



# WINE ENTHUSIAST<sup>®</sup> TOP 100 BEST BUYS 2015

*Our experts list the year's greatest wine values.*

BY THE EDITORS OF WINE ENTHUSIAST

Value might be a subjective term, but the concept is one that's universally understood—what gives you the most bang for your buck?

While the reviewers here at *Wine Enthusiast* taste wines at every price point, at the end of the day, we're no different. We want to find high quality wines at accessible prices for everyday drinking, too.

Our Best Buy designation identifies those high quality-to-price ratio treasures. If a wine is given a certain numerical score—on the high side of the 100-point scale—and its suggested retail price is \$15 or less, it may be designated a Best Buy. Out of the nearly 19,500 wines we reviewed this year, less than seven percent (about 1,200) achieved this distinction, which gives you an idea of just how special these finds are.

For this list, we take the selection process one step further. We whittle the list down to a ranking of the top 100 selections to purchase and enjoy now. From the Old World to the New, the assortment of regions, producers and wine styles included reflects the remarkable variety the wine world has to offer. And none of these wines compromise on quality.



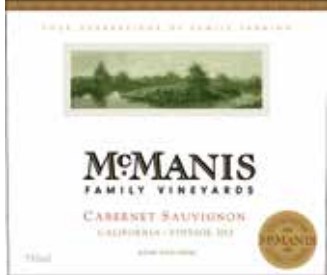


1



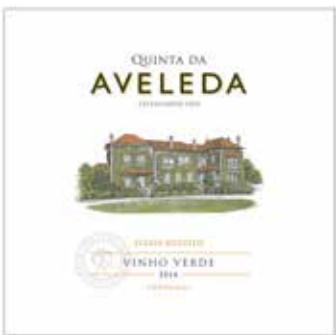
**92 Sella & Mosca 2010 Terre Rare Riserva (Carignano del Sulcis).** This elegantly structured wine opens with aromas of black plum, mocha, Mediterranean herbs and a hint of scorched earth. The round, enveloping palate doles out ripe black cherry, blackberry, cinnamon and white pepper, while firm, silky tannins provide the framework. A fantastic wine, it's already enjoyable and will offer fine drinking over the next few years. Palm Bay International. —K.O. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$15

2



**90 McManis 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (California).** Richness, depth and generosity are good traits of this full-bodied but smooth-textured Cabernet. Light oak accents don't cover up the ripe, juicy, almost jammy blackberry and cherry flavors that fill the mouth and linger on the finish. It's an all-around crowd pleaser that has everything in balance. —J.G. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$11

3



**90 Aveleda 2014 Quinta da Aveleda Estate Bottled (Vinho Verde).** Produced from the vines that surround the family house at Quinta da Aveleda, this is an exemplary Vinho Verde. Dry and crisp, with richness as well as freshness, it is a bright, tight and lightly mineral wine to drink now. Aveleda Imports. —R.V. **abv:** 11% **Price:** \$9

4

**93 Château d'Aydie 2013 Laplace (Madiran).** This celebration of Tannat is a balanced while severe and structured wine. Plenty of juicy fruit is ready to come out from behind the dry, tannic structure. There is power here as well in this wine that is firm and needs to age. Drink from 2019. Polaner Selections. —R.V. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

5



**90 Finca Flichman 2013 Misterio Reserva Malbec (Mendoza).** Supremely fresh plum, berry and cherry aromas announce an equally pure palate with ripe, tasty blackberry and cherry flavors that veer into chocolate, toast and coffee on the finish. This offers an ideal mix of clarity, big flavors and value. Evaton, Inc. —M.S. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$12

6



**89 Bogle 2013 Chardonnay (California).** Nicely balanced and complex in flavor, this blends bright apple and pear aromas with more subtle and spicy flavors like nutmeg, cinnamon and vanilla. The texture is smooth and sleek, livened up by good acidity, and the finish is long and lively. —J.G. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$10

7

**92 Pedra Cancela 2010 Seleção do Enólogo (Dão).** This lightly wood-aged wine is slightly austere in style, with plum and blackberry tones providing weight. Some tannins and acidity accompany its fine, fruity core, giving a more serious note to this wine. Drink from 2018. Wine In-Motion. —R.V. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$11

8



**91 Sokol Blosser NV Evolution White (America).** A nonvintage blend, the Evolution is as clever as it gets. This 18th edition (the edition numbers serve a similar function to a vintage date) melds seven different grapes into an aromatic, lushly detailed whole. Stone and tropical fruits abound, loading the palate with flavors of peaches, cream and lemon meringue. It's thoroughly delicious without a hint of wood. —P.G. **abv:** 12% **Price:** \$15

9

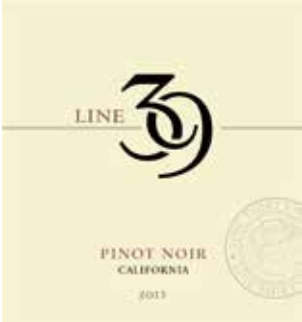
**92 Mas des Bressades 2013 Cuvée Tradition (Costières de Nîmes).** A terrific value, the 2013 Cuvée Tradition shows the sort of concentration and ripeness you'd only expect to find in much pricier bottlings. Black olive, cassis and cured meat notes deliver ample complexity, and the wine finishes long, with supple tannins. Robert Kacher Selections. —J.C. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$15

10



**89 Johann Falkenburg 2013 Riesling (Rheinhessen).** Rich, ripe yellow peach and mango flavors are deeply concentrated in this fruity, off-dry wine. It's plush and delectably juicy, but clean lines of steel and lime lend balance and vibe. Prestige Wine & Spirits Group. —A.I. **abv:** 9.5% **Price:** \$11/1.5 L

11



**90 Line 39 2013 Pinot Noir (California).** Aromatic and elegant, generous and supple, this tastes rich while feeling polished and complete. An enticing, light aroma of oaky spice and raspberry mixes with tasty red cherry and black currant flavors on the palate. It is medium bodied, smooth in texture, and has a mild finish. —J.G. **abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$11

12

**90 Herdade dos Machados 2012 Morgado da Canita (Alentejano).** A blend of local Alentejo grapes has produced a structured while also opulent wine. Layers of dark fruits and solid tannins give dense character. Red fruits burst out of the structure, adding acidity and a perfumed aftertaste. Drink from 2017. Sarmento's Imports & Exports Inc. —R.V. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$9

13



**91 Goose Ridge 2012 g3 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** This wine brings aromas and flavors of cherry, coffee, herbs, medicine cabinet and oak spices. The style is reserved, with a seamless, focused feel to the tart cherry and plum flavors that keep the attention on each sip. —S.S. **abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$15

14



**91 Blue Fish 2013 Original Riesling (Pfalz).** Blue Fish Riesling consistently stuns in a blind-tasting lineup. It's dry in style yet intensely sunny and ripe, brimming with yellow-cherry and cashew-nut richness. Supple and silky on the palate, it's a spectacular value that's likely to surprise. Palm Bay International. —A.I. **abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$10

How the Wines Break Down



**Average Score**  
**89.56**  
**Average Price**  
**\$12.60**

California (14), New York (3), Oregon (5), Washington (7)  
Other (1)



15



**90** **Gnarly Head 2013 Old Vine Zinfandel (Lodi).** If there were such a thing as smoked blackberries, this tasty wine would resemble a light version of that. It's gushing with fresh-crushed cherry and berry flavors, great acidity and firm tannins, while accents of wood smoke and dried meat peek through, adding complexity. It's not sweet, it's not over-oaked, it's not too full bodied—it's just well-balanced and delicious. —J.G.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$12

16

**90** **Domaine Coudoulis 2013 Côtes du Rhône.** Coudoulis is an up-and-coming estate in Lirac. This is only a Côtes du Rhône, but it's an excellent effort, combining generous black cherry fruit with hints of pie crust and baking spices. It's full-bodied and plush, with a velvety texture and long, licorice-tinged finish. Drink now–2018. Saranty Imports. —J.C.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$12

17



**90** **Bulgariana 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon (Thracian Valley).** Dark garnet to the eye, this wine has aromas of black cherry, black raspberry, coffee and freshly ground black pepper. Flavors of height-of-summer cherry, raspberry and baking spice persist on the palate through a finish that is awash in silky tannins. Grapes & Barley, LLC. —J.J.  
**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$11

18



**90** **Dry Creek Vineyard 2014 Wilson Ranch Dry Chenin Blanc (Clarksburg).** This California classic is still a winner, offering great flavor and refreshment in a dry, unoaked style. It smells like crisp Granny Smith apples, tastes like white peach and has a nervy acidity that will wash down all kinds of appetizers and seafood with aplomb. —J.G.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$12

19

**90** **Fattoria Lavacchio 2012 Cedro (Chianti Rufina).** Made with organically farmed Sangiovese, Canaiolo and Ciliegiolo grapes, this classically crafted red offer aromas of ripe berry, pressed violet, tobacco, leather and a whiff of dark baking spices. On the savory palate, notes of anise, clove and ground white pepper accent a core of dried black cherry. It's fresh and well balanced, with polished tannins. Drink through 2019. Montcalm Wine Importers. —K.O.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$12

20

**89** **Marrenon 2014 Classique Merlot Rosé (Mediterranée).** This light-bodied Merlot rosé is a summer delight. Hints of strawberry blossom and citrus mark the nose, while the palate features berry shadings set against a backdrop of citrus, something like a dry, adult version of pink lemonade. USA Wine Imports. —J.C.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$10

21

**89** **Dão Sul 2012 Quinta do Encontro Q do E (Bairrada).** Baga has been softened by Merlot to produce a rounded wine, with accents of spice and generous tannins. Berry fruits come strongly through the dry core, giving a rich character to the wine. The finish is full of acidity and ripe red fruits. Aidil Wines/Old World Import. —R.V.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$10

22

**91** **Ravenswood 2013 Old Vine Zinfandel (Lodi).** This sophisticated, dry and affordable wine will shine at mealtime due to its balance between generous fruit flavors and an appetizing, moderately tannic texture. Aromas resemble raspberries and red cherries, while flavors are a bit riper than that. The acidity is lively and the finish lingers. —J.G.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$14

23

**90** **Foris 2014 Dry Gewürztraminer (Southern Oregon).** Whether or not you are inclined toward the grape, this is a must-try bottle. Dry without being austere, it starts with a berry generosity featuring bright, almost hop-driven flavors. It smoothes out with notes of mineral and citrus, and a wonderfully refreshing finish. —P.G.  
**abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$14

24

**91** **Domaine des Terrisses 2012 Grande Tradition (Gaillac).** This is a broad, rich blend of Duras and Braucol with a little Syrah thrown in. It is ripe, with black fruits and balanced tannins that give structure but do not dominate. A smoky character from wood aging rounds it out. Drink from 2016. Wine Traditions. —R.V.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$14

25

**91** **Golan Heights Winery 2012 Gilgal Cabernet Merlot (Galilee).** Dark ruby to the eye, this wine offers a nose of raspberry, talc and violet. There is a nice mix of baking spice and fruit flavors, dominated by blackberry, black cherry, clove and anise with touches of black pepper. The finish is reminiscent of cherry pie, with mingling flavors of cherry, spice and vanilla. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. —M.D.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$15

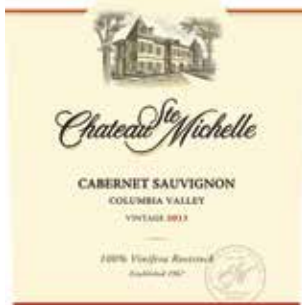
26

**90** **Skouras 2013 Zoe White (Peloponnese).** This blend of Roditis and Moscofilero offers floral, flirty aromas and a palate that's both fresh and layered. Flavors of lemon, violet and orange are rounded but balanced by lively acidity. Diamond Importers Inc. —S.K.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$12

27

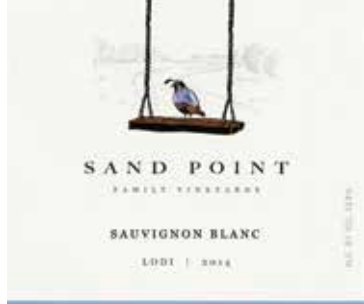
**87** **Adega Cooperativa do Cartaxo 2014 Briedão Classico Branco (Tejo).** With hints of pineapple and peach flavors, this is a ripe wine with a refreshing juicy character. It's a food wine thanks to its mineral texture and tangy acidity. It could age a few more months, so hold until 2016. Wine Enterprises LLC. —R.V.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$6

28



**90** **Chateau Ste. Michelle 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).** The aromas offer notes of boysenberry, herb and barrel spices, with the Syrah blended in (11%) showing itself. The blue and black fruit flavors are lush and fruit forward, with soft tannins, a silky mouthfeel and a sustained sense of balance. It drinks best at a cool 62 degrees. —S.S.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

29



**90** **Sand Point 2014 Sauvignon Blanc (Lodi).** This sophisticated and beautifully balanced wine shows that Lodi can make crisp and poised whites. It has aromas like white pepper and dried thyme, crisp lemon flavors and racy acidity. It is nicely dry, clean and tautly refreshing. While medium bodied, it has a big, vibrant presence. —J.G.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$12

30



**90** **Casa Santos Lima 2012 Reserva do Monte (Lisboa).** This structured and dense wine hails from the steep, sloping hills of the Lisboa region. While aged in Portuguese oak, which provides spice and dark tannins, the delicious black fruit core is not overpowered. Drink now–2016. Multiple U.S. importers. —R.V.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$10

31

**89** **Château Peynaud-Bagnac 2012 Bordeaux.** This is a smooth, wood-aged wine. Ripe black fruits are soft, with a contrast of toast and spice. It's juicy, with just the right amount of tannin. Although it's almost ready to drink, the wine will also age because of its structure. Drink from 2016. AWDirect (The Wine Trees Portfolio). —R.V.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$10

32



**90** **Zantho 2013 Zweigelt (Burgenland).** Ample blueberry and black cherry fruit is toned by fresh acidity and held in a concentrated body. Little by little the Zweigelt pepperiness creeps in and makes for a punchy, focused red with just the right amount of still perceptible tannins. Great clean finish. Vin Divino. —A.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$13

33



**90** **Red Newt Cellars 2013 Circle Riesling (Finger Lakes).** Lithe and dancing in texture, yet robustly concentrated with yellow peach and cherry flavors, Red Newt's Circle delivers great quality for a gentle price, vintage after vintage. Off dry in style, it's zesty and bright, finishing long with a fresh herbal edge. —A.I.  
**abv:** 10.2% **Price:** \$13

34



**90** **Benvenuto de la Serna 2014 Mil Piedras Malbec (Vista Flores).** Cassis and blackberry aromas are bold and show a feral side as this breathes. Fresh and charged up on the palate, this hits with cassis and blackberry flavors in front of a fruity, not oaky finish. Drink this pleasurable, well-made Malbec now through 2017. Cannon Wines Limited. —M.S.  
**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$13

35

**90** **Contini 2014 Pariglia (Vermentino di Sardegna).** Aromas of citrus blossom, chamomile and a whiff of tropical fruit waft out of the glass. The lively, delicious palate offers ripe white peach, apricot, pear, chopped herb and a light mineral note alongside bright acidity. Vinicontini. —K.O.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$13

36



**90** Encanto 2011 Roble Mencía (Bierzo). This fresh, pure value red cranks out raspberry and boysenberry aromas in front of a crisp, tight palate. Ripe, quick-hitting flavors of red-berry fruits and toasty smoke finish zesty, with a lasting note of pie cherry. Vinamericas Selections. —M.S.  
abv: 13% Price: \$13

37



**90** Kirkland Signature 2013 Signature Series Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). Crisp in citrus, with noticeable tension that softens in the glass, this wine offers tremendous value and elegance. Medium bodied and well integrated in terms of oak and power, it has a lovely note of preserved lemon on the finish. —V.B.  
abv: 14.1% Price: \$13

38

**90** Château du Bois Chantant 2012 Cuvée Laurence H. (Bordeaux Supérieur). This complex, ripe wine balances firm wood aging with dark fruit. It's full in the mouth, juicy and with plenty of potential. Solid tannins and rich berry flavors are coming together. Wait until 2017. Advantage International. —R.V.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$13

39

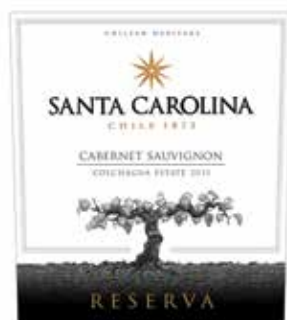
**91** Unger 2014 Zieselrain Grüner Veltliner (Kremstal). Lovage and peppery water-cress join pear and lemony citrus to deliver a charming and super-clean textbook Grüner. Verve and freshness play on the palate and linger pleasantly. Adventures In Wine. —A.K.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

40



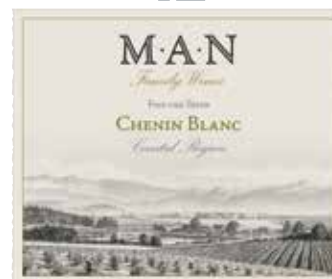
**91** Herdade de São Miguel 2013 Alicante Bouschet (Alentejano). One of the star grapes of the Alentejo, this is a ripe, full-bodied and deliciously juicy wine. Almost black in color, it is packed with tannins, spice, intense acidity and a fine structure. It could do with some aging, so drink from 2016. Saraiva Enterprises. —R.V.  
abv: 15% Price: \$15

41



**89** Santa Carolina 2013 Reserva Carménère (Cachapoal Valley). Meaty, earthy aromas of mixed berry fruits show a fair amount of wood. The palate is ripe and blocky, with black-fruit flavors, primarily blackberry and plum, accented by a noticeable herbal element. Toasty and spicy on the finish, this is a commendable value-priced Carmenère. Carolina Wine Brands USA. —M.S.  
abv: 14% Price: \$11

42



**89** MAN Family Wines 2014 Free-run Steen Chenin Blanc (Coastal Region). Meaty, earthy aromas of mixed berry fruits show a fair amount of wood. The palate is ripe and blocky, with black-fruit flavors, primarily blackberry and plum, accented by a noticeable herbal element. Toasty and spicy on the finish, this is a commendable value-priced Carmenère. Vineyard Brands. —L.B.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$11

43

**89** Toscolo 2013 Chianti Classico. Made with Sangiovese and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, this opens with aromas of violet, blackberry and a whiff of baking spice. The fresh, easy-drinking palate offers juicy black cherry, clove and a hint of ground espresso alongside supple tannins. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$11

44



**90** The Show 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). This very attractive wine checks off each box: a seductive oaky spicy aroma, rich fruit flavors, good concentration, firm tannins and a lingering finish. The combination of powerful flavors and a sophisticated texture makes it delicious. —J.G.  
abv: 13.9% Price: \$13



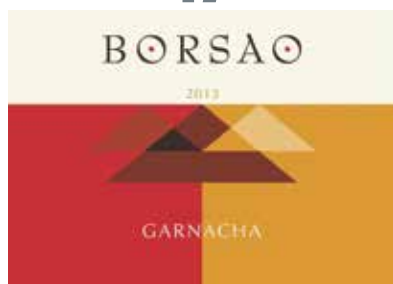
45

**89 Carmel 2013 Selected Cabernet Sauvignon (Shomron).** Deep red-violet in color, this offers aromas of black cherry, vanilla and soft baking spice. Flavors of cassis, licorice, black peppercorn and a touch of green pepper stay strong amid persistent yet soft tannins. The lasting finish is marked by notes of butterscotch and orange peel. Kosher. Royal Wine Corporation. —M.D.  
abv: 14.5% Price: \$11

46

**91 Bonnet-Huteau 2013 Les Dabinières Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine).** From schist soil, this tight and mineral-driven wine has crisp acidity enmeshed in the taut texture. This complex, young-tasting wine, with its structure, needs to age. Drink from 2016. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.  
abv: 12% Price: \$15

47



**88 Borsao 2013 Garnacha (Campo de Borja).** As usual, this Garnacha is friendly, but serious enough to satisfy all palates. Floral berry aromas lead off the bouquet, leading to a juicy, fresh and pure palate. Flavors of raspberry, plum and a dash of spice finish with a good texture. Fine Estates From Spain. —M.S.  
abv: 14.5% Price: \$9

48

**88 Oxford Landing 2014 Shiraz (South Australia).** For such a competitively priced offering, this delivers a lot of complexity. Dried herbs, anise, chocolate and coffee notes add nuance to the raspberry fruit. It's medium bodied and supple, with a lush, lingering finish. Drink now–2020. Negociants USA, Inc. —J.C.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$9

49

**91 Lujon 2013 Chardonnay (Willamette Valley).** This fresh, enticing wine is crisp and well-structured, with lemon, grapefruit and tangerine rind and flesh. The expansive palate has resonant minerality and excellent length, with ripe apple and pear fruit, plus highlights of toasted cashews and butter brickle from limited exposure in wood and partial malolactic. —P.G.  
abv: 12.6% Price: \$15

50

**90 Nadler 2013 Rote Rieden Zweigelt (Carnuntum).** Alongside the fresh red cherry fruit there are hints of iron oxide and pepper. None dominate, but they present themselves in beautiful waves making for a very intriguing palate with soft, pliable tannins and a fresh backbone. A very authentic rendition of Zweigelt. So fresh and so moreish. Robert Houde Wines. —A.K.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$12

51

**88 Hogue 2014 Gewürztraminer (Columbia Valley).** This wine is still settling in, with tiny bubbles coating the glass. The aromas of spice, flowers and lychee are vibrant and the palate drinks dry, showing plenty of richness and intensity. —S.S.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$10

52

**87 Bocopa 2014 Conde de Alicante (Alicante).** Warm red-berry aromas are simple and fresh, a hallmark of a good Alicante wine. This is a touch sharp and drawing on the palate, with cherry, plum and berry flavors. Crisp and focused on the finish, this ranks as an ideal everyday quaffer. Multiple U.S. importers. —M.S.  
abv: 13% Price: \$7

53

**90 Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards 2013 Riesling (Finger Lakes).** Touches of menthol and lime zest lend a cool, green feel to this off-dry Riesling. White grapefruit and honeydew rind flavors are crisp yet concentrated on the palate, bolstered by a kick of acidity that lingers on the finish. —A.I.  
abv: 10.5% Price: \$13

54

**87 Cramele Recas 2013 Dreambird Pinot Grigio (Vile Timisului).** Medium straw in color, this wine boasts aromas of lemon meringue pie and orange preserve, and a creamy palate with a balanced finish. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.J.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$7

55



**90 Red Knot 2014 Signature Shiraz (McLaren Vale).** For the price, this offers much more depth and structure than expected. Dark berry fruit, vanilla and cedar mark the nose, while there's plenty of weight and richness on the palate. Drink now–2025. Precept Wine. —J.C.  
abv: 14% Price: \$14

56



**90 Château de Marsan 2014 Bordeaux Blanc.** This wine is all about fresh fruit and refreshing acidity. Crisp citrus, green apples and a touch of apricot give a fruitiness contained with a steel and mineral texture. It is full of acidity while keeping a riper, fruity character. Drink from late 2015. Misa Imports. —R.V.  
abv: 12% Price: \$14

57



**90** Korbel NV Brut Rosé (California). This has a pale salmon color and aromas like those of Pinot Noir, including the walk-in-the-forest smell. Crisp cherry flavors lead to an intriguing mushroom note on the finish. Nearly dry, the texture is plush and soothing, while the finish is soft and lingering. —J.G.  
abv: 12% Price: \$14

58



**89** Bodegas Dios Baco S.L. NV Riá Pitá (Manzanilla-Sanlúcar de Barrameda). If you want an affordable, crisp Sherry to get an evening going, this is a good choice in terms of value and quality. Lightly oxidized aromas of vanilla and briny nectarine bring a whiff of turpentine. Creamy on the edges and acidic in the middle, this dry Manzanilla delivers briny, nutty apricot and citrus flavors in front of a lasting, nutty finish. CIV/USA. —M.S.  
abv: 15% Price: \$12

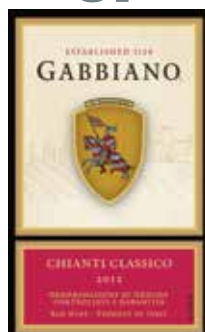
59

**89** Fleur Du Cap 2012 Bergkelder Selection Pinotage (Stellenbosch). This value-minded wine from an iconic producer offers attractive initial scents of brambly berry and cherry, with additional touches of marzipan and vanilla that lend decadence. The medium-weight palate shows great balance, with ample acidity and firm yet fine tannins that frame the bright red-fruit flavors. Drink now–2018. Maisons Marques & Domaines USA. —L.B.  
abv: 14.1% Price: \$12

60

**90** Deer Creek 2014 Pinot Gris (Rogue Valley). There has been an impressive jump in quality over the past few vintages, along with a price drop. What's not to like? This young, lightly spritzzy wine is a fresh summer drink with immense appeal. Scents of white flowers, flavors of pears and highlights of tangerines, continue into further flavors of pink grapefruit and clean rock. The low alcohol suggests that there is a touch of residual sugar, but the wine finishes dry. —P.G.  
abv: 11.5% Price: \$14

61

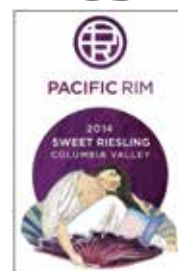


**90** Castello di Gabbiano 2012 Chianti Classico. Made with 90% Sangiovese, 5% Merlot and 5% Colorino, this straightforward, savory wine opens with aromas of ripe berry, tobacco, blue flowers and a whiff of cedar. The bright, accessible palate delivers crushed black cherry, licorice and white pepper alongside supple tannins and fresh acidity. It's made for sheer drinking pleasure so enjoy over the next few years. Treasury Wine Estates. —K.O.  
abv: 13% Price: \$15

62

**88** Tilia 2014 Bonarda (Mendoza). Forward, fruity aromas of black cherry, raspberry and cassis set up a high-acid palate that's energetic. Lightly herbal, rooty flavors of black cherry and blackberry linger on a juicy, clean finish. Winebow. —M.S.  
abv: 13% Price: \$10

63



**88** Pacific Rim 2014 Sweet Riesling (Columbia Valley). Orange rind, flower and botrytis aromas lead to medium-sweet peach and honey flavors. There's plenty of sugar but the acid balances it out. —S.S.  
abv: 8.5% Price: \$11

64

**89** Maitea 2012 Ribera del Duero. Briary, dry, lightly oaked aromas of plum and berry lead to a bright, forward, juicy palate with fresh acidity and racy flavors of cherry and plum. This is short but clean on the finish, and overall it's the type of simple, drinkable, affordable Ribera del Duero that fans of the region don't come across often enough. Assa Imports. —M.S.  
abv: 14% Price: \$12

65

**90** Château la Verrière 2014 Bordeaux Blanc. This is a tangy wine, packed with fruit, orange and lemon zest and a background hint of herbaceousness. A tight, steely texture gives both acidity and the promise of aging. Drink from early 2016. Wine Warehouse Imports. —R.V.  
abv: 13% Price: \$15

66



**90** Carnivor 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon (California). An extremely deep, dark color is the first thing to notice in this rich, almost thick, wine. It smells like wild blackberries and boysenberries and tastes almost that fruity,

while blending in meaty, chocolaty, black peppery flavors that seem to coat the tongue. It is concentrated, bold and stands out from the pack. —J.G.  
abv: 13.9% Price: \$15

## 67

**90 Vigne Surrau 2014 Branu (Vermentino di Gallura).** Here's a savory, medium-bodied white that delivers aromas and flavors of yellow flower, ripe yellow apple, juicy peach, lemon zest and flint. An almond note backs up the finish while modest acidity provides balance. A.I. Selections. —K.O.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15

## 68



**90 Trapiche 2012 Broquel Cabernet Sauvignon (Mendoza).** Spice, licorice and herbal notes complement red-fruit aromas, while the palate offers plenty of structure and tannic grab. There's an avalanche of blackberry, cassis, fig, chocolate and herbal flavors to process, while the finish is rich and rewarding before breaking up in bits. The Wine Group. —M.S.  
abv: 14% Price: \$15

## 69

**90 Val do Sosego 2014 Albariño (Rías Baixas).** A mix of youthful freshness and lees scents blend nicely with spiced apple aromas in front of a tight, citrusy palate. This punches above its weight class courtesy of tasty nectarine, apricot and yeasty flavors. A dusty, slightly pithy finish wraps this up in fine form. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —M.S.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

## 70

**90 Pala 2014 Silenzi (Isola dei Nuraghi).** A savory blend of 40% Sangiovese, 30% Monica and 30% Carignano, this vibrant red offers aromas of ripe black-skinned fruit, tilled soil, leather, cooking spice, carob and violet. The chewy palate delivers ripe black cherry, juicy blackberry, ground clove and dried Mediterranean herb alongside round, enveloping tannins that give it a velvety texture. Banville Wine Merchants. —K.O.  
abv: 13% Price: \$15

## 71

**90 J. Heinrich 2013 Blaufränkisch (Burgenland).** Ripe bramble and blackberry vie for attention on the nose. The palate is light and has lots of energy, verve and more fresh-faced fruit. This is just about medium-bodied and offers us an uncomplicated but delicious and refreshing interpretation of Blaufränkisch. Blue Danube Wine Co. —A.K.  
abv: 13% Price: \$15

## 72



**89 Mercer 2014 Pinot Gris (Yakima Valley).** This wine brings a whole lot of appeal with its fresh, lively but rich pear and melon flavors. The balance is spot-on and the flavors linger. —S.S.  
abv: 13.3% Price: \$13

## 73

**90 Inama 2013 Vin Soave (Soave Classico).** This crisp, savory white offers layers of white peach, tart Granny Smith apple and lemon-lime flavors. It's vibrant and well balanced, with refreshing acidity. An almond note signals the close. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —K.O.  
abv: 12% Price: \$15

## 74



**90 DFJ Vinhos 2014 Aluado Alicante Bouschet (Lisboa).** With the typical dark color of this red grape, this is a dense and firm wine. It has rich plum and berry flavors that are dark as well as juicy. Tannins lace the background to this already delicious wine, finishing with refreshing acidity. Drink from 2016. Lionstone International. —R.V.  
abv: 13% Price: \$15

## 75

**90 Domaine de la Gaverie 2014 Demi-Sec (Vouvray).** Lightly off dry, this rich, smooth wine has acidity to balance the honey and ripe pineapple flavors. With some aging, it will show a delicious, ripe balance of fruit and creamy texture, with some zest to add liveliness. Drink from 2017. D & M New Management. —R.V.  
abv: 12% Price: \$15

## 76



**88 Fetzter 2012 Eagle Peak Merlot (California).** Sweet oak aromas, ripe fruit flavors and a firm texture make a complete and enjoyable package in this full-bodied wine. It has a toasted oak flavor, tasty plum and cinnamon nuances, good acidity and supportive tannins. —J.G.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$10



77

**90** Rafael Cambra 2012 Soplo Garnacha Tintorera (Valencia). Perfumed plum and raspberry aromas are slightly earthy and leathery. This is medium-to-full in body, with smooth, chunky tannins. Earthy, lightly baked plum and wild-berry flavors finish loamy and expansive. Drink through 2017. Frontier Wine Imports. —M.S.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15

78



**90** Lamoreaux Landing 2013 Unoaked Chardonnay (Finger Lakes). Pretty white floral and peach notes perfume this fresh, fruity unoaked Chardonnay. While lush and rounded on the palate, it balances bright honeydew and yellow cherry flavors against a backdrop of crisp acidity. —A.I.  
abv: 12.9% Price: \$15

79

**90** La Posta 2014 Armando Bonarda (Mendoza). Cherry and plum aromas are ripe, sweet and inviting. There's plenty of body and roundness to this Bonarda, while exotic blueberry and boysenberry flavors finish fresh, with a light herbal aftertaste. Overall this shows lots of fruit and good balance. Vine Connections. —M.S.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15

80



**89** Rotari NV Brut (Trento). This well-priced sparkler opens with aromas of toast, yellow apple, nut butter and a hint of honey. On the palate, fine bubbles and crisp acidity balance the

pear, citrus zest and roasted walnut flavors. Prestige Wine Imports Corp. —K.O.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$13

81

**90** Quinta de la Rosa 2013 douROSA (Douro). The second label of Quinta de la Rosa is a ripe and smoothly fruity wine. Soft tannins and ample acidity harmonize well with the exuberant black fruits. It is big, rich and not needing aging; drink this rounded wine from 2016. Winesellers, Ltd. —R.V.  
abv: 14% Price: \$15

82



**89** Zacharias 2013 Ambeles Phos Roditis-Moschofilero (Peloponnese). This exotic white blend starts with citrus and floral aromas and offers a palate of soft lemon crud, orange and white fruit. Rich but with a cutting finish, it's a good food wine for bigger seafood flavors. Stellar Importing Company, LLC. —S.K.  
abv: 11.5% Price: \$13

83

**88** Vicente Gandia 2011 El Miracle by Mariscal Old Vine Garnacha Tintorera (Valencia). This Garnacha Tintorera (Alicante Bouschet) opens with earthy, ripe red-berry aromas. The palate is fleshy and plush, with baked, earthy flavors of blackberry and raisin. Baked notes persist on a solid, minty, slightly hot finish. Vicente Gandia USA. —M.S.  
abv: 13% Price: \$11

84

**88** P.J. Valckenberg 2013 Undone Pinot Noir (Rheinhessen). A kiss of violet mingles with bright red cherry and strawberry aromas on this elegant yet approachable wine. It's juicy and concentrated with sunny red-berry flavor, but fresh and spry with acidity. The moderately long finish holds just a faint spray of tannins. Valckenberg International, Inc. —A.I.  
abv: 12% Price: \$11

85



**90** Kendall-Jackson 2014 Vintner's Reserve Pinot Gris (California). A dynamic balance between ripe, juicy fruit flavors and crisp acidity makes this medium-bodied wine both refreshing and substantive. It smells like a bowl of sliced melons, apples and grapes, and tastes almost that fruity, but not sweet. After 79% Pinot Gris, the winemaker blends in Roussanne, Grüner Veltliner and a bit of Chardonnay. —J.G.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$15

86

**90** Vignoble de la Jarloterie 2013 Quintessence (Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil). This structured wine is bold with its tannins and dry cherry-pit flavor. It is dense, its stalky acidity and red-plum flavors backed by a dry core. It's a concentrated wine that needs to age, so drink from 2017. European Wine Imports. —R.V.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$15

87



**89** Willamette Valley Vineyards 2014 Riesling (Willamette Valley). This is a medium-sweet Riesling boasting Spätlese-level alcohol, that mixes soft fruit flavors of apple, peach and pear with hints of honey and tea. Give it a light chill before sipping. —P.G.  
abv: 8% Price: \$14



88



**88 Quara 2014 Estate Bottled Torrontés (Cafayate).** Smooth, melony aromas set up a fresh palate. Common varietal flavors of lychee, green melon, green banana and pineapple finish solid, with a refreshing bolt of acidity maintaining balance from front to back. Drink now. Pampa Beverages LLC. —M.S.  
abv: 13% Price: \$11

89

**88 Santa Alicia 2013 Reserva Espiritu de Los Andes Estate Bottled Carmenère (Maipo Valley).** On this well-made wine, a dark-fruit-driven bouquet emphasizes black cherry and blackberry aromas. This feels solid, a touch creamy and slightly resinous. Dark berry flavors come with mild heat as well as mint and sweet oak notes. Halby Marketing. —M.S.  
abv: 14% Price: \$12

90

**88 For a Song 2013 Caliche Lake Vineyard Riesling (Ancient Lakes).** Vibrant aromas of honeysuckle, honey-drizzled peach and green apple lead to medium-sweet stone-fruit flavors. Pair it with a spicy Thai dish. —S.S.  
abv: 11.63% Price: \$11

91



**88 Brancott 2013 Pinot Noir (Marlborough).** It's rare that a Pinot (from any part of the world) garners a Best Buy commendation,

so this is one worth trying. It's medium-bodied, with ample cherry and plum flavors that finish with mouthwatering acids. Drink it now—2016. Pernod Ricard. —J.C.  
abv: 13% Price: \$13

92

**88 De Bortoli NV Emeri Pink Moscato (South Eastern Australia).** Fresh, floral aromas lead the way on this wine, backed by flavors of berries and spice. The moderate alcohol level and balance of sweetness and acidity make this easy to drink. De Bortoli Wines USA Inc. —J.C.  
abv: 8% Price: \$12

93

**89 Burgáns 2014 Albariño (Rías Baixas).** Burgáns is usually one of the better value-priced Albariños on the market, and this 2014 keeps that momentum going. White-flower and stone-fruit aromas are a touch dusty, while the palate feels peachy. Stone-fruit flavors are familiar, while the finish is zesty and clean. European Cellars. —M.S.  
abv: 12% Price: \$14

94

**88 Cantina Cavicchioli NV Robanera (Lambrusco Grasparossa di Castelvetro).** Aromas of crushed blue flower, spicy blueberry, juicy blackberry and baking spice characterize this savory, inky colored sparkler. The vivacious, off-dry palate is balanced by fresh acidity that leaves a clean finish. It's thoroughly enjoyable. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.  
abv: 9.5% Price: \$12

95

**88 Acrobat 2014 Pinot Gris (Oregon).** Lush and creamy as soon as it hits the palate, this fine value is packed with flavors of fresh-sliced, just-ripe pear. Hints of apple and tangerine further expand the flavor, and it finishes crisp and clean. —P.G.  
abv: 13.5% Price: \$13

96

**89 Royal de Jarras 2014 Pink Flamingo Tête de Cuvée Gris (Sable de Camargue).** There's a hint of smoky flint on the nose of this rosé, adding interest to the fruity core of white cranberry, watermelon rind and rhubarb. There's a pithy, slightly bitter character to the palate, with a subtle mineral tone unfolding on the back. Pineapple-spiked acidity keeps the mouthfeel lifted and the finish fresh. Vranken Pommery America. —L.B.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$14

97

**88 Indomita 2014 Gran Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley).** Lean aromas of bell pepper and green fruits are not overly intense. This is linear, juicy and tight in frame. Flavors of lime, scallion, caper and dry cider finish racy and scouring. Good mouthfeel is a plus. Laird & Company. —M.S.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$13

98

**90 Cameron Hughes 2012 Lot 408 Syrah (Santa Ynez Valley).** The reliable négociant winery scores once again on this bottling, which shows intriguing aromas of smoked plums, hoisin-marinated pork, cocoa powder, crushed pepper and ollallieberries. It's delicious once sipped, with pepper, boysenberries and a hickory wood character. —M.K.  
abv: 14.7% Price: \$15

99

**88 Tussock Jumper 2014 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough).** Nectarine and fig notes mark the nose, while the palate is mellow and well-ripened, then delivers a refreshing citrusy kick on the long, grapefruit finish. Drink this medium-bodied wine over the next 6–9 months. Tri-Vin Imports. —J.C.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$13

100

**88 Milbrandt 2014 Traditions Pinot Gris (Columbia Valley).** This sleekly styled wine displays aromas of citrus peel, green apple and Bosc pear. The citrus flavors are lightly spritzy, bringing a sense of lightness and freshness. It's perfect for a summer day. —S.S.  
abv: 12.5% Price: \$13