

350 Club Wine Notes

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Below are descriptions of the wines that we have tasted, plan on ordering or think deserve inclusion.

There are times when the winemaker captures the essence of their wine, or a wine magazine reviews a wine, and we concede to their description.

After the description of a wine there are notations in parentheses that reference the name of the distributor

All wines below can be ordered from the distributors with minimum order requirements, and you can also request a special order of your favorite wine.

Legend for the wholesale bottle price: Under \$15.00 (\$), \$30.00 (\$\$), \$50.00 (\$\$\$), \$100.00 (\$\$\$\$), and over \$100.00 (\$\$\$\$\$)

Wines with a wholesale price over \$100 or allocated wines are subject to a different pricing.

Argentina

SALTA

(Northwest Argentina)

ANKO 100% Malbec: Dark Cherry bouquet and a long fresh finish (I), \$

ANKO Flor DE Cardon Malbec: A nice representation for an easy to drink Malbec. (I), \$

Terrazas de los Andes Malbec Single Vineyard: This wine has an intense red plum color; the wine is smooth but also displays spicy notes, and there is a slight effervescence along with the finish. This is a polished Malbec and is very elegant. (GL), \$\$\$\$

Enjoy with red meats.

Terrazas de los Andes Torrontes Reserve, Salta: The Torrontes grape is a white grape indigenous to Argentina. The grape can be very minerally, but this wine is

aromatic and stands out with a freshness and intensity which is very distinctive, with a mild minerality. (GL), \$

Enjoy with appetizers and spicy Asian dishes.

Mendoza

Catena Zapata, Nicasta Vineyard, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina: An exceptional Malbec. (GL), \$\$\$\$

Cheval des Andes, 2015, Mendoza, Argentina: A big Bordeaux blend produced in Mendoza, Argentina. This wine has achieved a 98-point rating by James Suckling. Please refer to the winery's fact sheet. (GL), \$\$\$\$

Kaiken, Ultra, Malbec, 2017, Los Rocas, Mendoza, Argentina: This Malbec pours into the glass reflecting a deep violet color, the nose radiates a fresh bouquet of berries evoking the senses of a classic Malbec.

This wine is not tannic but smooth, and the finish is long and pleasant. A well-balanced Malbec and very reasonably priced. (RBC), \$

Luminis Malbec, 2017: This wine is a medium bodied Malbec with a smooth finish. (W), \$

MAAL WINES Vineyards

bestial Malbec, 2016: This is a nice high-quality Malbec. The wine is rich in color, connected, and balanced, with soft smooth tannins. (W), \$\$\$

biutiful, Malbec, 2018: A good entry level Malbec for folks who want to explore. (W), ((\$)

impossible, Malbec, 2016, MAAL Wines. This wine is ready to drink when you open the bottle and pour it into the glass. Enjoy this wine over casual conversation, with appetizers or an entrée. (W), \$\$

Australia

South Australia

Penfolds Max's Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016: This wine is a bold cabernet that starts out strong but, if left to breath, will smooth out and finish nicely. This Max's cabernet is an enjoyable value from Penfold of Australia. (A), \$\$

Adelaide Hills

Sidewood Shiraz, 2018: This is an Australian Shiraz with a big bouquet. This wine offers up an abundance of Shiraz spiciness and ends with a nice, weighted finish. Lots of bang for your dollar! (W), (\$)

Barossa Valley

Tait "The Ballbuster Shiraz": (80%) Shiraz, (12%) Cabernet, (8%) Merlot. This is an earthy wine and extremely drinkable, smooth, and ending with light pepper notes. (V), \$

Tim Smith, Barossa: (76%) Mataro, (synonymous with the Monastrell grape), (20%) Grenache, (4%) Shiraz. A big and full wine, with a little time in the glass it opens into a spicey wine with cool tannins. (i-l), \$\$\$

Yalumba, Bush Vine Grenache: With an exquisite red color, cherry berry flavor, you could mistake this wine for a lovely Pinot Noir, but the wine is (100%) Grenache. An easy to drink wine that you open and enjoy, relaxing with friends. (GL), \$

McLaren Valley

d'Arenberg, The Dead Arm Shiraz: The color is dark and rich, full bodied, finishing with just the right number of tannins. (I), \$\$\$

Enjoy with savory cheeses and hearty red meats.

Southwestern Australia

Clare Valley

Jim Barry, Watervale Riesling, 2017: The color of this wine is like water reflecting on a summer day. A dry Riesling with just a hint of sweetness on the finish. Very pleasant. (GL), \$

Kilkanoon, Clare Valley, Killerman's Run, Shiraz: A nice Shiraz from Australia with a fun story about its origins. A bio and description of the wine is printed and available next to the wine. (I), \$

Edna Valley

Pewsey Vale, Eden Valley, Dry Riesling, 2017: This wine exhibits a light platinum color, is dry and non-minerally. A very pleasant Riesling. This wine is a bargain. (GL), \$

Western Australia

Hope Estate Shiraz "The Ripper": 100% Shiraz, from Australia, the "Ripper" is a medium to full bodied wine, which depends on your level of palate, regarding Syrah/Shiraz. Easy to drink, this wine is good for entertaining small or large groups or enjoy by yourself. (RBC), \$

Enjoy with pork and other meat dishes.

Austria

Niederposterreich

Kamptal

Barbara Ohlzelt

Barbara Ohlzelt, Gruner Leader, 2019: A refreshing and acidic Gruner Veltliner white wine for the summer. (i-L), \$

Barbara Ohlzelt, Gruner Veltliner, Zobinger, 2018: At first you will wonder if you are going to enjoy this wine, then you set your glass down. In the next sip, after the wine has sat for about 10 minutes, the wine opens, and you will probably drink the whole bottle. (I-L), \$\$

Chile

Aconcagua

Casabalanca Valley

Cuvee Alexandre, Chardonnay, Lapostolle: A big Chardonnay with a bright golden color, plenty of richness going on here. This wine is produced by one of the most well-known vintners in Chile. (GL), \$\$

Central Valley

Corazon Del Indio, Vina Marty, 2019: (40%), Carmenere, (35%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (25%) Syrah. This is one of Pascal Marty's premium wines produced under the Vina Marty vineyard. Decant an hour before serving and enjoy a smooth and soft tannin red blend with a hint of spiciness. (W), \$

Mariposa Alegre, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2019, Gran Reserva: This Cabernet is bolder and fuller than the Vina Marty Estate Cabernet. The Mariposa Cabernet and the Estate Cabernet are both nice and balanced, offering their own unique qualities. James Suckling has scored this wine 91 points. (W), \$

Vina Marty Estate Cabernet 2019: The winemaker of this estate has an impressive resume.

Pascal Marty is a graduate of the Enology Institute of Bordeaux, has stints with Baron Philippe de Rothschild S.A. and Robert Mondavi, and ended up in Chile producing the wine for Vina Marty.

This Cabernet Sauvignon will surprise not only your palette but your wallet, too! A must try. (W), \$

Enjoy with any casserole dish, meats, or drink it by itself.

Maule Valley

Terranoble Gran Reserve, Carmenere, 2018: Purplish red in color, with black fruit notes and a nice spiciness; this wine has mild tannins and has consistently received high marks from the major wine critics. (GL), \$

A good accompaniment with barbecued foods.

Rapel Valley/Cachapoel

Marques de Casa Concha, Camenere, 2016: This is subtle and fragrant wine that continues to please the palate with the passage of time. This is an amazing value. (GL), \$\$

Terrunyo, Carmenere, Concha Y Toro: This wine is dense ruby red, a nose of dark cherries, spicy with a smokey cigar taste which finishes like a truck running off the road. Fasten your seat belt. (GL), \$\$\$

Enjoy with heavy meat dishes, especially those meat sauces served over pasta.

Rapel Valley/Colchagua

Lapostolle, Cuvee Alexandre, Carmenere: A big red, nice tannins and spicy. This red holds up very nicely for next day drinking. (GL), \$\$

TerraNoble 2013 CA2 Costa Carmenere: The Carmenere grape is an old grape from the Bordeaux. Carmenere's parents are Cabernet Franc and Gros Cabernet and the siblings of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Camenere is now widely grown in Chile. This wine turns into a big red after breathing for 30 minutes. The wine maintains a nice spiciness, long finish and is reasonably priced. (GL), \$

Enjoy with meats.

Elqui Valley/ Coquimbo

Elqui, 2016, Carmenere (50%), Syrah (14%), Malbec (26%), Elqui Valley: A big red wine with a low price, this wine needs one hour of breathing. Please see the winery fact sheet. (EE), \$

Enjoy with hearty meat pasta dish.

France

JP. Chenet, Original, Blanc De Blancs, Brut: JP. Chenet is one of France's most recognizable producers of wine. This sparkling wine is a very affordable Brut that is dry and works well by itself or with drink mixes. A great Brut for gatherings. (EE), \$

Bordeaux

Chateau Carignan: This wine is (100%) Merlot, and you will want to decant it for a bit. This wine is rich, heavy, and robust. Ready to drink now! (V), \$\$

Chateau Du Pin: (60%) Merlot, (20%) Cabernet, (20%) Cabernet Franc, a smooth, fresh wine; an easy to drink Bordeaux. Exceptionally good value. (AHD), \$

Chateau Marjosse, 2018: A nice blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon. (AHD), \$

Virginie Thunevin, 2018: A good Bordeaux with a rich dark color. Nice value. (AHD), \$

Bordeaux Superieur

Chateau Camarsac: This Chateau has been producing wines dating back to the 14th century. The wine produced today is an easy drinking Bordeaux and is reasonably priced. (AHD), \$

Chateau Croix-Mouton, 2015: The vintner for this wine, Jean-Phillippe Janoueix, is known for producing wines from Bordeaux, such as La Confessions and La Croix St. George. This wine is a budget friendly Bordeaux with nice layers and is ready to drink. (AHD), \$

Chateau Pasde Rauzen, Bordeaux Superieur, 2016, Maison Riviere: From the Maison Riviere family, wine producers and merchants since 1875, this wine is (35%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (30%) Cabernet Franc and (35%) Merlot. The Riviere family are known for their Gran Crus. Although this is a young Bordeaux, after 10 minutes of breathing, it smooths out into a delicious wine with low tannins. A particularly good Bordeaux value. (EE), \$

***Chateau Thieuley:** A good value Bordeaux, an easy to drink Merlot and Cabernet blend. (AHD), \$

Cotes de Bordeaux

Chateau Joamim Becot, 2016: (75%) Merlot, (25%) Cabernet Sauvignon, this is a beautiful full-bodied wine that is intense and polished which ends with a great finish and smooth tannins. AHD, \$\$\$\$

Chateau De Frances, "Les Cerisiers", 2018: This winery was started by Hubert De Bouard, of Chateau Angelus and Dominique Hebrard, of the Chateau Cheval Blanc, two prestigious Chateaux of the Bordeaux region; recognized around the world. This is an amazing value. (90%) Merlot and (10%) Cabernet Sauvignon. (AHD), \$\$

Chateau Marsau, 2016: 100% Merlot, this wine is subtle and has refined tannins. A good buy. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with a rich fish dish.

Esprit de Pavie, 2015: A full bodied Bordeaux with a deep garnet purple color. This wine is rich with lots of dark berry flavors. Decant for one hour before serving. AHD, \$\$

Fronsac

Chateau La Dauphine: This is another good bargain Bordeaux. The wine produces a nice thinness and opens beautifully in the glass. The blend of (90%) Merlot and

(10%) Cabernet Franc is a nice grape combo. (AHD), \$\$

Chateau La Vieille Cure 2017: When you drink this wine, imagine that you are sharing the wine with the nobles and the king. This was a favorite wine being served from this Chateau at Versailles and the hunting lodges during that time. Located in Fronsac, this area offers some good Bordeaux values. Located west of St-Emilion and Pomerol, you can enjoy a reasonably priced Bordeaux. This wine is a mix of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Cabernet Sauvignon and is medium to full bodied. Let the wine breathe for an hour before serving. (AHD), \$\$

Graves

Pessac-Leognan

Chateau Bouscay, 2016, Grand Cru Classe De Graves: (50%) Semillon and (50%) Sauvignon Blanc, this wine is rich, classy, and elegant. With its fragrant, creamy, and dry finish, you can consume this wine with any seafood or poultry dish. (AHD), \$\$\$

Chateau Tour Leognan, 2017: A crisp white wine with wonderful fruit notes; a good combination of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon resulting in a dry easy to drink wine. (AHD), \$\$

Le Petit Havt Lafitte, 2016, by Smith Havt Lafitte: (60%) Cabernet, (40%) Merlot, this wine is produced from young vines but has plenty of weight resulting in a medium bodied wine. With dry and soft tannins, this wine is a thoroughly enjoyable drinking experience. (AHD), \$\$\$

Chantegrive Graves: This wine is a combination of Semillon (a Bordeaux original grape, pure, clean, and fresh) and Sauvignon Blanc (a big white grape with intense flavors, such as straw, hay, grass, smoke green herbs, green tea, lime, etc., acidic, and full flavored). Chantegrive is a dry white wine that is floral on the nose and mouthwatering appealing texture, the Semillon tames the Sauvignon Blanc. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with appetizers, poultry, and seafood.

Chateaux Graille Lacoste: (Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon), aromas of grapefruit, a tangy crisp taste, and a clean finish. This wine is produced by the same vintner as Chateaux Ducasse. (V), \$

Enjoy with cheese and fish.

Clarendell Blanc, 2019: The color of this wine looks like it is from a crystal-clear mountain spring water. Light and refreshing. (AHD), \$

Clarendell Rouge, 2015: A medium body Bordeaux, smooth with light tannins. Decant for an hour before serving. Quite lovely. (AHD), \$

Haut-Medoc

Chateau Beaumont, 2017. This is the largest estate in Haut-Medoc dating back to 1772, but its wine beginnings started in 1824. This is a young Bordeaux, but you can it drink now. The wine can also be cellared for up to 10 years. (AHD), \$\$

Chateau Belgrave, Haut-Medoc, 2010: A heavy wine and excellent representation of a Bordeaux. This wine has a great color, is low in tannins and acidity. Decant for 1 to 2 hours. (V), \$\$\$

Chateau De LaMarque: This property dates to the 11th Century and was once an estate for King Henry V.

Now a family property for generations, this Bordeaux is fragrant and substantial. You can decant this wine for two hours, although we could only wait an hour and still thoroughly enjoyed the wine. (AHD), \$\$

Listrac

Chateau Ducluzeau, 2016: A family business that dates to 1740; the wine that they produce is medium bodied, dry, and reasonably priced. This wine needs to breathe for one to two hours before consumption. (EE), \$\$

Margaux

Paveill De Luze, 2016 Cru Bourgeois: This winery dates to 1862; the wine is robust, but also rich, and elegant, with a delightful finish; (100%) Cabernet Sauvignon. We let this wine decanted for an hour. (EE), \$\$

Moulis

Chateau Branas Grand Poujeaux, 2014: Dark berries, full bodied, and rich. Decant 1 to 2 hours. (AHD), \$\$\$

Chateau Poujeaux, Grand Vin, 2015: (49%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (42%) Merlot, (7%) Petit Verdot, (2%) Petit Verdot. Silky, smooth, and bold describes this wine which has enjoyed a ninety plus rating except for 2006 and 2008. (AHD), \$\$\$

Pomerol

Chateau Bonalgue 2012 Pomerol: See the fact sheet on Chateau Bonalgue and the vineyard's history. (AHD), \$\$\$

Chateau Beauregard, Pomerol, 2015: This Bordeaux has several impressive reviews rating the wine in the 90 plus point range. We have printed off some of these reviews for you to read. (AHD), \$\$\$

A great steak wine!

Clos Grangeneuve: A beautiful Bordeaux blend, (Merlot/Cabernet), the wine opens beautifully and is elegant and smooth. Exceptional value. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with seafood, poultry, and pork.

Lalande-Pomerol

Chateau de Cruzelles, 2016: (90%) Cabernet, (10%) Cabernet Franc, Cruzelles is a solid and reasonable value from a "satellite appellation" of Bordeaux. Smooth and soft tannins stand out with this wine. (AHD), \$\$

Saint-Emilion

Chateau Du Mignon, 2016, Grand Vin De Bordeaux: The producer of this wine is Chateau Du Rocher, a family-owned vineyard since the 15th century. This is an easy drinking Bordeaux; the wine opens quite nicely with a good balance of fruit and low tannins. A good price for a Saint-Emilion. (EE), \$\$

Enjoy with pasta with meat dishes, hearty casseroles.

Qvintus, 2016: This is one of the top vineyards of Bordeaux that commands 95+ ratings on the wines produced. This is an entry level bottle that is reasonably priced, and Bordeaux lovers will not be disappointed. (61%) Merlot Noir, (29%) Cabernet Franc (11%) Cabernet Sauvignon. (AHD), \$\$

Lussac

Chateau Bel-Air, Jean & Gabriel, 2016: A wonderful wine from Saint-Emilion that is affordable. A nice blend of (50%) Cabernet and (50%) Merlot. Smooth and soft tannins. Let breathe for one hour before drinking. (AHD), \$\$

Montagne

Chateau Roeher-Calon, Grand Vin De Bordeaux: (95%) Merlot, (5%) Cabernet Franc, this Bordeaux is a bargain. (AHD), \$\$

Saint Georges

Chateau Tour Du Pas St. Georges, 2016: Saint Georges, of Saint-Emilion, is considered by many folks the most prestigious satellite. This wine is soft and balanced. (AHD), \$

Saint-Julien

Chateau Langrange, 2015: This wine is delicious! The Langrange winery is one of the grand crus of Bordeaux, medium bodied, and although very drinkable from the start, let the wine breathe for an hour. This wine also scores in the low and mid 90's. (AHD), \$\$\$\$

Sauternes

Barsac

Chateau Climens, Asphodale Grand Vin Blanc, 2019: This Chateau dates to 1547 and achieved first growth status in 1855. Asphodale is 100% Semillion and when first opened bursts with honey and ripe pear fragrances. With a little time, the wine relaxes to a gentle, smooth, and elegant white Bordeaux. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with Asian, Seafood, Pasta, and Soups.

Chateau Doisy Daene, 2016, Grand Vin de Sauterens: A Grand Cru Classe of 1855. Lots of fresh, bright, and tropical flavors going on in this wine. Serve as a sweet dessert wine to accompany fine chocolates. (AHD), \$\$\$

Burgundy

Bret Brothers, Macon-Chardonnay, Grand Vin De Bourgogne, 2016: Non-oaky or buttery. An easy Chardonnay to drink. (GL), \$\$

Bret Brothers, Vire-Clesse, Grand Vin De Bourgogne, 2015: A crisp chardonnay, with hint of oak and butter. (GL), \$\$

Burrier Chateau de Beauregard Saint Veran 2016: This wine is a white Burgundy from St. Veron, Maconnais, Burgundy, France. This is not a heavy Chardonnay and will pair nicely with fish and roasted vegetables or poultry. Easy to drink. (AHD), \$\$\$

Jean Foillard Beaujolais Villages: The Gamay grape is known for low tannins and fruitiness. Jean Foillard is considered one of the top producers of old-style Beaujolais's production; described as traditional "Burgundian". The winery uses no herbicides or pesticides and ages the wine in older Oak barrels. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with charcuterie, pork, and poultry.

Louis Chevallier, Bourgnone, Pinot Noir, 2017: The wine is bright, fresh, and ready to drink when opened. This a great Pinot Noir value from Burgundy, France. (DC), \$\$

Enjoy with Salmon or Cheeses.

Meo-Camuzet: A wonderful Chardonnay. The color is beautiful, the wine is light and refreshing. The finish is distinctive and stimulating but does not overwhelm. (V), \$\$

Moillard NV Cremant de Bourgogne Brut: Lots of bubbles with this sparkling wine. Dry and refreshing, great price, it's from Burgundy. (EE), \$

Enjoy with seafood.

Valmoissine Pinot Noir, by Louis Latour, 2016: This Pinot Noir will surprise you with both its richness and low price. (V), \$

Beaujolais/Morgan

Chateau Grange Cochard, 2015: This chateau was established in 1759. The Chateau is still producing a quality Pinot Noir which is very affordable. (AHD), \$

Chablis

Fourey Bourgogne Pinot Noir 2018: This wine is produced in the Chablis region of Burgundy by a 4th generation family. A medium body and acidic wine with smooth tannins, and an easy finish. A good value from Burgundy. (AHD) \$\$

Simonnet-Febvre Chablis: This wine exhibits a beautiful color, a very pleasant fruitiness on the nose and ends in an extended gentle finish. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with appetizers on a summery day.

Macon-Villages

Deux Roches "Tradition", 2020: This wine is light and easy to drink. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with food or by itself.

Maconnis/Vire-Clesse

Verpalle Grand Vin de Bourgogne Vire-Clesse, 2018: A delightful Chardonnay which is reasonably priced. Don't drink immediately after opening; let the wine take five minutes to breathe. (EE), \$\$

Cotes de Nuits/Marsannay

Domaine Collotte, En Combereau, 2017: This is a reasonably priced red burgundy wine, medium to full-bodied, packing plenty of berry flavor, and is masculine. A good complement to heavy seafood and chicken dishes. (AHD), \$\$

Cahors

St. Dieder Parnac, Prieure De Cenac, Malbec: A rich and elegant wine which is dry and very quirky on the palate, with the color and fragrance to go with it. (C), \$\$

Enjoy with duck and lamb.

Clos Siguier, 2018: This is a medium bodied Malbec, with light tannins and easy to drink. The wine is very versatile to pair with meat and heavy pasta dishes. (i-L). \$

Languedoc Rousillon

Corbieres

Chateau Camplong, Grand Reserve, 2020: (Carignan, Grenache, Mourvede, Syrah) A full bodied wine with a nice fruit balance. (EE), \$

Enjoy with a hearty casserole or a heavier Frontier Soup, sold at the Butler.Pantry.

La Lumiere, 2015 3: (70%) Syrah, (30%) Mourvedre, a well-structured, connected, and smooth wine. This is a delightful wine that will continue to open. (W), \$\$\$

Minervois

Le Lien, 2015 2: (80%) Syrah, (20%) Grenache Noir. A wine with character, richness, and spiciness; the finish is great! (W), \$\$

Loire Valley

Breton Bourg Trinch 2018 Cabernet Franc: A beautiful ruby red color and a pleasant fragrance on the nose and subtle soft tannins, this wine delivers a smooth and slight effervescence on the finish. (V), \$\$

Champalou, Vouvray, 2018: This wine comes from a certified Sustainable Farming Vineyard. 100% Chenin Blanc, the wine is neither sweet nor dry, a nice balance. (V), \$

Muscadet Sevre Et Maine, 2019: If you are looking for a wine that tastes part Chardonnay with the elegance of a French Sauvignon Blanc, this is your wine. The grapes are harvested by hand and are organic. This wine is dry, has weight, is lively, and a long finish. (W), \$

Enjoy with cheeses, Seafood, and our Frontier vegetarian or chicken soups.

Sancerre

Comte Lafond Sancerre, 2018: The Ladoucette family purchased the Chateau and vineyard in 1787 from the illegitimate daughter of the French king Louis XV. This is a lovely Sancerre that is elegant in style. The wine offers wonderful citrus and minerality. (VTG), \$\$\$

Fournier Sancerre, “Les Belles Vignes”, 2020: This is a nice, reasonably priced Sancerre. The wine begins with a punch of grapefruit but quickly mellows out. (C), \$\$

Joseph Mellot, Destinea Sauvignon Blanc, 2020: This Chateau was founded in 1513 by Pierre-Etienne Mellot and is still owned by the same family. They must be doing something right! This is a good Sauvignon Blanc and an excellent value. (EE), \$

Sancerre “Pascal & Nicolas Reverdy”: This wine has an understated bouquet that does not overwhelm but enhances the accompaniment of cheeses and seafood. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with shellfish, white meats, vegetables.

Rhone Valley

Domaine de Beurenard “Rasteau”: The Beurenard family is an old château with a rich history of wine production in the Rhone Valley region going as far back as the late 1600’s.

Rasteau is a parish in the Southern Rhone Valley. The appellation is known for their Grenache varietal grapes. This wine is (80%) Grenache, (17%) Syrah, and (3%) Mourvèdre.

The wine is smooth and light and represents good value. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with game or meat or serve for large gatherings.

Chatauneuf-du-Pape

Beurenard Chatauneuf-du-Pape, 2015: (70%) Grenache, (10%) Syrah, (10%) Mourvedre, (6%) Cinsault, (4%) other AOC varieties.

Excellent ruby red color, wonderful aromas of berries and spices. A smooth wine with an elegant finish. (AHD), \$\$

Boisrenard, Chateaneuf Du Pape, 2015: (70%) Grenache, (10%) Syrah, (10%) Mourvedre, (6%) Cinsault, (4%) other. The wine pours and opens with a bright ruby red color. There are wonderful aromas of fruit and spice notes. After 30 minutes of breathing, we found the wine to have smooth tannins and a very pleasant finish. (AHD), \$\$\$

Enjoy with any hearty red meats.

Chateau Simian Atout Rouge, Chateauneuf-du-Pape: (40%) Merlot, (40%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (10%) Caladoc and (10%) Syrah, this wine is referred to as a rare blend when the wine is blended with the Caladoc grape which was cultivated to be like the grenache grape.

The wine is smooth and exhibits very supple tannins. Reasonably priced. (i-L), \$

Enjoy with meat dishes.

Chateau Simian Chateauneuf du Pape Le Traversier: (70%) Grenache, (20%), Syrah, (5%) Cinsault, (5%) Mourvedre, this is a medium body wine that is silky and graceful. The wine conveys wonderful berry flavors and has a lovely finish. A good value Chateauneuf du Pape. (i-L), \$\$\$

Enjoy with meat dishes.

Cotes du Rhone

Domain Durand, Cornas Premiecs, 2019: A rich Syrah from the Cornas Appellation. This Syrah opens over an hour and drinks beautifully. (AHD), \$\$

Domain Durand, Saint-Prey, 2020: (50%), Marsanne, (50%) Roussane, a fresh and full-bodied white wine with an elegant finish. (AHD), \$\$

M Chapoutier, Belleruche, 2019: This is a well-known producer of fine French wines. Belleruche is an affordable easy to drink Grenache and Syrah which is smooth and delightful. Drink this wine as an everyday go-to or use for large gatherings. (GL), \$

Cotes du Rhone Villages

Saint-Anne,2019: Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre. A good value wine. You will need to let this wine breathe for at least an hour before drinking; also, this wine can be refrigerated after being pumped and brought to room temperature the next day and will drink well. (AHD), \$

Lirac

Domaine Pierre Usseglio, Lirac, 2017: (50%) Grenache, (25%) Syrah, (20%) Mourvèdre, (5%) Cinsault. Just north of Avignon, where 580 years ago the pope vacationed for the summer and located directly across from Chateauneuf Du Pape and divided by the Rhone River is Lirac.

What a marvelous wine! With depth and body, this wine rests on your tongue and slides back with soft tannins. This wine has 15% alcohol-decant and let breathe for an hour. (AHD), \$\$

Maby Lirac La Fermade 2018: (70%) Grenache, (20%), Syrah, (10%) Mourvèdre. This wine has a deep purple color and is lush with soft tannins. (AHD), \$\$

Giogondas

Pierre Amadieu, Romane Machotte, 2018: (80%) Grenache, this wine has a brilliant red color and opens into concentrated berry flavors. A charming and nicely textured wine with a long finish. (AHD), \$\$

Pierre Amadieu, Roulepierre, 2018: A Grenache and Syrah, ready to drink. A good dinner wine with a meat dish. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with pasta meat dishes.

Provence

Chateau Canadel, Bandol, 2015: This wine is (65%) Mourvedre, (25%) Cinsault and (5%) Grenache. The wine makers describe the wine as follows, “Pretty deep red dress. On the nose, the wine reveals aromas of red fruits and spices. We find these aromas in the mouth, coated with tannins of extreme finesse. The finish is long and fresh, with minty spicy notes.” We agree. (GL), \$\$

Mirabeau Rose 2019: Easy to drink, food friendly, and a fresh minerality describes this, Rose. Great Price. (i-L), \$

Enjoy with meats and eggplant dishes.

Tempier Rose, Bandol, 2018: This is an allocated wine and is sold out immediately upon arrival. Only a few bottles in stock. (V), \$\$\$

Tempier Rouge: Located in Bandol, Provence of France, on the Mediterranean coast, the winemaker, Peyraud family, are icons of Bandol. Tempier Rouge is (70-75%) Mourvedre, one of the major grapes used in the Bandol Provence to provide structure to reds and roses. Also, the wine is a mixture of (25%) Grenache, adding luscious berry flavors, (20%) Cinsault, for spiciness, (2%) Carignan. (A grape that is earthy, acidic, and adds tannins. (V), \$\$\$

Enjoy with meat and game dishes.

Germany

Nahe

Paul Anheuser, Blanc de Noir, 2018: Nahe is considered a wine region of Germany that produces quality Rieslings and Pinot Noir Blancs. This Blanc de Noir has a touch of pink but is also transparent. This wine has a freshness which bursts with a fantastic acidic finish. (AHD), \$

Paul Anheuser, Schlossbockelheimer Konigsfels Riesling Kabinett: This Riesling is not overly sweet and is refreshing. This wine is a good accompaniment to spicy dishes. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with appetizers, Asian, seafood, and other dishes that have a bit of spiciness. This wine is perfect for a hot summer day!

Rheingau

Schloss Vollrads, Riesling, 2015, Spatlese, Rheingau: This is a sweet delicate Riesling, clear in color with a long finish. This Riesling will accompany nice spicy foods and is great to drink on those hot summer days. (RBC), \$\$

Georgia

Zurab Tseretchi: Located in The Alazani Valley on the eastern side of the Republic of Georgia, this white wine offers a mild, light, semi-sweet, pleasant drinking experience with a smooth finish. (i-l), \$

Italy

Villa Cardini, 2019, Edizione Privata: Sangiovese, (Merlot), Primitivo, (Zinfandel), Nero D'Avola. Nero D'Avola is a black grape that originated in Sicily and is used for blending to add complexity and structure. This wine is quite easy to drink, and the price is fantastic! (AHD), \$

Abruzzo

San Zopito: The Montepulciano grape is rustic, powerful, and full of spices. This wine offers great value and delivers the Montepulciano grape strengths. They include wild black cherry, plum, chocolate, cinnamon, licorice, and a savory finish that is soft and lingering. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with hearty appetizers, casseroles, and meat dishes.

Tiberio, Trebiano D'Abruzzo, 2018: A full bodied white wine with fresh melon and tree fruit flavors. The wine has a very pleasant minerality; Vinous magazine describes the wine as “drinking a baby white, burgundy”. (C), \$

Emilia Romagna

Drei Dona, Pruno, Sangiovese Riesrva, 2015: One of Italy's renowned wine makers produces this fantastic Sangiovese; this beautiful is a darkish ruby red, subtle but powerful fullness, ending with a lingering warm and soft finish. (EE), \$\$

Alto Adige

Abbazia di Novacella, 2019: The wine has a light straw yellow color and fresh melon and citrus flavors. This wine comes with a rich history dating back to 1142 in the Alto Adige region. A rich Riesling with a nice acidic finish. (AHD), \$

Andrian, Pinot Noir, 2018: The wine is ruby red in color, delicate and medium dry, an elegant wine. (V), \$\$

Andrian, Pinot Grigio, 2018: The wine has a light straw color with fresh fruit aromas and a soft, long finish. The 13.5% alcohol content makes this pinot grigio nice and dry. (V), \$

Terlan Pinot Grigio: Wine Spectator, James Suckling, and Robert Parker give this wine high scores. The description of this wine includes fresh apples and melons. A dry Pinot Grigio that is rich, creamy, and elegant. (V), \$

South Tyrol

Abbazia Dei Novacella

Abbazia di Novacella, 2020, Kerner: The Kerner grape is a crossover between a red Trolinger grape and a white Riesling. The result is an amazing fresh, dry, vibrant, and fantastic minerality wine which the Valle Isarco is known for. This winery dates to 1142 which makes it one of the oldest active wineries in the world. (AHD), \$\$

Abbazia di Novacella, 2019: The wine has a light straw yellow color and fresh melon and citrus flavors. This wine comes with a rich history dating back to 1142 in the Alto Adige region. A rich Riesling with a nice acidic finish. (AHD), \$

Very food friendly, cheeses, spicy seafood, and Asian dishes.

Klaus Lentsch Winery

” Start the day with a smile and end it with a glass of Klaus Lentsch.”,
Klaus Lentsch.

Klaus Lentsch grew up in an established wine making family in the South Tyrol region, an area known for producing exceptional whites.

In 2008 he decided to go out on his own and start producing his own wine.

We think that the following two whites, Pinot Blanc and the Pinot Grigio, are some of the best that we have tasted.

Amperg, 2020: This is a Pinot Grigio made from The Weissburgunder grape, which is a Pinot Blanc, the German Pinot Grigio grape. (AHD), \$

Klaus Lentsch Pinot Grigio, 2020: Buy this wine. There is nothing more to add. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with cheeses, seafood, poultry, or by itself.

Campania

La Capranere Falanghina: The Falanghina grape is thought to be the Falernum wine revered by the Romans. An easy drinking white wine at a good price. (V), \$

Enjoy with cheeses, shellfish, and seafood.

Piedmont

Barolo

Manzone Merieme Barolo, 2015: With a color of light rose red, this wine delivers a punch. It is dry, chalky, and earthy. A terrific wine with steak and pasta. (AHD), \$\$\$

Paolo Manzone, Barolo, Serralunga D'Alba, 2015: This is a dry red wine-fresh acidity, earthy and elegant. (AHD), (\$\$\$)

Paolo Scavino, Barolo: Piedmont, Italy is the home to Barolo. The Scavino family is a fourth-generation winery located in Castiglione Falletto, Piedmont. Their Barolo exhibits fresh fruit flavors, is delicate and well balanced. The wine has a long finish and should age beautifully through 2030. (V), \$\$\$

Reverdito Barolo, 2016: Organically grown grapes with no pesticides, Barolo lovers will find this wine a bargain. (AHD), \$\$

Scavino Dolcetto D'Alba: From Piedmont region of Italy, this is an affordable wine and can be utilized as an everyday drinking wine for those that would like a glass or two a day. The wine is light and bright with low tannins. (V), \$

Sicily

Tascante Buonara 2017: This wine is made from the Carricante grapes of Sicily. It is spicy and fresh, a yummy white wine. (V), \$

Terra Costa Ntino, deAetna, etna rosso doc, 2016: The grape for this wine is Nerrello-Mascalese. The grape is related to Sangiovese and from the Italian region of Sicily. This a savory and classic wine. (V), \$\$

Terra Costa Ntino, deAetna, etna Bianco doc, 2017: The two main grapes that make up this wine are Carricante, an acidic white grape indigenous to Sicily and Catarrato, a blending grape grown in Sicily.

The combination of these two grapes makes a delicate white wine that is medium dry and full bodied with citrus flavors. A nice wine with seafood. (V), \$\$

Tuscany

Cantalore Bianco: Surprisingly refreshing. See Vintners fact sheet. (I), \$

AIA Vecchia Sor Ugo, 2017: This wine pours into the glass a beautiful red garnet color, the taste is smooth and exhibits a unique richness. The grape combination that delivers these fine qualities are Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot. The finish is smooth and lasting. (I), \$\$

The vintner's food recommendations are red meat, game, hard cheeses; we resoundingly agree.

Laagone, AIA Vecchia, Tuscany, 2017: This wine is smooth and delivers soft tannins. A particularly good value for a Tuscan wine. (I), \$

Vietti, Roero Arneis, 2017: This wine comes from Santo Stefano Roero, a municipality in the Province of Cuneo, the Italian region of Piedmont.

The wine is (100%) Arneis grape; the varietal is known for its floral, citrus, and dry attributes.

Vietti's fact sheet is available to view. This is a wonderful summer wine to enjoy with a variety of foods. (V), \$\$

Villa Cardini: This wine is a blend of Sangiovese (Merlot), Primitivo (Zinfandel), and Nero D'Avola, a black grape from Sicily that is complex and adds structure. The wine is a bargain and super easy to drink and will complement any meat or pasta dish. (AHD), \$

Torre Raone Rosso, 2011: A grape blend of Montepulciano/Merlot/Cabernet Franc. By adding the Merlot and Cabernet Franc., these two grapes tone down the Montepulciano spiciness, and creates a wine that is more refined and smoother.

A good value wine! (AHD), \$

Enjoy with appetizers and socializing with friends.

Chianti

Bibbiano Vinyard is one of the oldest vineyards in Chianti now in its fifth generation.

Bibbiano, Chianti Classico: The wine has a bright ruby red color and can be decanted several hours before drinking. (i-l), \$\$

Bibbiano, Chianti Riserva: A wonderful wine, dark red color, smooth and silky with soft tannins. (i-l), \$\$

Bibbiano, Chianti, Capannino, 2016: This is an impressive wine that is rich and full-bodied. (i-l), \$\$\$

Ormani, Borro del 'diavolo, Chianti Classico, Reserva, 2015: A good Sangiovese from the Chianti region of Tuscany. A wonderful wine to serve with your favorite Italian dishes. (W), \$\$

Valdisanti, Tolaini, 2014, Chianti, Tuscany: Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese, Cabernet Franc, this wine is full bodied and elegant. (V), \$\$

Veneto

BiancoVigna: BiancoVigna is in Veneto which is considered the origin of Prosecco. The vineyard has received many awards and accolades. It is dry, crisp, and elegant. (l), \$

Colle Dei Tigli: Light, fruity, and refreshing but dry. An alternative to Pinot Grigio. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with appetizers, fried chicken, and special occasions.

Ottella Valpocicella Ripasso: With ripe red fruit on the palate, a raisin accent, a color of intense deep red, the wine possesses velvety soft tannins which entice you to you drink more. You will find this wine priced up to \$45.00 in some fine wine stores. (AHD), \$\$

Della Valpolicella

Speri, Amarone, Della Valpolicella, Classico: The Speri family winery dates to 1874. They are one of the established family-owned wineries in the Valpolicella Classico areas. This Amarone is outstanding with heavy appetizers. A word of caution; you need to decant this wine for at 6-7 hours before serving. (I), \$\$\$\$

Ripassa Della Valpolicella

Tenuta Santa Maria Valpolicella Ripasso, "Classico Superiore": The grapes in this wine are Corvina, Rondinella and Corvinone. This wine has a ruby red color and aromas of intense berry and spice flavors. The Valpolicella wine is achieved by a secondary maceration fermentation over the Amarone grape skins, called the "Ripasso method". The wine is fruity but dry, with a long finish. This is a great way to enjoy a wine like Amarone at the price. (I), \$\$

Enjoy with meat, game, and savory cheese.

Verona

Marchesi Biscardo, 2018, Corvina: This winery was started in the late 1800's and is now in its fourth generation of a family business. Corvina is a good summer red wine that you can enjoy outdoors with appetizers, a great value. (EE), \$

MiddleEast

Massaya: From Lebanon and the Beqaa Valley, with a tradition of producing wine that dates back 6,000 years, this is an interesting wine. (35%) Cinsault, a blending grape that adds spiciness', a grape crossed over with Pinot Noir to create, Pinotage. (35%) Grenache Noir, a white Grenache grape, adding spiciness and savory notes. (15%) Syrah and (15%) Tempranillo, a black grape that is full bodied and closely resembles the Pinot Noir grape of Burgundy.

The wine maker recommends serving chilled. We opened the bottle and let the wine breath for a half hour and found the wine a pleasure to consume. (V), \$\$

New Zealand

Hawke's Bay

Paritu 2018, Syrah: This is a nice spicy Syrah that smooths out and develops into a rich wine and ends in a long finish, with great tannins. A good wine when you are in the mood for something a little edgy; serve with a zesty vegetarian, seafood, or poultry dish. (W), \$\$

Marlborough

Arona Sauvignon Blanc, 2020: A nice and distinctive fruit forward Sauvignon Blanc. Very reasonably priced. (W), \$

toi toi, Sauvignon Blanc, 2021: Fresh, crisp, and big citrus notes; this wine offers all the ingredients for the fans of Sauvignon Blanc produced in New Zealand. (EE), \$

Wairau River Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, 2018: Wairau River Winery is family owned and operating in the Marlborough region of New Zealand.

This wine is a good representation of an affordable New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc that offers grapefruit finesse and other citrus notes. The wine has a nice supple finish. (GL), \$

Zephyr, Sauvignon Blanc, 2019: This wine is part of the Glover Family Vineyards located in Dillion Point. The term Zephyr refers to “a gentle westerly breeze”. The wine has a very pleasant grapefruit nuance that opens in the glass with other supple fruit notes that come with a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc. (i-l), \$

These Sauvignon Blancs can pair well with Asian food and the soups sold in the Butler Pantry.

Portugal

Silk and Spice, 2019, Red Blend: This wine is produced by Sogrape of Portugal, but which also have properties in Argentina, Chile, New Zealand, and Spain. The wine is (40%) Touriga Nacional, (30%) Alicante Bouschet, and (30%) Baga. The wine is spicy and has silky tannins. A very popular wine that has earned 90 points several times and comes at a great value. (EE), \$

Douro

BOA-VISTA, Reserve, 2015: A big and bold red blend which is complex but also refined. The grapes that make up this wine are Tempranillo (like the Burgundy Pinot Noir grape), Alicante Bousehet (Grenache), Touriga Franca (a blending grape usually used in Ports), and Touriga Nacional (the leading grape used in blending with Ports to add richness, depth, aromas, deep coloring, and structured tannins). (W), \$\$\$\$

Churchills Port, 2000: This Port and vintage is some of the world's best. The color is like black ink, full bodied, with a long finish and slight sweetness. (A), \$\$\$\$

Meneres LBV Porto, 2013: This winery is in its 15th generation; records indicate that the winery was started between the years 1620-1640, and it is believed by some folks to have in inventory some of the most precious Ports today. Meneres LBV Porto is a rich and full-bodied Port with a modest price tag. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with hearty cheeses and chocolate desserts. Use small port glasses.

Pousada Special Reserve Tawny Port: A good rich Port, that gets better the next day; one of the standout features of this port is its raisin long finish. (W), \$\$

Quinta Do Noval, Colheita, 2005, Tawny Porto: This is a small production Port by Noval. Rich and creamy with a pleasant fruit forward finish, it is a great addition to cheese, chocolate, and desserts. (I), \$\$

Quinta Do Noval, Late Bottled Vintage Unfiltered, Port: The winemaker describes this Port as follows, “intense and elegant...and a mouthful of ripe black fruit and spices”; we will leave it at that. (I), \$\$

Quinta Das Tecedeiras, Reserva, 2015: The grape combo in this wine includes Touriga Nacional (the leading grape used in blending with Ports to add richness, depth, aromas, deep coloring, and structured tannins), Tinta Roriz (Tempranillo), Tinta Boreca (called the “Black Baroque”, a red blending grape native to Douro region), Touriga Franca (a red blending grape adding finesse), Tinta Coa (called “red dog”, a blending grape specific to Portugal), Tinta Amarela (a grape specific to Portugal, known for its rich color, nice acidity, injecting a peppery and aromatic nose).

The wine is dry and needs time to breath but is a rich heavy wine. Contains some dairy allergens. (W), \$\$

Ferreirinha Callabriga 2019: 100% Tempranillo. This wine has received up to 93 points. It is bold and intense. One hour of decanting is required before serving. (V), \$\$

Vinha Grande Douro Red, 2018: (40%) Touriga Franca and (30%) Touriga Nacional which are the two big Port blending grapes; (25%) Tinta Roriz and (5%) Tinta Barroca, which are two table wine grapes. This blend creates a rich and intense wine which has a nice long finish. Good value. (V), \$\$

Warre’s Optima 20, Tawny Porto: This is a well-balanced Port, slightly sweet but refined and elegant. (RBC), \$\$

Enjoy with any variety of desserts.

South Africa

Cape of Good Hope

Bloem Chenin Blanc-Viognier, South Africa: An easy to drink Viognier and very reasonably priced, resulting in a good value. (i-L), \$

Paarl/Wellington

Doolhof Single Vinyard Collection, Pinotage, 2017: Thick on the middle of the tongue and a smooth lasting finish with that Pinotage finesse. Good value. (EE), \$\$

Stellenbosh

Babylonstoren Candide, 2020: A dry, crisp, medium body white wine with tropical notes. This wine is (45%) Chenin blanc, (28.5%) Viognier, ((16.5%) Chardonnay, and (10%) Semillon. This is a good wine to serve with fruits, salads, light dishes, or to enjoy drinking on the patio. (AHD), \$

Bockenhoutskloof Cabernet Sauvignon: This is a Cabernet Sauvignon with 8% Cabernet Franc added. The wine maker describes the style as “Claret like in its profile”. This cab is rich and elegant with smooth tannins. (RBC), \$\$\$

Groot Constantia

Groot Constantia is a winery with a deep history. With a beginning that started in 1685, customers of this winery were Frederick the Great of Prussia, King Louis Philippe of France, and Napoleon Bonaparte.

Constantia Glen, Two, 2014: Sauvignon Blanc (70%), Semillon (30%), this is a rich white blend of these two grapes resulting in a delightful tropical fruit flavor. 13.5% percent alcohol. (W), \$\$

Grand Constance, 2015: The story goes that Napoleon, during his exile on the island of Elba, in his final days, would ask the wine Steward to retrieve a bottle of this aperitif daily, which the former Emperor would consume before retiring for the evening.

Made from 100% red and white Muscat, this wine is sweet but incredibly delicious. The color is stunning, and the flavors of caramel, toffee, and honey are delicate. This is a treat for special occasions or to end an evening.

Pair this wine with cheeses, chocolates, nuts, dried fruits, and fruit-based desserts. (I), \$\$\$\$

Groot Constantia Shiraz, 2016: All the grapes are from a single vineyard. The wine is full bodied and can use an hour of breathing to reach the wine’s full potential. This a good wine to accompany a hearty meat dish. (I), \$\$

Groot Constantia Pinotage: You will think that you are drinking a Burgundian style wine from Burgundy, France. It is good representation of a Pinotage. (The Vintner's fact sheet is available for review with a full description of the wine.) (I), \$\$

Groot Constantia Sauvignon Blanc: Lively and fresh with tropical fruit tones. (I), \$\$

Klein Constantia, Estate Red 2016: (40%), Cabernet Sauvignon, (25%) Malbec, (19%) Shiraz, (16%) Petit Verdot. A nice full-bodied and elegant red blend. (I), \$\$

Rustenberg John X Merriman, 2013: (52%) Merlot, (38.5%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (4.5%) Malbec, (3.7%) Cabernet Franc, (1.3%) Petit Verdot, this wine, can be described as a Bordeaux blend. The winery was started in 1892 by John X Merriman. The wine will excite you and tease your taste buds. You can drink now but decant for an hour prior to serving. According to Wine Spectator, this wine can be cellared until 2023. (I), \$\$

Simonsig Chenin Blanc: This wine has a light straw color with a tint of green. On the nose, the wine has moderate acidity with melon and tree fruit. An easy drinking wine that is well balanced and would be great to serve at a luncheon. (I), \$

Serve with Asian, cheeses, salads, shellfish.

Swartland

A. H. Badenhorst, Curator, Red Blend: Shiraz, Cinsault, and Mouvedre. A medium bodied wine with fruit and spiciness. This wine truly opens after an hour and continues to improve. A good summer wine. (V), \$

A.H. Badenhorst, Curator, White Blend: Lots of great layers come together in this fun white. (V), \$

A.H. Badenhorst, Red Blend: Shiraz, Grenache, Cinsault. This wine is not as spicy as the Curator Red blend but still has a nice body and fruitiness. A good summer wine that needs an hour to open will continue to improve. (V), \$

Boekenhoutskloff, Chocolate Block, 2019: (71%) Syrah, (11%) Grenache, (11%) Cinsault, (9%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (7%) Viognier. The blending of the Cinsault and Viognier adds nice complexity to this medium to full bodied wine. This wine can easily take an hour to open, and we found that it is best consumed in one evening (usually an easy task). This wine can possibly be aged up to 2032. (RBC), \$\$

Enjoy with big meat dishes.

Spain

Andalucia

Jerez-Xeres Appellation

Vina 25, Pedro Ximenez: Pedro Ximenez is the white grape used to produce sherry. Vina 25 is sweet but also dry; it has a silky flavor and is dense with raisin notes. This sherry is good value. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with chocolates, hearty cheses, and desserts.

Aragon

Legado del Moncayo Garnacha Vendimia Selectional Compo de Borja: Its floral notes and bright citrus flavors makes this a wonderful wine for a hot summer day ride on the water. (W), (NO), \$

Castill Y Leon/Biezo

Petalos, (Bierzo), Descendientes De J. Palacios, 2017: A blend of Mencia (a spicy grape), and Alicante Bousechet (Grenache), this wine is highly rated by Robert Parker and James Suckling. (GL), \$\$

Cataluna

Valdalevia Brut: A very good sparkling wine that is fresh and dry. (I), \$

Jumilla

Clio, Jumilla, Spain, 2017: (70%) Monastrell and (30%) Cabernet, this is one of our favorite wines; with its opaque purple color that paints the wine glass and posh fruit notes, it rounds out to a savory long finish. (V), \$\$\$

Juan Gill, Blue Label 18 Months: Monastrell, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Syrah. Monastrell is a late ripening grape used to blend with other grapes to produce an intensity in the wine. Please see the Vintner's fact sheet. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with meat and heavy pasta dishes.

Priorat

Camins del Priorat, 2018, Alvaro Palacios: (40%) Grenache, (30%) Samsó, (Samsó is a grape native to northern Spain with the characteristics of the Carignan grape.),

(20%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (10%) Syrah, this wine needs 30 minutes of breathing, preferably by the decanting method. After a half hour of breathing, the wine will change color from a dull red and transform into a deep ruby red. Initially the wine will have a distinct sweetness but loses that intense sweetness and mellows out into a soft wine. (GL), \$\$

Salmos, 2016, produced by the Torres family: (65%) Carinena, (30%) Granacha, (5%) Syrah. This is a premium red blend; bold, full-bodied, intense, and concentrated. A quality wine for the lover of big reds. (VTG), \$\$\$\$

Terra Alta

Edetana, 2017: (60%) Grenache, (30%) Syrah, (10%) Samsó, this wine displays a beautiful ruby red color, is pleasant, savory, and finishes with a slight sweetness that is delicate. A good bargain. (AHD), \$\$

Toro

Teremes: The Pinot Noir grape is considered fragile and difficult to cultivate. In the tough Spanish region of Toro where Teremes produces their Tempranillo grape, this winery owned by the Moët-Hennessy Louis Vuitton Group, grows a robust full bodied wine worthy of recognition. Teremes is their entry level bottle for their Tempranillo line up and will more than satisfy. (GHL), \$\$

Valencia

Biutiful Cava, Brut: A dry and delightful sparkling wine. (W), \$

Biutiful Cava Rose: A nice dry sparkling Rose, great for beginnings or sipping on the deck. (W), \$

Enjoy with meats and rich cheeses.

Alicante/Boarding Jumilla

Mira Salinas, 2016: (Monstrell) The Bodegas Sierra Salinas winery is located at the foot of Sierra Salinas Mountains in Spain. James Suckling gives this wine 90 points and describes the wine as follows, “fruity and straightforward with plum and cherry flavors, medium body...soft tannins and fruity finish to drink now”. Let this wine breath for an hour, you will be very pleasantly surprised. (V), \$

Alaya Garnacha, 2015: (100% old vines) Alaya is produced by the Juan Gil wineries that also produce Clio and Shaya. Juan Gil maintains an impeccable reputation for producing high quality wines.

This wine has a 16% alcohol content and needs aerating and decanting before serving. The wine is dry but finishes with a distinctive bit of sweet Garnacha. (V), \$\$

Drink with spicy pasta dishes.

Duero River Valley

ABADIA RETIERTA: From the Castilla y Leon region of Spain, this wine is composed of (75%) Tempranillo, (15%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (10%) Syrah. Immediately you pick up aromas of black fruit and find the wine elegant to drink. The wine maker describes the wine as possessing the “richness of Tempranillo, the suppleness of Syrah, and aromatic elegance of Cabernet Sauvignon, which result in a well-balanced wine.” (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with meat and hearty casserole dishes.

Ribera Del Duero

The Torres Family has been producing wines in Spain since the 17th century.

Torres Altos Iberices Crianza, 2016: This is a medium bodied Tempranillo with a lovely cherry color and soft tannins. A particularly good value. (VTG) \$

Torres Celeste Crianza: This is a full-bodied Tempranillo with a dark cherry color that is savory and rich. (VTG) \$\$

Central/Castilla y Leon

Tinto Pesquera, Ribera Del Duero, 2017, Crianza: (100%) Tempranillo, rich, intense, and bold. (I), \$\$

Rioja

Muga Vinyards

Muga Rioja Blanco, 2018: (90%) Viura, a leading white grape of the Rioja region, is used to make dry whites with (10%) Malvasia added for floral notes. This white wine is highly rated and described as bright and citrusy. A particularly good table white for almost all dishes. (V), \$

Vegetable dishes, fish and tapas are the recommended foods.

Muga Reserve, 2015: (70%) Tempranillo, (20%), Granacha, (7%) Mazuelo, (3%) Graciano; this is a nice blend of grapes from the Spain's most popular wine growing region. (V), \$\$

Urbina Gran Reserva Especial, 2004: 100% Temperanillo, this wine finishes with that very distinctive Temperanillo bite. (W), \$\$\$

Enjoy with game or meat.

Sierra Cantabria Reserve Unica 2014: (98%) Tempranillo, (2%) Graciano old vines, this wine has a rating of 90-94 points. The wine is often described as opulent, decadent, full-bodied, and velvety. It has beautifully layered textures with a great finish. This is a quality wine and outstanding value. (V), \$\$

Rueda

NISA Rueda Verdejo, Old Vine 2016: The Verdejo grape is the Spanish Sauvignon Blanc. The wine is citrusy, floral, and dry but not too fruity. (V), \$

Enjoy with appetizers or light meals.

Toro

Erbo River Valley

Alto Moncayo Veraton: This is a Spanish winery and the wine Veraton is (100%) Grenache, produced from 30- to 50-year-old grape vines and aged 16 months in French oak barrels. 90+ points. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with Pasta, Pasta, Pasta.

Alto Moncayo: This wine is an old vine (100%) Grenache produced from 40-70-year-old vines and aged in French oak barrels for 20 months. This wine is a bit fuller than the Alto Moncayo Veraton, the wine is more complex, and it finishes with a nice spiciness. (V), \$\$\$

Enjoy with Pasta, Pasta, Pasta.

Bodgas Breca: (100% Old Vines Garnacha) With a taste of black cherry, blackberry, and raspberry, this wine delivers a smooth and velvety richness and easy finish. (V), \$

Enjoy with pasta dishes served in a red sauce.

Godina Garnacha, 2016: This is another highly rated Garnacha from the Juan Gil family of wines. This wine is produced in what is known as the “Empire of Garnacha” that rests at the foot of the Moncayo Mountain in Spain. The wine is not heavy, nor too sweet on the finish. A pleasant wine. (V), \$\$

Gota De Arena, 2016: (100%) Tempranillo, Gota De Arena is an inexpensive Tempranillo, a nice wine to serve a large group. It can replace more expensive Pinot Noirs. Please visit the fact sheet. (V), \$

Macan Classico, 2016, Rioja: This wine is produced by Bodegas Benjamin Rothschild and Vega Sicilla, S.A. (100%) Tempranillo, this wine is full bodied, with depth. A breathing time of 2 hours will bring out the detailed elegance that this wine offers. (AHD), \$\$\$

Getariako/North

Txakoli Txomin Etxaniz, 2018: (90%) Hondurribi Zuri, a specific grape of the Basque region of Spain, and (10%) Hondurribi Beltz, a grape which is a descendant of Cabernet Franc, are blended to produce this specific wine.

This wine is described as crisp, ethereal, with lime zest, minerality notes and a fresh acidic finish. This wine is refreshing and an up lifter for any seafood or spicy dish. (V), \$

Galicia

Rias Baixas

Granbazan Albarino Etiqueta Verde: This wine is bright and exhibits nice fruit aromas. An easy to drink wine with a smooth finish. (AHD), \$

Neboa: Refreshing and lively, the vintner's fact sheet is available for review. (V), \$

Enjoy with seafood and particularly with mussels.

United States

California

Central Valley

Lodi

Michael-David Chardonnay: A good value Chardonnay for the budget minded wine buyer. The wine has a slight buttery taste and oak flavor. (A), \$

Napa

Abstract: A complex wine that brings together the strengths of the grapes Grenache, (rich, smooth, cherry flavors, elegant texture), Syrah, (California Syrah that is fruity and peppery), and Petite Syrah, (nothing petite about this grape; concentrated, flavorful, it provides a great bite to the wine). (GL), \$\$

Beaucanon Cabernet Sauvignon: A beautiful deep ruby red color engulfs this wine. It is dry with smooth tannins and a supple finish (I), \$\$

Enjoy with hearty appetizers, poultry, and meat.

BonAnno Cabernet Sauvignon: For the Cabernet Sauvignon drinker, BonAnno is a reasonable priced Cabernet from California that is easy to drink and affordable. (I), \$\$

Chaos Theory: This wine is (50%) Merlot, (25%) Petite Sirah, (25%) Zinfandel. The minute this wine touches your tongue, it pops and sizzles and continues to be vibrant! What a fun wine. (I), \$\$

Just enjoy.

Conundrum Red: The wine makers fact sheet provides a complete and descriptive picture of this reasonably priced bold wine. (GL), \$

Darioush Caravan Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa: See the wine maker's description. (GL), \$\$\$

Eight Years in The Desert, Orin Swift, 2018: Zinfandel blend, vintner's fact sheet available for review. A beautiful Zinfandel, hard to obtain. (GL), \$\$\$

Girard Petite Sirah: An intense wine produced from old vine Petite Sirah grapes. The color of this wine is incredibly vibrant displaying a deep ruby red color. This wine needs at least a half hour of breathing. (VTG), \$\$

Girard Old Vine Zinfandel: This wine has soft tannins and a beautiful red color. This is an outstanding Zinfandel and is offered at a very reasonable price point. (VTG), \$\$

Hendry Albarino: The description that you will find on the web describes this wine as “**mouthwatering**”; that phrase captures the essence of this wine. (I), \$\$

A great wine to enjoy with seafood, bar food.

Hendry Primitive, Block 24: A medium to full bodied wine, a great example of a California Zinfandel that provides all the attributes that a Zinfandel lover expects. (I), \$\$

Long Meadow Ranch Winery

Peter Franus Napa Valley Zinfandel, 2014: This wine pours from the bottle into your wine glass a ruby red color; the wine is bright with a nice aroma of berries. The wine is soft and spicy, medium bodied and has a lovey finish. (I), \$\$

Paraduxx, 2017, Proprietary Red Wine: (Duck Horn), (48%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (15%) Petite Verdot, (12%) Zinfandel, (8%) Petite Sirah, (8%) Syrah, (6%) Tempranillo, (3%) Merlot. A young and bold, spicy wine with a long-lasting finish. (GL), \$\$\$

Enjoy with savory cheeses and hearty red meats.

Robert Foley “The Griffin”: (38%) Merlot, (18%) Petite Sirah, (17%) Petite Verdot, (11%) Syrah, (9%) Charbono, (5%) Cabernet Sauvignon, and (2%) other reds.

The Charbono Grape is generally used for blending and adds wild berry aromas, acidity, a rich darkness. The Petite Verdot grape adds spice, depth, and tannins. When fully ripe, people associate aromas and tastes of flowers, olives, and very ripe blueberries.

The winemaker describes the wine as a “ripe blackberry fruit with floral hints”.

You can drink it now, but it will cellar nicely and should age well. (V), \$\$

Saddleback Cellars Winery

Saddleback Chardonnay: This Chardonnay is bright and lively. The wine has just the right amount of oak and butter, beautifully balanced. The finish is fantastic! (I), \$\$

Enjoy with cheeses, seafood, and food with cream sauces.

Saddle Back Merlot: This wine has a rich purple color in the glass with classic Merlot flavors (blackberry, cassis, baked cherries, plums, dark chocolate, and mocha) which all come together in this wine. The wine is bright and juicy and has a long finish. I think this wine stands up to any big Cabernet. (I), \$\$

Enjoy with hearty meat dishes.

Saddleback Cellars, Ranchers Red, 2014: (83%) Cabernet Sauvignon, ((10%) Petite Syrah, (7%) Syrah. This wine exhibits a nice cherry color and is not overly bold. We encourage you to see the technical sheet written by the wine maker to get a full profile on this wine. (I), \$\$

Enjoy with meats and barbecue.

The Vice, “The House” Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: This winery is considered one of the luxury brands of Napa Valley; their wines can sell for up to \$200.00 dollars a bottle. If you are a fan of Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignons, this wine priced under \$25.00 dollars is a bargain. We recommend that you decant this wine. (AHD), \$\$

The Vice, Rutherford, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: This is a wine from the prestigious area of Rutherford-offers great value. (AHD), \$\$

Venge Red Scouts Honor. (70%) Zinfandel, (14) Charbono, (9%) Petit Sirah, (7%) Syrah, the wine displays a nice purple color and is full bodied. This is a rich wine and has a great finish. (I), \$\$\$

Y3 Taureau, 2018: (50%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (47%) Merlot, (3%) Petit Verdot. Rich, concentrated, and lots of depth in this wine. Needs to breathe about 30 to 40 minutes prior to drinking. (I), \$\$

Enjoy this wine with meat and hearty pasta dishes.

North Central Coast

Andrew Murray Vineyards Syrah: With its hint of cherry and a Syrah spiciness, this wine opens to be very approachable, drinkable, and affordable. (W), \$

Santa Barbara Winery Chardonnay, 2018: This is an all-around wonderful Chardonnay. A solid food wine at a bargain price. (RBC), \$

Au Bon Climat Santa Barbara Pinot Noir, 2018: A lighter Pinot Noir with a lovely strawberry and cranberry color. Nice. (I), \$\$

Au bon Climat Santa Maria Valley, Pinot Noir, “La Bauge Au dessus”, 2016: This Pinot Noir is more of a Burgundian style wine, structured and richer. (I), \$\$

Monterey

Bonny Doon vineyards, 2018 Le Cicigare Volant, “Cuvee Oumuamuca”: (52%) Grenache, (35%) Cinsault, (13%) Syrah, a nice Rhone style wine, lots of light berry flavors come through. (W), \$

DFV, Donati, Cabernet Franc, 2017: A fair and balanced representation of a Cabernet Franc that is medium bodied with has soft tannins. (VTG), \$

Sisters Forever, Unoaked Chardonnay: Bright, fresh, and crisp. Enjoy this wine by itself with cheeses or chicken dishes. (VTG), \$

Tassajara, Pinot Noir, 2019: The description on the back of the bottle captures the essence of this wine- “rich black cherry flavor, and a smooth silky finish”. This is a really good value Pinot Noir. (i-L), \$

Santa Lucia Highlands

Diora La Petite Grace Pinot Noir: Produced by Delicato Vineyards, this Pinot Noir is moderately light and opens with a little spiciness. (RBC), \$

Enjoy with light meat dishes and Salmon.

Santa Rita Hills

Sanford Pinot Noir: (Santa Rita Hills) A good representation of the Pinot Noir grape, the wine reveals fruity flavors and a smooth finish. An elegant Pinot Noir. (GL) (NO), \$\$\$

North Coast

Alexander Valley

Belacana Vinyards, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016: This wine has several levels of complexity. At the begging the wine displays a rich and dark succulent color with many flavors. Blackberry and a hint of vanilla are prominent, with a tantalizing spiciness. The wine smooths out to be rich and full-bodied, each level being an enjoyable experience. This is a fun Cabernet Sauvignon. (EE), \$\$

Husch Dry Gewurtraminer, 2020: This family vineyard has deep roots as one of the North Coast pioneer's. Their dry Gewurtraminer is described as follows, "fresh and delicate, full fruit, with distinctive spiciness and finishes dry". We cannot add anything else, but this wine is delicious. (V), \$

This wine screams for seafood and Asian dishes!

Rodney Strong, Alexander Valley, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016: (93%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (4%) Merlot, (2%) Petit Verdot, (1%) Malbec. This wine pours into the glass a rich deep red, with aromas of black fruit on the nose. The tannins give the wine a long finish. **Really good value.** (A), \$\$

Rodney Strong, Alexander Valley, Brothers Cabernet Sauvignon, 2011: This is a single vineyard Cabernet, that is rich and lush, with smooth tannins. (A), \$\$

Seghesio Old Vine Zinfandel, 2016: This wine has a charming ruby red color with warm berries on the nose, a hint of sweet spices, but is earthy with a long finish. A genuinely nice Zinfandel. (RBC), \$\$

Silver Oak, Alexander Valley, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2014: This wine has a dark red garnet color and connects immediately with its origin. The wine is full, smooth and maintains a long finish. (GL), \$\$\$\$

Enjoy with lamb, meats, or hearty meaty casseroles.

Mendocino

Goldeneye Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley: See wine maker's fact sheet. (GL), \$\$\$

Kenwood, Cabernet Sauvignon, Jack London, 2017: A solid Cabernet Sauvignon, a definite buy. (RBC), \$

Parducci, True Grit, Reserve, Cabernet Sauvignon, Mendocino County, California: A solid California Cabernet with low tannins. ready to drink. You will like the price. (A), \$\$

Saracina, Malbec, 2018: Founded by John Fetzer and his wife, along with Patty Rock, legendary figures of Mendocino County.

Critics all seem to agree that this Malbec has a heavenly silkiness, soft tannins, and balanced flavors. Simply a beautiful wine. RBC, (\$\$)

Sonoma

Chateau St. Jean, Cinq Cepages, 2015: This wine is a rich Bordeaux blend, deep purple in color and robust with a spicy finish. (RBC), \$\$\$\$

Day Zinfandel: This is a wine for the lovers of a Zinfandel who want it dry and not "jammy". A balanced wine that is pleasant and a smooth finish. (EE), \$\$

Dry Creek Vineyards, Zinfandel: (77%) Zinfandel, (21%) Petite Sirah, (2%) Carignane, please see the Wine Spectator review. (GL), \$\$

Ferrari Carano Vineyard

Ferrari Carano Chardonnay Reserve: (Carneros) A beautiful dry Chardonnay with just the right balance of fruitiness, butter, and oak. (V), (RBC), \$\$

Enjoy with seafood and poultry.

Ferrari Carano Cabernet Sauvignon: From Alexander Valley, the wine maker describes this wine as follows, “aromas of cassis, mocha, dried cherries, mint, cola, and Smokey leather”. This cab is a sheer pleasure to consume. (V), (RBC), \$\$\$

Enjoy with barbecue, red meats, strong cheeses.

Ferrari Carano Dry Creek Zinfandel: A particularly good Zinfandel; starts off spicy and smooths out within about 15 minutes into a lush, concentrated, rich, jammy Zinfandel. (VTG), \$\$

Ferrari Carano Tresor: A Bordeaux blend of (71%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (10%) Malbec, (5%) Petit Verdot, (5%) Cabernet Franc; this wine has very pleasant nuances and complexity. (VTG), (RBC), \$\$\$\$

Other Ferrari Carano Wines that we recommend: Fume Blanc, \$, Merlot, \$\$, Sangiovese Rose, \$, Siena, (A blend of Sangiovese, Malbec, Petit Sirah, Cabernet Sauvignon.) (VTG), \$\$

Enjoy with roasted meats and duck.

Gehricke Vineyards

Gehricke Chardonnay: For those that want to drink a chardonnay but do not want a heavy buttery or oaky taste will find that this wine will fit the order. (I), \$\$

Gehricke Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: This wine has even tannins and a slight sweetness with medium acidity. A very enjoyable Cabernet. (I), \$\$\$\$

Gehricke Russian River Valley Zinfandel, 2018: This wine is produced from old vines, has a touch of 5% Petite Sirah, which gives the wine a nice accent. The result is a full-bodied, nicely structured, smooth drinking Zinfandel., (I), \$\$

Easy to drink and pair with a variety of light food.

Gundlach-Bundschu Cabernet Sauvignon 2015: (89%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (6%) Petit Verdot, (3%) Malbec, (2%) Merlot. This wine is a good representation of a big California Cabernet from Sonoma County. A nice long finish. Rated from 90 to 92 points. (RBC), \$\$\$

Gundlach Bundschu Mountain Cuvee: (88%) Merlot, (12%) Cabernet Sauvignon, is a Bordeaux style blend, exceptionally drinkable. (RBC), \$\$

Enjoy with almost any type of food.

Louis M. Martini, 2017, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma County: Louis M. Martini is a well-known and long-established winery in Sonoma County, California. This Cabernet Sauvignon with its recognizable name is an affordable red wine to purchase for an event. (GL), \$

Ridge Three Valleys: This wine offers lively acidity but a medium bodied, blend of Zinfandel, (soft textured, dry red wine, a jammy characteristic, with blackberry, boysenberry notes), Carignane, (high in acidity and tannins, but earthy flavored and dark in color) Petite Syrah (concentrated and strong), Grenache (smooth and velvety). Nice exotic spices, with a smooth and a delightful gravelly ending. (GL), \$\$

Enjoy with hearty appetizers, pork, and meat dishes.

Stuhlmuller Vineyards, Chardonnay: Aromas of pear and apple with a hint of butter and oak. A nice and drinkable wine. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with seafood.

Ty Caton, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: A dense and rich Cabernet Sauvignon that can stand a fair amount of breathing, but the result is quite rewarding. (C), \$\$

Ty Caton, Red Wine, 2017: (29%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (29%) Petite Sirah, (17%) Syrah, (14%) Petite Verdot, (7%) Merlot, (4%) Malbec. All the big grapes are in this wine, producing a full-bodied rich red. Open this wine and let it breathe. (C), \$\$

Enjoy with meats and try with grilled sausages, onions, and peppers.

Los Carneros

Vinca Minor, Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: Made with 100% organic grapes, with minimal sulfates, this wine has a nice spiciness and a pleasing effervescent finish. (AHD), \$\$

Sonoma/Russian River

Deloach Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, 2015: A crisp Chardonnay with a hint apple and butter with a pleasant finish. This reasonably priced Chardonnay will go well with any light dishes. (GL), \$\$

Deloach Pinot Noir: This wine is a full body Pinot Noir, which is dry, elegant, and packed with berry flavors. The wine maker produces this Pinot Noir in a traditional Burgundian fashion and demonstrates all those qualities. (GL), \$\$

Enjoy with salmon, pasta dishes in a red sauce, and poultry.

Edge Cabernet Sauvignon, 2017: An easy to drink and reasonably priced Cabernet Sauvignon. (V), \$\$

Hartford Court Pinot Noir: A heavy hitting Pinot Noir that starts with concentrated berry flavors and end in a spicy finish. The wine has just enough sweetness to entertain the palate and is elegant. (A), \$\$

Iron Horse, Wedding Cuvee: (GL), \$\$\$

Sierra Foothills

Amador County

Easton Zinfandel, 2015: A full bodied and spicy Zinfandel. This wine is a really good value. (AHD), \$

Scott Harvey, 2017 Zinfandel: A medium bodied Zinfandel that is smooth and pleasing. A good budget selection for under \$20.00. (I), \$\$

Scott Harvey, Zinfandel, J & J Reserve, 2015: This is a big Zinfandel and will maintain its composition into the next day. (I), \$\$

Terre Rouge, Enigma, 2013: (49%) Marsanne, (26%) Viognier, (24%) Roussanne, (1%), Grenache Blanc, this wine is creamy, with peach, apple, honey, and a hint of coconut. A nice white blend. (AHD), \$\$

Enjoy with seafood or a seafood pasta dish.

Terre Rouge, Garrigue, 2013: A pleasant Rhone style wine of Grenache and Syrah, representing a good value. Serve this wine for casual gatherings or everyday consumption. (AHD), \$

Terre Rouge, Roussane, 2013, Monarch Mine Vineyards: With a nice golden color and honey taste, this wine expands into a rich, dry, and elegant white. (AHD), \$\$

Terre Rouge, Syrah, 2015: This one of the easiest Syrah we have drunk; the wine goes down so fast, before you know it the bottle is empty. (AHD), \$

South Central Coast

Edna Valley

Wonderwall Chardonnay: A good Chardonnay, easy to drink and has just the right balance of citrus notes. (i-L), \$\$

An easy wine to enjoy with appetizers, chicken, pizza, seafood.

Wonderwall Pinot Noir: This wine is a light bodied Pinot Noir. The wine is reticent but still has a fresh ripe fruit element. Because the wine is aged in oak, there is a display of oaky elements. (I-L), \$\$

Tolosa No-Oak Chardonnay: A non-oaky Chardonnay and at a great price. (AHD), \$

Paso Robles

Daou "Bodyguard": For the fans of Petit Verdot and Petite Syrah, the combination of these the two grapes produces a full-bodied wine. (RBC), \$\$

Donati 2019 "Sisters Forever" Unoaked Chardonnay: A delightful white wine for a hot summer day on the deck. A bargain. (VTG.), \$

Days Gone By, Saint K, Syrah: A big Syrah produced by Chris Kiranbay, who studied and trained under Herman Story. (i-L), \$\$

Hearty dishes.

Herman Story-Nuts & Bolts, Syrah: A rich and intense full-bodied Syrah. (i-L) (NO), \$\$\$

J. Lohr Hilltop Cabernet Sauvignon, 2018: (93%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (5%) Petit Verdot, (2%) Malbec. A full-bodied Cabernet with Black Cherry accents. (VTG), \$\$

ONX Field Day 2017: (63%) Sauvignon Blanc, (28%) Grenache Blanc, (9%) Viognier. A pleasing white wine for the outdoors with appetizers. (AHD), \$

Paring Red Blend Cabernet/Merlot by Jonata of Paso Robles: (50%) Cabernet, (20%) Merlot, (20%) Cabernet Franc, (10%) Petit Verdot, this is a very pleasant and brilliantly balanced red wine. (See the winery fact sheet.) (GL), \$\$

Robert Hall Viognier: Not too fruity or sweet, this wine is reasonably priced. (RBC), \$

Oregon

Applegate and Rouge Valley

Quady North

Quady North Pistoleta White: A white blend of Viognier, Roussanne, and Marsanne with a touch of Grenache and Vermentino. This wine is bursting with fresh fruit flavors. Fabulous! (I), \$\$

Quady North Sam's Syrah: The goal of the Quady North Winery is to produce wine that resemble those from the Rhone Valley in France, which they have achieved with this one. (I,) \$\$

Willamette Valley

Cardwell Hill Cellars Monet Blocks Pinot Noir. The wine begins with an aromatic fragrance and stimulates your sense of smell; meanwhile the flavors expand in the back of your mouth to finish the experience. A robust Pinot Noir. (A), \$\$

Enjoy with charcuterie, meat, poultry.

Cristom, Willamette Valley, Pinot Noir, Mr. Jefferson Cuvee: This wine is light and perfumed with aromas of cherry and finishes with a delicate sweetness. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with chicken, salmon, and turkey.

ILLahe Vineyards

ILLahe Viognier: Very nice acidity and a supple dryness with a touch of sweetness. (AHD), \$

Enjoy with appetizers, salads, and seafood.

Ilaha Pinot Noir Estate 2017: A good entry level Pinot Noir, nicely balanced, soft tannins and reasonably priced. (AHD), \$\$

Ilaha Bon Sauvage Estate Pinot Noir 2016: A Burgundian style Pinot Noir, with smooth tannins and an elegant finish. (AHD), \$\$

Ilaha Percheron Estate Pinot Noir 2015: The Percheron is a big Burgundian style Pinot Noir, resulting in a more robust berry taste and which maintains a long finish. (AHD), \$\$

Patricia Green, Pinot Noir Reserve, Willamette Valley, Oregon: This Pinot Noir scores 90 to 93 points. The wine is complex but well balanced at the same time and opens beautifully. (V), \$\$

Cooper Hill Pinot Noir, 2020: This pinot noir is considered a great value. Critics have scored this wine 90 to 93 points. The wine opens beautifully into an earthy medium-bodied pinot noir and delivers a smooth finish with soft tannins. (WB), \$\$

Chehalem Mountains

J. Christopher Pinot Noir, Basalte: This is a small winery consisting of 40 acres, owned by Ernst Loosen, the producer of the famous Riesling from Germany, Dr. Loosen. The goal of this winery was to combine old world and new world techniques to produce quality Pinot Noirs resulting in western and Burgundian style. The Basalte Pinot Noir is a nice representation. (I), \$\$

Yamhill-Carlton

Anne Amie, Pinot Noir, Two Estates, 2017: A young wine produced from old vines. This wine displays a rich quality with a smooth finish. The Wine Spectator suggests, "this wine best consumed through 2024". (W), \$\$

Anne Amie Pinot Noir, Wine Maker's Selection, 2018: A nice light Pinot Noir, a delightful wine to enjoy with light appetizers and seafood. (W), \$\$

Solena, Grand Cuvee, 2019, Pinot Noir: The Wine displays a lovely ruby red color, nice cherry, and raspberry flavors, with a spiciness that smooths out and ends with very pleasant tannins. Overall, this results in an excellent value pinot noir from Willamette Valley. (RBC), \$\$

Washington

Columbia Valley

Andrew Will Cabernet Sauvignon, Columbia Valley, State of Washington: A 92-point Cabernet, full bodied and with a firm finish: the winery description is available. (V), \$\$

Barter and Trade, Columbia Valley, Cabernet Sauvignon: A solid Cabernet. Good Value. (i-L), \$

Barter and Trade, Columbia Valley, Merlot: A solid Merlot. Good value. (i-L), \$

Charles Smith Boom Boom Syrah: An easy drinking Syrah, reasonably priced that would have a wide appeal to serve at a party with a variety of food. (GL), \$

Dunham Cellars, 2015, Cabernet Sauvignon XXI: This a rich and smooth wine with a long finish. Very enjoyable. (VTG), \$\$\$

Dunham Cellars, 2016 Trutina, Columbia Valley, State of Washington: (45%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (40%) Merlot, (12%) Malbec and (3%) Cabernet Franc. With a deep ruby red color that pours into your wine glass and a cool note that hits your palate with the first sip, the wine finishes with nice robustness. This is a wine that you can drink immediately. (VTG), \$\$

Dusted Valley, Stained Tooth Syrah: With its deep purple color, pepper notes and soft tannins, this Syrah is throughout an agreeable wine. (GL), \$\$\$

Gramercy Cellars, Inigo Montoya Tempranillo, 2012: Fans of Tempranillo will enjoy this wine that reminiscent of a good Burgundian wine. (AHD), (\$\$)

Gramercy Cellars, Lower East, 2016: Fans of Gramercy Cellars red wines will enjoy this reasonably priced Cabernet Sauvignon. (AHD), (\$\$)

Gramercy Cellars, Viognier, 2018: A fun wine; rich with tree fruit and tropical flavors, a touch of minerality, and complex ending with a great finish. (AHD), (\$\$)

Gramercy Cellars, The Third Man, 2012: (57%) Grenache, (30%) Syrah, (5%) Mourvedre: This is a rich and full-bodied wine, peppery, with lots of spice, and dark fruit. (AHD), \$\$

Januik Red, 2016: Januik is being added as another affordable easy to drink red wine from the State of Washington. (V), \$

Maryhill Wine Makers Red, 2017: A combination of Cabernet, Merlot, Syrah, and Cabernet Franc, that opens nicely, and has smooth tannins. Good Value. (I), \$

Pedestal, Columbia Valley, Washington, Merlot, 2015, Long Shadows Vintners Collection: This big and bold wine needs at least an hour of decanting; you can shorten the process by pouring the wine first through an aerator. This should shorten the breathing time by a half hour.

Besides the Merlot grape, the vintner, Michael Rolland, has added Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Petit Verdot.

Michael Rolland is recognized as a world class wine maker. (GL), \$\$\$\$

Rayan Patrick, Rock Island Red: Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Syrah. A nice full bodied red wine with an edge. This wine is reasonably priced. (VTG), \$

Substance, Charles Smith, Cabernet Sauvignon: Capital Grill Steak House offers this wine by the glass on their drink menu. This is a solid Washington State Cabernet and represents a good value. (I), \$

Horse Heaven Hills

Alexandria Nicole, 2016, Quarry Butte, Estate Grown Red Wine, Destiny Ridge Vineyards, Horse Heaven Hills: (54%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (14%) Merlot, (12%) Cabernet Franc, (10%) Syrah, (5%) Malbec, (5%) Petit Verdot. The Cabernet, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc blend together very nicely; the other varietals, the Syrah, Malbec, and Petit Verdot, add just the right amount of spiciness. (W), (\$\$)

Alexandria Nicole, 2016, Shepherds Mark, Destiny Ridge Vineyards, Horse Heaven Hills: This Rhone style blend of Viognier, Marsanne, Roussane, is a wonderful wine that is dry, with subtle tropical fruit notes and a weighty finish that should please anyone's palate. (W), \$\$

Alexandria Nicole Viognier, 2019: Bright, rich, and creamy with nice pear notes. A good wine to serve with seafood and spicy chicken dishes. (W), \$\$

Enjoy with rich Chicken and Fish Dishes.

Dead Canyon Ranch, 2017, Cabernet Sauvignon: A solid Cabernet Sauvignon and good value. Drink this as your daily go to wine or serve at events. (AHD), \$

Dead Canyon Ranch, 2017, Red Wine Blend: (50%) Syrah, (20%), Cabernet Sauvignon, (17%) Merlot, (8%) Malbec, (3%) Petit Verdot, (2%) Mourvede, an affordable wine that is great for everyday consumption or serving at events. (AHD), \$

Rattlesnake Hills

Hyatt Vineyards

Hyatt Vineyards is in Yakima Valley and located in the prestigious wine region of Rattlesnake Hills, in the State of Washington. Their Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Riesling are easy to drink and affordable. (i-L), \$

Red Mountain

Col Solare Red Blend: This wine has ratings from 90 to 94 points. The grapes are Cabernet, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Syrah. The retail price can range from \$60.00 to \$75.00 dollars a bottle. (F), \$\$\$\$

Force Majeure, Parvata, Red Mountain, 2016: (69%), Mourvedre, (21%) Syrah, (10%) Grenache. This a dark rich red Rhone style wine that has lots of depth and structure. We have printed off a description from Timeless Wines that describes the Pavata, the winery and Red Mountain region in the State of Washington.

This is an outstanding wine to enjoy with lamb. (EE), \$\$\$\$

Gorman Wines

Gorman Wines, The Devil You Know, Red Mountain, Columbia Valley, State of Washington: Cabernet Sauvignon (53%), Merlot (42%), Petite Sirah (5%). This is a good solid **blend-bold** and structured. (I), \$\$

Gorman Wines, Old Scratch Cabernet Sauvignon, Red Mountain, Columbia Valley, State of Washington: A particularly good Cabernet that is easy to drink and a smooth finish. (I), \$\$

Hedges Winery/Red Mountain

Goedhart Family, Red Mountain, Syrah, Bel'Villa Vineyard, 2013: This wine is part of the Washington State Hedges family of wines. A delicious Syrah. (V), \$\$

Hedges Cabernet Sauvignon, 2015: Dark garnet in color, the wine includes the grape varietals, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Franc and Pettit Verdot. An excellent Cabernet Sauvignon. (V), \$\$

Hedges Red Mountain: (59%) Cabernet, (28%) Merlot, (5%) Cabernet Franc, (2%) Petit Verdot, and (2%) Syrah. A medium bodied wine, but with a unique rich finish. (V), \$\$

Enjoy with meat dishes.

Yakima Valley

B. Leighton Syrah/Olson Brothers Vineyard, Yakima Valley, Columbia,

Washington: You can pick your number from 92 to 97 points from the major wine critics. This wine receives only accolades. The praises are well deserved, the wine exhibits depth and complex structure and a show case for the Syrah grape. This wine will benefit by decanting and breathing for an hour. (I), \$\$

K Viognier, Yakima Valley, 2016: A well balanced white wine with tropical citrus flavors. (I), \$\$

K. Vintner's, SIXTO, Uncovered, Chardonnay: This wine is a blend of Chardonnay grapes from three old vine vineyards located in Washington State. You will immediately pick-up granny smith apples on the nose, followed by a spiciness of caramel-butterscotch on the palate. An unusual Chardonnay with interesting characteristics. (I), \$\$

Wahluke Slope

Bookwalter Vineyards

Bookwalters Merlot Readers, 2018: Wine critics consider this wine to be a great value. This wine has scores of 90 to 93 points. The wine pours with a dark red color and berry flavors on the nose, which add a nice spiciness with soft tannins and a long finish. (WB), \$\$

Bookwalter Notebook Chardonnay, 2018: This is a blended chardonnay with semillon, muscadelle, and sauvignon blanc. A slight taste of butter and fresh fruit makes this chardonnay a delight to drink. (WB), \$\$

Bookwalter Notebook Red Blend: A blend of cabernet sauvignon, syrah, and merlot. This is an easy to drink wine which contains all your black fruit flavors. (WB), \$

Luke Vineyards

Luke Cabernet Sauvignon, 2081: A substantial Cabernet. The wine is full-bodied and delivers a finesse at the ending which distinguishes it from other Washington

Cabernets we have tasted. Maybe we need to taste more Washington State Cabernets. (RBC), \$\$

Luke Chardonnay, Ancient Lakes, 2019: The winemaker describes this wine as “layered with notes of crème brulee, vanilla, mango, banana peel, and baked pie crust”. We don’t really know about the banana peel, but we get the rest and loved the wine. This is another great value from Luke Vineyards. (RBC), \$

Luke Syrah, 2019: A full-bodied red wine, great color with lots of intensity and depth. This wine is unbelievable with spaghetti in a meat sauce. Plan on decanting this wine for an hour before serving. (RBC), \$\$

Luke, The Companion, Red Blend, 2019: (60%) Cabernet Sauvignon, (20%) Merlot, (20%) Syrah. An easy to drink red blend. The berry flavor and spiciness are well balanced. This wine is very well priced. (RBC), \$

Walla Walla Valley

Seven Hills Winery, Merlot, 2018: Seven Hills is one of the founding wineries of the Walla Walla Valley. This is a classic style Merlot, medium-bodied, black fruit, soft. A lovely Merlot. (RBC), \$\$

Great Event Wines, \$-\$\$

Bloem Chenin Blanc-Viognier, South Africa, (i-L)

Cantalore Bianco, (I)

Chateau Simian Atout Rouge, Chateauneuf-du-Pape. (i-L)

Dead Canyon Ranch Horse Heaven Hills, Red Blend, (AHD)

Double Canyon Horse Heaven Hills Cabernet Sauvignon (AHD)

Deloach Chardonnay, Russian River Valley, 2015, (GL)

Dry Creek Vineyards, Zinfandel, (GL)

FlorDe Campo, Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara, California, (GL)
Hyatt Vineyards, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Riesling, (I-L)
Gundlach Bundschu Mountain Cuvee, (RBC)
JP Chenet, France, Sparking Wine, (EE)
LA Capranera, (V)
Louis Latour, Bourgogne, Pinot Noir, 2017, (V)
Maryhill Wine Makers Red, (I)
Michael-David Chardonnay, (I)
Mohua Sauvignon Blanc, (AHD)
NISA Rueda Verdejo, Old Vine, 2016, (V)
Noah River Chardonnay, (EE)
Substance, Charles Smith, Cabernet Sauvignon, Washington, (I)
Torre Raone Rosso, 2011, (AHD)
Wairau River Sauvignon Blanc, (GL)
Waterbrook Chardonnay, (I)
Yalumba Bush Vine Grenache, Barrossa Valley, (GL)