The wines listed here carry suggested retail prices of $15 or less and are all labeled as Best Buys, meaning each possesses an excellent quality-to-price ratio. Our tasting experts reviewed more than 17,000 wines over the past 12 months, awarding the Best Buy designation to only 1,134 (roughly 6.7%). We whittled the list down from there, ultimately selecting wines that showcase the best relationship between score and price while also assessing other factors like availability and buzz. We also consider the overall balance of the list, striving to provide a wide range of different styles, varieties and origins for all palates and preferences.

Our 2012 list is one of the most diverse and exciting collections of Best Buys we’ve ever released, emphasizing the incredible assortment of high-quality selections that are currently available at affordable prices. Our quest to find even more wine values continues on, but for now, here are our Top 100 Best Buys of 2012.

**NUMBER OF COUNTRIES REPRESENTED:** 15
**NUMBER OF GRAPE VARIETIES:** 30
**AVERAGE RATING:** 89.51
**AVERAGE PRICE:** $12.12

**BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY**
- Argentina – 8
- Australia – 6
- Chile – 7
- France – 12
- Italy – 7
- Portugal – 10
- South Africa – 1
- Spain – 9
- United States – 30

**OTHER** – 8
- Austria – 1
- Canada – 1
- Germany – 2
- Greece – 2
- Israel – 1
- New Zealand – 1

Once people discover where we work, a common question tends to follow: What’s a great bottle of wine for around $10? It’s the constant conundrum of the wine lover, and a topic that attracts us all—how do you get the most bang for your buck? To help guide smart shoppers the world over, we create our annual Top 100 Best Buy list.
1. **DFJ Vinhos 2009 Vega (Douro).** Smooth and wood aged, this has a polished texture. Fruit flavors of blueberry and red cherry combine with the rounded tannins and a spice note to give a rich feel. Full yet elegant, age this for the next two years. Dionysos Imports Inc. —R.V.  
   *abv: 13.5%*  
   *Price: $9*

2. **Chateau Ste. Michelle 2010 Dry Riesling (Columbia Valley).** Kudos to Ste. Michelle for accurately labeling this wine, and also for the Riesling sweetness scale on the back of all their Rieslings. Firm Yakima Valley fruit is the backbone here, tart and spicy, with bright flavors of pear and apple. A juicy, palate-cleansing style. —P.G.  
   *abv: 13%*  
   *Price: $9*

3. **Liberty School 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles).** You get a lot of pleasure from this affordable Cab. It's dry, moderate in alcohol which gives it a light mouthfeel, and quite pleasant in classic flavors of blackberries, currants and herbs, touched with smoky oak. Elegantly constructed, it's one of the best Cabernets of the vintage at this price. —S.H.  
   *abv: 13.5%*  
   *Price: $12*

4. **Kaiken 2009 Corte Malbec-Bonarda-Petit Verdot (Mendoza).** Arguably one of the best values in modern-style red wine, this blend of Malbec, Bonarda and Petit Verdot delivers huge black- and blue-fruit aromas, which lead onto the palate, with massive blackberry, black currant, cola, spice and toast flavors. This is a strapping wine to drink with steak and grilled lamb. T.G.I.C. Importers. —M.S.  
   *abv: 14.5%*  
   *Price: $14*

5. **Wrongo Dongo 2010 Monastrell (Jumilla).** Aromas of pointed red plums and mild earthy, leafy notes precede a well-constructed palate, with dark plum and standard berry flavors. This is a mellow wine that's very good for the price. Fine Estates From Spain. —M.S.  
   *abv: 14.5%*  
   *Price: $9*

6. **Black Box 2009 Merlot (California).** Blended with a little Syrah, Petite Sirah and Sangiovese, this Merlot in a big box is clearly a terrific value. It's so lush and delicious in berries and spices, it's crazy that the price works out to $6.25 for a regular bottle. With production over 200,000 cases, it's a testament to the art of blending. —S.H.  
   *abv: 13.5%*  
   *Price: $25/3 L*

7. **The Eyrie Vineyards 2010 Estate Pinot Gris (Dundee Hills).** The grapes used for this wine are from the original vines, planted almost 50 years ago by David Lett. Rich, sleek and textural, this thrilling effort sets a new standard for Oregon Pinot Gris. Grassy notes are married to lush citrus and apple fruit. The flavors go deep and long, the finish is immaculate and brings a palate-refreshing minerality. —P.G.  
   *abv: 12.5%*  
   *Price: $15*

8. **Château Saint-Sernin 2009 Cahors.** With its new wood and mint flavors, this is a smooth, polished wine, full of delicious ripe black-fruit flavors and acidity. The wine is elegant, the wood already well integrated into the fruit. Age for 3–4 years. Bird Rock Imports. —R.V.  
   *abv: 13.5%*  
   *Price: $11*

9. **Caves Velhas 2008 Catedral Reserva (Dão).** Mint and red-fruit aromas dominate this classic Dão wine, with its firm tannins and mineral structure. Spice, toast and dark berry flavors give a feeling of weight to a wine that demands to be paired with rich red meats. Prestige Wine Group. —R.V.  
   *abv: 13%*  
   *Price: $10*

In *Death in the Afternoon*, Ernest Hemingway writes, “Wine is one of the most civilized things in the world and one of the most natural things of the world that has been brought to the greatest perfection.”
91 Pacific Rim 2011 Dry Riesling (Columbia Valley). A fresh and textural wine, this puts a spicy spin on citrus rind, peach and apricot flavors. There’s an intriguing hint of white pepper as well, and an overall sensation of density, intensity and exceptional length. —P.G.  
**abv:** 12.8%  
**Price:** $11

92 Uvaggio 2010 Vermentino (Lodi). Anyone intrigued by the array of alternative whites being produced in California right now should know about this wine, an incredibly priced, low-alcohol sipper that’s also complex enough to pair with a range of lighter foods. Its aromas of apricot and sweet peach are most inviting, and the wine also has a saltiness layered around its acidity that hits in the midpalate and then finishes dry. A complex, medium-bodied, layered white that tastes of the sea. —V.B.  
**abv:** 14%  
**Price:** $12

93 Bourgeois Family 2009 Elicio Grenache-Merlot (Vin de Pays de la Méditerranée). It’s an unusual blend, but it works, creating a round, supple wine for immediate enjoyment. Hints of orange peel, coriander and green olive bring complexity to notes of plum and cherry, while the finish turns dark and espresso-like. Bourgeois Family Selections. —J.C.  
**abv:** 13.5%  
**Price:** $10

94 Guelbenzu 2009 Vierlas (Ribera del Queiles). The bouquet is robust, with bold aromas of berry, tobacco, root and tree bark. It feels flush, full and balanced, with licorice and blackberry flavors that are backed by nice acidity. This is a grabby and meaty blend of 80% Syrah, 10% Merlot and 10% Graciano. Classical Wines. —M.S.  
**abv:** 13.5%  
**Price:** $14

95 The ritual of toasting began in ancient Rome, when all guests at a dinner party would drop a piece of toast into their glasses of wine to counter the acidity and to augment the flavor.
19 Hogue 2008 Red Table Wine (Columbia Valley). Tart and juicy, this Cabernet/Merlot/Syrah blend matches cranberry and plum flavors to milk chocolate and nougat highlights. Well-crafted, with a pleasing florality (to coin a word) in the finish. An outstanding value. —P.G.

abv: 13.6%  
Price: $7

20 Echeverria 2008 Reserva Syrah (Maipo Valley). Excellent Chilean Syrah for this price is pretty much unheard of. The nose on this wine offers licorice, blackberry, a hint of raisin and floral accents. It's active, tannic and healthy in the mouth, with pure berry and spiced fruitcake flavors. Foresty, dark and figgy on the finish. A bargain in New World Syrah. Ararat Import/Export Co. LLC. —M.S.

abv: 14.5%  
Price: $13

21 Leese-Fitch 2010 Sauvignon Blanc (California). A lovely Sauvignon Blanc, dry, crisply acidic and clean, with complex citrus, flower and mineral flavors. A great value for the money. —S.H.

abv: 13%  
Price: $13

22 Domaine Sorin 2011 Terra Amata Rosé (Côtes de Provence). Rounded and rich, this is full of strawberry flavors. It's deliciously ripe, with crispness to go with the serious fruit. This is very much a food rosé, concentrated and intense. Grape Expectations (CA). —R.V.

abv: 13%  
Price: $12

23 Tapiz 2010 Malbec (Mendoza). Solid as a boulder and concentrated on the bouquet, with a mix of flower, fine perfume and blackberry aromas. Feels lush, complete and easygoing, with blackberry, cassis and chocolate flavors. Graceful and composed on the back end. Vino Del Sol. —M.S.

abv: 13.8%  
Price: $15

24 Skouras 2011 Roditis-Moscovitllo (Peloponnese). Aromas of candied fruits, flowers and a perky citric edge give this white a fun and exotic feel. On the palate, soft flavors of lemon curd, orange marmalade, fresh fruit and spice are in balance and will appeal to fans of a slightly less-dry Greek white. Pretty and easy drinking. Diamond Importers Inc. —S.K.

abv: 12%  
Price: $10

25 Yalumba 2010 The Y Series Riesling (South Australia). Very floral and citrusy, with lime and orange sherbet notes and hints of green apple and white pepper. It also shows good length for such an inexpensive drop. Drink now. Negotiants USA, Inc. —J.C.

abv: 12%  
Price: $12

26 Capanne Ricci 2010 Rosso di Montalcino. This Rosso boasts impressively intense and pure Sangiovese aromas. The wine is compact, with notes of red berry, rum cake, dried rosemary, ginger and spice. It's a small step away from the quality of Brunello at a fraction of the price. Montcalm Wine Importers. —M.L.

abv: 14.5%  
Price: $15

27 Alente 2009 Premium Trincadeira-Aragonez (Alentejo). A beautiful wood-aged wine, its power and concentration feel smooth and stylish, with elegant tannins, and toast and ripe black-current flavors. It's a wine with the potential to age for 3–4 years. Value Vines LLC. —R.V.

abv: 14%  
Price: $14

28 Blue Plate 2011 Dry Chenin Blanc (Clarksburg). This bottling is even better than the 2010: drier, crisper and more elegant, without a trace of sweetness. It's balanced, with a long finish that should pair well with any kind of spiced food. —V.B.

abv: 12%  
Price: $11

29 Waterbrook 2011 Sauvignon Blanc (Columbia Valley). A standout in this new vintage, Waterbrook's pure varietal bottling explodes into life with bright, spicy, pungent scents of recently mown lawn, herb, pine needle, citrus and melon. Fresh, clean, textural and persistent, it has a depth of flavor rarely found at this price. —P.G.

abv: 14%  
Price: $12
30 Delas Frères 2009 Côtes-du-Ventoux. 
Aged exclusively in stainless steel tanks prior to bottling, this blend of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah is a chunky, medium-bodied red ideal for drinking over the next few years. Subtle plum and black cherry notes pick up hints of leather, earth and spice, with an ample dusting of tannin on the finish. Maisons Marques & Domaines USA. —J.C. 
abv: 14.1%  
Price: $11

31 Peñalolen 2011 Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Powerful but well cut and elegant. The nose is hardly bashful and hits with a mix of fresh greens, bright citrus and minerality. Healthy in the mouth, with blazing acidity, grapefruit and lasting green notes. The epitome of a zesty white wine. Global Vineyard Importers. —M.S. 
abv: 13%  
Price: $12

32 Bradgate 2011 Sauvignon Blanc-Chenin Blanc (Stellenbosch). This is open and likeable, with forward aromas of fresh red apple slices, white pineapple cores and green-melon rind. It’s brisk and clean on the palate, with good cut and freshness to the fruity core. A touch of herbaceousness adds character to the lingering finish. World Premiere Wines LLC. —L.B. 
abv: 13.5%  
Price: $15

33 El Molet 2009 Red (Valencia). Sweet blackberry aromas come with floral edgings, and the whole is impressive. Full bodied and balanced, with healthy, ripe black-cherry and dark plum flavors. Finish is spicy, with a note of bitter espresso. 90% Tempranillo with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon. One of the best wines from Valencia. Grapes of Spain. —M.S. 
abv: 14.5%  
Price: $15

34 Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards 2011 Riesling (Finger Lakes). Intensely tropical on the nose and palate, this off-dry Riesling shines with notes of juicy melon, papaya and peach candy, with a hint of white, waxy flower for extra flair. Brisk acidity keeps all that fruity sweetness in check, leading to a sleek, steely finish. —A.I. 
abv: 10.5%  
Price: $12

35 Cameron Hughes 2009 Lot 271 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Lots of sweet raspberry and cherry fruit in this easy-to-drink Pinot Noir. It’s nice and silky, with a spicy finish. Nice with grilled tuna, lamb or beef, and a good value for the price. —S.H. 
abv: 14.4%  
Price: $14

36 Château d’Aylie 2009 Madiran Laplace (Madiran). With the richness of the vintage, the natural tannins of Tannat are tamed by a welter of intense black fruits, sweet berries and Arabica coffee. The structure is exhibited in the dusty tannins under all the fruit. Polaner Selections. —R.V. 
abv: 13.5%  
Price: $15

37 Real Companhia Velha 2009 Porca de Murça (Douro). A seriously structured wine with a rich core of ripe black-currant fruits, bitter chocolate and delicious acidity. The wine shows signs of wood aging to add to the dry fruit tannins. It is ready to drink. Admiral Imports. —R.V. 
abv: 13%  
Price: $10

38 Wakefield Estate 2011 Promised Land Riesling (South Australia). A bit softer and more approachable than many Australian Rieslings, but it still bears a familial resemblance to Wakefield’s Clare Valley Riesling, with hints of crushed stone or chalk and tangerine-citrus notes. Drink now. American Wine Distributors. —J.C. 
abv: 12.5%  
Price: $12

39 Kellerei Kaltern Caldaro 2011 Pinot Grigio (Alto Adige). This gorgeous Pinot Grigio displays the fresh aromatic fragrances associated with cool-climate, mountain winemaking. Layers of jasmine, tangerine, cut grass and white almond appear on the bouquet, giving this wine a delicate and feminine personality. A spicy touch of acidity drives the clean, bright finish. Omniwines Distribution. —M.L. 
abv: 14%  
Price: $15

1800 B.C. 
According to Hammurabi’s Code, fraudulent wine sellers are to be drowned in a river.
Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2010 Dry Riesling (Mosel). A great value in dry Riesling, the 2010 from Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler displays fascinating aromas of peach, lime, fern fronds and brine, along with medium body, a velvety texture and a long, potent finish. Drink it over the next few years. Miller Squared Inc. —J.C.

Price: $15

Cave Spring 2009 Riesling (Niagara Peninsula). While initially quite dry, almost bone on the palate, this bang-for-your-buck Riesling intensifies on the midpalate with rich tones of white peach, fresh apple and white pepper spice. Nervy and fresh, with lime-inflected acidity, it calls out for a soft, creamy, cow’s milk cheese. MGZ Associates. —A.I.

Price: $12

StoneCap 2010 Estate Grown Syrah (Columbia Valley). The best of a very solid group of 2010s from StoneCap, this Syrah draws some inspiration from the Australian wines. Spicy and ripe, with lush black fruits and a lick of citrus. Vanilla and tobacco notes highlight the finish. —P.G.

Price: $8

Firestone 2010 Riesling (Santa Ynez Valley). Firestone continues to produce good, affordable Rieslings, and this 2010 is one of their best yet. Like the 2009, it’s off-dry, with a honey richness to the lemon, peach, white flower and mineral flavors that are brilliantly offset by crisp acidity and refreshingly low alcohol. —S.H.

Price: $14
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Wine Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Louis Jadot 2010 Beaujolais-Villages</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>A wine that combines richness with sweet cherry flavors and a firm tannic edge. Acidity and ripeness have produced a structured, food-friendly wine. Kobrand.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Caprili 2010 Rosso di Montalcino</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>This impressive Rosso offers lush aromas of rum cake, coffee, spice, pipe tobacco and dark fruit. It shows warm, earthy or leathery notes in the mouth that are rounded off by fresh Sangiovese acidity. Admiralty Beverage.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Napa Family Vineyards 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Surprisingly good for the price, this Cab appeals for its dryness and elegance. With pleasant blackberry, blueberry and smoke flavors, its tannins are firm, leading to a long, sweet finish. Production was just under 1,500 cases.</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Rosemount 2009 Diamond Label Chardonnay</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Rosemount’s Diamond Label Chardonnay used to be a terrific value, so it is encouraging to see its quality once again on the rise. Smoky notes add complexity to the bold pear and melon fruit in this plump, harmonious wine; drink it over the next few months. Treasury Wine Estates.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Jones of Washington 2011 Estate Vineyards Pinot Gris</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>This is the best Pinot Gris yet from Jones; the grapes were sourced from the 2 Gun Vineyard in the upcoming Ancient Lakes region—a future American Viticultural Area. Leesy and creamy, it seduces with a layer of rich cream wrapped around bright orange and semitropical fruit flavors. It's full and fresh, and it lingers.</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Quintay 2011 Q Sauvignon Blanc</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>Pungent and precise, with a textbook mix of green aromas, tropical fruits and lushness. Feels lively and juicy, with lime, lychee, green apple and pineapple flavors that settle on passion fruit come finishing time. Montecastelli Selections.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Sequiot 2008 Tempranillo-Cabernet Sauvignon</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Smoke, rubber and spice aromas mix with ripe berry scents to form a solid and impressive bouquet. It's thick and saturated but balanced, with harmonious, easy to like flavors of blackberry and cassis. Long and solid on the finish; captures the essence of value-priced Malbec. The Wine Group.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Goats do Roam Wine Co. 2010 Rosé</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Despite the cutey name, this is a serious rosé that's sure to please even the most discerning crowd. A blend of Syrah, Grenache, Cinsault and Mourvèdre, it's ripe and red fruit forward with a full weight, lush mouth that's balanced with medium acidity. Vineyard Brands.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Quinta do Casal Branco 2008 Falcoaria Branco Fernão Pires</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>An impressive wine that is packed with notes of rich fruit, toast and vanilla. It has weight to its apple, peach and intense spice flavors. The style is like a ripe Chardonnay, just with extra acidity. Ready to drink, but could age for another year. Tri-Vin Imports.</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>$13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Trapiche 2010 Oak Cask Malbec</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Smoke, rubber and spice aromas mix with ripe berry scents to form a solid and impressive bouquet. It's thick and saturated but balanced, with harmonious, easy to like flavors of blackberry and cassis. Long and solid on the finish; captures the essence of value-priced Malbec. The Wine Group.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
60 88 Snap Dragon 2010 Riesling (California). A lovely off-dry Riesling that’s crisply elegant. This is the kind of wine that shows why Riesling is experiencing an uptick. With apricot, citrus, vanilla and honeysuckle flavors, it’s a great wine to drink with slightly sweet, spicy foods like Vietnamese, Thai, Burmese or Middle Eastern. —S.H.
abv: 13.5%
Price: $9

61 90 CDR 2010 Côtes du Rhône. A medium-bodied blend of Syrah, Grenache and Carignan, this wine offers a supple feel and plenty of red berry and cherry fruit, with just enough spice to give it additional interest. Drink it over the next year or two. Domaine Select Wine Estates. —J.C.
abv: 14%
Price: $15

62 88 Bersano 2009 Costalunga Barbera d’Asti. Blackberry, tobacco and spice flavors give this an appropriate air of sophistication. It should pair with pizza or pasta. Vin Divino. —M.L.
abv: 13.5%
Price: $10

63 89 Jacob’s Creek 2009 Reserve Chardonnay (Adelaide Hills). Each Jacob’s Creek Reserve wine is now sourced from a specific region, and this Chardonnay shows solid improvement as a result. It’s medium in body, with notes of grilled pineapple and sweet corn and a brisk, citrusy finish. Drink it over the next 6–9 months. Pernod Ricard. —J.C.
abv: 13.5%
Price: $13

64 89 Gordon Brothers 2009 Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). Is there a better value in Chardonnay than this? Not if you love wine done in a dark gold, oily, buttery, oaky style. This is not a wine to cellar, but it certainly is a wine to savor. Green and yellow apple fruit manage to cut through all the buttery flavors. —P.G.
abv: 13.7%
Price: $10

The tomb of Tutankhamen, a.k.a. King Tut, was opened in 1922, and alongside the mummy were several wine jars labeled with the winemaker’s name, the vintage and comments about the quality of the wine. Some of these labels were so detailed that they met some countries’ contemporary wine-labeling guidelines.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Wine Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Fabre Montmayou 2009 Phebus Reserva Malbec (Mendoza)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Mendoza</td>
<td>Spicy on the nose, with berry and plum aromas. The palate is smooth and sturdy, with toasty, ripe black-fruit flavors that carry a sweet, spicy base. It finishes long and serious. Deutsch Family Wine &amp; Spirits. —M.S.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Luis Duarte 2010 Rapariga da Quinta Branco (Alentejano)</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Alentejano</td>
<td>A full-bodied wine, this is powered by toast and rich yellow fruit. It is stylish, with its fruit elegantly integrated into the complex structure. Acidity comes in on the finish, adding a fresh character to this age-worthy wine. Laurel Importers. —R.V.</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Hermann Moser 2011 Karmeliterberg Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal)</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Kremstal</td>
<td>Crisply fruity, this is delicate, with clean lines of acidity. It shows delicious flavors of green apple and bitter orange, with a tangy, zesty texture. The finish is dry and taut. Screw-cap. Boutique Wine Collection. —R.V.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Colter's Creek 2010 Riesling (Idaho)</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>A little reticent on the nose, but it opens up generously in the mouth. It’s off-dry (3% residual sugar), with a flavorful, round mix of citrus, tangerine and nectarine fruits. Full bodied and lingering, it sails into a clean, tangy finish. —P.G.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Haunt 2009 Merlot (Rattlesnake Hills)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Rattlesnake Hills</td>
<td>Smooth and instantly appealing, this estate-grown Merlot has a broad, chocolaty palate that’s loaded with cherry fruit. There are peppery, herbal highlights, and plenty of lingering, polished tannins. —P.G.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Annabella 2010 Chardonnay (Napa Valley)</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Napa Valley</td>
<td>A clean, spicy Chardonnay, with classic flavors of oranges, green apples, pears and spices. The oak influence is minimal, allowing the fruit and acidity to star. This shows an elegance that places it at the forefront of Chardonnays in this price range. —S.H.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Ankena 2009 Single Vineyard Plot: Sauco Malbec (Requinoa)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Requinoa</td>
<td>Cola, blackberry and coconut aromas get this Cachapoal Malbec going in an attractive fashion. Feels good, weighty and properly tannic, with bold berry, chocolate, spice and depth to the palate. Toasty, dark, spicy and nice on the finish, but also oaky tasting. Evaton, Inc. —M.S.</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>$13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>La Girona di Galandrino 2011 Moscato d’Asti</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Piedmont</td>
<td>This bright Moscato d’Asti delivers pure expressions of both the fragrant Moscato grape and the special territory in northern Italy that shaped this delicate dessert wine. Floral aromas of honeysuckle and jasmine are presented in a compact, elegant manner thanks to the temperate growing conditions in Piedmont. The finish is creamy, frothy and rich. Wine Apellations Ltd. —M.L.</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>Bodegas Dios Baco S.L. NV Élite Oloroso Sherry (Jerez)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Jerez</td>
<td>Round and welcoming up front, with toffee, caramel and mocha aromas that are not too sharp. It feels smooth, with pure flavors of toasted nuts, caramel, cocoa dust, dried apricot and underripe peach. Complex and nutty on the finish, with a sweet aftertaste of chocolate and toffee. CIV/USA. —M.S.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Michel Gassier 2009 Les Piliers Cabernet Sauvignon (Pays d’Oc)</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Pays d’Oc</td>
<td>With 12 months spent in oak, this wine has a strong streak of vanilla and sweet spice throughout. Additional notes of clove, black cherry, plum and cassis abound on the nose and mouth, and linger well into the close alongside a touch of fudgy chocolate. The creamy texture is framed by medium tannins and balanced acidity. A great value ready to drink now. Total Wine &amp; More. —L.B.</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
80 Restivo 2010 Reserve Malbec (Patagonia). On the bouquet, the aromas are dark and mildly charred, with notes of grilled beef, blackberry and smoke. It feels powerful, juicy and healthy, with blackberry, dark plum and spice flavors. The finish is peppery, lively and bullish, with no shortage of toasty oak. Biagio Cru & Estate Wines, LLC. —M.S. 

90 Willamette Valley Vineyards 2010 Riesling (Willamette Valley). This is at the sweetest edge of off dry (alcohol at 9%, residual sugar 5.1%) and it is loaded with citrus fruit—especially ripe orange—that keeps it lively and refreshing. A well-made, full-bodied Riesling that lingers gracefully through the finish, with a streak of lemon tea. —P.G. 

89 Herdade de São Miguel 2010 San Miguel Branco (Alentejano). Perfumed green-plum aromas impart an attractive floral quality to this wine, which also has some wood aging. The acidity is light but just right for the textured white-fruit flavors. There is good freshness on the finish. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V. 

82 Zonte’s Footstep 2010 Doctressa di Lago Single Site Pinot Grigio (Fleurieu Peninsula). Nicely rounded in texture without being flabby, this is a lively, crisp white wine, well endowed with flavors reminiscent of melon, pear and lime. Perfect to drink now with most seafood dishes, or as an aperitif. Old Bridge Cellars. —J.C. 

83 Pomelo 2011 Sauvignon Blanc (California). This is a large-production Sauvignon Blanc that tastes delicious. If you like grapefruit and pomelo flavors, you will love this enticingly priced white that’s got razor sharp acidity, a touch of New Zealand-like grass and a long finish. —Y.B. 

90 Kendall-Jackson 2010 Avant Chardonnay (California). A bit heavy and creamy, but there’s something exotic about the oily, fat richness that suggests cashew nuts. With Meyer lemon flavors, it’s an immaculate wine, and a very good value. —S.H. 

There is only one book in the Old Testament (the Book of Jonah) that does not mention wine or vineyards.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Wine</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Abv</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Landskroon 2011 Dry Chenin Blanc (Paarl)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>A brisk and lifted Chenin that should pair well with summer salads, grilled flake fish or chicken. Peony and orange blossom notes grace the background of the bouquet, while white peach, lemon and yellow apple flesh flavors fill the medium-weight palate. Balanced and refreshing; enjoy now. Z Wines USA. —L.B.</td>
<td>$11</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Castle Rock 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Castle Rock does a fine job with this value Cabernet Sauvignon. Smooth and supple, the very pretty fruit flavors range from cranberry to black cherry. Delicate suggestions of mushroom, cocoa and dusty earth add welcome complexity. —P.G.</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92</td>
<td>Rotari NV Brut (Trento)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>With its well-recognized yellow label, Rotari’s Brut (based on Chardonnay grapes) offers value and quality with toasty aromas of roasted almond, freshly baked bread and yellow fruit. The wine is creamy and smooth, with a touch of citrus freshness on the close. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —M.L.</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>Eola Hills 2010 Chardonnay (Oregon)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>This has notes of sleek mixed fruits and toasty, bourbon-barrel-influenced flavors of toasted hazelnut and buttered popcorn that usually come at a higher price. Drink now. —P.G.</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Duorum 2011 Tons de Duorum Branco (Douro)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Herbaceous and richly crisp, its acidity is tangy with mineral undertones and bright green and white-fruit flavors. This is delicious and fruity, with a great final zing. Winebow. —R.V.</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Alamos 2010 Red Blend (Mendoza)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>This is the first blend from Alamos, and it sings a nice tune. Rubbery, slightly medicinal aromas give way to a full, honest, bulky wine. Ripe blackberry and cherry flavors rest in front of a good finish that’s full of vanilla and chocolate notes. Malbec, Bonarda and Tempranillo are the primary grapes. E &amp; J Gallo. —M.S.</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Arge &amp; Tina 2009 Malbec (San Juan)</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Honest plum and berry aromas get it going, followed by a fresh, comfortable palate with raspberry and plum flavors and nonpushy tannins. Feels entirely clean, with a pleasant red-fruit aftertaste. Everyday Malbec that gets it right. IBESC Wine Distributor. —M.S.</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97</td>
<td>Raíza 2006 Reserva (Rioja)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Traditional in style and approachable, with aromas of brick dust, dried berry, tobacco and leather. Feels lush and just concentrated enough, while the flavors of baked berry, sweet plum and earth work well together. Finishes round and solid. A very good value. Vicente Gandía PLA. —M.S.</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Giesen 2010 Riesling (Marlborough)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Ripe and fragrant, with hints of peaches and cinnamon on the nose, followed by bold, fruit-driven flavors and more than a touch of sweetness. Dreyfus, Ashby &amp; Co. —J.C.</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) 2010 Val de L’Ours Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah (Pays d’Oc)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Black tea leaves and sweet spices season the fresh black-cherry and cassis spine of this attractive red blend. A good grip in the mouth lends structure to the fruit-forward palate and gives longevity to the dry finish. Pasternak Wine Imports. —L.B.</td>
<td>$13</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Foris 2009 Dry Gewürztraminer (Rogue Valley)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Labeled dry and tasting very much so, this clean, floral-scented Gewürztraminer has a pleasingly dusty aspect, with a rose petal note and a thin veneer of incense. Long and complex. —P.G.</td>
<td>$14</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To make a single glass of wine requires about one grape cluster, or 75 grapes. An acre of vines can produce roughly 800 gallons of wine.