

WINE ENTHUSIAST TOP 100 CELLAR SELECTIONS 2016

*The best bottles
to lay down now*

BY THE EDITORS OF WINE ENTHUSIAST

Aristotle was almost certainly talking about wine when he wrote, “Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.” While cellaring wine may, at times, feel like an agonizing guessing game, when you finally do open that cherished bottle at its optimal drinking age, it’s nirvana. Or close to it.

The reward of a well-aged wine erases any doubt or anxiety that came with its maturation, and the thrill of the experience can become surprisingly addictive.

If only it were easier to know those optimal aging windows.

Our Top 100 Cellar Selections list takes the guesswork out of sitting on your hands. Culled from the nearly 1,000 wines reviewed throughout the past year that were designated Cellar Selections by our tasting panel, this lineup will guide you when undertaking the tricky yet gratifying task of starting a cellar, or just help you expand your existing collection.

This year’s list includes a range from classic Italian reds and Bordeaux-style blends to elegant Rieslings, nervy Chardonnays, and just about every grape variety and style in between.

We try to include something for everyone, no matter the budget. While many of the selections on this list are not inexpensive, more than half are less than \$100 and a quarter come in at under \$50.

All of these beauties are projected to mature and evolve well through the next five, 10, 15, even 20 years...if you can stand the wait. Happy cellaring!

1



100 Krug 2002 Brut (Champagne). This is a fabulous wine from the greatest Champagne vintage so far this century. Still young, it blends almost equal amounts of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay fleshed out with Pinot Meunier. The minerality and the rich apple and green fruits are balanced, and acidity cuts into the wine with a pure, perfumed line of freshness. The wine could be drunk now, but it will age well into the the 2020s. Moët Hennessy USA. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$259

How the Wines Break Down

75 Red 14 White 6 Sparkling 2 Fortified 3 Sweet

	ARGENTINA	1
	AUSTRALIA	4
	AUSTRIA	3
	CHILE	1
	FRANCE	24
	GERMANY	3
	ITALY	20
	NEW ZEALAND	1
	PORTUGAL	7
	SOUTH AFRICA	1
	SPAIN	5
	UNITED STATES 18 California, 8 Oregon, 4 Washington	30

Average Score	Average Price
95.51	\$123.09

2

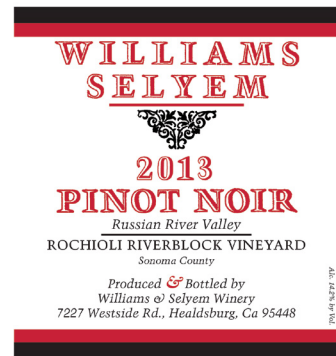
100 Biondi Santi 2010 Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). This gorgeous, fragrant wine opens with classic Sangiovese scents of violet, rose, perfumed red berry, new leather and a whiff of baking spice. The elegant, radiant palate delivers crushed Marasca cherry, ripe strawberry, cinnamon, black tea and a hint of pipe tobacco. Firm, ultrafine tannins and bright acidity offer an age-worthy structure and impeccable balance. It's already stunning but will evolve for decades. Drink 2020–2050. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$550

3



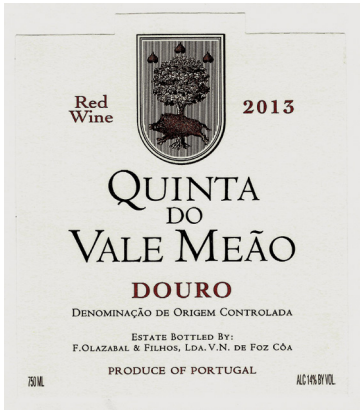
99 Penfolds 2010 Grange Shiraz (South Australia). This inky, embryonic wine deserves to be cellared until at least 2025 and should drink well for at least 25 years after that. It takes its time opening up in the glass to reveal notes of grilled meat, vanilla and plum. In the mouth, it's full bodied and firmly built, with a wall of chewy tannins surrounding a deep ripe core. Treasury Wine Estates. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$850

4



97 Williams Selyem 2013 Rochioli Riverblock Vineyard Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Expressive in oak, earth and clove with cinnamon-cola, this savory, complex wine is also impressive in its ability to offer crisp and focused lines of citrus and fresh-picked raspberry. It teeter-totters the variety's ability to be both fruit-forward and elusively hard to reach. Streaks of thyme and rosemary figure into the mix. Drink now through 2023. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$79

5



97 Quinta do Vale Meão 2013 Red Wine (Douro). This wine is dominated by Touriga Nacional, which offers a backbone of dark tannins that gives it a firm structure and will allow it to age for many years. Produced in open stone *lagares*, it has richness and impressive opulence in black fruit tones that are cut by juicy acidity. Drink from 2022. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$100

6

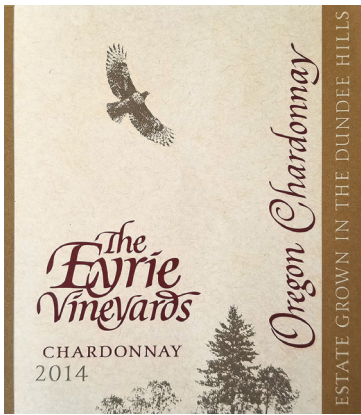
97 Kracher 2013 Grande Cuvée Trockenbeerenauslese Nummer 6 Nouvelle Vague (Burgenland). The heady, pure perfume of fig rind and foliage streams from the glass. A more tart and tropical note of passion fruit pitches in as well, along with green grapefruit spice. The aromatic spectrum is a sublimation of exotic fruit on nose and palate. The palate sustains this high-pitched balance by the purest lightening strike of zesty acidity. Even the tiniest drop of this amber liquid has the power to perfume the entire palate for minutes. The concentration is immense, the flavors are mind-boggling. This is high-octane stuff guaranteed to blow your mind. Drink now or cellar it through 2040 at least. Terlato Wines International. —A.K.
abv: 10% **Price:** \$95/375 ml

7



98 Conti Costanti 2010 Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). Aromas of ripe black-skinned fruit, new leather, menthol and a whisper of blue flower unfold on this stunning, elegantly structured wine. The vibrant palate doles out ripe black cherry, cinnamon and star anise framed in firm, fine-grained tannins. Hold for even more complexity. Absolutely superb. Drink 2022–2035. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$190

8

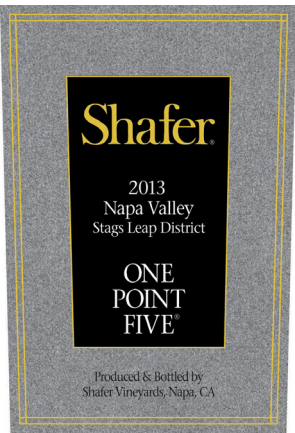


96 The Eyrie Vineyards 2014 Estate Chardonnay (Dundee Hills). Even if winemaker Jason Lett tripled the price of this wine, it would still be a standout among its peers. This opens with intense aromatics of pineapple fruit, bracing acidity and compelling length. On the second and third day after opening, it remained quite fresh and expressive, with further details of fruit and mineral beginning to emerge. Drink now through 2035. —P.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$27

9

95 Alain Brumont 2010 Château Bouscassé (Madiran). The home vineyard of Madiran's star, Alain Brumont, has yielded a superb wine that is full of dark tannins and with a considerable ability to age. It is balanced, concentrated and touched by spice and toastiness from the wood aging. In tandem with that are generous fruits within a dense structure that is just beginning to smooth out. Drink from 2018–2038. Regal Wine Imports Inc. —R.V.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$20

10



95 Shafer 2013 One Point Five Cabernet Sauvignon (Stags Leap District). The velvety approachability of this soft, supple wine belies a strength and sophistication always at the heart of this producer's wines, an intensity of flavor and power that commands attention. Black currant, black cherry, sage and smoky oak ride atop an undercurrent of black pepper, combining ultimately into a tantalizingly juicy package. Drink now through 2023. —V.B.
abv: 15.3% **Price:** \$85

11

97 Passopisciario 2013 Contrada R (Terre Siciliane). Alluring, ethereal scents of perfumed berry, aromatic herb, fragrant blue flower, new leather, orange zest and exotic spice abound on this radiant wine. The smooth, vibrant palate is loaded with finesse, delivering juicy red cherry, raspberry, cake spice and energizing mineral. Silky, supple tannins and bright acidity provide impeccable balance. It's already extremely tempting, but hold for even more complexity. Drink 2018–2025. T. Edward Wines Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

12

97 Taittinger 2008 Millésimé Brut (Champagne). The balance between ripeness and acidity that is the hallmark of this fine vintage is expressed well in this impressive wine. Tangy, with a strong streak of minerality, it is crisp and rich at the same time. For its fruit-iness, it is ready to drink; for more maturity, it will need to age until 2018. Kobrand. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$95

13

97 **Standish 2012 Andelmonde Shiraz (Barossa Valley).** You may have to scour the country to secure some of this (only 14 cases were imported), but this is a treasure worth the search. It's full bodied without seeming overly rich or heavy, framing the lush notes of dark berries, grilled meat, mint and licorice with supple tannins. Spice-driven flavors linger elegantly on the lengthy finish. It's delicious now, but should age gracefully through 2030. Epicurean Wines. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$95

14

97 **Mascarello Giuseppe e Figlio 2010 Villero (Barolo).** Enticing aromas of iris, rose, perfumed red berry and cake spice emerge on this stunning wine. The elegantly structured, silky palate delivers juicy wild cherry, crushed raspberry, mint, white pepper and tobacco alongside firm but ultrafine tannins. It's already tempting but hold to let it unwind and develop more complexity. Drink 2018–2035. Polaner Selections. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

15

95 **Sineann 2014 Wy'east Pinot Noir (Columbia Gorge).** Wy'east is better than ever in this vintage, a divine balancing act with berry, plum, Asian spices and chocolate all in focus. From the opening scents, laden with complex and perfectly fused notes of blackberry, mineral, coriander and cacao, right on through the extended, captivating finish, this is a wine that is almost impossible to put down, yet will drink well at least through 2025. —P.G.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$36

16

96 **Château Calon Ségur 2013 Saint-Estèphe.** This is an impressive wine that transcends the problems of the vintage. It has rich fruit that is sustained by the tannic structure that rests on a bed of fresh blackberry fruits cut with fresh acidity. The wine will certainly age well. Don't think about drinking it before 2024. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

17

97 **Guastaferrero 2006 Primum Riserva (Taurasi).** Mature dark-skinned berry, leather, underbrush and dark spice are some of the aromas that emerge on this fantastic red. Made from ungrafted vines between 150 and 200 years old, the powerful yet polished palate delivers mature black cherry, crushed raspberry, cinnamon, licorice and white pepper alongside firm, velvety tannins. This still needs time to fully develop. Drink 2018–2031. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$90

18



96 **Venge 2013 Oakville Estate Vineyard Merlot (Oakville).** Wow. Juicy, expansive and effusive, this wine is made from 100% estate-grown dry-farmed, relatively old vines of the variety, and introduces itself as a Cab-lover's version, with explosions of black pepper and plum that soften to a polished point on the finish. Mouth-filling, it wraps in complex notions of cedar, cigar and dark chocolate. Drink some now and some later; cellar through 2023. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$68

19

97 **Louis Jadot 2013 Chapelle-Chambertin.** Packed with tannins and boasting an enormous structure, this wine is opulent while very firm. At the same time, smoky acidity shoots through all this density. From a great terroir, this wine shows minerality and its great structure well. Drink from 2023. Kobrand. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$288

20



98 **Baricci 2010 Nello Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino).** New leather, mature black-skinned fruit, tilled soil and a touch of dark spice are some of the aromas you'll find on this fantastic, full-bodied red. The big, velvety palate shows power and finesse, offering mouthfuls of juicy wild cherry, black raspberry, licorice, Mediterranean herb and a note of exotic spice framed in firm, ripe tannins. It's already balanced and delicious, but hold for more complexity. Drink 2020–2035. K&L Wine Merchants. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$120

21



97 **Wayfarer 2014 Golden Mean Pinot Noir (Fort Ross-Seaview).** Dark, brooding cinnamon and fleshy black plum provide an exciting, complex counterpoint to the rakish earthiness and exotic Asian spice going on in this full-bodied, explosively compelling wine, its minerality lingering. It's young and still tightly coiled, with lingering minerality; let it open to enjoy now, but it would show best after some time, so cellar through 2024. —V.B.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$115

22

96 **Emmerich Knoll 2014 Ried Schütt Riesling Smaragd (Wachau).** Once the first whiff of yeast has worn off, a very pure, linear procession of citrus flavors presents itself: from the yellowish green of grapefruit to the greenish orange of a tangy tangerine, always with a deeper, more resonant core of earth and stone. The zestiness glistens on the surface, the tightly closed, still earthy fruit broods at the core. Wait for it to explode. Drink 2018–2028. Circo Vino. —A.K.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$78

23

95 **Mouchão 2010 Red (Alentejo).** The estate wine of Mouchão is serious, dense and complex. It is a wine that's made for the long haul, still with its youthful tannins that are balanced by juicy black fruits. There is a leathery texture developing alongside the fruit. It is dark and solid, likely to age for many years. Drink from 2020. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$46

24



95 **Domaine Weinbach 2014 Schlossberg Grand Cru Riesling (Alsace).** Subtle notes of earth mix with summer blossom, along with hints of honey, quince and zesty, fresh lemon peel. These aromas dance and take turns on the dry, balanced palate that shines both with rich fruit and slender tone. Lemony freshness pervades everything with its brightness. This is lovely now but will be even lovelier over the years. Drink 2016–2030. Vineyard Brands. —A.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$46

25

96 **Sottimano 2010 Riserva (Barbaresco).** This dazzling red is still in its infancy but promises to bloom into a stunning beauty. It opens with delicate aromas of red rose, perfumed berry, forest floor, exotic spice, aromatic herb and a light balsamic note. Energy abounds on the full-bodied, elegant palate, which delivers bright red cherry, strawberry, white pepper and licorice alongside a backbone of vibrant acidity and firm, refined tannins. Drink 2020–2040. Giuliana Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$79

26

95 **Carlisle 2014 Saitone Ranch Zinfandel (Russian River Valley).** The appellation famous for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay packs a powerfully pretty punch when it comes to this variety, too, showing in this wine a soft, focused layering of Luxardo maraschino cherry and a touch of cranberry. It then reveals an underlying richness that rewards the patient with a splash of white and black pepper, leaving an indelible stamp on the palate. Drink now through 2024. —V.B.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$47

27



95 **Winderlea 2014 Weber Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills).** For 2014, the Weber is the star of a very fine Winderlea lineup. Dark and deeply concentrated, it's jammed with black cherry fruit, annotated with anise and showing a hint of gunmetal. The tannins are ripe and taste of clean earth. This is a fine candidate for aging. Drink now through 2030. —P.G.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$48

28

95 **Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt 2014 Piesporter Goldtröpfchen GG Riesling Trocken (Mosel).** A standout among an excellent lineup of 2014 *grosses gewächs* from Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt, this gorgeously textured wine is as light as a feather, yet with a distinctly luscious cling. Dry but penetratingly fruity, it contrasts ripe peach and grapefruit flavors against laser-sharp edges of acidity and minerality. Drinks beautifully now but should continue to please well into the next decade. American B.D. —A.I.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$50

29

97 **Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona 2010 Vigna di Pianrosso Santa Caterina d'Oro Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino).** Aromas of wild berry, forest floor, new leather, grilled herb, menthol and dark spice all come together on this full-bodied red. The structured palate is still young but shows great depth, offering mature black cherry, tobacco, clove and licorice framed in youthfully assertive tannins that give it an age-worthy structure. Drink 2022–2040. Indigenous Selections. —K.O.
abv: NA **Price:** \$140

30



98 **Salon 2004 Le Mesnil Blanc de Blancs Brut (Champagne).** Salon's releases are rare and signify a great vintage—the last release was the 2002. Coming from grand cru vineyards in Le Mesnil-sur-Oger, this 2004 is complex and concentrated, capturing the essence of Chardonnay in Champagne. Intense minerality and ripe apple and citrus fruits accompany the purity and crisp texture that are part of its ability to age. The wine can continue for many years, certainly to 2025 and beyond. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$520

31

96 Terre Rouge 2013 Ascent Syrah (Sierra Foothills). This is the small-production, flagship wine from the Sierra region's best producer of Rhône-style wines. Lovely, spicy, floral aromas and generous, complex and layered flavors make the wine irresistible, while its strong but velvety texture sets it up for a long life in the cellar for those who can resist. It smells lightly oaky, like a cigar box and cocoa, tastes deep and focused on blackberry, pomegranate and dark chocolate. The mouthfeel is both rich and a bit reserved. Best to drink from 2020 to 2030. —J.G. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$90

32

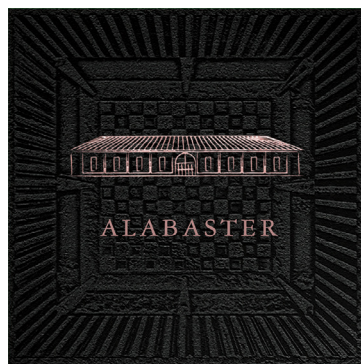


97 Cavallotto 2010 Vignolo Riserva (Barolo). After a few minutes in the glass, this stunning wine opens up to reveal classic Nebbiolo aromas of leather, tilled soil, underbrush, fragrant blue flower and ripe berry. The juicy concentrated palate dishes out layers of succulent black cherry, crushed raspberry, anise and pipe tobacco framed in firm, velvety tannins. Drink 2022–2035. Oliver McCrum Wines. —K.O. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$150

33

95 Château Haut-Monplaisir 2012 Pur Plaisir (Cahors). Produced from organically grown grapes, this powerful and impressive expression of pure Malbec is generous while also solid and firm. It has plenty of dark tannins to go with the solid fruits and tense acidity. Produced from selected parcels, it is a wine to age further. Drink from 2019. Vintage '59 Imports. —R.V. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$45

34



97 Teso La Monja 2012 Alabaster (Toro). Gorgeous from head to toe, this saturated Toro heavyweight sets a new bar for this winery and the region as a whole. Ribald blackberry aromas are toasty and carry a strong note of crushed stones. Cassis, black plum and blackberry flavors are complex and inspired, while the finish tastes of chocolaty oak, blackened toast and a black-fruit potpourri supported by just the right amount of acidity. Drink from 2017–2030. Fine Estates From Spain. —M.S. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$227

35



97 Casa Ferreirinha 2007 Reserva Especial (Douro). This Ferreirinha Douro Superior wine is made in exceptional years. The 2007 is the 16th vintage since 1960 (the previous release was 2003). It is an immense wine in its grandeur while being sophisticated and structured. There are complex flavors from the long wood aging. The dark, dense black fruits are impressive while perfectly meshed into the concentrated tannins and black currant acidity. This wine, even at nine years, is young, and should not be drunk before 2020 (or decanted if you can't wait). Broadbent Selections, Inc. —R.V. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$250

36



96 Donum 2013 Single Vineyard Reserve Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). With a majority of Pommard clone in this wine contributing to its undeniable breadth and depth, this rich, rewarding wine will benefit from further time in bottle. Sultry baking spice accents kirsch and strawberry, with understudies of tar, rose garden and tannin, all framed by moderate acidity. Cellar through 2023. —V.B. **abv:** 14.7% **Price:** \$90

37

96 Trisaetum 2015 Estates Reserve Riesling (Willamette Valley). This tops a thoroughly outstanding lineup of eight estate-grown Rieslings from Trisaetum. Unctuous citrus and stone fruits abound: a luscious mix of Meyer lemon, pink grapefruit, peach and apricot. There are hints of honey, caramel and butter, and everything is tightened up by defining acidity. Though entirely ageworthy, this is so thoroughly delicious already you'll want to drink at least a bottle or two immediately. Drink now through 2035. —P.G. **abv:** 11% **Price:** \$38

38

97 Louis Roederer 2009 Cristal Brut (Champagne). The latest incarnation of this famous Champagne now comes from Roderer's own vineyards, a good portion of which are run on biodynamic lines. This still-young wine has great depth and richness, a beautiful balance between ripe fruit and crisp texture that make it alive, crisp and bright. As it matures, it will deepen and become even more intense. Drink now if you must, but preferably wait until 2019. Maisons Marques & Domaines USA. —R.V. **abv:** 12% **Price:** \$249

39

96 Mauro 2011 VS Tempranillo (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León). Lusty aromas of black cherry and blackberry are powerful. Likewise, this Tempranillo from just outside the Ribera del Duero district tastes bullish, with blackberry, currant, mocha and rich oak flavors. Robust berry fruit along with spice and chocolate are the lead flavors on a strong, dense finish. This has the potential to age nicely for seven to 15 years. Drink through 2030. Europvin USA. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

40



95 Travaglini 2010 Riserva (Gattinara). Elegant and structured, this opens with exquisite scents of cedar, chopped herb, pressed rose, menthol and perfumed berry. The luminous palate is loaded with finesse, delivering bright red cherry, chopped red raspberry, licorice, clove and mineral. Firm, refined tannins and vibrant acidity provide impeccable balance and support. Hold for even more complexity. Drink 2018 through 2030. Palm Bay International. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

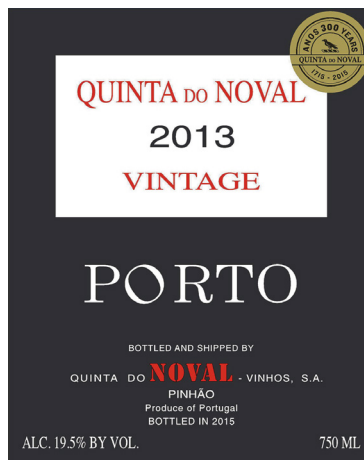
41

95 Patz & Hall 2014 Hyde Vineyard Chardonnay (Carneros). This fine marriage of site and winemaker shows experience and intuition at work, presenting a full-bodied, lush and plush expression of tremendous depth and complexity. It offers notes of tart apple, licorice and a wealth of orange zest, which adds a touch of citrusy crispness to the naturally buoyant minerality and nuanced oak. It has much more to share; drink now through 2020. —V.B.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$65

42

95 Domaine Vacheron 2014 Les Romaines Sauvignon Blanc (Sancerre). Named in honor of the Romans who first planted vines in Sancerre, this wine has its feet firmly in the chalk soil that gives it richness as well as minerality. Ripe with touches of yellow fruits as well as lime and other citrus flavors, it is structured, dense and likely to age well. Drink from 2018. European Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$65

43



95 Quinta do Noval 2013 Vintage Port. Noval has often in the past released a Vintage Port in years when other producers hold back. And, as in the past, the release is justified. For this is an impressive, dense and seriously ageworthy Port. While it has plenty of perfumed jammy red fruits and balanced acidity, it is the dark tannic character that will sustain this wine for decades. It could be drunk now for its fruit, although that would be a shame. Better to wait until 2030 and longer. Vintus LLC. —R.V.
abv: 19.5% **Price:** \$85

44



96 Elvio Cagno 2010 Bracco Pernice (Barolo). Radiant and structured, this is initially closed but slowly opens to reveal engaging aromas of woodland berry, violet, star anise, dark cooking spice and a balsamic note. The vibrant, full-bodied palate boasts great energy while offering layers of wild cherry, raspberry, white pepper and licorice. Bright acidity and firm, polished tannins provide balance. Give it time to fully develop. Drink between 2020 and 2035. Wilson Daniels Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$110

45



96 Ponzi 2013 Madrona Pinot Noir (Willamette Valley). Search carefully and you'll note delicate scents of tamarind, cola, ginger, coriander, cocoa and pepper. The palate opens with a generous, exotic potpourri of baking spices, amaro, honey, dark chocolate and caramel. There is the slightest hint of barnyard, but everything plays together beautifully. Drink now through 2025. —P.G.
abv: 13.3% **Price:** \$100

46



96 Schramsberg 2007 Reserve (North Coast). Made from 76% Pinot Noir and 24% Chardonnay, spice-tinged fruit aromas and toasted baguette complexity make a grand entrance on the nose. It then gushes bold and complex flavors, like toasted walnuts and almonds, poached pears and a touch of ginger. Although big and broad in flavor for a sparkling wine, it's very well structured and a good bet to age through 2022 or longer. —J.G.
abv: 13.2% **Price:** \$120

47



96 Kay Brothers 2012 Amery Vineyard Block 6 Shiraz (McLaren Vale). This full-bodied, muscular Shiraz is built for the ages. Baking spices and plummy fruit form a concentrated, nearly impenetrable wall on the nose, while the palate is nearly dense enough to stand a fork in. Despite all that, it's not overly heavy or fudge-like, instead offering tremendous poise, purity and length. Drink 2020–2030, and likely then some. Quintessential Wines. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$120

48

96 Domaine Jean Grivot 2013 Clos de Vougeot. This offers a firm, dense structure, with dark tannins and big, ripe, opulent fruits. At the same time the elegance that is the hallmark of the domaine is equally present, with stylish red fruits and a velvet texture. The wine needs to age to be at its peak, although it is beautiful now. Drink from 2020. Diageo Chateau & Estate Wines. —R.V.
abv: NA **Price:** \$281

49



94 Dr. Loosen 2014 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese (Mosel). Touches of exotic spice and crushed minerals lend complexity to sun-kissed peach and melon flavors in this medium-sweet Riesling. It's punchy and spry, full of high-toned acidity and lift, but finishes long, lean and elegant. It's youthful and exuberant now, but should continue to meld beautifully through at least 2027. Loosen Bros. USA. —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$34

50

95 Capanna 2011 Brunello di Montalcino. Scents of wild berry, fragrant blue flower, tilled soil, new leather and a whiff of Mediterranean herb lead the nose on this fantastic wine. Rich layers of juicy black cherry, fleshy raspberry, cinnamon, licorice and mint weave throughout the palate while firm but refined tannins provide structure. Drink 2019–2029. Masciarelli Wine Co. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$50

51

95 Lynmar 2013 Kanzler Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). From mighty Kanzler comes this ripe, densely tannic wine. Plush like candy, it's a celebration of black cherry, dried herbs and vanilla oak, rewarding in its nod to hedonism in balance. The minerality is pronounced and persistent, allowing the wine to breathe. Drink now through 2023. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$70

52

95 Domaine de Chevalier 2013 Pessac-Léognan. This is a beautiful wine, fresh with acidity and structured with a mineral texture. Layers of creamy citrus and white fruit flavors go along with touches of wood aging that are well integrated. It's a wine to drink for its freshness soon, although it will also benefit from several years aging. It will be best from 2018. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$110

53

96 Wine & Soul 2013 Pintas (Douro). This is the top wine in the Wine & Soul range from Sandra Tavares da Silva and Jorge Seródio Borges. It is a great wine in every sense, from its power and density to its grace and style. Allied with the black fruits, there are huge tannins and a dark, brooding character that promises long-term aging. Drink from 2020. MundoVino—The Winebow Group. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

54

96 Padelletti 2010 Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). Forest floor, dark-skinned berry, leather and tilled earth aromas unfold in the glass. The full-bodied, elegant palate offers mature black cherry, black raspberry, ground pepper, anise and chopped mint framed in ripe, tightly packed tannins. It's young and assertive, but also balanced, with real aging potential. Drink 2020–2035. Superior Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$115

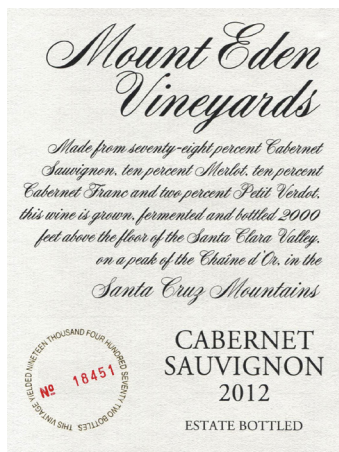
55

96 **Domaine Faiveley 2014 Bienvenues Bâtard-Montrachet.** This wine is rich, concentrated and ripe. With its opulent mix of yellow fruits, citrus and sliced apple—a real fruit salad—it is also balanced with spice and wood flavors. The fruit is rich and will develop well. Drink this from 2020. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$476

56

95 **Ayoub 2014 Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills).** Bright raspberry and strawberry flavors kick off this well-balanced effort. It's buoyed by ample natural acidity and adorned with highlights of pastry and baking spices. It expands gracefully as it breathes, adding volume and density. Give this extra cellar time. It should drink best from 2018–2030. —P.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$60

57



95 **Mount Eden Vineyards 2012 Estate Bottled Cabernet Sauvignon (Santa Cruz Mountains).** Extremely elegant and restrained at first on the nose, this bottling eventually shows gravel and crushed rocks, with hints of blackberry and forest underbrush also emerging. A very firm structure weaves together an incredibly well-integrated wine, with dense mulberry and dried-fennel notes that morph into crushed herbs with time. Drink 2018–2032. —M.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$70

58

95 **Château Pierre-Bise 2011 Grand Cru (Quarts de Chaume).** The Grand Cru of Quarts de Chaume juts out over the Layon Valley, with its autumn mists, resulting in the best conditions for noble rot. This luscious wine, gold in color, is so rich, so intense as to be almost overwhelming. It is so young still—all rich fruit, peaches, apricots with a touch of ginger. The wine, with its background of considerable acidity, will develop slowly; drink from 2020. Fruit of the Vines, Inc. —R.V.
abv: 11% **Price:** \$60/500 ml

59

95 **Josef Jamek 2014 Ried Klaus Riesling (Wachau).** Right now, although the nose is closed, exposure to air reveals the purity of lemon oil on a taut and tight palate still singing with yeasty notes. This is in its very infancy and promises to open up beautifully with its straight, soaring backbone of freshness. Underneath all the tightly curled layers of citrus peel slumbers a salty stoniness that signals ageability; the long, lemony finish corroborates this. How utterly lip-smacking. Drink 2020–2030 Carlo Huber Selections. —A.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$79

60

95 **Mastroberardino 2008 Radici Antonio Riserva (Taurasi).** Named after the late Antonio Mastroberardino, this stunning wine opens with aromas of underbrush, dark cherry, tobacco, exotic spice and blue flower. The radiant palate seamlessly combines structure and finesse, delivering mature black cherry, juicy raspberry, white pepper, clove and licorice while bright acidity and firm, polished tannins provide balance. Hold for added complexity. Drink 2018–2033. Leonardo LoCascio Selections—The Winebow Group. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$80

61

94 **Domaine de la Bégude 2013 Red (Bandol).** This impressive wine has a perfumed character, almost smelling and tasting of the wild *garrigue* and forest that makes up much of the La Bégude estate. It also holds a well-wrought tannic side, dark and solid, packed with black currant and berry fruits. It will age for many years and should not be drunk before 2019. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$36

62

94 **Kathryn Kennedy 2013 Merlot (Santa Cruz Mountains).** With a tiny bit of breathing room, this wine opens up magically into dark earth, crushed asphalt, blackberry jam, cappuccino and mocha on the nose, which predict a tarry texture. Indeed, the structure is firm and fine-tuned, yet vibrant with boisterous acidity, showing layered flavors of dark fruit enhance by cedar, sandalwood and incense notes. Drink 2017–2033. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$42

63

94 **Tenuta delle Terre Nere 2014 Guardiola (Etna).** Made from the estate's highest vineyards, ranging between 800 and 1,000 meters high, this boasts balsamic aromas of wild Mediterranean herb, leather, menthol and dark spice. The palate is youthfully austere, offering dried cherry, licorice, espresso, clove and tobacco. Assertive, fine-grained tannins and firm acidity provide backbone and an age-worthy structure. Drink 2019–2029. de Grazia Imports LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$40

64

94 **A.A. Badenhorst Family Wines 2013 Red (Swartland).** A blend of 68% Shiraz, 18% Grenache, 10% Cinsault and 4% Tinta Barocca, this is one of the finest reds coming out of South Africa today. It is powerful and concentrated, yet elegant and refined, with notes of lush red cherry, raspberry and plum that are complemented by notes of game, pepper and fynbos. Fine yet gripping tannins and tight fruit flavors lend a solid structure to the rich mouthfeel, while notes of peppered berries and mentholated herbs linger long on the finish. Drink 2020–2025. Broadbent Selections, Inc. —L.B.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$43

65

95 **Quinta da Romaneira 2012 Reserva (Douro).** This wine hails from the terraced heart of the Romaneira vineyard. Dark tannins and a concentrated structure are just the tip of this ripe and complex wine. With its acidity, spice and ripe black fruits, this is a serious, impressive wine that begs to be aged. Drink from 2020. Vision Wine & Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$70

66



95 **Jasper Hill 2013 Georgia's Paddock Shiraz (Heathcote).** Dusty, firm, powerful: just a few apt descriptors for this vintage of one of Heathcote's top wines. Mocha, licorice and blackberries feature on the nose, while the palate delivers more of the same—dark fruit, chocolate and plenty of spice. Best after 2020. Old Bridge Cellars. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$85

67

96 **Thörlé 2011 Saulheimer Hölle Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese (Rheinhessen).** Waxy minerals mingle with deep, concentrated tones of orange and tangerine in this lusciously sweet Riesling. Vibrant and complex, it's marked by tart tangerine acidity that sears through the midpalate. Swathes of saffron and exotic spice soften a long, lingering finish. While delicious already, its minerality and composure should only improve from 2020–2025. Ingenium Wines. —A.I.
abv: 7% **Price:** \$150

68



96 **Crown Point 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara).** Entrepreneur Roger Bower hired Harlan Estate alum Adam Henkel to deliver top-tier wines, and this first release is an extremely auspicious beginning. Black as night in the glass, the wine delivers elegant aromas of olallieberry jam, baking spice, shaved chocolate, beef jerky, teriyaki and purple flowers. The sticky structure will age phenomenally, further concentrating flavors of coffee foam, soy-laced berry sauce, Asian pepper spice, and dense blueberry, black cassis and black plum fruit. Drink 2018–2033. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$185

69

96 **Rivetto 2010 Briccolina Riserva (Barolo).** This gorgeous wine opens with scents of ripe, dark-skinned berry, cake spice, star anise and a balsamic note. The delicious palate tastes of layers of juicy raspberry, black cherry, licorice and a hint of tobacco framed in firm, refined tannins. It already shows impressive depth, but hold for even more complexity. Drink 2018–2030. Voliovinio. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$210

70

96 **Château Mouton Rothschild 2013 Pauillac.** This generous, almost opulent wine has both concentration and rounded fruits. It's open already, hinting at wood-aging while concentrating much more on the ripe fruits. Packed with fruit and tannins, it's densely textured. It will age, of course; don't start to drink before 2025. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$400

71

94 **Mark Ryan 2013 Lonely Heart Cabernet Sauvignon (Red Mountain).** This wine is a blend of fruit from the Ciel du Cheval and Force Majeure vineyards. Aromas of black cherry, herb, graphite, barrel spice and violets are followed by dense yet focused and lively black-fruit flavors, as well as tightly wound tannins. Best from 2022–2028. —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$95

72

94 **Dominio de Atauta 2011 La Mala (Ribera del Duero).** Of all the Atauta single-vineyard wines from the sensational 2011 vintage, La Mala is arguably the most overtly oaky and modern in style. Grainy, resiny barrel-driven aromas come with controlled burn and heat. This is tannic and firm as cement, with ample oak resin creating a creamy feel. Resiny, fully spiced black-fruit flavors end with pepper, wood grain, burnt toast and other oaky notes. Drink from 2018–2031. Aviva Vino. —M.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$140

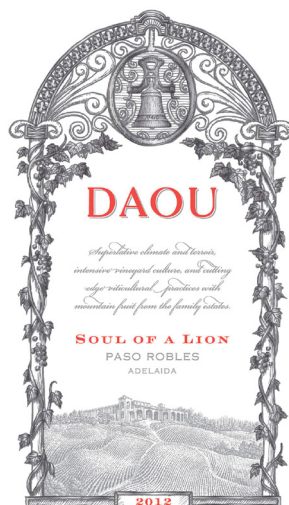
73

95 **Billecart-Salmon NV Brut Sous Bois (Champagne).** Fermented and aged briefly in wood, this is dry, intense and toasty while still giving space for white fruits and some citrus. Richly endowed, spicy, and tangy, its structure and tight texture mark it out as a Champagne for long-term aging. The aftertaste is brisk, packed with acidity and with reminiscences of the oak-aging in the vanilla finish. Drink this bottling from 2018. Billecart Salmon USA. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$80

74

95 **Trinity Hill 2013 Homage Syrah (Hawke's Bay).** This full-bodied, richly tannic wine delivers. It starts off with savory notes of cracked pepper, black olives, violets and cedar, then eases into concentrated flavors of blueberries and roasted meat before ending with a flourish of firm, dusty tannins. Give it a few years to soften. Drink 2020–2030. Terroir Life. —J.C.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$100

75



95 DAOU 2012 Soul of a Lion (Adelaida District). Deep, lavish and creamy aromas of fudge, espresso, cola, vanilla and perfectly ripe black currants and berries greet the nose with measured force. The wine lands on the palate with aplomb, framed by silky yet grippy tannins and boasting flavors of espresso, dense blueberry, black peppercorn, bay leaf and pencil shavings. The woody angles will intensify with age; drink 2018–2032. —M.K.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

76

95 Château Pontet-Canet 2013 Pauillac. This wine is rich, with generous black plum and berry fruits. It has a structure that is full, ripe and that will sustain the fruitiness of the wine over many years. The sensation is of velvet, with some force behind it. This remarkable wine will develop well over the medium term and then age for many years. Drink from 2022. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$105

77

94 Stoller 2014 Reserve Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Balance, depth, detail and elegance are the hallmarks here. Pretty raspberry/cherry fruit comes up quickly, framed in proportionate acids and tannins. Streaks of malt powder, caramel and mocha weave through a long, subtle finish. Drink now through 2025. —P.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$45

78

94 Chanin 2014 Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Chardonnay (Sta. Rita Hills). Extremely delicate on the nose, this wine from the historic vineyard shows bruised yellow grapefruit, sliced nectarine and crushed chalk aromas. The evolving palate starts daintily with cut apple and nectarine, then warms into seared peach, buttered popcorn and ripe pear flavors. A chalky, seashell-like structure and pithy texture ensure a long, interesting life. Drink 2018 through 2034. —M.K.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$45

79



94 Fratelli Alessandria 2012 Barolo. This elegant, full-bodied wine opens with delicate scents of rose, iris and wild berry. The palate is juicy and delicious, offering ripe black cherry, crushed raspberry, grilled herb and tobacco alongside a backbone of firm, velvety tannins. Drink 2020–2028. Artisan Wines, Inc. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$54

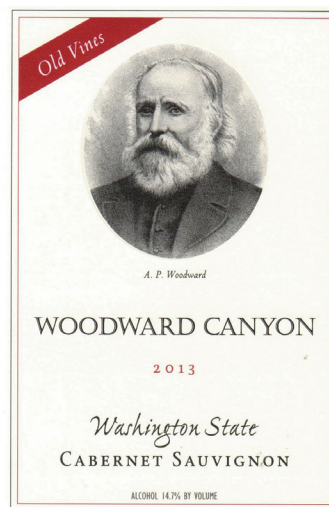
80

95 Château Léoville Las Cases 2013 Saint-Julien. This impressively powerful wine has dense tannins and concentration. With 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, it is firm, packed with black-currant fruits with intense, perfumed acidity. Cabernet Franc adds spice to the wine. The wood aging is still showing and the wine will need several years before enjoying. Drink from 2025. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$140

81

94 Valquejigoso 2008 V2 (Spain). This Cabernet Sauvignon-led blend from the south-of-Madrid area represents no designated region other than Spain. It's an intense blend with aromas of blackberry, pepper, toasted oak and smokiness. A deep, pure palate pumps out cherry, plum and especially cassis flavors, while baking-spice notes come prior to clove, toast and char on the finish. Drink through 2024. Hidalgo Imports, LLC. —M.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$79

82



94 Woodward Canyon 2013 Old Vines Cabernet Sauvignon (Washington). Barrel notes of vanilla and spice take the lead in this aromatically brooding wine, followed by dried herbs and dark fruit. The flavors are pitch black, coating the palate from end to end with layers of fruit, tannins that go the distance and a graphite-filled finish that lingers. It will drink best from 2020–2027. —S.S.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$99

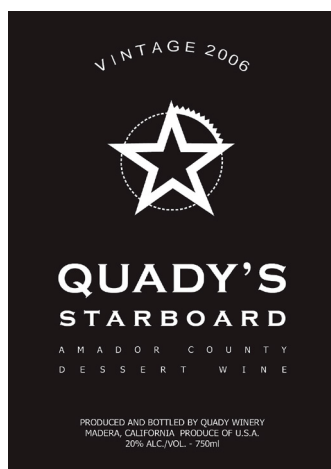
83

94 Cheval des Andes 2011 Red (Mendoza). Deep, subtle, earthy aromas of blackberry, mint, coffee and forest mist are cool and collected. This voluminous, dense blend of Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon is chewy and deep, and not too fierce. Saturated flavors of blackberry and chocolate finish with rooty berry and mocha flavors. Drink from 2017–2025. Moët Hennessy USA. —M.S.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$100

84

95 Philippe Colin 2014 Les Chenevottes Premier Cru (Chassagne-Montrachet). Up the slope above the Grand Cru of Le Montrachet, this vineyard once grew hemp (hence the name, *cheneve*). This poised wine is both stylish and rich, with good acidity allied to ripe apple and citrus fruits, which cut through the mineral texture and promise a generous wine as it ages. Drink from 2020. Cape Classics. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$110

85



95 Quady 2006 Starboard Dessert Wine (Amador County). Power and grace combine in this great fortified wine. Already 10 years old, it will age gracefully through at least 2030 if kept in a cool cellar. The aromas combine ripe, vivid cherry and blackberry with caramel accents. Flavors are very ripe but tangy at the same time, echoing plum jam and toffee on the finish. —J.G.
abv: 20% **Price:** \$34

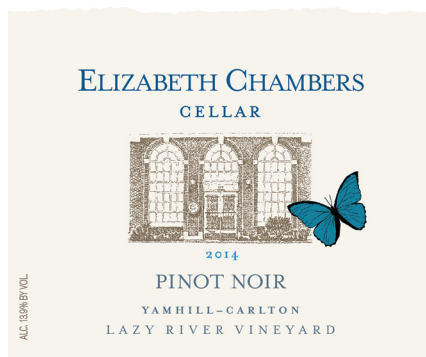
86

95 Vinha Paz 2012 Reserva (Dão). Vinha Paz is the property of surgeon, António Canto Moniz, who decided to produce wine on his family farm in the 1990s. This latest vintage of the Reserva is intense, dense, and concentrated while never losing sight for an instant of the structure and texture of the finest Dão wines. Dark berry fruits are sustained by tannins, wood aging and final acidity. Keep this wine until 2020. Specialty Cellars. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

87

95 Domaine Santa Duc 2012 Habemus Papam (Châteauneuf-du-Pape). From a domaine located in Gigondas, this is a profound Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Yes, there's some toasty oak on the nose, but underneath is a big, sturdy core of dark cherries, bay leaf and *garrigue*. This is a structured wine that's built for the cellar. Drink 2018–2030. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$110

88



94 Elizabeth Chambers 2014 Lazy River Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton). Bright and clear, this young wine is powered by racy cranberry and raspberry fruit. It's a wine that will appeal to those who love primary, juicy, tangy red fruit, but will carry a long way in the cellar for those who value the extra dimensions that well-aged Pinot can convey. Tuck a few bottles away and watch as they blossom into complex wines with dusty elegance. Drink now through 2030. —P.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$48

89

94 G D Vajra 2012 Ravera (Barolo). Intense and well structured, this offers scents of wild berry, blue flower, chopped herb and a balsamic note. The firm palate boasts juicy black cherry, crushed raspberry, pipe tobacco, licorice and clove alongside a backbone of polished tannins. A mineral note lifts the finish. Drink 2020–2027. Martin Scott Wines. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

90

95 Broadside 2013 Ephemera Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles). Brian and Stephy Terrizzi have added this luxury-level bottling to their more affordably focused brand of wines, and it's an impressive addition. A deep and dense nose unleashes blackberries, licorice, crushed volcanic rocks, sexy dark chocolate, violet and black spice. Flavors of olallieberry and creamy dark and milk chocolate erupt on the palate, held together with soft tannins and energetic acidity. Drink 2017–2033. —M.K.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$125

91

95 Domaine des Croix 2014 La Vigne au Saint (Corton). Dark fruit backs up the dense, dark and firm character of this wine. There is sweetness from the ripe fruits into which the tannins fall, leaving a trace of dryness at the end. A fine wine with a great future; drink from 2022. Le Serbet. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$143

92



94 Duca di Salaparuta 2010 Duca Enrico (Sicilia). Scents of ripe dark-skinned fruit, leather, carob, black culinary spice and Mediterranean herbs meld in the glass. The polished, structured palate includes juicy blackberry, ripe black cherry, ground pepper, licorice and exotic spice alongside velvety tannins that lend a smooth, almost creamy texture. This seamlessly combines full flavor, power and elegance. Corvo USA. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$60

93

93 Figgins 2013 Estate Red Wine (Walla Walla Valley). This blend offers beguiling, complex aromas of violets, scorched earth, cassis, black licorice and graphite. The flavors are tightly wound, showing poise and presence. It drinks well out of the gate but cellaring will be particularly rewarded. Best from 2022 through 2030. —S.S.

abv: 14.7%

Price: \$85

94



95 Hall 2012 Kathryn Hall Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). Pulling from both the Sacrashe and Bergfeld vineyards, as well as other partner sites, this is a tremendously impressive wine, bright in herb, cedar and cassis, with soft, integrated tannins. Concentrated, it maintains elegance despite the full-bodied luxuriousness, finishing in decadent chocolate. Drink now through 2022. —V.B.

abv: 15.4%

Price: \$150

95

95 Albert Bichot 2014 Corton-Charlemagne. This wine has power along with great fruit and a rich structure. Yellow fruits are laced with a more finessed texture that adds minerality. It is a dense wine, full of fruit, with a measured touch of wood. Age this until 2021. Albert Bichot USA. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$185

96

94 COS 2011 Delle Fontane (Cerasuolo di Vittoria Classico). Earthy and delicious, this soulful red opens with aromas of sun-baked soil, leather, ripe black fruit, dark spice and a funky but pleasant whiff of game. The round, smooth tastes of juicy blackberry, wild cherry, cinnamon, black olive, cured meat and mineral framed in silky tannins. It's already enjoyable, with depth and balance but it will age well for another decade or more. Drink through 2026. Domaine Select Wine & Spirits. —K.O.

abv: 13%

Price: \$70

97

94 Lapostolle 2012 Clos Apalta (Colchagua Valley). Lusty notes of coconut, charcoal, vanilla and herbs grace core blackberry and cassis aromas. This is massive and widespread on the palate, but the key to its success is impeccable balance. Toasty, minty flavors of blackberry and cassis are chocolatey and lightly herbal, while the finish blends lushness, power, heft and smoky, herbal flavors that go on and on. Drink this Carmenère-led blend through 2024. Terlato Wines International. —M.S.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$135

98



95 Louis Latour 2014 Cuvée Héritiers Latour (Chambertin). Powerful and complex, this dark wine comes from vines at the heart of the appellation, rich and dense. It offers the potential of great fruit, rich acidity and considerable structure, and will develop further, giving richness and long aging. Drink from 2023. Louis Latour Inc. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$350

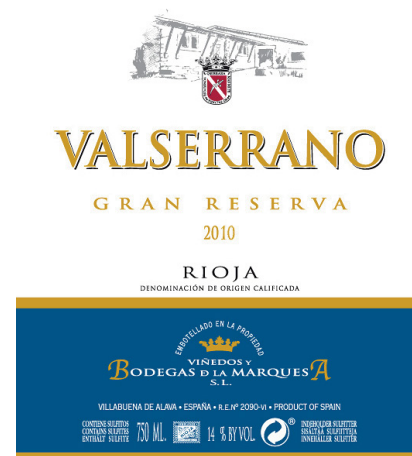
99

94 Quilceda Creek 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This wine is 100% varietal coming from Champoux, Palengat and Wallula Gap vineyards. The aromas bring plenty of appeal, with notes of incense, spice box and dark fruit that lead to full exquisitely balanced dark fruit flavors that show polish, poise and a lengthy finish. —S.S.

abv: 15.2%

Price: \$140

100



93 Valserrano 2010 Gran Reserva (Rioja). Woody aromas of vanilla complement ripe black-fruit scents. This wine feels dry, comported, mildly tannic and nicely structured. Flavors of cherry and blackberry are accented by oaky notes of vanilla and toast, while hints of baking spices lurk around the edges. A dry, classy, well-oaked finish seals the deal on this excellent Rioja; drink from 2020–2028. Classic Wines, Inc. —M.S.

abv: 14%

Price: \$36

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