saline and the same hazelnut note from the nose. Tangy acidity lifts the finish. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

87 Cà Maiol 2021 Prestige (Lugana). The shy nose doesn't give much away while the palate offers honeydew melon, green apple and a the barest hint of bitter almond. Fresh acidity keeps it bright. Santa Margherita USA. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

86 Albino Armani 2021 Lugana. This simple white has aromas of honeydew melon that carry over to the crisp, light-bodied palate along with citrusy notes. It closes on hint of bitter almond. Saranty Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$23

86 Tommasi 2021 Le Fornaci (Lugana). Aromas of tropical fruit form the nose. Reflecting the aromas, the no-frills, fruity palate offers cantaloupe and white grapefruit alongside tangy acidity. It's simple but well made. Vintus LLC. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

SPARKLING WINE

90 Perla del Garda 2019 Metodo Classico Brut Nature (Lugana). Dry and crisp, this linear sparkler has delicate scents recalling hay, chamomile and yellow stone fruit. On the racy palate, vibrant acidity and a refined perlage accompany dried apricot, yellow apple and grapefruit notes before a saline close. Bottega Sirvino. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$34

OTHER ITALY WHITE WINES

GRECO DI TUFO

90 Torricino 2020 Raone Riserva (Greco di Tufo). This mineral-driven white has aromas recalling struck match, crushed stone and a yeasty whiff of bread dough. Fermented in steel with indigenous yeasts and aged on its lees for six

months, the racy palate features ripe pear, juicy lemon and saline mineral notes framed in crisp acidity. It closes on a suggestion of brewer's yeast. Premium Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

89 Torricino 2021 Greco di Tufo. This racy white has aromas of lemon zest, lime and stone fruit. The crisp palate features the same lemon and lime notes as the nose alongside yellow peach and green melon before a zesty finish. Premium Brands. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

88 Petilia 2021 Greco di Tufo. Botanical herb, spring blossom and citrus aromas form the subtle nose. Taking up where the nose left off, the linear, medium-bodied palate features peach, lemon zest and bitter almond alongside bright acidity. Dark Star Imports. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

ORVIETO CLASSICO

92 Decugnano dei Barbi 2020 Mare Antico (Orvieto Classico). Delicate scents of spring blossom, ripe orchard fruit and a comforting whiff of freshly baked bread curl out of the glass. Round and medium-bodied, the polished, savory palate offers ripe yellow apple, white peach and wild herb before a bitter almond close. Cutting Edge Selections. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

92 Decugnano dei Barbi 2019 Mare Antico (Orvieto Classico). Aromas of wild herb, yellow stone fruit and citrus come to the forefront on this gorgeous white. Showing finesse and energy, the tangy, delicious palate features ripe apricot, grapefruit and fennel seed alongside notes of dried mint and bitter almond. Crisp acidity and mineral notes recalling oyster shell lend racy tension. A serious white that shows the great potential of this denomination. Cutting Edge Selections. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

90 Decugnano dei Barbi 2020 Frammento (Orvieto Classico). Spring flower and stone fruit aromas form the nose. Tangy and savory, the creamy palate offers ripe Bartlett pear, white peach and botanical herb alongside bright acidity before closing on a note of white almond. Cutting Edge Selections. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Palazzone 2021 Vignarco (Orvieto Classico). Delicate aromas of white stone fruit waft out of the glass on this dry, refreshing white. The tangy, light-bodied palate features ripe pear, apple and grapefruit alongside crisp acidity. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

OTHER WHITE WINES

92 Palazzone 2021 Grechetto (Umbria). Aromas of ripe yellow stone fruit and spring blossom fill the glass along with a whiff of honeydew melon. Savory and showing good body, the palate offers juicy peach, apricot and hazelnut alongside tangy mineral and fresh acidity. Skurnik Wines, Inc. *Editors' Choice.* —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Palazzone 2021 Terre Vineate (Orvieto Classico Superiore). White spring flower, hazelnut and honeydew melon aromas come together in the glass. On the savory palate, tangy acidity accompanies ripe pear, white peach and white almond. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

87 San Salvatore 1988 2021 Pian di Stio (Paestum). Aromas of banana carry over to the no-frills palate along with saline and bitter almond. Bright acidity keeps it tangy. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

SPARKLING WINES

90 San Salvatore 1988 2018 Brut Rosé Gioi Zero Metodo Classico Dosaggio Zero (Vino Spumante). This opens with aromas of red berry and bread crust. The aromas carry over to the lively palate along with sour cherry, orange rind and crisp acidity before a bitter walnut close. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$42

88 Rossovermiglio NV Spumante Brut Frenesia (Falanghina del Sannio). This fun, savory sparkler has yeasty aromas of bread dough that mingle with stone fruit and nut. On the bright palate, crisp acidity accompanies creamy white peach, apple and candied lemon drop. Terravino. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 San Salvatore 1988 2017 Brut Rosé Metodo Classico Gioi Extreme Sparkling Blend (Vino Spumante). Aromas of toasted bread crust, brewer's yeast and bitter walnut follow over to the palate along with orange rind and sour cherry. A vivacious perlage of rather sharp bubbles provides the backdrop. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$42

90 Stone Castle 2017 Gecaj Estate Owner's Choice Petit Verdot (Rahoveci Valley). Bright ruby color in the glass, this Petit Verdot from Kosovo has aromas of black cherry, charcuterie and tobacco. It is soft on entry and spreads flavors of black plums, black raspberry and cassis over the entire palate. The tannins are silky and the finish is persistent. U.S. Stone Castle Imports. —J.J.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

88 Stone Castle 2017 Gecaj Estate Owner's Choice Shiraz (Rahoveci Valley). Dark cherry red in color, this Shiraz from Kosovo has aromas of black raspberry and pomegranate. It is a bit feral on the nose but not in the mouth. It has flavors of sour cherry and bitter almond with pleasantly grippy tannins. U.S. Stone Castle Imports. —J.J.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

84 Ana Beirut 2020 Bianca White Blend (Bekaa Valley). This wine has aromas of lychee and passion fruit. Flavors of mango, passion fruit, pineapple, dried herbs and toasted nuts never really come together on the palate. J Tek LLC. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

90 Ana Beirut 2016 Mount Lebanon Cabernet Sauvignon (Bekaa Valley). This deep ruby colored wine has a bouquet of cherry, pomegranate, cinnamon and nutmeg. It is soft on the palate at first, with flavors of black cherry, Chambord, candy apple, caramel and rosemary. After a few seconds grippy tannins set in and hang on into a long finish that offers a floral note. J Tek LLC. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$17

91 Ana Beirut 2018 Grande Réserve Mount Lebanon (Bekaa Valley). For full review see page 16. J Tek LLC.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

POLAND

WHITE WINES

88 Adoria 2020 Chardonnay (Poland). This medium straw colored Polish Chardonnay has aromas of vanilla, butterscotch and lemon curd. In the mouth there are flavors of lemon zest, grapefruit pith and apple. It is a bit astringent on entry but has a creamy finish. Ace Distributing. —J.J.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

88 Adoria 2020 Dry Riesling (Poland). Light straw in the glass, this Polish Riesling has aromas of apple blossoms, jasmine and white peach that transfer seamlessly to flavors on the palate. It is well balanced with a pleasant acidic finish. Ace Distributing. —J.J.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

85 Adoria 2020 Semidry Riesling (Poland). This semidry Riesling has aromas of white flowers, apple and peach. It is pleasant but a bit acidic on the palate with flavors of apple, peach and lemon zest. Ace Distributing. —J.J.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

PINOT NOIR

86 Adoria 2019 Pinot Noir (Poland). Light cherry red in the glass, this Polish Pinot Noir has aromas of cinnamon, tart cherry and saddle leather. It has flavors of sour cherry and bram-

ble, with grippy tannins in the acidic finish. Ace Distributing. —J.J.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

HUNGARY

FURMINT

93 Oremus 2019 Mandolás Dry Furmint (Tokaji). Pale straw in the glass, this Hungarian Furmint has delightful aromas of white peach, apple blossom and acacia honey. It has flavors of apricot, honey and white peach and is soft on entry and full in the mouth. It has great mouth feel and texture. Europvin USA. —J.J.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$36

SWEET WINE

91 Oremus 2020 Late Harvest (Tokaji). Amber in the glass, this Hungarian late harvest wine has aromas of acacia honey, beeswax, honeycomb and apricot. In the mouth there are flavors of apricot, yellow peach, caramelized pineapple, rose petal and white peach. It has good heft on the palate with a final note of caramelized ginger in the post palate. Europvin USA. —J.J.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$44

SLOVENIA

WHITE WINES

93 Saints Hills 2021 Mala Nevina (Primorska). Pale straw colored in the glass, this Croatian white has aromas of freshly mowed lawn, chopped green herbs, white peach and mango. It is generous yet silky in the mouth with flavors of kiwi, apricot and tropical fruits. The finish is soft with persistent flavors of quince and vanilla. Massanois Imports. —J.J.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

81 Gabernik 2020 Rumeni Muškat (Štajerska). This Slovenian wine is cloudy and straw colored. Presumably this was intentional. There are strong aromas of lemon and flavors of lemon zest and lemon juice with a pleasant burst of acidity in the finish. Vine Street Imports. —J.J.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$25

SPARKLING WINE

84 Gabernik 23 NV Pet Nat Rumeni Muškat (Štajerska). This apricot colored Slovenian sparkling wine has aromas and flavors of peach and apricot. It has good fizz and a pleasant touch of acidity in the finish. Vine Street Imports. —J.J.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$25

82 Gabernik 23 NV Rose Piquette (Štajerska). This Slovenian sparkling has the color of

fruit punch, but none of the fruit flavors. It has good acidity and great fizz. Vine Street Imports. —J.J.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$19

81 Gabernik 23 NV Red Piquette (Štajerska). This Slovenian sparkling is the color of black cherry soda. It has aromas of strawberry and red fruit, but very little flavor on the palate. It is very thin and watery. Vine Street Imports. —J.J.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$19

ZWEIGELT

85 Gabernik 23 2020 Zweigelt (Štajerska). This Slovenian Zweigelt has a deep dark cherry color. It has aromas of cherry, red plum and forest floor. In the mouth there are flavors of cherry, strawberry and red plum. Vine Street Imports. —J.J.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$21

CROATIA

WHITE WINES

94 Saints Hills 2020 Le Chiffre Chardonnay (Hvar). This elegant Croatian Chardonnay is straw colored with gold reflections at the rim. It has aromas of lemon curd, apricot, white peach and a touch of acacia blossom in the enticing bouquet. It is soft upon entry with nice heft on the midpalate. It is very well balanced and there are flavors of lemon curd and caramelized pineapple before a nice burst of acidity in the finish. Massanois Imports. —J.J.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Fakin 2018 La Prima Malvazija (Istria). This Croatian wine is medium straw with golden reflections. It has aromas of acacia flowers, lemon blossoms and mandarin orange. It is balanced on palate with flavors of lemon curd and lemon meringue pie with a bright burst of acidity in the finish. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$46

PLAVAC MALI

97 Saints Hills 2016 Ernest Tolj Plavac Mali (Peljesac). This excellent expression of Plavac Mali proves that this indigenous Croatian variety is worthy of international attention. Dark garnet in the glass, this elegant wine has aromas of forest floor, bramble and black plum. It is soft on entry into the mouth but then ripe, rich, flavors of cassis, black plum and black raspberry wash over your entire palate only to be followed by a splash of Jalapeño pepper brightness in the back of your mouth. The tannins are soft and silky and the finish is pleasantly astringent and persistent. Drink now or through 2032. Massanois Imports. —J.J.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$140

95 Saints Hills 2017 St. Lucia Vineyard Plavac Mali (Dingac). Dark cherry garnet in the glass, this 100% Plavac Mali wine invites you in

BUYINGGUIDE

with fresh whiffs of bramble, eucalyptus and mint followed by full-on aromas of ripe cassis and black plum. It is very well balanced and offers nice heft on the palate with flavors of black plum, pomegranate and smoked charcuterie. The tannins are silky, yet firm and the finish is persistent with a bright burst of fruit. Massanois Imports. —J.J.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

95 Volarević 2018 Platinum Edition Plavac Mali (Komarna). This Croatian Plavac Mali is dark garnet in color. It has aromas of black currant, vanilla, and red plum with lifted notes of mint and balsam wood. In the mouth there are flavors of red plum, cassis, vanilla and dark cherry. It has smooth tannins, is well balanced and has a pleasantly astringent finish. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 16.5% **Price:** \$139

94 Volarević 2016 Gold Edition Plavac Mali (Komarna). Cherry red in the glass this Croatian Plavac Mali has aromas of saddle leather, tobacco, pomegranate and red plum. In the mouth it has flavors of red plum, cinnamon, sour cherry pie and tart cherry. It has silky smooth and well-integrated tannins and pleasant burst of tart cherry in the finish. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$55

93 Saints Hills 2017 Black Dalmatian Plavac Mali (Dingac). This Croatian Plavac Mali is dark cherry garnet in color. It has aromas of bramble, forest floor, red plum and a whiff of Jalapeño pepper. It is very nicely balanced and soft on entry into the mouth with flavors of cherry vanilla, black raspberry and cassis. The tannins are smooth and the finish is elegant and persistent. Massanois Imports. —J.J.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Poljopromet 2016 Komarna 7 Plavac Mali (Komarna). This Croatian Plavac Mali has aromas of tobacco, black raspberry and smoked meats. It has bright acidity on palate and subdued flavors of cherry, black licorice and pepper. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Poljopromet 2016 Terra Madre Premium Plavac Mali (Komarna). Light cherry red in color, this Croatian Plavac Mali has aromas of tart cherry, pomegranate and a slight whiff of smoked charcuterie. It has flavors of sour cherry pie, red raspberry and red plum with smooth tannins and a nice level of acidity in the finish. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$38

91 Volarević 2015 Plavac Mali (Komarna). This Croatian Plavac Mali is light cherry red in color. It has aromas of charcuterie, smoked meats, sour cherry juice and pomegranate. In the mouth it has well integrated tannins with flavors of black

cherry, cranberry and freshly ground black pepper. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 16% **Price:** \$36

90 Poljopromet 2016 Terra Madre Barrique Plavac Mali (Komarna). This Croatian Plavac Mali is light cherry red in color. It has aromas of tart cherry and pomegranate. In the mouth there are flavors of cranberry and black cherry with silky tannins and a nice burst of acidity in the finish. It is well balanced and nicely integrated. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

TERAN

88 Fakin 2017 Il Primo Teran (Istria). Dark garnet in the glass, this Croatian Teran has aromas of dark cherry, smoked meats, bramble and cranberry. In the mouth there are flavors of tart cherry and pomegranate. It has soft and silky tannins with good acidity. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$46

87 Fakin 2019 Teran (Istria). This Croatian Teran is dark garnet in color. It has aromas of bramble, charcuterie and smoked meats and flavors of tart cherry, cranberry and pomegranate. The tannins are grippy yet pleasant. Croatian Premium Wine Imports, Inc. —J.J.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

ARMENIA

VOSKEHAT

89 Sarafian 2019 Aran Voskehat (Armenia). Medium straw in color, this wine offers aromas of Granny Smith apple and flint. It is smooth on the palate, with flavors of green pear, nectarine, caramelized pineapple and a splash of orange zest on the finish. Vinport LLC. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

ROSÉ

88 Sarafian 2019 Aran Rosé (Armenia). This medium blush colored wine has a bouquet of lemon, strawberry and a touch of thyme. It features flavors of white peach, mango, passion fruit and a pleasant dusting of dried Mediterranean herbs. Vinport LLC. —M.D.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

SIRENI

91 Sarafian 2018 Aran Reserve Sireni (Armenia). This inky garnet wine has a nose of black currant with a touch of green bell pepper. It is smooth on the palate, offering sleek tannins and flavors of

black cherry, raspberry, caramel, black olive paste and anise. Vinport LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

90 Sarafian 2019 Aran Sireni (Armenia). Deep garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of cassis, apple peel and juniper berry. Fleecy tannins back flavors of cherry, pomegranate, white chocolate, toasted almonds and smoke. There is a touch of freshly ground coffee on the pleasant finish. Vinport LLC. —M.D.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

ISREAL

WHITE WINE

90 Recanati 2019 Special Reserve Roussanne-Marsanne (Galilee). This medium straw colored wine has a bouquet of Bartlett pear and toasted hazelnut. It is smooth on the palate, with flavors of Granny Smith apple, apricot, almonds and oregano. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$49

89 Golan Heights Winery 2021 Mount Hermon White Blend (Galilee). This wine has aromas of pineapple, lemon and baked apple. It has flavors of pineapple, grapefruit, green apple, white flowers and a floral lift on the finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. *Best Buy.* —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

89 Golan Heights Winery 2020 Yarden Pinot Gris (Galilee). Light amber in the glass, this wine has aromas of white peach, green apple and lavender. It is full-textured, offering flavors of nectarine, apricot, Gala apple, rose petal and a lemon zest finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$23

88 Golan Heights Winery 2020 Gilgal Sauvignon Blanc (Galilee). This pale straw-colored wine has a bouquet of grapefruit, lemon and fresh cut grass. Flavors of peach, passion fruit, clementine and rosewater wind down to a floral finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19

ROSÉ

90 Recanati 2021 Gris De Marselan Rosé (Galilee). Light blush in color, this wine has aromas of peach, green pear and white flowers. Flavors of apple, white cherry, a soft touch of cranberry and toasted almond culminate in a splash of lemon on the finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$25

SPARKLING WINE

88 Golan Heights Winery 2020 Mount Hermon Moscato (Galilee). Light straw to the eye, this sparkling wine has aromas of peach, apricot

and rose petal. It is effervescent on the tongue, with flavors of white peach, mango, orange zest, honey-suckle and a cotton candy finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. **Best Buy**. —M.D.
abv: 6% **Price:** \$13

SWEET WINES

89 Golan Heights Winery 2017 Yarden Heights Wine Gewürztraminer (Galilee). This medium gold wine has a bouquet of peach nectar, clementine and orange blossom. It offers sweet flavors of caramelized pineapple, passion fruit nectar, agave syrup, Turkish delight and orange zest with a bright splash of Valencia orange on the finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$34/375 ml

88 Golan Heights Winery 2018 Yarden Heights Wine Gewürztraminer (Galilee). Light amber in the glass, this wine has aromas of nectarine, dried apricot and honeycomb. It is sweet without being cloying, offering flavors of canned peach, applesauce, honey and rose water that fade into a lemon zest finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$34/375 ml

SYRAH

93 Golan Heights Winery 2018 Yarden Allone Habashan Vineyard Syrah (Galilee). This deep ruby wine has a nose of blackberry, vanilla and thyme. It feels good in the mouth with satin tannins and flavors of black cherry, raspberry, milk chocolate, anise, and violet. There is a touch of candied orange peel on the lingering finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$80

93 Recanati 2019 Dishon Vineyard Syrah (Galilee). The color of blackberry preserves, this wine offers a nose of cherry, blackberry and a touch of hillside brush. It has flavors of pomegranate, cranberry, milk chocolate and aniseed, with plush tannins swoop in and fade out, revealing a note of orange zest on the bright finish. Kosher. **Editors' Choice**. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

92 Golan Heights Winery 2018 Yarden Syrah (Galilee). Dark violet-red to the eye, this wine has aromas of cassis, Chambord and orange zest. A web of opulent tannins supports flavors of dark plums, ripe summer cherry, toffee and chocolate covered espresso bean. A splash of Valencia orange shows up just in time for the soothing finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

91 Recanati 2020 Syrah (Galilee). The color of blueberry pie, this wine has aromas of black currant, caramel and dried Mediterranean herbs. It offers smooth tannins and flavors of cassis, blackberry, butterscotch and dark chocolate. The finish is

marked with a note of espresso bean. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

RED BLENDS

92 Galil Mountain 2019 Galil Ela (Galilee). Dark ruby in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of cherry, blackberry and black olive paste. It is bright at first sip, with flavors of black cherry and Valencia orange that are joined by note of dark chocolate and thyme. Glossy tannins recede into an orange zest infused finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$24

92 Galil Mountain 2018 Meron (Galilee). This wine offers a bouquet of pomegranate, caramel and smoke. It has flavors of black plum, blackberry, milk chocolate, coffee bean, clove and anise. Bold tannins fade into a note of violet on the finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$33

92 Golan Heights Winery 2019 Gilgal Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot (Galilee). Deep violet in color, this wine proffers a bouquet of cherry, blackberry and espresso. Satin tannins offer support to flavors of stewed plums, berry preserves, mocha and rose petal that evaporate into a coffee bean finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

92 Recanati 2018 Special Reserve (Galilee). This dark red-violet wine has aromas of cassis, blackberry and a touch of green bell pepper. It feels good in the mouth with plush tannins and flavors of black cherry, black currant, milk chocolate and violet and a bright finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Galil Mountain 2019 Galil Alon (Galilee). Deep violet-red to the eye, this wine has aromas of cherry, blackberry and black pepper. Flavors of black cherry, raspberry, bittersweet chocolate and salted almonds are framed by plush tannins that dissolve into an orange zest finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$24

90 Golan Heights Winery 2021 Mount Hermon Red (Galilee). For full review see page 131. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. **Best Buy**.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

89 Golan Heights Winery 2021 Mount Hermon Indigo Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah (Galilee). This deep garnet wine has a nose of cassis, caramel and juniper berry. Stiff tannins frame flavors of black currant, blackberry, licorice, anise and mint. It is spicy on the palate with a note of butterscotch on the finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. **Best Buy**. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

OTHER RED WINES

93 Golan Heights Winery 2019 Yarden Allone Habashan Vineyard Merlot (Galilee). For full review see page 114. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. **Editors' Choice**.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$88

93 Recanati 2019 Reserve Carignan (Judean Hills). For full review see page 12. Kosher. Palm Bay International.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$49

91 Galil Mountain 2020 Merlot (Galilee). Dark ruby in the glass, this wine features a bouquet of cranberry, smoked meat and thyme. It is juicy on the palate, with an opening salvo of pomegranate and cherry that is followed by notes of clove and anise backed by glossy tannins. A pleasing note of orange zest dominates the finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

91 Golan Heights Winery 2019 Gilgal Merlot (Galilee). Aromas of cassis, dark chocolate and herbs de Provence set the stage for flavors of cherry, blueberry, dark chocolate, clove, violet and touch of green bell pepper that come nicely wrapped in velvety tannins. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

91 Recanati 2019 Reserve David Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Galilee). For full review see page 124. Kosher. Palm Bay International.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Recanati 2019 Reserve Marselan (Galilee). Deep ruby in the glass, this wine offers aromas of black cherry, cassis and thyme. It is bright at first sip, with flavors of cranberry and pomegranate that are followed by downy tannins and flavors of dark chocolate, dried Mediterranean herbs, jasmine. A note of orange zest commands your attention on the long finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$49

90 Recanati 2019 Reserve Petite Sirah (Galilee). This inky purple wine has a nose of fruits of the wood and green bell pepper and flavors of dark berries, violet, milk chocolate and eucalyptus. Bold tannins hang on into a long finish. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$32

88 Recanati 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Galilee). Inky garnet in the glass, this wine has a bouquet of black currant, brambleberries and forest floor. It is savory on the palate, with grippy tannins and flavors of olive paste, Mediterranean herbs, anisette and black cherry. Kosher. Palm Bay International. —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

AUSTRALIA

SAUVIGNON BLANC

92 Mac Forbes 2021 EB73 My Secret Mistress Sauvignon Blanc (Yarra Valley). A recent addition to the vast range from this stellar Yarra producer, this is, in Mac's words, "Our very best attempt to make a Sauvignon Blanc that doesn't look like a Sauvignon Blanc". At just 10.5% alcohol, it's pure and mineral driven. Chalk-dust, lemon-zest, and summer-herb-garden characters are restrained and delicate. The gently textural palate is pierced by fabulous citrusy acidity. Maintains the fresh, summer-sipping appeal of SB while walking to its own beat. Hudson Wine Brokers. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Sidewood 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Adelaide Hills). Give this a few good swirls in the glass to open up but when it does, it showcases the lively citrus fruit typical to this variety in the cool climes of the Adelaide Hills. There are also notes of papaya and pineapple rind, with an underbelly of fresh green herbs. On the palate, rapier acidity is tempered by creamy, textural weight: a balanced, easygoing summer sipper to pair with salad or a hunk of goat cheese. It is particularly impressive given the tough vintage. Epicurean Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

86 Angove 2020 Naturalis Made with Organic Grapes Sauvignon Blanc (South Australia). This has a reductive rubber and onion note to it at first sniff. Flickers of citrus and passion fruit float out, and perhaps some white spice and grass, too. The palate is better, with fleshy fruit and a freshness that doesn't feel searing. The finish is short. This straightforward, refreshing wine might benefit from several minutes of swirling in glass. Trinchero Family Estates. —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$14

84 D'Arenberg 2020 The Stump Jump Sauvignon Blanc (McLaren Vale). An initially reductive, oily, damp-wool nose opens up with time in glass to offer more appealing aromas of orange peel, lemon oil and honeysuckle. But the palate is hard to take, with searing, forced acidity. Heavysset and sour on the finish, this unfortunately isn't this producer's best effort, and the vintage was a tough one. Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

83 Yellow Tail 2020 Pure Bright Sauvignon Blanc (South Eastern Australia). Jumping on the reduced-alcohol bandwagon, this 8.5% Sauvignon is virtually flavorless, like water mixed with a splash of alcohol and fruit syrup. There are whispers of honeysuckle, peach and lemon zest. It's easy—if very forgettable—drinking. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —C.P.
abv: 8.5% **Price:** \$7

WHITE BLENDS

93 Ben Haines 2020 White Blend (Yarra Valley). Clocking in a under 12% alcohol, this wine showcases Ben Haines's talent for young, texturally complex whites that crackle with freshness and drinkability. Less about discerning the varieties (Sauvignon with Chardonnay and Viognier), this is a "sum of its parts" kind of wine. The nose is all pineapple juice, almond skins, green tea and lemon candy, underscored by something smokier and more flinty. Pithy fruit and spice flavors burst onto the tongue followed by a whip crack of acidity. It is delightfully delicious and priced for everyday drinking. Little Peacock Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 11.8% **Price:** \$23

91 Mac Forbes 2020 EB 60 Aromaticism Riesling-Gewürztraminer (Yarra Valley). As the name suggests, this radiant gold-hued blend of Riesling and Gewürtz offers heady—but not bombastic—aromas of lemon rind, tangerine, wild honey and ginger. It's a lusciously styled wine with a viscous mouthfeel. Dry, with a tingle of citrus rind and spice, it could be a knockout next to a cheese board. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

91 The Vinden Headcase 2021 Pokolbin Blanc (Hunter Valley). Like the red blend, the varieties in this are a mystery—it's more about the sum of its parts. If you can get past the hipster indulgence of the winemaker's self-portrait on the label, it's a tasty little wine with a raw, barefoot, wind-in-its-hair appeal. There's wildflower, bruised apple, subtle citrus and stone fruit and a lovely ethereal minerality. Tangy acidity pierces the tongue. There's a raking, chalky texture to back it up. The bruised fruit and mineral nuances flow to the finish. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Cullen 2020 Amber Wilyabrup Sauvignon Blanc-Semillon (Margaret River). This vintage of Cullen's skin-contact Sauvignon, Semillon blend needs to air in glass or decanter to open up. When it does, it offers both herbal and honeyed characters alongside lemon peel and nectarine. A pithy bite adds interest to the palate, as does the zingy acidity and citrusy finish. Refreshing but with enough weight to be quite food friendly (goat cheese comes to mind as a potentially tasty pairing). Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$35

89 Chalmers 2021 Mother Block (Murray-Darling). From Italian variety specialists, this is a coferment of Vermentino with a little Ansonica, Falanghina and Pecorino. Indeed it's reminiscent of the "vino di tavola" wines served in cafes in Italy. Lifted aromas of yeasty red apple, peach pit, citrus rind, florals and white spice are followed by a medium weight palate that's chalky in texture with crisp acidity. Pair with creamy,

nutty cheeses and pastas or heavier seafood dishes. Legend Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

OTHER WHITE WINES

93 Mac Forbes 2020 Chardonnay (Yarra Valley). This may be from a blend of Mac's "declassified" Yarra fruit, but it offers a "best of all worlds" appeal. Appealing fruit aromas of fuzzy peach and pineapple rind are layered into more complex, mineral-driven ones like flint and chalk dust. Beautifully tangy, lemony acidity buoys the creamy mouthfeel and stone-fruit flavors linger on the lengthy finish. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$32

93 The Vinden Headcase 2021 Somerset Vineyard Semillon (Hunter Valley). A classic Aussie style with a modern twist from a second-generation winegrower, this is made from over 50-year-old vines utilizing concrete eggs, neutral oak and extended lees contact. It's bright, clean, low alcohol, and less mean and lean than some regional counterparts, with vivid orchard fruit, blossom, almond oil and citrus pith backed by a yeast character. The piercing acidity is balanced by lovely textural weight and flavor depth. Food friendly, this could gain honeyed complexity with time. Drink now through 2037. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 10.8% **Price:** \$30

92 Punt Road 2021 Airlie Bank Gris On Skins Pinot Gris (Yarra Valley). Because Pinot Gris falls in the white wine category, this is technically an orange wine. But it's the color of ballerina slippers. It sends out a firecracker of aromas: ruby grapefruit, wild strawberry, cherry juice and heady florals like hyacinth or jasmine. There's a pith and skins bite to the palate, giving it a medium weight. There's balance and refreshment. It's a versatile food wine that could pair with an entire multi-course summer meal. Little Peacock Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

91 Delinquente 2021 Hell Malvasia (Riverland). True to the variety, this is a hugely aromatic wine. Fireworks of pineapple juice, lemon sherbet, grapefruit rind and lemon basil are grounded by muskier, earthier notes of wet hay and stones. The palate is viscous, gliding along the tongue. Flavors don't pop like they did on the nose, and the finish is a touch dirty, but there's still juicy drinkability here and that not-too-messed-with edge that carries so much wild appeal. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$30

90 Kalleske 2021 Plenarius Viognier (Barossa Valley). Though only on skins for eight days, this orange Viognier is deeply honey colored, and as opulent as the color suggests. Notes of crème brûlée, orange sorbet, baked apricots, and a touch of mushroom and yeast comprise the heady nose. The full-figured palate balances richness and a slippery texture with gently supportive tannins and just enough acidity. The finish shows a touch of moui-

ness. It is a unique if divisive style from a historic Barossa producer. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$35

90 Pete's Pure 2020 Pinot Grigio (Murray-Darling). From a warm inland region, this weeknight sipper could be far duller than it is, but there's textural weight and ripeness here that works to its advantage. Aromas of raw almond, honeysuckle, citrus pith, lemon verbena and cilantro are followed by a medium-weight palate. It's dry, but with peach and melon-fruit sweetness and marzipan. Acidity is fresh and in balance. The finish is short. It is a food friendly sipper for a wide range of summer fare. USA Wine West. **Best Buy.** —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

90 Somos 2021 Naranjito Verdelho (McLaren Vale). McLaren Vale Verdelho on skins for 180 days is not a wine one sees every day. This is hazy yet still vibrant—the color of candlelight, with aromas that are raw and wild, streaked with honey, hay, apricot, fresh herbs and minerals. Structured like a red, with a grip of chalky apricot-pit tannins, the wild-meadow aromas continue to the finish. It never feels dirty or mousy, it just has wind in its hair and makes no apologies for style or substance—a versatile food match. Vine Street Imports. —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$35

89 Delinquent 2021 Hell Arinto (Riverland). This expression of the Portuguese variety, Arinto, grape, is a cloudy lemon-juice color. It's on the funkier end of the natty-wine spectrum, but still offers perfumed appeal. It's yeasty and a little volatile, with notes of orchard floor apples, citrusy tang, raw honey, jasmine petals and minerality. There's a lift of lemony acidity on the palate, balanced by a gently creamy texture. It finishes a touch mousy and is on the simple side, but at 11% alcohol is firmly in porch-pounding territory. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$30

87 Poppelvej 2021 Only Shallows Viognier (Adelaide Hills). Ninety-nine days on skins have given this Viognier at cloudy tangerine hue. Feral notes of pressed yellow flowers on their stems, damp earth and stones, fresh parsley and apricot kernel lead. It's bone dry and richly textured with powerful, skins-derived tannins and crunchy acidity. A youthful and wickedly wild wine, this has a good dollop of funk and a bit of mouse at the finish. Recommended for only the bravest of natural wine drinkers. Vine Street Imports. —C.P.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$38

SPARKLING WINES

97 House of Arras 2006 Late Disgorged Ed Carr (Tasmania). With 14 years on lees, this now 16-year-old wine, from one of the world's most renowned sparkling regions and celebrated winemakers (Ed Carr), stands its own again the most premium of Champagne. Both opulent and vibrant, the flavors are so well integrated they're

hard to extract. Lemon curd mingles with wild mushroom, melted butter and brioche. Remarkably fresh with poise and flavor depth mounted in a frame of structure and texture that's both mouth-filling and linear, with a finish that goes on and on. It's classy as all hell. Accolade Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$230

96 House of Arras 2008 Rosé (Tasmania). There's just the faintest blush tinting the rim of this highly complex, pale gold rosé. From the excellent 2008 vintage and aged on lees for 10 years, a medley of aromas and flavors weave seamlessly together: wild mushroom, honeyed toast, marzipan, lemon curd and orchard blossoms. The palate shows a little richness and a lot of depth. The layers of delicate flavor run along a spine of ravier acidity. This is a finessed and beautiful bottle of bubbles from one of Australia's sparkling masters. Accolade Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$129

94 House of Arras 2013 Grand Vintage (Tasmania). With seven years *en tirage*—or on yeast lees—the added complexity shows on this pale-gold-hued sparkler. Notes of mushroom, yeast and beeswax mingle with more primary characters like citrus pith and red-apple peel. A chalky texture nicely juxtaposes a brisk fizz. There's weight without heaviness, and pithy, lip-smacking finish. Poised and still fresh as a daisy, this would make for a gloriously versatile food match. Accolade Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$129

92 House of Arras NV Brut Elite (Tasmania). Elite is a classy intro to one of Australia's most highly regarded sparkling labels. Lightweight but expertly structured and polished, it wafts gentle white stone fruit alongside hyacinth, crème brûlée and a creamy cashew nuance. There's lively bubbles and a wonderfully fresh crunch of acidity on the finessed palate, backed by a whisper of lees yeast and seashell flavors. Accolade Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$55

96 House of Arras 2013 Méthode Traditionnelle Blanc de Blancs (Tasmania). This is a vibrant, pristine and incredibly fresh Blanc de Blancs, despite its near decade of age, with a bright perfume of lemon peel, apple and a floral and honeyed nut underbelly. The palate is impeccably groomed with a fine, persistent bead of bubbles and an endless finish. A gentle play between crystalline acidity and lightly slippery texture adds interest and elegance to the pure fruit and earthier secondary characters. Accolade Wines. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$129

95 Clover Hill 2015 Cuvée Exceptionnelle Blanc De Blancs (Tasmania). This is a stellar vintage of Clover's Blanc de Blancs. It's pale gold with vigorous, shimmering bubbles. The heady nose conjures an apple orchard late in the season when most of the apples have fallen to the ground, sun-kissed and slightly bruised, flecked with honey and brioche. In the mouth, a big lift of crunchy acidity and

a persistent mousse adds to a feeling of both opulence and refreshment. It's bone dry, with flavors of marmalade and honey and a long, tangy finish. Drink now. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$50

93 Delinquent 2021 Weeping Juan Pet Nat (Riverland). Considering it's made from heat-loving Italian varieties (mostly Vermentino with 10% Nero d'Avola) in the hot Riverland region, the freshness here is stunning. Antique rose in color, with delicate watermelon, floral and wet stone aromas, it's vibrant and crunchy with lively bubbles and textural appeal. A hint of fruit sweetness softens this otherwise dry sparkler. The result is a frighteningly easy-to-drink bottle of refreshment. Hudson Wine Brokers. **Editors' Choice.** —C.P.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$22

92 Delinquent 2021 Tuff Nutt Bianco d'Alessano (Riverland). This artisanal Riverland producer's motto, "embrace the weirdness" perfectly suits this cloudy *pét-nat*. Made from the obscure Puglian variety, Bianco d'Alessano, it opens with a heady combo of aromas like pineapple chunks, honeysuckle and ginger spice. The pithy palate is less zingy than the nose suggests but there's prickly bubbles, crunchy acidity and a finish of citrus and pineapple rind. It makes for great porch-pounding summer sipping. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$22

PINOT NOIR

90 Bare Winemakers 2021 Single Vineyard Close Planted Pinot Noir (Limestone Coast). This translucent, raspberry-hued Pinot is a rare sight in South Australia's warm Limestone Coast. Made in small batches and utilizing some whole-bunch fermentation, it smells like freshly pressed strawberry and cherry juice. Gentler, more savory white-pepper notes, along with a dusty, mineral nuance and a flicker of florals, all add some complexity. The palate is lightweight and not as lively as the nose implies. Nevertheless, there's a purity and ease about this that gives it plenty of appeal, especially if drunk slightly chilled. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

90 Pete's Pure 2020 Pinot Noir (Murray-Darling). This is a ripely fruited, bouncy Pinot with juicy red-berry notes at the fore and white pepper and scrubby herbs at the back. As the nose suggests, the palate is lightweight but with a solid tannin structure that enters on the mid-palate cinching the silky fruit and spice and forming more linear shape than is there at first sip. A stinky note finishes. Drink young and slightly chilled. USA Wine West. **Best Buy.** —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

89 A Growers Touch 2020 Pinot Noir (Australia). Cranberry, white-pepper, dried florals and a medicinal herbs note open the show on this light-

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weight Pinot. In the mouth, the tart, cran-raspberry fruit is pleasant and tangy, but the tannins are drying and a bit disjointed. There's a lovely herb-flecked finish. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —C.P.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

88 Fourth Wave 2020 Children of the Revolution Vegan Pinot Noir (Australia). This low-alcohol Pinot opens with an appealing perfume of cherries and strawberries, with subtler notes of mocha and peppery spice. The palate is light and easy-going but with fairly firm, chalky tannins. The red berries feel fresh and crunchy due to a lift of acidity. The finish is short and veers towards the bitter, drying side. Liquid Innovation. —C.P.

abv: 10.8% **Price:** \$17

SHIRAZ

93 John Duval Wines 2020 Entity Shiraz (Barossa). The year 2020 wasn't Barossa's finest vintage, but Entity fares well. It's a rich well of supple plum and blackberry fruit, dark chocolate, mint and anise, underpinned by earthy spices like cumin and turmeric, in a vanillin-oak frame that's subtle but present. The palate shows similar richness but never feels overly heavy despite the overlay of velvety, plush fruit on the tongue. Polished, well-integrated tannins keep it grounded. This is a wine to warm the cockles in winter or to pair with grilled ribs or brisket in summer. Drink now through 2030. Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

93 Kalleske 2020 Moppa Shiraz (Barossa). From a historic and also boundary-pushing family estate, this Shiraz is blended with small amounts of Petit Verdot and Viognier. There's a deep well of classic regional aromas like plump plums, dark cherries, dark chocolate, violets, licorice and a lovely bay leaf and dusty red-earth quality. The palate is rich and powerful, with luscious fruit and subtle florals, toasty oak and fine, muscular tannins. It's hefty now but could morph with time into a gorgeous drop, which, considering its cellaring potential (until 2035), makes it a bargain. Hudson Wine Brokers. *Cellar Selection.* —C.P.

abv: NA **Price:** \$36

92 Ministry Of Clouds 2020 Shiraz (McLaren Vale). This elegant Shiraz, from thoughtful artisanal producers Bernice Ong and Julian Forwood, is from two very different McLaren Vale vineyards. The nose evokes sun-ripened strawberry and rhubarb, violets and fennel, with a whisper of something more earthy and medicinal. Things get more serious on the palate. While the plump fruit and power of this warm-climate region shows: it retains an elegance and linearity. Tannins are fine, taut and chalky, acidity is lively, and a toasted sesame-spice note lingers on the finish. Drink now, with decanter at hand until around 2028 K&L Wine Merchants. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

92 The Vinden Headcase 2021 Nouveau Shiraz (Hunter Valley). This is Hunter Valley Shiraz but not as you know it. Made like a Beaujolais Nouveau although, thanks perhaps to the open concrete fermenters, it tastes more like a young southern Rhône. There's a bouncy, pretty perfume of tart cherries, blueberries, dried flowers, bay leaf and ground white pepper. Lovely acidity and tart, supple fruit lead the medium-weight palate, supported by spicy, skins (not oak) derived tannins. Purity, freshness and drinkability are the name of the game, and it makes a refreshing change. It is a weeknight staple for drinking slightly chilled in any season. Hudson Wine Brokers. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$30

90 Bec Hardy 2020 Pertaringa Undercover Shiraz (McLaren Vale). A deeply hued, powerful Shiraz, this doesn't lose its shape or structure. It's initially reticent, so decant or leave open in bottle before sipping. There's plush dark-berry fruit, mint, licorice and black pepper on the nose. Tart fruit and oak spice on the palate are on the baked pie side, but it never feels too heavy, thanks to lifted acidity and a drying grip of sturdy tannins. Drink now through 2029. Liquid Innovation. —C.P.

abv: 15% **Price:** \$28

90 Jen Pfeiffer 2020 The Rebel Shiraz (South Eastern Australia). Raspberry and blackberry-jam aromas fill the nose. Tucked underneath, are glimmers of anise, earthy spice, white pepper and a hint of florals. The palate is lighter than the nose implies thanks to lively acidity and a cinch of textural tannins that juxtapose the juicy, somewhat candied fruit. It is a lighter, easier drinking style than is typical to these parts. Naked Wines. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$19

89 Bec Hardy 2019 Pertaringa Lakeside Shiraz (South Australia). This wine leads with a ripe but appealing note of cherry cheesecake, with much smaller helpings of dried mint, violets and ground pepper on the side. The palate tones down the fruit ripeness in favor of somewhat chunky tannins. This straightforward wine offers little fuss and comes with a lovely freshness to cut through any richness. Liquid Innovation. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17

89 The Perfect No. 6 2020 Shiraz (South Australia). There's a mustiness here that feels like it's from the cork, leaving this reviewer to wonder why it isn't under screw cap. More appealing aromas show, too, like cherry pie, tobacco and florals. The palate is better. The high-toned, candied red berries dominate but there's a lovely lift of acidity. Sandy-textured tannins balance the abundant fruit. It falls short on the finish but makes for an easy weeknight sipper. Firstleaf. —C.P.

abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$NA

89 Thorn Clarke 2019 Terra Barossa Shiraz (Barossa Valley). A toasty, dark-chocolate oak note plays a prominent role in this Barossa Shiraz. But the more varietal cassis and damson-plum fruit are out in full force too, backed by mint, anise

and other sweet spices. The plump fruit is cinched by savory, chalky tannins on the palate, while the oak spice hangs around on the finish. Rich but fairly well structured, this could age a few years in bottle or be drunk now with a charred piece of barbecued meat or veg. Kysela Père et Fils. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

88 Pete's Pure 2019 Shiraz (Murray-Darling). Rich, heady aromas of plump cherry and raspberry are back by funkier, damp earth and savory spice note. There's a feeling of some chocolatey oak, too. The palate follows a similar road. It's big, with large helpings of fruit and a short, flat finish. Nevertheless it delivers a freshness and a moderate level of alcohol that's refreshing. USA Wine West. —C.P.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

87 Thorn Clarke 2019 Milton Park Shiraz (South Australia). This is a straightforward, weeknight Shiraz that won't rock any boats. Aromas of mint, licorice and white pepper frame plum and blackberry jam. It's medium weight, with a silky texture, a bit of alcohol heat and a tug of savory tannins. The finish is on the bitter, flat side. Kysela Père et Fils. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$14

87 Thorn Clarke 2018 Shiraz (Barossa). This is a ripe, fruit bomb of a Grenache, with notes of candied strawberry and cherry trailed by vanilla and licorice. There's more plush berry fruit on the palate and an almost surprisingly muscular tug of chalky tannins. It is a straightforward Grenache for drinking young. Kysela Père et Fils. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

86 Lambert Estate 2019 First Chapter Shiraz (Barossa Valley). There is sweet vanillin oak at the fore on this (dry) Shiraz, followed by ripe, rich notes of blueberry, blackberry, dark chocolate and cherry cola. A gauzy grip of oaky tannins and a syrupy texture make for quite a heavysset mouthfeel. Nevertheless, the plump fruit and soft spice linger on the finish. A plate of protein is a must with this. AUSA Pacific. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17

85 Heartland 2019 Shiraz (Langhorne Creek). Dark-chocolate, mint and gentle baking-spice aromas back ripe, almost confected, primary cherries and plum fruit, framed by cola oak. The palate feels a bit sour and harsh and while the fruit remains in the fore, it falls flat, especially at the short finish, where the oak dries out the mouth. Vintus LLC. —C.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

GRENAACHE

95 Angove 2019 Warboys Vineyard Grenache (McLaren Vale). One of this organic-biodynamic producer's finest wines to date, this is from coastal vineyards over 50 years in age and pressed in an antique wooden basket press. It's a

tightrope of complexity and drinkability. The brambly blueberry fruit is backed by a potpourri dish of florals, dried herbs and spices, and there's a warm pavement nuance. The palate is elegant and refined with a linear structure. There's fabulous acidity, particularly for Grenache, and taut, powdery tannins. Drink now and up to around 2037. Trinchero Family Estates. **Editors' Choice.** —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$75

95 Bekkers 2017 Grenache (McLaren Vale).

Freshly squeezed cherry and raspberry juice, with a tarter rhubarb note open on this lovely, perfumed wine from artisanal producers Toby and Emmanuelle Bekkers. It's underscored by notes of rose petals, black olives, dried herbs and a forest-floor vibe. The palate follows a similar journey, woven with fine, sand-textured tannins. The pure fruit is supple and slippery. Harmonious and elegant, this could be drunk now or cellared until 2032. Dodds Wine Imports. —C.P.

abv: 15%

Price: \$95

94 Bekkers 2018 Grenache (McLaren Vale).

Showing more density and youth than the 2017, this thoughtfully made wine offers a polished perfumed of black- and red-berry fruit, with peppery spice, a hint of cloves and subtle florals. The oak is present but well placed. The palate is full bodied, the plush fruit framed by muscular, sappy tannins. It could age at least until 2034 but it also has Grenache's up-front appeal, making it a stellar match now with dishes like pork chops or grilled mushrooms. Dodds Wine Imports. —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$95

89 Robert Oatley 2020 G-20 Grenache (McLaren Vale).

This cherry juice-hued wine is textbook Aussie Grenache. It's dominated by heady, ripe red-berry and plum aromas. The white spice, violets and cinnamon-bark notes trail far behind. The palate is medium bodied, with slippery, plush fruit and a gentle tug of savory tannins. Straightforward with plenty of crowd appeal, drink it now. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —C.P.

abv: 14%

Price: \$18

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

93 Wakefield 2018 St. Andrews Cabernet Sauvignon (Clare Valley).

For full review see page 13.. Taub Family Selections.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$46

91 Kilikanoon 2018 Blocks Road Cabernet Sauvignon (Clare Valley).

A fresh, fruity and unmistakably Aussie Cab, this opens with aromas of ripe strawberry and red currant, vanilla pod, clove, dried herbs and warm tar. The palate is initially quite austere but after swirling in glass, flavor depth and textural richness emerge, showing fleshy berry fruit, crisp acidity and leathery tannins. Drink now through 2030. Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.

abv: 14%

Price: \$30

90 Best's 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Great Western).

From one of Australia's most historic wineries located in western Victoria, this showcases all the tobacco leafiness, pencil lead, ground pepper, black olive, dark chocolate and the supple red and black fruit we've come to expect from this famed variety. The palate is medium to full bodied, with silky fruit and a cool-climate freshness. There's a sense of place and drinkability that makes this an ideal weeknight red. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$25

90 Jen Pfeiffer 2020 The Rebel Cabernet Sauvignon (Victoria).

Most of Victoria is cooler than neighboring South Australia and this Cab reflects as much. It's lively, with ripe raspberry and strawberry fruit, a varietal streak of graphite, and a summer-herb-garden vibe reminiscent of mint, anise and lavender. It's full bodied, with a chalky-textured line of savory tannins, but there's a lovely lift of acidity and juicy fruit that makes this a solid weeknight sipper. Naked Wines. —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$20

90 Kilikanoon 2018 Killerman's Run Cabernet Sauvignon (Clare Valley).

An open-knit Cab, this presents aromas of cherry chocolate and raspberry with gentle savory spice and florals. It's medium weight, with appealing tart red-berry flavors tucked into savory, drying and somewhat harsh tannins. Nevertheless, this is a solid example of modern Clare Valley Cab at an affordable price. Drink now through 2028. Old Bridge Cellars. —C.P.

abv: 14%

Price: \$20

89 Chalk Hill 2020 Wits End Luna Cabernet Sauvignon (McLaren Vale).

Green herbs and spice lead the nose (think tobacco, mint, tomato leaf and green peppercorn). With time in glass, the plum and cherry fruit emerges. The palate is a touch austere, but is regionally and varietally expressive, with chiseled tannins and lifted acidity. It's a solid pairing for steak night. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$20

89 Four Sisters 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Victoria).

For those who prefer their reds big and tannin-driven, this isn't for you. In fact, it's positively dainty by Cab standards. Aromas are heady and leafy, with notes of fresh black currant, licorice, menthol, tar and tobacco. The palate is full of tart fruit, with a gentle tug of herbal, savory tannins and slightly forced acidity. The texture is mouth coating but far from rich, with a sweet note at the finish. Artisans & Vines. —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$15

89 Langmeil 2018 Blacksmith Cabernet Sauvignon (Barossa).

Initially reductive with some distracting green, chocolatey oak, this eventually opens with air to offer intense notes of black currant, dark cherry, mint, black pepper and dried green herbs. The palate shows equal density, wound in taut, muscular tannins with a lift of acidity. But the fruit and spice hold their own and, despite a

rather oaky finish, balance can be seen amidst the heft. Drink 2023–2037. Epicurean Wines. —C.P.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$30

89 The Messenger 2018 Amadio Kersbrook Vineyard Block 1A 614 Cabernet Sauvignon (Adelaide Hills).

Tart cherry and cranberry aromas take the lead on this Adelaide Hills Cab. Bass notes of savory, peppery spice, black olives, dried herbs and subtle florals follow. The palate is tightly wound with chalk dust tannins. They're tempered by the fruit, which is gentle and round in shape. This muscularly structured wine requires a decanter if drinking now but could age (until 2030) into something softer. Art+Farm Wine. —C.P.

abv: 14.9%

Price: \$40

88 Angus The Bull 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Victoria).

This takes its time opening in glass and when it does, it offers notes of cherry, roasting spice, dried florals, dusting polish and toasty, chocolatey oak. The relatively cool climate of Central Victoria shows on the palate, with lifted acidity and spicy, neatly placed tannins. However, the oak sticks out, adding a rather unwelcome richness and heaviness particularly to the finish. Pace. —C.P.

abv: 14%

Price: \$20

88 Bec Hardy 2020 Pertarinnga Understudy Cabernet Sauvignon (McLaren Vale).

Housed in an unfortunately heavy bottled, there's a prominent overlay of sweet vanilla chocolate oak here atop supple cherry fruit and a gentle baking-spice note. The palate is wound in powerful, raspy, pepper-spiced tannins but it lacks the generosity of fruit needed to prop them up. There's some alcohol heat and a drying oak character at the chocolatey finish. Liquid Innovation. —C.P.

abv: 15%

Price: \$28

87 Nomos 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (South Australia).

This is medium bodied, although by Cab standards, it's lightweight. A juicy, gentle nose of succulent red currant, tobacco, pepper spice and black olive are overlaid by sweet oak. There's a silky texture to the palate, tugged quietly into place with savory, somewhat drying tannin. There's some bitter oaky notes on the finish. Penrose Hill. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$22

86 Bec Hardy 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (South Australia).

It takes its time opening but when it does, this South Aussie Cab reveals a nose of sweet red fruit (think strawberry Jolly Ranchers), florals, mint and a toasty oak spice at the back. The palate is on the thin, astringent side with a short finish and dusty tannins that counteract the freshness of the acidity and red-berry fruit. This is a young, drink-now, modern style of wine, but it doesn't quite hit the mark like other wines from this producer. Liquid Innovation. —C.P.

abv: 14%

Price: \$20

86 Maxwell 2018 Lime Cave Cabernet Sauvignon (McLaren Vale).

This is a hefty wine that feels like it's coming undone at its seams and

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aging quickly. It's reticent but there's still plenty of red and black fruit intensity, along with mint, chocolate and oak spice. Woody tannins are massive, and, combined with the shrill acidity, it's hard to take another sip. The fruit is ripe enough to hold its corner but it doesn't feel harmonized, instead is wrestling to be seen. Rodinia LLC. —C.P.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$42

85 A Growers Touch 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Australia). Ripe and fruity with sweet oak (although it's a dry wine), this opens with straightforward aromas of candied plum, blackberry, vanilla and toasty oak spice. The acidity is on the shrill, angular side which makes the palate feel somewhat pinched and the fruit sour, not helped by the drying oak tannins. Drink now. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. —C.P.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

85 Nugan Family Estates 2018 Stomper's Cabernet Sauvignon (Riverina). Aromas reminiscent of cassis, mint and cocktail bitters are heady and boisterous. Unfortunately they're overwhelmed by the mocha-like barrel influence. The palate finishes what the nose started. Gauzy, oak tannins are chewy, distracting from the fruit and spice. The alcohol feels warm towards the finish. Southern Starz, Inc. —C.P.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$17

MERLOT

93 Moss Wood 2018 Ribbon Vale Wilyabrup Merlot (Margaret River). The sea of Aussie Merlot is more like a pond, but this historic producer's version is one of its biggest fish. It's leafy (but not in an underripe way), with lively red berry and plum fruit, white pepper, savory herbs and undergrowth. The palate delivers on the nose's promise, with medium body, a nicely placed grip of spicy tannins, fresh fruit and those savory herbal notes right to finish. Chill slightly and pour with a pizza, porchetta, or bowl of pasta and tomato sauce. Drink now through 2029. American Spirits Exchange Ltd. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$61

89 Hickinbotham 2018 The Revivalist Merlot (McLaren Vale). This vintage of the highly regarded Clarendon vineyard is currently in an awkward place. There are layers of flavor, from sun-shriveled plums and figs to green peppercorn and olive brine; from cedar shavings to chocolatey oak, but the oak and alcohol make for a dense, heavy set bottling lacking in freshness and verve. From 2019 the winery switched to large *foudre* barrels, so this reviewer advises either holding out for later vintages of this wine or leaving this in the cellar another few years. Majestic Imports. —C.P.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

88 Leogate Estate Wines 2017 Miracle on the Wire Merlot (Central Ranges). Straight Merlot isn't a common sight Down Under and for good reason. It's rarely exciting on its own. This one,

from New South Wales, makes a valiant attempt at varietal character and drinkability. Supple damson plum, tart rhubarb, leafy, dried herbs and vanilla make up the nose. The palate is heavier than expected and there's a somewhat off-putting drying, mealiness to the finish, but the chalky tannins and acidity add much needed structure to the syrupy fruit. Epicurean Wines. —C.P.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$15

88 Mérite 2015 Single Vineyard Merlot (Wrattonbully). From a single vineyard and single clone on the *terra rossa* soils of the small Wratttonbully region, this is a sturdy Merlot with aromas of ripe plums and berries supported by mocha, bay leaf, ground pepper and a dusty, dry clay nuance, with some mocha-like oak. The palate is rich with supple fruit and subtle spice. Tannins are on the chunky, gauzy side but there's freshness here even with a bit of bottle age. Drink now through 2028. Legend Imports. —C.P.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$NA

OTHER RED WINES

97 Lambert 2019 Nebbiolo (Yarra Valley). Renowned for his seductive Syrah and Chardonnay, artisanal producer Luke Lambert is turning his focus exclusively to Nebbiolo. He has succeeded in producing one of the finest expressions of this notoriously fussy variety outside its native Piedmont. Elegant, pure and complex, there's an unforced beauty in the fresh wild strawberries and raspberries, florals, white pepper and mineral characters. Fabulously crunchy acidity and powdery, fine tannins structure a silky texture. With a sense of place, varietal character and major food friendliness, this still-young beauty could be drunk now but should cellar gracefully for at least until 2032. Vine Street Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$65

96 Ben Haines 2017 Rendition Landsborough Nebbiolo (Pyrenees). From a top-notch vineyard in an excellent vintage, small batch producer Ben Haines seems to have, in a few short years, cracked the Nebbiolo code—not an easy feat for this famously difficult variety. Its featherlight limpidity belies its elegance and complexity. Translucent and rose-petal hued, the aromatics also have a distinctly crushed rose-petal character laced with wild red berries, ruby grapefruit, cloves, cocktail bitters and river stones. Tannins are supple with a supportive tug to the gently tart, pithy fruit. Sexy and singular, this must be one of the tastiest Nebbiolo outside Piedmont. Little Peacock Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$65

95 Delinquente 2021 Hell Nero d'Avola (Riverland). A vibrant ruby-red hue, this organically grown Sicilian variety—which makes total sense in the dry, sunbaked Riverland region—is deliciousness in a bottle. Aromas are both delicate and powerful, evoking wild Aussie springtime flowers and herbs, blueberry and rhubarb crumble, and

a savory spiced spine. The palate takes a similar course although the focus here is on texture. The plump fruit shows purity and freshness, supported by subtle tannins. A minerality and fresh herbal nuance is present throughout. This has all the energy, drinkability and complexity of a top natural wine. Hudson Wine Brokers. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

93 Delinquente 2021 Roko Il Vagabondo Montepulciano (Riverland). This is a stereotype-busting Aussie red that, despite being from a hot, dry climate, exudes all the freshness and varietal charm you could hope for. Lively cherry, rhubarb and violet aromas are underscored by a tangerine-rind and medicinal herb nuance. The palate is medium weight and fresh, with tart fruit, bony dry, quite medicinal tannins and a feeling of nourishment. Drink young and slightly chilled. Hudson Wine Brokers. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

91 Micro 2020 Cinsault (Barossa Valley). A label created by Legend Imports' cofounder Jonathan Ross, this featherlight Cinsault is sourced from 50–70 year old biodynamically farmed vines in the sandy Vine Vale subregion of Barossa. The pale color of freshly pressed strawberry juice, the wine's aromas walk a similarly delicate line of red-berry and watermelon fruit with an undertow of florals and spice. The palate is equally ethereal. Raw, pure fruit is supported by skinsy, tensile tannins. This juicy little number has a layer of complexity tucked up its sleeve; it's ultrasmashable, as the Aussies say. Legend Imports. *Editors' Choice.* —C.P.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$NA

89 Year 2018 Cinsault (McLaren Vale). The color of cherry juice, this Cinsault offers immediate appeal. It smells like a bowl of potpourri, with dried florals and herbs woven delicately with cranberry and raspberry fruit. As it warms, the fruit dominates and feels more confectioned. The palate is light to medium bodied. Tannins creep in on the midpalate but are a little drying, falling flat at the finish. Despite a somewhat underwhelming mouthfeel, this is a still an easy wine to knock back—particularly at just 11% alcohol—slightly chilled, and with or without food. Vine Street Imports. —C.P.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$48

RED BLENDS

94 Penley Estate 2020 Project Shiraz-Cabernet Sauvignon (Coonawarra). For full review see page 8. Old Bridge Cellars.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$32

94 Ricca Terra 2019 The Marathon Man (Riverland). This is from a renowned organic producer whose fruit—which is sold to many small producers across Oz—has almost singlehandedly transformed the Riverland's image. It offers a deep well of aromas, from mocha, cherry chocolate, ground pepper, tobacco and mint. The palate shows remarkable freshness considering the heat of the

region, forming a lovely line of acidity. The fruit is lively while the savory tannins bring it firmly down to earth. This confident wine is balanced and expressive. Drink now through 2028. Vine Street Imports. *Editors' Choice*. —C.P.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$23

90 Ben Haines 2020 Red (Yarra Valley). Clocking in at under 12% alcohol, this juicy, fresh Pinot and Syrah blend shows some bouncy whole-bunch, berry-style lift. There's plum and berry fruit, flowers on their stalks and white pepper. The palate is more reticent, taking its time to open and showing its youth. But with air it offers juicy fruit and spice with a stalky bite and powdery tannins. It is an easygoing weeknight sipper. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.
abv: 11.8% **Price:** \$23

90 Chalmers 2021 Mother Block (Murray-Darling). A coferment of seven lesser known grapes including Sagrantino, Teroldego and Uva di Troia, this is a love letter to the dozens of Italian varieties introduced to Oz via the Chalmers's renowned nursery. Under their own label, this fruit salad of a wine is rich yet vibrant, packed with plump blackberry, raspberry and cherry and a spine of mint, green savory herbs and dried florals. The palate is full-figured whilst still retaining brightness and freshness. Silky fruit is tugged by lovely, spice-flecked tannins. Legend Wines. —C.P.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$NA

90 Fox Creek NV Maslin (Australia). For full review see page 23. Paradigm Collection.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$23

89 Fox Creek NV Willunga (Australia). For full review see page 26. Paradigm Collection.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$17

88 The Vinden Headcase 2021 Charmless Man (Hunter Valley). The label lists this red simply as "a blend of various ferments" and indeed there's a vagueness to it. It's on the ripe, mouth-filling side but the plum, cherry and stalky spice aromas still have a spring to their step. The palate fights in separate corners, with skiny, astringent tannins on one side and elevated acidity on the other. While it lacks distinctiveness, it certainly offers more freshness than many Hunter reds, and would probably go down easy in a crowd. Hudson Wine Brokers. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

87 Konpira Maru 2019 Icarus Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot (Victoria). The crown cap suggests this Cab, Merlot blend from a single vineyard in Victoria will be fizzy. It's not. Instead it's a straightforward red, with characters of ripe plumps and blackberries with savory, peppery undertones. The plush fruit on the palate is powerfully gripped by drying, skiny tannins. There's an appealing berry tang on the finish. Vine Street Imports. —C.P.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$35

NEW ZEALAND SAUVIGNON BLANC

92 Astrolabe 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). Heady notes of lemon and lime zest, passionfruit, snow pea and tomato stem lead on this crunchy and highly refreshing wine from a consistently delicious label in an excellent vintage. It slips and slides over the tongue, leading to a long, limey finish that makes it easy to take another sip. Share a Splash. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

91 Yealands 2021 Estate Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Awatere Valley). For full review see page 21. Palm Bay International.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

90 Ant Moore 2021 Estate Series Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). Passionfruit, grapefruit and lime popsicle notes lead on this vibrant wine, followed by gentler aromas of tomato leaf and bell pepper. The palate is dry with a slightly chalky texture and similarly lively fruit. A crunchy, refreshing drop that steers clear of under-ripeness, and that embodies much of the best of this famous wine style. USA Wine West. *Best Buy*. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

90 Stoneburn 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). And unabashedly pungent, boisterous firecracker of a wine. Mixed in amongst the feline and green veg aromas (think jalapeño and bell pepper and tomato stem) are notes of passionfruit, lime and pineapple rind. The palate is fresh and zippy, like crunching into a slice of bell pepper and sucking on a lime both at the same time. Fresh, juicy, summery drinking at its easiest. Merchant Vintner Imports. *Best Buy*. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

89 Black Cottage 2021 Sustainably Grown Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). This is a juicy, thirst-quenching Savvy B bursting with notes of guava, lemon-lime, grapefruit rind, cut grass and tomato leaf. Just a touch of sweetness can be felt on the palate but overall this is a dry wine with mouth-watering acidity and lime popsicle and summer veg garden flavors. Drink up. Uva Imports. —C.P.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Middle-Earth 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Nelson). Green bell pepper, passionfruit and lime zest are at the forefront on this heady Sauvignon. There's a touch of sweetness on the palate but it doesn't detract from the fresh, juicy lime flavors and mouthwatering acidity. Drink beside a cool body of water in the height of summer. Copa Fina Imports CA. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

89 Seifried 2021 Old Coach Road Sauvignon Blanc (Nelson). Aromas spring untethered from the glass in this vibrant Sauvignon. There's passionfruit, grass clippings, freshly sliced green

bell pepper and lemon peel. The palate is equally boisterous piercing acidity, and bushels of slippery, juicy fruit and veg flavors straight through to the finish. USA Wine West. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

89 The Infamous Goose 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). Boisterous and very regionally typical, this Savvy B explodes with green bell pepper, passionfruit, grapefruit and lime with a grassy underbelly. It's fresh and fruity with zippy acidity. Frighteningly easy to knock back cold on a hot summer's day. Kobrand. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

89 Tiki 2021 Maui Sauvignon Blanc (North Canterbury). There's a sweaty onion reduction to start here, along with the feline pungency unique to this style. But tucked underneath lie more appealing notes of passionfruit, lime, pineapple and green bell pepper. The palate is equally muffled but there's a lovely crispness and long lime and passionfruit finish. Give this another six months to a year in bottle for its more appealing side to shine. USA Wine West. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 Grove Mill 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Wairau Valley). Pungent, youthful aromas of grass, guava, tomato leaf, grapefruit and passionfruit dominate the nose, while the palate is all about the tingly, shrill acidity. Chalky texture adds interest. Give this another six months to a year in bottle (tasted 4/22) and to flesh itself out. Foley Family Wines. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

88 Kirkland Signature 2021 Ti Point Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). For full review see page 29. DC Flynt MW Selections. *Best Buy*.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$7

87 Babich 2021 Family Estates Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). Still young and a little shrill, this is nonetheless a bright and bouncy wine with a nose-ful of passionfruit, grapefruit rind and lime pith, with more grounded fresh herbal back notes. The palate is light and crisp. With perhaps another six months in bottle (tasted 4/22) the fruit should take more of a front seat in the mouth. For now the finish is short and flat. MHW, Ltd. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

87 Tiki 2021 Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (North Canterbury). This slippery textured Sauvignon offers up a heady mix of passionfruit, peach, lemon, grass and bell pepper notes. It falls somewhat short on the palate but should improve with another few months in bottle. USA Wine West. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

86 Barker's Marque 2021 ranga.ranga Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). This is a very pungent SB with a hefty helping of grass, tomato stem, and that feline aroma so closely associated with this style. The fruit is there (think grapefruit

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rind and lemon-lime zest) but it's not at the fore. Acidity is a touch shrill and there's a slight burn of sulphur on the finish. International Vines, Inc. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$14

WHITE BLENDS

92 Milton 2019 Libiamo Field Blend (Gisborne).

Widely hailed as the NZ "Godfather of biodynamics", James Millton's Libiamo wines are his natural, more experimental ones. This blend of estate grown Gewurtztraminer, Muscat and Marsanne is on skins for 61 days. Hazy orange juice-hued, the nose is a fruit bomb, exploding with fresh pressed tangerine, grapefruit and pineapple rind, underscored by fresh cilantro, jasmine and honey-suckle flowers. Acidity is bracing, like swallowing a lemon wedge. There's just enough pithy, skinsy texture and fruit to tip the scales but this is definitely one for the acid-hounds amongst us. Remarkably fresh considering it's already several years old. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —C.P.

abv: 11.5%

Price: \$40

87 Barker's Marque 2021 Arona (Marlborough).

This is a pungent, fruity Sauvignon. Peach, lime and passionfruit vie for the top spot on the nose beside summer veg garden notes like tomato leaf and green bean. The palate follows a similar path, with some richness to the texture and a short finish. International Vines, Inc. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$14

ROSÉS

90 The Landing 2021 Rosé (New Zealand).

Baby pink in color, this gently perfumed wine, from the Bay of Islands region in New Zealand's far north, offers up delicate notes of strawberries and white peach underpinned by green herbal and white spice nuances. The dry palate is featherlight but is well structured and balanced, refreshing with a lingering red berry finish. Cooper Imports. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$30

90 Yealands 2021 Sauvignon Blanc Rosé (Marlborough).

For full review see page 28. Palm Bay International. *Best Buy*.

abv: 13%

Price: \$15

86 Middle-Earth 2021 Pinot Meunier Rosé (Nelson).

Made from the Champagne variety, Pinot Meunier, this is a strawberry hued rosé that invokes Spain more than Provence, although the nose is distinctly New World. It's highly fruity, an overflowing basket of red berries and watermelon with a hint of vanilla. The palate is drier than the nose implies but with some lingering residual sugar on the finish that flattens it. Just enough acidity to buoy the viscous texture but overall this lacks some vibrancy and freshness. Copa Fina Imports CA. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$21

86 The Landing 2021 Boathouse Rosé (New Zealand).

From the far northern reaches of New Zealand's North Island, this pale to medium pink rosé opens with a yeasty apple note that makes way for red fruit and florals. There's what feels like a good lick of sulphur overlaying the palate which makes the fruit and finish feel somewhat flat, but its chalky texture and delicate nature gives it some crowd-pleasing points. Cooper Imports. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$24

85 Mud House 2021 Rosé (Marlborough).

This is quite a young, closed wine at the moment. If you really get your nose in there you might detect a hint of watermelon and ripe red berry notes, but they're buried. The palate has prickly acidity and again flavors feel muffled, the fruit barely visible beneath a blanket of what feels like a hefty dose of sulphur and a little residual sugar on the finish. Quintessential Wines. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$16

85 Oyster Bay 2021 Rosé (Marlborough).

This sunset hued rosé sees some trapped bubbles in the glass. It's highly fruity and confected, with candied strawberry, banana and blossom aromas. backed by some flower blossom blossoms. The palate is almost surprisingly dry with a luscious texture and a short, flat finish. Delegat USA, Inc. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$15

PINOT NOIR

93 Craggy Range 2019 Pinot Noir (Martinborough).

2019 was a cool, perfumed vintage in the North Island. It was also Aussie winemaker and Pinot-expert Julian Grounds's first year as Craggy's winemaker. The change of hands shows in all the best ways. This is both elegance and sturdy, with lightness to the black cherry, blueberry and strawberry fruit, and depth in the form of earthy spice, violets, crushed stone and slightly charred meaty nuance. In the mouth, fruit feels ripe and fleshy, ensconced in succulent tannins with a wonderfully long, supple "peacock's tail" finish, as Grounds call it. Drink now—2028. Kobrand. *Editors' Choice*. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$28

92 Kumeu River 2020 Kumeu Village Hand Harvested Pinot Noir (Kumeu).

A translucent raspberry juice hue, this is a delicate Pinot from a producer far better known for its Chardonnay. In a reversal of roles, its red is lighter—more delicate and understated—than its whites. With plenty of swirling in glass, dainty aromas of strawberries and raspberries still on the bush float to the fore, followed by cocktail bitters, roses and white pepper. The fresh tang of red fruit on the featherlight palate is tugged gently into place by chalky, skinsy tannins. Delicious drinking now until 2028. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$22

92 Mt. Beautiful 2019 Pinot Noir (North Canterbury).

Refreshment is the name of the game

at this North Canterbury winery, located in the Waipara Valley, just north of Christchurch. The nose is heady and perfumed: vivid cherries, strawberries and florals, with whispers of white pepper, river stones, and vanilla bean. The medium weight palate is similarly vibrant, leading with fresh, silky red berries framed in savory tannins. Not the world's most complex Pinot but totally delicious nonetheless. Drink now slightly chilled. Mt. Beautiful USA. *Editors' Choice*. —C.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$28

92 Te Mata 2020 Alma Pinot Noir (Hawkes Bay).

2020 is proving a rich vintage, with many wines poised for the long haul. Alma is a great example of this. With time in glass, it reveals a prism of aromas and flavors: baked plum, blueberry, mocha, licorice and baking spice. The palate is on the fuller end of the Pinot spectrum, with powerful but fine tannins, but with supple, juicy fruit and a polish that suggests its best is yet to come. Drink 2023–2032. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —C.P.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$55

92 Te Mata 2020 Estate Vineyards Pinot Noir (Hawkes Bay).

Like many of Te Mata's 2020 reds, this young pup needs a little time to open if drinking now. Once it does, there're elegant aromas of cherry and blueberry fruit, violets and roses, ground black pepper, cloves and a slight meatiness in a well-tucked bed of mocha oak. Tangy red fruit on the silky palate is tightly wound by fine tannins and lifted by a crunch of acidity. A unique Pinot that bears the Te Mata stamp of place, polish, freshness and structure. Drink now with rare duck or better yet or until around 2030. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —C.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$35

91 Big Sky 2020 Te Muna Road Pinot Noir (Martinborough).

From the deep gravels of one of New Zealand's most famous wine streets, this is Pinot takes its time opening but with time and air offers well-woven aromas of succulent blueberry and cherry fruit, dried herbs and florals, warm earth and gentle baking spice. Talc-textured tannins are tightly structured yet a lightness of fruit and spice remains. There's a nourishing medicinal feel to this wine that confers drinkability now with an ability to age until around 2029. New Zealand Wine Navigator. —C.P.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$36

90 Isabel Estate 2019 Pinot Noir (Marlborough).

This is on the dense, rich side by Pinot standards, but is balanced and food friendly. It leads with supple black cherry, plum, chocolate, medicinal herbs, black pepper and warm tarmac aromas. A zing of acidity buoys the succulent fruit. Spicy tannins keep a firm grip right to the finish. Drink now with protein until 2029. Vino Logics. —C.P.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$31

88 Sherwood Estate 2019 Pinot Noir (Waipara Valley).

This is a ripe, perfumed Pinot from Waipara, just north of Christchurch. Candied strawberry and raspberry, dried florals and heady

spice make up the nose. A slight medicinal, citrus rind nuance on the palate adds interest and tempers all that confectioned fruit. It's light to medium bodied with a slippery texture, a gentle tug of tannins and a sharp edged finish. Southern Starz, Inc. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Seaside Cellars 2019 Pinot Noir (Hawkes Bay). There's appeal to this Pinot but it feels older than it is. The color of dried rose petals, it evokes old crumbly potpourri. But alongside that exists relatively bright red cherry and wild strawberry notes. The palate is featherlight at first, but the tannins soon creep in on the midpalate adding a little muscle and structure. There's a medicinal dried floral character and a slightly saline finish. Overall it's a bit thin and tired. Tri-Vin Imports. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

86 Hunter's 2019 Pinot Noir (Marlborough). Quiet notes of potpourri and peppery spice sit atop rather murky red and black fruit. There's what feels like a little greenness here and a vanillin oak underbelly. In the mouth, the fruit is juicy and the spicy tannin frame adds a little structure, but there's some astringency here and a forced quality. Merchant Vintner Imports. —C.P.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

86 Stoneburn 2020 Pinot Noir (Marlborough). Currently reductive with an overlay of barnyard aromas, this needs plenty of swirling in glass and then offers more pleasant notes of ripe cherries, cinnamon and vanilla. The palate is ripe with luscious cherry fruit tugged gentye by spicy tannins. The finish veers on the sour, astringent side. Merchant Vintner Imports. —C.P.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$14

ARGENTINA CHARDONNAY

90 Bodega Norton 2021 Reserva Chardonnay (Mendoza). Orange zest, guava, and a light note of white flowers on the nose of this flavorful wine. On the palate it's slightly creamy and offers lime, mango and peach flavors. Medium acidity is more than enough to balance the fruit flavors. The finish is medium and pleasant. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$19

90 Luca 2021 G Lot Chardonnay (Tupungato). This oaked Chardonnay has aromas of white grapefruit, lime and mango. A touch of vanilla adds complexity to the bouquet. It has a creamy texture, without feeling heavy thanks to good acidity. Tropical and citrus fruit flavors blend with chamomile and hints of toasted oak that carries through the lingering finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

90 Otronia 2018 III & VI Chardonnay (Patagonia). This Chardonnay from the World's southernmost region shows attractive aromas of

white flowers, honey, apple, and lime. Full-bodied, rich and round, it offers citrus fruit, honey, and apple flavors with a hint of brown sugar. Backed by vibrant acidity, the flavors are rich leading to an enveloping mouthfeel that continues to a fresh finish. New Frontier Wine Co. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$85

87 Domaine Bousquet 2021 Reserve Made With Organic Grapes Chardonnay (Tupungato). Lime, peach and green notes on the nose. The palate features citrus and tropical fruit flavors alongside light acidity. The finish is short. WISD LLC. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$18

87 Siete Fincas 2020 Selected Vineyards Chardonnay (Mendoza). Aromas of lime and herbs with a hint of vanilla. Lime and peach flavors blend with oaky notes on the palate. It has a lingering finish with toasted oak flavors. Copa Fina Imports CA. —J.V.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$19

TORRONTÉS

88 Alta Vista 2020 Estate Torrontés (Salta). The delicate nose shows aromas of orange zest, lime and kumquat. On the palate, flavors of grapefruit and orange lead to a lemony finish. It has a good acidity making it a good summer wine. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

87 Bodega El Transito 2020 Pietro Marini Torrontés (Salta). Herbal, white flowers and lime notes on the nose. The palate shows a mineral texture, good acidity and citrus flavors. It has a medium finish. Authentic Vine Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$18

82 Chakana 2020 Estate Selection Torrontés (Uco Valley). Ripe citrus and stone fruit aromas lead to a palate with bitter green notes and ripe peach flavors. It finishes short. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$31

WHITE BLENDS

92 Otronia 2018 45° Rugientes (Patagonia). A refreshing and aromatic blend of Gewürztraminer, Pinot Grigio, and Chardonnay from the southernmost vineyard in Argentina, located at parallel 45.33° S. Orange zest, grapefruit and wet stones aromas on the nose. Strong winds and very cold nights result in concentrated fruit flavors with lively acidity. The palate delivers linden tea, apricot, and lime notes alongside a mineral character. It finishes long with citrus flavors. New Frontier Wine Co. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$45

90 Desquiciado 2019 Blend de Blancs (Tupungato). Aromas of lemon, pear, and yellow apple with hints of smoke. The palate shows depth

with notes of chamomile, herbs and lime. It has a medium finish with pleasant oaky flavors. United Cellars, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

89 Alandes NV Paradoux Blend 5ème Édition Semillón-Sauvignon Blanc (Mendoza). Peach, pear and yellow apple with a light note of lemon on the aromatic nose of this blend of Semillon and Sauvignon Blanc. This is a nonvintage wine with just enough acidity to balance the oaky notes on the creamy palate. It delivers chamomile, lemon and stone fruit flavors leading to a bitter citrus and slightly warm finish. Vinovia Wine Group. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

88 Viña Alicia 2019 Tiara (Luján de Cuyo). Peach, green apples, pears, and herbaceous notes shape the nose of this medium-bodied white. On the palate, light acidity and pleasing flavors of lemon and green apple lead to a citrus finish. Southern Starz, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$35

87 François Lurton 2020 Piedra Negra Gran Lurton (Los Chacayes). This is a blend of 90% Tockaj and 10% Sauvignon Blanc that shows sweet citrus aromas on the nose with hints of white flowers. It displays a green character with citrus notes backed by vibrant acidity, finishing slightly warm. Pardela USA. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

86 Bodega Calle 2018 Orange (Mendoza). Subtle notes of lemon and white flowers on the nose of this blend of 40% Semillon, 30% Torrontés, and 30% Chardonnay. Sweet ripe peach flavors, lychee and a light note of lime on the palate. Light acidity leads to a short finish. Elixir Wine Group. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19

OTHER WHITE WINES

90 Aniello 2021 Blanco De Pinot Noir (Patagonia). Aromas of apple, peppercorn and a hint of wet stones shape the nose of this white Pinot Noir. This vintage offers plenty of fruit flavors and nice acidity making the wine very approachable. Bright apples, lime, and grapefruit notes are featured on the creamy palate. It finishes with refreshing citrus flavors. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

90 Bodega Norton 2020 Altura Semillón (Uco Valley). Chamomile, lemon, peaches and honeydew fill up the bouquet of this aromatic white. The palate presents a mineral character and nice acidity. This high-altitude Semillon delivers flavors of citrus and stone fruit with a light note of smoke. The finish is pleasant with saline notes in the after-taste. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

86 Corbeau Wines 2020 Little Mad Bird Sauvignon Blanc (Mendoza). Citrus aromas with

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a hint of green notes on the austere nose. It's light-bodied and offers fresh acidity, mild yellow apple, pear and citrus fruit flavors leading to a short finish. HB Wine Merchants. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$11

SPARKLING WINE

89 Amalaya NV Brut (Salta). Delicate aromas of lemon mousse and toasted bread fill up the bouquet. This sparkling wine shows fine bubbles on the creamy palate. It has a mineral character with smoky notes and a citrus pleasant finish. This is a good value sparkling wine. Folio Fine Wine Partners. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$14

89 Anticura NV Chérie Pinot Noir Sparkling Rosé (Mendoza). Strawberry, lime and white peach on the nose of this aromatic sparkling wine. On the palate, fine bubbles and delicate flavors of red and citrus fruit lead to a medium pleasant finish. Southern Starz, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$18

88 Domaine Bousquet NV Brut Traditional Method (Tupungato). This sparkling wine shows ripe pear and yellow apple with a hint of citrus fruit. On the palate, it's fruit-forward, has a mineral character, bright bubbles, and lively acidity that helps freshen the warm finish. WISD LLC. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$18

MALBEC

94 Colomé 2017 Altura Máxima Malbec (Salta). Black olive, plum, herbs and salt shape the nose of this high-altitude red. The palate shows honest fruit flavors with almost no trace of oak masking the varietal expression. This is a 100% Malbec with a slightly mineral character. Blackberry, plum, and peppery spices are backed by vibrant acidity and firm silky tannins. It has a delicious lingering finish with black fruit in the aftertaste. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —J.V.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$150

94 Trivento 2018 Eolo Malbec (Mendoza). Great complexity on the nose with enticing floral, blackberry, plum and subtle oak notes. This red is concentrated and lively with firm and silky tannins. The palate delivers plenty of dark fruit flavors with hints of smoke and nice acidity due to a smart use of oak. It is an elegant full-bodied wine made from 100 year old vines, and has a lingering finish with fruit flavors. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$79

93 Alta Vista 2018 Single Vineyard Albaneve Campo de Los Andes Malbec (Uco Valley). This rich wine shows aromas of violet, ripe plum, and peppercorn. Firm tannins are a bit drying but provide good structure. It has nice acidity, adding freshness to the layers of intense ripe black fruit

flavors. Earthy and tobacco notes give more complexity to the palate. It finishes long. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 15% Price: \$50

93 Finca la Celia 2018 Heritage Single Vineyard Malbec (Paraje Altamira). Aromas of red berries and herbs with a light note of chalk. The palate is round and rich without being heavy thanks to a smart use of oak. Smooth and firm tannins alongside nice acidity provide a good structure. It has peppercorn, plum, cherry, and herbaceous flavors finishing with a note of coffee. Apollo Fine Wines & Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$40

93 Mendoza Vineyards 2019 R&B Single Vineyard Malbec (Mendoza). The complex nose features aromas of leather, ripe cherry, red plum, and hint of rose petals. This elegant red has a silky palate and delivers plenty of red fruit flavors with notes of rosemary, and smoke. It is full-bodied with a lively acidity that carries through the lingering finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$125

93 Siete Fincas 2017 Gran Secreto Malbec (Mendoza). This wine presents a perfumed and floral nose. Chalk, cherry, and cranberry aromas add to the bouquet. It's a flavorful wine with fresh acidity. It offers intense juicy red fruit with herbaceous notes, and a mineral texture on the medium to full-bodied palate. The finish is long with delicious coffee flavors. Copa Fina Imports CA. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$56

93 Tapiz 2017 Black Tears Malbec (Uco Valley). The enticing nose shows aromas of plum, blackberry, baking spices, and rosemary. On the full-bodied palate, there are plenty of blackberry and blueberry flavors with a light note of herbs and vanilla. The intense flavors are lifted by lively acidity ending in a lingering finish with subtle oak notes in the aftertaste. This wine presents a fresher juicy Malbec profile than previous vintages. Vino Del Sol. —J.V.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$50

93 Valentín Bianchi 2018 IV Generación Single Block Gran Malbec (Los Chacayes). For full review see page 12. Quintessential Wines.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$55

92 Alta Vista 2018 Single Vineyard Alizarine Las Compuertas Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). Jarilla, plum and black pepper aromas in this rich Malbec from Las Compuertas, one of the highest altitude sub-regions in Luján de Cuyo. Concentrated ripe blackberry and plum flavors with a note of grilled bell pepper. The finish is long with dark chocolate notes in the aftertaste. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 15% Price: \$50

92 Alta Vista 2018 Single Vineyard Serenade Alto Agrelo Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). Ripe red fruit, dried herbs, and spices fill up the bouquet. This red is full-bodied and round with smooth ripe tannins. Spices and oak flavors blend with ripe

fruits and earthy notes on the palate. It has a long finish with pleasant oak flavors. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 15% Price: \$50

92 Finca La Anita 2019 Malbec (Agrelo). Basil, licorice, raspberry, blackberry, and cigar box shape the complex nose. This wine is big and balanced on the palate with mineral texture. Intense juicy red fruit flavors blend with chocolate and herbs. Smooth tannins and vibrant acidity make it very enjoyable through the long finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$65

92 Flechas de los Andes 2017 Edmond de Rothschild Heritage Gran Malbec (Mendoza). For full review see page 14. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$20

92 Pascual Toso 2019 Alta Barrancas Vineyard Malbec (Mendoza). For full review see page 15. Quintessential Wines.
abv: 14% Price: \$50

92 Terrazas de Los Andes 2018 Grand Malbec (Mendoza). This red is fruit-forward with notes of baking spices. Medium-bodied with soft tannins, the palate offers plenty of cherry, blackberry, and plum flavors. Oak aromas in this wine are not overpowering. On the contrary, they help balance the intense fruit flavors and acidity. Moët Hennessy USA. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$60

92 Viña Cobos 2017 Reptil Malbec (Uco Valley). Ripe blackberry, plum and subtle tobacco aromas on the nose of this elegant medium to full-bodied red. The same fruit flavors repeat on the palate. Earthy and smoky notes with a mineral texture add complexity. It's smooth and has nice acidity leading to a fresh finish. Paul Hobbs Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$50

91 Antigal 2018 Uno Platinum Edition Malbec (Mendoza). For full review see page 17. Cork Alliance.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$20

91 Desquiciado 2018 Salvaje Malbec (Tupungato). Peppercorn, floral and licorice notes sit atop a core of intense red fruit aromas. Medium in body, it has silky tannins with layers of tart cherry and red plum flavors. The finish is fresh and medium in length with delicious fruit flavors in the aftertaste. United Cellars, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$36

91 Durigutti 2017 Carmela Reserva Las Compuertas Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). The inviting nose opens up with red fruit, and peppercorn followed by baking spices. Ripe fruit flavors are typical of Las Compuertas sub-region and show in this medium-bodied red. Rosemary and a light note of coffee blend with cherry and plum on the balanced palate.

This is a fresher style of Malbec that's very enjoyable. CTS Distributing. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$26

91 Familia Cassone 2017 Obra Prima Coleccion Gran Reserva Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). This fruit-forward wine shows notes of cinnamon and clove on the nose. It's rich and full-bodied with mineral texture and vibrant acidity, backing up the oaky flavors. It delivers plenty of blackberry and blueberry flavors with a dash of peppercorn and coffee that carries through the long finish. Montcalm Wine Importers. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

91 Finca La Anita 2018 Magna Finca Single Vineyard Malbec (Agrelo). Ripe cherry and strawberry on the nose. Light notes of rosemary and cinnamon make the bouquet very attractive. Medium-bodied, it delivers red fruit flavors and herbs all intertwined in the smooth palate. Lively acidity and soft tannins lead to a medium finish with oaky notes. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$75

91 Finca La Luz 2018 Callejon del Crimen Gran Reserva Malbec (Uco Valley). The austere nose shows aromas of flowers and salt. The palate offers red fruit and herbaceous flavors with a touch of smoke that remain well into the aftertaste. This well-crafted Malbec has supple tannins, mineral character, and lively acidity. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$35

91 Pyros 2018 Limestone Hill Malbec (Pederal Valley). Perfumed nose of violets, ripe black fruit and a touch of vanilla. On the palate, plum and cherry with notes of herbs. It's medium-bodied with firm chalky tannins and nice acidity, providing good structure and a fresh finish. This is a Malbec with mineral character. Palm Bay International. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$NA

91 TeHo 2019 Tomal Vineyard Malbec (La Consulta). The nose shows herbs and ripe black fruit flavors with a touch of smoke. Medium-bodied and savory on the palate, this leaner style of Malbec shows peppery spices and cigar box flavors blended with plum and blackberry. It has enough acidity to freshen the medium pleasant finish. Vino Del Sol. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$50

91 Valentín Bianchi 2018 Particular Family Estate Grown Malbec (San Rafael). This rich red offers eucalyptus, peppercorn and vanilla on the aromatic nose. Oak flavors are well-integrated on a savory palate with gripping tannins and mineral character. Notes of green bell pepper and chalk add complexity to the lingering pleasant finish. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$40

90 Antigal 2019 Uno Malbec (Mendoza). For full review see page 27. Cork Alliance. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.9% Price: \$15

90 Antigal 2019 Uno Made With Organic Grapes Malbec (Mendoza). For full review see page 21. Cork Alliance.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$18

90 Coen Wines 2019 Classic Malbec (Uco Valley). This is a flavorful light bodied fresh style of Malbec with clove, flint and plum aromas. On the smooth palate, light tannins and good acidity make it a good red for the summer. Juicy blackberry and plum flavors with a touch of herbs lead to a medium finish. Colangelo & Partners. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$25

90 Kaiken 2020 Estate Malbec (Mendoza). Blackberry and raspberry aromas are followed by light notes of espresso and chalk. Medium firm tannins and good acidity on the smooth palate. This is a medium-bodied wine with plenty of strawberry and blackberry flavors and notes of milk chocolate. It finishes with herbal notes. Guarachi Wine Partners. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$15

90 La Posta 2020 Paulucci Malbec (Mendoza). This well-crafted red offers ripe strawberry and raspberry aromas intertwined with herbs and spices. It's medium-bodied with a balanced acidity and smooth tannins. Earthy, ripe red fruit flavors and a touch of baking spices makes this lively Malbec very enjoyable. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$18

90 Piattelli 2021 Reserve Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). For full review see page 24. Vinocopia.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$17

90 The Pledge 2019 100 Malbec (Argentina). Ripe plum, licorice, and crushed pebbles aromas lead to a flavorful palate with a savory blend of blueberry, blackberry, herbs and chocolate. It is medium-bodied, has slightly unripe tannins, and just enough acidity to back the flavors. Overall, this red is very enjoyable. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$75

89 Alta Vista 2021 Vive Malbec (Mendoza). Blackberry, blueberry, and peppercorn aromas on the nose. Light to medium in weight, the palate offers concentrated black fruit flavors and subtle notes of spices alongside nice acidity. It has a medium fresh finish. It's a great value Malbec. Kobrand. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$12

89 Bodega Norton 2020 Reserva Malbec (Mendoza). This food-friendly wine offers peppercorn, cherry, and a hint of vanilla on the nose. It's medium-bodied with soft tannins, and delivers ripe blackberry flavors with a fresh touch of eucalyptus on the palate. It's a good Malbec for everyday consumption. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$19

89 Durigutti 2018 Reserva Old Vines Signature Wines by Hector Durigutti Malbec (Paraje

Altamira). Chalk, cherry and cranberry on the nose. This wine is medium-bodied, offering a mineral character and light acidity. Red fruit flavors with hints of tobacco linger in the warm finish. The Artisan Collection. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$NA

89 François Lurton 2020 Bodega Piedra Negra Reserve Vino Organico Malbec (Los Chacayes). Grilled bell pepper, aniseed, and chalk fill up the nose. On the palate, it offers herbaceous and concentrated dark fruit flavors with a medium acidity and slightly drying tannins. Pardela USA. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$19

89 Mendoza Vineyards 2017 R&B Single Vineyard Malbec (Mendoza). Ripe plum, bell pepper, tomato leaf and a light note of raisins in the glass of this medium-bodied red. It has soft tannins and light acidity. Cooked black fruit flavors lead to a medium finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$125

88 4 Gatos Locos 2019 Miao Malbec (Gualtallary). Licorice, red berries, and chalk aromas show on the nose. On the palate, it offers chocolate, tart cherry, and earthy flavors with a light balsamic note, framed by unripe tannins. Moderate acidity is just enough to freshen up the lingering finish. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$21

88 Alta Vista 2020 Estate Malbec (Mendoza). This Malbec opens up with floral and vanilla aromas. On the palate, it shows fresh red fruit, oak and peppery spicy flavors. It's medium-bodied and has a short finish with red fruit notes. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$18

88 Doña Paula 2020 Los Cardos Malbec (Mendoza). The enticing nose offers dried herbs, jarilla, peppercorn, and chocolate aromas. It delivers plum and blackberry flavors backed by high acidity. It's a medium-bodied juicy red with light tannins and a pleasant finish. It's perfect for BBQ. Prestige Beverage Group. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$NA

88 Finca Flichman 2020 Gestos Malbec + Malbec (Mendoza). The nose of this medium-bodied wine is rather austere with light notes of herbs and black fruit. On the palate, ripe plum and blueberry blend nicely with herbaceous flavors. It has soft tannins and moderate acidity. The finish is medium in length. Evaton, Inc. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$13

88 Mendel 2018 Finca Remota Malbec (Paraje Altamira). Ripe black fruit flavors on the aromatic nose. It's full-bodied with oaky flavors framed by unripe tannins. Hints of ripe plum and fig quickly fade on an oaky finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

BUYINGGUIDE

88 Santa Julia 2021 Organic Malbec (Mendoza). Strawberry and cherry on this fruit-forward organic red. The palate shows juicy fresh cherry flavors, good acidity and soft tannins. The finish is medium in length. Drink now. Winesellers, Ltd. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$12

88 Sottano 2020 Junior Malbec (Mendoza). Earthy and black fruit aromas on the nose. In this good value red, fruit and herbaceous flavors are intense on the palate. It has smooth tannins, light acidity and a medium finish. Dangerous Import Group. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$10

87 Belasco de Baquedano 2017 AR Guentota Old Vine Malbec (Agrelo-Luján de Cuyo). Licorice, red berries, and peppercorn shape the nose. Ripe red fruit flavors and oaky notes on the palate are subtle. It needs more structure but has good acidity, making the wine a good red for a hot day. Cabernet Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$20

87 Casa de Campo 2020 Malbec (Mendoza). This is a wine for everyday consumption. On the nose, it's fruit forward with light notes of peppercorn. The palate shows bright red fruit flavors, drying tannins and medium acidity. It has a short finish. Indigo Wine Group. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$10

87 Finca la Celia 2020 Reserva Malbec (Uco Valley). Red fruit with a light note of crushed pebbles and spices. This is a juicy fruit-forward red with nice acidity and chewy tannins. Cherry and strawberry flavors on the palate fade away in a fresh, short finish. Drink now. Apollo Fine Wines & Spirits. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$9

87 Lui 2018 Reserva Malbec (Mendoza). Red fruit and flint aromas shape the nose of this medium-bodied red. On the palate, green notes and red berries flavors are mild. It finishes with oaky notes. BuenaVida Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$NA

87 Mendoza Vineyards 2021 Malbec (Mendoza). Red fruit flavors and peppery spices shape the nose of this everyday red. On the palate, it shows ripe cherry flavors, medium unripe tannins, and enough acidity to keep the warm finish on check. Tri-Vin Imports. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$10

87 Santa Julia 2021 [+] Malbec (Mendoza). This light to medium-bodied red opens with peppercorn and blackberry aromas. Soft tannins and moderate acidity frame the sweet notes of ripe black fruit flavors on the palate. It finishes short. Winesellers, Ltd. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$11

87 Vicentin Family NV Reto Malbec (Argentina). Concentrated red fruit aromas with a sub-

tle hint of oak. It's medium bodied with firm and rough tannins. It has enough acidity to lift up the palate where cherry and ripe strawberry flavors are blended with vanilla. It finishes warm. Dangerous Import Group. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$NA

85 Caligore 2019 Single Organic Vineyard Malbec (Luján de Cuyo). Aniseed and ripe red fruit aromas. On the palate, ripe fruit and herbaceous flavors. Light acidity and soft tannins lead to a short finish with green notes. Marquee Selections. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$17

83 Flight of the Condor 2020 Malbec (Mendoza). Ripe fruit, herbaceous and oaky aromas shape the nose. Green, earthy flavors are framed by unripe tannins and medium acidity. It has a short finish. Vintus LLC. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$14

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

90 Alta Vista 2019 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). This flavorful wine opens up with eucalyptus and chocolate aromas followed by red berries and green bell pepper notes. Chalky tannins and moderate acidity provide a good frame for bright strawberry flavors blended with hints of nutmeg and peppercorn on the palate. A coffee note in the finish makes the wine very enjoyable. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$18

90 Bodega Toneles 2019 Tonel 46 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). Tomato leaf, cherry, peppercorn and baking spices on this full-bodied red. It shows good structure, smooth tannins, and nice acidity. Red berries, chocolate, herbs, and hints of peppercorn on the palate. Oaky notes are evident but not overpowering. It has a medium-long finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$18

90 Domaine Bousquet 2019 Gaia Made With Organic Grapes Cabernet Sauvignon (Gualtallary). Green bell pepper and red plum aromas on the nose of this medium-bodied flavorful wine. It shows interesting notes of peppercorn over a core of cherry and plum flavors. It has smooth tannins and lively acidity that makes the wine very enjoyable. WISD LLC. —J.V.
abv: 15% Price: \$NA

90 Estancia Los Cardones 2019 Flor de Cardón Cabernet Sauvignon (Argentina). For full review see page 23. Vino Del Sol.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$22

90 Kaiken 2019 Ultra Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). Aromas of herbs, raspberry, and red plums are inviting. Notes of chalk, black olive, and toasted oak add complexity on the nose. This well-balanced red shows good structure thanks to chalky tannins, and lively acidity. Concentrated

cherry and raspberry flavors blend with hints of chocolate, finishing with earthy notes in the after-taste. Guarachi Wine Partners. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$25

90 TeHo 2019 Zaha Toko Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Paraje Altamira). For full review see page 25. Vino Del Sol.
abv: 14% Price: \$30

90 Valentín Bianchi 2019 Familia Bianchi Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). Aromas of roasted bell pepper and raspberry with a light note of tobacco. Firm tannins and moderate acidity on the palate of this fruit-forward Cabernet Sauvignon with well-integrated oak flavors. Ripe cherry and plum with hints of herbs are backed by vibrant acidity. A note of smoke is present in the medium finish. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$20

89 Durigutti 2019 HD Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon (Paraje Altamira). Ripe plum, fig, bell pepper and cumin fill up the bouquet of this red. The palate offers sweet ripe black fruit flavors framed by light tannins. The finish is medium in length with spices. CTS Distributing. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$18

89 Pascual Toso 2019 Reserva Barrancas Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). Ripe cherry and bell pepper aromas blend with a subtle note of smoke. This wine delivers ripe red plum and roasted bell pepper on the palate. While the wine needs more structure, it is medium-bodied with soft tannins and chocolate notes in the finish, making it very enjoyable. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$25

89 Tapiz 2019 Alta Collection Cabernet Sauvignon (Uco Valley). The grapes for this wine are sourced from San Pablo, one of the newest IG in Mendoza. It shows aromas of aniseed, green bell pepper, and smoke. This Cabernet Sauvignon is full-bodied with oaky flavors almost masking green bell pepper and red fruit subtle notes. It needs more time to develop a rounder palate. Vino Del Sol. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$20

89 Tomero 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). This wine shows intense grape typicality with green bell pepper and red fruit aromas on the nose. It has soft tannins and moderate acidity. Green bell pepper and cherry flavors repeat on the palate. The finish is medium in length with spice notes. USA Wine West. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$15

88 Domaine Bousquet 2019 Gran Made with Organic Grapes Cabernet Sauvignon (Gualtallary). This big red opens with pronounced oaky notes followed by licorice, and strawberry jam aromas. Silky tannins provide structure and nice acidity helps freshen up the warm palate. It offers red fruit, bell pepper flavors with a dose of vanilla. The finish is long. WISD LLC. —J.V.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$NA

88 Pascual Toso 2019 Alta Barrancas Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). This bold full-bodied red opens up in the glass with aromas of vanilla, followed by subtle notes of cherry and plum. The palate is opulent with oaky flavors masking the fruit, and framed by chewy tannins. Vibrant acidity helps balance the flavors but it is not enough to provide freshness. Quintessential Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

87 Agujón De Abeja 2019 Obrera Cabernet Sauvignon (Salta). Fruit-forward, this wine offers aromas of ripe red fruit and hints of herbs. It's medium-bodied with light acidity and rustic tannins. Ripe cherry and blueberry flavors with earthy notes show on the palate. The finish is medium in length. The Artisan Collection. —J.V.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$18

87 Finca Decero 2019 Remolinos Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Agrelo). Blueberry and mint aromas with a touch of vanilla on the nose. This wine is medium-bodied with unripe tannins, and light acidity. Green bell pepper, black and red fruit flavors are featured on the palate. It has a medium finish. Vintus LLC. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

86 Durigutti 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza). Grilled bell pepper, tobacco and plum aromas lead to a soft palate with mild black fruit flavors. Light tannins and a touch of oak add to the slightly warm finish. R&K Imports & Distributions. —J.V.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$18

CABERNET FRANC

92 Desquiciado 2018 Salvaje Cabernet Franc (Tupungato). This well-balanced red opens with black pepper and plum aromas. Hints of licorice and crushed pebbles add complexity to the bouquet. It's full-bodied with a concentrated palate, offering black and red fruit, green bell pepper, and a bright note of mint providing freshness to the lingering finish. United Cellars, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$26

90 Durigutti 2018 Reserva Cabernet Franc (Mendoza). Ripe raspberry, roasted bell pepper and a hint of mint shape the nose of this red. Intense ripe fruit flavors with a light note of smoke on the palate are backed by lively acidity. It's medium-bodied with soft tannins and finishes with green notes in the aftertaste. R&K Imports & Distributions. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$30

90 Kaiken 2018 Obertura Cabernet Franc (Mendoza). Green bell pepper and hints of chalk on the austere nose. This red offers subtle flavors, chalky tannins, a mineral texture and good acidity. Herbs and concentrated black fruit flavors in the lingering finish. Guarachi Wine Partners. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

88 Argentó 2018 Single Vineyard Finca Agrelo Organic Vineyard Cabernet Franc (Mendoza). This medium-bodied red opens with green and smoky notes followed by red fruit. Good acidity provides some freshness to the austere palate. Notes of cherry and herbs fade away in the lingering smoky finish. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

BONARDA

91 Lamadrid 2020 Single Vineyard Bonarda (Agrelo). Tomato leaf and peppercorn aromas sit atop a core of raspberry and blackberry flavors. Medium-bodied with soft tannins, the palate features concentrated black fruit flavors, spices and a light note of herbs. It has a lot of depth, medium acidity and a lingering finish. If you are new to Bonarda, this is a good wine to start your journey. Vino Del Sol. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$NA

90 La Posta 2020 Armando Bonarda (Mendoza). This red opens with vanilla and nutmeg aromas followed by cherry and red plum. The palate shows intense red fruit flavors with a hint of vanilla. It's balanced with good acidity, and finishes with a light note of oak. Vine Connections. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Chakana 2020 Sobrenatural Organic Bonarda (Mendoza). Tart cherry, licorice, salt and a light earthy note shape the nose of this wine made with grapes from certified biodynamic vineyards, and with no added sulfites. Chalky tannins and lively acidity provide structure to red berry flavors. Drink it slightly chilled. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

87 Tercos 2020 Bonarda (Mendoza). Cooked strawberry, raspberry, and meaty aromas. This light-bodied red delivers plenty of red fruit and earthy flavors on the palate alongside vibrant acidity. A slight chill on this light style of Bonarda will bring out its best attributes. Drink now. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

RED BLENDS

94 Luca 2019 Beso de Dante (Uco Valley). This elegant blend offers green bell pepper and cherry with a touch of nutmeg and vanilla on the nose. It's full-bodied with firm tannins and vibrant acidity providing a good structure. Fresh red fruit and herbs are nicely blended with baking spices on the silky palate. It has a lingering finish with fruit flavors in the aftertaste. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

93 Vistalba 2017 Corte A (Mendoza). The nose is loaded with ripe black cherry and blackberry aromas, and a pleasing note of smoke. Full-

bodied, it is flavorful yet vibrant on the palate with good supporting fine-grained tannins. Ripe cherry and bell pepper notes are backed by nice acidity, providing freshness to the lingering finish. USA Wine West. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

91 Doña Paula 2019 Altitude Series 1100 (San Carlos). This wine is a blend of Malbec, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. It opens with a mix of cinnamon and nutmeg followed by raspberry aromas. It's full-bodied, has nice acidity and silky tannins. The palate offers honest juicy cherry and raspberry flavors with a touch of baking spices and herbs. The lingering finish shows a light note of coffee. Prestige Beverage Group. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

91 El Enemigo 2017 Gran Enemigo (Mendoza). This Malbec-dominant blend opens with earthy and dark chocolate notes followed by aromas of ripe blackberry. It's balanced and has smooth tannins framing black fruit, spices and coffee bean flavors. The finish is long with oaky notes in the aftertaste. It's very enjoyable. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$75

91 Finca El Origen 2019 PHI High-Altitude Vineyard (Los Chacayes). This elegant Malbec-based blend with a touch of Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot shows ripe blackberry, salt and coffee aromas. It's full-bodied with ripe firm tannins. Black ripe fruit flavors of blackberry and blueberry mix with a hint of smoke. Lively acidity freshens up the slightly warm finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —J.V.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$50

91 Piattelli 2019 Trinità Grand Reserve (Mendoza). For full review see page 20. Vinocopia.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$27

90 Familia Blanco 2017 Red Blend (Mendoza). Ripe plum and blackberry show on the nose of this blend. Subtle notes of tobacco and cinnamon are inviting. This is a rich full-bodied red with plenty of oak but it doesn't feel too heavy on the palate. Plum, bell pepper, and spices are framed by nice acidity. Terroir Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

90 Fuego Blanco 2019 Malbec-Syrah (Pedernal Valley). A blend of Malbec and Syrah, this red opens with aromas of star anise, chocolate and red berries. It's medium-bodied and has good acidity. The palate contrasts cherry and red plum flavors with earthy and chocolate notes. It has a medium finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$45

88 Salentein 2017 Numina Spirit Vineyard Grand Corte (Uco Valley). Overripe plum and vanilla aromas shape the nose of this blend. It's full-bodied with oaky and overripe fruit flavors on the

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palate, finishing with coffee notes. Palm Bay International. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$41

85 Piattelli 2017 Arlene Series (Cafayate). Black olive and overripe fruit flavors on the nose of this blend. On the palate, subtle notes of ripe plum with oaky flavors. It finishes warm. Vinocopia. —J.V.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$22

CHILE

SAUVIGNON BLANC

90 Morandé 2020 Gran Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). White flowers, apricot, and lemon shape the nose. On the palate, are ripe lemon, linden tea and stone-fruit flavors. Aged in *foudres*, the contact with oak added complexity to the wine while preserving its freshness. It has a medium finish with saline notes. It's very enjoyable. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Siegel 2021 Special Reserve Sauvignon Blanc (Leyda Valley). Pronounced herbal aromas dominate this wine, only allowing light citrus and wet stones notes to emerge. Mineral texture and lively acidity makes this wine very refreshing. Citrus flavors of grapefruit and lime show on the balanced and round palate. It has a pleasant, medium-long finish. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

89 Casas del Bosque 2020 La Cantera Botanic Series Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). The complex nose offers aromas of wet stones, lime, grass, and a light note of peach. This refreshing white delivers plenty of citrus and herbaceous flavors alongside vibrant acidity and a mineral character. It has a lingering citrus finish. Southern Starz, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Siegel 2021 Crucero Collection Sauvignon Blanc (Curicó Valley). This white offers white flowers, lime and wet stone notes with a hint of chalk. Light flavors of green apple and lemon zest are well integrated alongside a mineral character. Bright acidity freshens up the bitter pleasant finish. Kysela Père et Fils. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

89 Veramonte 2021 Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). For full review see page 29. Gonzalez Byass USA. **Best Buy.**
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

88 Santa Carolina 2021 Carolina Gran Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Leyda Valley). Intense herbaceous and citrus notes fill up the bouquet. This highly citrus white has linear acidity and delivers white-grapefruit and lime flavors, with a touch

of asparagus. It finishes with a lemony note. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Santa Carolina 2021 Carolina Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Leyda Valley). Bright lemon and pear aromas show on the nose. On the palate, it offers herbal notes, with hints of white peach and pear that fade out fast towards the end. It's a lively light-bodied white for everyday consumption. Carolina Wine Brands USA. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$13

88 Ventisquero 2021 Las Cartas Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). For full review see page 30. Vino Del Sol. **Best Buy.**
abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

88 Viña Centenaria 2021 Singerstone Sauvignon Blanc (Central Valley). Intense pyrazine aromas meet with light notes of citrus fruit on the nose. The palate features flavors of lemon, white grapefruit and herbs. Vibrant acidity adds freshness making the wine more approachable. It's a good Sauvignon Blanc for the summer. Santa Rita USA Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

87 Amayna 2021 Estate Bottled Sauvignon Blanc (Leyda Valley). White-grapefruit and herbaceous aromas show on the nose. Mineral character and nice acidity provide a good mouthfeel on the palate, supporting refreshing citrus-fruit flavors. The finish is short and slightly warm. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

87 Carmen 17 Gran Reserva Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). This is an austere light-bodied wine that you can sip on a very hot day. The nose shows light citrus and herbaceous notes. Nice acidity and citrus flavors are evident on the palate. It has a short clean finish. Santa Rita USA Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

87 Casas del Bosque 2021 Reserva Single Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Celery and white-grapefruit aromas are aggressive. This white is all about citrus fruit, with a light note of linden tea in the aftertaste. Southern Starz, Inc. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Garcés Silva 2021 Boya Certified Sustainable Sauvignon Blanc (Leyda Valley). This lively Sauvignon blanc offers lime and mango aromas, with hints of pineapple. On the palate, it has bracing acidity and fruit flavors. Mango, pear, and lemon lead to a medium finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$15

87 Loma Larga 2021 Lomas Del Valle Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Lime, peach and pineapple aromas are featured. Light bodied, this wine offers mild citrus and tropical-fruit flavors

alongside gentle acidity leading to a short clean finish. W. Direct. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$27

87 Misiones de Rengo 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Central Valley). Lemon and tangerine aromas shape the nose. The palate is austere with citrus flavors running alongside lively acidity, leading to a short finish with citrus notes. Terroir Connections. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$10

87 Salvaje 2021 Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Central Valley). Citrus aromas with herbaceous and buttery notes show on the nose. The palate has a mineral character and is balanced. It delivers citrus and yellow-apple flavors, leading to a pleasant finish. Vinamericas, Inc.. —J.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$NA

84 Albamar 2021 Estate Series Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Citrus fruit, pear and hints of smoke can be detected on the austere nose. On the palate, light flavors of ripe apple and pear appear alongside medium acidity lead to a bitter finish. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

84 Lapostolle 2021 Grand Selection Sauvignon Blanc (Rapel Valley). Tropical-fruit aromas dominate, with a light note of celery. It has light acidity and basic tropical-fruit flavors. The finish is warm with bitter green notes. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

84 Tololo 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Central Valley). Generic ripe citrus aromas come from the nose. The palate shows ripe citrus fruit and apples. It has a short bitter finish. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$12

CHARDONNAY

92 Morandé 2020 Edición Limitada Black Traiguén Chardonnay (Malleco). This well-balanced white from one of the southernmost regions of Chile, offers mango, herbs and wet stones aromas. Tropical fruits blend beautifully, with herbs and citrus notes denoting the cool region where it was crafted. Hints of linden tea and smoke add to the complexity of the palate. Vibrant acidity freshens up the lemony finish. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

88 Santa Carolina 2021 Carolina Reserva Chardonnay (Maule Valley). Enticing aromas of lime and herbs appear on the nose. The palate has a mineral character and medium acidity. Flavors of lime, chamomile, peach and a dash of oak lead to a citrus finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

87 Viña Aquitania 2021 Chardonnay (Malleco). The nose offers aromas of citrus fruit, with hints of grass. It's light in weight, with medium acidity. A light note of peach and mango leads to a short finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

85 Valle De Viñedo 2021 Chardonnay (Maule Valley). The nose is austere with light notes of lime. On the palate, citrus-fruit flavors and a hint of smoke can be detected. It has a light acidity and short finish. Penrose Hill. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$23

OTHER WHITE WINES

87 J. Bouchon 2019 Block Series Semillon (Maule Valley). Aromas of lime, peach and a light note of herbs shape the nose. The palate has a slightly creamy texture, and delivers flavors of ripe peach and mango backed by medium acidity. The finish is bitter and short. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

86 Morandé 2021 Terroir Wines Semillón (Maule Valley). The nose presents generic citrus aromas blended with herbaceous and peppercorn notes. The palate shows citrus fruit and gentle acidity. The finish is short. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$13

86 Mayu 2021 Huanta Vineyard Pedro Ximénez (Elquí Valley). Aromas of orange zest and lime shape the nose of this white. It's light bodied and presents citrus flavors on the palate. A very light acidity leads to a lemony finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

84 Santa Rita 2021 120 Reserva Especial Pinot Grigio (Central Valley). Aromas of ripe citrus fruit show on the nose. Light in weight, the palate presents citrus fruit, green apple and ripe stone-fruit flavors with a hint of vanilla. Light acidity leads to a short finish. Delicato Family Wines. —J.V.
abv: 9% **Price:** \$9

ROSÉS

89 Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) 2021 Los Vascos Rosé (Colchagua Valley). Strawberry and raspberry aromas appear, with a light note of orange zest. This rosé is fresh on the palate and has a mineral character. Strawberry and citrus notes are bright alongside nice acidity. The finish is short and clean. Taub Family Selections. *Best Buy.* —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

89 Montes 2021 Cherub Rosé (Colchagua Valley). Raspberry and cherry notes shape the nose of this rosé made of Syrah and Grenache grapes. The flavorful palate offers strawberry and cherry flavors

backed by lively acidity. It has a pleasant and short finish. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

88 Lapostolle 2021 Le Rosé (Chile). The delicate nose offers raspberry, orange zest and white flowers. This wine has a mineral character and light notes of red fruit on the palate, with medium acidity. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

84 Santa Ema 2021 Select Terroir Reserva Rosé (Maipo Valley). Strawberry, watermelon aromas on the nose are inviting, while the palate shows ripe fruit flavors, and light acidity leading to a warm finish. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$10

83 Calcu 2021 Gran Reserva Malbec Rosé (Colchagua Valley). This rosé has generic red-berry aromas. The palate is flat, with mild fruit flavors and a short finish. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$13

PINOT NOIR

90 Amayna 2019 Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). The aromatic nose offers red-currant and crushed pebbles aromas. This medium-bodied wine shows cherry and red-currant flavors with hints of tobacco. It has a juicy acidity, mineral texture and a lingering finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

90 Montes 2020 Alpha Pinot Noir (Aconcagua Costa). Ripe cherry, nutmeg, and a light note of salt arise from the glass. Silky tannins frame the flavorful palate. Cherry, plum, and cinnamon flavors (with a light note of espresso) are backed by just enough acidity to freshen the medium finish. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Viña Marty 2020 Goutte D'Argent Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). This wine shows bright strawberry, and raspberry aromas on the aromatic nose. Good acidity provides freshness to the juicy palate. It offers red-fruit flavors and a touch of spices. It's not a complex Pinot Noir but it's a very enjoyable wine. Kindred Vines. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

89 Undurraga 2019 Trama Pinot Noir (San Antonio). Herbaceous notes blend with red-plum and cranberry aromas and hints of salt in this wine from a coastal region. The palate offers red fruit, earthy, and chocolate flavors framed by smooth medium tannins. Good acidity remains throughout the medium finish. Freedom Beverage Co. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$45

88 Garcés Silva 2019 Boya Certified Sustainable Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). Hints of rose petal and flint shape the nose. Red fruits and spices as

well as a mineral character are featured on the palate. It has light acidity and is easy to drink. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$18

88 Siegel 2019 Special Reserve Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). Coffee beans, cherry and red-plum aromas show in the nose of this fruit-forward Pinot Noir. On the palate, is ripe cherry, with hints of chocolate. It has enough acidity to freshen the short finish. Drink now. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$18

87 Santa Carolina 2020 Carolina Reserva Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). This fruit-forward Pinot Noir offers tart cherry and chocolate notes on the nose. The palate features drying tannins and good acidity supporting cherry, red-plum and oak flavors that last throughout the medium finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

86 Concha y Toro 2019 Amelia Quebrada Seca Pinot Noir (Limarí Valley). Aromas of nutmeg and cranberry shape the nose. On the palate, ripe plum and blackberry flavors are framed by unripe tannins. It finishes short. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

86 Morandé 2020 Gran Reserva Pinot Noir (Casablanca Valley). Light notes of cherry and wood spice appear in the rather austere nose. On the palate are aniseed, herbal and red-fruit flavors. The drying tannins are not firm enough to provide a good structure. It has a short finish. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

84 Cigar Box 2020 Pinot Noir (Leyda Valley). Herbal, plum, and oak aromas and flavors sit alongside unripe tannins while light acidity shows up on the palate of this red. It has a short and bitter finish. Santa Rita USA Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

94 Viña Don Melchor 2019 Puente Alto Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Puente Alto). The nose of this flavorful red opens up with raspberry, cherry, licorice and peppercorn aromas. Well-integrated tannins are smooth and provide a good structure to the palate. Black and red fruit appear alongside dried herbs and vanilla flavors. It has depth and is balanced, with a lingering spiciness on the finish. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$150

93 Carmen 2019 Gold Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Hints of candied cherry, tomato leaf, and eucalyptus shape the nose of this well-balanced red. Bright plum and cherry flavors blend beautifully with vanilla notes added by a smart use of oak. This is a full-bodied and rich wine

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with silky tannins and a long finish. Santa Rita USA Corporation. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$100

93 Santa Rita 2019 Casa Real Reserva Especial Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Aromas of green bell pepper, tobacco, and black fruit fill up the bouquet of this smooth wine sourced from old vines in Alto Jahuel. On the palate, hints of spices appear alongside ripe black cherries, plum, blueberry, and oaky flavors. It has firm tannins and lingering chocolate notes on the finish. Delicato Family Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$100

90 Morandé 2019 Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Crushed pebbles, peppercorn, and rosemary fill up the bouquet of this lively red. It has a mineral texture and juicy red fruit, with herbaceous notes on the midpalate. Smooth tannins and vibrant acidity provide a good mouthfeel. The finish is slightly warm. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$20

90 Santa Rita 2019 Medalla Real Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Aniseed, mint and ripe red-berry aromas blend with a light balsamic note that adds complexity to the bouquet. On the palate, this medium-bodied wine offers ripe black and red fruit alongside hints of black olive backed by nice acidity. It finishes long with fruit flavors. Delicato Family Wines. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$20

90 Undurraga 2019 T.H. Terroir Hunter Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Herbs, ripe plum, and leather meet in the glass of this well-balanced wine. This wine might need more time to fully develop but is ready to be paired with barbecue. Red plum, cherry and a light note of herbs are backed but nice acidity and chewy tannins. It finishes with vanilla notes in the aftertaste. Freedom Beverage Co. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$NA

89 Casa Silva 2020 Los Lingues Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Colchagua Valley). Dark chocolate, ripe cherry and subtle notes of oak waft from the glass of this full-bodied red. Gripping tannins and nice acidity provide a good mouthfeel. Savory flavors of green bell pepper, ripe plum and blueberries lead the way to a medium finish. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$20

89 Qu 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Valley). Grilled bell pepper, ripe raspberry, baking spices and a light note of smoke fill up the bouquet. Tannins are firm but slightly harsh. Savory herbaceous and peppery notes intertwine with ripe red-fruit flavors. Overall, this is a balanced full-bodied red. Naked Wines. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$17

89 Sierra Bato 2019 Reserva Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon (Maule Valley). For full review see page 29. Invina. *Best Buy*.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$12

89 Ventisquero 2019 Grey Glacier Single Block Trinidad Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). The nose is austere and presents notes of toasted oak and cherry. On the palate, the oaky flavors blend with hints of mint, cherry and red plums. The finish is medium with earthy flavors in the aftertaste. Austral Wines. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$24

88 Concha y Toro 2019 Serie Riberas Gran Reserva Ribera del Tinguiririca Cabernet Sauvignon (Colchagua Valley). Aromas of oregano, smoke and red fruit are detected in the glass. The palate delivers cherry and raspberry flavors, with green bell pepper and oaky notes. It has soft tannins and nice acidity to provide balance. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$17

88 Siegel 2019 Über Cuvée Cabernet Sauvignon (Colchagua Valley). This red offers peppercorn and plum aromas. The juicy palate shows herbaceous notes, with a touch of coffee over mild flavors of black fruit framed by chunky tannins. It has a nice medium finish. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$14

88 Viña Tarapacá 2019 Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Notes of nutmeg, plum, dried herbs and oak fill up the bouquet. It has a mineral texture and firm tannins. Black-fruit flavors and vanilla with a touch of spices are featured on the fresh palate. It has a medium finish. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$18

87 Anakena 2020 Nuna Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Chile). Ripe red-fruit aromas, with notes of cumin and raisins, shape the nose. The palate is smooth and offers ripe berries, plum and a touch of spices. The finish is medium in length with overripe fruit flavors. Drink now. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$13

87 TerraNoble 2019 Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon (Colchagua Valley). Grilled green bell pepper, basil and hints of tart red fruit are found on the nose of this medium-bodied red. Rich fruit flavors of red berries and pomegranate blend with green notes. It has medium acidity and finishes a little warm. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$19

87 Viña Ralco 2019 Red Elephant Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Valley). The nose of this red opens up with oaky aromas followed by cherry and herbs. The oak is a little bit overpowering masking the fruit flavors on the palate. Light tannins and low acidity lead to a short finish. Lieber Bros Inc. *Best Buy*. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$12

86 Santa Rita 2020 Secret Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Notes of dark chocolate, spices and red berry are featured on the nose. Medium bodied, with light tannins and gentle acidity, the palate shows tangy red-fruit flavors with light notes of smoke. The finish is short. Delicato Family Wines. *Best Buy*. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$13

86 Sea Oaks 2020 Craftsman's Collection Estate Grown Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Valley). Green-olive and cranberry aromas shape the nose. The palate features concentrated generic red-fruit flavors with oaky notes. It has a medium acidity and unripe tannins. The finish is short. Puerto Viejo Wines. —J.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$14

CARMENÈRE

90 Concha y Toro 2019 Serie Riberas Gran Reserva Ribera del Cachapoal Carmenere (Cachapoal Valley). For full review see page 22. Fetzer Vineyards.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$17

90 Concha y Toro 2019 Terrunyo Carmenere (Peumo). The aromatic nose displays scents of vanilla, tomato leaf and blackberry. This is a full-bodied wine with gripping tannins. The palate shows intense blueberry and blackberry flavors, with hints of baking spices and just enough acidity to freshen up the lingering finish. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$40

90 TerraNoble 2019 CA2 Costa Carmenere (Colchagua Valley). The austere nose shows light notes of salt, herbs and cherry. This wine from the Colchagua coastal region is full bodied and has firm tannins alongside vibrant acidity. Bright red fruit flavors lead to a medium finish with a light note of spices in the aftertaste. Winebow Imports. —J.V.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$29

88 Ochagavia 2020 Don Silvestre Reserva Carmenere (Rapel Valley). Aromas suggest tart cherry, cumin and dried herbs with a hint of milk chocolate. Medium bodied, the palate presents silky tannins and fruit flavors of plum and cherry with herbaceous notes followed by a medium finish. Carolina Wine Brands USA. *Best Buy*. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$10

87 Casa Silva 2020 Los Lingues Vineyard Carmenere (Colchagua Valley). Aromas of ripe blueberry and blackberry are met with a hint of mint. Medium bodied with firm tannins, the palate offers ripe black-fruit flavors, with hints of licorice and coffee bean. The finish is medium in length. Vine Connections. —J.V.
abv: 14% Price: \$20

87 Concha y Toro 2020 Casillero Del Diablo Reserva Carmenere (Chile). For full review see page 30. Fetzer Vineyards. *Best Buy.* abv: 13.5% Price: \$12

87 Santa Ema 2020 Select Terroir Reserva Carmenere (Cachapoal Valley). Aromas of candied cherry and strawberry (alongside a light note of cigar box and peppercorn) show in the glass. The palate features plenty of fruit, with a touch of oak flavors framed by smooth tannins. The finish is a little warm but high acidity keeps it on check. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. *Best Buy.* —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$10

86 Veramonte 2020 Reserva Carmenere (Colchagua Valley). Meaty and earthy aromas come from the austere nose. Red-fruit and herbaceous flavors, as well as hints of coffee are featured on the palate alongside unripe tannins. It's medium bodied and has a short finish. Gonzalez Byass USA. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$14

85 Santa Rita 2020 120 Reserva Especial Carmenere (Central Valley). Intense generic aromas offer red berry and peppercorn. On the palate, it is tart cherry and cranberry. It's very light in weight, has soft tannins and high acidity that leads to a short finish. Delicato Family Wines. *Best Buy.* —J.V. abv: 13% Price: \$9

84 Rayun 2019 Carmenère (Central Valley). The nose opens up with ripe blueberry and raisins. Peppery flavors mix with overripe red fruit. It lacks body and acidity. The finish is short. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —J.V. abv: 13% Price: \$10

RED BLENDS

94 Domus Aurea 2019 Red Blend (Maipo Valley). Aniseed, cumin and black fruit aromas are found in the glass of this aromatic red. On the palate, it's smooth, balanced, and flavorful. It displays intense notes of blackberry and plum, with hints of spices. Silky tannins and vibrant acidity provide a good structure. The finish is long and delicious. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V. abv: 14.9% Price: \$75

93 Almaviva 2019 Puente Alto (Maipo Valley). This Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend shows dried herbs, nutmeg, green bell pepper, and hints of tobacco on the nose. The palate has good structure, medium acidity, and velvet tannins. Oak adds smoky notes to the mix of ripe blueberry and plum. It's delicate and has a smooth lingering finish. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —J.V. abv: 15% Price: \$150

91 San Pedro 2019 Sideral Andes (Cachapoal Valley). Aromas of cherry and plum are inviting. Smooth and firm tannins provide good structure to this full-bodied blend. The palate features

intense flavors of blueberry and plum, with notes of cinnamon. Good acidity freshens up the medium-long finish. It shows dark-chocolate notes in the aftertaste. Misa Imports. —J.V. abv: 14.5% Price: \$NA

90 Carmen 2019 Delanz (Maipo Valley). This Cabernet Sauvignon based-blend opens with black-olive and raspberry aromas. A hint of mint adds complexity. Firm tannins and lively acidity, alongside herbs, juicy plum and peppercorn flavors, make this wine very enjoyable. It finishes with leather notes in the aftertaste. Santa Rita USA Corporation. —J.V. abv: 13.5% Price: \$35

90 Casa Donoso 2018 Sucesor Red Limited Release Carmenère-Malbec (Maule Valley). Cumin and subtle notes of red fruit shape the nose of this blend of Carmenère and Malbec. On the palate, it's rich with red-plum and cherry flavors. Hints of herbaceous notes are elevated by the freshness provided by good acidity. It finishes with oaky flavors. The Imported Grape LLC. —J.V. abv: 13.5% Price: \$28

90 Tutunjian 2018 Entre Valles (Central Valley). Licorice, oregano leaves, paprika and cherry are on the nose. This Cabernet Sauvignon dominant-blend is medium bodied and has good acidity. Spices blend with black- and red-fruit flavors on a smooth palate framed by soft tannins. It has a medium finish. The Imported Grape LLC. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$25

90 Viñedos Marchigüe 2020 Panilonco Chief of Lions Reserva Merlot-Malbec (Colchagua Valley). For full review see page 26. Evaki Imports Inc. abv: 13.5% Price: \$20

89 Baron Philippe de Rothschild 2019 Escudo Rojo Gran Reserva (Central Valley). The nose delivers clove, cinnamon and peppercorn aromas, with notes of red berry. On the palate, rich fruit and herbaceous flavors are backed by a nice acidity and slightly rough tannins. The finish is pleasant and medium in length. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$NA

89 Viñedos Marchigüe 2019 Santa Marta Reserva (Colchagua Valley). The aromatic nose presents notes of grilled bell pepper, ripe red berries, licorice and a hint of coffee. This is a full-bodied blend of 70% Merlot and 30% Malbec, it delivers dark chocolate blended with plum, cherry and herbaceous flavors alongside a fresh acidity. It's balanced and has a medium-long finish. Evaki Imports Inc. —J.V. abv: 13.5% Price: \$20

89 Montes 2019 Twins (Colchagua Valley). Red-fruit flavors, with notes of smoke and herbs are on the nose of this flavorful blend. It's full bodied and has well-integrated tannins. On the palate, oaky notes are intense but rich fruit flavors and

enough acidity make the wine enjoyable. Kobrand. —J.V. abv: 14.5% Price: \$17

89 MontGras 2019 Quatro (Colchagua Valley). There are aromas of green bell pepper, mint, and black olives. Full bodied and round on the palate, it offers up light notes of oak and red fruit, dominated by herbaceous flavors that remain well into the aftertaste. With its silky tannins, vibrant acidity, and lingering finish, it is a balanced and uncomplicated red. Guarachi Wine Partners. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$18

88 Lapostolle 2020 Red Blend (Apalta). This Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend displays notes of raspberry and chocolate on the austere nose. On the palate, red-fruit and earthy flavors, with hints of spices, are framed by drying tannins. Drink now while the freshness lasts. Winebow Imports. —J.V. abv: 14.5% Price: \$19

88 Santa Ema 2019 Barrel Reserve 60/40 Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot (Maipo Valley). The nose offers intense aromas of clove, licorice and chocolate. On the palate ripe red berries and earthy flavors are supported by chewy tannins and medium acidity. It has a short finish with oaky notes. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. *Best Buy.* —J.V. abv: 13.5% Price: \$13

87 Bodegas Tagua Tagua 2018 Familia Correa Lisoni Gran Reserva Estate Bottled (Maule Valley). Aromas of raspberry, tomato leaf and coffee are on the nose. It's medium bodied, with drying tannins and plum flavors. It finishes with notes of tobacco. International Distributing Group. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$15

87 Cono Sur 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon-Carmenere-Syrah (Chile). Aromas of spices and green bell pepper are on the nose of this full-bodied blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Carmenère and Syrah. The same flavors repeat on the palate, while hints of tobacco add complexity. It has light acidity and a medium-warm finish. Drink now. Fetzer Vineyards. *Best Buy.* —J.V. abv: 13.5% Price: \$11

87 Montes 2020 Limited Selection Cabernet Sauvignon-Carmenère (Colchagua Valley). Red berries and vanilla aromas are on the nose. It's full bodied and has slightly drying tannins. Red- and black-fruit flavors are blended with oaky notes alongside a medium acidity. The finish is medium in length. Kobrand. —J.V. abv: 14.5% Price: \$17

86 Calcu 2019 Escarlata (Colchagua Valley). Wood-spice and red-plum aromas are found on the nose. This wine is medium bodied with unripe tannins and medium acidity. Oak notes blend with blueberries and plum flavors leading to a sweet vanilla finish. Global Vineyard Importers. —J.V. abv: 14% Price: \$12

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86 Siegel 2019 Reserva (Colchagua Valley). Herb and flint aromas are evident on the nose. The palate presents cooked red fruit alongside a medium acidity and unripe tannins. The finish is short. Kysela Père et Fils. —J.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

84 Luma Chequén 2018 Gran Reserva Estate Bottled (Maule Valley). Overripe black-fruit aromas are matched by the flavors. Medium acidity and light tannins lead to a short finish. Invena. —J.V.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$15

84 The Seeker 2019 Red Blend (Central Valley). This wine shows oaky notes, with a hint of cherry aromas and flavors. Soft tannins and medium acidity are not enough to provide a good structure. The finish is medium in length. Kobrand. —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

83 Dancing Flame 2020 Ojos del Salado (Central Valley). Generic red-fruit aromas with earthy notes shape the nose. The palate is filled with overripe red fruit. This wine lacks body and acidity, and has a bittersweet finish. Prestige Beverage Group. **Best Buy.** —J.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$5

CALIFORNIA CHARDONNAY

97 Chanin 2020 Zotovich Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Expertly subtle yet intoxicatingly addictive aromas of lemon peel, crisp nectarine and honeysuckle show on the nose of this single-vineyard showcase. The grip is insanelly chalky and grippy, framing brilliantly alkaline flavors of crushed seashell, lemon blossom, lemon curd and complex chamomile. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

96 Chanin 2020 Bien Nacido Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). Very light and delicate on the nose, this single-vineyard showcase from a historic property starts with aromas of nectarine, almond, white rocks and flint. Tightly wound on the pure and expressive palate, the wine offers rounded flavors of salted apple, peach blossom and clarified butter, proving endlessly engaging. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

95 Chanin 2020 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Soft nectarine and elegant yellow apple aromas are sprinkled with salt, lime zest and chalk on the nose of this bottling. It's lively and lemony on the palate, where a tense structure and energetic acidity deliver refreshing stone fruit flavors before a nuttier finish. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$55

95 Lynmar Estate 2020 La Sereinite Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). Voluptuous in style and impressively complex, this white offers a grainy texture and balanced acidity, accentuated by flavors of lemon verbena, green apple and mango.

The freshness persists and complements the richer, creamier aspects of the wine. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$73

95 Murder Ridge 2019 Perli Vineyard Chardonnay (Mendocino Ridge). For full review see page 6. **Editors' Choice.**
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$38

94 Chamisal 2019 Chamise Chardonnay (Edna Valley). This is a delicious wine on all fronts, starting with the nose, which presents the aroma of white peach drizzled in lemon juice, sprinkled with sea salt and warmed on a cedar plank. The palate combines toasted almond, sea salt and preserved lemon flavors with a zesty acidity, full mouthfeel and vanilla-kissed finish. —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$75

94 Lynmar Estate 2020 Quail Hill Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). Entirely barrel-fermented from the prime of the estate, this is a sumptuous and complete wine, with lovely notes of Meyer lemon, green apple and wet stone. Round and rich, it shows a balanced approach to the vintage and site. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$63

94 Nid Tissé 2019 Bacigalupi Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). Made in tiny quantities, this white is floral and inviting with anise and vanilla bean. Textured and complex, it is balanced in richness and acidity, with lasting layers of stone fruit and Gravenstein apple. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$78

94 Ridge 2020 Monte Bello Estate Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Cruz Mountains). There's a stunningly flinty aroma to the nose of this bottling, like smoke from chiseled granite, as well as hints of citrus peel. The palate grabs hold with a grippy tension, carrying flavors of crushed stones, singed lemon pith and light oak spice. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$60

94 Testarossa 2020 La Rinconada Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Light hints of mint, freshly cut lemon and tangerine and polished stones awash in glacial melt make for an utterly fresh nose on this bottling. The racy palate is laser-focused, jetting from stone and ash to white melon to lime pith, with a citrus balm finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$53

94 Williams Selyem 2020 Olivet Lane Vineyard Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 9.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

93 Big Basin 2019 Coastview Vineyard Chardonnay (Monterey County). Lemon curd and balm aromas meet with blanched almond and subtle macadamia nut aromas on the nose of this bottling from a remote mountaintop vineyard. The palate is quite dynamic, blending pear and nectarine

flesh flavors with lime juice and crushed almonds. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$48

93 Chamisal 2019 Califa Chardonnay (Edna Valley). Creamy aromas of browned buttermilk, toasted almonds and seared lemon show on the lush but balanced nose of this bottling. The palate is fuller bodied, with rounded flavors of macadamia nut and salt cut by grapefruit and white melon freshness, as vanilla brioche pops on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Chanin 2020 Los Alamos Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Barbara County). Light pear flesh, lemon butter and chiseled sandstone aromas show on the nose of this bottling. Warmer flavors of pear flesh, lime juice and chalk make for a fresh, fun and approachable palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

93 Gainey 2020 Limited Selection Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Classically rich though well-polished aromas of peach, coconut oil and light wood spice show on the nose of this bottling. There's a very stony grip to the palate, where waves of apricot, almond and sea salt push into a lingering pecan note on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$40

93 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Chardonnay (Edna Valley). Toasty aromas of crème brûlée, salted hazelnuts and buttery pecan make for a very comforting and inviting nose on this bottling. The palate is loaded with a nutty richness as well, from hazelnut to pecan, but there's ample lemony acidity to maintain vibrancy. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$42

93 Loring Wine Company 2020 Peterson Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Lucia Highlands). Both tightly wound and generous on the nose, this bottling offers chalk alongside pineapple and buttercream on the nose. A white rock tension frames the sip, where lemon sorbet and Makrut lime leaf flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

93 Lynmar Estate 2020 Old Vines Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). With tension and texture, this 100% barrel-fermented white is medium-bodied and rich in honeycomb, with a contrast of fresh citrus-boosting acidity and notes of green apple, pear and orange blossom. It unfurls slowly in the glass with underlying notes of dried herb. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$73

93 Nid Tissé 2019 Hyde Chardonnay (Carmers). From the famous site, this small-production white is lovely and elegant, having flavors of citrus peel, lemon verbena and slate. With a richer mid-palate, its acidity persists and maintains a complex core of well-mannered and integrated oak. —V.B.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$70

93 Pahlmeyer 2020 Chardonnay (Napa Valley). Sumptuously inviting with its flavors of brioche and crème brûlée, this white is decadent and tropical, with enduring richness on the palate. Dried apricot, pineapple and a dusting of nutmeg and clove give it a spicy edge that works well against the prominent oak. —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$110

92 Baileyana 2020 Firepeak Chardonnay (Edna Valley). Light and clean aromas of pear, chalk and chiseled stone make a complex introduction to the nose of this wine, which is widely available and fairly priced. The palate grabs hold with a tactile texture, then delivers waves of nectarine, melon and pineapple, with a sea salt kick on the finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

92 Big Basin 2019 Howard Family Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Cruz Mountains). Stony aromas of wet rocks lead into tart citrus peel, apricot and yellow melon scents on the nose of this bottling. Baked and fresh lemon flavors pop in the palate, where macadamia nut, wet stone and salmon flesh flavors make for an intriguing experience. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$48

92 Brutocao 2019 Reserve Estate Chardonnay (Mendocino). For full review see page 13.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$32

92 Calstar Cellars 2017 Manchester Ridge Vineyard Cuvée Ann Chardonnay (Mendocino Ridge). Deliciously ripe and concentrated, this full-bodied wine pairs ample pear and apple flavors with significant oak spices—toast, butter and ginger—that match the fruit intensity quite well. It's attractive from the vivid gold color through to the lingering finish. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$40

92 Dupuis 2019 Ferrington Chardonnay (Anderson Valley). This fresh-tasting, lively and well-balanced wine from Wells Guthrie offers delicious apple, almond butter and vanilla flavors, a medium body and a refreshing finish. It follows an attractive style groove and should please wine geeks and beginners alike. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Emercy 2020 Bien Nacido Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). This bottling begins with delicate aromas of seashell, chalk, citrus butter and Key lime pith on the nose. The palate is a bit bolder, leaning in to toasted nuts, warm butter and seared peach flavors, yet a lemony edge keeps everything in check. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$65

92 Foley 2019 T Anchor Ranch Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Prominent and rich aromas of lemon curd and hazelnut are balanced by underlying freshness on the nose of this bottling. The palate is creamy in texture with just enough acidity to keep

it lively, as flavors of lemon wedge and salted peach lead into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$52

92 Loring Wine Company 2020 Chardonnay (Santa Lucia Highlands). Subtle aromas of yellow apple, light apricot and creamy melon show on the nose of this bottling. It's tight and bright on the palate, with underripe pineapple flavors that are cut by sharp kumquat slices. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

92 Masút 2020 Estate Chardonnay (Eagle Peak). Nervy Pippin apple and apricot flavors give this full-bodied wine a lively, brisk texture and tangy balance, helping the focused and refreshing fruit components power through to the finish. Best from 2024. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$42

92 Qupé 2020 Y Block Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). For full review see page 15.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

91 Beckmen 2020 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Chardonnay (Ballard Canyon). Sharp lime aromas meet with generous fresh peach and a light rockiness on the nose of this bottling. A chalky texture and flavor kick off the palate, where fresh Key lime leads into more tropical notes of pineapple before the chalk returns on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$35

91 Black Stallion 2019 Limited Release Poseidon Vineyard Chardonnay (Los Carneros). Floral in jasmine, with a svelte texture of slate and stone, this is a rich, full-bodied vineyard-designate that finds its balance in notes of lemon peel, pineapple and pear. A finishing touch of crème brûlée accentuates the hearty style. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

91 Cakebread 2019 Reserve Chardonnay (Carneros). Rich in flavors of burnt sugar, honeycomb and mango, this is a hearty barrel-fermented white with full-bodied style and an enduring imprint of oak. Still, its cooler-climate beginnings show through in crisp edges of apple and pear. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$60

91 Chalone Vineyard 2020 Estate Grown Chardonnay (Chalone). For full review see page 17.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

91 Daou 2021 Chardonnay (Paso Robles). For full review see page 17. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

91 Diatom 2021 Chardonnay (Santa Barbara County). Very crisp on the nose, this bottling by Greg Brewer pops with tropical flowers and fruits of jasmine, plumeria and guava on the nose, with a crushed seashell minerality. The tropical character rides through the palate, offering more plumeria and guava flavors in a balanced approach. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Frelander 2020 Chardonnay (California). Toasted almonds and honeyed fruit come to the fore of this full-bodied, palate-coating wine, giving it richness that's very attractive. The poached pears underneath and the almost viscous texture are soothing. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

91 Lafond 2019 SRH Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Nutty aromas of sweet cream and marshmallow kick off the nose of this bottling. The palate is more chiseled, with hints of rocky earth and dried oregano as well as the core flavors of lemon curd and apple confit. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$32

91 Loring Wine Company 2020 Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Sharp aromas of lemon peel are warmed up by hints of butter and plumeria on the broad nose of this bottling. Lemon and grapefruit zest flavors pop on the palate, and then the creamy core of baked lemon, tangerine and melon are spiced by salt and lime juice. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

91 Loring Wine Company 2020 Boekenooegen Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Lucia Highlands). Rounded aromas of poached apple make for a pleasantly direct nose on this bottling. There's a lively acidic energy to the palate, where baked apple and lime flavors make for an engaging sip. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

91 Loring Wine Company 2020 Cottonwood Canyon Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). Ripe melon and pineapple aromas are cut by grapefruit spray on the nose of this bottling. The palate picks up that pineapple note and carries it into apple juice and tangerine zest flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

91 Loring Wine Company 2020 Kessler-Haak Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). There's an herbal line of wild oregano and sage on the unique nose of this single-vineyard expression, which also offers crushed rock and singed grapefruit aromas. The palate takes that rocky herbal path as well, with sour lime flavors forming the core. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

91 Montoya 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey). For full review see page 19. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

91 Ram's Gate 2020 Hyde Chardonnay (Carneros). High-toned and bursting in acidity, this vineyard-designate is floral and fleshy, with impressive balance. Tropical and stone fruits play against each other, complemented by underlying citrus. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$70

91 Roar 2020 Rosella's Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Lucia Highlands). Lemongrass, lemon blossom, chalk and white rose aromas are slightly sharp on the nose of this bottling. The palate is a showcase of white flowers, from plumeria to jas-

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mine, with clean melon and vanilla flavors leading into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

91 Testarossa 2020 Diana's Chardonnay (California). Warm aromas of seared peach, honeysuckle and butter show on the nose of this bottling, which mostly comes from the Central Coast. There's a sizzle of acidity at the tip of the sip before warmer flavors of toasted nuts make for a rich expression. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$81

90 Blue Canyon 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey). For full review see page 27. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$14

90 Brick Barn 2020 Beton Concrete Chardonnay (Santa Ynez Valley). Clean while warm aromas of pear and apple flesh meet with hints of a gardenia and a slightly metallic minerality on the nose of this concrete-aged Chardonnay. That fresh style of elevation leads to crisp honeysuckle on the palate as well as ripe tones of sliced pear. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$42

90 Carlson 2020 Chardonnay (Santa Barbara County). Slices of roasted apple meet with toasted oak on the nose of this bottling from Shokrian Vineyard near Los Alamos. The wood spice is more prominent on the palate, giving a savory edge to the apple and pear flavors. The wine holds its tight frame for a long time. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Chamisal 2019 Chardonnay (Monterey County). Clean lines of pear, peach and coconut are cut by a splash of citrus on the nose of this bottling. The palate is tense in structure and fairly sharp, offering flavors of pineapple and lemon peel. —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$24

90 Charles Woodson's Intercept 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey County). For full review see page 21.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Clos du Bois 2019 Chardonnay (California). For full review see page 27. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

90 Crū 2019 Sierra Madre Vineyard Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley). For full review see page 22.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$40

90 Daou 2020 Reserve Chardonnay (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Aromas of nut, honey and light apple make for a mellow entry to the nose of this bottling. Butterscotch and toasted almond flavors arise on the palate, with a touch of texture leading into a long, buttery finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$52

90 Hungry Hawk 2020 Reserve Chardonnay (San Diego County). Sizzling aromas of lime

and lemon pick up Pink Lady apple flesh and a sandalwood spice on the nose of this bottling. There's a firm structure to the palate, where lemon, sea salt, chamomile and apple flavors are doused with ample oak spice. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$48

90 J. Lohr 2020 October Night Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). For full review see page 23.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Mathew Bruno 2019 Chardonnay (Carneros). Opening with aromas of pineapple upside-down cake and crème caramel, this wine offers a lush texture and full-bodied concentration that presents as hearty and complex. Toasted oak notes add an appealing spiciness. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$38

90 McBride Sisters Collection 2020 The Great Escape Reserve Chardonnay (Santa Lucia Highlands). Light aromas of honeysuckle, gardenia and delicate apple blossom are cut by crisp lime and green pear on the nose of this bottling. There's an alkaline kick to the palate, where Makrut lime and melon candy flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

90 Miner 2019 Wild Yeast Chardonnay (Napa Valley). Golden in color, this wine opens in a rich, tropical nose of crème brûlée, spun sugar and mango. With tempered oak it shows a lift of acidity that keeps it structured and bright throughout the robust style. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

90 Muirwood 2020 Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$15

90 Post Summit 2020 Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). For full review see page 24.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Replica 2020 Chardonnay (California). Toasted oak aromas pair well with focused, bright yellow peach and Pippin apple flavors in this full-bodied, well-balanced wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$16

90 Shannon Ridge 2020 Buck Shack Whitetail Chardonnay (Lake County). For full review see page 25.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$35

90 Testarossa 2020 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Clean lines of nectarine, apricot and butter make for a classic aroma set on the nose of this bottling. The palate offer warm hints of chamomile, zesty flavors of lime and an underlying streak of coconut butter. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$53

90 Williams Selyem 2020 Unoaked Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 26.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$39

89 Brick Barn 2020 Acier Stainless Steel Chardonnay (Santa Ynez Valley). Light aromas of honeysuckle and other white flowers are cut by chalk on the nose of this bottling. The palate hits with a quick grip and then opens toward pineapple and white blossom flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$38

89 Brutocao 2019 Bliss Vineyard Estate Chardonnay (Mendocino). Fresh lemon and green apple aromas lead to richer, more buttery flavors of vanilla, cream and poached pears. Medium-to full-bodied and rather soft on the palate, it is smooth and easy to sip. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

89 Chateau Souverain 2020 Chardonnay (California). For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

89 Comartin 2019 R-Bar-R Ranch Chardonnay (Santa Cruz Mountains). A bit cloudy in the glass, this bottling offers aromas of warm peach and oily butter on the nose. There's a dried lemon peel flavor to the tart sip, which also shows earthy elements of crushed rock and seeming skin contact. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$44

89 Dancing Crow 2021 Chardonnay (Lake County). Ripe and rounded, this medium-bodied wine offers generous melon, apple and cucumber flavors that drench the soft and broad texture in fruitiness. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

89 Roberts Ranch 2019 Chardonnay (Santa Cruz Mountains). Rugged aromas of crushed rock, dried lemon and baked apple show on the nose of this bottling. The rocky element carries through the palate, which also offers dried lemon and more apple flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

89 Séance 2020 Chardonnay (California). Fruits, butter and baking spices intertwine nicely in this full-bodied, rich-textured, almost-sweet wine. Ripe pear, golden apple, vanilla and cinnamon give it plenty to enjoy. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

89 Testarossa 2020 Cuvée Los Gatos Chardonnay (Monterey). Sharp lemon, light butter and hints of nut and apple show on the nose of this bottling. Rounded flavors of baked peach are cut by juicy citrus on the satisfying sip. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$28

89 Valravn 2020 Chardonnay (Sonoma County). This wine presents as rich and unctuous on the palate, with strong flavors of pine-

apple, peach and honeycomb. A bright lift of acidity helps it to find a balance on the finish. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$20

88 Bishop Pine 2020 Chardonnay (California). This buttery, nicely oaky wine pairs rich pear and peach flavors with toasty oak spices and a nicely crisp note in the texture. It's medium-bodied, well-balanced and quite flavorful. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

88 Chamisal 2018 Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Tart aromas of seared grapefruit meet with light butter and crushed rock on the nose of this bottling. The palate offers grapefruit peel, wet stone and light butter flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$35

88 Crü 2018 Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). Butter, yellow apple and a hint of daffodil show on the nose of this bottling. Apple and pear flesh flavors meet with a tinge of grapefruit on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

88 Europa Village 2019 C'est la Vie Barrel Select Chardonnay (Temecula Valley). Earthy aromas of baked soil and hot sandstone show on the nose of this bottling alongside dried lemon scents. There's a stony streak on the palate, but mostly flavors of dried lemon and guava. —M.K.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$42

88 Franciscan 2019 Chardonnay (Monterey County). For full review see page 29. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

88 Line 39 2020 Chardonnay (California). For full review see page 29. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Loring Wine Company 2020 River Quinn Chardonnay (Santa Barbara County). Tart citrus peel, apple syrup and butter aromas converge on the nose of this bottling. The palate is a touch tangy, with more apple and lemon flavors working in tandem. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

88 MacRostie 2020 Chardonnay (Sonoma Coast). Apple skin, mango and a bite of pear highlight this rich, tropical and textured white made in an ample style. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$26

88 Maggio 2020 Estate Chardonnay (Lodi). This trimly built wine carries light fruit, vanilla and herb flavors on a tangy, slightly tannic texture and full body. It offers an appetizing mouthfeel and lively ginger and vanilla nuances on the finish. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

88 McFadden 2021 Blue Quail Estate Grown Family Owned Chardonnay (Potter Valley). Full of fresh apples, peaches and pears, this

medium-bodied, vibrant and non-oaky wine offers a crisp balance, smooth texture and persistent, ripe fruit flavors. Made from organically grown grapes. —J.G.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$18

88 Peltzer Family 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey). Hazelnut, buttercream, baked nectarine and lemon preserves aromas show on the rich nose of this bottling. It's a bold and rich expression on the palate, where vanilla, caramel, sea salt and butterscotch flavors converge. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$40

88 Ram's Gate 2020 Cellar Note Chardonnay (Sonoma Coast). Fresh, fruity and elegant in style, this wine shows well-integrated oak and restrained style. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$56

88 Songbird 2019 Chardonnay (California). This is a good, mainstream Chardonnay. The light toast and butter aromas segue to tasty Fuji apple and vanilla flavors, a full body and smooth texture. The winery says it was 30% barrel fermented, then aged in neutral French barrels with French oak blocks added in. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$13

87 Davis Bynum 2018 River West Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). With rich layers of pear, anise and vanilla, this full-bodied white is textured and creamy, with lasting ripeness and weight. Marshmallow and crème brûlée provide finishing notes of additional intensity. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

87 Midnight 2021 Chardonnay (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Pear flesh and honeysuckle aromas make for a ripe nose on this bottling. There's a pear skin texture to the palate, where tropical flavors of pineapple and coconut arise. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$36

87 Robert Hall 2020 Cavern Select Chardonnay (Templeton Gap District). Nutty aromas of hazelnut, browned butter and caramel converge on the nose of this rich bottling. The macadamia nut and hazelnut paste flavors of the palate are very strong, offset by a zestier baked lemon element. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

87 Steele 2020 Cuvée Chardonnay (Sonoma County-Lake County). This big, broad and soft-textured wine offers layers of butter, vanilla, butterscotch and cream atop baked pineapple and marzipan notes. Almost rich enough for dessert. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

87 True Myth 2020 Chardonnay (Edna Valley). Smoothed out aromas of buttercream and pineapple show on the nose of this widely available, well-priced wine. The texture is a bit soft on the

palate, where creamy flavors of pineapple cake are doused in a warmed butter sauce. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

87 Z. Alexander Brown 2020 Uncaged Chardonnay (Monterey). Earthy aromas of rust and steel meet with dried lime peel on the nose of this bottling. It's cleaner on the palate, with sharp citrus peel and grapefruit on the edges and broader flavors of pear and melon in the core. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$16

86 Extraction 2020 Chardonnay (California). This mellow, medium-bodied wine offers subdued Bosc pear, dried herb and almond flavors. —J.G.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$15

86 Ferrari-Carano 2019 Emilia's Cuvée Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). This is a minty, floral and restrained white, with layers of Meyer lemon and pineapple that complement the generous oak. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$46

86 Florina 2019 Organic Grapes Chardonnay (California). This is a decent-quality wine for the price, offering light apple flavors and quite a few gingery, toasty, oaky accents on a medium body. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$13

86 Josh Cellars 2020 Buttery Reserve Chardonnay (Central Coast). The name on this bottling says it all. Aromas of caramel apple and butterscotch candy on the nose lead into a viscous palate of oak oil and incense, as the buttery nose turns into a woody palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

86 Muirwood 2021 Unoaked Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). Apple juice, coconut and tropical aromas of plumeria and jasmine are very strong on the nose of this bottling. There's a decent hit of texture on the palate before those powerful tuberose and Stargazer lily flavors take hold. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

86 River Road 2021 Un-Oaked Chardonnay (California). Fruity, soft and smooth, this uncomplicated, light-bodied non-oaky wine gushes ripe, syrupy pear and peach flavors. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

84 Butternut 2020 Chardonnay (California). Dusty, woody aromas continue to the palate, where decent apple and lemon flavors hide underneath heavy oak spices. This wine is full-bodied and broad in texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

84 Ondine Chattan 2019 Barrel Select Chardonnay (Sonoma Coast). Simple and juicy on the palate, this light-bodied wine offers flavors of green olive and burnt marshmallow, with a lasting imprint of oak. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$37

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82 Penrose Hill 2019 Chardonnay (Napa Valley). This wine is dull and lacking in definition, with a simple presentation of apple and pear, not much in the way of oak and an astringent finish. —V.B.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$26

80 Bread & Butter 2019 Chardonnay (Napa Valley). This white is dull, simple and a touch hot on the palate. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$35

SAUVIGNON BLANC

92 Ingredient 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Ballard Canyon). Only one ingredient—Sauvignon Blanc grapes—went into this 63-case bottling, which was aged in clay pots. The intriguing result is a slightly cloudy, yellow wine, loaded with preserved Meyer lemon, crushed clay and baked orange aromas on the nose. The palate shows melon and nectarine as well as tangerine and grapefruit pith flavors. Unique. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$50

92 Grassini Family Vineyards 2020 Reserve Sauvignon Blanc (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Tart green apple aromas and hints of green peppercorn pick up a warmer tone with riper pear scents on the nose of this reserve bottling. The palate begins with a tense edge and then widens to showcase flavors of pear, salt, citrus pith and a slightly buttery warmth on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$45

92 Shannon Ridge 2021 High Valley Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (High Valley). Mint and thyme aromas lead to vivid citrus, green apple and light herb flavors in this lively, complex and appetizing wine. It shows great balance, subtle minerality and a lingering finish. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$27

91 Brutocao 2020 Bliss Family Estate Sauvignon Blanc (Mendocino). For full review see page 27. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

91 Daou 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Paso Robles). For full review see page 18.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$20

91 Future Perfect 2021 Breakfast Wine Grassini Family Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Candied lime, cut grass, green apple and earthy rock aromas show on the nose of this bottling. There's a candied melon flavor on the palate, which is wrapped in a grippy texture and accented by more of that earthy minerality. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$35

91 Helwig 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Sierra Foothills). Bracing acidity beautifully balances concentrated fruit flavors in this medium-bodied, fresh and poised wine. Honeydew, lime and mineral

notes make for a complex expression and tangy finish. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$18

91 Summer Somewhere 2021 McGinley Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Very light in the glass, this bottling begins with wet cement aromas before lean hints of passion fruit, chalk and white flowers emerge. The palate is focused and direct, with apple flesh, lime pith and chalk flavors, proving lean but expressive. —M.K.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$40

90 Beckmen 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Santa Ynez Valley). Lightly effervescent in the glass, this bottling smells of wet lawn, green pineapple and pomelo on the tightly woven nose. A vibrant blast of acidity kicks off the sip, and the quick hit of tension gives way to riper passion fruit and light guava flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$25

90 Castoro Cellars 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Paso Robles). Bright passion fruit, lime and lemongrass aromas are familiar and clean on the nose of this crisp bottling. Citrus pith favors met with guava on the palate, which offers just enough grip. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$20

90 Grassini Family Vineyards 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Clean and delicate aromas of apple flesh and grapefruit peel are likable if innocuous on the nose of this bottling. The palate is crisp in texture and acidity, with enjoyable apple and grass flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

90 Hungry Hawk 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (San Diego County). Delicate aromas of white flowers are hit with spring grass on the nose of this bottling. There is a riper flavor of nectarine to the palate, but that's also cut by a lime and grassy tonic tone. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$33

90 McFadden 2021 Blue Quail Estate Grown Organic Grapes Sauvignon Blanc (Potter Valley). This dry and tangy wine is aromatic, offering lemon blossom, prosciutto and honeydew, which echo nicely on the palate. It shows a great balance between crisp acidity and a medium body that keeps it smooth. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Muirwood 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Arroyo Seco). For full review see page 24.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

90 Tooth & Nail 2021 The Squad Sauvignon Blanc (Central Coast). For full review see page 26.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$20

89 Brutocao 2020 Feliz Vineyard Estate Sauvignon Blanc (Mendocino). Rather rich and

full-bodied, this wine is a bit heavier than usual for the grape variety yet has good, citrus acidity for balance. The lemon, lime and jicama notes are subtle and tasty. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$20

89 Dancing Crow 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Lake County). Generous cantaloupe, honeydew and fresh herb flavors fill out this light-bodied and rather soft-textured wine, for a nicely fruity, ripe and mouthfilling expression. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 La Honda Winery 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). Lime peel, tart green apple flesh and hints of passion fruit show on the nose of this bottling. There's just enough tension to the palate, where sour apple and grass flavors come across cleanly. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$24

89 Séance 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (California). This crisp and relatively light-bodied wine offers flinty, mineral aromas and subtle herbal, veggie flavors backed by a good citrus tanginess. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Bogle 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). Ripe green apples and a touch of citrus give this medium-bodied wine a good core of fruit flavor, while a tangy balance and smooth texture make it very pleasant to sip. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Peju 2021 Legacy Collection Sauvignon Blanc (North Coast). A good, tangy texture and bright, light citrus and herb flavors make this medium-bodied wine lively and appetizing. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

88 Raywood 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Central Coast). Wet stone and lemon aromas show on the nose of this appellation cuvée. The texture is soft on the palate, where citrus flesh, grass and green apple flavors converge. *Best Buy.* —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$10

88 Reflection Ridge 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Monterey County). Nuttier aromas meet with oak and signed lemon on the nose of this bottling. The warmth shows on the palate with blanched almond, baked apple and more oak flavors, as citrus peel provides some edge. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

88 Robert Hall 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Paso Robles). Red apple, ripe pear, apricot and a pinch of grass make for a riper nose on this bottling. The palate lands with more of a stony minerality, offering rainy cement, cut grass and pear peel flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Tangent 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Central Coast). Wet clay, yellow apple peel and light grapefruit rind aromas show on the nose of this bot-

ting. The palate picks up an earthy streak as well along with flavors of dried apples and grass. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$17

87 Chateau Souverain 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (California). For full review see page 30. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$11

87 Peltzer Family 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Santa Barbara County). Crisp pear and grapefruit pith aromas show on the nose of this bottling. Dried apple flavors appear on the palate, which is soft in texture. —M.K.
abv: 12.4% **Price:** \$36

87 Shannon Ridge 2021 High Elevation Collection Sauvignon Blanc (Lake County). This ripe-tasting and full-bodied wine shows hearty peach and apple flavors on a rich texture. It's enjoyable in a big and robust style. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$23

86 Nola Grace 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). This fruity, straightforward wine combines herbs, ripe apples and melons on a smooth texture. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$15

85 Clos du Bois 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (California). Light floral aromas, fruit cocktail flavors and a soft texture give this wine a middle-of-the-road drinkability. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$11

85 Frey 2020 Plenty Biodynamic Sauvignon Blanc (Mendocino). Earthy aromas lead to simple apple and lemon flavors in this straightforward, balanced organic wine. No sulfites added. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

PINOT GRIS/GRIGIO

90 Estancia 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). For full review see page 27. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

89 Clos du Bois 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Bogle 2021 Pinot Grigio (California). This tangy, nervy, light-bodied wine is energized by fruit acidity that nicely lifts its crisp apple and white peach flavors. Enjoy it for its refreshment qualities and clean fruitiness. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$13

88 Terra d'Oro 2021 Pinot Grigio (Clarksburg). This light-bodied wine tastes fresh and fruity, showing plenty of apple, melon and white grape flavors on a mostly soft texture. It is straightforward, clean and likable. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$17

87 Rodrigue Molyneaux 2021 Pinot Grigio (Livermore Valley). This rounded, medium-bodied wine smells a bit eggy at first, then offers ripe, easy-drinking apple and peach flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$36

86 Chateau Souverain 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). For full review see page 30. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$11

86 Guenoc 2021 Pinot Grigio (California). This juicy, tangy and rather lean wine offers lemon, thyme and a touch of earthiness on a medium body. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$10

85 Line 39 2020 Pinot Grigio (California). Earthy aromas and mostly lean fruit and veggie flavors keep this light-bodied wine understated. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$11

88 Handley 2020 Pinot Gris (Anderson Valley). This tangy and refreshing wine is light-bodied and well-balanced and offers a slightly floral aroma and light green apple and jicama flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$24

87 McFadden 2021 Blue Quail Estate Grown Organic Grapes Pinot Gris (Potter Valley). This ripe and rounded wine offers fully ripe flavors of banana, peach and cream on a medium body and soft, easy texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$18

86 Hahn 2021 Pinot Gris (California). This juicy, tangy and rather lean wine offers lemon, thyme and a touch of earthiness on a medium body. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$15

RIESLING

91 Future Perfect 2021 C5 Vineyard Riesling (Los Olivos District). Sharp aromas of honeydew spritzed with lime juice and seasoned with Jolly Rancher green apple candy show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is very tactile and energetic, with a rocky minerality that gives way to lemon-grass, kiwi and lychee flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$48

89 Lafond 2020 SRH Riesling (Sta. Rita Hills). Crisp aromas of lime tonic, wet stone, spring grass and steel make for a tight entry to the nose of this bottling. The texture is very dry at first on the sip, and then it warms up toward guava and lychee flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$22

89 Terratorium 2021 Tondre Grapefield Riesling (Santa Lucia Highlands). Melon and pear aromas are tightly woven into white flower blossoms and lemon peel on the nose of this bottling.

The palate is richer with a core of peach flavors that border on sweet but are cut by a zippy frame. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

87 McFadden 2021 Blue Quail Estate Grown Organic Grapes Dry Riesling (Potter Valley). This wine is subtle and smooth, offering light peach and apple aromas followed by medium-ripe fruit flavors and a soft, slightly sweet mouthfeel. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$19

VIIGNIER

91 Beckmen 2020 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Viognier (Ballard Canyon). Rich aromas of daffodil and honey-glazed apricot kick off the nose of this bottling. The palate is brisker and more tightly wound, with hints of pineapple and light citrus bubblegum flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

91 Four Lanterns 2019 Viognier (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Nothing on the nose or palate of this bottling indicates the higher alcohol level. The nose starts with honeysuckle, pineapple and wet stone, while the palate is very chiseled in texture, offering chalk as well as brisk melon and crisp pear flesh flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$33

90 Europa Village 2020 C'est la Vie Viognier (Temecula Valley). Restrained aromas of guava peel, yellow apple and lemon syrup show on the nose of this bottle. Intriguing flavors of stone fruit, butter and salt ride a lingering acidity on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$38

90 Lion Ranch 2019 Viognier (Santa Clara Valley). Warm aromas of Meyer lemon curd, pear flesh and crushed rocks kick off the nose of this bottling. A chalky texture wraps around the palate, where rich apricot flavors are cut by a fresh citrus element. —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$27

89 Dusty Nabor 2020 The Florist Viognier (Ballard Canyon). The nose on this bottling is both tart and rich, blending sharp lime with fatter peach aromas. The palate is more tart than rich, with lemony citrus leading through stone fruit flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$30

88 Bellante 2020 Jack McGinley Vineyard Viognier (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Peachy aromas of pineapple and honeysuckle make for a very rich nose on this bottling from a warmer area. It's thick and viscous on the palate, with loads of pineapple cake flavors and a lime-like acidity. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$38

88 San Simeon 2021 Stefano Vineyard Viognier (Paso Robles). A flinty aroma of singed steel

BUYINGGUIDE

kicks off the nose of the bottling, with white blossom extract aromas also arising. The palate packs in peach oil, pineapple, guava and banana flavors alongside salted nuts. —M.K.

abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$19

87 Bellante 2020 Camp 4 Vineyard Viognier (Los Olivos District). Strong aromas of peach and yellow apple pick up a slight stone minerality on the nose of this bottling. The palate is viscous in texture, loaded with peach oil and very ripe melon flavors. —M.K.

abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$38

GRENACHE BLANC

93 Lion Ranch 2019 Grenache Blanc (Santa Clara Valley). This bottling is both aromatic, with brisk apple, light coconut and white flower, and mineral-driven, with wet stone and chiseled chalk aromas. Chalk describes both the texture and flavor of the palate, where lemon blossom and gardenia flavors also arise. —M.K.

abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

93 Paix Sur Terre 2021 Glenrose Vineyard Grenache Blanc (Adelaida District). Rich tropical aromas of plumeria and ripe pear flesh are cut by a sense of cement on the dynamically balanced nose of this bottling. There's an impressively chalky grip on the palate, where struck stone flavors weave through the pineapple and guava flavors. —M.K.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$36

92 Ridge 2020 Halter Ranch Grenache Blanc (Paso Robles). Crushed and flinty stone aromas give a mineral edge to the honeysuckle, lime pith and lemon peel aromas on the nose of this bottling, which includes 20% Picpoul. That flinky character cruises across the palate, where brisk apple flesh and coconut oil flavors lead into a grippy finish. —M.K.

abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$32

91 Klinker Brick 2021 Grenache Blanc (Lodi). For full review see page 18. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$20

90 Kaleidos 2021 Grenache Blanc (Templeton Gap District). Subdued aromas of apple, pear and a tinge of lemon show on the nose of this bottling. There's a lime pith and crisp apple combination on the palate, where a decent tension provides the foil. —M.K.

abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$36

90 Midnight 2021 Andromeda Grenache Blanc (Paso Robles). Straightforward aromas of rounded apple, white flower and tart citrus show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is tightly wound in texture, with apple, coconut and pineapple flavors, and a mineral note on the finish. —M.K.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$34

90 Vie Winery 2019 Grenache Blanc (Lake County). Almost as ripe and broad as the

red version, this wine offers abundant Bosc pear and Fuji apple flavors, a rounded, smooth texture and rather full body. It could easily substitute for a red wine with meaty main courses. —J.G.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

88 Europa Village 2020 Bolero Grenache Blanc (Temecula Valley). Clean aromas of melon and apricot meet with dried pear and white flowers on the nose of this bottling. The palate is smooth and soft in texture and grows oily with time, as hints of acidity cut into the pineapple and salted peach flavors. —M.K.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$29

ROUSSANE

92 Villa Creek 2019 James Berry Vineyard Roussanne (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Golden and nutty aromas of honey butter and salted apricot are clean and comforting on the nose of this bottling. The palate lands with a smooth texture, offering hazelnut, baked apricot and a touch of complex herb flavors, with acidity that pushes through the viscosity into the finish. —M.K.

abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$NA

91 Lion Ranch 2019 Roussanne (Santa Clara Valley). Salted orange and dried lemon peels met with honeysuckle and jasmine on the rich nose of this bottling. There's a firm tension on the sip, where dried apricot and nectarine flavors are expertly restrained. —M.K.

abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$29

91 Purple Dragon 2020 Zaca Mesa Vineyard Roussanne (Santa Ynez Valley). A golden hue in the glass, this single-vineyard expression begins with aromas of lemon, peach and honey on the nose. The lemon kick rides a brisk acidity through the creamy texture and richer flavors of stone fruit. —M.K.

abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$30

89 City Winery Chicago 2019 Pilsen Roussanne (Mendocino). Strong buttery, nutty flavors complement the full body of this bold and savory wine. Walnut, brown butter and almond dominate baked apple flavors for an almost meaty expression of the Rhône grape variety. —J.G.

abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

89 Le Poidevin 2020 Stolpman Vineyard Roussanne (Ballard Canyon). A golden yellow color, this bottling offers rich honeydew, orange sherbet and kiwi on the unique nose. There's both a sizzling acidity and waxy grip on the sip, where lemon sorbet and wet clay flavors align. —M.K.

abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$40

89 Sycamore Ranch 2020 La Presa Vineyard Roussanne (Santa Ynez Valley). Ripe melon, salty lemon and white flower aromas show on the nose of this bottling, which hints at density. The

palate's peachy core is rich but cut by some white flower elegance and a tannic bite. —M.K.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

ALBARIÑO

94 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Albariño (Edna Valley). For full review see page 8. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 12% **Price:** \$38

90 Kaleidos 2021 Albariño (Santa Barbara County). Green aromas of grass and lime skin meet with wet stone and passion fruit on the nose of this bottling. The palate grips with a tight weave, adding edge to the riper flavors of passion fruit, as cut grass lingers into the finish. —M.K.

abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$36

90 Klinker Brick 2021 Albariño (Mokelumne River). For full review see page 23.

abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$17

88 Ampelos 2020 Martian Vineyard Albariño (Santa Barbara County). Cloudy in the glass, this skin-contact take on Albariño will satisfy orange wine lovers but may be challenging for others. Aromas of rust, orange peel, wet stone and apricot show on the nose, while the palate's thicker mouthfeel carries flavors of dried apple and lemon. —M.K.

abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$25

87 Bella Grace 2021 Albariño (Amador County). Almond and apricot flavors define this full-bodied, smooth and rounded wine. It's a ripe and mouthfilling version of the varietal. —J.G.

abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$28

WHITE BLENDS

94 Villa Creek 2019 Bone White (Adelaida District). This blend of 70% Clairette and 30% Roussanne offers simultaneously sharp and full aromas on the nose, from wet rock and lime blossom to flinty wood and stone fruit. There's a creamy texture to the palate alongside prickly acidity, with warm baked pear, cinnamon and crème brûlée flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$NA

92 Cavaletti 2020 The Muse Viognier-Chardonnay (Santa Ynez Valley). Warm aromas of salted nectarine, apricot and Meyer lemon are quite inviting on the nose of this blend of 82% Viognier and 18% Chardonnay. The palate opens broadly with peach, baked apple and savory salt flavors, as warm oak spice provides richness and power. —M.K.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

91 Caelesta 2020 Chardonnay-Viognier (Templeton Gap District). This is a promising estate blend of Chardonnay and Viognier for this newer winery. Soft aromas of gardenia, white peach and

Meyer lemon peel lead into a tightly woven palate with tropical notes of bubblegum that are reined in by a sharper acidity. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$42

91 **Midnight 2021 Aurora Reserve (Paso Robles).** Ripe peach blossoms, coconut oil and white melon make for tropical aromas that are wrapped in a steely minerality on the nose of this blend of 48% Viognier, 25% Picpoul Blanc, 15% Roussanne and 12% Grenache Blanc. The palate balances between ripe peach and a chalky alkaline streak. —M.K.
abv: 13.1% Price: \$34

90 **Ampelos 2021 Martian Vineyard Clairette (Santa Barbara County).** Rounded coconut, peach blossom, plumeria and the edge of lime pith show on the nose of this bottling, part of a new project for Ampelos. Sliced apple flavors show on the smoothly textured palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$29

90 **Edio 2021 Robyn's Blend Estate (El Dorado).** Big, bright tropical fruit aromas and flavors grab the attention right away in this well-balanced, medium-bodied, fresh and nicely crisp wine. Mango, peach and lime make for a colorful expression. Made from 75% Viognier and 25% Roussanne grapes. —J.G.
abv: 12.3% Price: \$36

90 **Summer Somewhere 2021 L'Orange (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara).** There's the slightest hint of orange to this wine, which is cleanly made and tastes like a flower potion. Very perfumed aromas of rose oil, pear blossom and potpourri show on the nose, while the palate offers more pear blossom and jasmine tea flavors. —M.K.
abv: 12% Price: \$NA

89 **Caelesta 2019 White Blend (Templeton Gap District).** This unique blend of 59% Chardonnay and 41% Viognier shows promise for an estate white. Aromas of wet river stone and yellow apple flesh are subtle and clean on the nose. The palate offers ripe apple flesh flavors, with hints of citrus peel tension. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$42

88 **Edna Valley Vineyard 2021 Blend (Central Coast).** Grassy and lime peel aromas recall Sauvignon Blanc on this proprietary white blend. There's a touch of texture to the palate, where more grass and lime meet with green apple flesh flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

88 **McBride Sisters Collection 2020 Reserve (Paso Robles).** Prominent and somewhat oily aromas of white flower, coconut flesh and pineapple show on the nose of this blend. The palate is quite viscous and soft in texture, with pineapple jam and peach oil flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% Price: \$50

88 **Sol Rouge 2019 Gypsy Blanc (Lake County).** This lean, nervy, light-bodied blend of

white Rhône grape varieties has a strong mineral-metallic edge at first, and vivid peach skin and green apricot flavors. With time in the glass, enticing aromas of honey, peanut and tangerine develop. Might be just the thing for acidity lovers. —J.G.
abv: 12% Price: \$36

86 **Est Cru 2020 Clothesline (Mendocino County).** This medium-bodied blend of Pinot Blanc and Viognier offers light peach and pear aromas and a more mineral-driven palate featuring white peach and chalk flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$22

85 **Frey NV Organic Territory (California).** A quite buttery wine, this medium-bodied example smells like baked apples and melted butter and tastes like butterscotch and apple skins. Made from organic grapes with no sulfites added. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$12

OTHER WHITE WINES

93 **Paix Sur Terre 2021 Maison Mason Vineyards Ugni Blanc (Paso Robles Willow Creek District).** Always one of the most exciting white wines to come out of Paso Robles each year, this bottling begins with lovely plumeria, coconut and lively pear flesh aromas. There's a zippy lime juice flavor cutting through the entire palate, giving edge to the richer white flower and stone fruit elements. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$32

92 **Paix Sur Terre 2021 Glenrose Vineyard Picpoul Blanc (Adelaida District).** Bold aroma of peach blossom oil, gardenia extract and bubblegum are deftly cut by a wet rock minerality on the nose of this bottling. The palate comes alive with citrus-like acidity from Key lime and kumquat flavors, with richer tones of guava riding the acidity into a long finish. —M.K.
abv: 13% Price: \$36

92 **Saint K 2021 Flower Bomb Malvasia Bianca (Paso Robles Highlands District).** This is a stunningly aromatic wine that manages to stay bone-dry, proving a perfect foil to so many foods, from spicier Asian cuisine to salads and even breakfast. Aromas of orange blossom, melon and lime zest lead into a crisp, tense palate of jasmine blossoms and lime tonic. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 12.3% Price: \$33

92 **Santa Barbara Winery 2019 Curtis Vineyard Chenin Blanc (Santa Ynez Valley).** A light hue in the glass, this bottling begins with clean nectarine, lime pith and focused lemon peel aromas. There's a firm grip to the sip, where sour lime and underripe green melon flavors make for an intriguing experience. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% Price: \$25

92 **Tinto Amorio 2021 Monje Skin-Contact Orange Gewürztraminer (Paso Robles).** For full review see page 16.
abv: 12.7% Price: \$36

91 **Kendall-Jackson 2020 Jackson Estate Nielson Vineyard Pinot Blanc (Santa Maria Valley).** Warm and honeyed aromas of salted almonds and white peach show on the rich nose of this bottling. There's a viscosity to the palate that comes across as bold and attention-grabbing, with flavors of smoked peach, Meyer lemon and butter completing the picture. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$30

91 **Lion Ranch 2019 Marsanne (Santa Clara Valley).** Clean and crisp aromas of green pear, white flower, white peach, orange peel and petrol make for a very dynamic nose on this bottling. There is ample tension to the sip, where citrus and stone fruit flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 12% Price: \$29

91 **Villa Creek 2019 Luna Matta Vineyard Fiano (Adelaida District).** A strong and sharp aroma of Key lime pie shows on the nose of this bottling of a grape that's quite uncommon for the region. The palate lands with a rounded flavor of melon, spritzed by lime juice and sprinkled with rocks dust. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% Price: \$52

90 **Summer Somewhere 2021 Kick On Ranch Vineyard Grüner Veltliner (Santa Barbara County).** Quite light in the glass, this bottling pops on the nose with green peppercorn, earthy herb, lime skin, wet gravel and seashore aromas. The palate carries a similar line, offering mossy rock and lime peel flavors. —M.K.
abv: 12% Price: \$40

89 **McFadden 2021 Blue Quail Estate Grown Organic Grapes Gewürztraminer (Potter Valley).** The classic varietal characteristics—floral aromas and lychee fruit flavors—show up in abundance in this medium-bodied, aromatic and fruity wine. A slight sweetness rounds its edges just a little. —J.G.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$19

88 **Silver 2019 Chenin Blanc (Santa Barbara County).** Slightly earthy aromas of lanolin meet with grapefruit peel and dried apple on the nose of this bottling. Baked apple and lemon flavors meet with that earthy streak on the palate, which is quite viscous in texture. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$28

SPARKLING WINES

93 **Caraccioli 2016 Blanc de Blancs Escolle Vineyard (Santa Lucia Highlands).** For full review see page 9. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 12% Price: \$85

BUYINGGUIDE

93 Caraccioli 2016 Escolle Vineyard Brut Rosé (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 9. *Editors' Choice*.
abv: 12% Price: \$70

93 Fesstivity 2018 Blanc de Blancs (Sta. Rita Hills). For full review see page 10.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$49

92 Caraccioli 2016 Brut Cuvée Escolle Vineyard (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 13.
abv: 12% Price: \$55

92 Fesstivity 2018 Brut Rosé (Sta. Rita Hills). A delicate shade of salmon in the glass, this tightly woven bottling begins with aromas of chiseled granite, grapefruit pith and wet clay on the nose. The palate picks up sourdough flavors alongside rose petal and grapefruit zest elements. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$49

92 Halter Ranch 2018 Libelle Picpoul Blanc (Adelaida District). This bottling is always a strong argument for making Picpoul Blanc into sparkling wines much more often. Intriguing aromas of melon, white rose and chamomile are quite rare, while the palate shows green melon, lemon verbena and rose oil flavors on a slightly viscous frame. *Editors' Choice*. —M.K.
abv: 11% Price: \$65

91 Fesstivity 2018 Blanc de Noirs (Sta. Rita Hills). Toasty and doughy aromas of brioche are cut by Eureka lemon peel and grapefruit flesh on the nose of this Pinot Noir-based bottling, which includes 6% Chardonnay. Baked lemon flavors meet with gardenia and light dough elements on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$49

91 Fesstivity 2018 Brut Cuvée (Sta. Rita Hills). Linear aromas of lime peel and green apple flesh show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is focused and tightly woven, with lime flesh and tart green apple flavors making for a zippy, sharp style. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$45

PINOT NOIR ROSÉS

91 Lucas & Lewellen 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). For full review see page 19.
abv: 14% Price: \$18

91 Modus Operandi 2021 Bacigalupi Vineyard Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Rose petal, cherry and vanilla notes accent this vineyard-designate, made in a rich yet balanced style. Textured and layered, it finishes with a tease of orange cream. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$45

90 Balletto 2021 Estate Grown Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 21.
abv: 13.3% Price: \$22

90 Cobden Wini 2021 Rowe Family Vineyard Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Whole-cluster pressed then fermented and aged in neutral barrels, this impressive wine shows medium body weight and light, fresh layers of grapefruit, tangerine and cherry. It's lengthy and balanced throughout. —V.B.
abv: 13.4% Price: \$40

90 Lucy 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 23.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$22

90 Marin Water 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Los Carneros). This is a crisp, complete and balanced wine, well put together to offer lovely layers of strawberry, melon and grapefruit. A lasting note of rose and tangerine finish it out, with enough body to stay memorably on the palate. —V.B.
abv: 12.7% Price: \$25

90 Mini Vacay 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Central Coast). This is a great deal and a fun wine that does justice to its canned container. Aromas of strawberry gum are clean, bold and juicy on the nose. The palate is a touch more subdued, with bubblegum and chalk flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$60/250 ml

89 Bravium 2021 Wiley Vineyard Rosé of Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). Fresh, light strawberry and cherry flavors fill out this light-bodied, tangy and well-balanced wine. It's appetizing and crisp in texture. —J.G.
abv: 12.3% Price: \$22

88 Schug 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Stony and high in acidity, this crisp wine is pushing freshness to the edge, with a crisp, focused palate of lemon and tangerine. —V.B.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$28

87 La Prenda 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). A crisp, approachable wine that refreshes and remains light on the palate, this offers bright layers of strawberry and raspberry with a twist of lime. —V.B.
abv: 12% Price: \$20

86 Brassfield 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (High Valley). A very pale pink color and subtle red fruit flavors give this light-bodied wine a straightforward expression, but it does have a good nip of acidity for balance. —J.G.
abv: 13% Price: \$22

GRENACHE ROSÉS

91 Tooth & Nail 2021 Destinata Rosé of Grenache (Paso Robles). For full review see page 20.
abv: 13% Price: \$29

90 San Simeon 2021 Stefano Vineyard Rosé of Grenache (Paso Robles). For full review see page 25.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$19

89 AJA Vineyards 2021 Rosé of Grenache Gris (Paso Robles). Grenache Gris is a grape with much potential in the rosé department. A pale shade of pink in the glass, this bottling begins with rose petal, chalk and delicate bubblegum aromas. The palate is a bit soft in texture but pleases with flavors of lime, wet rock and rose petal. *Editors' Choice*. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% Price: \$32

89 Wood Family Vineyards 2021 Rosé of Grenache (Livermore Valley). Light strawberry and red cherry flavors are tasty in this slightly tangy, dry and medium-bodied wine. It shows good balance and a mouthcleansing liveliness. —J.G.
abv: 13.7% Price: \$32

88 Anaba 2021 Rosé of Grenache (Sonoma County). With grapes grown at both Landa and Flora Marie vineyards, both vineyard-designates at times, this copper-colored wine is crisp and light in style. Flavors of burnt orange, strawberry and dried herbs mingle well across a high-toned palate of unfussy freshness. —V.B.
abv: 13% Price: \$34

88 Beckmen 2021 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Rosé of Grenache (Ballard Canyon). A slightly orange shade of pink in the glass, this bottling begins with aromas of orange rind, rusty strawberry and wet river stone. There's a light zip to the sip, where a clay minerality wraps around the orange and berry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.4% Price: \$29

88 Donati Family Vineyard 2021 Rosé of Grenache (El Pomar District). A yellowish shade of pink in the glass, this bottling offers citrus peel and light dried cherry aromas on the earthy nose. There's a subtle candied tangerine peel flavor to the sip. —M.K.
abv: 13.83% Price: \$30

87 Tofino 2021 Rosé of Grenache (Adelaida District). An orange shade of pink in the glass, this bottling smells of rust, orange peel and tangerine pith, with a hint of wet stone. There's an orange peel and wet clay combo on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$28

87 Wine Without Borders 2021 Rosé of Grenache (San Francisco Bay). This is a good, middle-of-the-road rosé that shows a flinty aroma and straightforward plum and citrus flavors. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$30

ROSÉS

93 Margerum 2021 Riviera Rosé (Santa Barbara County). This Grenache-based rosé, which also includes splashes of the three other traditional

Rhône varieties, is soft and subtle on the nose with chalk and strawberry aromas. The action really starts on the palate, where a ripping acidity and vibrant texture dance across the tongue with tactile sensations and fresh flavors of watermelon, strawberry and wet gravel. —M.K.
abv: 12.1% **Price:** \$26

93 Three Sticks 2021 Castenada Rosé (Sonoma Coast). Made from Syrah, Grenache and Pinot Noir, this medium-bodied wine is crisp and slatey, with a lovely aroma of rose petal. On the palate, blood orange and cranberry accent balanced weight and breadth, finishing in a fresh bouquet of strawberry. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

92 Grounded Wine Co. 2021 Space Age Rosé (Central Coast). A delicate shade of pink in the glass, this bottling pops on the nose with watermelon granita, bubblegum and chalk aromas. That chalky streak extends across the palate, where fresh flavors of melon, strawberry and pink rose meet with a baby powder minerality. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

92 Maddalena 2021 Rosé (Paso Robles). For full review see page 15.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

92 Paradise Springs 2021 Pink Ash Rosé (California). Always one of the zestier rosés each year, this bottling, which features art by the actor Billy Zane, begins with aromas of crisp lemon peel, light plum, strawberry and rose. The palate is almost effervescent, zipping along with squeezed lemon and grapefruit zest flavors. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$29

92 Stewart 2021 Rosé (Sonoma Mountain). This combines 90% Pinot Gris and 10% Pinot Noir, whole-cluster pressed and aged in stainless steel. Gravel, rose petal and cranberry flavors are complemented by a squeeze of lemon and crisp green apple, offering complexity and a lengthy finish. *Editors' Choice.* —V.B.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$35

91 Hungry Hawk 2021 Rosé (San Diego County). Soft aromas of strawberry are cut by a wet river stone minerality on the dynamic nose of this Cabernet Franc-based rosé. The palate is ripe with strawberry and pink-fleshed fruits, yet it remains pleasantly focused and bound to a grippy texture. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$32

91 Mauritsen 2021 Rosé (Sonoma County). Made entirely from Zinfandel, then stainless steel fermented and aged, this is a crisp, mineral-driven and stone-like wine, refreshing and focused in acidity. Notes of crushed rock, lime and pomegranate play at its edges, finishing in a note of dried herb. —V.B.
abv: 12.57% **Price:** \$31

90 Brander 2021 Rosé (Los Olivos District). Subtle aromas of orange peel and crisp raspberry show on the nose of this rosé blend of 41% Cabernet Sauvignon, 37% Merlot, 15% Syrah and 7% Cabernet Franc. The palate hits with a wet rock and shaved steel minerality, leading into flavors of grapefruit peel, rose and chalky dust. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$24

90 Daou 2021 Reserve Rosé (Adelaida District). A yellowish hue in the glass, this bottling begins with crisp and light melon aromas as well as elegant if subtle rose petal touches. The palate is very delicate and mellow, with melon and lemon flavors wrapped in a decent tension. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$40

90 Edna Valley Vineyard 2021 Winemaker Series Rosé (Edna Valley). For full review see page 22.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$30

90 Joyce 2021 Rosé (Arroyo Seco). A light shade of pink in the glass, this rosé blend of 50% Mourvèdre and 50% Grenache offers steely, crisp aromas of strawberry and crushed white stone on the nose. The palate is tightly wound with flavors of chalk, orange pith and just enough acidity. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 Pack String 2020 Rosé of Sangiovese (El Dorado). This meaty but light-bodied wine is relatively dark in color, full of prosciutto and melon flavors, and feels hefty and smooth in texture, having been barrel-fermented. It offers more fruity, savory complexity than many others. —J.G.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$23

89 Cavaletti 2021 The 109 Mile Rosé (California). Cherry juice and dried orange peel aromas show on the nose of this rosé blend of 59% Tempranillo, 34% Grenache and 7% Grenache Blanc. There's a earthy core to the palate, where cherry, strawberry, citrus peel and red apple flavors converge. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$27

89 Kendall-Jackson 2021 Vintner's Reserve Rosé (California). Light raspberry and white peach flavors give an inviting freshness to this medium-bodied, well-balanced wine. It tastes clean, light and lively. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

89 Robert Hall 2021 Cavern Select Bench Vineyard Rosé of Syrah (Paso Robles). A raspberry hue in the glass, this rosé begins with fresh aromas of lively cranberry and raspberry on the nose. Pomegranate and cranberry flavors lead into a strawberry finish on the palate, which is a touch soft in texture. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

88 Angels & Cowboys 2021 Rosé (Sonoma County). Aromatic in rose petal, with a decent midpalate of cherry fruit, this is a crisp,

simple and delightful wine made in a bright style that lingers in slatey textures of wet stone. —V.B.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$NA

88 Brander 2021 Rosé of Cabernet Sauvignon (Los Olivos District). A pale hue of pink in the glass, this bottling hits the nose with pleasant aromas of pluot and wet rock. The palate lands with a zippy acidity and then grows almost sweet, with cherry flavors that ride into a soft finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$30

88 Darcie Kent Vineyards 2021 Victories Rosé of Malbec (San Francisco Bay). This medium-bodied wine is very smooth in texture and easy to sip. It offers fresh, light plum and strawberry flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$35

88 J. Wilkes 2021 Rosé (Paso Robles). Watermelon granita and strawberry cream aromas make for a fruity but pleasant nose on this bottling. There's a chalky touch to the tip of the sip, and then come very bold and ripe flavors of melon and strawberry. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

87 Hogwash 2021 Rosé (California). This medium-bodied wine shows a very light color and plenty of fruit flavors, especially honeydew, along with a nicely tangy texture. —J.G.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

87 Locke 2021 Rosé (Calaveras County). Very smooth and plummy, this ripe-tasting, full-bodied wine has ample black plum and cooked cherry flavors on a rich, viscous texture with seemingly low acidity. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$23

87 Paraduxx 2021 Rosé (Napa Valley). Made from a blend of 94% Syrah and 6% Grenache, this wine is dry, subdued and textured, with a simple mix of peach, strawberry and lemon-lime. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

87 Usual 2020 Large Glass Of Rosé (Mendocino County). This smooth, medium-bodied wine shows generous watermelon and cantaloupe flavors and a mouthfilling richness in texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$8/187 ml

84 Europa Village 2020 Vienza Rosé of Aleatico (Temecula Valley). A darker shade of light rust in the glass, this is a very herbal rosé, offering incense and cherry water aromas. The texture is flat on the palate, where those dried cherry and dank herb flavors dominate. —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$31

80 Okapi 2020 Jungle Love Vineyard Rosé of Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). This wine is copper in color and quite harsh on the palate, devoid of fruit or charm. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

PINOT NOIR

97 Hartford Court 2019 Seascape Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). For full review see page 3.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$85

96 Big Basin 2019 Old Corral Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Quite light in the glass, this is a lovely style of lighter Pinot Noir, starting with aromas of light red fruit, peppered meats and sandalwood. There's a tight tension to the sip, where dried cranberry, orange peel, salumi and peppercorn flavors align into an umami bomb. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

96 Hartford Court 2019 Arrendell Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Dark and brooding with layers of spicy dark cherry, this wine is earthy, lengthy and deep in raspberry flavor. Tart, bright acidity lifts the concentrated core of intensity and structure, giving the wine a chance to breathe and coalesce on the palate. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$110

96 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (San Benito). For full review see page 5. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$39

96 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 5.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$62

96 Williams Selyem 2020 Westside Road Neighbors Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 5.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$78

95 Blue Farm 2019 Anne Katherina Estate Farmed Pinot Noir (Carneros). For full review see page 6.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

95 Chanin 2020 Los Alamos Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). A light hue in the glass, this bottling is pleasantly rustic on the nose with aromas of cherry juice, rust and charcuterie. The palate is layered in complex, lovely flavors of white pepper, mace and red currant, with each component working in harmony toward the acidity-splashed finish. —M.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$50

95 Hartford Court 2019 Fog Dance Pinot Noir (Green Valley). Velvety smooth and earthy in compost and crushed rock and herb, this hearty red wine is rich in red cherry and strawberry, with a persistence of baking spice. Secondary notes of cedar, cigar and oak provide a savory complement and edge. —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$78

95 Hartford Court 2019 Land's Edge Vineyards Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). For full review see page 6.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$55

95 Hartford Court 2019 MacLean's Block Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Juicy cherry, berry and citrus give life to this bold, lush and brilliant wine, sticky in grippy tannin with a muscular, sturdy structure. Dense and brooding in style, it finishes in bolts of cardamom, vanilla bean and forest. —V.B.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$78

95 Waits-Mast 2018 Mariah Vineyard Pinot Noir (Mendocino Ridge). For full review see page 6. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$47

94 Bargetto 2020 Pommard Clone Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Plump aromas of Bing cherry meet with lovely scents of toasted sage and turned soil on the dynamic while exuberant nose of this clonal bottling. The palate's bright and fresh red fruit flavors are layered in hickory and sandalwood, making for a lovely combination. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

94 Big Basin 2019 Lester Family Vineyards Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). A rusty hue in the glass, this bottling is loaded with bay leaf, sage and wild thyme aromas on the nose, as well as pomegranate and sharp sumac notes. There's a gritty grip to the palate, where roasted cherry tomato, cranberry and orange rind flavors make for a very flavorful expression. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$55

94 Blue Farm 2019 King Ridge Vineyard Estate Farmed Pinot Noir (Fort Ross-Seaview). For full review see page 7.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$85

94 Chamisal 2019 Morrito Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Dark aromas of roasted plum, nutmeg, mace and charred fennel make for a rich, heady nose on this top-end bottling from the historic regional producer. The palate is unabashed and hearty, with sharp sumac and sandalwood spice notes giving depth to the plum and mulberry core. It's bold but well structured and driven by elegant fruits. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$100

94 Chanin 2020 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). The ethereal earthiness of this historic vineyard is on full display in this bottling, which offers aromas of crushed rock, dust, dried meat and a hint of berry. Soil and stone flavors make for a mineral-driven palate as well, meeting with hibiscus, red fruit and hard spice, which should sing even louder in the years to come. Drink now–2040. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$NA

94 Chanin 2020 Zotovich Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Very light in the glass, this single-vineyard expression offers earthy aromas of dried pomegranate and cherry pit on the nose. The palate is ethereal and earthy, offering dust, crushed rocks, Aleppo pepper, underripe raspberry and pep-

percorn flavors. This will age beautifully. Drink now–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

94 Emeritus 2018 Hallberg Ranch Elite Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Made from specific rows of one particular block on the estate, this bold, balanced wine is supple and tart, with an alluring taste of fresh cherry and citrus. High-toned, the tannins are pillowy and long, providing a generous length of forest and baking spice on the finish. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$110

94 EnRoute 2019 Les Pommiers Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 7.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

94 Hartford Court 2019 Jennifer's Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Rose and geranium rise from the nose of this aromatic wine, which presents as light and airy in texture despite a full-bodied frame. Rhubarb, pomegranate and cacao nib combine around hints of slate and white pepper. —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$85

94 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Dark aromas of black raspberry and purple flowers lead into more savory and complex notes of mushroom and loamy earth on the nose of this bottling. Bay leaf, sagebrush and eucalyptus flavors arise on the sip, where dark plum fruit forms the complex core. —M.K.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$48

94 Read Holland 2019 Deep End Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This robust, medium-bodied and moderately tannic wine from the coolest part of Anderson Valley offers attractive black fruit flavors and a good, grippy mouthfeel. It was made with 35% whole clusters in the fermentation and aged in 25% new French oak barrels. The flavors keep building and adding depth with each sip. Best 2025–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

94 Siduri 2020 Edmeades Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). Very ripe and well concentrated, this full-bodied wine is saturated with delicious black plums and black cherries, gently spiced with oak notes of cinnamon, clove and ginger. An ultrasmooth texture comes from fine-grained tannins. Best through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$60

94 Talbott 2019 Sleepy Hollow Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 8.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$42

94 Waits-Mast 2018 Nash Mill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). For full review see page 8. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$52

93 AldenAlli 2018 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). This is a succulent, ethereal and earthy appellation wine that speaks to the region's elegant richness. Cardamom, forest floor and orange peel meet a core of dark cherry and pomegranate, the tannins and oak are well integrated throughout. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$52

93 Bargetto 2020 Regan Vineyards Reserve Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Fresh aromas of raspberry sorbet, hibiscus tea and fennel pollen make for a playful entry to the nose of this bottling. The palate is quite lively and juicy as well, offering candied raspberry, pomegranate, orange rind and purple flower tones, with just a hint of smoke on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

93 Bellante 2019 Bentrack Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Earthy, rugged aromas of soil, sory and leather meet with dried red fruit on the savory nose of this bottling. The palate picks up sagebrush and wood spice flavors alongside the stewed cherry and plum flavors, with hints of charcuterie and dust on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

93 Bellante 2019 Radian Vineyard Reserve Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Roasted red and black plum aromas meet with incense and wood spice on the fairly bold nose of this bottling. The palate presents a very complete picture, offering dark fruit juice and hickory flavors that are powerful but still fresh and lively. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

93 Big Basin 2019 Alfaro Family Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Tart raspberry, rustic sagebrush and wild oregano aromas converge on the nose of this bottling from a coveted spot in Corralitos. Lively on the palate, flavors of smashed raspberry, bay leaf and pine needle make for an herbal experience. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$60

93 Big Basin 2019 Coastview Vineyard Pinot Noir (Monterey County). There's a savory aroma set of wet mushroom, pine needle and pepper dust on the nose of this bottling as well as supple plum and hibiscus elements. The palate also shows pine needle as well as cranberry, orange peel and bay leaf, all hanging from a grippy while delicate tannic structure. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$55

93 Brutocao 2017 Slow Lope'n Vineyard Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). For full review see page 9.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Calstar Cellars 2017 Oppenlander Vineyard Pinot Noir (Mendocino). This well-balanced, mouthwatering wine is fruit-forward, offering ample black cherry, raspberry and black currant flavors, while good acidity and moderate tannins make

for an appetizing texture. It's vibrant, ripe and delicious. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$35

93 Carlson 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Bold aromas of cherry and strawberry are quite fruity at first on the nose, but then come waves of pine forest duff, rustic earth and tea leaves. The palate embraces the earthy side of Pinot Noir, showcasing eucalyptus leaf and sagebrush alongside the cherry compote and wood spice flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$30

93 Chamisal 2019 Califa Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Roasted black cherry and dark mint aromas meet with a hint of mesquite on the nose of this bottling. The palate weaves through black plum and lavender flavors, with lots of cola, root beer and Dr Pepper elements adding an addictive spice streak. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

93 Copain Wines 2019 Maggy Hawk Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This aromatic, medium-bodied and slightly tannic wine shows great balance and an especially appetizing vein of snappy acidity. Aged in just 10% new oak, and for a relatively long 16 months. Clove, cedar, black cherry and mulled cherry give it plenty to appreciate. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$75

93 Copain Wines 2018 Les Voisins Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This elegant, attractive, light- to medium-bodied wine offers subtle, intricate flavors of black tea, red tea, cranberry, cinnamon and bay leaf on a silky texture of light tannins and lively acidity. —J.G.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$42

93 Dutton-Goldfield 2019 Dutton Ranch Emerald Ridge Pinot Noir (Green Valley). Structured in tight, youthful tannin, this wine opens in pretty aromas of rose petal and fresh citrus. Bright acidity rides beneath layers of pomegranate, strawberry and blueberry steeped in baking spice and forest tones, with a lingering note of integrated oak. —V.B.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$74

93 Gainey 2020 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Very juicy aromas of black cherry, strawberry Slurpee and toasty oak are incredibly delicious and inviting on the nose of this bottling. The palate is very tight at first, then the wound-up energy leads into generous flavors of cherry pie, strawberry cream and dark spices. Crisp acidity runs deep into the finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$35

93 Hartford Court 2019 Sevens Bench Pinot Noir (Carneros). Soft, spiced and forest-like in earthy pine and mushroom, this wine offers rich additional layers of red berry and orange zest. Herbal with a hint of white pepper, it is complex, full in style and tight with a tannic grip. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$78

93 Ken Brown 2017 Rita's Crown Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Boysenberry jam aromas are cut by fennel and roasted wood on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard that Ken Brown helped plan out. Chalky tannins frame the bold palate, where black cherry, cola, toasted sagebrush and oak flavors mesh into a bold display. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$70

93 La Lomita 2020 Greengate Vineyard Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Aromas of both fresh and charred strawberry and cranberry meet with herby myrtle and a pulverized rock minerality on the nose of this bottling of the 2A clone. There's a firm tension to the palate, where cranberry, hibiscus and fresh pomegranate flavors are wrapped in a light wood spice. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$48

93 MacRostie 2019 Thale's Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Citrus and red cherry fruit provide a bright tanginess to this wine that's crunchy in texture and has a vein throughout of refined acidity. Medium-bodied in style, it shows a balanced approach and plenty of complexity. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$58

93 Roar 2020 Clos Pepe Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). The Franscioni family had to head south for red wine due to the wildfires of 2020, and they found a gem in this vineyard. Aromas of black cherry, cola and vanilla are well measured on the nose. The palate is layered in sandy tannins that will last for years and loaded in black cherry compote and nutmeg flavors that ride into a creamy finish. Drink now–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$70

93 Sangiacomo 2019 Vi Maria Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). A dense, full-bodied and earthy wine, this impresses in rich layers of baked fruit and forest floor. Black tea, dried herbs and a hint of crushed rock contribute additional savory tones of brooding intensity, with well-integrated oak and tannin. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Siduri 2020 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This big but well-balanced wine wraps fine-grained tannins around nicely ripe and round black cherry and black currant flavors. It tastes deep and subtly oaky and feels both mouthfilling and lively. Best through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$40

93 Siduri 2020 Skycrest Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). A heady perfume of oak spices like clove, cedar, cinnamon and toast leads to a palate full of very ripe black fruits, mint and dark chocolate. Moderate tannins, good concentration and a full body encourage a lingering finish. Best through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Summer Somewhere 2019 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). For full review see page 12. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$55

93 Waits-Mast 2019 Wentzel Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). A nervy, chewy texture seems to energize the clear raspberry and red cherry flavors in this ruby-tinted, superwell-structured and mouthwatering wine that was grown in the organic Wentzel Vineyard. Aged in 33% new French barrels, it's not big but is well balanced, sip after sip. —J.G.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$47

93 Wrath 2019 McIntyre Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 13.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$49

92 Alma Rosa 2020 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Clean aromas of black cherry and crushed slate are full and ripe but very linear on the nose of this appellation cuvée. The palate lands with the lush black cherry flavors and a full-bodied mouthfeel, but the sagebrush, savory mushroom, earthy soil and fresh acidity elements add valuable depth. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

92 Bellante 2019 La Encantada Vineyard Reserve Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Wet clay, gunpowder, roasted plum and pepper dust aromas make for a detailed nose on this bottling. The palate combines sour cherry with roasted meat and charred wood flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

92 Copain Wines 2019 Edmeades Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). Light cedar, rosemary and cranberry aromas lead to tasty red and black cherry flavors in this well-structured, well-balanced, medium-bodied wine. It's a bit tight in texture and should improve with time. Best from 2025. —J.G.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$80

92 Derby 2018 Derbyshire Vineyard Pinot Noir (San Luis Obispo County). Dark and oaky aromas of cherry and baked strawberry meet with toasted sage on the nose of this bottling from an ocean-view vineyard near San Simeon. The wine lands holdly on the palate as well, with dark red fruits, a brisk acidity and plenty of clay, tarragon and fennel flavors that add much complexity. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$46

92 Domaine Carneros 2019 Le Ciel Serein Pinot Noir (Carneros). Brawny in earth and a depth of baked berry fruit, this full-bodied wine presents as soft and supple in texture and intensity. All-spice accents the long finish of complementary oak. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

92 EnRoute 2019 Amber Ridge Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 14.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

92 Hartford Court 2019 Hailey's Block Pinot Noir (Green Valley). Woody spice and cardamom accent tingly red fruit in this herbal, earthy wine, crunchy in texture with a length of citrus and red berry. Made in a lush, concentrated style of great power, it finds balance in a finishing touch of acidity. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$78

92 Ken Brown 2017 Radian Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Baked red plum, dried gingered and black cardamom aromas show on the dense nose of this bottling. There is a firm texture to the palate, which is still very much alive and loaded with roasted black raspberry and fresh floral flavors of rose and hibiscus. A hint of anise pops on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

92 Loring Wine Company 2020 Peake Ranch Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Dark aromas of black plum, kirsch and concentrated rose water make for a very intense nose on this bottling. The palate adds flavors of alpine strawberry and candied red flowers to the mix, with a pinch of anise contributing more depth. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

92 MacRostie 2019 Putnam Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Spicy, earthy red fruit is centered around firm tannin and savory characteristics of crushed rock and herb in this balanced coastal wine. Fresh acidity helps keep it focused and energetic around integrated oak notes of clove and cola. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$58

92 Pali Wine Co. 2019 Pali Vineyard Reserve Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Clean lines of black cherry, graphite, slate, toasted thyme and roasted nuts show on the nose of this estate bottling. There's a firm grip to the sip, where charred meat and warm baking spice flavors decorate the black plum pudding core. —M.K.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$95

92 Shannon Ridge 2020 Clay Shannon Long Valley Ranch Pinot Noir (Lake County). For full review see page 15.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$40

92 Silver 2016 Coteau Palmer Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Benjamin Silver has been making wine a long time in Santa Barbara and knows how to wait out a release. This patience led to a savory streak on this bottling, starting with rustic aromas of cherry, mushroom, pine and dewy sagebrush. That translates into Kalamata olive, earthy pine duff and dried berries on the palate. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Summer Somewhere 2019 Radian Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Fruity and fresh aromas of black cherry and boysenberry are warmed up by nutmeg and sharper mace on the expressive nose of this bottling. Those rich fruit flavors pick up roasted strawberry, star anise and cocoa on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$75

92 Talbott 2019 Kali Hart Pinot Noir (Monterey). For full review see page 16. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$26

92 Testarossa 2020 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Aroma of cherry syrup, incense, oak spice and loamy soil make for a complete nose on this bottling from a historic property. There is compelling tension to the sip, where bright and juicy red fruits are spiced by cinnamon, with oak emerging on the grippy finish. Drink now–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$74

92 Waits-Mast 2019 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This warm and ripe-tasting wine coats the palate with rich but not heavy red and black cherries, sweet plums and a touch of sour cherry on a soothing texture of light tannins and mild acidity. It's delicious and easy to sip. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$38

92 Williams Selyem 2020 Pinot Noir (Sonoma County). For full review see page 16. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$39

92 Wow and Flutter 2019 Lingenfelter Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). This is a fine, fruity and floral vineyard designate, with a gritty texture of crushed rock and rose petal. Demure, with impressive structure and balanced richness, it offers a thread of lovely acidity throughout and a quenching finish of citrus. —V.B.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

91 Bellante 2019 Dierberg Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Muddled mulberry and wild plum are enhanced by dried sage on the nose of this bottling. There are more prominent baked spice flavors on the engaging palate, with gingerbread spice giving warmth to the tart cherry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

91 Blue Oasis 2020 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This deep, rich and ripe wine practically overflows with mulled cherries, ripe plums and even peaches, as soft tannins and a relatively full body make it smooth and mouthfilling. The wine's oak influence is subtle considering 30% new French barrels were used. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

91 Böen 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). This is a well-made wine for those seeking a massively ripe style of Pinot Noir. Dark in the glass, this wine begins with aromas of vanilla and caramel

on the nose and then shows black cherry, nutmeg and cardamom cream on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$35

91 Böen 2018 Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Very rich aromas of black cherry, liquid smoke and crushed rocks are attention-grabbing if quite ripe on the nose of this bottling. There's a creamy tannic structure to the sip, where smoked cherry, campfire and cola flavors make for a bold sip. A perfect barbecue Pinot. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$35

91 Brutocao 2018 Bliss Family Vineyards Estate Pinot Noir (Mendocino). For full review see page 17. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

91 Brutocao 2015 Candelabra Estate Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). For full review see page 17.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

91 Chamisal 2019 Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Dark cherry, damp earth, soy-soaked mushroom and violet aromas make for a complex nose on this bottling. There's a solid tension to the palate, where black cherry, cedar and savory dried meat flavors combine into a bold expression. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

91 David Addamo 2020 Reserve Pinot Noir (Central Coast). For full review see page 18.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

91 Domaine Carneros 2019 The Famous Gate Pinot Noir (Carneros). An estate-grown wine from a selection of clones, this wine offers dense tones of earth, cranberry tartness and underlying elements of clove and forest pine, with a sap-like tension. High acidity keeps it lean and lengthy, with lasting intensity. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$92

91 Emercy 2020 Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). This is a bold and rich style of Pinot Noir, beginning with dark and extracted aromas of stewed boysenberry and violet. That boysenberry core is lifted by hibiscus tea and lighter strawberry on the palate, but the overall expression is very lush. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

91 Extraction 2018 Pinot Noir (California). Exotic balsam, ginger and cedar aromas lead to generous flavors of black plum, black pepper and beef jus in this low-tannin and full-bodied wine. It's complex in flavor and relaxed in texture. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$15

91 Ken Brown 2018 Envision Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Earthy aromas of tar, loamy soil and asphalt meet with dried beef and smashed raspberry on the nose of this appellation blend. There's a firm grip to the sip, where the roasted red fruit

and wild thyme flavors are cut by earthy tar and char elements. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$48

91 Kendall-Jackson 2020 Vintner's Reserve Pinot Noir (California). This superreliable, full-bodied wine boasts toast and butter aromas, ripe black cherry flavors and a full, rich mouthfeel backed by moderate tannins. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

91 Le Poidevin 2020 Chapel Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Dark mulberry aromas are lifted by smoky mesquite and bay leaf elements on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard formerly known as Huber. Charred berry, singed herb and more smoke elements converge on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.55% **Price:** \$40

91 Le Poidevin 2020 Goodchild Vineyard High 9 Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Bold aromas of strawberry are cut by minty herbs and fresh soil on the pleasant nose of this bottling. There's a compelling tension to the palate, where strawberry, wood spice, sagebrush and fennel pollen flavors ride an acidity that pushes deep into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.24% **Price:** \$38

91 Loring Wine Company 2020 Spanish Springs Vineyard Pinot Noir (Arroyo Grande Valley). Light pomegranate, carnation, rose and marjoram aromas show on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard in the new San Luis Obispo (SLO) Coast appellation. Rich raspberry flavors are dusted in dried herbs and wood spice on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

91 Sean Minor 2020 4B Pinot Noir (California). For full review see page 20. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

91 Terratorium 2020 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Candied cherry, turned dirt and sharp herb aromas show on the nose of this bottling. Pomegranate and citrus rind flavors make for a fresh palate, with a hint of baking spice on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$36

91 Testarossa 2020 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). This appellation blend is a fresh and juicy display, offering ripe and pleasant aromas of hibiscus and baking spice. It's lively on the palate with a zippy acidity that frames the raspberry, pomegranate and rose petal flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$57

91 Testarossa 2020 Niclaire Pinot Noir (California). This is a bold expression of Pinot Noir, beginning with black cherry, smoke and caramel aromas on the nose. The palate packs in baked berry and cherry flavors with loads of baking spice and hickory smoke flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$100

91 Wrath 2019 Boekenooogen Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Rich and juicy aro-

mas of cherry are layered in baked licorice, sage, smoke and loamy soil on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. Similar elements dominate the palate, from black cherry to smoke and sage, with forest-like expressions of bay leaf as well. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$49

91 Wrath 2019 Cortada Alta Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 20.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$49

90 Brick Barn 2019 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Light in the glass, this bottling offers raspberry, white pepper and fresh plum aromas on the nose. The palate is bright and snappy, with pomegranate, fruit punch and red plum skin tartness, proving clean and crisp. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$60

90 Bruliam 2019 Sangacimo Roberts Road Pinot Noir (Petaluma Gap). Bursting in supple red fruit and high-toned citrus, this balanced wine is approachable and generous, with ample acidity and well-tamed tannins. Notes of baking spice from the oak and flecks of forest provide contrast and complexity. —V.B.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$60

90 Bruliam 2019 Soberanes Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). An ample show of dust and herbs consume the nose on this bottling, which picks up scents of raspberry and rose as well. The palate's blend of hibiscus and black tea flavors are wrapped in an oaky spice. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$65

90 Calstar Cellars 2020 Nelson Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). This well-made, well-structured wine wraps moderate tannins around tasty red and black cherry flavors that are backed by a hint of tangy acidity and dusted with baking spice accents. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$50

90 City Winery Chicago 2018 Hyde Park Pinot Noir (Mendocino). This charming, medium-bodied wine offers snappy red cherry flavors, a smooth texture and tasty oak spice accents. It shows excellent balance and a subtle complexity. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$36

90 EnRoute 2019 Marty's Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). For full review see page 22.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

90 Folly of the Beast 2020 Pinot Noir (Central Coast). Winemaker Ryan Zotovich makes a lot of this wine for national distribution, but does so in boutique ways, and it shows. Black cherry, herb and brown spice aromas kick off the nose, leading into a palate that's sprinkled with chalky tannins and loaded in red plum and orange rind flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$19

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90 Fortunati 2019 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Dark cherry and berry aromas are spiced by cardamom and given a savory kick from roasted pork scents on the nose of his bottling. There is plenty of oak and hickory spice on the palate, where dark strawberry and berry flavors form the core. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$52

90 Iron Horse 2019 Winery Block Pinot Noir (Green Valley). Stemmy and deep in forest floor notes, this wine offers a savory, funky profile indicative of its cool-climate surroundings. Thick tannins provide structure and reasonable density that is balanced by fresh, ongoing acidity. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$87

90 Kosta Browne 2019 4-Barrel Pinot Noir (California). Extra-ripe, late-picked fruit flavors from raspberry to black cherry give this bold and full-bodied wine a vivid expression to accompany light tannins and a soft, creamy texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$220

90 Loring Wine Company 2020 Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Roasted cherry, sagebrush and scorched earth aromas make for a complete nose on this bottling. Dark fruit, smoke and crushed rock flavors converge on the palate, where fine acidity and a decent tension hold everything together. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

90 Loring Wine Company 2020 Aubaine Vineyard Pinot Noir (San Luis Obispo County). Cherry and pomegranate aromas are tart and juicy on the nose of this bottling. The palate pairs those tangy red fruit flavors with white pepper and pine needle elements. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

90 Loring Wine Company 2020 Kessler-Haak Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Sharp aromas of baked raspberry are enhanced by mace, cinnamon, sumac and red flowers on the nose of this bottling. The palate is tart with pomegranate and raspberry, while warmed by brown spices. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

90 Loring Wine Company 2020 Rancho La Vina Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Pomegranate, raspberry, red rose and cured meat flavors show on the nose of this bottling. It's zippy if tart on the sip, where sharp pomegranate flavors are most prominent. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

90 MacRostie 2019 Hellenenthal Vineyard Pinot Noir (Fort Ross-Seaview). With a light, delicate color, this wine is relatively light on the palate as well, with a cool-climate freshness that lingers. Grippy tannins wrap around layers of dark cherry, pomegranate and citrus, finishing in a touch of black tea. —V.B.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$58

90 MacRostie 2019 Olivet Lane Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). With a gravelly tex-

ture, this is a demure, refined wine, with a note of crisp cucumber and citrus peel. A dense midpalate reveals rich undertones of cherry and strawberry, with nuanced oak throughout. —V.B.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$66

90 Modus Operandi 2020 Vicarious Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Floral in geranium and rose, this wine is expansive and generous on the palate in rich red fruit, citrus tones and textured tannins. The acidity provides focus and tension. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

90 Pali Wine Co. 2020 Riviera Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). Muddled plum and nutmeg aromas make for a slightly dried nose on this bottling. There's a savory side to the palate, where charcuterie flavors meet with tart plum and berry, leading into a toasty finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Redmond 2015 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Muddled black cherry and boysenberry aromas meet with hibiscus tea on the rich nose of this bottling, which is showing well despite an advanced age. The line of hibiscus is clean and still crisp through the palate, which also offers stewed raspberry and anise flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Replica 2020 Misbehaved Pinot Noir (California). This well-structured wine lifts tasty, tangy red and black cherry flavors with good acidity and moderate tannins for a palate-cleansing effect. Notes of black tea and orange peel add extra complexity. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$16

90 Roberts Ranch 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Dried cherry, smoked pork, crushed rock and bay leaf aromas make for a complex nose on this bottling. The palate is loaded with wild flavors of smoke and cured meat as well as cleaner fruit tones of cranberry and orange rind. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$49

90 Séance 2020 Pinot Noir (California). For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

90 Summer Somewhere 2019 Pali Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). A transparent hue in the glass, this is a subtle spin on Pinot Noir, beginning with dried cherry, rocky earth and dusty pomegranate aromas. The palate is pleasant if a touch simple, offering hibiscus, pomegranate, herb and earth flavors, with an underlying sense of umami. —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$65

90 Waits-Mast 2019 Mariah Vineyard Pinot Noir (Mendocino Ridge). Almost sweet plum and mulled cherry flavors ride a supersoft, pillowy texture in this medium-bodied, melts-in-your-mouth

wine. Light woodsy, savory elements add a bit of complexity. —J.G.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$47

90 Walt 2019 Brown Ranch Pinot Noir (Carneros). Spiced, herbal and densely concentrated, this is a robust, rich and ripe wine, full-bodied in dark, brooding berry and mocha chocolate. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$75

90 Wrath 2019 Tondre Grapefield Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Dark plum, star anise, muddled mulberry and earthy soil aromas converge on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. The palate lands with a rich combination of plum juice, licorice and peppercorn flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$49

89 Comartin 2019 R-Bar-R Ranch Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Rustic and rugged aromas of cola spice, cherry and incense make for an intriguing nose on this bottling. The palate shows a more dried out side of plums and freeze-dried strawberry, with more of that cola spice kicking into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$64

89 La Crema 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Mesquite and vanilla pair with baked red fruit and slate on the nose of this appellation blend. Smoked strawberry flavors arise on the palate, which is softer in texture. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$50

89 La Crema 2019 Pinot Noir (Monterey). This fresh and vibrant bottling is widely available and fairly priced. Aromas of cherry, strawberry and raspberry are spiced with a pinch of oak on the nose, while the palate shows a heartier side of baked red fruit with sandalwood spice. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$23

89 Loring Wine Company 2020 Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Light in the glass, this bottling begins with aromas of tart strawberry, herb and a touch of earthy funk. White pepper and thyme flavors give depth to the raspberry core of the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$29

89 Loring Wine Company 2020 Cottonwood Canyon Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). Lightly roasted cherry, toasted sage, damp pine needle and incense aromas start the nose on this bottling. There are prominent menthol and myrtle flavors to the palate, giving herbal lift to the sour cherry syrup element. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

89 Pali Wine Co. 2020 Huntington Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Dark and extracted aromas of plum meet with gingerbread on the rich nose of this bottling. There's a lot of toasted oak on

the rich palate, where spice cake and dark fruit flavors converge. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Redmond 2019 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Blistered sour cherry, mace and woody aromas show on the nose of this bottling, which is a clonal blend of 60% 115 and 40% Pommard. Tart cherry and pomegranate flavors meet with wild herbs and incense on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$40

88 Brick Barn 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Ynez Valley). A light shade in the glass, this bottling offers easy aromas of roasted cranberry, fennel stalk and dust on the nose. The palate is very subtle with cherry and light pomegranate flavors, with a touch of anise adding depth. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$60

88 Fossil Point 2019 Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). Light hibiscus and dark pomegranate aromas meet with cola, tea leaf and toasted oak on the nose of this bottling. There's just enough grip to the sip, where violet, boysenberry and elderflower flavors lead into a game-kissed finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

88 Kendall-Jackson 2020 Jackson Estate Seco Highlands Pinot Noir (Arroyo Seco). Lighter in the glass, this bottling shows cranberry, carnation and a funky earth aroma on the nose. It's lean on the palate, where dried thyme and oregano meet with dried cranberry and cured meat flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

88 Ketcham Estate 2019 Allie's Reserve Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Dark fruit dominates a lush, soft expression of full-bodied intensity in this reserve-tier wine. Oak and baking spice contribute additional heft, richness and grip. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$85

88 Loring Wine Company 2020 Pinot Noir (Arroyo Grande Valley). Light in the glass, this bottling is quite tart on the nose with crushed pomegranate and raspberry aromas. Crisp red currant, sour cranberry and orange rind flavors show on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

88 Loring Wine Company 2020 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Red plum, thyme and citrus peel show on the slightly tart nose of this appellation blend. The palate warms up with flavors of ripe red cherry and a dusting of nutmeg, with the tart plum skin aspect arising on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

88 Loring Wine Company 2020 Quinta Santa Rosa Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Cola, stewed cherry, cinnamon and mace aromas make for a spicy nose on this bottling. There's a rich, almost sweet strawberry flavor to the palate, which is enhanced by wood spice. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$59

88 Muirwood 2020 Pinot Noir (Arroyo Seco). Muddled mulberry, dark cherry, loamy soil and dried mint aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is rich with classic flavors of cherry and sagebrush, although a tad dried out. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$22

88 Redmond 2016 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Seared dark strawberry, smoked meat and licorice aromas make for a complex nose on this bottling. Black plum and dark violet flavors come through on the palate, which is a touch extracted. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

88 Santa Barbara Winery 2019 Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Dark incense and black raspberry aromas make for a familiar nose on this bottling. The wood spice is really amplified on the palate, where the sharp oak tones frame the dark red fruit flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$22

88 Santa Barbara Winery 2019 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). Caramelized aromas of red plum and baking spices feel a bit extracted on the nose of this bottling. The palate pairs roasted red plum with dried herbs and hard spices, proving a pleasant sip. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$28

88 Whitehall Lane 2019 Calera Clone Pinot Noir (Petaluma Gap). Earthy compost and forest notes lead to a midpalate spiced in nutmeg and black tea in this savory, tannic and dense wine that showcases the one clone. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$50

87 Loring Wine Company 2020 Cooper Jaxon Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County). Tart strawberry and red plum skin aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is quite acidic and tart, with red plum and cranberry juice flavors as well as some savory herbs. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

86 Redmond 2018 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). This wine is already showing some age, with aromas of root beer, beet juice and dried cherry. The palate picks up dried cranberry and orange juice flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

86 Vaughn Duffy Wines 2019 Pinot Noir (Sonoma County). This wine is citrus-driven and high-toned, with a thickness of grippy tannin. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$32

85 Redmond 2014 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). Very sour and extracted aromas of plum skin show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is also very tart and sour, with some damp herb complexity. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

85 Ryder Estate 2020 Pinot Noir (California). Floral, earthy and ginger-like aromas lead to seemingly sweet cherry and strawberry flavors in this medium-bodied and slightly tannic wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

84 Chateau Souverain 2019 Pinot Noir (California). This full-bodied wine is full of butter-scotch and caramel flavors, showing a rather heavy, candied character. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

84 Redmond 2017 Portola Hills Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). A browner shade in the glass, this bottling begins with aromas of rust and cola. There's a tangy tomato kick to the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$40

84 Replica 2019 Label Envy Pinot Noir (North Coast). Flinty, earthy aromas and flavors give a rustic edge to this medium-bodied, plummy and rather soft-textured wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$20

84 Z. Alexander Brown 2020 Uncaged Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County-Sonoma County-Monterey County). Obvious cedar and maple syrup aromas and flavors give a candied veneer to this full-bodied, almost-sweet wine. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

83 Stephen Vincent 2020 Pinot Noir (North Coast). Sweet-seeming fruit flavors come with an earthy, smoky overlay in this medium-bodied, moderately tannic wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

97 Crocker & Starr 2019 Stone Place Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). Dark and brooding, this richly flavored and firmly structured wine made from Crocker & Starr estate grapes is holding its cards tightly right now and should open up beautifully with time. It overflows with black currants, blueberries, toasted oak and espresso crema notes on a velvety texture of superfine-grained tannins. Best 2028–2038. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$190

97 Vineyard 29 2019 Aida Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). Rich, broad and impressively saturated, this full-bodied wine from stony soil north of St. Helena floods the palate with über-ripe black fruits, mocha and bracing black currant, blackberry and blueberry flavors with well-integrated tannins for grip without grit. Made with just 2% Cabernet Franc, the wine has been fermented for 30 days in oak tanks and matured for 20 months in 80% new French barrels. Best 2026–2036. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$295

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96 Copia 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). For full review see page 4.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$65

96 Crocker & Starr 2019 1 Post Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). An expansive aroma of rosemary, cedar and dark chocolate makes this full-bodied wine stand out immediately before rich, ripe and creamy blueberry and mint flood the palate. Aged for 22 months in 90% new French barrels, it combines indulgent, ripe black fruits with velvety tannins and enticing spices. Best 2027–2037. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$250

96 Crown Point 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). For full review see page 4.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$150

96 DuMOL 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). For full review see page 4. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$109

96 Lail 2019 Blueprint Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). For full review see page 4. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$90

95 Crocker & Starr 2019 RLC Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). Powerful in flavor yet almost delicate in texture, this soothing but deep wine offers ethereal mint, cinnamon and nutmeg aromas followed by lush cassis, blueberry and cappuccino flavors. Generous fine-grained tannins gradually coat the palate and help extend the complex flavors through a lingering finish. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$85

95 Crossroads by Rudd 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Oakville). This wine offers outstanding quality at a fair price, juicy and inviting in raspberry and dark cherry, with approachable structure and enduring grace. Herbal and earthy, it has length and breadth on the palate, with a velvety texture and undoubtable balance, finishing in a bite of dark chocolate. *Editors' Choice.* —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$80

95 Grassini Family Vineyards 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Very focused and savory aromas of dried meat, new leather and toasted chestnuts meet with dried blackberry on the dynamic nose of this bottling. Firmly bound tannins encircle the palate, presenting dark fruit, dried flower and light pepper flavors, with the inherent acidity maintaining utter freshness. Drink now–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$65

95 Ridge 2019 Monte Bello Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). There's a prominent mineral streak of graphite, wet clay and lava rock on the nose of this bottling, which also

includes 11% Merlot and 1% Petit Verdot. Further investigation reveals aromas of blackberry, dried oregano, pepper and dried meat, and the palate falls in line, as leathery tannins frame baked berry, cocoa dust and roasted meat flavors. Drink now–2039. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$NA

95 Shafer 2019 One Point Five Cabernet Sauvignon (Stags Leap District). For full review see page 6.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$110

95 Vineyard 29 2019 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). Gorgeous, ultraripe fruit flavors meld beautifully with subtle oak spices and dark chocolate in this full-bodied and gently tannic wine. The ripeness and almost sweetness of black currant, black cherry and blueberry soaks through the fine-grained tannins for a very smooth texture. Best through at least 2030. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$295

95 Vineyard 29 2019 Ceanda Cabernet Sauvignon (St. Helena). This powerful wine is destined for a long life and increasing complexity. Made from selected vineyard blocks in three estate vineyards, it goes deep in black cherries, blueberries and blackberries that are amply spiced with wood smoke, cinnamon and espresso notes backed by full, fine-grained tannins. Best from 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$150

94 At Large 2019 Amber Knolls Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Hills). Great structure and concentrated, black fruit flavors are complemented by handsome toasted oak nuances of light char, tobacco and graphite on a full body and bolstered by velvety, moderate tannins. Winemaker Keith Emerson did a long, slow fermentation, partially in French barrels, and aged the wine in 605 new French barrels. Best 2026–2036. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

94 Vineyard 29 2019 Cru Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). This deep and potentially ageworthy blend from both valley and hillside sites is a baritone, showing deep bass notes of black currant, toasted oak and espresso on a great structure of fine-grained tannins and a full body. Best 2026–2036. —J.G.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$75

93 Chronic Cellars 2020 Sir Real Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). For full review see page 10. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$17

93 Dusty Nabor 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). The nose on this bottling is very polished and chiseled, showing aromas of dark berry, mahogany and loamy earth. That focus carries through the palate, where blackberry sorbet is spiced by pinched herbs, pepper and a cured-meat umami kick. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

93 Emerson Brown 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). Rich black fruits and subtle oak spices ride a smooth, velvety texture of fine-grained tannins in this full-bodied and creamy textured wine. Espresso crema, black cherry, black currant and mint blend beautifully on the palate and last long on the finish. Best from 2028. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

93 Emerson Brown 2019 Rancho Pequeño Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Oakville). This fruity, creamy and generous wine from a single vineyard in pricey Oakville packs in plenty of blackberry and black cherry flavors on a full body. Mild tannins, subtle baking spices and toast add great touches of complexity. Best through 2029. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$95

93 Modus Operandi 2019 Farella Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Coombsville). With sweet tannins and a note of char from the oak, this ripe, rich wine is grippy and bursting in intensity. Black licorice, black currant and baking spice accent a dense ferocity of big style and generous fruit. —V.B.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$150

93 Parducci 2019 True Grit Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino). For full review see page 12. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

92 Ackerman 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Coombsville). Brawny, generous and earthy, this well-made red is balanced and complex, with layers of dark fruit, clove and cigar. It offers the signature minerality and relatively cool-climate sensibilities of the appellation. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$98

92 Barton 2019 The Dance Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Very dark in the glass, this is an intensely focused though still quite young bottling, offering aromas of dark berry, graphite, pepper and herb on the nose. The firm structure grips around the berry, wood, espresso bean and cocoa flavors, which will better converge and emerge with time. Drink 2023–2033. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$67

92 Faust 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). This dark, brooding and full-bodied wine includes a nice percentage of Merlot and Petit Verdot. Supple, well-integrated tannins give it a burly sensibility that evolves and softens into earthy notes of dried herb, tobacco and clove that accent the black fruit. —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$55

92 Grassini Family Vineyards 2018 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Baked berry and carnation aromas are pleasantly soft on the red fruit-driven nose, but touches of chipped graphite add an elegant mineral element. Juicy cherry and strawberry flavors

enliven the palate, with dried, minty herbs and peppery spices carrying into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$80

92 Grey Wolf Cellars 2019 Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Polished aromas of black cherry, nutty wood and caramel are rich while savory on the nose of this bottling. It's quite firm on the palate, giving balance to the dark cherry compote, star anise and light herb flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

92 Kathryn Kennedy 2020 Small Lot Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). Clean lines of strawberry, graphite, crushed rock and pine spice sail through the nose of this young-but-ready bottling. The palate is focused on intense cherry and strawberry flavors, with sticky tannins and star anise providing light edges to the lighter-bodied bottling. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$35

92 Plein Air 2018 Cedarville Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Sierra Foothills). This serious, complex and attractively oaky wine offers rich black fruit flavors complemented by cinnamon, toast and vanilla nuances. Aged in 40% new French barrels, it is full-bodied and moderately tannic yet stays well-balanced. Best through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$55

92 Robert Hall 2018 Cavern Select Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Cocoa, blackberry jam and dried herb aromas show on the nose of this bottling, which includes 1% Merlot. The palate packs dark espresso with rich and dark red fruit flavors, as peppery spices ride into a firmly tannic finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$60

92 Sculpterra 2019 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Juicy red fruit aromas are cut by dark cocoa and hints of nutmeg and cinnamon on the nose of this bottling, which also employs 10% Petite Sirah. It's tightly woven on the palate, yet generous in black cherry, caramel and dark brown spices, with tannins holding firm into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$60

92 Sol Rouge 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Hills). Deep and concentrated, this full-bore, well-structured wine is firmly tannic, holding rather tightly its deep black currant, graphite and sunbaked earth flavors. A rustic, roasted quality gives it a unique twist. Best from 2026. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$45

92 Sycamore Ranch 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (El Pomar District). Lush berry and black cherry aromas are spiced with vanilla and red flower on the complex nose of this bottling, which includes 10% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot. The palate is hearty and softly tannic, with more black cherry as well as latte and wood spice flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$55

91 Daou 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). For full review see page 18.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

91 Dusty Nabor 2020 NSO Cabernet Sauvignon (El Pomar District). Dusty Nabor's value-minded label regularly overdelivers. This bottling is bold, with candied cherry and rich loam aromas on the nose, while the palate balances that rich black cherry core with intense tannins, more soil elements and a caramelized finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

91 Ernest 2019 Bohemian Series Alder Springs Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino County). This flavorful, well-balanced and nicely complex wine offers a slightly chewy texture, fresh black fruit flavors and moderate tannins without overdoing the ripeness or body. It's a well-structured food wine, built to accompany a roast bird or grilled chop. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$125

91 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2017 Bates Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). From a vineyard planted 50 years ago, this bottling shows light herb, red flower and red plum skin aromas on the nose. There's a pleasantly rustic and rugged earth tone to the palate, where thyme, smoked meat and cranberry flavors grow more complex with air. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$150

91 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2017 Luchessi Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). Dark leather, mocha and tart blackberry aromas show on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. The palate throws herbs, green peppercorns and coffee spice against a tart cranberry backdrop, and the wine grows much more integrated as it sits open for hours. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$55

91 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2017 Staiger Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). This heritage series of wines from winemaker-mentor-legend Jeff Emery are as much about the story as the wine. This hails from a vineyard planted in 1973 and grows more compelling as it breathes. Aromas of boysenberry, mushroom and soy lead into a well-structured palate of white pepper and pomegranate. More herbs and spices emerge with time. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$150

91 Y Rousseau 2018 Le Roi Soleil Cabernet Sauvignon (Mount Veeder). This wine sizzles in subtle earthiness and dried herbs, marked by a tight, youthful tannin structure that grips and expands on the palate, with just a touch of reduction nipping at its heels. Muscular, lengthy and rich in red berry and baking spice, it shows off the savory aspects of the mountain appellation. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$125

90 Beckmen 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Ynez Valley). Dark berry and mahogany aromas prove rich and thick but not overripe on the nose of this bottling. There's a savory streak of leather and tobacco on the palate, where ripe blackberry juice flavors show most prominently. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$36

90 Brutocao 2018 Hopland Ranches Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino). For full review see page 21.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

90 Cursive 2019 Signature Cabernet Sauvignon (North Coast). For full review see page 22.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$16

90 Donati Family Vineyard 2019 Family Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles Estrella District). Black cherry and blackberry aromas make for an approachable nose on this bottling. Wild mint and fudge flavors make the palate pop beyond the black cherry fruit aspect. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$53

90 Dusty Nabor 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (El Pomar District). Blackberry jam aromas are lifted by red licorice, red flowers and cinnamon candy on the nose of this appellation blend. The palate is quite jammy with blackberry flavors wrapped in soft tannins and spiced with cocoa, anise and Dr Pepper accents. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

90 Firestone 2018 The Chairman Series Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Ynez Valley). Dark cherry, wood shavings and nutty spices show on the nose of this bottling. There's a firm grip to the sip, where walnut and pecan notes elevate the dark fruit core. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$58

90 Four Lanterns 2017 Third Blue Hour Cabernet Sauvignon (Templeton Gap District). Black cherry and blackberry aromas make for a very jammy nose on this bottling. The palate lands with a viscous, smooth presence, and then shows an interesting set of flavors, including savory soy and mushroom as well as thick fruit syrup. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$67

90 Maggio 2020 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Lodi). For full review see page 24.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Opolo 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Black cherry and black plum aromas are cut by dark incense and savory mushroom on the nose of this bottling. There's a toasted mahogany spice to the palate, where dark cherry, soy and more mushroom flavors also arise. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

90 Peltzer Family 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Coast). Earthy aromas of wood, blackberry and mushroom sauce show on the nose of this bottling. There's a hefty mouthfeel to the

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palate, where chunky tannins surround dried berry, clipped herb and shiitake flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

90 Robert Hall 2019 Artisan Collection Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). For full review see page 25.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Slices 2020 Napa Mendocino San Luis Obispo Cabernet Sauvignon (California). For full review see page 25.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$25

89 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 Matson Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Fair Play). Aromatic cinnamon and cedar dress up this well-concentrated wine, adding interest to the tasty black cherry flavors. Moderate tannins and good balance will make it versatile at dinner time. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$33

89 Cline 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (North Coast). For full review see page 26.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$17

89 Cuda Ridge 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Livermore Valley). This layered and deep wine offers generous black fruit flavors and a rich, creamy texture of fine-grained tannins. It oozes a ripe, jammy character that verges on sweet. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$41

89 Dancing Crow 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Lake County). Mint and rose petal aromas lend interest to this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine, layering overripe black cherry and blueberry flavors. Good structure and the floral character make it distinctive. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

89 Opolo 2020 Summit Creek Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Light herb, stone and tar aromas give depth to the blistered red plum and slight bubblegum aromas on the nose of this bottling. There's a pleasantly delicate grip to the palate, which is spiced in licorice and smoked caramel, as a core flavor of watermelon sits in the midpalate. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$24

89 Robert Hall 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Straight-up aromas of rock and dirt meet with wild herbs and tar on the very earthy and savory nose of this bottling. A firm tension frames the sip, where a dark plum flavor is the star, with hints of earth and chalk also arising. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Santa Barbara Winery 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Sour cherry and cranberry aromas meet with porcini powder and dried meat on the nose of this bottling. Roasted strawberry and plum flavors are enhanced by light soy and char on the slightly tart palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$36

89 Uphill Vineyards 2017 Jimmy's Dream Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Amador County). Big, bold and fairly tannic, this full-bodied wine holds its wood char, black pepper and black cherry flavors pretty tightly in a sandy texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$39

88 Brutocao 2018 Bliss Family Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino). This medium-bodied and moderately tannic wine offers tempting oak spice aromas, vivid blackberry and black cherry flavors and a good sense of balance. Light cinnamon and clove nuances blend well with the focused fruit flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

88 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Fair Play). Smooth and flavorful, this full-bodied wine offers generous black cherry and blackberry flavors on a polished texture of good acidity and moderate tannins. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$33

88 Gehricke 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Knights Valley). Rich red fruit highlights this approachable, straightforward wine, full-bodied in style with soft tannins and prominent oak. Vanilla and clove round out the finish. —V.B.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$35

88 Ocnautic 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Herb-driven aromas of crumpled oregano, marjoram and pepper play against tart and dark red fruit on the nose of this bottling. Candied cherry flavors on the lightly bodied palate are also hit by that herbal array, including oregano and thyme. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$15

88 Santa Barbara Winery 2017 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Sharp aromas of black plum and purple flowers show on the nose of this bottling. There's a sour angle to the palate, where oregano and blistered plum flavors rein. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$50

87 Barrelstone 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This flavorful and well-polished wine is easy to appreciate for its ripe and straightforward red and black cherry flavors, smooth texture and fine-grained tannins. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$13

87 California Republic 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). Warm, plummy, milk chocolate flavors fill out the full body of this smooth and not-very-tannic wine. It is rich and generous and rather soft in texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$18

87 CULT 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Lodi). This is a well-made, nicely fruity and lightly spicy wine that's medium-bodied and easy to drink. It's a good bottle for lunch and casual occasions. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Frelander 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This is a good, solid-quality wine with ample black fruit flavors, light oak spices and a moderately tannic texture. Some savory notes of dill and black olive meet red and black cherries. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Rare 2020 Bourbon Barrels Cabernet Sauvignon (California). For full review see page 30. **Best Buy.**
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$10

87 Stel+Mar 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Lodi). Strong oak flavors of mint, cedar and coconut rise to the surface in this aromatic, full-bodied and moderately tannic wine. Its grippy texture and oak spices will appeal to some drinkers more than others. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$11

86 Chateau Souverain 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). For full review see page 30. **Best Buy.**
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

86 Hahn 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). Potent oak accents join bold black fruit flavors in this full-bodied, moderately tannic wine. Wood char, clove and cedar aromas continue on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

86 Hilary Goldschmidt 2018 Charming Creek Cabernet Sauvignon (Oakville). Red and black berry fruit is accented in waves of vanilla in this soft, approachable and simple wine, which is full-bodied in style and quite rich on the palate. A note of oak char marks the finish. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$NA

86 LifeVine 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This good, serviceable wine shows ripe black fruit flavors and hints of chocolate and black pepper on a medium body with light tannins. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$22

86 Line 39 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). For full review see page 30. **Best Buy.**
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

86 Séance 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). Jammy fruit flavors and warm oak spices give this medium-bodied and gentle-textured wine an almost sweet expression, making it a lighter style of Cabernet. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$15

83 Carnivor 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This wine looks artificially dark in color and offers superjammy blackberry and blueberry aromas on a rich, syrupy texture. More like a Port than a table wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

83 Member's Mark 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Rutherford). This wine lacks aromatic complexity—or complexity of any kind—offering

thick layers of black fruit, baking spice and unduly prominent oak. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$18

CABERNET FRANC

92 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 Thompson Vineyards Reserve Cabernet Franc (Fair Play). This soulful wine blends savory, earthy, mushroomy overtones with vivid wild berry and macerated cherry flavors on a smooth, lightly tannic texture. Its complexity, subtlety and depth are compelling to taste. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.7% Price: \$30

92 City Winery Chicago 2018 Alder Springs Vineyard Reserve Cabernet Franc (Mendocino). This warm, generous wine offers cinnamon and vanilla aromas, ripe black plum and black cherry flavors on a smooth, velvety texture of fine-grained tannins. A full body, excellent depth and concentration give it good length on the finish. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% Price: \$38

92 Crossroads by Rudd 2019 Cabernet Franc (Oakville). Blended with 12% Cabernet Sauvignon—all estate fruit—this is an herbal, peppery and textured varietal wine that's approachable and soft on the palate. It shows balance and structure with lengthy layers of cherry, plum, currant and a hint of chocolate. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$70

92 Ehlers Estate 2019 Cabernet Franc (St. Helena). Youthfully tight and grippy, this wine shows a tremendous amount of complexity and structure. Red currant, crushed rock and a hint of tobacco accent the full-bodied intensity and integrated oak, with plenty of room for development in the cellar. Best enjoyed 2029–2034. *Cellar Selection.* —V.B.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$77

91 Four Lanterns 2018 Cabernet Franc (Templeton Gap District). Crunchy aromas of raspberry are cut by bay leaf, white pepper and dried herbs on the classically correct nose of this Cabernet Franc. The herbal tones hold firm on the palate, where eucalyptus and bay leaf flavors give depth to the underripe berry core. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% Price: \$54

91 Lang & Reed 2019 Cabernet Franc (California). This gentle giant of a wine boasts bold black plum and black cherry flavors accented by tasty cinnamon and vanilla on a full body. Massive but smooth tannins give a lot of structure to the rich fruit and oak-spice flavors. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$29

91 Robert Hall 2019 Cavern Select Cabernet Franc (Paso Robles Estrella District). Dark in the glass, this bottling, which includes 14% Cabernet Sauvignon, begins with rich black cherry and mahogany aromas on the focused nose. It's bold on the palate but remains fresh with a decent struc-

ture, offering rich flavors of black cherry, cracked pepper and wood spice. —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$55

91 Silver 2017 Buttonwood Farm Vineyard Cabernet Franc (Los Olivos District). Woody aromas of forest floor and mushroom meet with ripe cherry on the nose of this bottling, which is starting to show some age. There is still ample tension to the palate, where teriyaki and more mushroom flavors play against the tart red fruit and white pepper elements, leading toward a toasty finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% Price: \$35

91 Vineyard 29 2019 29 Estate Cabernet Franc (St. Helena). This rich, dark and smoky wine boasts intense dark chocolate, blackberry jam and grilled beef flavors on a full body backed by thick, soft tannins. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$140

90 Louis M. Martini 2019 Monte Rosso Cabernet Franc (Sonoma Valley). Opening in a nice nose of red fruit and oak, this wine is reductive and generous in style. Cigar, clove and crushed rock ride a tangy, supple palate of integrated tannins that finishes with the variety's signature herbaceousness. —V.B.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$65

90 Sculpterra 2019 Cabernet Franc (Paso Robles). A lighter color in the glass, this bottling begins with juicy and playful aromas of raspberry, strawberry and white pepper. The red fruit turns quite candied and fruit punch-like on the palate, which continues in that hedonistic, easy-to-enjoy vein. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$44

90 Silverado 2018 Mt. George Vineyard Estate Grown Cabernet Franc (Coombsville). For full review see page 25.
abv: 15% Price: \$65

88 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2017 Bates Ranch Cabernet Franc (Santa Cruz Mountains). Quite tart aromas of sour blackberry meet with fig on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard planted 50 years ago. The palate shows an impressive array of herbs, from thyme to fennel, as the sour aspect picks up a boysenberry character. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% Price: \$150

87 Oakville East 2018 Franc 'N Stern Cabernet Franc (Oakville). This wine is full-bodied and densely chewy in tannin, with a prominence of oak. Dried herb, sage and currant accent a straightforward expression of the grape, blended with 4% Cabernet Sauvignon and given 22 months in French oak. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$100

MERLOT

94 Calluna 2019 Aux Raynauds Merlot (Chalk Hill). Blended with 10% Cabernet Franc,

this is a refined, polished and elegant wine, reductive at first, with a nutty character. Concentrated in structured tannin and dense fruit, it tastes of fresh plum, dark cherry and crushed rock, with a finishing note of herbal earthiness. —V.B.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$45

93 Ehlers Estate 2019 Merlot (St. Helena). Pungently earthy, this wine is bursting in inviting berry and cherry flavor, with strong hints of baking spice. Balanced, it shows a grip on the finish before a lengthy midpalate of playful, soft and supple tannin. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$69

93 Little Giant 2018 Frediani Vineyard Merlot (Calistoga). For full review see page 11.
abv: 14.6% Price: \$60

93 Rodrigue Molyneux 2018 Merlot (Livermore Valley). This hearty, well-balanced wine is a great reminder of how good Merlot can be. It's full-bodied and offers nicely concentrated black cherry and dark chocolate flavors on a lightly tannic texture. Enticing mint and cedar accents enhance the solid black fruit flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.6% Price: \$40

92 Duckhorn 2018 Three Palms Vineyard Merlot (Napa Valley). For full review see page 14. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.5% Price: \$110

92 Grassini Family Vineyards 2019 Merlot (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). This bottling begins a tad tight, with dark cherry, crushed rock and cedar aromas on the nose. The palate offers roasted strawberry and a long wood spice element, served atop sharp acidity. With patience, the nose and palate round out more into a polished, lusher expression. Drink 2023–2033. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$85

91 Donati Family Vineyard 2019 Family Reserve Merlot (Paso Robles Estrella District). Lush aromas of black cherry, milk chocolate and smooth, creamy caramel show on the nose of this 22-case bottling. Rounded flavors of roasted strawberry, cocoa dust and minty herb make for a complex palate, which is lighter-bodied but has a soft tension. —M.K.
abv: 15.1% Price: \$45

91 Opolo 2019 Reserve Collection Merlot (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Dark aromas of roasted cherry, light wood and caramel show on the nose of this reserve expression. There's a tense tannic grip to the palate, giving a frame to dark blackberry jam flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$40

90 Bargetto 2019 Regan Vineyards Reserve Merlot (Santa Cruz Mountains). This is still a very young wine and will grow more impressive with some patience. Aromas of cherry and damp

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wood lead into a clean palate of oak, cocoa powder, brown spice and dark cherry. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

90 **Line 39 2018 Merlot (California).** For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11

90 **Longboard 2019 Dakine Vineyard Merlot (Russian River Valley).** An estate-grown wine blended with 11% Malbec, this is a small-production wine of balance and beauty. Juicy red fruit and spiced oak combine for a supple, soft expression of the grape that is textured and lengthy in citrus, pomegranate and cherry that finishes in dark chocolate. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$42

90 **RD 2019 Hundred Knot Merlot (Napa Valley).** Dense, chewy and full-bodied in style, this wine offers generous oak and tannin amid a tangy, herbal landscape of varietal intensity. Clove, dried herb, currant and dark cherry accent a bold core of power and length. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

90 **Robert Hall 2019 Merlot (Paso Robles).** For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 15% **Price:** \$15

89 **Parducci 2020 Small Lot Merlot (Mendocino County).** This is an attractive, medium-bodied wine with some good, grippy tannins supporting black cherry, herb and black olive flavors. It will be a good house wine for a variety of occasions. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

88 **Brander 2019 Merlot (Los Olivos District).** Cranberry, leather and smoke make for a classical nose on this bottling. It's lighter-bodied and built for thirst quenching on the palate, where turned earth, toasted herb and tart red fruit flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

88 **Estancia 2018 Merlot (Central Coast).** For full review see page 29. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$13

88 **Opolo 2020 Summit Creek Merlot (Paso Robles).** Baked licorice, wild fennel and roasted strawberry aromas converge on the nose of this bottling. There's a strong, somewhat damp herb balm edge to the palate, which also offers roasted berry and cedar flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$24

88 **Silenus 2019 Merlot (Oak Knoll District).** Concentrated and thick in tannin, this red is herbal and earthy to its core. Concentrated intensity takes on a length and weight that persists through a richness of red cherry and plum. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

86 **Chateau Souverain 2019 Merlot (California).** For full review see page 30. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$11

PETIT VERDOT

94 **Cuda Ridge 2018 Estate Petit Verdot (Livermore Valley).** This suave and handsome wine blends alluring spicy aromas of tobacco, light wood smoke, toasted oak and black currant with strong, deep and saturating black cherry, mint and dark chocolate. It's nicely firm in tannins that are beautifully matched by the rich flavors and appetizing acidity. Best 2025–2035. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$60

94 **Rodrigue Molyneux 2017 Estate Petit Verdot (Livermore Valley).** This tightly wound wine is classic in style, with a polished texture backed by very firm, fine-grained tannins that cloak delicious black currant, mint and cedar flavors. It shows hints of bottle bouquet already but should continue improving through at least 2027. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$48

93 **Matchbook 2019 Estate Bottled Petit Verdot (Dunnigan Hills).** For full review see page 11. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$17

92 **LaZarre 2018 Petit Verdot (Paso Robles).** Dark in the glass, this intense bottling shows a very pure purple nose of acai sorbet that's cut by vanilla spice. There's zippy acidity on the palate, where lively purple fruit and flower flavors prove lively and fun. It's quite dark, but very fresh. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$48

91 **Michael David 2019 Inkblot Petit Verdot (Lodi).** For full review see page 19.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$30

91 **Vincent Vineyards 2019 Family Reserve Petit Verdot (Los Olivos District).** Crisp black raspberry aromas are lifted by light toast and vanilla on the nose of this bottling. That fresh raspberry sorbet quality carries to the sip, where black pepper and crumpled herb flavors add elegant depth. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$45

90 **Dante Robere 2019 Petit Verdot (Livermore Valley).** Superrich in fruit and oak flavors, this full-bodied wine offers deep blackberry, blueberry and milk chocolate flavors on a big structure of tannins. It is mouthfilling, ripe and bold. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$39

SYRAH

97 **Villa Creek 2020 3 Syrah (Central Coast).** Grown from organic grapes, this bottling is

elegantly and thickly layered on the nose, offering violet, crème de cassis, pepper and wood oil aromas. The tannins are immense and immediate on the palate, where the serious structure showcases dynamic flavors of dark berries, crushed nuts, black pepper, dried herbs and cocoa dust, as acidity zings into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

96 **Vie Winery 2018 Wynonna's Vineyard Syrah (Big Valley District).** For full review see page 5. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$45

95 **Copain Wines 2019 Hawks Butte Syrah (Yorkville Highlands).** Smoky, peppery and sleek, this medium-bodied wine offers great complexity on an elegant frame. Vivid aromas of black pepper and wood smoke lead to generous but focused blackberry and sour cherry flavors braced by moderate tannins. Best 2025–2030. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$70

95 **Hartford Court 2016 Outer Limits Syrah (Sonoma Coast).** For full review see page 6.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$55

95 **Kaleidos 2018 Syrah (Santa Barbara County).** This is a very dynamic and deeply layered wine, showing savory aromas of tar, seaweed, raw meat and elderberry on the wild nose. The palate is also savory, full of charred and raw lamb, rosemary, cracked pepper and dark berry flavors, wrapped in a tense frame. —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$55

94 **Anaba 2019 Bismark Vineyard Syrah (Moon Mountain District Sonoma County).** A beautiful red from high-elevation grapes, aged 22 months in French oak, this wine opens in a flourish of white and black pepper, garrigue and black cherry. Balanced, it is nonetheless hearty and dense, with a lasting hint of leather. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$60

94 **Caelesta 2019 Block 6 Estate Syrah (Templeton Gap District).** Intense aromas of baked black plum, cassis, chai, loamy soil, violet and elderberry make for a vivid and complex nose for this estate bottling from a very young, promising vineyard. Creamy tannins retain just enough edge on the sip, where lush stewed plum and vanilla flavors ride a chiseled acidity. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$NA

94 **Caelesta 2018 Denner Vineyard Syrah (Paso Robles Willow Creek District).** Savory aromas of raw meat and black pepper meet with elderberry on the excellent nose of this bottling. The wine lands with heft on the palate, where creamy yet still edgy tannins frame the cassis, chai spice and pie crust flavors, as acidity pumps appropriately into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$72

94 J. Dirt 2019 Slide Hill Syrah (Edna Valley). Very dark and dense fruit aromas are met with incense cedar, bay leaf and cracked green peppercorn on the nose of this bottling from a unique vineyard. Broiled berry and plum flavors are dusted in oregano, thyme and more peppercorns on the palate, where chalky tannins and a hint of nori linger into the finish. Drink now–2037. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Bellante 2019 Ma Belle Sheri Shokrian Vineyard Clone 7 Syrah (Santa Barbara County). For those who crave burly, savory Syrahs that only grow more intense with time, this bottling of Clone 7 offers smoked meat, iodine and soy aromas on the nose. Squid ink and lamb chop flavors meet with blackberry compote on the palate, which enjoys an unending finish. Drink now–2034. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$58

93 Bellante 2019 Tierra Alta Reserve Syrah (Ballard Canyon). Complex aromas of green sage, fennel pollen, graphite and red fruit make for a unique nose on this bottling. The palate is also distinctive, combining flavors of blistered cranberry, forest floor and peppery spice into a cohesive sip. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$50

93 Big Basin 2018 Terraces Coastview Vineyard Syrah (Monterey County). This bottling from a vineyard that sits 2,200 feet above the Salinas Valley begins with elegant aromas of purple flowers and purple fruits, dusted in subtle hints of cracked pepper. Lavender and violet flavors lead the palate, where hints of elderberry and elderflower should only grow more compelling with patience. Drink now–2033. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$55

93 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Syrah (Edna Valley). This bottling's complex nose is loaded with green herb, peppercorn, dried meat and tart elderberry aromas. The palate is spicy with bay leaf and green peppercorn flavors, with waves of underripe berry, nori wrap and iodine further asserting that cool-climate style. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$48

93 Lion Ranch 2018 Besson Vineyard Syrah (Santa Clara Valley). From a historic vineyard, this bottling is enhanced with a splash of estate Viognier to deliver aromas of cracked pepper, dried beef, charcoal and ash, with fruitier hints of acai and lilac. The palate is cut with brisk acidity, offering waves of roasted berry, cured meat and violet, proving very complex but cohesive. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$46

93 Morgan 2019 Double L Vineyard Syrah (Santa Lucia Highlands). For full review see page 11. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

93 Sol Rouge 2018 Syrah (Red Hills). Generous and delicious black plum, black pepper and black fig flavors saturate this full-bodied wine while a smooth, mouthfilling and velvety texture holds them gently. It tastes broad, ripe and chocolaty. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$39

93 Vie Winery 2018 Fore Family Vineyard Syrah (Red Hills). Velvety tannins wrap around nicely deep black fruit flavors that show tasty ripeness and a bit of dark chocolate along with savory aspects of black pepper and singed rosemary. From a high-elevation vineyard, this wine will improve through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$45

93 Vie Winery 2018 Les Amours Syrah (North Coast). Ripe, rich and roasted in flavor, this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine packs in black plum, beef jus and black pepper flavors that are layered and complex. A sunbaked, dried tomato accent adds a distinctive note that lingers nicely on the finish. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$45

92 Beckmen 2019 Purisima Mountain Vineyard Syrah (Ballard Canyon). This is a hedonistic take on Syrah, starting with intensely lush aromas of black fruit, cocoa dust, caramel and even fudge on the nose. The palate is creamy in texture with ripe fruit and caramel flavors that are enhanced by cardamom and cappuccino accents. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$36

92 Big Basin 2018 Sixty-Two Terraces Syrah (Santa Cruz Mountains). Lavender and violet aromas decorate the black fruit on the nose of this bottling, which also shows a peppercorn spice streak. The bone-dry palate offers fresh acai and violet flavors, framed by sticky tannins that need some time to resolve. Drink 2023–2038. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$55

92 Copain Wines 2019 High Rock Ranch Syrah (Yorkville Highlands). This smooth and darkly fruity wine offers rich blackberry and blueberry flavors, a smooth, lightly tannic texture, full body and a lingering fruity, chocolaty finish. Native yeast performed the fermentation, and neutral French barrels aged the wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$65

92 Diora 2019 Three Crowns San Bernabe Vineyard Syrah (Monterey). This is a dense style of Syrah, and it satisfies those hedonistic cravings. Aromas of roasted black plum and smoked beef lead into a palate of teriyaki, violet, cassis and more smoked meat flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$40

92 Dupuis 2018 Baker Ranch Syrah (Anderson Valley). This smooth, somewhat tannic yet very drinkable wine is full of ripe plum, black fig and blackberry jam. It is nicely concentrated in flavor and broad in texture. This medium-bodied,

cool-climate wine should drink well through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$45

92 La Honda Winery 2019 Syrah (Santa Cruz Mountains). Fresh and fruity aromas of strawberry, black raspberry sorbet and black cherry meet with savory tones of iodine, raw meat and peppery spice on the complex nose of this bottling. There's a taut structure that holds the juicy and ripe flavors of red fruit in check on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$34

92 Las Positas 2019 Estate Syrah (Livermore Valley). Superripe, delicious and lavishly oaked, this broad and spicy wine emphasizes late-picked plum, blackberry and blueberry flavors and oak spices like vanilla, nutmeg and cinnamon. Rich, fine-grained tannins give it a velvety mouthfeel. —J.G.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$60

92 Vie Winery 2018 Canihan Vineyards Syrah (Sonoma Coast). Cofermented with 3% Viognier from dry-farmed vines, this wine is dark and brooding, with tart layers of currant, cranberry and plenty of acidity. Complex with structure and additional notes of leather, garrigue and black pepper, it has a lasting flourish of violet that gives it a pretty finish. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$50

92 Zaca Mesa 2017 Mesa Reserve Syrah (Santa Ynez Valley). For full review see page 16.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$54

91 Ingredient 2019 Syrah (Ballard Canyon). This is a unique and compelling project, involving just Syrah grapes, clay pots and nothing else. Aromas of cracked white and black pepper spice up the tarry boysenberry core on the complex nose, while the palate shows a more candied side, with strawberry and grape flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$85

91 Bellante 2019 Jack McGinley Vineyard Syrah (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Baked cherry, smoky hickory, roasted plum and baking spice aromas make for a warming nose on this bottling from a warmer region. Rich, lush flavors of black cherry are spiced by cola and root beer float flavors on the comforting palate. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$50

91 Big Basin 2018 Rattlesnake Rock Syrah (Santa Cruz Mountains). Blistered red plum, crumpled carnations and dried mountain herbs show on the nose of this bottling. Pine needle and bay leaf flavors make for a complex start to the sip, as peppery spices and tart red fruit flavors emerge into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$55

91 Cedarville 2018 Estate Syrah (El Dorado). Bold charcoal and toasted oak notes are wrapped in firm tannins as this full-bodied wine puts oaky, peppery flavors forward. Delicious black

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cherry, blueberry and dark chocolate reveal themselves with more sipping. Best from 2025. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% Price: \$29

91 Dusty Nabor 2019 Kimsey Vineyard Syrah (Ballard Canyon). Dark boysenberry, tar, violet and heavy oak aromas converge on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. There's a decent amount of tension on the palate, where sleek flavors of purple flowers and blue fruit clings to a sticky tannic structure. —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$40

91 Ken Brown 2018 A Cuvée Syrah (Santa Barbara County). From vineyards in the Los Alamos Valley, this bottling is savory and rich on the nose with aromas of plum roasted on a mesquite fire as well as cardamom and barrel spice. It's lavish on the palate, loaded with chai and mocha spice, as the smoky plum flavor goes deep. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% Price: \$38

91 Kendall-Jackson 2020 Estates Collection Syrah (Santa Barbara County). Crisp black raspberry, lavender and damp earth aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is both savory and refreshing, with fruit punch, red flower blossom and dried meat flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$40

91 Peirano 2019 The Heritage Collection Syrah (Lodi). This well-balanced, layered and suave-textured wine offers appealing black plum, red cherry and light oak spices of vanilla and nutmeg. A full body and moderate tannins give it a rich mouthfeel. *Best Buy.* —J.G.
abv: 14.2% Price: \$14

91 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2019 Zayante Vineyard Syrah (Santa Cruz Mountains). This is a lighter yet very complex take on Syrah, starting with a light hue and aromas of strawberry sorbet, rose water, lilac and wood spice. It's fresh on the palate, blending the strawberry flavors with pinches of herb, pepper and dust. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.2% Price: \$42

91 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Tierra Alta Vineyard Syrah (Ballard Canyon). Dense aromas of tarry meat, baked elderberry, cracked pepper and teriyaki show on the nose of this bottling, with includes 5% Mourvèdre. There's an impressive density on the palate, where beef jerky, black plum sauce, thyme and pepper flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 16.1% Price: \$50

91 Vie Winery 2019 Petris Vineyard Bien Nacido Clone Syrah (Los Carneros). An entirely varietal wine from a site that grows only Syrah, this wine is meaty, peppery and tangy, with an enduring earthiness. Garrigue, tobacco and dried herb highlight a densely structured framework of balanced intensity. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% Price: \$45

91 Vie Winery 2018 Petris Vineyard Durell Clone Syrah (Los Carneros). From a vineyard

planted only with this variety, this wine is cool-climate in personality and style, with a funkiness of tar and leather. Cranberry, currant and violet notes provide a pretty complement and lasting brightness, finishing in darker berry. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% Price: \$45

90 Bellante 2019 Shokrian Vineyard Estrella Clone Reserve Syrah (Santa Barbara County). Roasted dark red fruit, crushed lava rock and wood spice aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate takes a similar track, offering smoked red fruit and pepper spice flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$50

90 Bellante 2019 Watch Hill Vineyard Reserve Syrah (Santa Barbara County). Smoothly integrated aromas of blackberry, cassis and sandalwood show on the nose of this single-vineyard bottling. The palate is also seamless, with nothing sticking out, offering dark fruit, baking spice and creamy tannins. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$50

90 Frey 2020 Organic Syrah (California). This bold and smoky wine tests the limits, blending wild berries, wood smoke, raspberry vinegar and grilled beef flavors that will appeal to natural-wine enthusiasts. Contains no added sulfites. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$18

90 HammerSky 2019 Extraction Syrah (Paso Robles). Roasted black plum, cacao nib and toasted barrel aromas make for a relatively subtle nose on this bottling, which includes 20% Petite Sirah. The barrel spice shows more prominently on the palate, where vanilla, cappuccino, roasted meat and baked berry flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 15.1% Price: \$90

90 Le Poidevin 2020 Valley View Vineyard Syrah (Los Olivos District). A bit light in the glass, this bottling pops on the nose with snappy raspberry aromas that are layered in toasted nuts, cocoa and brown spices. A tart red plum flavor kicks off the palate, where sagebrush spice adds depth. —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$29

90 Puppione Family Wines 2018 Ariya Odyssey Vineyard Syrah (Russian River Valley). From organically farmed grapes that are foot trod and 50% whole cluster, this wine is demure and funky, with high-toned citrus notes and a cool-climate character that elevates notes of black olive, black pepper and garrigue. —V.B.
abv: 12.7% Price: \$45

90 Summer Somewhere 2019 John Sebastiano Vineyard Syrah (Sta. Rita Hills). Fresh black raspberry aromas are layered in dark soil, cracked pepper and dried ginger on the nose of this cool-climate Syrah. The palate is more viscous than the nose indicates, showing richer stewed strawberry, mace and cinnamon flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% Price: \$65

90 Zaca Mesa 2017 Estrella Syrah (Santa Ynez Valley). Violet aromas kick off the nose of this clonal showcase, made by the first estate to plant Syrah in Santa Barbara County. The palate is brisk and fresh, focusing tightly on blueberry and elderberry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% Price: \$65

89 Pianetta 2019 Syrah (Paso Robles Geneseo District). Dark blackberry, iodine, nutmeg, bacon and vanilla aromas make for a rich nose on this bottling. The palate lands with a lush texture, presenting plum pudding, mace and gingerbread flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% Price: \$40

89 Robert Hall 2019 Cavern Select Syrah (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Focused aromas of blackberry, light licorice and caramelized fruits show on the nose of this bottling, which includes 8% Grenache. There's ample tension to the sip, giving an edge to cassis, chocolate and oak flavors, with just enough acidity at play. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$50

89 Santa Barbara Winery 2017 Reserve Syrah (Santa Ynez Valley). Dark purple fruit aromas meet with violet and a slightly tart plum skin element on the nose of this bottling. The palate is focused and precise, with sharp acidity cutting through the somewhat primary acai and blackberry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$30

89 Tofino 2019 Syrah (Paso Robles). Smoked meat and blackberry paste aromas show on the dense nose of this bottling. The palate is quite viscous and rather ripe with sweet berry flavors, though the floral aspects provide lift. —M.K.
abv: 15.8% Price: \$48

88 Baldassari 2018 Nolan Syrah (Bennett Valley). With earthy notes of compost and tar, this wine also offers compelling flavors of black olive and blackberry. Simple in structure, it delivers medium-bodied intensity and varietal complexity, with flecks of spiced oak and grippy tannin. —V.B.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$40

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90 Villa Creek 2019 Garnacha (Paso Robles). Very dark aromas of cherry, wood spice and rose oil show on the dense nose of this bottling. The palate is framed in formidable tannins with sharp yet bold flavors of baked red fruit and pepper. —M.K.
abv: 15% Price: \$75

88 Villa Creek 2020 Garnacha (Paso Robles). Strong and extracted aromas of cherry juice meet with grape seed and raisiny notes on the nose of this bottling, which comes from 72% organic grapes. The palate is very rich and bold, with dried berry and prune flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% Price: \$75

87 Europa Village 2018 Bolero Garnacha (Temecula Valley). Lightly hued in the glass, this bottling shows earthy, rusty aromas on the nose, with tart cherry and herb elements adding complexity. Similar notes are at play on the tart palate, with the addition of marjoram and eucalyptus leaf. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$44

96 La Lomita 2020 Islay Hill Vineyard Grenache (Edna Valley). For full review see page 4. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$52

94 Bellante 2019 Portico Hills Vineyard Grenache (Santa Barbara County). Juicy while cohesive on the nose, this bottling from an increasingly popular vineyard near the town of Los Alamos shows stewed strawberry, raspberry sorbet and fresh carnation alongside meat and earth aromas. Joyous cherry and pepper flavors are wrapped in a chalky tension, with bright acidity lingering into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$44

94 Kaena 2018 Ali'i Grenache (Santa Ynez Valley). Oahu native Mikael Sigouin must enjoy the boiled Hawaiian Punch aromas on the nose of this bottling, which also shows layers of rose petal potpourri, mace and lightly cured meat. The wine is rich on the palate, full of nutmeg, vanilla, pepper and cherry paste flavors, with a teriyaki kick again recalling the winemaker's homeland. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$55

93 Big Basin 2017 Coastview Vineyard Grenache (Monterey County). A lighter hue in the glass, this bottling begins with crushed stone, dark hibiscus tea, white pepper and elegant plum aromas. A sizzling acidity sails through the palate, where cherry, sumac and rose flavors are still very energetic five years into the cellar. Drink now—2030. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$48

93 City Winery Chicago 2019 Alder Springs Vineyard Reserve Grenache (Mendocino). Fruity and flavor packed, this deep-colored and full-bodied wine overflows with black plum, black cherry and blackberry on a moderately tannic texture. It has great breadth and a rich mouthfeel, coating the palate with tasty, ripe fruits and subtle hints of oak spice. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

93 Morgan 2021 Rosé of Grenache (Arroyo Seco). A beautiful shade of delicate pink in the glass, this bottling offers melon rind and pink rose petal aromas on the crisp and focused nose. A chalky tension surrounds the palate, where currant and bubblegum flavors are enhanced by an underlying hint of mint. —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$24

93 Villa Creek 2021 SOul Maha Estate Vineyard Grenache (Adelaida District). The carbonic

wine craze is starting up in Paso Robles, and this fresh and fun bottling proves a nice counterpoint to the region's bigger, bolder wines. Light in color, this wine begins with pristine aromas of raspberry bubblegum before zipping across the palate with spicy white pepper and more red fruit flavors, as sticky tannins provide tension. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$NA

92 Caelesta 2018 Jespersen Vineyard Grenache (Edna Valley). A darker style of Grenache from a cool-climate vineyard, this bottling begins with aromas of black plum, star anise, chai and black cherry on the powerful but refined nose. The palate lands with power and boldness, combining ripe and rich cherry and plum fruits with nutmeg and cardamom, as sticky tannins cling through the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$72

92 Grounded Wine Co. 2018 Public Radio Grenache (Paso Robles). Juicy cherry and strawberry aromas are hit with oak, rose oil and smoked pork on the complex nose of this always reliable bottling, which includes 10% Syrah. The juicy, rich cherry fruit and smoky hickory flavors are wrapped in a compelling grip on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$25

92 Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard 2019 Hook Vineyard Grenache (Santa Lucia Highlands). Light in color but dark on the nose, this single-vineyard expression offers boysenberry, lavender, herb and root aromas on the nose. There's a tight focus on the palate, where pure fruit flavors are sprinkled in thyme and sage, with sticky tannins clinging through the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$24

91 Dashe Cellars 2018 Les Enfants Terribles Grenache (Clarksburg). A lighter garnet color and rather sunbaked aromas give this full-bodied wine a nicely mature, earthy aspect that's fun to taste. Hints of wood smoke, grilled plum and black tea add to the complexity of this broad-textured wine. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$32

91 Kaena 2018 Clone 362 Tierra Alta Vineyard Grenache (Ballard Canyon). Roasted cherry, mace, sharp hibiscus and white pepper make for a fresh and spicy aroma on the nose of this clonal showcase. A fresh, citrus-like tang cuts through the berry and cherry flavors of the palate, which is decorated in a peppery spice. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$70

91 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Tierra Alta Vineyard Grenache (Ballard Canyon). A very pretty shade in the glass, this bottling behind with crisp red fruit and red flower aromas that are layered in toasted herb, scorched earth and baking spice on the nose. Leathery tannins frame the sip, where nutty pecan notes meet with roasted cherry and pork flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$45

90 Cavaletti 2019 Swayze Vineyard Grenache (Los Angeles County). This bottling, which includes 1% Alicante Bouschet and 1% Sémillon, is a clear expression of a very unique terroir in the high desert of the Antelope Valley. Light in the glass, the wine shows aroma of tart red fruit and dusty herbs on the nose, while the palate packs in fennel, oregano, dried earth and tart cherry flavors, finishing on a toasty kick. —M.K.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$38

90 Tofino 2019 Grenache (Paso Robles). Dried cherry, leather, cured meat, iodine and soy aromas make for a complex nose on this bottling. Soft tannins emerge quickly on the palate, where dried cherry, peppered meat and hoisin sauce flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 16.4% **Price:** \$48

91 Bella Grace 2017 Estate Grenache Noir (Amador County). This rich, smooth, fruity-spicy wine is broad and delicious, flooding the palate with generous black plums, cooked cherries and beef broth flavors. The texture is softly tannic, full-bodied and mouthfilling. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$35

MOURVÈDRE

93 Bella Grace 2018 Estate Mourvèdre (Amador County). Complex and meaty, this rich, savory wine pairs ripe black plums, mushrooms and bone broth flavors on a velvety texture of fine-grained tannins and mild acidity. It shows vividly the fascinating individuality of the grape variety. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$40

93 Big Basin 2020 Rodnick Farm Vineyard Old Vine Mourvèdre (Chalone). From 34-year-old vines planted by legendary Richard Graff, who also imported this Samsonite clone, this rustic bottling is light in the glass and shows aromas of roasted berry, blistered tomato, rose petal and a shaving of oak. Wild strawberry and toasted sagebrush flavors meet with rocky tannins on the sip, which recalls a walk through this rugged appellation. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$44

91 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Mourvèdre (Paso Robles). Roasted red plum, leather, strawberry and rose aromas meet with hints of wood on the nose of this bottling, which includes 16% Petite Sirah. Leathery tannins frame the palate, where black cherry and rustic dried meat flavors work in tandem. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

90 Vie Winery 2018 L'Intruse Mourvèdre (Lake County). This firm-textured wine needs a few years to show its best stuff, as hefty tannins wrap around bright black cherry, beef jus and mushroom flavors. The appetizing grip will help it

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pair nicely with rich pastas, stews and roasts. Best from 2025. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$45

89 Amador Cellars 2018 Estate Mourvèdre (Shenandoah Valley). Meaty, earthy aromas meet vibrant red cherry and blackberry flavors in this full-bodied, moderately tannic wine. Firm acidity joins with the tannins for a good, grippy, palate-cleansing effect. Best through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

88 Bellante 2019 Ma Belle Sheri Camp 4 Vineyard Mourvèdre (Los Olivos District). Sour strawberry and light incense aromas show on the tart nose of this bottling. The palate lands with rich and ripe black cherry flavors before the tart lemon rind and wood spice elements settle in. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$58

CARIGNAN

94 Big Basin 2019 Wirz Vineyard Old Vine Carignane (Cienega Valley). This old vine bottling is a strong argument for California growers to plant Carignane and then get in a time machine. Crunchy aromas of black raspberry, elderberry, lavender, white pepper, dark meats and crumpled purple flowers slide into a tense palate that's still quite young. Flavors of wild berry, red and purple flowers and tea spice make for a dynamic experience. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$36

93 Ridge 2020 Buchignani Ranch Hillside Old Vine Carignan (Alexander Valley). Drenched in delicious black-fruit flavors, this full-bodied and non-oaky wine made from old vines is also well-balanced and elegant in texture. It offers a seamless blend of black cherries, blackberries and raspberries on light tannins and fresh acidity. —J.G.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$34

91 Ampelos 2019 Santa Ynez Vineyard Carignane (Santa Ynez Valley). Fresh black raspberry, cracked pepper and lavender aromas come together on the nose of this bottling, a new project for Ampelos called Funky Town. It's a lively, fresh and crunchy style on the palate, with juicy raspberry, white pepper and bay leaf flavors. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$35

84 Post & Vine 2019 Carignane (Contra Costa County). Strong earthy, funky aromas are distracting but this medium-bodied wine also offers attractive, tangy raspberry and blackberry flavors. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$24

PETITE SIRAH

97 Sol Rouge 2018 Petite Sirah (Lake County). For full review see page 3. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

93 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 Old Vine Estate Reserve Petite Sirah (Fair Play). A good dash of intriguing oak spice amps up the allure of this full-bodied, intensely concentrated wine. Ample ripe blueberries, blackberries and dark chocolate meet cinnamon, nutmeg and cedar from barrel aging. Best 2024–2030. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$41

92 Mettler Family Vineyards 2019 Estate Grown Petite Sirah (Lodi). This deep-colored, richly fruity and full-bodied wine wraps its blueberry, cedar and vanilla flavors in lots of fine-grained tannins. It is smooth for its size, rather mature in aroma and best to drink through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

92 Purple Dragon 2019 Tres Ninos Vineyard Petite Sirah (Arroyo Grande Valley). A lighter color than most Petite Sirahs, this bottling offers fresh aromas of currants, violet, lavender and peppery spices. The palate shows a cooler climate style, with candied red fruit, red flower and herb flavors, as persistent pepper spices up the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.75% **Price:** \$30

91 Cedarville 2018 Naylor Vineyard Petite Sirah (El Dorado). Loads of black pepper and wood smoke flavors meet ripe blackberries and blueberries in this full-bodied, richly tannic wine. It is quite bold, big and mouthfilling and should only improve with time. Best 2025–2035. —J.G.
abv: 15.4% **Price:** \$29

91 Frey 2020 Organic Petite Sirah (Mendocino). For full review see page 18. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$20

91 Michael David 2019 Inkblot Petite Sirah (Lodi). For full review see page 19.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$30

91 Opolo 2019 Petite Sirah (Paso Robles). Cassis, caramel and violet aromas make for an intensely purple nose on this bottling. Gritty tannins frame the sip, where focused purple fruit and flower flavors leave a baking spice streak on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$40

91 Parducci 2020 True Grit Reserve Petite Sirah (Mendocino). For full review see page 19.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30

91 Peltzer Family 2019 Petite Sirah (Temecula Valley). This bottling is a promising showcase for Petite Sirah in the Temecula Valley. Aromas of fudge and tart black plum lead into a thick palate with a firm tannic edge, where flavors of cassis and roasted chocolate prove bold and powerful. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 15.8% **Price:** \$60

91 Pianetta 2019 Petite Sirah (El Pomar District). Crushed rocks, loamy earth and blueberry sorbet make for a vivid nose on this bottling. Very

firm tannins sink their teeth into the singularly focused acai and violet flavors of the palate. —M.K.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$40

90 Chronic Cellars 2020 Suite Petite Petite Sirah (Paso Robles). For full review see page 21.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$17

90 Parducci 2020 Small Lot Petite Sirah (Mendocino County). For full review see page 24.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$18

90 Stride 2018 Petite Sirah (Amador County). Lush in texture, deeply fruity and chocolaty in flavor, this full-bodied wine offers ripe, jammy blackberry, black fig and black pepper flavors on a smooth texture full of soft tannins. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

89 Line 39 2019 Petite Sirah (California). For full review see page 29. *Best Buy.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$11

88 Peltzer Family 2018 Petite Sirah (Temecula Valley). Very ripe aromas of fudge, milk chocolate and maple butter are gooey and rich on the nose of this bottling. Silky yet firm tannins frame the sip, where the thick, unctuous fruit flavors are spiced by brown sugar and more fudge. —M.K.
abv: 15.9% **Price:** \$60

88 Sculpterra 2019 Petite Sirah (Paso Robles). Lively pepper aromas lead into richer violet and then tart plum skin on the nose of this bottling. A similar effect occurs on the palate, where pepper, purple fruit and tart elements converge. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$60

88 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Petite Sirah (San Miguel District). Slightly sour fruits, raw meat and light tar aromas show on the nose of this bottling from San Miguel Vineyard. Freshly crushed Concord grape flavors are lifted by tobacco and marjoram on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 15.8% **Price:** \$60

TANNAT

90 Castoro Cellars 2019 Reserve Tannat (Paso Robles). Smoothly integrated on the nose, this bottling combines cherry, boysenberry and oak-smoked meat on the nose. The palate is bold with black cherry, peppery spice and more wood smoke, with decent acidity throughout. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$30

88 Uphill Vineyards 2018 Estate Tannat (Amador County). Black olives, bell peppers and spearmint spill out of this distinctive, light-bodied wine as it spreads bold flavors across the palate. Moderate tannins support the array of savory, woody impressions that make it unique. —J.G.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$30

86 Europa Village 2018 Bolero Bella Collina Vineyard Tannat (Paso Robles). This bottling is tart on the nose with red plum skin aromas. The palate is also sharp with red currant flavors that are enhanced by wild herb and pepper. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% Price: \$44

TEMPRANILLO

91 Europa Village 2018 Bolero Bella Collina Vineyard Reserve Tempranillo (Paso Robles). Roasted strawberry, leather and sandalwood aromas are rugged but likable on the nose of this bottling. Polished tannins make for a tense but softly weathered structure, as dark strawberry and smoke flavors pair properly. —M.K.
abv: 12.9% Price: \$72

91 Four Lanterns 2019 Tempranillo (Templeton Gap District). Linear aromas of blackberry, fennel and graphite are ripe but focused on the nose of this bottling. There's a cocoa dust element to the palate that coats the tightly woven strawberry and fennel frond flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% Price: \$54

91 Marco Lucchesi 2018 Tierra Alta Vineyards Tempranillo (Ballard Canyon). There's an intriguing and pleasant herbal streak on the nose of this bottling, which offers marjoram and dried tarragon alongside dark plum on the nose. Fennel pollen flavors give depth to the baked strawberry core of the palate, which is wrapped in a compelling and long-lasting texture. —M.K.
abv: 14% Price: \$75

90 Europa Village 2018 Bolero Tempranillo (Temecula Valley). Tart strawberry aromas are sprinkled with herbs, dust and brown spice on the nose of this bottling. Sharp spices of incense, cinnamon and pepper decorate the roasted strawberry flavors of the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$50

90 Las Positas 2018 Estate Tempranillo (Livermore Valley). Rich in fruit flavors and equally rich in tannin, this full-bodied wine boasts potent black cherry and blackberry flavors to fill out its firm texture. It shows nice balance for aging and will be best after 2024. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$52

89 Toca Madera 2018 Estate Bottled Reserve Tempranillo (Madera). This hearty, firmly tannic wine boasts meaty, peppery, savory flavors backed by grilled plums. The flavors build on the palate and turn riper on the finish. It has a good, grippy texture and should age well through at least 2028. —J.G.
abv: 13.1% Price: \$32

88 Toca Madera 2019 Estate Bottled Tempranillo (Madera). A light version of the varietal, this medium-bodied and lightly tannic wine offers warm plum and black pepper flavors braced

by good acidity. It will be a versatile wine to pair with various birds and beasts. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$26

87 Uphill Vineyards 2017 Estate Tempranillo (Amador County). This full-bodied, massively structured wine needs superrich food to pair with. It's deep black cherry, cranberry and espresso flavors are tightly wrapped in thick tannins that leave a dry finish. Best after 2030. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% Price: \$33

86 Uphill Vineyards 2017 Estate Reserve Tempranillo (Amador County). This monolithic, intense and tannic wine, already five years old, needs a lot more time to show if it can develop complexities and welcoming fruit flavors. A very dark color leads to bitter-chocolate and espresso flavors on a full body. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$39

BARBERA

93 Robert Renzoni 2018 Estate Riserva Barbera (Temecula Valley). For full review see page 12.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$64

92 Robert Renzoni 2018 Barbera (California). Dark berry, purple flowers and peppery spices make for a pleasantly sharp nose on this bottling from the Temecula-based producer. Ample tension frames the sip, which is loaded with leather, bay, white pepper and dark berry flavors, leading into a vanilla-kissed finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$34

92 Stride 2018 Barbera (Amador County). This generous, broad and full-bodied wine shows an abundance of ripe black plums and blackberries while keeping intact the famous acid balance of the varietal. Mild tannins add to the warm, velvety texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$60

91 Peltzer Family 2017 Barbera (Temecula Valley). Baked cherry, cranberry, dried meat and smoke aromas make for a pleasant combination on the nose of this estate bottling. Bright red berries, hickory smoke and vanilla flavors converge on the full palate, sure to impress many tastes. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% Price: \$50

89 Joseph Soggé 2020 Lost Arrow Ranch V5 Barbera (El Dorado County). A strong, spicy and sweet-seeming oak flavor meets rather focused and bright raspberry and red cherry flavors in this high-alcohol, moderately tannic wine. While the oak is strong, the fruit concentration is strong, too and the wine keeps improving in the glass. —J.G.
abv: 16.7% Price: \$24

88 Pianetta 2019 Barbera (Santa Barbara County). Rich and extracted aromas of cassis, tar and burned caramel show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is thick in texture with primary

flavors of Concord grape, grape seed and ripe berry. —M.K.
abv: 15.1% Price: \$40

SANGIOVESE

91 Lava Cap 2020 Sangiovese (El Dorado). For full review see page 19.
abv: 14.2% Price: \$28

90 McKinney 2019 Blood of Jove Sangiovese (Santa Barbara County). A lighter hue in the glass, this bottling's aromas of cranberry and raspberry that are leveled by slightly reductive hints of tar and crushed rock. Tart cranberry flavors meet with salty charcuterie and light petrol flavors on the complex palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% Price: \$70

90 Peltzer Family 2018 Sangiovese (Temecula Valley). Roasted dark plum, blistered tomato, light herb and a significant amount of barrel spice show on the nose of this estate bottling. The palate is heartier, with sweet oaky spice surrounding the dark red fruit flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% Price: \$46

89 Girasole 2020 Sangiovese (Mendocino County). This pleasing, medium-bodied wine made from certified organic grapes offers a winning combination of red fruits, oak spices and meaty-herbal accents backed by light tannins. It's a very good, robust but well-balanced wine. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$15

88 Pianetta 2019 Lockwood Valley Vineyard Sangiovese (San Antonio Valley). Lavender and black plum aromas converge on the nose of this bottling from a vineyard in southern Monterey County. There is a perfumed angle to the palate, where a base of pomegranate fruit is decorated in elderflower and lavender oil. —M.K.
abv: 15.9% Price: \$40

88 Santa Barbara Winery 2017 Stolpman Vineyard Sangiovese (Santa Ynez Valley). Tart cherry and sandalwood oil aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The woody element grows stronger on the palate, where a tightly woven frame delivers raspberry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% Price: \$30

84 Europa Village 2018 Vienza Sangiovese (Temecula Valley). Stewed cherry and strawberry balsamic aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate is quite acetic. —M.K.
abv: 13.9% Price: \$42

ZINFANDEL

94 Amador Cellars 2018 Family Reserve Estate Zinfandel (Amador County). Elegant but powerful, this builds a polished frame of full body and very fine-grained tannins to support complex and concentrated black and red fruit flavors. Light

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toasted oak and dried herb accents in the aroma lead to lush black plum and dried black cherry flavors. Best through 2028. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$48

94 Vineyard 29 2019 Aida Estate Zinfandel (St. Helena). This deep but elegant wine blends gorgeous, ripe black fruit flavors with subtle cinnamon, toast and black pepper nuances for a complex and satisfying expression of the grape variety. It is packed with blackberry, black cherry and raspberry flavors and backed by well-integrated tannins and a full body. Best through at least 2029. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$95

93 Cedarville 2019 Estate Zinfandel (El Dorado). This concentrated and complex wine made in tiny quantities is packed with mint, eucalyptus, blackberry and sage flavors backed by firm, fine-grained tannins that bode well for further aging. Best 2024–2030. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$29

93 Lava Cap 2019 Reserve Zinfandel (El Dorado). For full review see page 11. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$25

93 Ridge 2020 Benito Dusi Ranch Zinfandel (Paso Robles). Loads of earth and smoked meat aromas kick off the nose of this bottling from a historic property, with smashed berry, plum and anise notes also arising. There's solid tension to the palate, where strawberry compote, peppercorn and dried pork flavors align. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

92 Cedarville 2018 Estate Zinfandel (El Dorado). This generous, full-bodied and well-structured wine is easy to enjoy and will be natural to pair with meats and pastas. Good raspberry and strawberry flavors are accented by light oak notes of vanilla and cedar while being supported by light tannins in the texture. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$26

92 Flambeaux 2019 Zinfandel (Dry Creek Valley). Smooth, seductive and balanced, this impressive red showcases notes of black olive, black licorice and blackberry, a trifecta of dark, rich flavor accented by dried herb and leather. The oak and tannins behave and support the fruit, allowing an underlying freshness to remain. —V.B.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$NA

92 Purple Dragon 2019 Tres Ninos Vineyard Zinfandel (Arroyo Grande Valley). Dark strawberry, boysenberry and blue fruit aromas are hearty but balanced on the nose of this bottling. Those deliciously ripe dark berry fruits are cut by white pepper and tons of acidity on the palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.75% **Price:** \$30

92 Ridge 2020 Blasi Zinfandel (Chalk Hill). This firm-textured, full-bodied wine from the Metcalfe Vineyard wraps abundant tannins around vivid blackberry and raspberry flavors for great balance and an appetizing texture. It's made for rich

food and should improve through at least 2028. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$37

92 Shannon Ridge 2020 High Elevation Collection Zinfandel (Lake County). For full review see page 16.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$23

92 Stride 2018 Zinfandel (Amador County). This compelling and concentrated wine from a new brand by winemaker Joe Shebl offers delicious, deep fruit flavors wrapped in a polished, velvety texture. Hints of toasted oak, mint and vanilla in the aroma give way to deep blackberry, black plum and dried cherry notes. —J.G.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$42

92 Tinto Amorio 2021 Jajaja Glou Glou Zinfandel (California). For full review see page 16.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$45

91 Bella Grace 2018 Private Selection Zinfandel (Shenandoah Valley). This firmly layered and structured wine holds fresh, bright raspberry, red cherry and cedar flavors on a full body with full tannins. It will pair nicely with a rich veal shank or risotto and improve with time. Best from 2025. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$90

91 V. Sattui 2019 Duarte Vineyard Zinfandel (Contra Costa County). Oozing ripe fruit, this full-bodied but smooth wine goes for the limit in terms of jammy, late-harvest flavors of blackberry, boysenberry and cherry. It is delicious and indulgent and verges on sweet. —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$38

90 Brutocao 2015 Bliss Vineyard Zinfandel (Mendocino). For full review see page 21.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Calstar Cellars 2018 Cardinini Estate Alta Zin Zinfandel (El Dorado County). Vivid, fresh raspberry and red cherry flavors are carried on a great structure of moderate tannins and tangy acidity, while subtle accents of dried herbs and black pepper add extra interest. —J.G.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$22

90 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 D'Agostini Reserve Zinfandel (El Dorado). Generous, ripe and inviting fruit aromas lead to a rich, creamy palate of strawberry, plum and milk chocolate on a full body with rather light tannins that balance it out very well. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$29

90 Jeff Cohn 2019 St Peters Church Zinfandel (Alexander Valley). With a sweetness of berry fruit and notes of oak char, this gigantic wine is tannic, chewy and powerfully big in style. The fruit component works, buoyed by supple tannins and weighty complexity. —V.B.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Opolo 2020 Mountain Zinfandel (Paso Robles). Roasted strawberry, salted meat and pleasant smoke aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate lands with a clean and smooth mouthfeel, offering more roasted strawberry as well as minty cola flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$30

90 Opolo 2020 Summit Creek Zinfandel (Paso Robles). Rich and lush aromas of black cherry, hickory smoke and dried herbs make for a familiar entry to the nose of this bottling. The wine lands with boldness on the palate, where cola and nutmeg spice up the smoked black cherry core. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$19

90 Rabble 2019 Zinfandel (Paso Robles). For full review see page 25.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$25

90 Ridge 2020 East Bench Funsten Ranch Zinfandel (Dry Creek Valley). This big, boisterous 100% varietal wine piles fresh, grapy aromas on ripe blackberry and boysenberry flavors braced by moderate tannins and a full body. It is robust and fun, perfect for casual, meaty meals. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$37

90 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Primitivo (Paso Robles). Dark plum and strong wood aromas make for a focused nose on this bottling, which includes 20% Petite Sirah. The palate lands with a smooth mouthfeel, as dark plum and berry flavors are enhanced by dried tarragon. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Uphill Vineyards 2017 Estate Primitivo (Amador County). This wine has a distinctive piny, cedary aroma, a palate well packed with ripe berries and dried-fruit flavors and a good lacking of fine-grained tannins in the texture. It's full-bodied and robust in style. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

89 Brutocao 2017 Bliss Family Vineyards Estate Zinfandel (Mendocino). Relatively light-bodied and quite tangy in texture, this lively wine is full of raspberry and red cherry flavors backed by moderate tannins. It's a good change of pace from the often heavy styles of Zinfandel. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

89 Helwig 2019 Zinfandel (Amador County). Deep, ripe dried plum and boysenberry flavors and a full body give this tasty wine a broad, rich expression. Light tannins give a bit of lift in texture for this indulgent, fruity wine. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$18

89 Ridge 2019 Boatman Zinfandel (Alexander Valley). Ripe, raisiny aromas and rich black plum flavors give this wine a generous, almost-sweet impression while light tannins firm up the texture slightly. It's bold and chocolaty. —J.G.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$37

89 Sculpterra 2020 Primitivo (Paso Robles). Strawberry and cherry syrup aromas are cut by wood spice and cracked pepper on the nose of this bottling. There's an incense and sharp brown spice flavor to the palate, which surrounds a strawberry cream core. —M.K.
abv: 15.4% **Price:** \$40

89 Sol Rouge 2018 Zinfandel (Red Hills). Complexity and drinkability are hallmarks of this full-bodied and well-balanced wine, as savory notes of bay leaf and pine highlight the nose, while tasty red cherry, plum tomato and cedar come in on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$36

88 1000 Stories 2020 Bourbon Barrel Aged Batch No. 086 Zinfandel (California). This rich and plummy wine is full-bodied and very smooth in texture. It offers juicy black plum, milk chocolate and a touch of black pepper. —J.G.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$19

88 Dancing Crow 2020 Zinfandel (North Coast). This full-bodied wine leads with slightly peppery and earthy aromas followed by ripe and fairly rich blackberry and strawberry flavors. It's fruity, flavorful and hefty on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$23

87 Jeff Cohn 2019 Sweetwater Springs Zinfandel (Russian River Valley). Blended with 15% Petite Sirah, this wine is generously ripe and rich in cherry and blackberry jam, with thick tannins and prominent oak. —V.B.
abv: 15.6% **Price:** \$55

87 Josh Cellars 2020 Bourbon Barrel Aged Reserve Zinfandel (California). Tasty, bright raspberry and blackberry flavors are coated with a buttery, oaky layer of cedar and toast that stands apart from the fruitiness. The wine is full-bodied and moderately tannic in texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

86 Carnivor 2019 Zinfandel (California). For full review see page 30. *Best Buy.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11

86 Louis M. Martini 2019 Monte Rosso Vineyard Gnarly Vine Zinfandel (Sonoma Valley). This wine offers rich, ripe berry flavors and a fleshy texture of smooth, supple tannin. The oak provides a note of char and barbecue meat. —V.B.
abv: 15.9% **Price:** \$85

86 Peirano 2019 The Heritage Collection Old Vine Zinfandel (Lodi). Smoky aromas, a rich, almost thick texture and superripe plum and milk chocolate flavors give this wine a broad, weighty expression. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$14

85 Murphy-Goode 2018 Liar's Dice Zinfandel (Sonoma County). Big in oak and tannin,

this wine is profusely ripe in blackberry jam, baking spice and barbecue smoke. —V.B.
abv: 16% **Price:** \$21

84 Charles B. Mitchell 2019 Harde Reserve Zinfandel (El Dorado). Spicy, steak sauce aromas and strong oaky flavors dominate this full-bodied wine. It offers wood smoke, oak char and cinnamon notes. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$28

84 Cline 2020 Old Vine Zinfandel (Lodi). An overt clove and rose petal aroma leads to rich, jammy strawberry, milk chocolate and maple syrup flavors in this pop-style wine. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11

83 Mud Pie 2020 Zinfandel (Mendocino County). Very ripe, sweet flavors of black grapes and raspberry syrup make this taste more like a juice than a table wine. It might be good in a spritzer. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$15

RED BLENDS

97 Villa Creek 2019 High Road James Berry Vineyard (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). There's a detailed, delicious complexity in this blend of 50% Mourvèdre, 34% Syrah and 16% Grenache from a famous vineyard. Aromas of boysenberry, crushed rock, turned loam and wild sage lead into an expertly structured palate, where dark plum and berry flavors are decorated with hints of mocha and fennel pollen. Brawny yet elegant, like chest hair coming out of an unbuttoned tuxedo. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$85

96 Crown Point 2018 Estate Selection (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). For full review see page 4.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$150

96 Villa Creek 2019 Avenger (Paso Robles). This powerful blend of 46% Syrah, 28% Graciano, 14% Carignan, 6% Grenache and 6% Mourvèdre is elegant and rich on the nose with layers of focused boysenberry jam, pie crust spice and dark violet. The palate's texture starts with a comforting softness before the tannins slowly rise to envelop the baked berry and cardamom spice flavors, with acidity sizzling long into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

94 Caelesta 2019 Parallax (Templeton Gap District). Focused aromas of crushed asphalt, loamy soil, violet and cassis are dark and elegant on the nose of this blend of 42% Syrah, 32% Mourvèdre and 26% Grenache. The palate is very savory, with flavors of charred meat, cracked pepper and vibrant elderberry fruit. —M.K.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$NA

94 Cedarville 2018 The Rules of Fair Play (Fair Play). This rich, toasty and darkly fruity Zinfandel-Petite Sirah blend is deep and concen-

trated, wrapping moderate tannins around well-ripened black plum and blueberry. It offers wonderful nuances of cinnamon, black pepper and cardamom that keep it interesting through a lingering finish. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$36

94 Daou 2019 Seventeen Forty Reserve (Paso Robles). For full review see page 7.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$75

94 Grey Wolf Cellars 2019 Lineage (Paso Robles). For full review see page 7. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50

94 Halter Ranch 2019 CDP (Adelaida District). This blend of 60% Grenache, 22% Syrah, 10% Tannat and 8% Mourvèdre is a widely available and fairly priced taste of the classic Paso Robles Rhône style. Polished aromas of strawberry, boysenberry, vanilla and wood spice lead into a plush and rich palate, where creamy tannins frame hefty and satisfying flavors of stewed dark fruit, caramel and cappuccino. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$46

94 Ridge 2019 Lytton Estate Vineyard Syrah-Grenache-Mataro (Dry Creek Valley). This deep, dark and impressive wine offers a potent core of blackberry, black cherry and dark chocolate that is firmly laced with fine-grained tannins that need time to mellow. Made with 86% Syrah grapes, it will drink best 2027–2037. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$38

94 Sol Rouge 2018 Gypsy Rouge (Red Hills). For full review see page 8. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$36

94 Villa Creek 2020 This Way That Way (Paso Robles). Made with mostly organic grapes (51% to be exact), this split blend of Grenache and Mourvèdre offers floral aromas of lavender with a touch of elegant berry as well. There's a very firm and unrelenting grip to the palate, as tight tannins frame the rich blackberry, cocoa, Hawaiian Punch and floral hibiscus flavors. Drink now–2035. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$NA

93 Barton 2020 California Love Glenrose Vineyard (Adelaida District). Dark red plum and potpourri aromas meet with charcuterie, wet clay and loamy soil on the nose of this exciting five-barrel blend of 59% Grenache and 41% Counoise. The mineral-driven palate begins with more loamy soil before the baked cherry and smoke flavors arise, all wrapped in soft tannins. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$60

93 Barton 2019 Go My Way (Paso Robles). Very dark in the glass, this blend of 49% Malbec, 26% Merlot and 25% Petit Verdot offers brooding aromas of black currant, black olive and toasty caramel on the nose. The enveloping palate is layered in fine tannins and buoyant acidity, showing

black cherry and cocoa flavors with a vibrant finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$65

93 Caelesta 2018 Red Blend (Central Coast). Layered aromas of smoke, black cherry, cola, smoked bacon and maple show on the nose of this blend of 35% Syrah, 33% Grenache and 32% Mourvèdre. It's very hedonistic and luscious on the palate, full of maple, bacon and baked boysenberry, but a decent tension and warm pie crust finish complete the picture. —M.K.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$62

93 Crocker & Starr 2019 Red Blend Of Cabernet Franc (Napa Valley). This rich, saturated, chocolaty blend of Bordeaux grape varieties led by 68% Cabernet Franc is supersmooth in texture despite fine-grained tannins that add some structure and balance. Aromas of blueberry, dark chocolate and vanilla lead to very ripe black fruit flavors accented by coffee beans and mint. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$68

93 J. Lohr 2019 Pure Paso (Paso Robles). For full review see page 11. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$27

93 Lafond 2018 Lafond Vineyard Syrah-Grenache (Sta. Rita Hills). This blend of 66% Syrah and 34% Grenache begins with dark elderberry, loamy soil and violet aromas. The palate is fresh and detailed, showing white pepper, ashy charcoal, lavender and tart purple fruit flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$38

93 Robert Renzoni 2018 Tre Amici 1886 (Temecula Valley). This blend of Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot shows the potential for creative blending in this region, offering warm aromas of strawberry roasted over cherry wood with hints of mace on the nose. Polished tannins deliver flavors of dark cherry and smoke as well as oregano, marjoram and cracked pepper. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$44

93 Samsara 2019 Cuvée d'Inspiration Syrah-Grenache (Santa Barbara County). Hibiscus, black raspberry and a hint of leather combine fruit, flower and funk on the nose of this blend of 75% Syrah and 25% Grenache. There's a bright freshness to the sip, where the raspberry flavors are lifted by sagebrush, thyme and fennel pollen, as acidity pushes long into the finish. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$48

93 Toca Madera 2017 Estate Bottled G-S-M (Madera). This light-colored but complex and savory-tasting blend of Mourvèdre, Grenache, Syrah and Viognier downplays fruitiness and offers layers of leather, caramel, mushroom and beef on a medium body and lightly tannic texture. Its earthy, mature aromas and good balance make it a great change of pace. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

93 Uphill Vineyards 2019 Cab² Estate Cabernet Sauvignon-Cabernet Franc (Amador County). Wonderfully concentrated and well-balanced, this full-bodied wine boasts black pepper, grilled plum and boysenberry flavors on a nicely firm texture. It shows good depth, a polished and moderately tannic texture and a peppery, lingering finish. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$39

93 Vie Winery 2018 L'Etranger (North Coast). This big wine plays luscious, ripe cherries and berries against spicy-sweet oak accents like cinnamon, nutmeg and cedar while a bracing texture of firm tannins and good acidity adds great structure. A blend of Zinfandel, Syrah and Petite Sirah, it will be best through 2028. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Bellante 2019 G-S-M (Santa Barbara County). Polished aromas of wood, baked red fruit, chai and cocoa spice are seamless and full on the nose of this bottling. The palate lands with warm spices of mace, nutmeg and cinnamon that lift up the stewed black cherry flavors. A comforting sip. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$44

92 CA Vine Co 2019 Primary Color Carignan-Grenache (Sierra Foothills). This generous, well-layered mix of Carignan, Grenache and Mourvèdre combines fresh red and black fruits with sweet-seeming oak spices like cinnamon and nutmeg while moderate, fine-grained tannins give it a nicely chewy mouthfeel. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$28

92 Four Lanterns 2018 Kharis (Paso Robles). Dark and focused aromas of boysenberry paste, violet and acai stay fresh on the nose of this blend of 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Syrah, 10% Tempranillo and 6% Cabernet Franc. The palate drives home those purple fruit and flower flavors, staying focused while exhibiting heavy power. —M.K.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$67

92 Grassini Family Vineyards 2018 Articondo (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara). Pulverized rock and loamy soil aromas are dusted in wood shavings and rounded by dark berry on the nose of this blend. It's dry on the palate, with dark cherry, licorice and cigar box spices. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$45

92 Joseph Carr 2019 Family Reserve (Paso Robles). This is a very satisfying and widely available Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend, offering aromas of smoked cherry and leather on the nose. The palate is quite smoky as well, packed with cured meat, dark cherry, red flower and licorice flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$20

92 LaZarre 2018 Moshina (Paso Robles). This is a bold blend, starting with a dark color and leading into a nose of cassis and grape hard candy

aromas that are wrapped in comforting oak spices. The palate is fresh, with elderberry pie and acai flavors, as violet and a hint of petrol add depth on the long-lingering finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.8% **Price:** \$54

92 Opolo 2019 Grand Rouge (Paso Robles). Smoked cherry, licorice and light pepper sauce aromas show on the nose of this bottling. There's a firm grip to the palate, framing the smoked red fruit, mace and oak flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

92 Sycamore Ranch 2020 G-S-M (Ballard Canyon). This blend of 43% Grenache, 42% Syrah and 15% Mourvèdre offers herbal hints of oregano, marjoram and thyme alongside dark cherry and cola spice on the nose. The tannins hit quickly on the sip, giving an edge to the mulberry, black plum, hoisin sauce and marjoram flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Trinitas 2016 Old Vine Cuvée (California). This concentrated, medium-bodied blend of Carignan, Zinfandel, Petite Sirah and Mataro (Mourvèdre) offers floral aromas and fresh black fruit flavors without too much tannin, so it's well-balanced and reveals something more in each sip, from black cherry to blueberry to hints of pine and violet. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$30

91 Beckmen 2020 Cuvée Le Bec (Santa Ynez Valley). For full review see page 17. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 15% **Price:** \$28

91 Big Basin 2019 Homestead (California). Bradley Brown taps many of his Central Coast sources, from the Gabilan to the Santa Cruz mountains, to produce this affordable blend of 57% Grenache, 23% Mourvèdre, 12% Carignane and 8% Syrah. Rich aromas of black plum, fennel, bacon and wood spice on the nose lead into a palate that flashes with tension before flavors of baked red fruit and oaky spice take hold. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$28

91 Big Basin 2018 Odeon Betchart Vineyard-Rattlesnake Rock Vineyard (Santa Cruz Mountains). This blend of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon from Betchart Vineyard and 30% Syrah from Rattlesnake Rock Vineyard remains young. Aromas of strawberry and wood spice on the nose lead into tart red plum and dried herb flavors on the palate, with a rocky texture that could use some smoothing. Drink now–2032. *Cellar Selection.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$NA

91 Brutocao 2019 Quadriga Hopland Ranches Estate (Mendocino). For full review see page 17.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

91 Byron Blatty 2019 Tremor (Los Angeles County). Baked licorice, meaty leather and roasted black plum aromas show on the nose of

this unique blend of 55% Grenache, 35% Syrah and 10% Petit Verdot. It's rich and layered on the palate, with dense tannins and a rising acidity cutting through anise, gingerbread and dark plum fruit flavors. —M.K.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$50

91 Caelesta 2018 Petite Sirah-Syrah (Paso Robles). Charred meat aromas meet with sour black fruit, iodine and seaweed on the dynamic nose of this bottling. There's a cooler climate angle to the palate, where kelpy flavors of nori wrap enhance the tarry coffee and gamy meat elements. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$66

91 Carol Shelton 2020 Coquille Rouge (Central Coast). From mostly older vines in the historic San Joaquin Delta region, this bottling of Grenache, Carignan, Mourvèdre and Alicante Bouschet is lavish in so many ways. The nose is rich with chai, cream, mocha, gingerbread and black cherry aromas, while the palate offers roasted black plum, fig paste and spice rack flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$27

91 Cherry House 2020 Red Blend (Paso Robles). This is a juicy, ripe wine, giving a nice taste of lush Paso Robles at an affordable price. Aromas of blackberry jam, caramelized fruit, cola and root beer on the nose lead into a palate of gooney fudge, dark berry and brighter purple flower flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

91 Chronic Cellars 2020 Purple Paradise (Paso Robles). For full review see page 17. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$17

91 Dante Robere 2019 Dante's Inferno G-S-M (Livermore Valley). This full-bodied Rhône-style blend uses new-oak flavors to the max, starting with spicy cinnamon, vanilla and cedar aromas that lead to rich, almost-sweet flavors of strawberry and black plum. Fine-grained tannins wrap it all up nicely. —J.G.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$42

91 Derby 2018 Fifteen 10 Red Derby Vineyard (Paso Robles). For full review see page 18.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$34

91 Peltzer Family 2017 Meritage (California). This blend of 27% Cabernet Franc, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 19% Malbec, 19% Petit Verdot and 15% Merlot begins with aromas of roasted berries, wood spice, cracked pepper and light herbs. There's a prominent kick of anise and fennel on the palate, layered into the strawberry flavors of the midpalate with a toasty oak coming through on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

91 Pianetta 2019 Bilancio Syrah-Cabernet Sauvignon (Central Coast). Dried strawberry,

iodine, salami and smoke mesquite aromas show on the nose of this blend of 55% Syrah and 45% Cabernet Sauvignon. There's a unique flavor set to the palate, where dried herb flavors are sprinkled all over black cherry pie and vanilla ice cream. —M.K.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$42

91 Post & Vine 2018 Testa Vineyard Old Vine Field Blend (Mendocino). Warm, generous black cherry flavors and wild blackberry accents give this wine lots of charm and substance. Moderate tannins and full body combine for a mouthfilling, smooth texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

91 Ridge 2019 San Lorenzo (Russian River Valley). Blended from Zinfandel, Petite Sirah and Alicante Bouschet grapes, this smooth, ripe, chocolaty wine offers plenty of welcoming blueberry and blackberry flavors carried by moderate tannins and a full body. —J.G.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$37

91 Sunstone 2019 Villa Soleil (Santa Ynez Valley). Dark cherry, smoked wood and a hint of pepper show on the nose of this blend of 34% Merlot, 33% Cabernet Franc and 33% Syrah. Fresh acidity frames the dried cherry, strawberry and white pepper flavors on the smoke-kissed palate. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$65

90 Byron Blatty 2019 Contingent (Los Angeles County). Toasty oak aromas wrap around the blackberry and licorice notes on the nose of this blend of 85% Syrah and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon. Hickory and mesquite play with the flavors of black cherry, pie crust and cinnamon roll on the rich palate. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$100

90 Dancing Crow 2020 Old Stake 1901 Field Blend (Kelsey Bench). Dried herb and mineral aromas lead to concentrated and tangy red and black cherry flavors and savory, spicy accents. This full-bodied blend, made from 65% Zinfandel plus Cinsault, Alicante Bouschet and several other grape varieties, is moderately tannic and well-balanced. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

90 Dusty Nabor 2019 NSO (Ballard Canyon). Crumbled oregano, cracked pepper, dried bay leaf and hoisin sauce aromas show on the nose of this blend of 41% Cabernet Franc, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 22% Petit Verdot and 12% Malbec from an appellation not known for Bordeaux wines. Wild thyme and sagebrush show on the palate alongside wild plum. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

90 Edio 2019 Frank's Blend Estate (El Dorado). This full-bodied, well-structured blend of Mourvèdre, Grenache and Syrah carries juicy cherry, strawberry and plum flavors on moderate

tannins with good acidity backing it up. Enjoy it for its freshness, flavor and grippy texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$60

90 Markus Wine Co 2019 Nero (Lodi). This smooth, sleek blend of mostly Zinfandel and Petite Sirah offers delicious black and red cherry flavors on a polished texture and full body. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$30

90 Michael David 2019 Lodi Red Don's Blend (Lodi). For full review see page 28. *Best Buy.*
abv: 15% **Price:** \$15

90 Kaleidos 2019 Praying Mantis Kaleidos Estate Vineyard (Paso Robles Willow Creek District). Black plum aromas are quite sharp on the nose of this blend of 83% Grenache, 11% Mourvèdre and 6% Syrah. The plummy flavors of the palate are sprinkled with anise and wrapped in grippy tannins. —M.K.
abv: 15.2% **Price:** \$75

90 Kaleidos 2018 Praying Mantis (Paso Robles). Tart black plum-skin aromas meet with warmer baking spice notes on the nose of this blend of 49% Grenache, 44% Syrah and 7% Mourvèdre. The palate combines violet and darker, smoother fruit flavors, with a peppery spice that appears on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.9% **Price:** \$65

90 Opaque 2018 Darkness (Paso Robles). For full review see page 24.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$30

90 Plain Air 2018 Artist Series Curation (Sierra Foothills). This ripe, plummy wine is full-bodied, light in tannins and feels rich and generous on the palate. Some smoky, peppery notes add complexity to its rich black plum and blueberry core. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$36

90 Ridge 2020 Geyserville (Alexander Valley). This hearty, full-bodied and lightly tannic blend of Zinfandel and several other traditional varieties offers tasty boysenberry and black plum flavors and light smoky, peppery accents on a rich texture. Seeming a bit less concentrated than the last two vintages, it's still ripe, smooth and attractive. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$50

90 Saint K 2020 Days Gone By Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah (California). Crushed boysenberry, cocoa, smoke and crushed nuts show on the nose of this Cab-Syrah blend. The palate offers rich boysenberry paste alongside coffee, walnut and more cocoa flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$45

90 Santa Barbara Winery 2019 Joughin Vineyard (Santa Ynez Valley). This single-vineyard blend of 51% Syrah, 39% Primitivo and 10%

BUYINGGUIDE

Lagrein makes for a versatile table wine. Aromas of black plum, fruit punch and blueberry sorbet on the nose land on the palate with vibrant acidity. Flavors of cocoa and blueberry are pleasantly juicy. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

90 Sculpterra 2019 Maquette (Paso Robles). Roasted fennel, wood shavings and black cherry compote aromas show on the nose of this blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc and 10% Petit Verdot. It's dry and herbally inflected on the palate, where oregano, anise and olive flavors make for an interesting expression. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$48

90 Sycamore Ranch 2020 Ranch Red (Central Coast). Oregano, anise and tarragon aromas kick off the tarry nose to this blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon and 50% Syrah. The palate is thicker with black cherry and fudge flavors, lifted by licorice spice and espresso bean on the finish. —M.K.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$45

90 Z. Alexander Brown 2020 Uncaged (California). For full review see page 26.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$18

90 Zaca Mesa 2017 Z Cuvée (Santa Ynez Valley). Tart red fruit and dark red flower aromas meet with an earthy funk on the nose of this blend of 47% Mourvèdre, 42% Grenache, 9% Cinsault and 2% Syrah. The palate is tarry and funky with savory cured meat flavors, as a dark berry element holds the core together. —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$27

89 Big Basin 2018 Altitude 2292 (Monterey County). Tart aromas of blistered black plum and violet show on the nose of this blend of 57% Merlot, 38% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Cabernet Franc, 1% Malbec and 1% Petit Verdot from the Coastview Vineyard. The palate is fresh and sharp with tart plum skin flavors, with light herb and blackberry elements adding nuance. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

89 Bogle 2019 Essential (California). Strong toasted oak aromas and flavors get good backup from deep, dark blackberry jam and cocoa in this full-bodied, moderately tannic wine. It's showy and robust but pulls off decent balance, too. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$11

89 Brutocao 2019 Bliss Family Blissful Estate (Mendocino). Great balance and slightly grippy tannins give an appetizing feel to this medium-bodied wine. Red and black cherries, cranberries and subtle oak spices come together nicely on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$18

89 Caelesta 2019 Apogee (Paso Robles). Very dark in the glass, this blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon and 40% Petite Sirah is a bold show,

starting with thick and extracted aromas of fudge and ripe baked berry. The palate is also thick with flavors of milk chocolate, caramel and cappuccino, proving satisfying for those seeking power but missing an acidic edge. —M.K.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$NA

89 Castoro Cellars 2020 Zinfusion Reserve (Paso Robles). Ripe cherry and plum aromas meet with singed sagebrush on the nose of this bottling. It's a bit rustic on the palate, where black plum and wild herb flavors converge. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Cuda Ridge 2019 Melange d'Amis Reserve (Livermore Valley). This good, hearty, moderately tannic wine made from Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot shows a nice grip in the texture to match robust blackberry and black cherry flavors. —J.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$60

89 Dupuis 2020 Cul Sec (Anderson Valley). Complex fruit flavors and a tangy, sour-cherry effect give this light-bodied blend of Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Pinot Gris a tasty, appetizing expression. Light tannins, good acidity and plenty of strawberries and cherries make it interesting. —J.G.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$35

89 Frey NV Organic Territory (California). This chewy, superfresh, grapy wine practically explodes with exuberant black fruit flavors on a full body backed by moderate tannins. Should be ideal to pair with Korean barbecue or fried chicken. No sulfites added. **Best Buy.** —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$12

89 HammerSky 2018 The Pinnacle (Paso Robles). Tart strawberry aromas meet with cocoa and herbs on the nose of this blend of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon and 28% Merlot. Fresh strawberry and red plum aromas enliven the somewhat lean palate, with light licorice dust adding depth. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$130

89 Las Positas 2018 Coccineous Estate (Livermore Valley). This dry, flavorful and firm-textured blend of Spanish varietals offers rather tangy black cherry and cranberry flavors on a base of good acidity and moderate tannins. It is clean, well-balanced and nicely packed with fruit. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$52

89 Toca Madera 2018 Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah (Madera). This full-bodied wine embraces the meaty, mushroomy side of the flavor spectrum. The color is brownish at the rim, the aromas offer sagy, smoky notes, and the palate is all grilled fruit and porcini. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$26

89 Tooth & Nail 2020 The Squad (Paso Robles). This is a quite serious wine for the price, although it's still a bit young. Aromas of pepper,

game, wild herb and blue fruits show on the nose. The palate offers black plum juice at the core, with oregano adding complexity. —M.K.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$20

88 Bella Grace 2018 1646 (Amador County). This chunky, chewy wine boasts robust dried herb, sun-dried tomato and red cherry flavors on a grippy texture of moderate tannins. It's robust, rustic and enjoyable. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$28

88 Europa Village 2018 C'est la Vie Obscurité (Temecula Valley). Tart and sour strawberry paste flavors meet with leather and herbs on the nose of this blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon and 25% Malbec. There's a spicy pepper streak to the sip, with oregano adding complexity to the tart berry core. —M.K.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$44

88 HammerSky 2019 Open Invite (Paso Robles). Very fruity aromas of smashed frozen strawberries are attractive on the nose of this blend of 50% Zinfandel and 50% Merlot. The palate is quite viscous and seemingly a bit sweet, with pleasant candied strawberry flavors. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$54

88 Melodramatic 2020 Macabre (California). This full-bodied, smooth-textured wine offers attractive and generous fruit flavors. Ample blackberry, strawberry and plum notes fill out the palate, while light oak spices add some complexity. —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$16

88 Murphy-Goode 2019 Red Blend (California). Fresh, grapy, jammy flavors and a medium body give this wine an intensely fruity, gulpable appeal. It is exuberant, easy to enjoy and not to be taken too seriously. —J.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$18

87 Brutocao 2016 Hopland Ranches Uber Tuscan Style Estate Sangiovese-Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendocino). Charred oak and cigar box aromas lead to deep black plum and Bing cherry flavors in this full-bodied, moderately tannic blend of Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon grapes. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

87 Cline 2020 Cashmere (California). This deeply colored, full-bodied wine is saturated with blackberry jam, maple and dried plum flavors. It is concentrated, mouthfilling and smoky on the palate. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

87 Extraction 2018 Red Blend (California). Tons of well-ripened black grape and black cherry flavors fill out this almost-sweet blend, which is full-bodied, soft and juicy in texture. —J.G.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$15

87 Fidelity 2019 Red Blend (Alexander Valley). Leading with 71% Merlot, followed by hand-

fuls of Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc and Malbec, this quaffable red is tight in bright, rich fruit and hearty oak. The tannins are supple with a touch of grip. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$20

87 Replica 2020 Pickpocket (California). This bold, saturated and full-bodied wine made from Cabernet Sauvignon and Petite Sirah offers strong grapy, jammy aromas and flavors and moderate tannins that help balance them out. —J.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$16

86 Bella Grace 2018 Montañero Barbera-Zinfandel (Amador County). Very ripe black plum and dried plum flavors give a late-harvest slant to this rich, fruity and seemingly sweet wine made from half Barbera and half Zinfandel grapes. A full body and light tannins leave it rather soft and mouthcoating in texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$29

86 DNA Vineyards 2018 Ratified & Repealed (California). Spicy, smoky oak flavors dominate this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine, coating over some good blackberry and black pepper flavors underneath. —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$13

86 Burnside Road NV Sunset (California). Dark oak spices of wood char, clove and cedar highlight this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine that also offers bass notes of blackberry jam. —J.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$15

85 19th Hole 2019 Red Blend (Central Coast). Very sharp aromas of balsamic blackberry show on the nose of this bottling. The palate's tart cranberry is offset by light earth and herb notes. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

85 Europa Village 2018 C'est la Vie Grande Mélange (Temecula Valley). Sour fruit aromas of balsamic blackberry sauce and dusty fennel show on the nose of this blend of 45% Merlot, 35% Malbec and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon. Roasted fennel and tart berry flavors dominate the sip. —M.K.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$65

85 Florina 2019 Red Blend (California). This dry and rather lean wine made with organic grapes shows light cherry and raspberry flavors, woody, peppery accents and light tannins in the texture. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$13

84 Melodramatic 2020 Red Blend (California). This medium- to full-bodied wine has a good, mouthfilling texture and quite light, vague fruit flavors. It tastes generic and drinkable. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

84 Melodramatic 2020 Darkness (California). Obvious oak spices and a meaty, black peppery character dominate this medium-bodied and

slightly tannic wine. It goes to extremes with spiciness. —J.G.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

83 Songbird 2018 Red Blend (California). This oaky, smoky wine made from organic grapes offers strong aromas of tar and charred wood, meaty, smoky flavors and moderate tannins on a full body. —J.G.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$15

OTHER RED WINES

88 Sol Rouge 2018 Cinsault (Red Hills). This fun and funky wine offers barnyard aromas and earthy, leathery flavors over cooked fruit and oak spice notes. It's full-bodied, lightly tannic and mouthfilling. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$39

92 Markus Wine Co 2019 Ancient Blocks Bechthold 1886 Cinsaut (Mokelumne River). Pretty red and black cherry aromas and generous fruit and oak spice flavors on an elegant texture make this wine difficult to put down. Light tannins and good acidity balance nicely against the concentrated, just-ripe cherry flavors. From a vineyard planted in 1886. —J.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$39

93 Paix Sur Terre 2021 Days Between Glenrose Vineyard Counoise (Adelaida District). This fresh take on a still-rare grape in California is always delightful and refreshing. Juicy aromas of alpine strawberry and a bowlful of cherries are cut by fresh mud and star anise on the nose. The palate sizzles with lively acidity, carrying those strawberry flavors into a gluggable finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

90 Sol Rouge 2018 Counoise (Red Hills). Firm in texture and well-balanced, this grippy wine offers blackberry, black pepper and light wood smoke flavors braced by moderate tannins. Not a cocktail wine, but it will shine when paired with rich proteins. Best from 2025. —J.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$39

91 Castoro Cellars 2019 Dorsa Reserve Dorsa (Paso Robles). Bravo to bringing a brand-new grape to California, and one that few have ever heard of, a 1971 German-made hybrid of Dornfelder and Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromas of blackberry jam pick up a walnut element on the savory nose, while the palate shows flavors of toasted pecan, roasted dark cherry, smoke and a hint of latte. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$30

93 Berryessa Gap 2019 Durif (Yolo County). For full review see page 9. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$37

90 Frey 2021 Plenty Biodynamic Malbec (Mendocino). Gorgeous blackberry and crème

de cassis flavors fill out this full-bodied and moderately tannic wine. It delivers focused fruitiness, light oak spices like cinnamon and vanilla, and a slightly gripping mouthfeel. Made from organic and biodynamic grapes, using no added sulfites. *Editors' Choice.* —J.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$22

89 Sunstone 2019 Reserve Malbec (Santa Ynez Valley). Pleasant if simple aromas of baked cherry and toasted wood show on the nose of this bottling. Blackberry sauce flavors on the palate are also enhanced by wood spice, with a decent structure and acidity adding the frame. —M.K.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$65

89 Trinitas 2016 Old Vine Mataro (Contra Costa County). This meaty, mellow, nicely earthy wine offers mushroom and clove aromas, warm mulled plum flavors and light tannins. It's medium- to full-bodied and has a savory, complex appeal. —J.G.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$36

93 Las Positas 2019 Estate Monastrell (Livermore Valley). This is a welcome surprise from a little-known grape variety. Enticing sandalwood, new leather and nutmeg aromas lead to red cherry and black plum flavors in this suave, complex, well-seasoned and medium-bodied wine. Light tannins wrap up the layers of spices and savories for a mouthfilling, velvety texture. —J.G.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$60

91 Europa Village 2018 Vienza Le Ziana Rouge Vineyard Reserve Montepulciano (Temecula Valley). This single-vineyard bottling shows great sense of place on the nose, with fennel, roasted beet and light rose aromas. The palate is juicier, offering rich cherry flavors with fresh anise and baked licorice elements. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$72

92 Rodrigue Molyneaux 2018 Nebbiolo (Livermore Valley). This well-made, well-balanced wine has the Italian varietal's distinctive tannins in spades, as well as good, deep black plum and black pepper flavors and tangy acidity. Spicy nuances of anise and beef keep developing in the glass. Best 2024–2030. *Cellar Selection.* —J.G.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$46

91 Silver 2016 South Block Nebbiolo (Santa Barbara County). Smoothly integrated aromas of baked cranberry and rose meet with salt, pepper, walnut and classic tar notes on the nose of this bottling. It's still pleasantly taut on the palate, where nutty flavors weave through roasted strawberry and savory elements. —M.K.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$35

SWEET WINE

94 Williams Selyem 2020 Vista Verde Vineyard Late Harvest Gewürztraminer (San Benito County). For full review see page 9.
abv: 18.1% **Price:** \$40

OREGON CHARDONNAY

92 Chehalem 2021 Inox Unoaked Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). Bright aromas of pear, star fruit and the underside of a pineapple lead to medium-weight, plentiful, crystal-clear stone and tropical-fruit flavors. It's vivid, refreshing and juicy with a long finish—as good of an unoaked Chardonnay as I've had. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

92 Lemelson 2019 Reserve Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from two of the winery's estate vineyards. The aromas draw you in, with notes of freshly cut pear, lemon zest, spice and star fruit. The flavors are on the lighter side of medium bodied, showing sophistication, nuance and above all class. A vein of lemony acidity runs throughout. It's superb and an outrageous value. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$30

92 Soter 2019 Estate Grown Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). Aromas of toast, peach, clarified butter and crème brûlée lead to medium bodied flavor with a textured feel. Lemony acidity backs it up. The long finish kicks it up a notch. Variety and style marry beautifully. Give it some additional time in bottle to see it at its best. Enjoy after 2024. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$60

91 Durant 2020 Southside Chardonnay (Dundee Hills). Fruit for this wine comes from vines planted in 2000. Mineral, candle-wax, almond and corn-silk aromas lead to straw and stone-fruit flavors with a brisk finish. It shows sophistication and nuance. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

91 Five Fourteen Vineyards 2019 Estate Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). The aromas immediately capture attention, with notes of gun smoke, mineral and toast. Lighter bodied flavors follow, stretching out on the lees-filled finish. The acid is impressive. It would be a challenging ringer in a white Burgundy tasting. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$42

90 Amaterra 2019 Wolf Hill Vineyard Chardonnay (Eola-Amity Hills). Corn-on-the-cob, peach and marzipan aromas lead to juicy stone-fruit flavors that show definition. It's flavorful but light on its feet—and tasty. —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$35

90 Brick House 2020 Cascadia Chardonnay (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas provide appeal, with notes of toast, pumpkin, cardamom, peach and a whiff of something feral. The palate is deft and flavorful, with a long, lemony finish. It fascinates and pleases. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$42

90 Dobbles Family Estate 2019 Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). The aromas bring notes of cream, herb and spice. The fuller feeling flavors are well balanced and show the delicacy of the vintage. A lemony finish caps it off. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Nicolas-Jay 2019 Affinités Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). Aromas of baked bread, spice, marzipan and white peach lead to a brisk palate. Lemony acidity backs it all up, carrying the flavors on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

90 Stoller 2020 Estate Chardonnay (Dundee Hills). Aromas of kiwi, gun smoke and star fruit lead to medium-bodied stone- and tropical-fruit flavors. Kiwi notes linger on the finish. There's a tension that ups the appeal. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$40

89 Lundeen 2020 Articulate Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). The aromas offer notes of apricot and whiffs of tropical fruit. Fuller feeling apple and stone-fruit flavors follow, with sharply etched acidity. There's a purity and brightness that ups the interest. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$38

89 Marshall Davis 2019 Cask Series Marshall Davis Vineyard Chardonnay (Yamhill-Carlton). The aromas bring notes of marzipan, lemon and dried rose, lees and straw. The palate is on the lighter side of medium bodied, with ginger and pink-grapefruit accents. It doesn't seem entirely varietal, but it's quite enjoyable. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$45

88 Duck Pond Cellars 2021 Oregon Wine Co. Chardonnay (Oregon). Aromas of star fruit, mango, pear and papaya lead to full-bodied, creamy-feeling flavors. Plentiful crayon notes run throughout. Lees notes persist on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$15

88 Irvine & Roberts 2019 Convergence Chardonnay (Rogue Valley). This is a very stylistic offering, with aromas of crayon and clarified butter in front of peach and sweet spice. The palate is more deft than the aromas suggest, with pleasing balance and spice notes threaded throughout. The aromas and palate don't seem fully matched. —S.S.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$50

88 Raptor Ridge 2019 Gran Moraine Vineyard Chardonnay (Yamhill-Carlton). This wine is barrel fermented in a mixture of new and neutral oak. The aromas offer notes of peach, clarified butter and spice. The flavors are light, almost delicate,

particularly through the middle, with lemony acidity on the finish. It's hard to determine quite which direction it wants to go. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$35

87 A to Z 2021 Chardonnay (Oregon). Aromas of apple, banana, honey melon, kiwi, ginger and papaya lead to full bodied, almost viscous feeling flavors without a trace of oak in site. There's enjoyment to be had, though it's very hard to peg it as Chardonnay. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

87 Wine by Joe 2020 Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). The aromas are bright and fresh, with notes of freshly cut yellow and red apple along with pear. Medium-bodied flavors follow, with a smoky thread that causes distraction. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14

PINOT BLANC

90 Elk Cove 2021 Estate Pinot Blanc (Willamette Valley). The aromas are generous, with notes of apple, pear, star fruit and candle wax. The palate is flavorful, medium bodied but deft, with a mixture of tree and tropical fruit. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

89 Bells Up 2021 Rhapsody Pinot Blanc (Willamette Valley). Aged *sur lie* in stainless steel tanks for six months, the aromas offer notes of lemon pith, citrus and wet stone. The palate brings fuller feeling, well-balanced fruit flavors that have a textured feel. Bitters linger on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$32

88 Maysara 2021 Autees Momtazi Vineyard Pinot Blanc (McMinnville). The aromas are reduced, causing some aromatic distraction initially. Beyond that are notes of melon, lime zest and fresh herb. The medium-bodied lemony, pineapple and herb flavors intrigue. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Foris 2021 Estate Grown Pinot Blanc (Rogue Valley). The aromas offer notes of pear and peach and whiffs of flower, along with some reduction. The flavors are dry, showing bitterness and some medicinal notes on the finish that linger. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

PINOT GRIS

91 The Four Graces 2021 Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). For full review see page 20. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$21

90 Elk Cove 2021 Estate Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). For full review see page 22. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

89 Chehalem 2021 Pinot Gris (Chehalem Mountains). The aromas aren't particularly revealing, with light notes of citrus, Vaseline and slate. The flavors are lighter bodied but flavorful and acid driven. Pair it with food to see it at its best. Shellfish in a white-wine-based broth should do the trick. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Ridgecrest 2021 Old Vine Estate Ridgecrest Vineyards Pinot Gris (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas take some teasing out, with notes of flower, petroleum jelly, pear skin and melon rind. Seemingly just off dry medium-bodied peach and ginger flavors follow. Pleasingly tart acids linger on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$27

89 Shumaker 2021 Pinot Gris (Tualatin Hills). Fruit for this wine comes from a single vineyard. Bright aromas of apple, melon, orange rind, pineapple and lime leaf lead to deft, fresh, off-dry drinking flavors. There's a vibrancy to the fruit that appeals. —S.S.
abv: 12.2% **Price:** \$20

89 Silvan Ridge 2020 Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). The aromas are vibrant, with notes of yellow apple, pear and star fruit. Well-balanced, medium-bodied tropical flavors follow, brightened by tart acidity. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$16

88 A to Z 2021 Pinot Gris (Oregon). Pear, apple, banana and kiwi-skin aromas lead to broad, slightly viscous feeling papaya and pineapple flavors. It's straight down the fairway enjoyment. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$16

88 Durant 2021 Maxamillian Pinot Gris (Dundee Hills). Aromas of yellow apple, pineapple and kiwi lead to tropical-fruit flavors that are broader feeling around the edges, lighter in the middle. It packs a lot of flavor. —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$27

88 Foris 2021 Pinot Gris (Rogue Valley). The aromas bring notes of star fruit, melon, tropical fruit, and a whiff of ale. A light, airy, flavorful palate follows. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

88 Sokol Blosser 2020 Estate Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). The aromas offer notes of freshly cut pear, star fruit and touches of pineapple, along with whiffs of smoke. Broad-feeling flavors follow, with light smoky notes throughout. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$24

88 Willamette Valley Vineyards 2021 Pinot Gris (Willamette Valley). Fermented in stainless steel, yellow-apple and star fruit aromas lead to deft flavors that are broader around the edges, lighter in the middle. It shows a mix of tropical notes and a pleasingly tart finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$18

87 Dwell 2020 Pinot Gris (Applegate Valley). The aromas offer notes of cardamom, fresh cream, lees and spice. There's delicacy to the lightly creamy apple flavors. It's hard to peg it as Pinot Gris, but it's interesting. —S.S.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$25

RIESLING

92 Hyland 2021 Old Vine Single Vineyard Riesling (McMinnville). Coming from blocks planted in the 1970s, the aromas are vibrant, with notes of green apple, honeysuckle and apricot. Bone-dry green-apple, lemon and lime flavors follow. Electric acidity lights it up. Acid hounds, this one is for you. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

91 Chehalem 2020 Corral Creek Riesling (Chehalem Mountains). The aromas immediately say Riesling, with notes of lime leaf, white peach, citrus flower and mineral. Bone-dry, almost austere, lime flavors follow, with citrus notes on the puckering finish. Acid hounds, look no further. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

90 Love & Squalor 2018 Sunnyside Vineyard Riesling (Willamette Valley). This wine is over three years old and is showing evolution. Diesel aromas are at the forefront, followed by notes of lime, honey, flower and lime leaf. Broad-feeling, bone-dry flavors follow. Lees notes linger on the finish. It's a stylistic, thoroughly fascinating offering of this variety. —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$38

90 Ridgecrest 2021 Estate Dry Ridgecrest Vineyards Riesling (Ribbon Ridge). Vibrant aromas of pink-grapefruit zest, lime leaf and flower lead to just a hair off-dry drinking Nestea iced tea and floral flavors that persist on the lengthy finish. The flavors are intense and captivating. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$27

89 A to Z 2021 Riesling (Oregon). This is a hyper-aromatic expression of the variety, with notes of flower, peach and melon. Off-dry flavors follow, showing abundant Lemon Nestea iced tea and stone-fruit notes, with a lightly grainy feel. There's plenty of enjoyment to be had. —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$16

87 RR Wines 2020 Estate Reserve Riesling (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas are effusive, with notes of lemon, lime, honeysuckle and a whiff of smoke. The palate is bone dry and appears to show some smoke impact. It's a shame as it's clear how beautiful the underlying wine is. —S.S.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$35

86 Foris 2021 Estate Grown Riesling (Rogue Valley). Expressive aromas of ground almond skin, orange zest and ginger lead to dry,

zippy ale flavors. Some medicinal notes cause a bit of distraction. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

86 Winery STEF 2018 Riesling (Rogue Valley). Diesel aromas are up front, followed by notes of lime and whiffs of smoke. Dry, broad feeling flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

OTHER WHITE WINES

91 Foris 2021 Estate Grown Gewürztraminer (Rogue Valley). The aromas pop, with notes of grated ginger, flower, rose and pink grapefruit—classic Gewürztraminer. A medium-bodied, flavorful palate follows. Fruit flavors sail off into the distance. It's impressive. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$17

90 Durant 2020 White Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas offer notes of marzipan, straw and yellow apple. The palate is broad in feel while still light on its feet. A lingering finish caps it off. It's completely charming. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$45

89 Del Rio 2020 Estate Grown Viognier (Rogue Valley). Vibrant peach, apricot and flower aromas are followed by a full-bodied, viscous palate, full of fruit flavors. The ripeness somewhat carries it away, but there's still much to enjoy. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

89 Hyland 2021 Old Vine Single Vineyard Gewürztraminer (McMinnville). Expressive aromas of ginger, lychee, flower, pink grapefruit and spice lead to full-bodied, just off-dry drinking, rounded flavors. There's a lot to like. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

87 Winery STEF 2019 Sauvignon Blanc (Rogue Valley). The aromas bring notes of the underside of a pineapple, passion fruit and kiwi, that are not quite fully delineated. Quite broad feeling tropical-fruit flavors follow. It needs more acid to stitch it together. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

SPARKLING WINES

91 Sokol Blosser 2019 Bluebird Cuvée Brut Sparkling Wine (Willamette Valley). The aromas are bright, with notes of strawberry, pineapple, kiwi and papaya. Bone-dry tropical-fruit flavors follow with plenty of acidic verve behind them. The aromas and flavors show ripe fruit; the acid behind them more than pulls it off. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$32

90 Domaine Divio 2018 Vintage Brut Cremant (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this 100% Pinot Noir wine comes from Hyland Vineyard. Aged 18 months on lees, pear, hazelnut, and raspberry

BUYINGGUIDE

aromas are out front. The flavors are creamy in feel, with a lighter mousse. —S.S.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$70

90 Durant 2018 Brut Méthode Champenoise (Dundee Hills). Aromas of green apple, pear and apple skin lead to high acid, lemony flavors. It finishes quite dry, almost austere, but in a pleasing way. —S.S.
abv: 12.7% **Price:** \$60

90 Raptor Ridge 2017 Estate Cuvée Sparkling Brut Méthode Champenoise Rosé (Chehalem Mountains). Bright aromas of strawberry, baked bread and herb lead to fresh, lively, brisk fruit flavors. It's a big-time winner with undeniable appeal. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

88 LifeVine 2021 Blanc de Blancs Coles Valley Vineyard (Umpqua Valley). The aromas bring notes of pear, melon and herb. Light, tangy, quite frothy flavors follow. There's a pleasing lemony finish to it. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

87 Pike Road NV Sparkler (Willamette Valley). Salmon colored, the aromas are light, with notes of strawberry and cherry. Full-bodied flavors follow. The mousse seems quite light on an otherwise enjoyable wine. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

PINOT NOIR ROSÉ

92 Five Fourteen Vineyards 2021 Estate Pinot Noir Rosé (Willamette Valley). A very appealing pale copper with a pink tinge, this wine shows a bit of reduction out of the gate that clears quickly. Beyond that are appealing aromas of peach, strawberry and bubblegum. Medium-bodied flavors follow, showing verve and liveliness. It delights. Give it a short decant if still reduced. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$28

91 Foris 2021 Estate Grown Rosé of Pinot Noir (Rogue Valley). This is quite pale in color for rosé that captures the eye. The aromas bring notes of cantaloupe, orange rind and rhubarb. The palate broader in feel, with more than enough acid to pull that off. More please! *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$17

90 Stoller 2021 Pinot Noir Rosé (Willamette Valley). An appealing pale-salmon color, the aromas are a touch reduced at first but clear quickly. Beyond that are notes of watermelon rind, yellow strawberry and melon. Dry, lighter bodied kiwi flavors follow, gliding on the finish. It's lovely. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

89 Bells Up 2021 Estate Prelude Rosé of Pinot Noir (Chehalem Mountains). This wine is electric pink and quite saturated in color for a

modern rosé, having spent 24 hours of skins before pressing and aging in neutral oak. This causes aesthetic distraction on an otherwise lovely wine. Offering cherry and herb tones and a medium-plus body, there's enough acid to pull it all off. —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$28

89 Chehalem 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Chehalem Mountains). Pale-bronze with an orange tinge, its aromas show some reduction out of the gate, with notes of elastic band in front of strawberry. The light, bright flavors are pleasing, with a tart finish. If the reduction clears, it moves up a notch or two. —S.S.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$28

89 Irvine & Roberts 2021 Pinot Noir Rosé (Rogue Valley). A very pretty pale-salmon color that captures the eye, the wine's aromas are quiet, with notes of strawberry and mineral. Bone dry flavors follow, light on their feel with pleasing acidity. —S.S.
abv: 12.4% **Price:** \$35

89 Westmount 2021 Pinot Noir Rosé (Willamette Valley). Medium-salmon color, the aromas offer notes of herb, rhubarb, orange oil and whiffs of green pepper. The palate is brisk and flavorful, with an uptick of acid tying it all together on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$20

89 Willamette Valley Vineyards 2021 Whole Cluster Rosé of Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Pale-salmon color, the aromas offer a somewhat unusual profile of herb, watermelon, celery, kiwi and a whiff of green pepper. Fuller-bodied kiwi and mango flavors follow. There's a lot of flavor and enjoyment in the glass, though the aromas don't entirely meld. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$18

88 Ridgecrest 2021 Estate Pinot Noir Rosé (Ribbon Ridge). The wine is pale-peach in color. The aromas are light, with notes of yellow apple, strawberry and stone fruit. The palate is weighty in feel but doesn't fully have the flavor intensity of the acid to pull it off. —S.S.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$27

87 Dwell 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Applegate Valley). The aromas seem unsettled, while the palate is quite light but juicy. It's all an odd mix, with the concentration, particularly through the middle, not seeming all there. Perhaps some time will tie together the pieces. —S.S.
abv: 12.3% **Price:** \$24

85 Cardwell Hill 2021 Estate Blush Pinot Noir Rosé (Willamette Valley). Pale-salmon colored, the aromas are light, with notes of herb and cherry. Medium-sweet flavors follow, seeming thick and ponderous. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

OTHER ROSÉS

91 Del Rio 2021 Estate Grown Grenache Rosé (Rogue Valley). This has a very pretty, appealing pale-salmon color; the aromas bring bright notes of strawberry, watermelon, bubblegum and melon. Fuller bodied kiwi and strawberry flavors follow, bringing volume while remaining brisk. Blood orange notes persist on the tart, lingering finish. Yum. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$19

88 Hyland 2021 Estate Single Vineyard Rosé (McMinnville). The pale-salmon color provides appeal to the eyes. Meanwhile the aromas and flavors bring notes of mandarin orange, melon, yellow strawberry and apricot. Fuller feeling stone- and tropical-fruit flavors follow. It's an interesting mix. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

87 Duck Pond Cellars 2021 Natural Path Rosé (Oregon). Salmon colored, the aromas are full of notes of flower and orange rind. Fuller feeling, viscous orange-rind flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$15

PINOT NOIR

94 Lemelson 2018 Chestnut Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Chehalem Mountains). The year 2018 was a vintage that provided many fuller feeling expressions of Pinot in Willamette Valley. This wine shows that but also walks the tightrope of intensity and balance that has made the valley famous. It's wound up tightly out of the gate, showing some reduction and needing some air and coaxing to get going. Aromas of spice, dark cherry and plum lead to fuller feeling, palate coating flavors that show depth and layering, along with plenty of freshness. It's heavenly. Give it time or a long decant. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

94 Nicolas-Jay 2018 Own-Rooted Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from vines planted in the 1970s and 80s. The aromas are intoxicating, with notes of wild strawberry, red plum, underbrush, black tea, leaves, cinnamon and satsuma. Full-feeling flavors follow, showing intensity, depth and plenty of structure. Black-tea notes linger on the finish. It's a complete delight. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$90

93 Left Coast 2019 Right Bank Estate Pommard Selection Pinot Noir (Van Duzer Corridor). The aromas are subdued out of the gate, with notes of mushroom powder, dark cherry, black tea, wet stone and brown stem. The flavors are seamless, dense and palate coating. There's plenty of structure behind it all. For those looking for a richer style of Pinot that still keeps its intensity well in check,

look no further. Best after 2026. *Cellar Selection*. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$48

93 Lemelson 2019 Thea's Selection Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from all seven of the winery's estate vineyards. Freshly ground cinnamon, cumin, mineral and black-cherry aromas lead to a palate that is well-delineated and juicy. There's plenty of structure wrapped around it all. It's gorgeous. Best after 2024. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$34

93 Nicolas-Jay 2019 Momtazi Vineyard Pinot Noir (McMinnville). The fruit for this wine comes from vines planted in 1999 on volcanic soils. The aromas are thoroughly beguiling, with notes of black tea, flower, herb and crushed granite. Seamless, medium-bodied plum and cherry flavors follow, showing depth and grace. Lightly sandy tannins back it up. Give it a few years in bottle or decant to see it at its best. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$90

93 Nicolas-Jay 2019 Own-Rooted Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from Hyland, Nysa and Bishop Creek vineyards. The aromas are completely dazzling, with notes of raspberry, peppermint leaf, blood orange, pomegranate and a kiss of cinnamon, showing clarity and delineation. A full-flavored palate follows, with depth, intensity, grace and sophistication. Yes. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$90

92 Benza 2019 Symphony Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas immediately pull you in, with notes of red plum, dried orange rind, flower, tea leaves and wet stone. The palate is broad and flavorful, showing range and depth. Tart flavors linger on the finish. It has plenty of acid and tannin structure to pull it all off—an outright delicious offering. Give it additional time in bottle or decant to see it at its best. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$42

92 Et Fille 2019 Heredity Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). In the Willamette Valley, 2019 was a bounteous vintage—this is another glorious example. The aromas bring notes of dark raspberry, dried orange rind, black tea and spice. The full-bodied cherry flavors show richness, layering, balance and sophistication. It displays impressive intensity and layering for the listed alcohol. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$48

92 Hyland 2019 Coury Old Vine Single Vineyard Clone Pinot Noir (McMinnville). Everything is in vivid focus, with this wine's aromas and flavors of black tea, dried herb, flower and cinnamon. The tart flavors are light, deft and well balanced, showing intensity. It broadens over time. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$60

92 Lemelson 2018 Meyer Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Aromas of sarsaparilla, cherry, citrus and dried herb lead to lithe yet full bodied, palate-coating flavors. Cola notes linger on the long finish. The appeal is as much about feel as flavor, and the structure is impressive. There's a lot packed into it. Decant if drinking in the near term. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$56

92 Nicolas-Jay 2019 Bishop Creek Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). Fruit for this wine comes from vines planted in 1988. Brooding aromas of cherry, black tea and dried herb lead to full-feeling flavors that show intensity, sophistication and balance. It's outrageously delicious. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$100

92 Nicolas-Jay 2019 L'Ensemble Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas smell like a big bowl of fruit, with notes of raspberries and strawberries still on the vine. Peppermint and dried herb add accents. Medium-bodied flavors follow, coating the palate from end to end, with powdered cinnamon tannins and black-tea flavors. It's completely captivating. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$70

92 Ponzi 2018 Pinot Noir (Laurelwood District). The aromas are reserved, with notes of baking spice, cherry, dark raspberry and plum. Full-bodied, well-balanced peppermint and raspberry flavors follow. It's direct enjoyment. Best after 2025. *Cellar Selection*. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$45

92 Sequitur 2019 Sequitur Vineyard Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). You need to lean into the glass to get the aromas initially, but it's well worth the effort. Notes of black-tea leaves, dried flower, herb and spice lead to medium-bodied, juicy, cinamony flavors, with orange-rind notes threaded throughout. Give it additional time in bottle or decant to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$100

91 Amatera 2018 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas offer plenty of appeal, with notes of strawberry, cherry, cinnamon, peppermint, citrus rind and dried herb. The palate dances lightly, with elegant but rich flavors that hang on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$45

91 Amatera 2018 Swede Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from an estate vineyard that is a mixture of heritage and Dijon clones. Appealing aromas of satsuma, dried and fresh herb, cranberry, raspberry and stem lead to medium-bodied, juicy red-fruit flavors. It's delightful. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$65

91 Castle & Crown 2019 Madrona Hill Madrona Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (Chehalem Mountains). The aromas are reserved initially and then bloom, with notes of Rainier cherry, crushed flower,

orange rind, sweet herb, pepper, tea and spice. The flavors are fuller bodied, with a seamless feel, showing depth and intensity along with plenty of structure. It impresses. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 12.4% **Price:** \$32

91 Chehalem 2019 Ridgecrest Vineyard Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). This wine shows some reduction out of the gate, making it hard to get at the aromas initially. Beyond that are notes of brown stem, dried herb, strawberry, cherry and spice. The flavors are lower alcohol, putting a focus on flavor instead of feel. It shows pleasing intensity, drawing out on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

91 Et Fille 2019 Maresh Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas immediately grab attention, with notes of black tea, dried satsuma rind, flower, umami, allspice and dark raspberry, with delineation and detail. Medium-bodied cherry flavors follow, bringing intensity, complexity and length. Give it time to open up, and it delivers. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$65

91 Left Coast 2019 Latitude 45° Estate Dijon Selection Pinot Noir (Van Duzer Corridor). The aromas are perfumed, with barrel notes of toast and coffee up front followed by rose petal, orange oil, white pepper and green tea. Fuller feeling flavors follow, while still showing the delicacy of the vintage. Coffee notes linger on the finish. There are good pieces, but they don't entirely come together at present. Time in bottle or a long decant should help. —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$45

91 Left Coast 2019 Truffle Hill Estate Wadenswil Selection Pinot Noir (Van Duzer Corridor). Bright aromas of raspberry roll-up, rhubarb, black tea and satsuma lead to light, pretty fruit flavors. There's an appealing delicacy and transparency, with plenty of tannic heft behind it. Satsuma notes linger on the finish. Decant to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

91 Lemelson 2018 Stermer Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). The aromas are forward, with notes of raspberries and cream, spice, cedar and herb. Full-bodied, structured flavors follow, with fruit and barrel intertwining. Its best days are ahead of it. Decant if drinking in the near term. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$56

91 Love & Squalor 2017 Reserve Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Coming from the winery's best barrels, the aromas offer plenty of charm and nuance, with notes of black tea, orange blossom, forest floor, raspberry, cherry and cola. There's transparency to the flavors along with a lot of intensity. *Editors' Choice*. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$48

91 Megan Anne 2019 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). For full reviews see page 19. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30

91 Nicolas-Jay 2019 Nysa Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The vines that produced this fruit were planted in 1989. The aromas are subdued out of the gate, opening to reveal notes of red plum, cherry and herb. The flavors are more giving, on the lighter side of medium bodied and fresh. Give it a short decant to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$90

91 Raptor Ridge 2019 Crawford Beck Vineyard Pinot Noir (Eola-Amity Hills). Appealing aromas of black and green tea, black raspberry, plum, underbrush and dried thyme lead to a palate that is full in feel, showing generosity but also the grace of the vintage. There's a lot of enjoyment to be had. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

91 Stoller 2019 Helen's Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas are still locked up, showing some reduction out of the gate. Beyond that are barrel notes of coffee and chocolate, along with black tea, clove and dried satsuma rind. The flavors show richness and depth, with a velvety feel. Fruit and barrel play equal parts at present. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$75

91 Stoller 2019 Nancy's Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Cherry, dark-raspberry, clove, plum and spice aromas lead to soft, sumptuous dark-fruit flavors. There's intensity and plushness to the fruit but also a sense of deftness that adds to the appeal. It's a fuller feeling expression of the variety. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$75

91 Utopia 2019 Estate Reserve Paradise Utopia Vineyard Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas are exuberant, with notes of red cherry, orange twist, Red Vines and cinnamon powder. The palate delivers on that promise, light, flavorful, layered and juicy. There's a lot to like. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

90 Amaterra 2018 Apolloni Vineyard Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Aromas of peppermint are out front, followed by barrel spice, tea leaves and black cherry. Rich, full-bodied fruit flavors follow. A warm finish caps it off. For those looking for a rich, full-bodied style of Pinot, look no further. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

90 Domaine Divio 2020 Gabriel Estate Vineyards Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). The riches for 2020 were manifold, with smoke threatening some of that. This wine perfectly captures what was out there, while remaining true to the vintage overall. Aromas of mineral, char, satsuma, cherry cough drop and smoke lead to full-feeling flavors that don't hold back, showing a bit of the vintage's grittiness. There's a kiss of smoke on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$65

90 Domaine Divio 2020 Louis Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). This wine is still waking up from its slumber. The aromas bring notes of dark raspberry, cinnamon, spice box and mesquite smoke. Fuller feeling flavors follow, with a lightly gritty feel. A touch of smoke runs throughout. Coffee notes linger on the finish. There's some smoke impact here, but the wine still shows well. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$65

90 Durant 2019 Heron Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). This is all-Pommard clone from vines planted in 1993. The aromas bring notes of brown stem, white pepper, flower, citrus, red fruit and dried mushroom. The palate offers the feeling of volume while staying very light on its feet. Citrus notes linger on the finish. Pretty stuff. —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$55

90 Durant 2019 La Casita Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas bring notes of potpourri, stem, cinnamon that seem bunched up. Light juicy flavors follow, showing pleasing transparency. It's a very pretty wine, with enjoyable spice accents. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$60

90 Et Fille 2019 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). This wine is all about delicacy. Light aromas of strawberry, cherry and spice lead to elegant fruit flavors that stretch out on the finish. It's very pretty wine, with plenty of subtleties and at a great price. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$34

90 Et Fille 2019 Gabriella Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas are subdued, with notes of dried herb and spice, not showing much fruit out of the gate. The cherry flavors are lighter bodied, displaying delicacy and grace, with the acid driving it. Put it on the dinner table to see it at its best. Pair with roasted duck. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$70

90 Et Fille 2019 Palmer Creek Vineyard Pinot Noir (Eola-Amity Hills). One needs to lean into it to sense the aromas of baking spice, cola, herb and black cherry. Sumptuous, juicy flavors follow. The focus is on restraint. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

90 Garageland 2019 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas offer notes of flower, cedar, blood orange, cranberry and cherry. The flavors are light and lithe, with cleansing acidity. It gives a lot of bang for the buck. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Hyland 2019 Pommard Old Vine Single Vineyard Clone Pinot Noir (McMinnville). The aromas show some reduction up front, with notes of cigar butt and tire rubber in front of red fruit and spice. The palate is lithe and juicy, with cinnamon tannins backing it up. Give it some time in bottle or decant to clear the reduction. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$60

90 Irvine & Roberts 2019 Estate Pinot Noir (Rogue Valley). The aromas are brooding, with notes of spice, dried herb and red fruit. The red-plum and raspberry flavors are considerably more giving, medium bodied and gliding on the finish. It's all about grace and feel. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$40

90 Lemelson 2018 Jerome Reserve Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Fruit-forward aromas of raspberry fruit roll-up, cherry, dried herb and barrel spice lead to flavors that are medium bodied in feel but elegant in flavor. Pair it with roasted chicken. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$68

90 Marshall Davis 2019 Cask Series Marshall Davis Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). Aromas of raspberry, moist earth, satsuma rind, sweet herb and wild strawberry lead to graceful, elegant, fruit flavors. There's delicacy but intensity. It hangs on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$45

90 Silvan Ridge 2018 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas are locked up out of the gate, opening to reveal notes of red plum, peppery spice, black tea and cinnamon. Fuller feeling but still graceful flavors follow, with plenty of hang time on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$30

90 Soter 2019 Estate Grown Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). This wine shows some reduction out of the gate. Beyond that are brooding aromas of toast, plum and moist earth, with fruit and barrel intertwining. The palate is as tight as a drum, with lithe fruit flavors backed by sandy tannins. There's plenty of acidity brightening it all. All of parts don't fit together at present, but the pieces are all there with a lot of upside. Best after 2026. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$54

89 A to Z 2018 The Essence of Oregon Pinot Noir (Oregon). The aromas bring notes of raspberries and cream, herb, peppermint, black cherry and whiffs of mesquite smoke. The palate is flavorful, with medium-bodied peppermint, satsuma and cherry notes. There's a lot of value to be had. —S.S.
abv: NA **Price:** \$25

89 Domaine Divio 2020 Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas are subdued, with notes of orange twist, raspberry and mesquite smoke. Medium-bodied, almost delicate-seeming flavors follow, broadening considerably over time. Light smoke notes are threaded throughout. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$55

89 Domaine Divio 2020 Pinot Noir (Eola-Amity Hills). The aromas are subdued, with notes of pencil eraser, cherry and crushed flower, along with whiffs of mesquite smoke. The palate is graceful, showing a kiss of smoke that distracts. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$55

89 Et Fille 2019 Kalita Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). This is a mixture of Pommard and Wädenswil clone fruit. The aromas bring notes of dried rose petal, slightly past-peak-freshness thyme, dried orange rind, cherry and a whiff of medicine. Plump feeling but well in check fruit flavors follow. It hangs on the finish. The palate is lovely but doesn't seem fully connected to the flavors. —S.S.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$65

89 Five Fourteen Vineyards 2019 Estate Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas bring notes of baking spice, black cherry and coriander, with the oak in the lead. Medium-bodied flavors follow, with fruit and barrel intermingling. It finishes well, showing delicacy. There are a lot of interesting pieces, though they don't all seem together at present. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$42

89 Hinman 2019 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). This wine is extremely pale in color, showing some bricking at the rim. The aromas bring subdued notes of flower, cherry and orange rind. Light, pretty, cranberry and red-fruit flavors are made in a transparent style. It's more accent than main event. Pair it with roasted salmon. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$NA

89 Irvine & Roberts 2019 Convergence Pinot Noir (Rogue Valley). Aromas of licorice, dried orange peel, dark cherry and barrel spice lead to creamy-feeling fruit and barrel flavors. There are a lot of good pieces. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$50

89 Paul O'Brien 2018 Oregon Territory Pinot Noir (Oregon). The aromas aren't particularly revealing initially, with notes of herb and pencil eraser, showing some reduction. Strawberry and cherry aromas emerge over time. The flavors are plump feeling, stretching out on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$19

89 Stoller 2020 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas are expressive, with notes of flower, citrus, raspberry and wild strawberry and smoke. A flavorful palate follows, showing red fruit along with cinnamon and black-tea accents. Some smoke notes wind throughout. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

89 Yamhill Valley 2018 Estate Grown Pinot Noir (McMinnville). The aromas offer notes of thyme, cherry, clove, green tea and spice. Full-bodied dark-raspberry-jam and plum flavors follow on the palate. Satsuma notes linger on the finish. It's a pleasing, riper style of Pinot. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

88 Amaterra 2018 Hirschy Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). Reserved aromas of cinnamon and cherry lead to full-bodied, ripe fruit flavors. It shows some bitterness on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$65

88 Bells Up 2019 Titan Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Aromas of cigar butt, brown stem and parsley lead to tart, cranberry flavors with a lot of acid behind them. The stem influence is very primary at present, making it hard to get at the rest of the wine. Cranberry flavors finish it off. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$44

88 Chehalem 2020 Pinot Noir (Chehalem Mountains). Muted aromas of flower, herb and smoke lead to lighter cherry flavors. It all seems very subdued and a bit nondescript. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

88 Durant 2019 Bishop Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The flower, cedar, spice, cherry and cherry aromas seem a bit muddled. Graceful flavors follow. It's interesting but doesn't all seem in sync —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$65

88 Durant 2019 Madrone Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Aromas of cola, cinnamon, medicine, char and cherry lead to a palate that alternates between the plush fruit flavors and the brightness of the vintage. —S.S.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$65

88 Irvine & Roberts 2019 The Discovery Pinot Noir (Rogue Valley). The aromas are light, with notes of baking spice, tea leaves and cherry. Similarly dialed back but still fuller feeling flavors follow. It wants a little more varietal expression on an otherwise enjoyable wine. —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$60

88 Knudsen 2019 Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). This is an expressive wine, with aromas of dried stem dominant, followed by notes of tea leaves, dried orange rind and herb. Lighter styled, cranberry-driven flavors come along after. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$55

88 Love & Squalor 2018 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Bright aromas of powdered cinnamon, potpourri, cherry, manure, cranberry and red plum lead to fuller-feeling flavors that show the generosity of the vintage. A warm finish caps it off. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$28

88 Maysara 2019 Delara Momtazi Vineyard Pinot Noir (McMinnville). The prevailing aromas are quite subdued, with notes of clove and spice. Lighter styled cranberry flavors follow, wanting more definition. It's hard to tell entirely which direction it's trying to go, and it seems somewhat evolved for its age. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$95

88 Raptor Ridge 2019 Tuscowallame Estate Whole Cluster Pinot Noir (Laurelwood District). Fruit for this wine comes from one of Willamette Valley's newest sub-appellations. Quite transparent in color, the wine's aromas are light, with notes of wintergreen, herb and cherry. Lightly

styled, juicy flavors follow. It's interesting but all seems a bit faint. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$50

88 Résonance 2019 Découverte Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas offer notes of barnyard, cinnamon stick and dried cherry. Elegant flavors follow, with floral and medicinal notes on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$65

88 Sokol Blosser 2018 Goosepen Block Estate Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). This is 100% Pommard clone aged 17 months in French oak. Barrel aromas are out front, with notes of char, clove, cedar, citrus and flower, followed by subdued red fruit and mushroom. There's pleasing transparency on the palate, but the aromas and flavors don't sync up. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$80

88 Stoller 2020 Estate Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). The aromas take some time to access, with notes of black tea, smoke and spice. Medium-bodied cinnamon-driven flavors follow, showing grit and grip. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

88 Yamhill Valley 2017 Estate Reserve Pinot Noir (McMinnville). Almost a full five years in, the aromas show notes of cigar butt, dried herb, tobacco and citrus. Light, juicy flavors follow. It doesn't entirely stand up on its own. Try it on the dinner table. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

87 City Winery Chicago 2018 Reserve Durant Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Aromas of tea leaves, baking spice and cherry lead to pit-fruit, cinnamon and hay flavors. The finish shows persistence. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$42

87 Lundeen 2019 Articulate Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas show notes of freshly ground cinnamon followed by flower, hay and cherry. The palate is broad in feel. Orange-peel notes linger on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$38

87 Maysara 2019 Three ° Pinot Noir (McMinnville). Coming from the Demeter-certified Momtazi Vineyard, this wine is very reduced out of the gate, with notes of tire rubber and rubber band that cause significant distraction. Hay notes are behind that. It's a shame as pleasing, fuller bodied black-tea, blood orange and hay flavors are pleasing. —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$22

87 Ridgecrest 2020 Estate Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). Aromas of grilled meat, salami and charcoal briquette lead to red-fruit flavors that show less overt smoke impact than the aromas suggest. There's enjoyment to be had. Pair it with grilled leg of lamb. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$42

BUYINGGUIDE

86 Brick House NV House Red No. 2 Pinot Noir (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas offer notes of mesquite smoke and cherry. Quite smoky flavors follow, largely overwhelming the wine. It has a gritty feel. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$29

86 Raptor Ridge 2020 Barrel Select Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). The aromas are bright, with notes of red cherry, raspberry and smoke. Lighter styled flavors follow, with smoky notes throughout that persist. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$29

85 Battle Creek 2021 Unconditional Rosé of Pinot Noir (Oregon). Pale salmon in color, the aromas seem a bit muddled, with notes of lees, biscuit, clay and wilted flower, with the palate showing more of the same. Bitter notes linger on the finish. It's all an odd mix. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$19

RED BLENDS

83 Winery STEF 2018 Tempranillo-Syrah (Rogue Valley). The aromas seem muted, with notes of smoked ham and mesquite beneath. Quite smoky flavors follow, persisting on the finish. It shows a lot of smoke impact. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

82 Del Rio 2019 Estate Grown Reserve Claret (Rogue Valley). Aromas of green herb, dried leaves, smoke, medicine and tire rubber lead to a palate laden with mesquite flavors. The smoke impact seems substantial. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$35

82 Marty 2018 Red Wine (Oregon). This is a blend of Cabernet Franc (36%), Merlot (36%) and Cabernet Sauvignon. The aromas bring notes of firepit and smoked ham. The flavors are light, with smoke notes throughout. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$16

OTHER RED WINES

89 Saviah 2019 The Funk Estate Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (The Rocks District of Milton-Freewater). Fruit for this wine comes from the winery's estate vineyard in The Rocks District. Aromas of coffee, vanilla and bittersweet chocolate are up front, followed by herb, dried rose petals and dried leaves. Medium-bodied chocolatey flavors follow, with café au lait notes on the finish. The oak seems a bit heavy handed for the fruit. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

88 Ridgecrest 2020 Old Vine Estate Gamay Noir (Ribbon Ridge). The aromas seem muted, with notes of ember, herb and red fruit. Juicy, medium-bodied fruit flavors follow, with abundant acidity behind them, leaving an impression of cin-

namony tannins and pleasing tartness. A touch of smoke emerges on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$30

85 Dwell 2018 Primitivo (Applegate Valley). Aromas of golden raisin, prune, baking spice and dried cranberry lead to quite desiccated fruit flavors. It all seems very dried out and advanced. —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$34

84 Silvan Ridge 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Rogue Valley). The aromas are subdued, with notes of mesquite smoke, spice and dried herb. Quite smoky-seeming flavors follow, showing a lot of grit. There's a lot of overt smoke impact. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$NA

WASHINGTON

CHARDONNAY

92 Efest 2020 Lola Connor Lee Chardonnay (Wahlake Slope). Despite its label, fruit for this wine actually comes from a vineyard in the Columbia Valley. No matter. The aromas are appealing, with notes of straw, mineral, stone fruit, marzipan and struck flint. Full-bodied flavors follow, showing depth, layering and above all balance. It's outrageously good. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$38

90 Eight Bells 2021 Boushey Vineyard Chardonnay (Yakima Valley). The is a multi-clonal selection from a vineyard best known for its Rhône varieties. The aromas are bright, with notes of cantaloupe, freshly sliced pear and apple. The flavors are primary, direct and rounded. It's an unadorned look at this variety, all about the fruit. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$30

90 Gård 2019 Grand Klasse Lawrence Estate Wines Chardonnay (Royal Slope). The aromas bring notes of clarified butter, spice, pumpkin and straw. Full-bodied, creamy feeling, rich stone-fruit flavors follow. It's a very stylistic offering of the variety. For those looking for a no-holds-barred offering of Chardonnay, look no further. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$25

89 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2018 Cold Creek Vineyard Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). The aromas offer appealing notes of clarified butter, ripe peach and spice. Well-balanced flavors follow, fuller toward the edges and lighter in the middle. Toasty notes linger on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

88 Block Wines 2020 Old Block Portteus Vineyard Chardonnay (Yakima Valley). Aromas of marzipan, corn on the cob, roasted nuts and spice lead to ripe, full-bodied peach flavors. A warm finish caps it off. The heat of the vintages seems to have carried it a bit too far. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$40

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2019 Canoe Ridge Estate Chardonnay (Horse Heaven Hills). The aromas bring notes of padded butter, herb, peach and barrel spice. Medium-bodied stone-fruit flavors follow, with a lightly creamy feel. Fruit and barrel play off each other throughout. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

88 Muret-Gaston 2020 French Creek Vineyard Chardonnay (Yakima Valley). Aromas of toast, char, spice and stone fruit lead to full bodied-flavors. Char notes linger on the finish. The oak dominates at present, but there are good things underneath. Give it extended time in bottle or at least 24 hours to decant. —S.S.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$35

88 Sightglass 2021 Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). Candle wax, lemon balm and melon aromas lead to ale and corn-on-the-cob flavors, with an odd aftertaste that lingers, accented by alcohol. It still seems to be settling into bottle. Perhaps some time will improve it. —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$22

86 Sagelands 2020 Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). The aromas don't seem to have much to say, but the palate is straight down the fairway—a fuller feeling Chardonnay, delivering a lot of flavor. It provides a lot of value. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 12.96% **Price:** \$10

86 Washington Hills 2020 Chardonnay (Washington). Aromas of corn on the cob and peach lead to just-off-dry drinking and full-bodied flavors with a lightly creamy feel. There's a lot to like and the price is right. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$10

85 Columbia Winery 2020 Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). The aromas offer notes of roasted corn on the cob and peach. Medium-bodied flavors follow, trailing on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$13

RIESLING

93 Gård 2019 Ice Wine Lawrence Estate Wines Riesling (Royal Slope). Harvested at 408g/L of sugar and finishing at 214 g/L, this wine lives up to those boastful numbers. The aromas bring notes of orange marmalade, candied pineapple and brown sugar. Rich, intense tropical-fruit flavors follow, with plenty of hang time on the finish. It's a perfect ending to any dinner or evening. —S.S.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$70/375 ml

92 Chateau Ste. Michelle & Dr. Loosen 2019 Ice Wine Riesling (Horse Heaven Hills). The aromas are immediately captivating, with notes of marmalade, honey, and dried apricot. A rich, sweet, balanced palate follows. It has a lot of hang time on the finish—a perfect ending to any evening. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 8% **Price:** \$60/375 ml

92 Chateau Ste. Michelle & Dr. Loosen 2018 XLC Dry Riesling (Columbia Valley). This is a one-of-a-kind wine for the state—an extended lees contact Riesling and one that also (for the first time for this producer) bears a vineyard designation. Intense aromas of honeysuckle, peach, diesel and honey lead to a bone-dry, richly flavorful palate that remains light on its feet. An extended finish caps it off. It's a spectacular, thoroughly fascinating wine. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$45

92 Prospice 2021 Gamache Vineyard Viognier (White Bluffs). Prospice has quickly distinguished itself with both whites and reds, and wines like this show why. Beguiling aromas of peach and honeycomb lead to medium-bodied flavors that show exquisite balance, texture and nuance. A long, long finish caps it off, kicking it up a notch. It's a standout. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$28

90 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Dry Riesling (Columbia Valley). This wine is consistently one of the best values in the world, and the latest vintage does not disappoint. The aromas enchant, with notes of Nestea Lemon Iced Tea, peach, citrus, lime leaf and honeysuckle. Dry, straight-down-the-fairway lime and other citrus flavors follow. The balance is impressive. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$9

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Riesling (Columbia Valley). Aromas of fresh peach and flower lead to stone-fruit flavors that are well balanced. The concentration is lighter than the aromas might suggest, though it's lovely. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$9

88 Efeste 2021 Evergreen Riesling (Ancient Lakes). Coming from one of the state's most highly regarded Riesling sites, the aromas are quite light, with notes of flower, lime and slate that you need to lean into the glass for. Dry, medium-weight Nestea Iced Tea flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

87 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Harvest Select Sweet Riesling (Columbia Valley). Nestea Lemon Iced Tea aromas are out front, followed by flower and ripe peach. Medium-sweet stone-fruit and lime flavors follow. There is much to enjoy. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 10.5% **Price:** \$9

86 Canoe Ridge 2021 Summit Series Viognier (Columbia Valley). Aromas of peach Jolly Rancher, flower and apricot lead to full-bodied, viscous, oily feeling flavors. The warmth of the vintage seems to have carried it away. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$26

86 Hogue 2020 Riesling (Columbia Valley). This is an aromatically expressive offering, with notes of lime leaf, dried Nestea Lemon Iced Tea, flower, white peach and whiffs of diesel.

Medium-sweet flavors follow. It's a straightforward quaffer. —S.S.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$15

86 Washington Hills 2020 Dry Riesling (Washington). One sniff and this is unmistakably Riesling, with notes of diesel, flower, lime leaf and white peach, along with a whiff of smoke. Almost bone-dry, medium-bodied flavors follow, with some bitterness that persists on the finish. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$10

85 Washington Hills 2020 Riesling (Washington). Aromas of honeysuckle, canned peach and dried herb lead to medium-sweet, stone-fruit and dried apple flavors. There's some bitterness on the finish. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 11.77% **Price:** \$10

SAUVIGNON BLANC

94 Devison 2021 Evergreen Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). Devison is charting an entirely new path for Sauvignon Blanc in Washington. Half of this fruit was skin soaked for 40 hours and the other half went direct to press. All were aged in neutral French oak and then blended back together with partial malolactic fermentation. The aromas bring notes of citrus, flower, sea shell, kiwi, the underside of a pineapple, mineral, grapefruit pith and Smarties. Boom! The palate explodes with flavor, full of texture and tension. It has weight without being heavy. Electric, puckering, lemon-lime acidity backs it up. The finish won't quit—the best the winery has made to date. Drinks best with a light chill. Pair it with freshly shucked oysters. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$28

91 Alleromb 2019 La Gran Flor Blanc La Reyna Blanca Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). 100% Sauvignon Blanc, the aromas are light, with notes of marzipan, lemon pith, white flower and herb. The palate is full bodied and creamy in feel, showing texture and richness, with fruit and barrel intermingling. A warm finish caps it off. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$42

91 Matthews 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). The aromas are bright, with notes of grass, green pea pod, lime, pink grapefruit and herb—unmistakably Sauvignon Blanc. While the aromas might make you think this wine is going to be lean and racy, instead it's full bodied and as much about texture as flavor. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$24

90 Aquilini 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Red Mountain). Coming from an appellation best known for its reds but where Sauvignon Blanc can thrive too, the aromas bring notes of pineapple, almond and herb. Kiwi and other tropical-fruit

flavors follow, showing weight but never getting bogged down. It persists on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$36

89 Sightglass 2020 Sauvignon Blanc (Red Mountain). As usual, all of the fruit for this wine comes from Artz Vineyard, with winemaker Sean Boyd working with this fruit for 18 years. The aromas bring notes of the underside of a pineapple, whole lemon and honeycomb. The flavors show textural heft and depth while never getting bogged down. It offers some warmth and bitterness on the finish that causes a touch of distraction. —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$20

88 Canoe Ridge 2021 Expedition Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). The aromas offer notes of lemon pith, melon, pineapple and banana. Fuller feeling flavors follow, with lemony accents to tie it all together. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$14

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). The aromas are light, with notes of pink grapefruit, herb and whiffs of tropical fruit. The lighter styled pineapple, kiwi and banana flavors are pleasing and varietal, with enough acid around it all. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$10

88 Purple Star 2021 Buoy Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (Yakima Valley). All fermented in stainless steel, aromas of green apple, pea pod, flower and herb lead to sleek, tart, acid-driven lemony flavors, with kiwi notes on the finish. Have it with food to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$20

88 Seven Hills Winery 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). The aromas immediately identify this wine as Sauvignon Blanc, with notes of banana, pea pod, citrus and melon. Light, citrus and tropical-fruit-driven flavors follow. Best as dinner accent rather than the main course. Pair it with halibut ceviche with pineapple and mango. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$20

86 Waterbrook 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). Honeydew melon and banana aromas lead to lighter styled tropical-fruit flavors. There's a nice tick of acidity on the finish. Pair it with fruit salad. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$11

85 Browne Family Vineyards 2021 Bitner Estate Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). The aromas offer notes of toast, guava and pineapple. The tropical flavors seem washed out and lacking in concentration. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$17

WHITE BLENDS

90 Ott & Hunter 2020 L'Entente Blanc Boushey Vineyard (Yakima Valley). Coming from one of the state's top sites for Rhône varieties, this is

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a blend of 49% Marsanne, 27% Roussanne, 22% Grenache Blanc and a touch of Viognier. The aromas are subdued, with notes of wheat and spice. The emphasis is on feel, with layered richness to the medium-plus body. Plenty of acid holds it together. —S.S.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$30

89 Muret-Gaston 2021 Blanc Boushey Vineyard (Yakima Valley). This is a blend of 43% Roussanne, 32% Marsanne, 17% Viognier, 7% Grenache Blanc and 1% Picpoul. Brooding aromas of struck match, marzipan, cut apple and pear lead to broad-feeling flavors that linger. There are interesting pieces but the whole doesn't quite seem to fit together. —S.S.

abv: 13.1%

Price: \$32

87 Waterbrook 2021 Mélange Founder's White Blend (Columbia Valley). Aromas of melon, pineapple and pear lead to just-off-dry drinking ripe peach and Nestea Iced Tea flavors. It's all about straight up, easy-drinking enjoyment and it brings plenty of that. **Best Buy.** —S.S.

abv: 13%

Price: \$11

SWEET WHITE WINES

93 Chateau Ste. Michelle & Dr. Loosen 2013 Single Berry Select Riesling (Columbia Valley).

This nearly nine-year-old wine is the color of brown sugar. The aromas seem subdued, with notes of flower and citrus. Rich, sweet, intense, layered flavors followed. The finish is near endless. One would like more aromatic expression, but the palate delivers. —S.S.

abv: 7.5%

Price: \$200/375 ml

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle & Dr. Loosen 2019 Eroica Gold Riesling (Columbia Valley). The aromas bring notes of wilted rose, diesel and ripe peach. Medium-sweet stone-fruit flavors follow, lingering on the finish. —S.S.

abv: 10.5%

Price: \$30/500 ml

OTHER WHITE WINES

91 Grosgrain 2021 Philips Vineyard Albariño (Walla Walla Valley). A variety that is an extreme rarity in the valley, this wine was fermented and aged in concrete egg (42%), neutral barrel (30%) and the rest stainless steel. Much of the appeal is about its textural richness and layering, to pair with its reserved notes of fig, pineapple and herb. It's full bodied, with the acid to pull it all off. It doesn't scream Albariño necessarily, just flat out goodness. —S.S.

abv: 14%

Price: \$26

90 Gramercy 2021 Picpoul (Walla Walla Valley). Walla Walla Valley whites are a relative rarity but an increasing number of wineries are working with them. Appealing aromas of herb, lemon pith and wet stone lead to a fuller feeling but still brisk, acid-driven palate. Due to the warmth of

the year, there's less midpalate intensity and overall acidic lift than recent vintages, but still with a whole lot to enjoy. Pair it with ahi nachos. —S.S.

abv: 13%

Price: \$22

90 Kerloo 2021 Blue Mountain Vineyard Grenache Blanc (Walla Walla Valley). This wine was fermented 100% whole cluster, with 60% in concrete and 40% in neutral barrel with no malolactic fermentation. Subtle, appealing aromas of mineral, wax and citrus zest lead to pleasing medium-bodied flavors. Historically, this wine takes some time to blossom. This one will too. Give a bit of bottle time or a short decant. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 12.9%

Price: \$26

89 Muret-Gaston 2021 Boushey Vineyard Picpoul (Yakima Valley). A seldom seen variety coming from one of the state's top Rhône sites, aromas of Jolly Rancher, citrus and herb lead to bright, puckering, acid-driven flavors. Pair it with pasta with shellfish in a white wine and shallot sauce. —S.S.

abv: 13.1%

Price: \$32

88 Muret-Gaston 2021 Boushey Vineyard Grenache Blanc (Yakima Valley). This 100% varietal wine comes from one of the state's top Rhône sites and was fermented and aged in concrete. The aromas aren't particularly revealing, with notes of citrus and wet stone. Medium-bodied flavors follow, with tart notes on the finish. —S.S.

abv: 13.3%

Price: \$32

87 Sagelands 2021 Pinot Gris (Columbia Valley). The aromas bring notes of Vaseline, apple and melon. Broad-feeling flavors follow. It's a straightforward, easy drinker. **Best Buy.** —S.S.

abv: 12.6%

Price: \$10

87 Waterbrook 2021 Pinot Gris (Columbia Valley). Generous, very varietal aromas of fresh melon, pear and apple lead to a crisp palate with a lot of fruit flavor. There's much to enjoy. **Best Buy.** —S.S.

abv: 13.2%

Price: \$11

SPARKLING WINES

92 Morell-Peña 2018 Blanc de Blancs Zero Dosage Méthode Champenoise (Royal Slope). 100% Chardonnay, the aromas are lively and inviting, with notes of brioche, pear, cinnamon, citrus and autolytic notes. The palate is rich and flavorful while remaining light on its feet, with brisk lemony acidity keeping it all in focus, with bitters on the finish. It's a knockout. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 11.6%

Price: \$45

91 Grosgrain 2021 Kiona Vineyard Old Vine Pétillant Natural Lemberger (Red Mountain). Coming from some of the first vines planted on Red Mountain in 1976, this wine has developed a well-deserved cult following. The aromas bring notes of brioche, poached pear and yellow apple. Brisk, lively

flavors follow. As always, it's a complete delight. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 12.2%

Price: \$30

91 Morell-Peña 2018 Blanc de Noirs Méthode Champenoise Zero Dosage (Royal Slope). This is all Pinot Noir from Solaksen Vineyard. The aromas boast notes of pear, raspberry, citrus, apricot and autolytic notes. The flavors show intensity and weight, with more than enough acidity to pull it off. It's an attention-getter. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 12.3%

Price: \$45

91 Morell-Peña 2019 Méthode Champenoise Zero Dosage Rosé (Royal Slope). This is a blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Solaksen Vineyard, with some of the fruit fermented in amphorae. Subdued aromas of blood orange and mineral lead to a lively palate that shows a lot of depth of flavor. It impresses. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 12.4%

Price: \$50

89 Block Wines NV Extra Brut Rosé Farmhouse Block Marchant Vineyard (Yakima Valley). Pinot Noir is a rarity in Washington, with most of what's harvested used for sparkling wines like this. Here the aromas bring notes of herb, pear, strawberry and biscuit. A light, bright bubbly palate follows. What it lacks in seriousness it makes up for in straight-up enjoyment. —S.S.

abv: 12%

Price: \$30

89 Tirridis NV Method Traditional Blanc de Blanc (Yakima Valley). This is all Chardonnay coming from fruit from Yakima Valley, where fragrant aromas of lemon, pear and baked bread lead to a palate loaded with elegant fruit flavors and well-balanced lemony acidity. The mousse is light; otherwise there's much to enjoy. —S.S.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$24

88 Balboa 2021 Sparkling Rosé (Columbia Valley). Light aromas of strawberry and rhubarb lead to fuller feeling, fresh, frothy flavors. There's plenty of enjoyment to be had. —S.S.

abv: 13.3%

Price: \$30

88 Tirridis NV Method Traditional Blanc de Gris (Columbia Valley). All Pinot Gris, the aromas bring notes of apple skin and pear followed by dry fruit flavors. The mousse is very light on an otherwise delightful wine. —S.S.

abv: 11.9%

Price: \$27

ROSÉS

93 Devison 2021 East of the Sun Boushey Vineyard Rosé (Yakima Valley). Devison sets the bar for serious rosé made in Washington. This is 78% Mourvèdre and 22% Grenache aged in concrete and neutral French oak. Captivating aromas of yellow strawberry, pepper, cantaloupe, peach skin, crushed rock and grapefruit peel lead to a textured palate that brings volume and richness along with vivid acidity to perfectly put it all in frame. It per-

sists on the finish. The complete package—it's an outrageously delicious wine. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

90 **Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Le Rosé (Columbia Valley).** Grenache (69%) and Mourvèdre (19%) make up the majority of this wine. It's so pale in color it could almost pass as a white. The aromas are reserved, with notes of melon rind and yellow strawberry. Dry, medium-bodied flavors follow, with an uptick of acid on the finish, stitching it all together. Though one would like to see more aromatic expression, the palate more than makes up for it. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

90 **Grosgrain 2021 Blush Rosé (Walla Walla Valley).** This is 100% Grenache, fermented and aged in concrete egg (65%) and stainless steel. So light in color it could pass for a white wine, the aromas are quite reserved, while the palate is medium bodied and flavorful. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$22

90 **Portlandia 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley).** For full review see page 24. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$18

89 **Purple Star 2021 Rosé (Yakima Valley).** So pale in color it could pass as a white wine, the aromas offer quiet notes of peach and herb. Medium-bodied flavors follow, with just enough acid to back them up. A warm finish caps it off. —S.S.
abv: 13.7% **Price:** \$20

88 **Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley).** This wine is 55% Syrah, 43% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Grenache. Quite pale-peach colored, the aromas suggest notes of cherry, tangerine rind and whiffs of whole melon. Plentiful kiwi and pineapple flavors follow that are rich, with a suggestion of sweetness. *Best Buy.* —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$11

88 **DeLille 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley).** Grenache (49%) makes up the majority of this wine, followed by Mourvèdre (46%) and Cinsault. Pale-salmon colored, the aromas offer pleasing notes of strawberry, lime zest, rhubarb, and orange rind. Full-bodied flavors follow, getting a bit bogged down. It finishes warm. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$32

88 **Kerloo 2021 Lonesome Springs Ranch Rosé (Yakima Valley).** This is a blend of 60% Mourvèdre, 35% Grenache and 5% Counoise. Given two-and-a-half hours of skin contact and then pressed to concrete cubes, it shows substantial reduction out of the gate that distracts. Light, tart flavors follow, delivering a lot of goodness. The reduction clears with substantial time. If reduced, decant or use a copper penny to clear it. —S.S.
abv: 11.7% **Price:** \$24

88 **Roaming Dog 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon Rosé (Columbia Valley).** Pale-salmon color, the

aromas show notes of orange rind and yellow strawberry. A lighter bodied, cherry-filled palate follows, with a touch of sugar. It could use more acid to fully stand it up, but it's tasty all the same. —S.S.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$15

88 **Seven Hills Winery 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley).** This rosé is an appealing pale-peach color. The aromas bring notes of whole green pepper, pea pod, strawberry and citrus. Dry, lighter styled citrus and pepper flavors follow. Traditionally, this wine starts out a bit green and then settles with additional time in bottle. That will likely hold true here too. —S.S.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

86 **L'Ecole No. 41 2021 Alder Ridge Vineyard Grenache Rosé (Horse Heaven Hills).** This is dark in color for this wine: deep-salmon with orange undertones that cause some aesthetic distraction. The aromas bring notes of strawberry, orange rind and dried herb. A flavorful, medium-plus body palate follows, with plentiful satsuma flavors. It seems weighty at times. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

86 **Old Tavern Farm 2021 Farm Fresh Rosé (Columbia Valley).** Pale-pink with some bricking, the aromas bring notes of herb and rhubarb. Broad-feeling flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$22

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

95 **Quilceda Creek 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** This is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, with fruit coming from Champoux and Mach One vineyards in the Horse Heaven Hills. Aged 20 months in 100% new French oak, the aromas offer notes of dried and fresh herb, incense, cassis, bittersweet chocolate, barrel spice and dark fruit, all still locked up tightly but well delineated. Rich, layered flavors follow. It shows the grace of the vintage but also the intensity of the producer and appellation. Best after 2030. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$200

94 **Betz Family 2019 Heart of the Hill Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain).** This a reserve-level offering, focusing on a singular site on Red Mountain. The aromas bring luxurious notes of black cherry, dark chocolate, sandalwood, flower and assorted spices, showing detail. The flavors are plump but restrained, with the tannins soft and combed to a fine sheen. There's a lot of freshness to it that ups the enjoyment. This is much more about velvet than the hammer—part throwback wine and part one foot firmly planted in the present. Classy stuff. Best from 2026–2034. Decant if drinking in the nearer term. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$120

94 **Mark Ryan 2019 Lonely Heart Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain).** For full review see page 8. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 15% **Price:** \$100

93 **DeLille 2018 Grand Ciel Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain).** This is a single-vineyard, single-varietal wine. Aged 20 months in 100% new French oak, the aromas bring notes of cocoa, vanilla, chocolate, black currant, mineral and dark fruit. There's richness and intensity to the dark-fruit flavors, with plenty of structure behind them while still keeping it all in balance. It's polished and classy. Best from 2028 to 2035, with plenty of life beyond that. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$160

93 **Goose Mountain by Goose Ridge 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon (Goose Gap).** For full review see page 10. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 15% **Price:** \$75

93 **Mark Ryan 2019 Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** For full review see page 11. *Editors' Choice.*
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$80

93 **Matthews 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** Sometimes it's about the velvet glove and sometimes it's just the enjoyment of the hammer. Three-quarters varietal, with the rest Cabernet Franc (13%), Merlot (11%) and Malbec, aromas of black fruit, bittersweet chocolate and baking spice lead to rich, full-feeling flavors that show depth, intensity and layering. It's bold but well balanced, with a lingering finish. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$34

93 **Matthews 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain).** Almost 100% varietal, fruit for this wine comes from five sites across the mountain. The aromas offer notes of cocoa powder, vanilla, sweet spice, mineral, cherry and plum, with fruit and barrel intermingling. Dense black-currant and black-cherry flavors follow, with a lot structure around them. It's classic Red Mountain and spot on for the vintage. Give it time or decant. Best after 2025. *Cellar Selection.* —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$60

93 **Pepper Bridge 2018 Estate Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley).** For full review see page 12. *Cellar Selection.*
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

92 **Betz Family 2019 Père de Famille Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** This is a blend of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Petit Verdot and 10% Merlot. The aromas are locked up out of the gate, with notes of violets, bay leaf, pink peppercorn, crushed flower, orange rind, dried herb, cinnamon stick and fruit leather emerging over time. Chocolate notes linger in the background. Black- and red-fruit flavors follow, textured but reserved. It ramps up in intensity the longer its open. A long

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finish caps it off. Enjoy from 2026–2033. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

92 Columbia Winery 2017 L2X Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). For full review see page 14.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$110

92 Efeste 2019 Big Papa Cabernet Sauvignon (White Bluffs). All of the fruit for this wine comes from vines planted at least 30 years ago. Bittersweet-chocolate, baking-spice, dried herb, scorched earth, green-pepper and cherry aromas lead to a structure palate, chock full of dark-fruit flavors. Fruit and barrel intertwine on the long finish. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

92 Prospice 2019 Phinny Hill Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Horse Heaven Hills). While Phinny Hill has long been a part of this winery's Cabernet program, this is its first time offering a designated wine from this site—increasingly considered among the best in Washington. The aromas capture the attention, with notes of cherry, black raspberry, scorched earth and licorice. The palate is flavorful and shows the prettiness of the vintage, with no shortage of intensity and a real focus on the fruit. Compelling stuff. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50

92 Saviah 2018 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from Anna Marie and McClellan Estate vineyards. The aromas bring reserved notes of cedar, dried herb, cherry and baking spice. The fuller feeling flavors demonstrate restraint and class. Chocolate notes linger on the long finish. Best after 2026. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$45

91 DeLille 2020 Métier Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). For full review see page 18. **Editors' Choice.**
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30

91 DeLille 2019 Four Flags Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). Grand Ciel and Upchurch vineyards each make up 36% of this wine, with the rest Ciel (15%) and Klipsun. The aromas draw you into the glass, with notes of black raspberry, cigar box, fresh and dried herb and plentiful barrel spices. The palate shows the elegance and prettiness of the vintage, with abundant tannic support around that. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$75

91 Efeste 2019 Taylor Mag Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). Red Mountain wines are commanding increasingly steep tariffs, making this wine a terrific value. The aromas bring notes of dried and savory herb, bittersweet chocolate, cedar and black cherry. Pitch-black flavors follow. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

91 Pamplin 2018 Elephant Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This is a new offering from the winery, coming from a vineyard in the Rattlesnake Hills. Aromas of dark raspberry, cedar, graphite, licorice and herb lead to smooth, textured feeling, well-balanced red- and black-fruit flavors. It's delicious, showing this producer's hallmark sophistication. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$65

91 Soos Creek 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). It's rare to find high-quality Red Mountain fruit at this tariff. A blend of fruit from Ciel du Cheval (80%) and Klipsun, the aromas are all about direct, primary fruit, with notes of fresh black currant, plum and dried herb. The palate mixes fruit and herb, with lightly tacky feeling tannins. It's tasty. Give it some additional bottle time or decant. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30

91 Soos Creek 2019 Ciel du Cheval Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). Fruit for this wine comes from one of the state's most highly regarded sites. Blended with 20% Cabernet Franc, the aromas provide appeal, with notes of cedar, orange twist, whole green pepper, cinnamon stick and red fruit, as the fruit mixes with the savory. The flavors are plump feeling but reserved, showing polish and class. It's a pleasing mix of the coolness of the vintage and the warmth of the appellation. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$40

91 Soos Creek 2019 Le Tastevin Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). This is a blend of fruit from Ciel du Cheval (56%), Ranch at the End of the Road (40%) and Klipsun. The aromas bring notes of cinnamon, Golden Raisin, dried cherry, satsuma and dried herb. The black-fruit flavors are generous, with sandy tannins backing it up. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$30

91 Starside 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). The Starside is a consistent value standout, and this vintage does not disappoint. The aromas aren't fully ready to reveal themselves, with subdued notes of spice, scorched earth and black fruit. The palate meanwhile packs a wallop of rich-dark fruit flavors. It's all about hedonism and this brings it in abundance. Decant. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$25

91 Upchurch 2019 LTL Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). Flower, black-fruit, vanilla and cocoa aromas lead to generous dark-fruit flavors that stretch out on the palate. There's a lot of tannic structure behind it, with fruit and barrel playing equal parts. Vanilla notes linger on the finish. Give time in bottle or a very long decant. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$32

91 Upchurch 2019 Vintage 10 Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). The aromas bring notes of

vanilla, cinnamon and wood spice, followed by dark fruit. Fuller bodied fruit and barrel intertwine on the palate, lending a creamy feel. The tannins bring some grit initially, smoothing with time. The oak is surprisingly far out front for this producer, but there's good stuffing behind it. Best after 2027. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$78

90 Alleromb 2018 Scarline Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Coming from a site on the recently approved Royal Slope, the aromas are locked up out of the gate, with notes of plum, spice and herb. The flavors are full in feel, leading to a warmth finish. —S.S.
abv: 15.4% **Price:** \$70

90 Balboa 2016 Eidolon Estate Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley). Wines from this vintage always needed time, making it a pleasure to taste one that has it. Coming from a site planted in 1999 in the Rocks District, the aromas are beguiling, with notes of cedar, graphite, black cherry, plum, dark raspberry and savory herb, showing nuance and detail. The flavors show the restraint and prettiness of the vintage. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

90 Efeste 2019 Lil' Mama Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). This is the first offering of this 100% varietal wine. The aromas are fruit-forward, with notes of raspberry compote, dried herb, whole green pepper and spice, showing some reduction. Full-feeling red- and blue-fruit flavors follow. It's a big ol' bowl of fruit made in a fruit-forward, opulent style. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$25

90 Matthews 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Royal Slope). Aromas of struck match, red and black cherry and cedar lead to plum and pit-fruit flavors that are lighter through the middle initially. There's plenty of tannic structure behind it. Give it time to fully come together. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$60

90 Muret-Gaston 2016 Heart of the Hill Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). A full six years old, the aromas mix notes of green herb, plum, sea salt and cardamom. The dark-fruit flavors are reserved, showing the restraint of the vintage. There's plenty of tannic structure to back it all up. It still needs time to show its best. Drink after 2025. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$80

90 Saviah 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from McClellan, Pepper Bridge, Dugger Creek and Anna Marie vineyards. The aromas bring notes of blue fruit, char, herb and espresso, while the palate is medium bodied and graceful, with coffee notes threaded throughout. There's a whole lot of value to be had. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

89 Alder Ridge 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon (Horse Heaven Hills). Fruit for this wine comes from the winery's eponymous vineyard. Baking-spice aromas are out front, followed by notes of vanilla bean, black cherry and coconut, with the oak at the fore. Black-cherry flavors follow, true to the vintage, lighter in style, with plentiful barrel accents. Fruit and barrel walk hand in hand, with the oak sometimes getting ahead. —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$35

89 Gård 2018 Grand Klasse Reserve Lawrence Estate Wines Lawrence Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Barrel aromas of vanilla bean and baking spice are out front, followed by red and black fruit. Full-bodied dark-fruit flavors follow, with plentiful barrel notes throughout giving it a creamy feel. Fruit and barrel play leading parts, with the oak often getting to the fore. —S.S.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$65

89 Gård 2018 Lawrence Estate Wines Cabernet Sauvignon (Royal Slope). The aromas are unusual, with the notes of cigar box, savory herb, vanilla, herb and spice. Full-bodied flavors follow, with a smooth feel. It shows warmth on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$45

88 Caprio Cellars 2019 Red Label Cabernet Sauvignon (Walla Walla Valley). Blended with 18% Merlot and 4% Cabernet Franc, aromas of green pepper, herb and black cherry are followed by lighter styled flavors, with pleasing acidity on the finish. Very well crafted, it shows the elegance of the vintage. It's light but classy. Give it time in bottle to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$48

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2018 Red Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain). The aromas bring notes of struck match, powdered chocolate, butterscotch hard candy and cherry. The cherry flavors are plump and center focused. It finishes oddly tart, with abundant barrel notes. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50

88 Gård 2018 The Don Lawrence Estate Wines Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Blended with 16% Syrah, the aromas bring notes of orange rind, flower, cherry, smoke and plum. The flavors are plump feeling and quite ripe, with soft tannins. A kiss of smoke runs throughout. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$25

88 Soos Creek 2019 Terrible Beauty Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This is 100% varietal and sourced from Ciel du Cheval, Elephant Mountain and Klipsun vineyards. The aromas bring notes of struck match, prune box, cinnamon, dark fruit, dried rose and spice box. Lighter styled flavors follow, dipping in the middle and showing some greenness on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$35

87 Arenness Cellars 2019 Dionysus Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). The

aromas offer tire-rubber reduction along with a touch of volatility. Beyond that are notes of plum, baking and red cherry. The palate is light, tart and flavorful. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$44

87 Purple Star 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This vintage finished quite cool, and this wine seems to show some effects of that, with aromas of braised green pepper, dried flower and black currant. Lighter styled flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

87 Six Prong 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Horse Heaven Hills). The aromas bring muted notes of medicine cabinet, red fruit and herb. The palate is elegant in style, with lightly smoky flavors and oceanic notes on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 13.92% **Price:** \$15

82 Washington Hills 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Washington). The aromas bring notes of freshly sliced jalapeño and banana pepper, followed by citrus. Very light orange and green-pepper flavors follow. The variety is impossible to place and it comes off as extremely green. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$10

MERLOT

93 Upchurch 2019 LTL Merlot (Red Mountain). 2019 was a banner year for Washington Merlot, and this is yet another example. A side project from Upchurch Vineyards, aromas of cocoa, scorched earth, black cherry, blueberry and whiffs of baking spice lead to plump, broad-feeling flavors that show depth and layering. There's plenty of tannic structure to support all that goodness. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$30

92 Prospice 2019 Merlot (Walla Walla Valley). Seeing just 29% new French oak, the focus here is squarely on the fruit. The aromas are effusive, with notes of raspberry and dried sage, showing delineation. It's bright, fresh and plush in feel, offering everything that there is to love about Walla Walla Valley Merlot. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

88 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2018 Canoe Ridge Estate Merlot (Horse Heaven Hills). The aromas bring notes of green herb, cherry and tire rubber. The flavors are center focused and very ripe, trailing toward the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$24

MALBEC

87 Efeste 2019 James Vineyard Malbec (Wahluke Slope). 100% varietal, the aromas offer notes of wintergreen, whole, ripe tangerine, green herb and plum. The plum flavors are plump and

fresh, with a high thread count and a slightly gritty feel. It finishes bitter. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$45

87 Ott & Hunter 2019 Boushey Vineyard Malbec (Yakima Valley). This wine spent 27 months in neutral oak barrels, with the wood leaving an impression. The aromas bring notes of baking spice, cranberry and cherry. A light, tart, flavorful palate follows, with the acid driving it. The tannins give a firm, slightly green squeeze. It's interesting but impossible to place as Malbec. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$40

87 Purple Star 2019 Malbec (Columbia Valley). Though it's not labeled as such, fruit for this wine comes from Yakima Valley. Brooding aromas of blue fruit, black pepper and spice lead to lighter seeming, bunched-up fruit flavors that are broader in the middle, lighter around the edges. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

SYRAH

93 Delmas 2019 SJR Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). One sniff and the appellation is unmistakable, with its hallmark notes of potpourri, green olive, fresh parsley, boysenberry, firepit and orange rind. The palate boasts elegant, soft blue-fruit flavors and plentiful savory accents. The finish is lengthy, with coffee notes throughout. True to this producer, it's all about sophistication and nuance. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$75

93 Devison 2019 Crow's Feet Southwind Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). This wine was fermented 30% cluster, left on skins for a month then pressed to second fill French puncheons and aged 18 months. The aromas explode from the glass, with notes of purple fruit, flower, crushed rock, green olive, tapenade, gun metal and bacon fat. The palate is full in feel, but still dances lightly, with minerality and verve. The finish is near endless. I have not tasted another valley Syrah quite like it. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$49

92 Gård 2018 Grand Klasse Reserve Lawrence Vineyards Syrah (Royal Slope). The Royal Slope has quickly established itself as one of the state's premier sites for Syrah, and this is another terrific example. The aromas offer brooding notes of gun smoke, smoked meat, medicine, green olive, cedar and brine. Full-bodied flavors follow, showing richness and depth. It's tightly wound at present. Decant. —S.S.
abv: 15.1% **Price:** \$60

91 Efeste 2019 Ceidleigh Estate Angela's Vineyard Syrah (Red Mountain). This is always a unique offering of this variety from the mountain, showing a profile not seen elsewhere in the area. Aromas of purple fruit, stem, barrel spice, flower and whiffs of raspberry lead to full-bodied, luxuri-

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ous fruit flavors. It shows depth and richness. Give it a long decant. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$48

91 Ott & Hunter 2019 Tablas Creek Boushey Vineyard Syrah (Yakima Valley). Cofermented with 19% Viognier and aged 19 months in neutral French oak, the aromas explode with notes of blueberry pie, boysenberry, flower and thistle. Plush-feeling, palate-coating flavors follow. Like many wines from this vintage, it's lighter in the midpalate than most vintages from Washington, but it more than makes up for it with flavor and balance. It's all about outright deliciousness. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

91 The Royal Bull 2018 Abdication Syrah (Columbia Valley). This is a 50-50 blend of fruit from Lawrence and Stoneridge vineyards, both in the recently approved Royal Slope appellation. Green and Kalamata olive aromas are out front, followed by notes of savory herb and smoked meat. Full-feeling, lightly creamy flavors follow, bringing richness. Like many Syrahs from this area, it leans hard into the savory. —S.S.
abv: 16.1% **Price:** \$90

90 10,000 Hours 2019 Syrah (Red Mountain). The aromas are effusive, with notes of dark plum, ham hock, blueberry, olive, dried herb and spice. Full-bodied, dense blue- and black-fruit flavors lead to a warm finish. It's an unabashedly full-throttle wine. If that's what you're looking for, look no further. —S.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$35

89 Eight Bells 2018 8 Clones Red Willow Vineyard Syrah (Yakima Valley). The vineyard is immediately apparent, with its aromas of char and roasted meat, along with some reduction and medicine. The flavors are full but still deft, with a lightly gritty feel. —S.S.
abv: NA **Price:** \$40

89 Naches Heights 2019 NHV Syrah (Naches Heights). Fruit for this wine comes from one of the younger and more fascinating appellations in Washington—one that sits on a plateau of an ancient lava flow at high elevation. The aromas offer notes of struck match, tire rubber, dried and fresh herb, showing some reduction. The flavors are lighter styled and center-focused initially, broadening over time. There's plenty of promise here, partially realized. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$26

89 Ott & Hunter 2019 Boushey Vineyard Syrah (Yakima Valley). Fruit for this wine is a blend of clones 174 and 877, coming from the Goldenview block and fermented 30% whole cluster. The aromas bring notes of plum, spice, medicine and blue fruit. Lighter styled but pleasing flavors follow, lingering on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$36

88 Columbia Winery 2019 Syrah (Columbia Valley). Barrel notes are up front on the aromas, with plentiful notes of spice in front of dark berry, with the fruit seeming slightly stewed. Quite ripe, full-bodied flavors follow, with the ripeness seeming to carry it away. —S.S.
abv: 15.6% **Price:** \$40

88 Columbia Winery 2018 Red Willow Syrah (Yakima Valley). Complete with a throwback to the original label, this is a 30th anniversary bottle of the first Syrah ever made in the state from this producer and site. One sniff, and it is immediately identifiable as Red Willow, with aromas full of char, bacon fat, berry and herb, along with a medicinal note. Full-bodied flavors follow that hang on the finish. A cough-syrup note from the smoke in this vintage provides some distraction. It's a shame, as the fruit behind it is impressive. —S.S.
abv: 15.6% **Price:** \$60

88 Efeste 2019 Jolie Bouche Syrah (Yakima Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from the winery's estate site next to famed Boushey Vineyard. The aromas bring notes of brown stem, cigar stub, dried herb and olive, with the stem influence dominating at present. The palate shows more of the same, with stem flavors persisting on the finish, lacking harmony. Give it significant time in bottle to see if the stems integrate. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$48

88 Kerloo 2019 Resurgent Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). Cofermented with 2% Viognier, stem aromas are up front, with notes of cigar butt and dried flower. Lighter styled flavors follow, with a tacky feel and medicine notes throughout. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 13.4% **Price:** \$57

88 Muret-Gaston 2017 Edythe Mae Vineyard Syrah (Yakima Valley). The aromas suggest green olive, char, black fruit and iron. Fuller bodied flavors follow. Medicinal notes linger on the tart finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$50

88 Ott & Hunter 2019 Winesap Road Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). Fruit from this wine comes from a site in the Rocks District, though the area doesn't show its hallmark notes. Aromas of cranberry and cherry lead to plump, pleasing fruit flavors. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$40

88 Saviah 2019 The Funk Estate Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). Blended with 4% Viognier, the aromas immediately announce this wine as from the Rocks District, with notes of firepit, green olive, dried orange rind, medicine and plum. The concentration seems light, and the flavors medicinal on an otherwise interesting wine. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$70

88 Saviah 2018 Lewis Vineyard Syrah (Yakima Valley). Coming from a vineyard at 1,250

feet in elevation, high by the standard of most vineyards in the area, the aromas bring notes of cherry cola, medicine and herb. Given the vintage, the intensity seems light. It brings some grittiness that distracts. —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$50

87 Gramercy 2018 Lower East Syrah (Columbia Valley). Aromas of brown stem, Robitussin cough syrup, flower and smoke lead to flavors that show elegance, texture and detail. A medicinal note lingers for a long time on the finish. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

87 Purple Vine 2016 Syrah (Washington). The aromas are generous, with notes of huckleberry, flower, black cherry and medicine. Smooth flavors follow. Drink now. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$14

86 Purple Star 2016 Syrah (Columbia Valley). Almost a full six years in, aromas of black cherry, spice and tire rubber lead to full-bodied dark-fruit flavors made in a richer style. It seems to be dropping off. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

GRENACHE

92 Alleromb 2018 Corfu Crossing Vineyard Grenache (Columbia Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from the recently approved Royal Slope appellation, made from Tablas Creek clone and Clone 3. Aged 21 months in 30% new 500-liter French oak, aromas of dark raspberry, cedar and herb lead to evenly balanced red-fruit flavors that persist on the finish. It shows a lot of depth, kicking it up a notch. Drink it at a cool 62 to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$62

90 Grosgrain 2020 Red Heaven Vineyard Grenache (Horse Heaven Hills). This wine was 10% whole-cluster fermented and aged in neutral French oak. It is light in color and cloudy from a lack of filtration. The aromas are reserved, with notes of herb, red berry and whiffs of white pepper. Light, juicy red-fruit flavors follow. Drink it with a slight chill to see this chuggable wine shine. —S.S.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$36

88 Ott & Hunter 2019 Sugarloaf Vineyard Grenache (Rattlesnake Hills). Aged for 17 months in neutral *barrique*, the aromas offer notes of dark raspberry, pepper and plum. The blue- and red-fruit flavors are light in intensity and graceful, with a pleasing finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$40

RED BLENDS

94 Betz Family 2019 Clos de Betz (Columbia Valley). This is a glorious offering of this Merlot-dominant blend, featuring a whopping 28% Petit Verdot and 21% Cabernet Sauvignon. Aromas

of cocoa, plum, spice, licorice, chocolate, flower and moist earth lead to plush, palate-coating flavors that show precision and detail and sneaky intensity that only ramps up over time. The finish goes on and on. It's gorgeous—among the best the winery has made in the last decade. Best from 2026–2032. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$85

93 DeLille 2019 Chaleur Estate (Red Mountain).

This is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon (64%), Merlot (24%), Cabernet Franc (10%) and Petit Verdot. The aromas pull you into the glass, with notes of scorched earth, bittersweet chocolate, cocoa, dark fruit, barrel spice and black plum. A flavorful palate full of dark-fruit follows, with some green notes threaded throughout adding detail. Best after 2027. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$90

93 Eight Bells 2017 David's Block Red Willow Vineyard (Yakima Valley).

Fruit for this wine comes from a site designed by Master of Wine David Lake, with 10 clones of Cabernet Sauvignon and three clones of Cabernet Franc as well as other varieties. A blend of 59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 13% Petite Verdot, 9% Malbec and 5% Cabernet Franc, the aromas are immediately accessible and appealing, with notes of black currant, herb and cherry. The palate is pure, bright and flavorful, showing layering and texture. It's near irresistible now but has plenty of time in front of it. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$42

93 Mark Ryan 2019 Water Witch (Red Mountain).

For full review see page 11. **Editors' Choice.** **abv:** 14.9% **Price:** \$70

93 Pepper Bridge 2018 Pepper Bridge Vineyard (Walla Walla Valley).

Merlot (38%), Malbec (31%) and Cabernet Sauvignon (22%) make up the heart of this wine, with the rest Petit Verdot. The aromas are vibrant, with notes of plum, cherry, chocolate, herb and spice. There's plenty of fruit flavors on the palate, along with ample, tightly wound tannins. True to the Merlot, Malbec and vintage, it has a high thread count—a bottle of goodness. Best from 2024–2030. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

93 Pepper Bridge 2018 Trine Estate Vineyards (Walla Walla Valley).

Cabernet Sauvignon (40%) and Cabernet Franc (38%) take the lead on this wine, with the rest Merlot (11%), Malbec (7%) and Petit Verdot (4%). The aromas are locked up out of the gate, with notes of cherry, dried herb and raspberry. The palate is seamless, layered and sophisticated, with well-integrated tannin structure supporting it all. Best from 2026–2035. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$70

92 Columbia Winery 2019 Vision (Columbia Valley).

For full review see page 14. **Editors' Choice.** **abv:** 15.3% **Price:** \$45

92 DeLille 2019 Harrison Hill (Snipes Mountain).

This is a blend of 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, and 12% Cabernet Franc, coming from some of the oldest vines in the state planted in the 1960s. Aromas of bay leaf, black currant, green pepper and raspberry lead to elegant fruit flavors that show sophistication, intensity and a lot of acidity. Some wines shout it out. This one makes you lean in and pay close attention to fully appreciate its charms. But they are bountiful. It's classic old school Washington, showing a lot of grace. Enjoy from 2026–2032. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$110

92 Eight Bells 2019 Southern Voyage (Yakima Valley).

This is rare blend of near equal parts Boushey and Red Willow Vineyards—two of the very top Rhône variety sites in the state. With 58% Grenache, 23% Mourvèdre and 19% Syrah, the aromas pop, with notes of white and black pepper, berry and dried herb. The red-fruit flavors are sophisticated and flavorful, dancing lightly while delivering intensity. It walks the tightrope exquisitely. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$40

92 Goose Ridge 2019 Great Smoky Mountains Artist Series (Goose Gap).

This is a Merlot-driven wine coming from sites high up on Goose Hill. The aromas bring brooding notes of dark berry, sweet barrel spice, chocolate and mineral. Seamless flavors follow, demonstrating richness and polish, with the prettiness of the vintage tying it all together. The fruit and the barrel intertwine. Give it some time in bottle for the oak to fully meld. Best after 2026. **Cellar Selection.** —S.S.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$54

92 Grosgrain 2020 Petit Grosgrain (Columbia Valley).

Grenache makes up 53% of this wine and Syrah 45%, with the rest Tempranillo. The aromas offer achingly pure notes of raspberry, blueberry and flower. A plump palate follows, loaded with soft, textured fruit flavors. It's flat out beautiful. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$24

92 Matthews 2019 Cuvée (Red Mountain).

This was a strong vintage for Merlot-focused wines, and this is another tasty example. Just over half Merlot with the rest near equal parts Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, the aromas bring pleasing notes of vanilla, baking spice, plum, raspberry, cedar and café au lait. Plump, pleasing flavors follow with the appellation's renowned structure providing plenty of support. Coffee notes linger on the finish. Give it time in bottle to see it at its best. —S.S.

abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

92 Prospice 2019 BDX (White Bluffs).

This is another new offering from the winery, a blend of 55% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Cabernet Franc and 2% Petit Verdot. Each of them sing in harmony on the aroma, with notes of chocolate, cedar, dried herb and purple flower. The

flavors are fresh, sumptuous and textured in feel. It's very, very pretty. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$65

92 The Royal Bull 2018 No Bull (Columbia Valley).

This is a blend of two-thirds Syrah and one-third Malbec, with fruit coming from Lawrence and StoneTree Vineyards on the Royal Slope. Aromas of green olive, berry, char and dark plum lead to plush, velvety, full-bodied fruit flavors. It's all about unabashed hedonism, and it brings plenty of it. —S.S.

abv: 15.6% **Price:** \$45

91 Cana's Feast 2019 Bricco Red (Columbia Valley).

This is a glorious vintage of this wine, which is a blend of Sangiovese (73%), Primitivo (11%), Barbera (9%), Nebbiolo (5%) and Syrah. The aromas are pleasing, with notes of red berry, dried herb, cherry and a whiff of reduction. Bright, focused, juicy red-fruit flavors follow. Pair it with your favorite Italian fare. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$20

91 Eight Bells 2018 Old Salt Red Willow Vineyard (Yakima Valley).

This is a blend of two-thirds Sangiovese and one-third Cabernet Sauvignon. The aromas are directly appealing, with notes of dark raspberry, dried herb and cherry. Light, sumptuous cranberry and cherry flavors follow, with the acid driving it. Pizza or pasta anyone? **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$30

91 Gramercy 2018 Lower East The Bowery (Columbia Valley).

This is a blend of 46% Carignan, 29% Mourvèdre, 15% Grenache and 10% Syrah. The aromas offer notes of soot, cigar box, fresh herb, violet and blue fruit. Soft, plump, exquisitely balanced fruit flavors follow, sailing on the raspberry and herb-filled finish. It shows a lot of elegance and detail, along with straight up enjoyment. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$28

91 Kevin White 2019 L'Odyssee (Yakima Valley).

A new offering, this is a blend of 54% Cabernet Franc and 46% Merlot, with the fruit hailing from two of the state's top sites—Red Willow and Boushey. The aromas offer notes of spice box, dark cherry, herb, milk chocolate, raspberry and vanilla bean. The restraint that this producer is known for shines through on the palate. It shows a lot of class. —S.S.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

91 Matthews 2019 Claret (Royal Slope).

This is a new offering from the winery. A blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot, and 4% Cabernet Franc, the aromas offer notes of vanilla bean, sautéed herb, wood spice, plum and cherry. The palate is all about freshness and vitality, with a textured feel and the flavors brightened by acidity. Have it with food to see it at its best. —S.S.

abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

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91 Matthews 2019 Cuvée (Royal Slope). This is all free-run juice fermented in concrete and stainless steel and then raised in 60% new French oak. As with its peer from Red Mountain, it's just over half Merlot, with the rest near equal parts Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. The aromas bring notes of dark chocolate, dried and fresh herb, currant, plum and assorted barrel spices. The palate is generous but still reserved, with plum and spice notes lingering on the finish. Give it a bit of time in bottle or decant to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$65

91 Matthews 2019 Cuvée (Columbia Valley). A blend of 64% Merlot, 21% Cabernet Sauvignon and 12% Cabernet Franc with the rest bits of Petit Verdot and Malbec, the aromas offer notes of sweet barrel spice, raspberry, dark fruit and herb. Creamy-feeling dark-fruit flavors follow. It delights. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$34

91 Prospice 2019 Meravina (Columbia Valley). This is a new offering for the winery. A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Petit Verdot, the aromas offer notes of fresh, savory herb, flower, carob and dark cherry. The flavors are graceful, polished and fresh. It's a complete delight and exceptionally well priced. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$30

91 Sightglass 2020 Red Wine (Columbia Valley). This is a blend of 80% Merlot, 17% Cabernet Franc and 3% Malbec, with all of the fruit coming from Stillwater Creek on the Royal Slope. Aromas of freshly roasted coffee bean and dark chocolate are at the fore, followed by blue fruit, plum and black cherry, with fruit and barrel intertwining. Rich flavors follow, showing a lightly grainy feel. It's full on hedonism and a big time value to boot. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$25

91 Sightglass 2020 Syrah-Grenache (Columbia Valley). Syrah makes up two-thirds of this wine, with the rest Grenache, with fruit coming from Stillwater Creek on the Royal Slope and Ranch at the End of the Road on Red Mountain. The aromas bring notes of char, roasted meat, white pepper and berry. The blueberry and raspberry flavors are full in feel but show a lot of elegance as well as richness. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$35

90 Alleromb 2018 La Gran Flor Scarline Vineyard (Columbia Valley). This is a blend of 90% Malbec and 10% Cabernet Franc. The aromas bring notes of freshly peeled tangerine, white pepper, herb, earth, dried flower and black plum. Ripe, full-bodied flavors follow, with a warm finish. —S.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$80

90 Caprio Cellars 2019 Eleanor Estate (Walla Walla Valley). This is a blend of 62% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 12% Malbec and

6% Cabernet Franc. Aromas of pencil eraser, fresh and dried savory herb and black cherry lead to flavors that show the sophistication of the vintage. It offers evidence of some reduction initially. Decant if drinking in the near term. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$60

90 Goose Ridge 2019 Sol Duc Goose Ridge Vineyards (Columbia Valley). This is principally Cabernet Sauvignon (64%) along with Malbec (20%), Merlot (13%), Petit Verdot (2%) and Cabernet Franc. Aged 22 months in 65% new French oak, the aromas boast notes of raspberry compote, sweet herb, pipe tobacco, cedar, rhubarb, soil and wood spice. Ripe, rounded red-fruit flavors follow, hanging on the finish. It shows the prettiness and sophistication of the vintage. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$60

90 Kevin White 2020 Red Blend (Yakima Valley). This is the winery's 'Blue Label' offering, with half of this wine being Syrah and the rest Mourvèdre (32%) and Grenache coming from some of the top sites in the valley. The aromas haven't yet blossomed, with notes of peppery spice, plum, blueberry and orange rind. True to this producer's style, the flavors are pure and give grace. It's a lot of wine for the money. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

90 Kevin White 2019 Heritage DuBrul Vineyard (Yakima Valley). This is a blend of 57% Merlot and 43% Cabernet Sauvignon, coming from one of the best sites in the state. The aromas start off with notes of vanilla and sweet barrel spices followed by black fruit and herbs. There's grace and precision to the elegantly styled red- and black-fruit flavors. The barrel notes seem very forward at present. Give it some time in bottle for them to integrate. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

90 Matthews 2019 Claret (Columbia Valley). Cabernet Sauvignon (46%) and Merlot (40%) make up most of this wine, with the rest bits of Cabernet Franc (10%), Malbec (2%) and Petit Verdot (2%). With fruit coming from the White Bluffs, Red Mountain and Royal Slope, the aromas are expressive, with notes of carob, dark raspberry, fresh herb and moist earth. The palate shows the elegance and freshness of the vintage. It is tasty stuff at an appealing price. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$34

90 Soos Creek 2019 Soleil (Columbia Valley). This is a blend of 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot and 8% Cabernet Franc. The aromas offer notes of dried orange rind, cherry, licorice and cinnamon stick. Reserved dark-cherry and golden-raisin flavors follow. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$25

89 L'Ecole No. 41 2019 Apogee Pepper Bridge Vineyard (Walla Walla Valley). This wine is 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot, 10% Malbec, and 5% Cabernet Franc. The aromas bring notes of plum, green herb, flower, cinnamon and a whiff of prune. The fruit seems similarly slightly

dried out on the palate. Tart acids finish it off, with baking spice throughout. Give it significant time in the cellar to see if the pieces meld. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$57

89 L'Ecole No. 41 2019 Perigee Estate Seven Hills Vineyard (Walla Walla Valley). Cabernet Sauvignon makes up just over half of this wine, with the rest Merlot (19%), Cabernet Franc (17%), Petit Verdot (7%) and a smidgen of Malbec (5%). The aromas are subdued, with notes of dried cherry, raspberry, chocolate and barrel spice. A full-bodied palate full of fruit and barrel flavors follow, with the latter winning out on the finish. It shows a bit of astringency that needs time to settle. There are good things happening, but they need time to meld. Best after 2026. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$57

89 Saviah 2019 Hunt & Gather (Walla Walla Valley). Cabernet Sauvignon makes up 60% of this wine, with the rest Syrah. With the fruit coming from Funk Estate, the aromas bring notes of Robitussin cough syrup, plum and cherry. Fuller feeling plum and herb flavors follow. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$55

89 SoDo 2020 Wingman G-S-M (Columbia Valley). A side project from Ryan Crane at Kerloo Cellars, this is principally Grenache (61%), with the rest equal parts Syrah, Mourvèdre and Cou-noise. Coming from a number of top sites including Les Collines, Upland, and Lonesome Springs Ranch, the aromas bring notes of plum, boysenberry and flower, showing pleasing purity. A deft, well-balanced palate follows. There's a lot of value to be had. —S.S.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$15

89 Soos Creek 2019 Artist Series #19 The Last Rodeo (Columbia Valley). Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc both make up 40% each of this wine, with the rest Merlot. Quite reserved aromas of flower, spice and cinnamon stick lead to well-balanced fruit flavors, with abundant cinnamon notes on the finish. The aromas and flavors seem disconnected on an otherwise interesting wine. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$35

89 Soos Creek 2019 Sundance (Columbia Valley). This wine is a blend of two-thirds Merlot, with Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc. Aromas of cinnamon stick, dried flower and herb lead to soft fruit flavors that trail on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$25

88 Cana's Feast 2018 Two Rivers (Columbia Valley). Merlot (37%) takes the lead, followed by Cabernet Sauvignon (28%), Cabernet Franc (17%), Malbec (16%) and Petit Verdot. The aromas offer notes of plentiful baking spice and red fruit. Svelte, creamy-feeling flavors follow. The tannins bring some grip. Decant. —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$20

88 Efeste 2019 Final-Final (Columbia Valley). A 50-50 blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah, the aromas suggest notes of green olive, wintergreen, black cherry, plum and herb. The flavors show elegance, while the tannins seem clenched. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

88 Gård 2019 Vaucluse Lawrence Estate Wines (Royal Slope). Syrah makes up 61% of this wine and Grenache 39%. The aromas bring notes of black pepper, dark-blue fruit and purple flower. The concentration of the blue-fruit flavors is light, trailing toward the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$40

88 Ott & Hunter 2019 Saratoga Whidbey Island Landmark Series (Columbia Valley). This is a blend of Syrah, Mourvèdre and Grenache. The aromas bring notes black pepper and black cherry. Lighter styled flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$30

88 Pamplin 2018 J[R]G (Columbia Valley). This wine is 88% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, with just over half of the fruit coming from Red Mountain and the rest from Horse Heaven, Walla Walla Valley and a smidgen from Rattlesnake Hills. The aromas suggest notes of dark raspberry, blackberry and herb. The dark-fruit flavors are center focused and don't seem fully cohesive at present. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$30

88 Rocky Pond 2019 Proprietary Rock Double D Vineyard (Columbia Valley). This is a blend of 40% Malbec, 40% Merlot and 20% Cabernet Sauvignon hailing from a vineyard in the proposed Rocky Reach appellation. Aromas of white pepper, orange rind, mint and herb lead to bright, fresh flavors that bring a lot of acid. Serve it at dinner to see it at its best. —S.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

88 Saviah 2018 Big Sky Cuvée (Columbia Valley). Merlot (54%) takes the lead on this wine, with the rest Cabernet Sauvignon (24%) and bits of Malbec (8%), Petit Verdot (8%) and Cabernet Franc. The aromas offer notes of cocoa, vanilla, cherry and herb. Creamy-feeling flavors follow. The oak gets in front of the fruit at present. Perhaps additional time will better integrate it. —S.S.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$45

88 The Royal Bull 2018 Royal Bull (\$#!+) (Columbia Valley). This wine is a 50-50 blend of Tempranillo and Grenache, with fruit coming from Lawrence and Stoneridge vineyards. Aromas of spice, mesquite smoke, char and tobacco lead to fuller feeling, creamy flavors. Char and smoke notes linger long after the last sip, causing distraction. It seems to show considerable smoke impact. —S.S.
abv: 15.4% **Price:** \$90

88 Upchurch 2019 Counterpart (Red Mountain). This wine is a blend of 75% Merlot and 25% Cabernet Sauvignon. Barrel aromas are up front, with notes of baking spice, vanillin and freshly hewn wood making it hard to get at the fruit. The palate is similarly oak driven, without the fruit to match, and it also shows a fair amount of astringency. Perhaps a lot of time in the cellar will tie it together and soften it. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50

87 Alleromb 2018 Cuvée B (Columbia Valley). Cabernet Sauvignon makes up 54% of this wine, with the rest Merlot (38%) and Malbec. The aromas bring subdued notes of plum, mesquite smoke and herb. Quite smoky flavors follow, bringing grittiness on the palate and lingering on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$42

87 LifeVine 2020 Red Wine (Columbia Valley). The aromas offer notes of dried herb, pencil eraser, plum and cherry. Lighter styled black-currant flavors follow, with a gritty feel. Bitter notes linger for some time on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

87 Ott & Hunter 2019 Radieux Pollard Vineyard (Yakima Valley). Merlot makes up 80% of this wine, with the rest Cabernet Sauvignon. Aged in neutral French oak, the aromas show some reduction out of the gate. Beyond that are notes of cherry, herb and spice that seem unsettled. Plump but light in the middle red- and black-fruit flavors follow, needing more acid to fully hold them together. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

87 Tenet 2017 G-S-M (Columbia Valley). Grenache makes up just over half of this wine, with the rest near equal parts Mourvèdre and Syrah along with a smidgen of Cinsault (1%). The aromas seem unsettled, with notes of black raspberry, herb, orange and high-pitched red fruit, almost seeming a bit volatile. Hyper-ripe fruit and medicine flavors follow. Tasted twice with consistent notes. —S.S.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$70

OTHER RED WINES

91 Prospice 2019 Phinny Hill Vineyard Cabernet Franc (Horse Heaven Hills). This vineyard has established itself as a special spot for Cabernet Sauvignon in the state, but Franc is vying for attention there too. The aromas are still locked up at present, showing notes of dried herb, raspberry, leaf, scorched earth and licorice drop. Reserved flavors follow with a lightly grainy feel. There's sneaky intensity behind it all that only increases over time. —S.S.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$50

91 Saviah 2019 Tempranillo (Walla Walla Valley). Fruit for this wine comes from Funk Estate, Dugger Creek and Watermill Estate. The aromas are

arresting, with notes of ash, black olive, charcuterie plate and plum—classic Rocks District. Palate-coating blue-fruit flavors follow. Like many wines from 2019, it's lighter through the middle than most vintages, but with a wine as delicious as this, one hardly cares. *Editors' Choice.* —S.S.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$40

90 Ott & Hunter 2019 Pollard Cabernet Franc (Yakima Valley). Pollard Vineyard is quickly establishing itself as a distinctive site for Bordeaux varieties in general and Cabernet Franc in particular. Aged 17 months in neutral French oak, the aromas are high pitched, with notes of savory herb, green pepper, coffee and black cherry. Soft, plump, center-focused cherry flavors follow. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

89 Columbia Winery 2019 Sagemoor Vineyard Single Vineyard Collection Barbera (Columbia Valley). The aromas are reserved, with locked up notes of dark cherry, cranberry and herb. Pillowy, ripe, full-bodied flavors follow. Coffee notes linger on the finish. —S.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$45

88 Kerloo 2019 Stone Tree Vineyard Tempranillo (Wahluke Slope). This wine saw three years in barrel in 70% new French oak. Baking-spice aromas are out front, with notes of vanilla, cinnamon and clove ahead of the dark fruit. The fruit is lighter styled on the palate. The oak completely dominates at present. Perhaps some time will lessen its impact. —S.S.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$57

88 Muret-Gaston 2017 Olsen Vineyard Petit Verdot (Yakima Valley). The aromas offer notes of dried and fresh herb, cinnamon and brown stem—all seeming a bit unsettled. Full-bodied dark-fruit flavors follow. There are interesting parts, but they don't all connect. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

COLORADO

CABERNET SAUVIGNON

91 The Winery At Holy Cross Abbey 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Palisade). Scents of cranberry and raspberry are joined by black pepper and shishito on the nose. On the palate, cranberry and lingonberry provide a solid fresh fruit base with tart, flirty acidity leading to green tobacco leaf and worn oak. The dusty tannins are firmly structured but well managed. The finish offers a heavenly combination of blackberry and orange. —F.A.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$32

90 The Winery At Holy Cross Abbey 2019 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Palisade). The nose offers sawdust and sweet tobacco leaves. This starts with cherry and then ventures towards oak, cigar wrapper and tree bark on the palate. There is plenty of acidity to balance the dusty tan-

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nins. The finish lingers on a refreshing cranberry note. —F.A.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$38

89 BookCliff 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Colorado). Mulberry, boysenberry, holly, bay leaf and smoked paprika scents are sharpened by a little alcoholic heat on the nose. The palate starts with blueberry and baked black cherry, a very spicy wine carrying serious heft, the teeth sticking tannins are sandy in feel. The midpalate delivers sage, smoke and poblano pepper, but fresh and baked black plum on the finish relaxes some of the pervasive peppery tingle and lingers long. There is just enough acidity for all for balance. —F.A.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$22

89 Monart 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon (Grand Valley). Loaded with vanilla and christmas cake, brown sugar aromas on the nose, the palate adds fresh cherry and cranberry to the mix. Tannins clamp down and are firmly structured while the acidity fights to keep things balanced—this needs a few years to better integrate. There is a baked orange and smoked pepper on the finish. Drink after 2025. —F.A.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$22

88 Vinnie Fera 2019 Hogback Cabernet Sauvignon (Grand Valley). The nose offers green peppercorn, clove and chai with a hint of rooibos. Loaded with teeth tingling spice on the palate, the acidity feels flat but slinks in on the finish. Tannins are mouthpuckering. Fruit flavors of blackberry and black cherry take a back seat to teak, charred oak, black tea and nutmeg. The finish is packed with peppery tingle. —F.A.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$NA

86 Qutori 2019 Artist Series Juliette Belmonte Cabernet Sauvignon (Grand Valley). Charred oak and tar mark the nose. The palate offers rubber and cigar smoke with a mentholated finish, there is little fruit character that can be discerned before punishing tannins strip the tongue of any sensation. Acidity can't keep up with the tannins but puts in a valiant effort. The finish combines ash and peppercorns. —F.A.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30

CABERNET FRANC

90 The Winery At Holy Cross Abbey 2018 Cabernet Franc (Colorado). Scents of cranberry, pomegranate and red apple peel are dusted with white pepper. The palate starts juicy and bright with cherry, pomegranate and crisp red currant. The acidity is pleasantly tart and the wine is anchored by polished tannins and gentle whispers of wood smoke and acacia wood. The finish is long, juicy and mouthwatering with a kiss of lingering tannic structure and a sprinkling of pepper. —F.A.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$30

89 Vinnie Fera 2019 Hogback Cabernet Franc (Grand Valley). Vintage leather, mulberry

and cocoa powder are earthy and alluring on the nose. The structure is firm and tannins are solid with grip and polished edges. The acidity is lithe and well balanced. Cedar, cinnamon stick and oak cradle cranberry and lingonberry flavor giving a cozy impression. The finish is peppery and lingers nicely. —F.A.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$NA

88 Carboy 2019 Reserve Cabernet Franc (Grand Valley). On the nose mesquite, bicycle tire and doll face bully the lingering cranberry aroma. The palate offers red fruit upfront bringing together cranberry, cherry and raspberry with plenty of structured tannins and tart acidity forming a good base—this is precisely balanced. —F.A.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$32

86 Monart 2019 Cabernet Franc (Grand Valley). Aromas of cranberry and red apple skin are blanketed by vanillin and tinged with baking spice and white pepper. On the palate, juicy cranberry, lingonberry and strawberry hull struggle to mesh with vanilla and baking spice. Delivering crushed velvet tannins and mild acidity, the finish lingers on vanilla frosting, coffee grounds and raspberry preserves. —F.A.
abv: 14.6% **Price:** \$21

84 Qutori 2019 Cabernet Franc (Grand Valley). Boysenberry and lingonberry fruit leather aromas are paired with a touch of vanilla on the nose. The palate is angular with gritty tannins, bitter chocolate and smoky brisket ends. There is little fruit character and languid acidity. The finish is dry and tannic relying on espresso beans. —F.A.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$30

MERLOT

91 BookCliff 2019 Reserve Merlot (Colorado). The aroma offers fresh and baked cranberry, mulling spice, spruce tip and a hint of bell pepper. This opens with plum, raspberry and blackberry on a suave palate with perky acidity and fine sandy tannins. There are well integrated, supporting notes of vanilla, pine resin and smoke. The fruit falls away towards the finish lingering on oak tones and black pepper but mouthwatering acidity keeps this approachable now. This could use more time in the bottle to soften the edges. Drink from 2023. —F.A.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$30

90 The Winery At Holy Cross Abbey 2019 Reserve Merlot (Palisade). Blackberry and cassis meet humid and whisky barrel on a sexy and enticing nose, with the slightest peppery tingle. The palate is surprisingly corybantic, blending tart cherry and cranberry with tangy cedar and frenetic acidity. Savory clove and cocoa hover in the background with gentle powdery tannins. The finish is tart loaded with cherry and a hint of vanilla lingering endlessly. This needs time to get its ducks in a row. Drink after 2024. —F.A.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$34

89 Carboy 2019 Merlot (Grand Valley). Black cherry and mulberry ground a tingling and peppery nose softened by vanillin. Berry notes are a hair from overripe up front with more vanillin flavor combined with languid acidity to create a soft profile. Towards the finish a dash of cracked pepper livens up this mellow merlot and then relaxes into an easy, plummy finish. —F.A.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$35

89 The Winery At Holy Cross Abbey 2019 Merlot (Colorado). Pale in the glass, a quiet nose alludes to raspberry and strawberry with whispers of bell pepper and white pepper. Juicy and bright notes of cherry, raspberry and red apple are tempered by gentle sandy tannins leading to a mouthwatering, almost kool-aid like, cranberry juice finish. This is a juice bomb ready for immediate enjoyment but has enough structure to hold your attention, it would do nicely with a light chill. —F.A.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$28

82 Monart 2019 Merlot (Grand Valley). Very chocolatey on initial whiff with coffee, graham cracker and brandied cherry joining the fray of this rather sharp nose. The palate starts with plumb, black currant and pomegranate and swings wide with scratchy tannin and intensely bitter notes of instant coffee and pure cocoa bean. —F.A.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$19

MALBEC

90 Carboy 2019 Malbec (Grand Valley). Black cherry, cassis and cracked pepper meld on a tingling nose. There is a good fruity core of blackberry, black raspberry, cherry supported by vanilla, sweet baking spice and a hint of tobacco. Powdery tannins hug the mouth, well matched by sleek acidity forming a soft mouthfeel that turns bright and tart on the finish loaded with plum. —F.A.
abv: 13.8% **Price:** \$28

90 The Infinite Monkey Theorem 2020 Malbec (Colorado). The nose delivers mulberry, blackberry and black cherry with earthy undertones of bell pepper, white pepper and soil. Flavors of tart raspberry, cherry, cranberry and red apple skin are matched with tart acidity, fine sandy tannins gently grip and provide firm but generous structure. The spicy, tingly finish is loaded with pepper and tart red and black plums. —F.A.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$25

89 Monart 2019 Malbec (Grand Valley). Scents of cocoa, mesquite and raspberry form an alluring aroma. The palate starts with raspberry and plum and suavely slips into earthier tones of wood smoke, clove, cocoa and Virginia tobacco while maintaining that fruity core. The tannins are polished and powdery and the acidity is steely and crisp. —F.A.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$26

87 BookCliff 2019 Reserve Malbec (Colorado). A peppery nose combines strawberry and

raspberry with bicycle tire. Raspberry and blackberry tones form a fruity core with cool crisp acidity and lightly dusty tannins leading to gentle oak flavors of vanilla, bramble bush and fallen leaves. —F.A.

abv: 14.8%

Price: \$30

85 Vinnie Fera 2019 Hogback Malbec (Grand Valley). Cherry and black raspberry meet thyme, singed rosemary and holly lightly tinged with rubber. There is not a lot of flavor concentration, fruit notes mirror the nose with added oaky tones leaning more towards that hint of rubber or tar with dull tannins and lazy acidity. —F.A.

abv: 13.8%

Price: \$30

NEW YORK

RIESLING

93 Hermann J. Wiemer 2020 HJW Vineyard Riesling (Seneca Lake). Coiled aromas of yuzu, limestone and white blossoms give this dry Riesling an air of pent-up energy on a nose that's waiting to explode. The medium-bodied palate delivers tense flavors of citrus peels and crushed stone matched by heady field blossoms, all while juicy apple and peach accents peak out their heads. A gentle grip of white tea, along with well-honed acidity, lend structure and length to it all. —A.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$39

93 Hermann J. Wiemer 2020 Magdalena Vineyard Riesling (Seneca Lake). A stunner year over year, this single-vineyard Riesling delves into earthy aromas of fennel pollen and sunbaked field flowers, with a solid core of yellow apple, and white peach. It's rounded and full in feel, filling out by broad pome- and stone-fruit flavors underscored by white tea and blossoms. A gentle honeycomb-wax note lends delightful grip to the dry finish. —A.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$35

92 Hermann J. Wiemer 2020 Flower Day Riesling (Seneca Lake). This new label, sourced from the HJW Vineyard, highlights the producer's commitment to regenerative agriculture and overall ecosystem health of its land. A pretty mix of lemon, yellow apple, yarrow and sunbaked stones delivers fruit and earth tones in equal measure on the nose and palate. It's a well-honed, dry-style Riesling that doesn't skip a beat from start to lingering finish. —A.P.

abv: 12%

Price: \$25

92 Keuka Lake Vineyards 2020 Falling Man Dry Riesling (Finger Lakes). Tightly packed aromas of lime peel, yellow apple and crushed limestone give this Riesling vibrant intensity on the nose. It's focused, linear yet nicely filled out on the medium-bodied palate, showing tangy crushed stone and citrus peel flavors filled out by pert white cherry. There's a tactile, pithy texture that lends an enjoyable grip to it all. —A.P.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$50

91 Heron Hill 2020 Jo's View Single Block Series Ingle Vineyard Riesling (Finger Lakes). This single-block Riesling delivers ripe, heady aromas of apricot, peach, lemon oil and freshly pressed apple. The medium-bodied palate echoes the juicy fruit nature of the nose, adding in elements of honeycomb wax and wood polish that lend depth. Vibrant acidity keeps it lifted and lengthy on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 12.6%

Price: \$40

91 Wagner 2020 Caywood East Vineyard Estate Bottled Riesling (Finger Lakes). Lifted aromas of crushed stone, lime peel and spring blossoms show with great intent on the nose. The cohesive palate delivers honed flavors of yellow apple, lime and blossoms wrapped in a gently silky texture that's honed by well-integrated acidity. Zesty quince and lemon flavors linger on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 13%

Price: \$20

91 Weis 2020 Semi Dry Riesling (Finger Lakes). Aromas of lightly baked apple and crushed stone meld with orange marmalade and pine sap in this semi-dry Riesling that delivers an enticing mix of fruit and earth. The peach, apple and orange-peel flavors show great depth on the palate, with honeycomb wax lending a pithy, textural note. *Editors' Choice.* —A.P.

abv: 12%

Price: \$19

90 Dr. Konstantin Frank 2020 Margrit Dry Riesling (Finger Lakes). Aromas of apricot, yellow apple and honeycomb wax drive the nose of this Riesling sourced from the winery's Seneca Lake vineyard. It's pleasantly soft and supple on the palate yet lifted by bright acidity, creating a cohesive experience of peach, papaya and apple flavors that ends pert and lively. —A.P.

abv: 12%

Price: \$35

90 Hermann J. Wiemer 2020 Dry Riesling (Seneca Lake). Ripe aromas of apple and apricot meld with fennel frond and tarragon on the nose. The juicy fruit flavors mesh well on the rounded palate, with perky acidity and a gentle peach-fuzz texture lending balance. —A.P.

abv: 12%

Price: \$20

90 Hosmer 2020 Semi-Dry Riesling (Cayuga Lake). This well-balanced semi-dry Riesling delivers juicy peach and apple tones matched by accents of honey and lemon pith. There's a delightful tug and pull sensation between the luscious fruit and zippy acidity, with a gently waxy note lending grip on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 11.5%

Price: \$18

90 Weis 2020 Dry Riesling (Finger Lakes). This dry Riesling shows an enticing mix of ripe lemon, apple and peach matched with lime zest and crushed stone on the nose. The zesty palate echoes the nose, with a pretty accent of white-blossom perfume lending depth. From start to finish, this is lifted, balanced and utterly enjoyable. —A.P.

abv: 12%

Price: \$19

88 Fox Run 2020 Dry Riesling (Seneca Lake). Aromas of citrus peels, white peach and quince blend with wet stone on the nose of this zesty dry Riesling. The palate is light in feel, driven by tense flavors of white cherry and lime peel that end lifted yet short. —A.P.

abv: 12.8%

Price: \$18

87 Heron Hill 2020 Semi-Dry Riesling (Finger Lakes). A bit of a funky, earthy note initially arises on the nose, but below that is ripe peach, apple and pineapple. It's semi-dry on the palate, delivering sugar-dipped apple and peach flavors met with brisk acidity. Honey-drizzled peach marks the close. —A.P.

abv: 10.5%

Price: \$16

86 Three Brothers 2020 Semi-Dry Second Degree Riesling (Finger Lakes). Quiet aromas of apple blossom and lemon peel arise on the nose. It's light in texture on the palate, with mildly concentrated apple and peach flavors met with easy acidity and a slightly bitter edge. —A.P.

abv: 11.8%

Price: \$17

CABERNET FRANC ROSÉS

87 Weis 2021 Dry Cabernet Franc Rosé (Finger Lakes). Simple yet poised aromas of watermelon, white flowers and apple fill out the nose of this rosé. The palate shows nicely ripe fruit flavors of melon, raspberry and lemon propelled along by refreshing acidity. It ends bright and lifted, leaving you wanting another sip. —A.P.

abv: 11.5%

Price: \$23

84 Fjord 2021 Cabernet Franc Rosé (Hudson River Region). While quite perfumed on the nose, showing intense apple, peach and white-blossom aromas, this loses sense of balance on the palate. Creamy peach, melon and apple flavors are met with a bitter pith note, with very little acidity to lift it all up. —A.P.

abv: 12.2%

Price: \$22

83 Buttonwood Grove 2021 Cabernet Franc Rosé (Finger Lakes). Aromas of wet hay, apricot oil and crushed aspirin carry the nose. It's very mild on the palate, showing delicate melon and citrus flavors met with disparate acidity. —A.P.

abv: NA

Price: \$24

OTHER ROSÉS

87 Anthony Road 2021 Rosé Of Lemberger (Finger Lakes). Mild aromas of pink grapefruit, lemon zest and a hint of melon carry the nose. The palate shows a bit more intensity to the fruit, with a strong core of melon and strawberry. Bright acidity keeps it balanced, with a bit of alcohol peaking its head on the close. —A.P.

abv: 12.4%

Price: \$22

91 Atwater 2021 Lagrein-Zweigelt Rosé (Finger Lakes). This rosé blend of half Lagrein and

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half Zweigelt shows ample intensity on the nose by way of crushed cherry, ripe strawberry, mixed Mediterranean herbs and a hint of asphalt. It's fully fleshed out on the palate, showing menthol-laced cherry wrapped in tannins that resemble the texture of peach fuzz. There's tension throughout thanks to bright acidity. This bold rosé is best enjoyed alongside a meal. —A.P.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$25

89 Weis 2021 Dry Zweigelt Rosé (Finger Lakes). This Zweigelt rosé offers bright aromas of raspberry and cherry mixed with blood orange, pink grapefruit and a light peppery note. The medium-bodied palate holds ample weight thanks to the juicy berry flavors, yet there's great balance from the bright acidity and delicate grip of tannins. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$23

88 Benmarl 2021 Dry Rosé (New York). Pleasantly bright aromas of candied banana, crushed raspberry, cantaloupe and white flowers carry to the medium-bodied palate. There's delightful lift thanks to bright acidity, with a mouthwatering lemon note marking the close. —A.P.

abv: 12.1% **Price:** \$18

87 Knapp 2021 Saignée Rosé (Finger Lakes). Vibrant neon pink in color, this rosé offers aromas and flavors of balsamic-dipped cherries, blackberry juice and pomegranate. It's pleasingly rounded on the palate, filled out by juicy, lifted fruit that lingers nicely on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

87 Three Brothers 2021 Bravey Dry Rosé (Finger Lakes). This blend of Barbera, Zweigelt, Cabernet Franc and Pinot Noir presents as light and zesty on the nose, offering aromas of pink grapefruit, crushed raspberry and wet stone. It's delicate on the palate yet lifted thanks to juicy acidity, with a pink-lemonade note marking the close. —A.P.

abv: 11.7% **Price:** \$18

86 Knapp 2021 Dry Rosé (Finger Lakes). Aromas of orange Creamsicle, blood orange and biters carry the nose. Light in feel on the palate, flavors of raspberry and cherry arise with a framing of red-apple peel. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$20

85 Atwater 2021 Cabernet Franc-Blaufränkisch Rosé (Finger Lakes). Aromas of mealy apple and melon are met with a pleasing citric lift on the nose. Light in feel on the palate, it offers simple flavors of lemon and pink grapefruit driven by lots of zesty acidity. —A.P.

abv: 11.3% **Price:** \$23

85 Hunt Country Vineyards 2021 Dry Rosé (Finger Lakes). This ripe rosé delivers rich aromas and flavors of strawberries and cream. It's rounded in feel, with a creamy texture that is met with mild acidic lift. Still, it manages to hold some balance throughout to remain an enjoyable sip. —A.P.

abv: 12.2% **Price:** \$18

85 Weis 2021 Dry Rosé (Finger Lakes). A blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Pinot Noir, this rosé offers a properly intense nose of crushed raspberry, watermelon, papaya and wet stone. The palate echoes the nose, yet with mild intensity, with a lazy vein of acidity for support. —A.P.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$20

83 Keuka Spring 2021 Dry Rosé (Finger Lakes). This delicate rosé offers light aromas of plastic, underripe cranberry and crushed stone. It's mild on the palate, coming off as lean and tart, with a savory note marking the finish. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$18

82 Barnstormer 2021 Sawmill Creek Vineyard Sangiovese Rosé (Finger Lakes). This delicate rosé offers light aromas and flavors of crushed aspirin and watermelon water. It's thin on concentration, with mild acidity to back it up. —A.P.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$22

PINOT NOIR

92 Millbrook 2019 Pinot Noir (New York). Showing excellent lift and concentration, this Pinot delivers pleasantly rich tones of blackberry and bramble berry, with accents of menthol and crushed peppercorn. It's silky in texture, yet properly driven by fresh acidity. There are floral and spice perfume qualities that arise on the midpalate and extend through the lingering finish. —A.P.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

90 Duck Walk 2019 Pinot Noir (North Fork of Long Island). A mix of pomegranate and raspberry meets earthy rooibos on the nose of this sultry red. It's luscious and slightly jammy on the palate yet well honed by vibrant acidity and pliant tannins. There's drive to the fruit core, with plenty of extension on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$29

90 Inspire Moore 2019 Lust Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). A bright bramble-berry aroma meets forest floor and sunbaked lavender on the nose. It's juicy and plump in wild berry and cherry flavors, with a solid framing of pliant tannins and bright acidity. There's very good progression and length, with snappy berry flavors meeting a hint of earthy stems on the lingering finish. —A.P.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$26

90 Millbrook 2020 Thirty-Fifth Anniversary Pinot Noir (New York). A pretty mix of red cherry, blackberry, rooibos and mentholated herbs show great cohesion and depth on the nose. Juicy berry flavors are met with firm strikes of herbal and woody spice on the medium-bodied palate, with pliant tannins and fresh acidity supporting the glossy texture of it all. —A.P.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$26

90 Point of the Bluff 2019 Rooftop Reds Pinot Noir (New York). There's a raspy, earthy lilt to the aromas of cherry and raspberry on the nose,

with accents of briar patch and rosemary chiming in. There's depth to the berry flavors on the palate, with impeccable balance between the juicy acidity and gentle tannins. Hibiscus and pomegranate flavors remain fresh and lively through the lingering finish. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$27

90 RGNV 2019 Pinot Noir (North Fork of Long Island). There's depth in spades on the nose of this red, showing cohesive aromas of singed rosemary, red cherry, rooibos and mushroom. The medium-bodied palate shows very good fruit concentration, with a solid framing of firm tannins and bright acidity for support. —A.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$48

90 Wölffer 2018 Landius Pinot Noir (Long Island). Showing a delightful mix of earth and fruit aromas on the nose, this starts off with seared button mushroom, coffee and roasted red cherry. It's glossy and silky on the medium-bodied palate, with pulsing flavors of cherry, dried hibiscus and warm, toasty spices. There's impeccable lift and drive to it all, with honed acidity and smooth tannins lending a sturdy frame. Echoes of toasted spice and dried rose linger on the finish. —A.P.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

89 680 Cellars 2020 Sandstone Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). Bursting aromas of red cherry, pomegranate and cranberry skins jump from the glass in this red that spent 10 months in 1,200-liter sandstone jars. It's silky smooth on the palate, with a cohesive texture of gentle tannins and integrated acidity that sets the stage for the fruit flavors to shine. —A.P.

abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$42

89 Freedom Run 2018 Estate Pinot Noir (Niagara Escarpment). There's very good lift to the aromas of cherry stems, rooibos, Sichuan peppercorn and raspberry on the nose. It's juicy and bright on the palate, delivering mouthwatering cherry and strawberry flavors framed by perky acidity and soft tannins. There's a plushness to it all that gives it an easy-drinking pleasure. —A.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89 Freedom Run 2018 Quast Vineyard Pinot Noir (Niagara Escarpment). A delightful mix of ripe cherry and strawberry meets kicks of minty Sichuan peppercorn and dried herbs on the nose. It's soft and silky on the palate, lifted by bright acidity and propelled along by lots of berry, spice and earthy flavors. —A.P.

abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$30

89 Lamoreaux Landing 2019 Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). There's purity and transparency to this lovely Pinot, showing a mix of forest floor, mushroom, singed rosemary and pine sap against pristine red cherry. It's silky on the palate, with delicate fruit concentration and soft tannins lifted by perky acidity. It ends slightly short, but what's there is delicious. —A.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$25

88 Heron Hill 2020 Ingle Vineyard Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). Earthy, spicy aromas of rooibos and cinnamon mingle with pomegranate and dried hibiscus on the cohesive nose. There's a pleasant plushness to the palate, displaying juicy pomegranate, cranberry and hibiscus flavors that are well honed by a gentle tug of tannins and fresh acidity. Give a slight chill and enjoy for its delicious simplicity. —A.P.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

88 Living Roots 2019 Shale Creek Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). This is bright and pure on the nose, showing lucid cherry and blood orange aromas mixed with dried hibiscus and rooibos. The palate is light and delicate in pert red-berry and pomegranate flavors that are framed by gentle tannins. —A.P.

abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$26

88 McCall 2015 Corchaug Estate Pinot Noir (North Fork of Long Island). Peppery, spicy aromas of Sichuan peppercorn and green peppercorn ride over the delicate dried cherry core. The light-bodied palate echoes the nose, with slightly astringent herbal notes framing the tart cherry core. There's a smooth texture to it all, with good integration of tannins. It ends on accents of cloves and cherry skins. —A.P.

abv: 12.8% **Price:** \$30

88 Ventosa 2017 Pinot Noir (Seneca Lake). Perky cranberry and cherry aromas meet accents of sage oil and patchouli. Medium in weight, the palate blends tangy red-berry flavors with sweet oak spices, with good balance between the grippy tannins and bright acidity. —A.P.

abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$31

86 Damiani 2020 Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). Pressed cranberry and dried hibiscus aromas are perked up by raspy hints of black pepper on the nose. This is light and delicate in texture, with lean, tart red-fruit flavors framed by drying, cinched tannins. —A.P.

abv: 12.3% **Price:** \$29

86 Freedom Run 2018 Rosie's Garden Vineyard Pinot Noir (Niagara Escarpment). Aromas of stewed cherry and cranberry meet hefty accents of cigar smoke and crushed granite on the nose. There's not much definition to the fruit flavors on the medium-bodied palate, with muddled red-berry flavors meeting tilled earth and cigar wrapper accents. —A.P.

abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$30

86 Wagner 2019 Reserve Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). Aged in French and American oak for 11 months, this leads with aromas of suntan lotion, coconut and rooibos on the nose. The fruit flavors are delicate on the palate, driven by tart cherry and cranberry tones that are framed by grippy tannins. —A.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$31

85 Damiani 2020 Reserve Pinot Noir (Finger Lakes). This Pinot is lead by spicy, fiery aro-

mas of Sichuan peppercorn and menthol, with glimmers of underripe red fruit underneath. The palate shows lightly concentrated flavors of cranberry and hibiscus framed by grippy tannins and tart acidity. —A.P.

abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$60

84 Colloca 2018 Lake Effect Vineyard Pinot Noir (New York). A mix of cherry stems, black raspberry, cherry cough drop and mentholated herbs drive the nose. The palate is thin in profile, showing racy red-berry flavors framed by brisk acidity and mildly gritty tannins. It ends short and to the point. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$29

GAMAY

87 Whitecliff Vineyard 2018 Gamay Noir (Hudson River Region). This light and juicy red offers tasty flavors of crushed strawberry and cranberry accented by delicate peppery spice. Bright acidity propels everything along, with delicate tannins lending a gentle frame. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$25

85 Sheldrake Point 2020 Estate Bottled Gamay Noir (Finger Lakes). Bright, fruity aromas of papaya, strawberry and banana give this red an easygoing vibe. It's light and pleasantly smooth on the palate, with simple red-fruit and tropical flavors that glide effortlessly from start to finish. —A.P.

abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$18

82 Rosina's Winery 2020 Gamay Noir (Hudson River Region). Aromas of cherry and blackberry are very mild on the nose. The palate is very tart, showing sour cherry and cranberry flavors framed by mild, gritty tannins. It feels a bit unbalanced and ends short. —A.P.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$28

OTHER RED WINES

91 Duck Walk 2019 Pinot Meunier (The Hamptons, Long Island). A unique bottling for the area, this red leads with spicy aromas of Sichuan peppercorn and white pepper, with a solid core of rooibos and raspberry. The medium-bodied palate shows depth of fruit, with polished tannins and juicy acidity lending ample support through the detailed, lengthy finish. —A.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$27

91 Hound's Tree 2019 Pinot Noir-Petit Verdot (New York). This unique blend of 70% Pinot Noir and 30% Petit Verdot is entirely whole-cluster fermented. The result yields intense raspberry and cherry tones meshed with white pepper, rosemary and rooibos. It's plush in texture, built by polished tannins and juicy acidity. Loads of fruit, earthy funk and spice flavors sit pretty from start to finish. —A.P.

abv: 11.5% **Price:** \$28

NEW RUMS

Giving rum some needed recognition

Each year, when we ask experts to predict what might lie ahead, someone inevitably suggests: this will be rum's year.

Looking at the latest rum releases from the past 24 months, it's clear there's no shortage of excellent bottles to tempt. Look to Appleton Estate's Black River bottling, a 15-year-old Jamaica rum with succulent toffee and hazelnut flavors; a vibrant, grassy Hawaiian-made agricole rum from Kuleana Spirits; or the nuanced vanilla and cocoa powder tones of Copalli Cacao Rum, a white single-estate rum from Belize infused with organic cacao nibs.

In terms of sales volume, 2021 wasn't rum's year. The rum industry sold 24.7 million cases last year, according to the Distilled Spirits Council of the U.S., lagging behind vodka, American whiskey and tequila/mezcal.

While brands remain hopeful that dark aged rums will lure fans of whiskey or brandy, the category hasn't benefited from the "premi-umization" trend, either. For now, that means fewer fancy and high-priced rum bottlings.

The rum category continues to be one of the

most diverse, incorporating a broad patchwork of countries, regulations, and production styles. Some, including Ben Jones managing director of Caribbean rum importer/marketer Spiribam, have been advocating for industry reform, hoping to make rum less confusing to navigate.

"Most people can tell you what is Canadian whiskey versus Scotch or bourbon. Go to a liquor store, it's easy to understand and navigate through," Jones explains. "At that same store, go to the rum section; there's no differentiation between different countries and methods and techniques." As a result, he says, the "crowded and competitive field" that is rum "hasn't had a fair shake."

Yet, he remains optimistic: "Rum will have its day."

With a fine crop of new bottlings, he may be right. And if 2022 doesn't bring rum the recognition it deserves, don't worry: there's always next year.

—Kara Newman

Rum will have its day.

96 **Appleton Estate Black River Casks (Jamaica; Campari America, New York, NY).** Look for a deep amber hue and bold, enticing caramel and coffee bean aromas, plus a hint of red fruit. The velvety palate echoes those notes, adding succulent toffee and hazelnut, leading to a long, complex finish accented by orange peel. Sip or mix this rum, aged 15 years minimum.
Abv: 43% **Price:** \$65

95 **Plantation Rum Under the Sea; Panama 2008 (Panama; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT).** This burnished gold rum offers delicate grilled pineapple and violet aromas. The palate shows loads of fruit, pineapple but also grapefruit peel and a hint of coconut sweetness. Cayenne and cinnamon sizzle enlivens butterscotch richness on the finish.
Abv: 45.7% **Price:** \$80

94 **Kirk and Sweeney Gran Reserva Superior Rum (Dominican Republic; 3 Badge Beverage, Sonoma, CA).** Aged between 6 and 25 years, look for a deep amber hue and bold caramel and toffee aromas. Pleasing brown sugar and toffee entwine with hints of salted caramel and raisin on the palate. The gentle, warming finish holds allspice, cocoa powder and clove, drying to a walnut tone.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$59

93 **Kirk and Sweeney Gran Reserva Rum (Dominican Republic; 3 Badge Beverage, Fairfield, CA).** Aged between 5 and 20 years, this rum offers a concentrated caramel aroma. The palate opens with salted caramel, plus plenty of brown sugar, toffee and fig. The flavors dry to oak, burnt orange peel and unsweetened cocoa powder on the puckery, cayenne-warmed finish.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$49

93 **Plantation Under The Sea Rum; Jamaica 2005 (Jamaica; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT).** Bold, flavorful and bright, this rum smells like bananas Foster: ripe banana, toasted oak and vanilla aromas combine. The silky palate opens with banana and a blast of tropical funk, the long finish framed by toasted coconut and cinnamon red-hots.
abv: 48.4% **Price:** \$80

92 **Diplomatico Seleccion De Familia (Venezuela; E. & J. Gallo, Modesto, CA).** Look for a deep amber hue and oaky aroma with a hint of red fruit. Overall, this is a memorable and relatively dry sipper; oak gives way to toffee and vanilla mid-palate, finishing with plum skin and red fruit warmed by allspice and clove.
abv: 43% **Price:** \$50

92 **Holmes Cay Barbados 2012 Port Cask (Barbados; Windyside Spirits, White Plains, NY).** This is a single cask rum distilled at Foursquare Rum Distillery. Expect an amber hue and vanilla and caramel aromas. The palate opens with toffee and walnut, with a drying finish that shows a fleeting hint of raspberry compote sprinkled with cracked black pepper. Add water or ice to tone down the heat and coax out a cocoa powder hint.
Abv: 55% **Price:** \$99

92 **Kuleana Hokulei Rum (USA; Kuleana Spirits, Kawaihae, HI).** Made with a blend of seven aged rums from 18 months to 18 years, including a portion of Hawaiian rum agricole made by Kuleana Rum Works. The end result is a mild vanilla and coconut fragrance and plenty of brown sugar flavor entwined with toasted coconut, almond and golden raisin, leading into a warming clove- and ginger-laced finish.
Abv: 46% **Price:** \$60

92 **Navigator Reserve Rum (Panama; Precision Wines & Spirits, St. Helena, CA).** For full review see page 31. Best Buy.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$30

92 **Old Line Aged Caribbean Rum Single Malt Cask-Finished (Dominican Republic; Old Line Spirits, Baltimore, MD).** Distinct coconut aromas lead into a lively palate that tingles with ginger and black pepper heat. Coconut and browned butter lead into a taut finish laced with lemon and grapefruit peel. This is a blend of seven- to 11 year-old Dominican Republic rums finished for an additional year in casks that previously held Old Line's American single malt whiskey.
Abv: 50% **Price:** \$35

91 **Diplomatico Mantuano (Venezuela; E. & J. Gallo, Modesto, CA).** Aged up to 8 years, this rum has a deep amber hue and aromas of allspice and sarsaparilla. The silky palate shows oak, toffee and vanilla, with a drying finish that teases hints of toasted coconut, cocoa and cinnamon. Best Buy.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$28

91 Kirk and Sweeney Reserva Rum (Dominican Republic; 3 Badge Beverage, Sonoma, CA).

Aged between 3 and 14 years, this rum has a copper penny hue and toasty vanilla aroma. The light palate opens with oak and lots of brown sugar and cocoa, plus a mouthwatering saline hint. The long, rounded finish sings with allspice, cinnamon, and a flicker of cayenne heat.

Abv: 40% Price: \$39

91 Plantation Stade's Rum Bond No 8 (Barbados; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT).

For full review see page 31. Best Buy.

abv: 43% Price: \$25

90 Holmes Cay South Africa Mhoba 2017 (South Africa; Windyside Spirits, White Plains, NY).

The first introduction of Mhoba Rum to the U.S., this honey-hued bottling is a single cask rum distilled from cane juice and aged four years in ex-South African whiskey casks. Fans of rum agricole will be pleased by the bold, bright green banana and fresh-cut grass tones, plus just a hint of coconut. Adding water brings out lemongrass and ginger—add plenty, as this is hot, even numbing.

Abv: 59% Price: \$129

89 Holmes Cay Trinidad Ten Year 2012 (Trinidad; Windyside Spirits, White Plains, NY).

A single cask rum distilled at Ten Cane Distillery, look for a topaz hue and tropical fruit aromas. Look for caramelized pineapple and toasted coconut edged with floral and nutty hints. The overproof character lends lovely flavor, but enough fire that many will find this hard to sip.

Abv: 59% Price: \$149

88 Tommy Bahama Tommy No. 2 Rum (Central America; Coral Cay Distilling, Cashmere, WA).

Look for a golden hue and mellow almond and coconut aromas. The mild plate opens with a burst of cinnamon spice and finishes with mouthwatering honeyed and nutty tones. This easy-sipping rum is an ever-changing blend of rums from various Central American countries, aged for a minimum of five years and finished in bourbon barrels.

Abv: 40% Price: \$35

87 Cannes Royale Extra Old Rum (Grenada; Eastern Caribbean Rum, New York, NY).

This golden rum has light vanilla and almond tones, finishing with a lip-smacking marshmallow finish accented with ginger sting. Recommended to mix. Made with a blend of rum aged 7 to 10 years.

Abv: 40% Price: \$35

86 Dunfermline Dark Rum (Grenada; Eastern Caribbean Rum, New York, NY).

The mellow aroma shows almond, brown sugar and a hint of fresh fruit. Most of the flavor of this light-bodied rum is on the exhale: allspice, sarsaparilla and clove, reading almost like a spiced rum. The producer recommends using this golden rum for bak-

ing into fruitcake or a traditional Caribbean Black Christmas cake.

Abv: 40% Price: \$20

WHITE RUMS

94 Kuleana Hawaiian Rum Agricole (USA; Kuleana Spirits, Kawaihae, HI).

Made from the fresh-pressed juice of 40 sugarcane varieties grown on the producer's farm in Kohala, Hawaii, this single estate white rum has an enticing grassy aroma and lively palate that bounces from hints of green banana and lemongrass to a lightly peppery, mentholated finish. Mix into all the mojitos.

Abv: 40% Price: \$57

90 Diplomatico Planas (Venezuela; E. & J. Gallo, Modesto, CA).

The name of this white rum refers to the Planas valley, where the Diplomatico distillery is located, at the foot of the Andes mountains. Look for mild brown sugar aromas and a grassy palate accented with hints of banana funk and perky lemongrass, finishing clean and bright, warming all the way down. Best Buy.

Abv: 47% Price: \$30

90 Plantation Rum Stades Beach Vat No 1 (Barbados; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT).

For full review see page 31. Best Buy.

Abv: 43% Price: \$25

89 Dead Parrot Silver Rum (USA; Rock Creek Distillery, Shattuck, OK).

This white rum is light and distinctly coconuty on nose and palate. Hints of marshmallow and charcoal lead into white pepper sparks and a zippy hint of lemon zest. Best Buy.

abv: 40% Price: \$25

89 Hotel Tango Rum (USA; Hotel Tango Distillery, Indianapolis, IN).

Look for cinnamon sweet heat mingled with floral and vanilla notes. The slightly viscous palate makes this white rum feel lush, even luxurious. Mix into daiquiris. Best Buy.

Abv: 45% Price: \$30

87 Dunfermline White Rum (Grenada; Eastern Caribbean Rum, New York, NY).

This white rum has a neutral aroma and a palate with milky sweetness. Hints of coconut and vanilla lead into a long, creamy finish marked by charcoal and black pepper.

Abv: 40% Price: \$20

86 Dunfermline Rumble White Overproof Rum (Grenada; Eastern Caribbean Rum, New York, NY).

That 75% abv isn't a typo — yes, it's a whopping 150 proof. That means most plan to light this on fire rather than drink it. That said, tropical banana and coconut hints lead into a predictably fiery, even numbing profile. Can't say you weren't warned.

Abv: 75% Price: \$25

FLAVORED RUM/SPICED RUM

93 Copalli Cacao Rum (Belize; Copalli Spirits USA, Nashua, NH).

This is a single-estate white rum infused with organic cacao nibs, and it's lovely, more complex and clean than most flavored rum. Lychee and banana aromas lead into a concentrated, lightly sweet palate laced with vanilla sugar and cocoa powder, finishing long and slightly nutty, enlivened by a bit of white pepper tingle on the exit. Best Buy.

Abv: 40% Price: \$31

92 Canerock Finest Spiced Rum (Jamaica; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT).

For full review see page 31. Best Buy.

Abv: 40% Price: \$30

91 Hard Truth Toasted Coconut Rum (USA; Hard Truth Distilling, Nashville, IN).

For full review see page 31. Best Buy.

Abv: 21% Price: \$28

88 Dead Parrot Coconut Flavored Rum (USA; Rock Creek Distillery, Shattuck, OK).

Expect a clear rum with a distinctly suntan lotion-like coconut aroma. The palate is light and slick, with some pleasant, not-too-sweet coconut flavor on the exhale.

Abv: 30% Price: \$25

86 Kirk & Sweeney Burning Mast (Dominican Republic; 3 Badge Beverage, Sonoma, CA).

This is a rum finished in red pepper barrels. Look for a topaz hue, a mild, peppery aroma and light-bodied palate that opens with cinnamon red-hots and peppery heat. The heat factor definitely ramps up with repeated sips, quickly escalating from gentle glow to persistent, mouth-numbing prickly heat. The final effect reads as savory jerk spices: cayenne, hot paprika, cumin. A bit of sweetness to offset the heat would have gone a long way.

abv: 40% Price: \$49

85 Dead Parrot Vanilla Bean Flavored Rum (USA; Rock Creek Distillery, Shattuck, OK).

Look for a chocolate hue and mild vanilla and coffee aromas. The mild palate reflects a muddy allspice and coffee exhale, and a lightly tingly finish.

abv: 30% Price: \$25

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GIMMICKY GIN

New gins give us the ol' razzle dazzle

Musical theater fans may recall “You Gotta Get a Gimmick” from *Gypsy*, a number in which a trio of burlesque performers urge the title character to “do something special, anything that’s special” to distinguish her act.

The latest crop of gins seems to take a page from that libretto. There’s no shortage of great gins out there, and in order to be remembered, gin producers are leaning harder than ever into finding that “something special” to pull away from the pack.

That might mean flavoring the gin with fresh instead of dried juniper (*Pro-cera*) or experimenting with resting the gin in small barrels made from juniper wood (*Citadelle Juniper Decadence*—no easy task, by the way: “Since the juniper is a modestly sized tree, its wood is not suitable for making long, curved staves, as it is too hard to bend,” the company explains. Instead, “special small casks were built with straight sides.”)

Others emphasize regional flavorings (see: kelp and other coastal botanicals for sea-

inspired *Hendrick’s Neptunia*, or Irish honey in Ireland’s *Silks*) or the provenance of the raw ingredients used to distill the base gin (Northern California grapes, Mississippi Delta rice). And novelty gins come in an ever-expanding array of hues: pink, purple, blue. One newcomer, *Scapegrace Black*, uses butterfly pea to

transform from murky gray to vibrant pink when tonic water or citrus is added, a fun party trick in a glass.

Has gin become too gimmicky? To be sure, it’s hard to stand out in a crowded marketplace. We can’t fault gin-makers

for wanting to entertain us with a backstory or a bit of novelty. But it’s worth remembering that since most gin is consumed in cocktails—not straight up—versatility may be the strongest selling point a gin can offer. A great Martini doesn’t require a gimmick: it just requires a great gin.

—Kara Newman

We can’t fault gin-makers for wanting to entertain us.

96 **Uncle Val’s Zested Gin (USA; 3 Badge Beverage, Sonoma, CA).** For full review see page 31.
Abv: 45% **Price:** \$39

95 **Pro-cera Gin (Africa; MHW, Manhasset).** Distilled in Kenya and made from fresh (not dried) juniper plus a dozen other botanicals from Africa, this gin has a delicate floral aroma and clean, brisk palate. Mild coriander, lavender and lemon peel make an ideal backdrop for Martinis and more.
Abv: 44% **Price:** \$85

92 **Tommy Bahama Island Gin (USA; Coral Cay Distilling, Cashmere, WA).** A fresh, vegetal take on gin. Spearmint, anise and a hint of celery entice the nose. The palate is similarly light and refreshing, showing fennel, celery seed, cucumber and coriander, finishing with zingy white pepper and lemon peel. Mix into G&Ts or any drink with fresh juices.
Abv: 46.5% **Price:** \$55

92 **Hendricks Neptunia Gin (Scotland; William Grant & Sons, New York, NY).** This sea-inspired gin is a limited release infused with “coastal botanicals,” such as sea kelp and coastal thyme. Look for mild juniper on nose and palate, winding into a complex, mouthwatering finish laced with subtle floral notes, grapefruit peel, eucalyptus, white pepper and a saline hint.
Abv: 43.4% **Price:** \$40

91 **Boatyard Double Gin (Ireland; Boatyard Spirits, New York, NY).** Sweet gale – a shrub also known as bog myrtle – supplies this gin’s earthy, woody warmth. Lemon peel and grapefruit pith lead into dusty spices, cedar shavings and coriander, finishing dry and bracing. Best Buy.
Abv: 46% **Price:** \$32

91 **Silks Irish Dry Gin (Ireland; Prestige Beverage Group, Mendota Heights, MN).** Bold, herbaceous aromas suggest eucalyptus, and fresh basil. The minty palate has a similar vegetal edge, leading

into a tingy, faintly floral exhale. Botanicals include apple blossom, Irish honey and elderflower.

Abv: 42% **Price:** \$40

90 **Hinterhaus Vapor Infused Gin (USA; Hinterhaus Distilling, Arnold, CA).** This a bold gin, with plenty of fruit and funk. Hints of orange peel, maple and red fruit lead to a piquant exit sprinkled with pink and black pepper. Distilled from Northern California grapes and vapor infused with botanicals native to the Sierra Nevada.

Abv: 42% **Price:** \$37

90 **Wonderbird Spirits Gin No. 61 (USA; Wonderbird Spirits, Taylor, MS).** Made with a base of Mississippi Delta rice, this gin offers a bold licorice twang on nose and palate. The finish is subtly sweet, with star anise warmed by black pepper and clove heat.

Abv: 45% **Price:** \$49

90 **Navigator London Dry Gin (USA; Navigator, American Canyon, CA).** For full review see page 31. **Best Buy.**

Abv: 44% **Price:** \$30

90 **Diplôme Dry Gin (France; Heavenly Spirits, Lakeville, MA).** Look for a mild, lightly citrusy aroma and a brisk, drying palate. Most of the flavor is on the exhale: lemon pith, juniper, pine, black pepper. The base spirit is made from sugar beet. The producer says this gin is a 1945 recipe perfected during WWII in Dijon, France, where it “became the official gin for the American army stationed in Europe.” **Best Buy.**

Abv: 44% **Price:** \$32

89 **Gin Lane 1751 London Dry Gin (England; MS Walker, Norwood, MA).** Classic juniper and citrus aromas lead to a bright palate with hints of eucalyptus and star anise. There’s a hint of black licorice sweetness on the peppery, bracing exhale. **Best Buy.**

Abv: 40% **Price:** \$34

89 **Lochside Summer Gin No. 5 (USA; James Bay Distillers, Everett, WA).** Distilled with orange blossoms, kumquat, mandarin orange and tangerine, this gin is distinctly slick on the palate and has a mild, almost neutral aroma. Hints of licorice and coriander mingle with fleeting lemon pith bitterness on the brisk, drying exhale.

Abv: 40% **Price:** \$35

89 **BCN Gin (Spain; De Maison Selections, Chapel Hill, NC).** The enticing aroma suggests cucumber, mint and lime lollipop. The palate opens with invigorating hints of bitter melon and black pepper, while the candied exhale is pure licorice.

Abv: 40% **Price:** \$49 for 1 liter

88 **Scapegrace Black Gin (New Zealand; 375 Park Avenue Spirits, Louisville, KY).** Most will gravitate to this gin for its color-changing properties, as citrus or tonic transforms the murky gray-green hue to vibrant pink, thanks to the inclusion

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of butterfly pea flower in the recipe. But how does it taste? Slightly fruity and floral, with a berry hint drifting into a slightly astringent lemon peel finish.
Abv: 41.6% **Price:** \$40

88 Gin Naud (France; M.S. Walker, Norwood, MA). Look for a soft lime peel scent. The palate opens with hints of rosewater and licorice, plus a bergamot hint some will recognize from Earl Grey tea, and finishes with a bold floral flourish.
abv: 44% **Price:** \$37

88 Monti London Dry Gin (Spain; Grapes of Spain, Lorton, VA). This Spanish gin has a mild, berry-like aroma and light-as-a-feather feel on the palate. That fruity note is echoed on the palate, framed by cinnamon and cayenne heat, leading into a warming finish.
abv: 41% **Price:** \$60

87 Levenswater Spring 34 Gin (USA; CELK Distilling, Williamson, NY). While this gin is made in the USA, it pays homage to the diversity of Toronto's population, featuring 34 botanicals including India's tellicherry peppers, French lavender, and Spanish saffron. The liquid itself has a pale orange-pink blush and a slightly woody, slightly fruity scent. The mild palate offers a distinctly floral note, exiting with dusty spices and cedar shavings. Distilled from cane sugar.
abv: 40% **Price:** \$46

87 Barking Irons Gin (USA; Van Brunt Stillhouse, Brooklyn, NY). Distilled from whey and New York state apples, this gin has a bold, toasty aroma and warm, honeyed palate. Sweet spices – hints of cinnamon, cardamom, coriander – lead to a lemony hint on the bracing finish.
abv: 44% **Price:** \$30

FLAVORED GINS

90 Gin Lane 1751 Violet Gin (England; MS Walker, Norwood, MA). Notable for its pale lilac hue and violet pastilles aroma, this limited release gin offers candied violets and a floral, lightly sweet exhale enlivened by a hint of cinnamon. An interesting way to adapt Water Lilies, Aviations, and any other drink that typically calls for crème de violette and gin.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$40

89 Gin Lane 1751 Cucumber Watermelon Mint Gin (England; MS Walker, Norwood, MA). Look for minty, melony aromas, which mingle with a vegetal cucumber hint on the palate, finishing faintly sweet with white pepper sparks. Mix with soda water or tonic water. Limited Edition.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$40

88 Dang Pineapple Flavored Gin (USA; James Bay Distillers, Everett, WA). The bold pineapple scent truly smells like pineapple juice. The palate is much lighter, reminiscent of flavored vodka; the slightest hint of coriander reminds this

is indeed gin. Most of the pineapple flavor is on the exhale.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$35

87 Gin Lane 1751 Victoria Pink Gin (England; MS Walker, Norwood, MA). This ballet slipper-pink gin is meant to emulate the gin and bitters once mixed to quell seasickness in the Royal British Navy; herbs and spiced bitters are part of the mix in this bottle. Most of the flavor is on the exhale, where cinnamon, anise and clove combine, finishing with mild sweetness.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$40

87 Tropical Gin with Natural Fruit Flavors (USA; Beyond Distilling, North Charleston, SC). Flavored with mango, watermelon, pineapple and papaya, this is gin meant to evoke the Caribbean. The flavors blur into a broadly sweet and fruity aroma and juicy, fruity-floral palate. Squint and you may find hints of melon and coconut, leading into refreshing grapefruit pith bitterness.
Abv: 45% **Price:** \$32

OLD TOM STYLE

92 Cotswold Old Tom Gin (England; MHW, Manhasset, NY). This historic, lightly-sweetened style would be right at home in a Martinez. Look for a citrusy aroma and appropriately sweet palate showing vanilla, coconut, and even a hint of brown sugar. The long, mouthwatering finish is tinged with clove and ginger zing. Botanicals include liquorice root, ginger, orange zest and cardamom.
Abv: 42% **Price:** \$40

BARREL FINISHED GIN

90 Citadelle Gin Juniper Decadence (France; W.J. Deutsch & Sons, Stamford, CT). From Maison Ferrand, this is an unusual twist: a gin (made with juniper, natch) aged in small barrels made with wood from juniper bushes. The end result is a faint honey tinge and a gentle wildflower and brown sugar flavors. The finish is long and bracing, with a fair amount of alcohol heat and plenty of juniper and citrus zing.
Abv: 44.4% **Price:** \$35

89 Gintrigue Barrel-Finished Gin (USA; James Bay Distillers, Everett, WA). Finished in barrels that previously held Martel Cognac, look for a light honey hue and a neutral aroma that opens to mild raisin tones. The palate opens with cinnamon and honey. The exhale is pure sweet heat: cayenne and pink pepper mingle with lingering cinnamon and vanilla.
Abv: 40% **Price:** \$40

87 Oceans 12 Gin (Spain; Hidalgo Imports, Miami, FL). This is a Spanish gin aged in Manzanilla sherry casks. Expect a very faint straw tinge and mild aroma perfumed with stone fruit

and white flowers. The palate opens with floral and slight woody notes, with a juicy berry note midpalate. The mouthwatering finish shows white pepper piquancy.
abv: 40% **Price:** \$35

AMERICAN IPA

Young drinkers are reaching for the classics

Looking back over the rise of craft beer in America over the last 40 years the style most responsible for interest and growth is the India pale ale. While much of the focus these days is the hazy double dry hopped versions that rely on juicy flavors, the original is lovingly known as the West Coast IPA, or categorically as the American IPA.

Filtered clear and often deep golden in color this style of IPA highlights a decidedly hoppy, that is to say bitter, profile. The use of classic hop varieties like Simcoe, Cascade, Amarillo, Chinook, Columbus, and others bring a resinous pine to the forefront along with citrus.

A proper malt bill is also important to this style. The style should exhibit bready malt characteristics, often with a hint of caramel-like sweetness. Malt adds not only flavor but body as well, with a medium mouthfeel acceptable.

As new drinkers flocked to the more modern style of IPA that plays down bitterness, the American IPA took a back seat. That might be

changing. On a recent episode of the Steal This Beer podcast Winslow Sawyer, the brewer of Pure Project in San Diego and an early adopter to hazy IPA said the tide is turning back.

He noted that bitterness can be a virtue and add to the overall drinking experience. As new-to-craft or younger drinkers become accus-

tomed to aromas and flavors of new varieties of hops that include tropical fruit or other lively characteristics, they are looking to branch out to classics.

There is no shortage of West Coast IPAs on the mar-

ket these days and brewers are largely sticking with classic recipes with classic ingredients, although sometimes more contemporary hops like Mosaic, Ekuanot, or Nectaron, make it into the mix from time to time.

Bitter can be a scary word for some drinkers, but in this style it is a virtue and open up a new exploration of beer, just like those hearty drinkers who embraced the style four decades ago.

—John Holl

Bitterness can be a virtue and add to the overall drinking experience.

100 Industrial Arts Power Tools (American IPA; Industrial Arts, NY). Delicate aromas of citrus blossom and pressed pine needles emerge from this lightly bitter IPA that not only delights the olfactory senses but also quenches a deep beer thirst. The flavors and aromas build as the glass empties but it never overwhelms and even lets the grain bill shine with a pleasing sweetness and light bready character. This is the beer you've earned after a hard day of work.

abv: 7.1%

Price: \$16/16oz 4 pack

100 Von Ebert Volatile Substance (American IPA; Von Ebert Brewing, OR). It would be easy to wax poetic about the visual attributes of this beer, from its clear golden color to the cloud-like fluffy head of foam and how it perfectly laces the quickly emptying glass. The grapefruit pith flavors are accented by delicate pine and a caramel malt sweetness that allows just the slightest bit of boozy warmth escape. This IPA doesn't command attention, it earns it and spending time with each

sip reveals the great care and skill on which it was made.

abv: 6.9%

Price: \$17/16oz 4 pack

99 Industrial Arts Power Tools (American IPA; Industrial Arts, NY). Delicate aromas of citrus blossom and pressed pine needles emerge from this lightly bitter IPA that not only delights the olfactory senses but also quenches a deep beer thirst. The flavors and aromas build as the glass empties but it never overwhelms and even lets the grain bill shine with a pleasing sweetness and light bready character. This is the beer you've earned after a hard day of work.

abv: 7.1%

Price: \$15/16oz 4 pack

98 Bear Republic Racer 5 (American IPA; Bear Republic Brewing, CA). There is something comforting about a well-made American IPA. It needs to be assertive in its hop content, but not harsh, the grain bill needs to be toasted bread, crackery, and a little sweet, but never too full or

cloying. Rounded citrus peel, slightly dried, pine, and vestiges of dankness. This IPA has it all along with just a little bit of warming booze character on the finish. It's a delight, and one that should be followed by a second.

abv: 7.5%

Price: \$12/12oz 6 pack

98 Wayfinder Cold IPA (American IPA; Wayfinder Beer, OR). The cold IPA is a style that originated with Wayfinder brewing in 2018 and uses an alternative malt bill from normal IPAs including corn and rice. The use of lager yeast at warmer than usual temperatures and a similar process for dry hopping, the success of this style relies on biotransformation for its signature flavor. Crystal clear and with moderate bitterness, this has aromas of citrus peel and pine, that yields into a floral honey character and light fruitiness. The finish is dry and pleasing, easily setting the palate up for another deep swallow.

abv: 6.9%

Price: tk/16oz 4 pack

97 Dogfish Head 60 Minute IPA (American IPA; Dogfish Head, DE). There is a reason that this beer has become a classic and often lands at the top of many "desert island" lists. It's the moderate of the minute beer done by this old school Delaware brewery, with floral pine forest aromas, perfumy ripe dark fruit flavors, and a nutty, caramel-malt accented body. It finishes easy, with just a little bit of hop bitterness. This IPA has become a trusted friend that is always there in times of need.

abv: 6%

Price: \$10/12oz 6 pack

97 New Realm Tank Dog (American IPA; New Realm Brewing Co., GA). It might take a half a glass for your brain to catch up with this imperial abv, but when it does hang on for a fun ride. The high abv is a feature to this dank, citrus pine combination that delivers on big malt sweetness and moderate bitterness. Served cold it's refreshing as all get out, the kind of beer where one is enough, especially when it's served in a stovepipe can.

abv: 9.3%

Price: \$8/19.2oz

96 Firestone Walker Hopnosis IPA (American IPA; Firestone Walker, CA). There is great skill involved in having different hops present as individual and collectively in each sip, and this beer pulls it off. The aromas are decidedly tropical with candied citrus, with spikes to fresh pine and an underlying dankness that all come together to enchant the taste buds sip after sip. This is a west coast body wearing an east coast jacket, and it's fashionable for our times.

abv: 6.7%

Price: \$12/12oz 6 pack

96 Wayfinder Retro Gold (American IPA; Wayfinder Beer, OR). The name says retro and there is a nod to the beers of the past that built this style in every sip, but overall it feels very modern. Threads of tropical fruit mix with citrus peel and pricks of pine. A slight dankness gives the nod to the past as well, but a crispness from the malt keeps the beer fresh and moving along the palate. An enjoy-

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able and well crafted IPA perfectly suited for any occasion.
abv: 6.8% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

95 Allagash Swiftly (American IPA; Allagash Brewing Co., ME). This sweet caramel malt profile has threads of nuttiness that help boost up the toasted pine and dried citrus peel. It is not overly hoppy letting the bitterness to grow on the palate as the can empties. Comforting to the soul, this is a companion beer for quiet evenings by the firepit or along with an enthralling book.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$14/16oz 4 pack

95 Beachwood Melrose IPA (American IPA; Beachwood Brewing, CA). A delightfully dank IPA that revels in the use of traditional hops to extract a moderate, but never crushing, bitterness and a low-key orange pith aroma that comes on early and lasts until the finish. There is a thread of malt sweetness that runs the length of the tasting, but the palate keeps coming back to the hops and a syrupy bit of pine that ties this up with a nice bow.
abv: 7.1% **Price:** TK/16oz 4 pack

95 Flying Dog The Truth (American IPA; Flying Dog Brewery, MD). Lively freshly cut pine needles emerge from the glass followed by a rich orange oil and a deep dried wild flower character. This is a strong IPA and the abv is barely masked by a sweet country bread malt profile. A few of these will set your mind free.
abv: 8.7% **Price:** \$12/12oz 6 pack

95 Reuben's Summer IPA (American IPA; Reuben's Brews, WA). Pours a bright, clear golden yellow that can make one think of a crayon-drawn sun in the sky. Maybe that's the point with this "summer" IPA, which isn't really a style of beer but maybe should be. Soft and easy all around with candied malts, easy resinous hops with bits of lemony citrus and a touch of flowery whisps around the edges with low-to-moderate bitterness. This IPA evokes thoughts of warm weather no matter the season its consumed.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

94 Ecliptic Ligo (American IPA; Ecliptic Brewing, WA). At first this ale sets itself up to be a full blown classic West Coast IPA with robust pine, toasted citrus peel and a caramel malt essence that verges on nutty. Then the tropical fruit accented hops kick in with dried mango, pineapple, and guava, a bit of a modern flourish on an old school IPA.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$12/16oz 4 pack

94 Fullsteam Rocket Science (American IPA; Fullsteam Brewery, NC). For full review see page 31.
abv: 7% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

94 Surly Controlled Chaos (American IPA; Surly Brewing Co.). This golden hued IPA is clearly made with great skill and reverence for the style. Grapefruit and resin tinted hops combine with a candied lemon, floral, and slightly herbal flavor,

revealing a muster reveal in each sip and leading the brain on a fun tasting exercise.
abv: 7.2% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

93 Radiant Another Surprise (American IPA; Radiant Beer Co., CA). With a slight chill haze this dark golden IPA bursts forth with orange and lime notes that last until the last drop. A low-to-moderate bitterness is present but never overwhelms, this is a ballpark beer to enjoy at a day game just before the 7th inning stretch.
abv: 7.3% **Price:** TK/16oz 4 pack

93 Upland Dragonfly (American IPA; Upland Brewing, IN). The pleasing bitterness of this IPA can't be ignored and shouldn't be ignored. Pine forward with burnt citrus peel play in harmony with caramel malts and a bready, almost nutty, body. Built for long afternoons with nothing else on the agenda but watching the grass grow.
abv: 6.7% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

92 Orpheus The Inevitable End (American IPA; Orpheus Brewing, GA). There is a pleasing sensation in the subtleness of this beer. Orange peel, spicy herbal characters, and pricks of pine are all present but take a while to open up. The hops never overwhelm but build a slow bitterness on the tastebuds with each sip, helping the flavors build as the glass empties. An IPA that makes you stop and consider the components, like a puzzle.
abv: 6.8% **Price:** \$14/12oz 6 pack

92 Rockwell First Available IPA (American IPA; Rockwell Beer Co., MO). A thoughtful combination of bready malts with a touch of caramel accented by assertive pine hop aromas with citrus peel intertwined. This golden clear IPA has the bitterness the style demands, with just a touch of sweetness and a berry-like character on the finish.
abv: 6.6% **Price:** tk/16oz 4 pack

91 Cellar West Acumen (American IPA; Cellar West Artisan Ales, CO). A creamy, light golden and clear IPA that carefully embraces bitterness but never lets it overwhelm the palate. Aromas of orange blossom and evergreen, with a bit of floral fruitiness combine well for an easy sipper that lends itself to lazy afternoons at the camp site.
abv: 6.2% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

91 Firestone Walker Union Jack (American IPA; Firestone Walker Brewing, CA). This has British bones, in that its malt content is prominent, bready and crisp, and the hop are more earthy and herbal. Under that is a Yankee in blue jeans with some citrus and pine hops and a bit of alcohol heat. It finishes dry and is not only a great way to start a night out, but also to end it.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$15/12oz 6 pack

91 Great Lakes IPA (American IPA; Great Lakes Brewing, OH). A bright and vibrant IPA that has warm weather vibes. Candied orange and lemon combine with dense resin and a slight hint of dankness. Overall there is a softness to this IPA which

lends to refreshment and quafability. Take this beer on a field trip and enjoy the outdoors.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$11/12oz 6 pack

91 Revision Dab-alicious (American IPA; Revision Brewing, NV). This one is for the cannabis lovers. Rich and dank with an oily, almost petrol aroma dancing in the back. Assertive on the hops but never harsh, an IPA that plays to hops family lineage.
abv: 7.2% **Price:** \$11/16oz 4 pack

90 2nd Shift Art of Neurosis (American IPA; 2nd Shift Brewing, MO). A delightful combination of sweet and bready malts and citrusy pine hops that have a slightly funky twinge. A mellow IPA for the relaxing afternoons when there's nothing on the agenda but another beer.
abv: 7.6% **Price:** \$12/16oz 4 pack

90 Big Grove West Eddy (American IPA; Big Grove Brewing, IA). Tropical mango, white stone fruit, and herbal floral notes combine in this somewhat hazy IPA. Pine and citrus pith come on mid-palate for a needed dose of pleasing bittering hops before finishing a little sweet and juicy. This straddles both new and old schools of IPA brewing that will bring hop lovers to the bar.
abv: 6.8% **Price:** \$11/12oz 6 pack

90 Foothills Jade IPA (American IPA; Foothills Brewing, NC). A vibrant tropical fruit-forward IPA delivered in a clear bronze liquid with a foam that laces the glass. This has the bitterness needed by the style that plays well off the sweet fruitiness of the aromas. Intriguing and impactful.
abv: 7.4% **Price:** \$12/12oz 6 pack

90 Mikerphone She's So Divine (American IPA; Mikerphone Brewing, IL). A pine spice forward IPA with country bread maltiness, with bits of citrus weaving through the glass. Full bodied, but not chewy, this well-hopped ale never becomes too bitter and finishes with a grapefruit peel note. For the nights out listening to live music where a beer with a little character enhances the whole experience.
abv: 7.2% **Price:** \$15/16oz 4 pack

90 Ninkasi Trailhead Tropical IPA (American IPA; Ninkasi Brewing Co., OR). This IPA straddles the line between new world and old, dark bronze and clear in the glass it boasts big mango aromas. Still, bitterness is present in the mid-palate and finish and the malt bill is not overrun by the hops. It walks a tightrope without a net.
abv: 6.6% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

90 Old Irving Scentinel (American IPA; Old Irving Brewing, IL). Pours a burnished gold with a fluffy white head, and immediately releases a pleasing, aged pine aroma that is comforting and warm. Full malt body with some sweetness that adds a candy-like tint to the citrusy hops that come on mid-palate. This has old school DNA in the very best way.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$12/16oz 4 pack

90 Proof La La Land IPA (American IPA; Proof Brewing Co., FL). With moderate bitterness but overall sweetness this IPA is a delight on the tastebuds. There is a mix of pine and vanilla, citrus and tropical fruits and a soft breadly malt character that provides just a touch of caramel sweetness. A poolside beer for those long lazy afternoons.
abv: 7% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

90 St. Elmo Slater (American IPA; St. Elmo Brewing, TX). Clear and copper this cool IPA has classic grapefruit peel and pine character with a touch of dankness. It's a throwback to simpler times in IPA when just four ingredients were needed, each sip was a pleasing jolt to the tastebuds, and a second round was never too far away.
abv: 6.8% Price: \$18/16oz 4 pack

89 By All Means 41 Peaks (American IPA; By All Means, MT). The brewery calls this a "rocky mountain IPA" but its heart is in the west. Hopped with a skilled hand and measured to make sure that nothing is too overwhelming, this pine, slightly dank, IPA is a thirst quencher is great after a long day hiking the mountains.
abv: TK Price: \$17/16oz 4 pack

89 Cape May IPA (American IPA; Cape May Brewing, NJ). On the hazier side of light golden, there is a lively orange peel and tangerine flavor and aroma and brings a dose of sunshine and warmth to the glass. The malt bill adds balance and body making this an easy sipper for warm days outdoors or paired with a seafood boil.
abv: 6.3% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

89 Creature Comforts Tropicália (American IPA; Creature Comforts Brewing, GA). As the name suggests this has some tropical fruit flair, mostly in aromas and flavors of passion fruit. Still, this mildly bitter IPA has roots in tradition with grapefruit pith and orange peel. A sipper for full sunshine afternoons in the summer when a bit of abv heft hits the spot.
abv: 6.6% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

89 East Brother Gold IPA (American IPA; East Brother Brewing, CA). Pours a dark copper color with a fluffy, vibrant head. Aromas of herbal pine and dank grapefruit peel. The body is full and there is a sweetness that comes on early and stays until the finish. Rounded carbonation gives this excellent drinkability for those hard days when only a proper dose of hops will do.
abv: 7.3% Price: \$15/16oz 4 pack

88 4 Hands Incarnation IPA (American IPA; 4 Hands Brewing, MO). A pungent, clear golden IPA that combines a certain hoppy dankness with sweet fruit aromas and flavors. This is the IPA to drink at the family cookout while waiting on the smoker to finish its hard and important work.
abv: 7% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

88 Bale Breaker Topcutter (American IPA; Bale Breaker, WA). This soft bodied IPA has big aromas of herb and hay, citrus blossom and fir trees

on the wind. It's a relaxing take on the style that doesn't give into too much bitterness but never sacrifices the hops in any sip.
abv: 6.8% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

88 Bull N Bear Initial Public Offering (American IPA, Bull N Bear Brewing, NJ). Lively aromas of tangerine and clementine oil come on quick and last until the end. A solid malt bill with some sweetness, a light earthy nuttiness, and a thread of boozy heat at the finish.
abv: 7.5% Price: \$20/16oz 4 pack

88 Creature Comforts B Good! (American IPA; Creature Comforts Brewing, GA). With a big herbal and fruity hop punch the bitterness lands near the finish of each sip like a gentle slap, never getting harsh. A rounded hop experience that feels all-encompassing but never completely outshines the malt bill. A crispy, enjoyable IPA for warm spring evenings.
abv: 7.1% Price: \$15/16oz 4 pack

88 Great Lakes TropiCoastal (American IPA; Great Lakes Brewing, OH). There's no mistaking the use of modern hops in this bright gold and clear IPA. Mango, pineapple, guava are all present and clearly having a good time, but there is a subtle bitterness that appears towards the finish that prevents the ale from going full juice and it adds a nice twist to the overall package.
abv: 6% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

88 Hop Butcher Cccclear IPA (American IPA; Hop Butcher for the World, IL). A well hopped dark golden clear IPA that boasts Citra, Centennial, Chinook, Cascade, and Columbus varieties. There's a lot to unpack with each sip, from orange and tangerine, to pine, dank notes, and wafts of dried tropical fruits. Overall, it's green with some onion and garlic notes that become more prominent as the glass empties.
abv: 7.2% Price: \$8/16oz

88 Live Oak IPA (American IPA; Live Oak Brewing, TX). This dark golden malt-forward ale pays homage to earlier iterations of the style. Bready sweet malts mix with pungent old-school hops in delightful ways to remind us that sometimes remembering the past is important to do in our glass.
abv: 5.3% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

88 Oskar Blues Western Mutant (American IPA; Oskar Blues, CO). A creamy and smooth IPA that takes a few sips before the bitterness of the pine-forward hops to kick in. It's hearty with a full body and would pair well with bitter green salads or stinky soft cheeses.
abv: 7% Price: \$9/12oz 6 pack

88 Pure Project Pure West (American IPA; Pure Project, CA). An IPA on the lighter shade of the spectrum. The bright golden color is welcoming in the glass and looks picture-perfect with a fluffy white head. The hops are delicate, and the malt bill is crisp. Pine and citrus pith appear mid-palate and

stay long after the dry finish. Right at any time of the day, this is actually refreshing after a big meal, especially when paired with carrot cake.
abv: 6.5% Price: \$19/16oz 4 pack

88 Upland Coast Buster (American IPA; Upland Brewing Co., IN). A big, boozy resin-forward IPA that pulls no punches while delivering flavor to your tastebuds. The pine is herbal and there is a caramel malt thread throughout the whole glass ending in a semi-dry finish. Pair with a well-aged blue cheese for a sublime experience.
abv: 8.5% Price: \$14/12oz 6 pack

87 2nd Shift El Gato Grande (American IPA; 2nd Shift Brewing, MO). A little funky and dank with a slight hoppy cattyiness, this IPA has character that comes through in a big way. Undertones of citrus and dried tropical fruits, the grain bill is nutty with some country bread and a slight sweet caramel. A pint of this at happy hour takes the edge off of a hard day.
abv: 7.6% Price: \$12/16oz 4 pack

87 4 Hands Divided Sky (American IPA; 4 Hands Brewing, MO). A light gold IPA that is big on tropical fruit notes with an herbal essence on the back end. This is easy drinking and enjoyable and the kind of IPA that will stand up well to hearty street tacos.
abv: 6.5% Price: \$10/12oz 6 pack

87 Bear Republic Hop Shovel Citra! Citra! (American IPA; Bear Republic Brewing, CA). Malt forward and chewy with boozy undertones of fig and raisin. The citrus-forward hops aromas and flavor make sense given the heavy use of Citra hops. It's assertively bitter at the start and mid palate before yielding to a pleasing candi sugar sweetness towards the finish.
abv: 8.3% Price: \$15/16oz 4 pack

87 Commonhouse Looking East (American IPA; Commonhouse Aleworks, SC). A juicy and clear IPA that offers up a tropical fruit mélange without much bitterness. A modern interpretation of the style that finishes with a slight vanilla-flavored finish.
abv: 6.2% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

87 Westbound & Down Spirit of the West (American IPA; Westbound & Down, CO). Light golden and clear with a thin head that laces the glass, there is a lemon pine aroma that comes on quickly and stays. Soft malt bill that adds a cracker to the drinking experience. Finishes with a fermented lemon tartness.
abv: 6.8% Price: \$17/16oz 4 pack

87 Commonhouse Looking East (American IPA; Commonhouse Aleworks, SC). A juicy and clear IPA that offers up a tropical fruit mélange without much bitterness. A modern interpretation of the style that finishes with a slight vanilla-flavored finish.
abv: 6.2% Price: TK/12oz 6 pack

BUYINGGUIDE

86 Anchor West Coast IPA (American IPA; Anchor Brewing Co., Ca). A malt-forward IPA that leans into traditional bittering hops. This has a slightly chewy body and seems to relish in high bitterness. A throwback to recipes that helped turn this category into a juggernaut.
abv: 7% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

86 Bozeman Hopzone IPA (American IPA; Bozeman Brewing, MT). It's easy to get lost starting into the fluffy, cloudy head atop this beer that lasts for much of the drinking experience. Country bread and nutty malt forward the hops are spicy and pine-forward with a touch of herbal and citrus. A well-rounded and enjoyable glass cut from traditional cloth.
abv: 7% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

86 Deschutes Squeazy Rider (American IPA; Deschutes Brewing, OR). It takes a bit for the bitterness to present in this one and when it finally does, it lands softly. Tropical juicy hops up front that compound as the glass empties. Clear and inviting there is a pervasive sweetness that starts early and builds to a strong finish.
abv: 7% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

86 Radiant Before the Flash (American IPA; Radiant Beer Co., CA). A sugary forward IPA with a sticky body. The hops come through as a little green with garlic and onion undertones that coax a bit of herbal out of the whole drinking experience. Touches of spiciness come on near the finish. Try pairing with some game or strong cheeses.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

86 Radiant Simple Discourse (American IPA; Radiant Beer Co., CA). Green, almost vegetal hops in the aroma give this an herbal forward take from start to finish. A slight malt crispness before a semi-dry finish, this is an IPA that could pair well with a solid construction charcuterie board, likely finding harmonious pairings among soft cheeses and cured meats.
abv: 7.2% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

86 Societe Wave of the Future (American IPA; Societe Brewing, CA). A floral, herbal, and sweet IPA that allows the malt to live in harmony with the tangerine-forward hops. Easy drinking and well suited for warm afternoons when happy hour arrives a bit earlier than normal.
abv: 7.2% **Price:** \$14/16oz 4 pack

86 Workhorse West Coast (American IPA; Workhorse Brewing, PA). Slightly dank with a grainy body, this IPA has an old school feeling to it, rooted in tradition. With a slightly sweet finish and a bit of bittering hops, this honors the past in a good way.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$15/16oz 4 pack

86 Revision IPA (American IPA; Revision Brewing Co., NV). Pleasing mild bitterness abounds in this dark golden clear IPA. It pours with a low head, resin forward hops splashes with tropi-

cal fruit essence and a breadly malt body. Perfect for a pint in your favorite corner bar.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** TK/12oz 6 pack

85 Beachwood Amalgamator (American IPA; Beachwood Brewing, CA). Big on vegetal hops with bits of spicy fruit in the background, this IPA is assertive and has a rustic grain quality. A dank quality comes on towards the finish for those who like that that kind of thing.
abv: 7.1% **Price:** \$14/16oz 4 pack

85 Bozeman EcoStar (American IPA; Bozeman Brewing, MT). With a healthy amount of hoppy bitterness and warming boozy undertones, this IPA is suited for those evenings where something strong and a little chewy is needed. Featuring pineapple and dried mango flavors, those are accented by toasted pine aromas.
abv: 6.8% **Price:** \$10/12oz 6 pack

85 Foothills Hoppyum (American IPA; Foothills Brewing, NC). Berry forward with underlying cola notes, this dark burnished bronze IPA has a pine and grapefruit hop content that provides a bite to the otherwise sweet components. Pair this with a spicy chicken sandwich.
abv: 6.2% **Price:** \$13/12oz 6 pack

85 Golden Road Ride On (American IPA; Golden Road Brewing, CA). A floral perfume forward IPA that is soft and lively on the palate. Some tropical blossoms, a bit of citrus fuzz, and a dash of sweet pine all combine well in this well carbonated beer that finishes dry.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$10/16oz 6 pack

85 Our Mutual Friend Stacked Universe (American IPA; Our Mutual Friend, CO). Packed with modern hops that present a variety of fruit aromas and flavors, this IPA is designed for palates that appreciate the hazier side of IPA but in a clear package where a bit of bitterness can be released. It's complex and juicy and the malt struggles to be seen, but is a good refresher during a long day at the taproom.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$18/16oz 4 pack

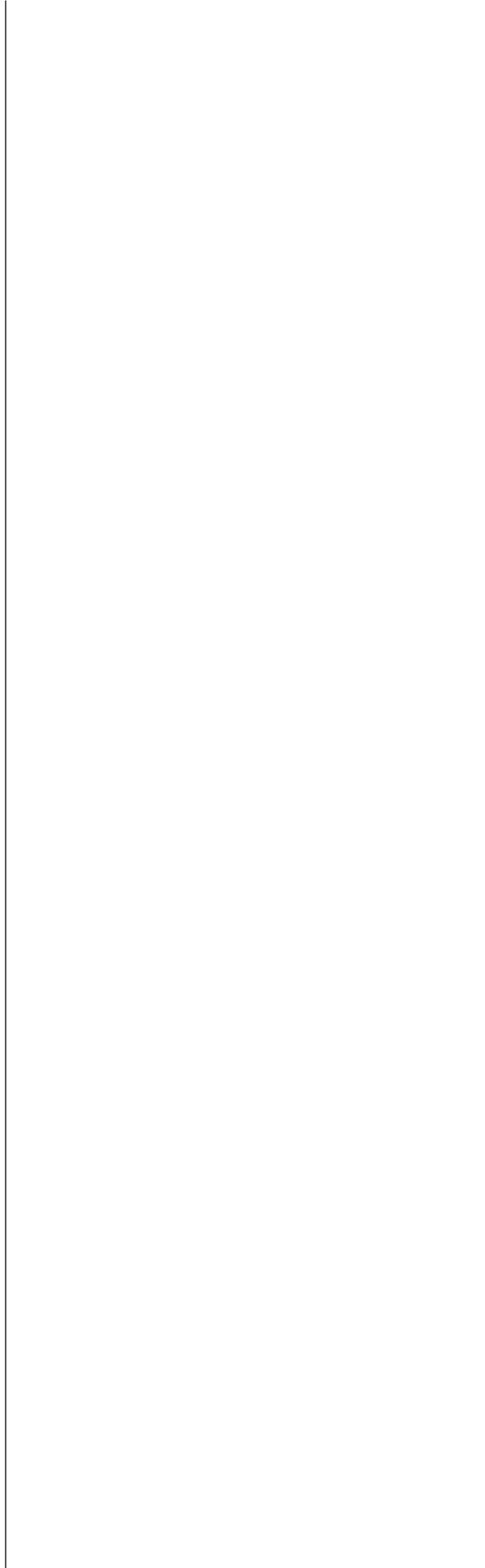
85 Westbound & Down Westbound IPA (American IPA; Westbound & Down, CO). Golden and clear with pronounced bitterness that leans into citrus pith and tangy pine. A slick bitterness builds with each sip before finishing dry.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

84 City Star All American IPA (American IPA; City Star Brewing, CO). With mineral water as a primary thread, the diverse combination of hops that reach for citrus, tropical, pine, and earthy all get a chance to shine depending on the sip. Bitterness remains low and the malt adds a rustic quality to the overall experience.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

84 Commonhouse Local (American IPA; Commonhouse Ale Works, SC). This bills itself as a low calorie IPA and it certainly has a sessionable

abv to it. The yellow gold, slightly hazy ale has aromas of green pinecones and lemon curd. It's refreshing and a suitable alternative to some of the more robust beers that dominate this category.
abv: 3.9% **Price:** N/A/12oz 6 pack

83 Ration Ale Original Rationale West Coast IPA (American IPA; Rationale Brewing, CA). Aromas of sweet tea and overly vegetal hops, this light golden IPA has a soft body and overall sweetness, with wort-like qualities. A light bitterness creeps in at the finish of this low-alcohol offering, that will quench thirst and scratch a hop itch in a pinch.
abv: .05 **Price:** TK/16oz 4 pack



INTERNATIONAL IPA

The southern hemisphere goes hop happy

There are hop growing regions that get the bulk of attention from beer drinkers and brewers. These include the fields in Germany, home to the more traditional noble hop varieties, as well as the pacific northwest, where hops of all kinds are grown and harvested annually in the fall.

In March and April, however, when conditions are just right in the southern hemisphere, hops of a different stripe are harvested in Australia and New Zealand. These hops run the gamut of aromas and flavors from citrus and tropical fruits, to petrol aromas, vinous qualities, stone fruits, and more.

The overall growth of the southern hemisphere hop market has led to more northern hemisphere brewers, namely in the United States, to using the hop cones in their beers. The popularity has even bread several official categories, including Australian Pale Ale, New Zealand pale ale, and New Zealand India pale ale. The defining qualities of these beers is the heavy or near exclusive use of southern hemi-

sphere hops grown from those island nations.

In 2021 Hops Products Australia said its collective harvested 1,526 metric tons of hops, a 6.9% increase from the previous year. “We’re excited to share this marks 11 years of continuous growth, with the exception of 2016 when we were hit with significant hail damage,” the group noted.

NZ Hops, a cooperative of master growers in the Kiwi nation also suffered hail damage in the 2021 harvest and noted that that total hop production delivered was down close to 20% versus the previous year because of the storms. Still yields were substantial.

There is fascination with southern hemisphere hops among United States breweries, who are drawn to the aromas and flavors of stone fruit and white wine, citrus zest and tropical fruits. As the market expands, hops from Australia and New Zealand will continue to pop up in lagers and stouts as well.

—John Holl

Hops of a different stripe are harvested in Australia and New Zealand.

94 Bend Brewing Spot Market (International IPA, Bend Brewing Co., OR). This clear, bright gold colored IPA is refreshing from the first sip, with a bready, slightly sweet malt character holding up a pleasing bitter hop flavor that seems to favor lime. Of course there are other hop derived flavors as well, including some pineapple, mango, and berry. It is a sublime blend that creates a hop tonic you won’t soon forget.
abv: 6% **Price:** \$13/12oz 4 pack

94 Dust Bowl East of Nelson (International IPA; Dust Bowl Brewing Co., CA). The brewery calls this a New Zealand-style IPA and the hops present as white stone fruit, with some tropical undertones. There’s a bit of earthy funk as well, and all together it works as a really solid package of southern hemisphere hops and northern hemisphere know-how. Two pints of this set you up right at the airport before the long-haul to Auckland.
abv: 6.8% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

94 Wren House Spellbinder with Galaxy (International IPA; Wren House Brewing, AZ). For full review page 31.
Abv: 7% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

92 Societe The Pupil (International IPA; Societe Brewing, CA). With a full, almost creamy mouthfeel, this IPA takes a few moments and sips for the hops to fully emerge. When they do it’s delightful with mango and other tropical fruits, having a jaunty little time in the background. A bit of hop funkiness keeps it all in check and a slightly bitter finish keeps the hops top of mind on the palate. This is a playful IPA that uses the hops well.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$14/12oz 6 pack.

91 Alvarado Street Mai Tai IPA (International IPA; Alvarado Street Brewing, CA). For full review see page 32.
abv: 6.5% **Price:** \$17/16oz 4 pack

91 Radiant Totally Keen (International pale ale; Radiant Beer Co., CA). An easy drinking, malt-forward pale ale, with a boozy kick near the finish. Tropical hop aromas are dominant with guava, pineapple, and passion fruit, before finishing in a punchy white wine note. It never feels assertive, but the white vinous note grows as the glass empties, brining a different character to the category and one to enjoy on warm, full sun afternoons.
abv: 6.2% **Price:** \$16/16oz 4 pack

90 Drowned Lands Sand & Clay (International IPA; Drowned Lands, NY). This murky, hazy, unfiltered IPA has a lot of hop content that plays around in the white wine grape, tropical fruit, and light citrus space. Full bodied, even a little chewy, it has low bitterness and an orange peel and grapefruit pith flavor that builds with each sip. A juicy IPA for the days when the sun hangs for longer in the sky and there’s no desire for the good times to end.
Abv: 8% **Price:** \$21/16oz 4 pack

90 Metazoa Brewing LL Bluejay (International IPA; Metazoa Brewing, IN). A luscious, juicy hazy IPA that celebrates late stage hopping to bring out tropical characteristic with an undercurrent of white stone fruit. Additional aromas of passion fruit and banana, like a particular tropical-flavored gum delights the senses with each sip. This one will knock you out.
abv:tk **Price:** \$7/16oz

89 Metazoa Brewing DDH Hoppototamus – NZ (International IPA, Metazoa Brewing, IN). Vibrant aromas of tropical fruits burst from the glass after pouring. Bronze with a slight chill haze and a low head that laces the glass, bits of orange peel emerge on the palate with the addition of guava. Smooth bodied with little bitterness, this IPA has a lot of southern hemisphere charm.
abv: **Price:** \$14/16oz 4 pack

88 Peculier Thiolpile (International IPA; Peculier, CO). There’s a lot of white stone fruit aromas that come from the southern hemisphere hops used in this beer. Apricot and peaches are dominant but don’t overwhelm. Fuzzy bits of fruit skin on a prickly and assertive body that do a good job in masking the high alcohol content. A big hazy double IPA for the days that call for a proper unwind.
abv: 9.2% **Price:** \$24/16oz 4 pack

87 Alvarado Street Land & Sea XPA (International IPA; Alvarado Street Brewing, CA). A collaboration with a local soccer team, this IPA plays into the white wine characteristics of the Nelson Sauvignon hops. It’s moderate IPA and easy drinkability makes it perfect for watching a match or a few pints after getting off the pitch.
abv: 5% **Price:** \$14/12oz 6 pack

