



The definitive list of the year's must-have wines

BY THE EDITORS OF WINE ENTHUSIAST

As the year winds down, we can't help but reflect on our favorite wine tastings of 2016. We reviewed nearly 22,000 wines this year, so there's certainly a lot to recall. But after compiling our Top 100 Best Buy list of the ultimate affordable sippers and then helping to invest in a stellar-cellar future with our list of Top 100 Cellar Selections, it's time for the big one—The Enthusiast 100: our list of standout wines to buy and drink over the next few years.

The best of the best in more ways than one, this veritable shopping list illustrates the fantastic variety and diversity available to consumers today. With wines from 15 countries and across all styles—from punchy reds to delicate whites, brilliant rosés to sweeties and bubbles—it is an all-encompassing ranking that offers something for every palate and occasion.

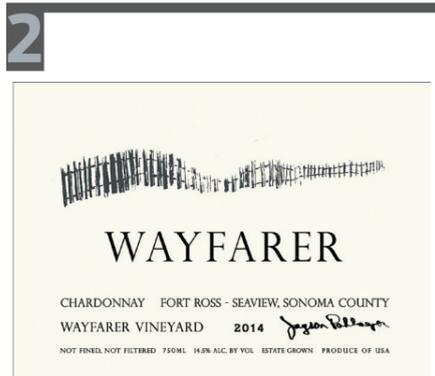
The best news of all? In addition to these wines' variety, they boast excellent quality-to-price ratios. They average 94 points and \$36. In addition, we put in the work to hunt down these wines, confirming availability to ensure they are attainable. Because what's worse than finding out about a great wine and not being able to buy it anywhere?

That said, these selections won't stay on the shelves for long, so grab them, raise your glass and give a toast to blissful drinking.

JENS JOHNSONS



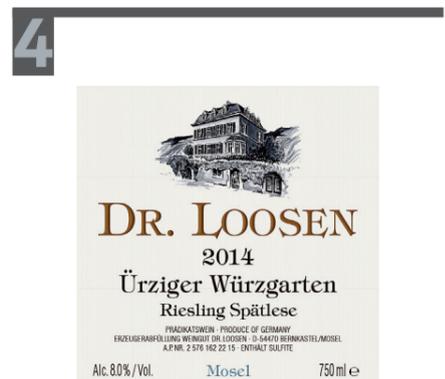
96 La Rioja Alta 2005 Gran Reserva 904 (Rioja). One look, one whiff, one taste and you're swooning. This mature, tawny, ready-to-drink gran reserva with aromas of lemon peel, cedar and dried cherry is the epitome of elegance. A juicy, supple palate is highly approachable, while flavors of vanilla, orange peel, saffron and dried plum don't waver on the finish. Drink through 2027. La Rioja Alta, USA. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$50



98 Wayfarer 2014 Wayfarer Vineyard Chardonnay (Fort Ross-Seaview). This is yet another stunning wine from this site, guided by the capable hands of Winemaker and Viticulturalist Bibiana González Rave, who has coaxed from it beguiling layers of complex concentration and sublime notions of tang and salt. The only white from a sea of Pinot Noir grown here, it speaks to what the extreme Sonoma Coast can bring to the variety—a celebration of lemon zest, crisp apple and brioche delicately wrapped in minerality. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$80

94 Benanti 2014 Rosso (Etna). Made with 85% Nerello Mascalese and 15% Nerello Cappuccio, this radiant red boasts a beautiful fragrance of blue and red flower, ripe berry, cake

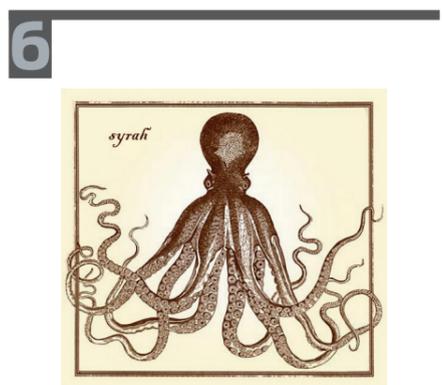
spice and aromatic herb. The radiant, delicious palate doles out layers of juicy black cherry, raspberry compote, cinnamon, white pepper and clove while a mineral note backs up the lingering finish. It's young but balanced, with bright acidity and tightly wound but refined tannins. Lyra Wine. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$24



95 Dr. Loosen 2014 Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese (Mosel). This intensely fruity, floral nectar hits the palate with electric force, catapulting vibrant acidity against sweet, tangy flavors of tangerine, peach and honey. A favorite amidst an excellent showing of 2014 Mosel spätlese, it's delicious now, but should continue to evolve well through at least 2020. Loosen Bros. USA. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I. **abv:** 8% **Price:** \$34



93 José Maria da Fonseca 2014 José de Sousa (Alentejano). Named after the owner of the estate in the Alentejo that the Fonseca family bought in 1986, this wine is packed with firm, generous tannins and ripe, juicy black fruits. It has some oak aging that has given the wine a polished feel. With its concentration, structure and final acidity, it will age well. Drink from 2018. Palm Bay International. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V. **abv:** 15% **Price:** \$16

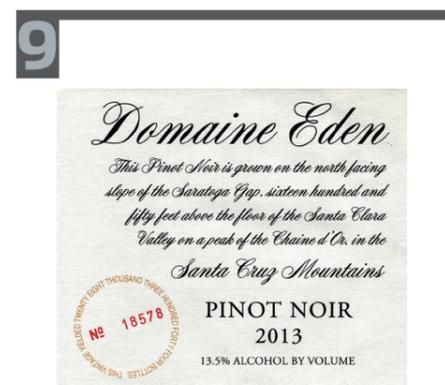


95 Holus Bolus 2013 Syrah (Sta. Rita Hills). Though this bottling is Peter Hunken's least-expensive Syrah, it gives his single-vineyard expressions a serious run for the money for best of vintage. Amazing aromas of chipped asphalt, smoked beef, dense boysenberry, soy, cedar, sandalwood and soy drop into a palate of peppery berry juice, beef jerky, underripe blackberry and elderberry, and pepper-crust teriyaki beef. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$32

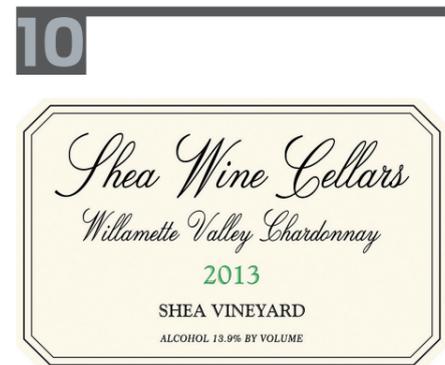
93 Domaine de l'Ecu 2014 Granite (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine). Like all the wines from this domaine, this comes from biodynamically produced grapes. It is part of a series of wines named after the subsoil in which the vines are planted. The wine is tense, mineral and still young. It has a flinty character along with lemon and grapefruit fruit. There is a salty tang to this wine that really needs to age. Drink from late 2017. Polaner Selections. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V. **abv:** 12% **Price:** \$22



95 COS 2014 Pithos Rosso (Vittoria). Radiant and earthy, this blend of Frappato and Nero d'Avola boasts enticing scents suggesting dark-skinned berry, leather, sunbaked earth, sea breeze and a floral note. The creamy, succulent palate doles out juicy black cherry, black raspberry, white pepper and aromatic herb alongside supple tannins and fresh acidity. A saline note wraps up the finish. Drink 2017–2024. Domaine Select Wine & Spirits. —K.O. **abv:** 12% **Price:** \$30



95 Domaine Eden 2013 Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains). While this wine's Mount Eden sister bottling may better stand the test of time, the Domaine Eden is what most people will most like to drink right now, and it's cheaper, too. Aromas of dried violets, uncrushed boysenberries and pencil lead make for an ethereal nose that seems to hold secrets one must uncover. Precise tannins on the palate offer floral yet savory flavors of black sesame, nori, violet and mulberry. Mellow yet mysterious. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$35



95 Shea 2013 Shea Vineyard Chardonnay (Willamette Valley). Here is an utterly irresistible wine—spicy, sensuous and layered with beautifully ripened citrus, tree and tropical fruits. A whiff of pine needle continues as a flavor thread, along with vanilla, buttered nuts, lemon-grass and macaroon. This wine just keeps on going. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G. **abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$35

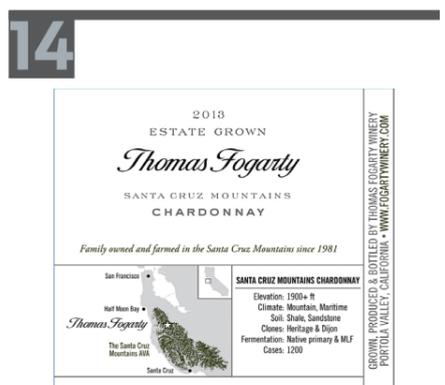


95 Malat 2014 Steinbühel Reserve Riesling (Kremstal). Imagine a concentration of lemon juice in an airy cloud of freshness—that is the nose of this astonishing wine. On the palate the almost leafy spice of grapefruit peel shines through and reveals new but light-footed nuances of zesty citrus throughout, exuding both immense purity and charm. Circo Vino. —A.K. **abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$37



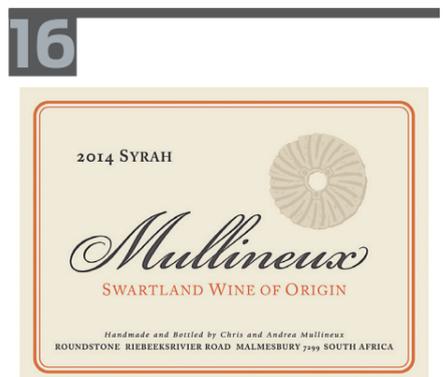
94 Cusumano 2014 Alta Mora (Etna). Enticing scents of wild red berry, baking spice, aromatic herb and a balsamic note waft out of the glass. The elegant, juicy palate doles out succulent wild cherry, crushed raspberry, cinnamon and a note of white pepper while a mineral note backs up the finish. It's well balanced, with bright acidity and ultrafine tannins. Terlato Wines International. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$25

93 Quinta de Chocalpalha 2011 Tinto (Lisboa). Aged for 18 months in wood, this impressive ripe wine is full of fruit and also a firm, smoky tannic structure. The partial fermentation in open stone tanks has given the wine an extra dimension of richness. This is a fine, concentrated wine that is now ready to drink. MundoVino—The Winebow Group. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$18



95 Thomas Fogarty 2013 Chardonnay (Santa Cruz Mountains). From one of the preeminent Chardonnay producers in the country comes their least expensive yet perhaps most stunning bottling, showing strong lemon rind, sea salt, Gravenstein apple and a floral touch of honeysuckle on the nose. The wondrously zippy and saline palate is framed by a grippy, grapefruit-rind-led tension, but opens just enough to allow the slightest hints of lemon curd and delicate marzipan warmth. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$35

94 Adriano Marco & Vittorio 2013 Sanadaive (Barbaresco). Enticing scents of fragrant blue flower, ripe red berry, baking spice, menthol and new leather lead the way. Fresh and elegant, the palate delivers juicy red cherry, raspberry, cinnamon, white pepper and licorice while firm, polished tannins lend structure and a smooth mouthfeel. Drink 2018–2023. Monsieur Touton Selection Ltd. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$30



94 Mullineux 2014 Syrah (Swartland). This ripe selection conveys a superb sense of balance and refinement, with forward aromas and flavors of black cherry and brambly berry framed by notes of wood spice, mocha and pressed violet. Velvety in feel, the texture is plush and seductive, with fine yet structured tannins and ample

acidity to keep the palate fresh through the close. It's certainly delicious now, but this should age well through 2022. Kysela Père et Fils. **Editors' Choice.** —L.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$40

17

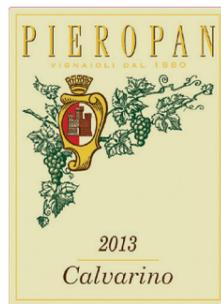
93 Berger 2015 Lössterrassen Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). Zesty lime and green fern aromas rise from the glass. The palate merely adds a little green pear fruit to this refreshing and enlivening combo of utter cleanness and verve. The linearity and drive make this moreish, very exciting and totally lip-smacking. Echoes of pepper on the aftertaste make it even more intriguing. Skurnik Wines, Inc. —A.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

18



97 Roar 2014 Garys' Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands). Jaw-dropping on all fronts, this wine by the pioneering Francioni family approaches regional perfection. Black plum fruit meets with dried violet and lavender on the extremely well-integrated nose, while a mineral tension frames the palate. Flavors of black plum and blackberry jam are cut by rocky earth and wild mint, and the acidity is vibrant but not overpowering. —M.K.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$58

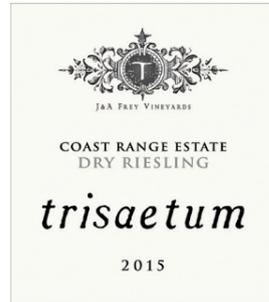
19



94 Pieropan 2013 Calvarino (Soave Classico). This dazzling white is a lesson in finesse and balance. It opens with alluring,

delicate scents of white wild flowers, chopped herbs, almonds and orchard fruits. The elegant palate offers layers of crisp apple and creamy pear, and radiant acidity brightens the intense flavors while a mineral note closes the lingering finish. Drink through 2023. LUX Wines. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$31

20



94 Trisaetum 2015 Coast Range Estate Dry Riesling (Yamhill-Carlton). An acid-lover's Riesling, this is bone dry and loaded with phenolic detail. Fruit flavors run the table on citrus, most especially grapefruit, with plenty of pith and rind. It's lush, tart and deeply penetrating. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$28

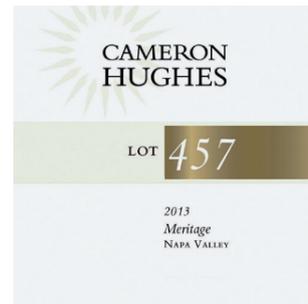
21

93 Quinta do Vale Meão 2013 Meandro do Vale Meão Red (Douro). The name of the wine comes from the huge horseshoe bend of the Douro River that surrounds the Meão vineyards on three sides. This is the second wine of the estate, ripe with tannins and packed with black fruits. It is developing quickly and is ready to drink now. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$20

22

96 Eichinger 2014 Gaisberg Reserve Riesling (Kamptal). This wine arrives on tiptoe, citrus-scented and fresh, but once it expands on your palate it soon fills the mouth with all manner of stone fruits. As befits this vintage, everything is tempered with grapefruit zestiness but both mirabelle and apricot richness not only lend flavor but also a beautiful texture that insinuates quince and blood orange zest. What a triumph, what a marvel. Irresistible now but with incredible concentration this is built to last. Drink now till 2020 at least. Weygandt-Metzler. —A.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$28

23



93 Cameron Hughes 2013 Lot 457 Meritage (Napa Valley). Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Petit Verdot inform the full-bodied flavors in this stunner. It shines in its luxuriously velvety texture, bright red fruit and intriguing elements of graphite and tar. Big and bold, it betrays its size with unexpectedly elegant tension and focus. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$18

24

93 Famille Laplace 2013 Odé d'Aydie (Madiran). There are plenty of tannins in this still-young wine. Wood as well as fruit tannins are firm and concentrated, and still developing. Beside this structure, the fruit is also impressive: a rich medley of dark plums, ripe berry fruits and fine acidity. Drink from 2018. The Wine Company. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$20

25

97 Le Potazzone 2011 Brunello di Montalcino. Perfumed and elegant, this opens with enticing scents of rose, violet, fragrant berry, baking spice, tilled earth and a hint of new leather. The delicious, silky palate is loaded with finesse, offering juicy wild cherry, cinnamon, chopped mint, black tea and a note of pipe tobacco. It's already drop-dead gorgeous but will develop more complexity over the next several years. Enjoy through 2026. de Grazia Imports LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

26

97 Lynmar 2014 La Sereinité Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). It's hard to overstate how deliciously irresistible this wine is, a celebration of the variety that makes a statement of greatness from the first sip to the last. Golden-hued minerality is the star and pillar of support, a worthy dance partner to the twirls

of lacy lemon pith, fully expressive tangerine, grapefruit and stone. Lively and complex, it has everything to offer, showcasing beauty in a glass. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$70

27

93 Château Haut-Monplaisir 2012 Prestige (Cahors). This is a powerful wine, full of dark fruits and dense dry tannins. Even at four years old, it is still young. It is impressive in its concentration with fine acidity and black-plum flavors mingling with the tannins. Drink this serious wine from 2018. Vintage '59 Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$24

28

93 Gramercy 2013 Lower East Syrah (Columbia Valley). The aromas bring immediate appeal, with notes of brown stems, herbs, crushed flowers, smoked meat and black pepper. The flavors don't disappoint, showing purity, focus and generosity with a spot-on sense of balance and a lengthy finish that kicks it up a notch. Give it time to open up. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$28

29

95 Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt 2015 Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken Grosse Lage (Mosel). Complexities of slate and wax meld into notes of tangerine and apricot on the nose of this buoyantly sunny wine. It's dry in style, but plush white peach and honeycomb notes give it a silken richness not necessarily typical of Mosel Riesling. Firm strikes of lime and lemon tighten up the midpalate and extend through a long, steely finish. Opici Wines. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$50

30

95 Biondi 2014 Outis (Etna). This gorgeous wine opens with aromas of smoke, baking spice, red berry and flint. The mineral note carries over to the vibrant, silky palate, accenting juicy Morello cherry, white pepper, star anise, Mediterranean herb and tobacco. Polished tannins and fresh acidity provide impeccable balance. Hold for more complexity. Drink 2019–2027. Oliver McCrum Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$40

31

95 Domaine Serene 2013 Evenstad Reserve Chardonnay (Dundee Hills). This is a sensational vintage for this cuvée, which is part of the winery's extensive Chardonnay lineup. It offers intense fruit concentration and retains the opulence for which the winery is known. Rich in a buttered, toasted nut flavor, the mouthfeel is creamy and sensual. The finish lingers for several minutes, and the wine drinks as well or better on the second day it's been open. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$55

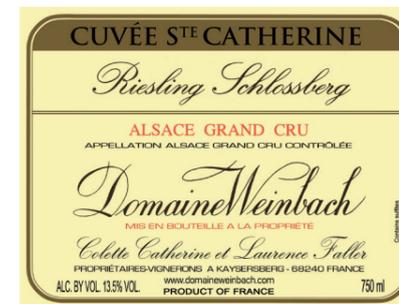
32

94 Tenuta Rovaglia 2013 Vigne di Catullo Riserva (Lugana). Delicately scented, this radiant wine opens with ultra-refined scents of white field flower, citrus blossom, aromatic herb and a whiff of orchard fruit. The creamy, elegantly structured palate boasts layers of juicy white peach, crisp green apple, tangerine and a hint of white almond. Fresh acidity brightens the creamy flavors while an energizing mineral note closes the lingering finish. John Given Wines. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$24

33

93 Kerloo 2014 Blue Mountain Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). Vibrant aromas of violet, herb, orange peel, smoked meat and plum lead to dense fruit flavors brightened by snappy acidity. It shows uncommon purity and depth that kicks it up a notch, along with enough tannic heft that cellaring will be rewarded. The balance is impeccable. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$20

34



96 Domaine Weinbach 2014 Schlossberg Grand Cru Cuvée Saint Catherine Riesling (Alsace). Faint notes of ripe pear are only hinted

at on the nose but on the dry palate they open up into pure, textured, precisely drawn fruit. There is concentration and a heady, seductive lemon and pear perfume hovering over the concentrated, profound palate of wet stone and immensely pure lemon oil. This comes on light, delicate feet but leaves you with a deep, lasting and impressive memory of Riesling purity and elegance. Vineyard Brands. —A.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$62

35



97 Limerick Lane 2013 Rocky Knoll Zinfandel (Russian River Valley). This wine is insanely good, from a dry-farmed, yes, rocky outcropping of vines planted first in 1910, then again in 1934 and the 1970s, with Carignane and Petite Sirah in the mix. It's thick, rich and beautifully put-together, full bodied and entirely balanced, with markings of cherry cordial and white pepper that seduce gently. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$50

36

95 Cartuxa 2013 Pêra-Manca Branco (Alentejo). The name of the wine goes back to the 15th century when it was exported to the Portuguese colonies. It is an iconic wine in Portugal; the white is a blend of Antão Vaz and Arinto. Aged in wood, it has density and concentration as well as opulent yellow fruit and pear flavors. It is a beautiful wine, rich while also so stylish. Drink from 2018. Tri-Vin Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$52

37

93 Michel Vattan 2014 Cuvée Calcaire (Sancerre). From 30-year-old vines grown on chalk and stony soil, this is a strongly mineral wine, with a tight texture and crushed berry flavor. It is fresh while structured, and needs to age. Drink after 2018. USA Wine West. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$24

38



94 Center of Effort 2014 Pinot Noir (Edna Valley). For the winery's lower-priced offering, this is a stunner. Baked black cherry, vanilla, raspberry, rose petals and a touch of licorice light up the nose. The lightly poised but intensely focused sip reveals a wild combo of fruit and spice, with sage, bay leaf, thyme and fennel laced through black cherry. It's like walking through the Central Coast scrubland. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K.

abv: 14.4%

Price: \$27

39

95 Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2012 Acclivi (Barolo). Ripe berry, cake spice, grilled herb, eucalyptus, fragrant blue flower and a hint of baking spice are just some of the scents you'll find on this gorgeous wine. The intense palate has great energy, offering black cherry, chopped mint, cinnamon and clove alongside youthfully firm tannins and fresh acidity. It boasts balance and aging potential. Drink 2020–2032. Bacchanal Wine Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$55

40

93 Harper Voit 2015 Surlie Pinot Blanc (Willamette Valley). This barrel-fermented wine drinks like a beautifully proportioned Chardonnay. It takes bright, intense fruit flavors of melon, yellow apples and green bananas, and puts a Burgundian spin on the mouthfeel with judicious acids and a touch of caramel. It's delicious, complex and should age nicely for another five to six years. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G.

abv: 13.6%

Price: \$20

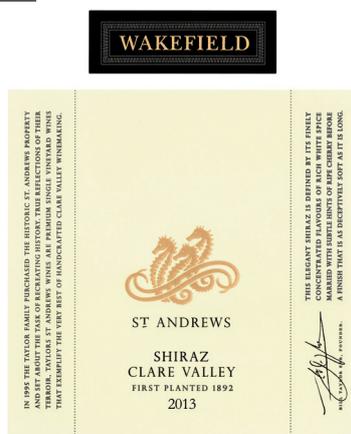
41

93 Wachtstetter 2013 Steillage Trollinger (Württemberg). Trollinger, also known as Schiava or Vernatsch outside of Germany, is a rarity in the U.S. market, but this delightfully crisp, raspberry-scented bottling is worth seeking out. It releases sweet raspberry and cherry perfume, but also darker notes of smoke, granite and cedar. Cranberry and strawberry flavors are tingling and tart, framed by tight tannins and a deep granite finish. Drinks well now but should improve further from 2021. Rudi Wiest Selections. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$22

42



95 Wakefield Estate 2013 St. Andrews Single Vineyard Release Shiraz (Clare Valley).

The Taylor family selected Clare Valley for its Cabernet affinity, but this Shiraz is a knockout. Yes, it's oaky—full of menthol, vanilla and toasted coconut—but there's just enough black cherry and plum fruit to support the wood. It's a plush, full-bodied wine with immense appeal, for drinking now—2025. Seaview Imports. **Editors' Choice.** —J.C.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$60

43

94 Domaine Marcel Deiss 2013 Engelgarten (Alsace). Dried hayflowers and dried orange peel send a lifted scent. The palate is richer and rounder than the nose suggests, full of ample apple and pear fruit, but guided and held by fresh, clean acidity. A certain earthiness shimmers with almost tropical hints of mango. The finish is dry, briskly clean but very lingering. Becky Wasserman Selections. —A.K.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$35

44

93 Bodegas Ontañón 2005 Reserva Tempranillo-Graciano (Rioja). Fruity but also showing saddle, game and vanilla aromas, this reserva from a top vintage sees its whole exceeding the sum of its parts. Full and creamy on the palate, this tastes of barrel toast and earthy plum and berry. Smooth and impressive, this is as welcoming as it is complex and age-worthy. Drink through 2025. Gabriel Wilson Selections. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.

abv: 13%

Price: \$25

45

93 Anton Bauer 2014 Pinot Noir (Wagram). Pure notes of red fruits reach the nose: Morello cherry and mulberry harmonize beautifully. Their purity pervades a palate that has the lightest touch: there is something authentic, beautiful and unforced about this. There is a suggestion, too, of herb, moss or undergrowth. This unpretentious winemaking style lets this pure, glorious fruit speak for itself and brings with it a profound sense of honest depth, bountiful earth and full-fruited balance. KWSelection.com. —A.K.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$25

46

94 Terre Rouge 2014 Monarch Mine Vineyard Roussanne (Sierra Foothills). The aroma of this uber-sophisticated white wine is almost like vintage Champagne, combining light smoky, toasted notes with a figgy, lees-stirred freshness. The plush and mature flavors resemble toasted walnuts, marzipan, white peach and honey, yet this is a dry dinner wine, not a dessert. It will make a great pairing with paté on toast or maybe a white truffle risotto. **Editors' Choice.** —J.G.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$25

47

93 Château Eugénie 2012 Cuvée Réserve de l'Aïeul (Cahors). With Tannat blended with Malbec, this is a dark, tannic and brooding wine. Almost black in color, it is concentrated and very firm, with spice, pepper and an intense core of dryness. There is power in this solid wine, with the potential of juicy fruit and considerable aging. Drink this dense wine from 2019. Solstars Inc. —R.V.

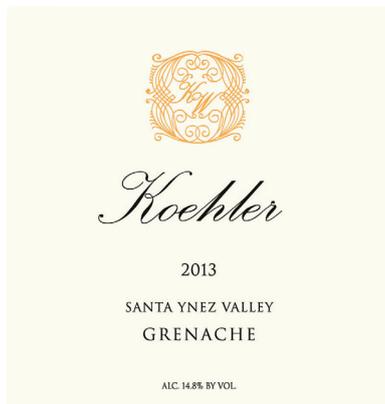
abv: 13%

Price: \$25

48

93 Clos Henri 2015 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). This property excels in some vintages, and the 2015 is a huge success. It's certainly complex, effortlessly combining hints of pungency with soothing notes of grapefruit. In the mouth, it's fairly full and creamy in texture, then punctuates that richness with a long, vibrant finish. Slocum & Sons, Inc. **Editors' Choice.** —J.C.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$25

49



94 Koehler 2013 Grenache (Santa Ynez Valley). Watch out for Colin Murphy, who was named winemaker at this estate after years working for regional legends Bruno d'Alfonso and Kris Curran. This bottling shows dark strawberry, incense, sandalwood, cola, figs, pepper and soy on the pretty yet complex nose. There is lots of intrigue to the palate too, where black plum comes together with chamomile, Earl Grey tea and lavender. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$25

50

94 Château de Fuissé 2014 Tête de Cru (Pouilly-Fuissé). Selected from parcels across the estate, this wine aims to reflect the totality of the appellation. It succeeds with its combination of minerality and ripe fruit. Oak, almond and citrus fruits are still right up front, showing that this is a young wine that will age well. Drink from 2018. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$41

51

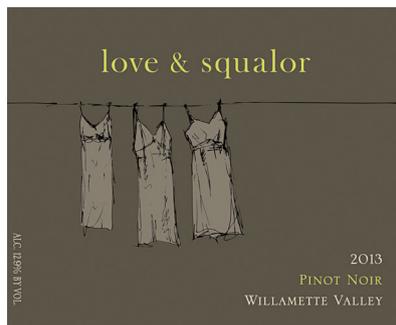
95 Sleight of Hand 2013 Psychedelic Stony Vine Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). The winery's first release off its estate vineyard in The Rocks offers expressive, captivating aromas of peat, dried flowers, fire pit, herbs, grilled asparagus, funk and green olive. The flavors are sweet, sumptuous and rich, showing depth and detail. It's a knockout. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.3% **Price:** \$60

52



93 Sierra Cantabria 2010 Reserva Red Wine (Rioja). Crisp, toasty oak and spice aromas are currently outranking this wine's berry-fruit components...but only for now. In five or more years, this will be less oaky and more complex. At this point in time, look for a sinewy, tight, almost jagged palate with toasty, robust flavors of plum and berry, dry spices and mixed herbs along with firm tannins. A long, balanced finish bodes well for the future. Drink through 2030. Fine Estates From Spain. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$27

53



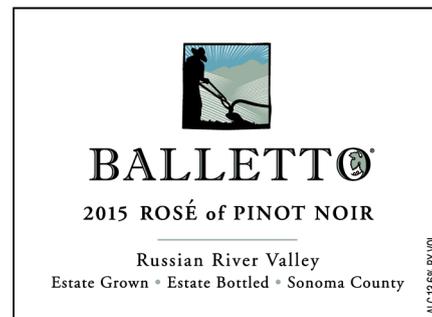
93 Love & Squalor 2013 Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). A sensational value, this is a Pinot lover's wine, beginning with the gorgeous color of a deep red/orange sunset. Cherries,

chocolate, and a light touch of orange peel elevate the aromatics and inform the well-integrated midpalate. The wine lingers gracefully through an immaculate finish. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G.
abv: 12.9% **Price:** \$28

54

92 Saracco 2015 Moscato d'Asti. Intensely aromatic, this opens with tantalizing scents of citrus blossom, yellow peach and aromatic herb. The creamy, foaming palate offers apricot, candied tangerine zest, lemon drop and a note of crystallized ginger. Bright acidity and a hint of thyme lift the rich flavors. WinesU. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 6% **Price:** \$16

55



93 Balletto 2015 Estate Grown Estate Bottled Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Stainless-steel fermented, this crisp, thirst-quenching wine is fruity, floral and highly inviting, focused in well-defined flavors of tangerine and lemon. High in acidity without ever pushing too far, it remains complex and textured on the palate, finishing with a memorable tang. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$18

56

92 Provam 2015 Portal do Fidalgo Alvarinho (Vinho Verde). The producer is based in the Monção and Melgaço region of northern Vinho Verde. It is crisp—so fresh and cut with apple and citrus acidity. Light and poised, it has just the lightest touch of wood from the short oak aging. Drink now. Luiz's Grocery and Liquors. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$16

57

97 Chambers Rosewood Vineyards NV Grand Muscat (Rutherglen). Deep mahogany. Dried fig and black tea on the nose, then concentrated mocha and molasses flavors, enlivened by candied orange zest. Full, rich and sweet, but surprisingly drinkable, with terrific intensity and length. Old Bridge Cellars. **Editors' Choice.** —J.C.
abv: 19% Price: \$100/375 ml

58



94 Escarpment 2014 Pinot Noir (Martinborough). Winemaker Larry McKenna now has 30 years of experience with Martinborough Pinot Noir, and it's on full display in this blend assembled from various plots around the village. Aromas of flowers, tea and cola lead into flavors of blackberries, vanilla and spice, framed by ample tannins. Drink 2020–2030. Empson USA Ltd. —J.C.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$43

59

94 O. Fournier 2010 Alfa Spiga (Ribera del Duero). Dark and dense as the dead of night, this robust RDD is pushing aromas of blackberry, cassis, black tea and cola. The palate is reaching maturity while showing energy and balance. Flavors of root beer, savory beef, soy and vanilla accent blackberry fruit, while the finish is plump, with ready tannins. Drink through 2022. The Country Vintner-The Winebow Group. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.
abv: 15.5% Price: \$45

60

93 Kenefick Ranch 2015 Estate Grown Sauvignon Blanc (Calistoga). This is a highly satisfying estate-driven white, impressively crafted in spicy acidity and complex layers of grapefruit. Pithy in its citrus components, it

goes on and on, never ceasing to unleash subtle hits of wet stone and a tiny taste of the sea. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% Price: \$24

61

96 Terralsole 2010 Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). Tilled soil, mature berry, menthol, leather and a suggestion of game unfold on this delicious, full-bodied red. The structured, polished palate doles out juicy Morello cherry, raspberry jam, cinnamon, chopped herb and licorice while firm, refined tannins lend finesse and a silky texture. Drink 2018–2028. Terralsole USA. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$89

62

94 B. Leighton 2013 Gratitude (Yakima Valley). This wine is a blend of 70% Mourvèdre, 25% Grenache and 5% Syrah. It opens with achingly pure red currant, cranberry, black pepper, blue fruit, orange peel and dried herb aromas that completely captivate the senses. The palate shows a hypnotic sense of purity along with a sense of elegance that is dazzling. Smoked meat flavors linger on the long finish. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$45

63

93 Domaine Laporte 2014 Le Rochoy (Sancerre). Produced on silex and flint soil, this is fruity, juicy and lemon-flavored wine. There is a strong mineral element here, giving a crisp texture. It's really the perfumed character and the intense fruit that sets this wine apart. It is ready to drink if you like fruit, although it will be better as the fabulous texture kicks in, so wait until 2017. Martine's Wines. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$30

64

93 Finca la Celia 2012 Heritage Single Vineyard Malbec (Uco Valley). Deep, ripe, layered berry aromas come with notes of pastry and licorice. This feels tight and pure, with juicy acidity that prevents things from seeming too heavy. Blackberry, cassis, wood grain and peppery spice flavors finish long and impressive, with rich notes of fig paste and chocolate. Drink through 2022. Buena Cepa Wines. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.
abv: 14.8% Price: \$30

65

92 Boundary Breaks 2014 No. 239 Single Vineyard Riesling (Finger Lakes). Honey-suckle and orange blossoms perfume this bright, ebullient wine full of ripe grapefruit and pineapple flavors. While dry in style, it juxtaposes a lusciously rich, penetrating palate against a pulsating backbone of lemon-line acidity. It's pristine yet powerful through a long, undulating finish. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I.
abv: 12.8% Price: \$19

66

95 K Vintners 2012 Cattle King Syrah (Snipes Mountain). The kirsch, cranberry, dried herb, pomegranate and barrel spice aromas are laser focused, with smoked meat notes providing accents. The black fruit flavors are über concentrated and dense. It's wound tightly at first but when it opens up, it delivers. —S.S.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$70

67

93 Burrowing Owl 2014 Chardonnay (Okanagan Valley). Starting with the package, this comes in a lovely, graceful, goose-necked bottle. The wine is equally svelte, buttery and flat-out yummy, a silky, creamy blend of apple, pear, nut butter and caramel. The length, texture and integration of the barrel and fruit flavors make this extra special. Burrowing Owl. **Editors' Choice.** —P.G.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$30

68

93 Château Grand Boise 2015 Cuvée Jadis Rosé (Côtes de Provence). The top rosé from old vines at Grand Boise, this is a ripe, well-structured and balanced wine. The fruit is right up front, raspberries and red plums along with a lightly herbal element. The high-altitude vineyard (up to 2,000 feet) gives a cool, crisp aftertaste to this impressive wine. Soilair Selection. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$30

69

97 Kathryn Kennedy 2012 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains). A thoroughly elegant, serious and yet immensely enjoyable wine that stays lively many days after opening, this bottling from a regional icon shows

dried violets, dried strawberry, crushed pepper and touches of leather and soy on the wondrous nose. Lithe black plum and elderberry fruits ride along a tight but forgiving tannic structure, with support from crushed gravel, asphalt, potpourri, sandalwood and cedar flavors. **Editors' Choice.** —M.K.

abv: 14.9%

Price: \$100

70

93 Graci 2015 Bianco (Etna). Made with 70% Carricante and 30% Catarratto, this elegantly structured wine has enticing aromas of Mediterranean herb, fragrant yellow flower, citrus and a whiff of acacia. The fresh, savory palate shows juicy lime, ripe pear, chopped herb and mineral alongside tangy acidity. The lingering finish closes crisp and clean. Massanois Imports. —K.O.

abv: 13%

Price: \$30

71

93 Hidalgo 2012 Tradición H (Rioja). Hidalgo may be based in Sherry, but this foray into Rioja is a success. This warm-vintage wine is rich and ripe, with earthy, baked plum and blackberry aromas. A full, drawing, muscular palate along with lusty flavors of black cherry, blackberry, oak and many spices finishes full, lush and harmonious. Drink this tannic heavyweight through 2028. Hidalgo Imports, LLC. —M.S.

abv: 14%

Price: \$30

72

92 Domaine des Carteresses 2015 Rosé (Tavel). This is ripe, round and lush. Cherry-scented goodness leads the way, accented by hints of cracked pepper, cinnamon and allspice that linger elegantly on the finish. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —J.C.

abv: 14%

Price: \$17

73

92 G D Vajra 2015 Moscato d'Asti. Fresh and fragrant, this foaming dessert wine opens with aromas of orange blossom, chopped herb and ripe orchard fruit. The bright, generous palate doles out juicy yellow peach, apricot, Bartlett pear and lemon drop alongside fresh acidity and a hint of mineral. A sage note closes the finish. Multiple U.S. importers. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.

abv: 5.5%

Price: \$17

74

94 Langmeil 2013 The Fifth Wave Grenache (Barossa). Grenache is being treated with more and more respect around Australia, which means more bottlings are reaching the variety's potential. Gentle herbal notes intertwine with bunches of black cherries and a hint of vanilla in this medium- to full-bodied example. Hints of red peppercorn capture a unique combination of fruit and spice, while the finish is long and crisp. Negotiants USA, Inc. —J.C.

abv: 15.5%

Price: \$53

75

94 González Byass NV Noe Vinum Optimum Rare Signatum Pedro Ximénez (Jerez). Raisin and more raisin aromas come with touches of cinnamon, caramel and molasses. This feels viscous but not gooey, and thus it's just right as P. X. goes. Flavors of caramel, fig and raisin finish with elegance and bolstering acidity. Vin Divino. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.

abv: 15.5%

Price: \$50/375 ml

76

93 Neyers 2014 Left Bank (Napa Valley). This impressively made and priced 50-50 blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot comes from a 15-acre single-vineyard site belonging to the producer. Peppery cola covers soft red raspberry and cherry, with touches of pencil lead and graphite giving it a classical character. Medium bodied and lengthy, it's a lovely bang for the buck. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.

abv: 14.3%

Price: \$30

77

93 Domaine Sigalas 2014 Kavalieros Single Vineyard Assyrtiko (Santorini). Brisk lemon and lime peel aromas are followed by delicate flavors of grapefruit, white peach and sea salt in this sophisticated white. Elegant and exotic, it has an ageable character and a versatile, food-friendly style. Beautifully rendered and a testament to Santorini terroir. Diamond Importers Inc. **Editors' Choice.** —S.K.

abv: 14%

Price: \$35

78

93 Syncline 2013 McKinley Springs Vineyard Syrah (Horse Heaven Hills). Fermented 40% whole cluster in concrete cubes, this stunning wine provides intensely pure aromas of red and black fruit, flowers and herbs. The dark-fruit flavors are exquisite and fresh with an extended finish. **Editors' Choice.** —S.S.

abv: 13.7%

Price: \$30

79

95 Kopke 1984 Colheita Tawny Port. While not a declared vintage Port year, it did produce some impressive old tawnies, like this. It is such a balanced wine, fresh with ripe marmalade, raisin and old wood flavors. It has a wonderful milk chocolate aftertaste that is contrasted with its still-fresh acidity. Drink now. Wineworth LLC. —R.V.

abv: 20%

Price: \$74

80

93 Jean-Marc Brocard 2015 Montmains Premier Cru (Chablis). A tight, crisp wine from vineyards that face across the river to the town of Chablis. The wine has delicious yellow fruits, intense acidity and an opulent character. The vines of the vineyard face east giving warmth while keeping a strong mineral texture. Drink this wine from 2019. Verity Wine Partners. —R.V.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$34

81



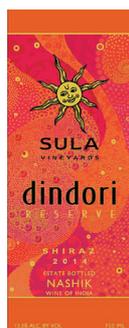
94 Wölffer 2015 Descencia Botrytis Late Harvest Chardonnay-Riesling (North Fork of Long Island). A gorgeous mélange of botrytized Riesling and Chardonnay, every sip of this honey-kissed wine is an explosion of blossom and fruit. It's intensely concentrated, rippling with tropical tones of mango, melon and pineapple, yet feather light on the palate. The finish is languorous, alternating sweet layers of honey and marmalade

marked by hints of salt and crushed mineral. Delicious now but should only improve with age, well beyond 2025. **Editors' Choice.** —A.I.
abv: 9.9% **Price:** \$40/375 ml

82

92 Fabre Montmayou 2013 Gran Reserva Malbec (Mendoza). Opaque to the eye, this is rich, heady and full of inky blackberry aromas and notes of graphite, balsam wood, tobacco and coconut. A lush, mile-deep palate offers chocolate flavors of blackberry, roasted meat and salt. Ripe black-fruit flavors dominate a lush finish. Drink through 2020. Elixir Wine Group. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$23

83



92 Sula 2014 Dindori Reserve Shiraz (Nashik). Deep garnet in the glass, this wine has a nose of blackberry and roasting meat. It offers a sophisticated mélange of flavors, in particular ripe red cherry, smoke, roasting meat, cranberry and light spice with a hint of brambles. It is very bright on entry, but tannins sneak up and then linger on the gums beyond a smooth finish that is punctuated by a touch of smoke. Dreyfus, Ashby & Co. **Editors' Choice.** —M.D.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$19

84

93 Château Latour-Martillac 2013 Blanc (Pessac-Léognan). This wine is all herbal fruits, with spice from the wood-aging and lively acidity. It has considerable potential, full of its nervy texture, minerality and tight acidity. Wait at least into 2020. Tristan and Loïc Kressmann now run the family estate. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$35

85

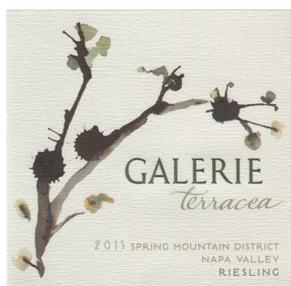
93 DeMorgenzon 2014 Reserve Chenin Blanc (Stellenbosch). There's a lovely vibrancy to the nose of this wine, as initial aromas of green melon and lime peel are laced with attractive herbal hits of fynbos and white flowers. The medium-weight palate offers a plush yet balanced feel, with ample acidity to counter the notes of toasted red apple, honeydew and honeycomb. Spicy wood tones dance on the lingering finish. It's delicious now, but should age well through 2021. Cape Classics. **Editors' Choice.** —L.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$35

86



94 Produttori del Barbaresco 2011 Montestefano Riserva (Barbaresco). Ripe and structured, this full-bodied red opens with alluring scents of star anise, dark-skinned berry, underbrush, leather and a balsamic note. On the juicy palate, menthol, licorice and baking spice accent a core of black cherry. Noble tannins provide the framework. Drink 2018–2023. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$58

87



94 Galerie 2015 Terracea Riesling (Spring Mountain). Subdued floral aromatics open this delightfully complex, dry wine, lilting in lemon, green apple and stone. Beautifully balanced, it begs for inclusion at the table, ready to complement or contrast, lingering in orange blossom on the refined finish. **Editors' Choice.** —V.B.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$30

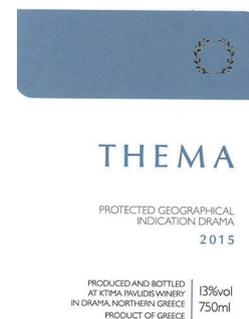
88

92 Château du Coudray Montpensier 2014 Le Grand Bouqueteau Réserve (Chinon). Still young, this is going to be a ripe wine with a fine structure and rich fruitiness. It has a mineral edge and concentration from the old vines. The berry fruits have been smoothed by the wood aging to give a rich wine that will age further. Drink from 2017. Multiple U.S. importers. **Editors' Choice.** —R.V.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

89

93 Loma Larga 2012 Unfiltered Rapsodia (Casablanca Valley). Immediately this Syrah-led blend registers as something special. Ripe berry and herb aromas are spicy, fresh and textbook for Chile. A full, dense, chewy palate is potent but under control. Flavors of olive, spice, coffee, toast and dark fruits finish with barrel spice, a final wave of black-fruit flavor and notes of juniper and eucalyptus. Drink through 2021. Winery Direct. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$36

90



92 Ktima Pavlidis 2015 Thema (Drama). This blend starts with panache, offering aromas of vanilla cream, lemon, banana and crushed herbs. On the palate, it balances brisk acidity with alluring citrus and melon fruit flavors. The wine has a spicy spin that gives it extra spunk. Athenee Importers. —S.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$20

91

93 Glaetzer 2013 Bishop Shiraz (Barossa Valley). This has gone up in price over the years, but it's still a solid, relatively affordable example of Barossa Valley Shiraz. This is youthful and edgy, with meaty, savory notes accenting mixed berries and a hint of mint. The finish is a

bit chewy right now, but mouthcoating and long. Epicurean Wines. —J.C.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$37

92

93 Zusslin 2013 Brut Zéro (Crémant d'Alsace). Notes of fresh sourdough rye bread, crisp apples and citrus vie for attention and signal an evolved wine with beautiful notes of long autolysis. This is borne out on the exquisitely pure and fresh palate, still sprightly with lemon and green-apple freshness against a background of bread crust and crumb. Over time, the apple notes mellow and are reminiscent of spiced winter apple. This is marked by exquisite elegance and purity. Without any dosage, this shines with pure, intense and lively fruit. Avant Garde Wine & Spirits. —A.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$39

93

93 Badia a Coltibuono 2011 Riserva (Chianti Classico). Forest floor, new leather, ripe, dark-skinned berry and hint of blue flower are some of the scents you'll discover on this structured, polished red. The smooth, delicious palate offers layers of fleshy black cherry, baking spice and dried Mediterranean herb while firm, refined tannins provide the framework. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$39

94



93 Quady NV Deviation Orange Muscat (California). This sweet and flavored wine has an orange/amber color and one of the most floral, perfumed aromas of any wine from anywhere. It smells like a giant bouquet of roses, jasmine and honeysuckle and tastes similar but is also buoyed by apricot and peach flavors and a lively streak in the texture. **Editors' Choice.** —J.G.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$25

95

92 Maison Malet Roquefort 2012 Les Hauts de la Gaffelière (Saint-Émilion). This is a structured wine that shows class and finesse. It has rich juicy blackberry flavors that are supported by some firm tannins and a dense texture. The wine is ready to drink for its fruitiness, although it will be better from 2019. Cognac One, LLC. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

96

92 Fattoria La Rivolta 2015 Taburno (Falanghina del Sannio). Made with organically cultivated grapes, this opens with aromas of orange blossom, orchard fruit and nuts. The savory, medium-bodied palate doles out layers of juicy nectarine, lime zest, ripe pear and mature yellow apple alongside a note of candied ginger. It finishes on a tangy note. T. Edward Wines Ltd. **Editors' Choice.** —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$22

97



92 Intrinsic 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This is the inaugural release from this winery. Forty percent of the wine was aged for a remarkable nine months on skins, with an equal amount aged in stainless steel and the rest in neutral oak. It dazzles with brooding aromas of herbs and black cherry. The flavors are ripe and succulent, backed by firm but well integrated tannins and a solid finish. —S.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$22

98

92 Montes 2013 Alpha Syrah (Colchagua Valley). Deep purple in color, this cool-vintage Syrah excels via smooth cherry, cassis, cedar and charcoal aromas. A full-bodied palate is balanced by firm acidity, while plum, berry, cassis

and chocolate flavors finish in harmony. Drink through 2020. Guarachi Wine Partners. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$23

99



95 Taittinger NV Folies de la Marquetterie Brut (Champagne). Using grapes from the Taittinger brand's first vineyard at Château de la Marquetterie, this wine is a blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay aged partially in wood. It is rich and beautifully structured, with a sense of ripe fruit as well as the beginnings of maturity. A mineral edge adds to the complexity. Drink now. Kobrand. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$95

100

94 Tapiz 2011 Black Tears Malbec (Mendoza). Pure, ripe blackberry aromas are heady, toasty and crisp like burnt bread crust. This Malbec has a profound, drawing mouthfeel defined by full extraction and muscular tannins. Savory flavors of blackberry and roasted plum end with depth, focus and welcome freshness. Drink through 2023. Vino Del Sol. **Editors' Choice.** —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$65

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