

# The 10 Best Canned Wines For Summer

forbes.com/sites/courtneyschiessl/2018/08/09/the-10-best-canned-wines-for-summer

August 8, 2018



1,901 views Aug 9, 2018, 03:05pm

# Forbes

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I tell the stories behind all things wine, drinks, food, and travel.



Portability, lighter weight, and greater protection from light and oxygen are just a few of the benefits of canning wine instead of bottling it. Jules Davies

Great wine does not exist in bottle alone, as more winemakers embrace the virtues of alternative packaging like cans, kegs, and bag-in-boxes. While some associate canned wine with cheap, tasteless juice – the Bud Light of wine, if you will – that stereotype just isn't accurate. Some of the best wines can be found in cans, and the amount of quality canned wine only increases from vintage to vintage.

Canned wine was first introduced on a large scale by Francis Coppola Winery, which launched 187-milliliter cans of the Sofia Blanc de Blancs in 2004, but the category has really taken off in the past five years. Although cans won't last once opened – though California's The Drop

brand has created an innovative, resealable can for the first time – they are portable, glass-free, and arguably more protective against both light and oxygen, hence why breweries embraced the can long ago. The only word of caution when it comes to canned wines relates to size. While it might be tempting to throw back a few cans of wine in one sitting, most contain either 250 milliliters (a third of a bottle) or 375 milliliters (a half-bottle) of wine, so don't get overzealous.

To save wine drinkers from navigating the canned wine landscape alone, compiled here are ten of the best canned wines on the market right now.

**Union Wine Co. Underwood 'The Bubbles' NV**, Oregon (\$7/375mL can)

One of the first canned wine lines on the market, Union Wine Co.'s Underwood brand is the go-to can for most wine lovers – and with good reason. All of the Underwood wines are tasty, but 'The Bubbles,' a sparkling Oregon wine made from Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, is particularly delicious. Clean and fruit-forward, it has a welcome snap of acidity and boost of refreshment.

**Onward Pét-Nat Metodo Martinotti 2017**, Suisun Valley, California

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Onward is known for making high-quality, restrained California wines and is in particular highlighted for their many pétillant-naturel sparklings. Winemaker Faith Armstrong created a version of her flagship Malvasia Bianca pét-nat in order to allow it to be canned, since a full pét-nat would lead to misshapen or exploded cans. Fermentation starts with the *Metodo Martinotti*, or tank method, and finishes in the can itself. This innovative canned wine is in high demand, so if you can find it, buy it immediately.

**Bollicini Sparkling Cuvée NV**, Italy (\$12/4-pack of 187mL cans)

Though it isn't Prosecco, the Bollicini Sparkling Cuvée is certainly Prosecco-like, with a fruit-forward attack and a dry finish. It is straightforward, friendly, and fresh, the single serving can built for toting along to summer adventures.

**Ferdinand Albariño 2017**, Lodi, California (\$8/375mL can)

This acid- and citrus-driven Spanish grape performs surprisingly well in California's warm Lodi region, balancing ripe peach fruit with bright, lemon citrus accents. Already clamored for in bottle, the Ferdinand Albariño is just as delicious in can.

**AVA Grace Pinot Grigio NV**, California (\$5/375mL can)

Clean and straightforward, this California Pinot Grigio begs to be chilled and sipped poolside. Like most warm summer days, the flavors might not linger, but the pleasant feeling will.

**Archer Roose Sauvignon Blanc 2017**, Casablanca Valley, Chile (\$18/4-pack of 250mL cans)

Rather than picking one region from which to craft all of its wines, Archer Roose instead chooses to source its juice from around the world. Their Sauvignon Blanc comes from Chile's Casablanca Valley, an area known for this international grape, which creates distinctive, grapefruit-like aromas and flavors. Archer Roose will also soon launch a Prosecco from Italy's Veneto region.

**Euforia Aromatic White NV**, Washington (\$6/375mL can)

As the name suggests, this is a definitively aromatic blend of four Alsatian grapes – Pinot Gris, Muscat, Gewürztraminer, and Riesling – grown in Washington soil. Heady and floral on the nose, the palate is round and viscous.

**Farmstrong Field Rosé 2017**, Redwood Valley, California (\$38/4-pack of 375mL cans)

The sister label to Onward, also crafted by Armstrong, Farmstrong blends old vine Carignan and Zinfandel for its Field Rosé. Soft melon and peach tones combine with fresh citrus for this super refreshing rosé. Farmstrong's Field White blend is also available in cans.

**Seven Daughters Rosé NV**, Veneto, Italy (\$12/4-pack of 250mL cans)

A blend of grapes from the Veneto, this rosé has a snap of tart, brambly fruit that provides lift on the palate. Fans of sweet wine will also like the Seven Daughters Moscato from the Veneto, which manages to be exceptionally well-balanced.

**Alloy Wine Works Pinot Noir 2014**, Central Coast, California (\$10/500mL can)

Made by the team behind Field Recordings, the Alloy Wine Works brand is designed to be exclusively available in 500-milliliter tall boy cans (although the company's website also offers 6-packs of 375-milliliter cans for sale). This Central Coast Pinot Noir is easy-drinking, juicy, and red-fruited.

A Brooklyn-based sommelier, writer, and consultant, I stumbled into the vibrant wine industry much by accident. Since the first swirl of my glass, I've sought out opportunities in every facet of the wine industry, from restaurants and retail to education and marketing. Ov...

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