



WINE ENTHUSIAST TOP 100 CELLAR SELECTIONS 2014

The Year's Best Collectible Wines

BY THE EDITORS OF WINE ENTHUSIAST MAGAZINE

In a culture focused on the here and now, patience is a fleeting virtue. Instant gratification often takes precedence—witness the large amount of the market geared toward wines that are ready-to-drink—and the distant pleasure of cellaring wine proves much too abstract for comfort.

But for true wine lovers, laying wine down is a mandatory exercise—one with a return that is priceless.

Find it difficult to keep up with the latest vintages to collect or the best regions to cellar? For that very reason, we've created the annual list of *Wine Enthusiast's* Top 100 Cellar Selections.

In 2014, just over 17,000 wines were reviewed by our editors and, from that total, a mere six percent merited the Cellar Selection designation—a marker for highly rated wines that exhibit the potential to evolve and improve for many years. From this al-

ready choice sampling, we culled our Top 100 Cellar Selections of 2014 list—all the must-haves of the year that deserve a spot in your cellar.

With its wide variety of wine styles and producers from around the world, this list aims to cover all the classic regions, but one wine has to take top honors. Thanks to a stellar vintage, the 2010 Barolos dominate this year's list, claiming the top two spots—with two perfect 100-point wines, a first for our Top 100 Cellar Selections list. But rest assured—there are plenty of other options to explore besides these Northern Italian gems.

While some of these wines are pricey, this year's list boasts an average rating of 95.51 points and an average price of \$95.57, one of the highest average ratings and one of the lowest average prices we've ever seen. So stock up your cellar and hide the key—save these beauties for that perfect moment in time.



1

100 Paolo Scavino 2010 Bric dël Fiasc (Barolo).

If a wine can truly be perfect, this is it. Displaying power, grace, depth and complexity, this Barolo delivers sublime Nebbiolo sensations including rose, underbrush, red cherry, leather, licorice, baking spices, clove, white pepper and balsamic notes. The intense flavors are balanced by velvety tannins and fantastic energy. Drink 2018–2038. Martin Scott Wines. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$100

2

100 Giuseppe Rinaldi 2010 Brunate (Barolo).

The 2010 Brunate is one of the greatest expressions of this fabulous vintage. Polished and structured, it seamlessly combines layers of rose, violet, perfumed red berries, juicy black cherry, leather, spice and eucalyptus sensations that convey a Nebbiolo purity of compelling depth and finesse. It's already gorgeous, but will become one of the legendary bottlings of the vintage. Drink 2020–2045. Vinifera Imports. —K.O.

abv: NA

Price: \$126

3



98 Gramercy Cellars 2010 Lagniappe Syrah (Columbia Valley).

Sourced from Red Willow, Olsen and Les Collines, this is the finest effort yet from Gramercy Cellars and one of the greatest Syrahs ever produced in Washington state. Think Hermitage with brighter fruit. It's intensely aromatic, dense and seamless, stacked with rich flavors of mixed berries, layers of smoke, earth and herb, and punctuated by

citrusy acidity. Highlights of oranges and tangerines sneak into the finish, which lingers for an astonishingly long time. Exceptional in every way. —P.G.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$55

4



99 Massolino 2010 Parafada (Barolo).

Powerfully structured yet surprisingly graceful, this is one of the stars of the vintage. It seamlessly weaves together tobacco, underbrush, leather and intense balsamic sensations with succulent black cherry, raspberry and licorice flavors. It's all supported by a backbone of lively acidity and noble tannins. This will age and evolve for decades. Drink 2020–2050. Vineyard Brands. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$95

5



97 Jarvis 2008 Estate Grown Cave Fermented Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley).

This low production, 100% Cab offers the most perfectly ripe black currant fruit, with complicating hints of pencil lead, violets, dark chocolate shavings and, of course,

lots of toasty oak. The fact that it's now more than five years old has helped to mellow it, but the tannins are still quite hard. The beautiful estate vineyard sits high in the Vaca Mountains, which helps to account for the wine's intensity and concentration. This is truly a world-class Cabernet that will age through at least 2032. —S.H.

abv: 14.8%

Price: \$130

6



97 Betz Family 2010 Père de Famille Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley).

As good as any Père de Famille to date, this brilliantly crafted wine jumps from the glass immediately with a rainbow of blue, purple and black fruits. The scents and flavors are dense and seamless, the tannins polished and graceful, and the barrel aging puts the last dabs of paint on a winemaking masterpiece. —P.G.

abv: 14.1%

Price: \$68

7

98 Giacomo Fenocchio 2010 Bussia (Barolo).

From the historic heart of the famed Bussia vineyard area, this wine beautifully expresses the fabulous vintage. Boasting great depth and energy, it seamlessly delivers violet, incense, underbrush, crushed black cherry, licorice, graphite and balsamic sensations alongside vibrant acidity and big, velvety tannins. Drink 2020–2040. Multiple U.S. importers. —K.O.

abv: 14%

Price: \$60

How the Wines Break Down



Red – 74

White – 18

Sparkling – 5

Fortified – 2

Sweet – 1

Average Rating

95.51

Average Price

\$95.88

8



96 **Domaine Weinbach 2011 Schlossberg Grand Cru Riesling (Alsace).** This is, quite simply, great Riesling. It has all the subtlety that the grape can produce, as well as a sense of longevity. There's an intensity of fruit—apples and citrus—that cuts through the texture, leaving a beautiful, lingering aftertaste. Still young, drink from 2016. Vineyard Brands. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$37

9



99 **Casa Ferreirinha 2004 Barca Velha (Douro).** This is the latest release of Portugal's most iconic wine. It's made only in selected years (the last vintage was 2000) from Ferreira's Quinta da Leda in the Douro Superior. This new vintage is superb. It's a richly tarry wine laden with dark plum fruits and tannins that are just beginning to mature. It's a ripe and luscious, demanding attention, yet will still age for many years. Drink now, or hold until 2020. Broadbent Selections, Inc. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$426

10



97 **Penfolds 2010 RWT Shiraz (Barossa Valley).** This shows the strength of the 2010 vintage in the Barossa Valley, marrying incredibly ripe fruit with seamless structure. Cinnamon and vanilla notes from the French oak blend easily into blueberry fruit, all grounded by hints of dark chocolate and umami. It's full bodied, lushly textured almost to the point of creaminess and long—ridiculously long—on the finish. Drink 2018–2030 and possibly beyond. Treasury Wine Estates. —J.C.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$150

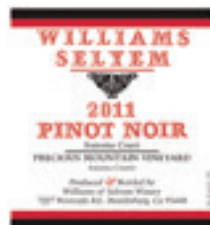
11

99 **Cantina Bartolo Mascarello 2010 Barolo.** From one of the denomination's leading traditional producers, this gorgeous, elegant Barolo opens with floral aromas of dried rose petals, woodland berries, leather, spice and whiffs of balsamic herbs. The palate seamlessly combines crisp, red cherry-berry fruit, white pepper and mint balanced by firm but polished tannins and bright acidity. Full of finesse, it will age majestically. Drink after 2020. Polaner Selections, Rare Wine Co. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$120

12



97 **Williams Selyem 2011 Precious Mountain Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast).** Williams Selyem expresses the intricacies of this vineyard with more consistency than any other winery. This remarkably intellectual, ageworthy wine is bone dry, with marked acidity and complexity. The flavors range from wild cherries, cola and balsam to raspberry tart and buttered cinnamon toast. Its complexity is like a mandala, increasing in beauty

the longer one examines it. A softly tannic bitterness lingers on the finish; drink 2019–2030. —S.H.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$95

13



97 **Laurent-Perrier NV Grand Siècle Grande Cuvée Brut (Champagne).** Laurent-Perrier's prestige cuvée has always been non vintage, a blending of top wines from top years. It remains an exceptional wine, not quite dry and with a tinge of softness, but so elegant and balanced. This bottling has just the right amount of maturity, hinting at toast while guarding every iota of fruitiness. Laurent-Perrier US. —R.V.

abv: 12%

Price: \$130

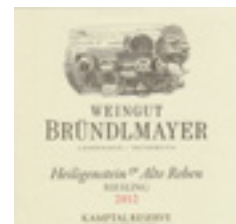
14

97 **Comm. G. B. Burlotto 2010 Monvigliero (Barolo).** From the most celebrated vineyard in the village of Verduno, this dazzling wine opens with an enticing bouquet of exotic incense, violet, cedar, leather, moist earth, pine forest and a whiff of smoke. The focused palate delivers layers of dark cherry, clove, cinnamon, thyme, balsamic notes and mineral alongside supple tannins. It's incredibly elegant. Drink 2018–2040. Bacchanal Wine Imports. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$65

15



96 **Bründlmayer 2012 Heiligenstein Alte Reben Reserve Riesling (Kamptal).** Old vines on the Heiligenstein hill offer a richly textured, impressive wine. There is terrific concentration allied to fragrant acidity, hints of white flowers and apricot fruit flavors. The future for this powerfully dense wine is considerable, so don't drink before 2018. Michael Skurnik Wines. —R.V.

abv: 13%

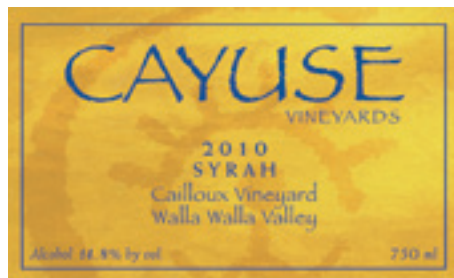
Price: \$51

16



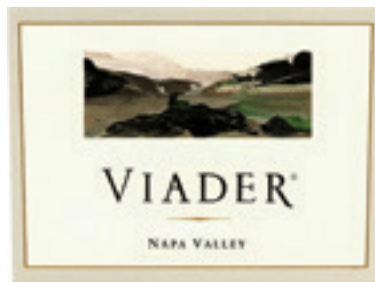
97 Brezza 2010 Sarmassa (Barolo). From one of the best sites in Barolo, this intense wine opens with a multi-dimensional fragrance of crushed flower, new leather, earth, incense, spice and black cherry. The vibrant, spicy palate delivers red berry accented with notes of black pepper, cinnamon spice, licorice and clove. Bold but noble tannins and brisk acidity promise fantastic aging potential. Drink 2020–2050. Acid Inc Selections, Stefano Miretti Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$67

17



97 Cayuse 2010 Cailloux Vineyard Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). As usual, the Cailloux is co-fermented with Viognier. The oldest of the Cayuse vineyards, it's really coming into maturity, delivering a tour de force performance in this new vintage. Aromatically explosive, it opens with floral and citrus—notably orange peel—then fills out with a lush palate bursting with cherry fruit, and the winery's characteristic, savory, umami flavors. The finish seems unending. —P.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$85

18



97 Viader 2010 Red (Napa Valley). Viader has a long history of producing great Bordeaux-style blends grown at a high elevation on Howell Mountain. This 2010 is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc, with almost the same percentages as the superb 2009 bottling. The wine is rich, dry and complex. It shows a fantastic array of blackberries, dates and dark chocolate, with fascinating notes of lavender and dill. The tannins are gorgeous, the acidity fine, and the application of oak is deft. It's hard to describe just how good this wine feels in the mouth. Drink now, after decanting, or within the next 20 years. —S.H.
abv: 14.2% **Price:** \$130

19

96 Quinta do Vale Meão 2011 Red Wine (Douro). This is concentration in a glass. The wine, from a fine vintage, is hugely rich, very dense and tannic. All this power, though, is not at the expense of elegance. The wine has great style and a sense of place, with a strong mineral character. It almost tastes of the granite and old rocks of the vineyard. Keep this wine and don't drink before 2019. Deutsch Family Wine & Spirits. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$75

20

96 Château Pontet-Canet 2011 Pauillac. So smooth, this is a rich, grandiose wine. Although it is full of black currant fruits and spice flavors, the texture is most impressive. Dusty tannins are integrated with juicy fruits seamlessly. The purest fruit flavors are allied to linear tannins in a precise yet generous way. The wine is evolving beautifully, but do not drink before 2020. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$105

21

97 Roederer Estate 2006 L'Ermitage (Anderson Valley). All the benefits of maturity come through in this deliciously complex flagship sparkling wine of the French-owned estate. It shows very minute, slow-rising bubbles, and a beautiful bouquet of ginger, cinnamon, cherry and fresh croissants. The flavors are layered, intricate, subtle but somehow rich. A lush and seemingly soft texture is supported by fresh acidity that encourages a long and delicate finish. Mature, but not old, it should be great through 2020 or longer. —J.G.
abv: 12.6% **Price:** \$48

22



99 Sandrone 2010 Cannubi Boschis (Barolo). Structured but extremely elegant, this opens with an intense fragrance of violet, rose, wild berry, leather, underbrush and balsamic notes. The delicious, focused palate delivers crushed black cherry layered with notes of exotic spices, licorice, sage and black pepper, perfectly balanced by assertive tannins and vibrant energy. It already boasts gripping depth, but this has serious aging potential. Drink 2020–2040. Vintus LLC. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$165

23

96 K Vintners 2010 The Creator Old Stones Cabernet Sauvignon-Syrah (Walla Walla Valley). This delicious blend is 70% Cabernet Sauvignon and 30% Syrah, sourced from the Old Stones vineyard. Young, tight and peppery, it gains briary boysenberry flavors as it opens up, along with hints of soy and umami. A streak of maple syrup richness fills out the finish. —P.G.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$60

24



97 Marita's Vineyard 2007 Select Private Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). This extraordinary winery continues to produce some of Napa's most distinguished Cabernets. The vineyard is in the cool-climate appellation of Coombsville, which accounts for its superb structure of acids and tannins. Perfectly ripe black-currant flavors meld into toasty new-oak tones. At the age of more than six years, the wine is starting to mellow, but is only hinting at the drama to come. It has enough splendor to glidepath through the decades. —S.H.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$150

25



96 F X Pichler 2012 Dürnsteiner Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd (Wachau). This is always a major wine, and this vintage is no exception. It is spectacularly ripe, spicy, concentrated and fruity. The yellow fruits, tangy citrus and mineral structure all contribute to an intense complexity. Age this wine for many years and don't drink before 2017. Weygandt-Metzler. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$89

26

96 Bouchard Père & Fils 2011 Le Corton. This is powerful and rich, allowing just a note of freshness to creep into the firm structure. Dark tannins, black fruits and smoky wood flavors combine harmoniously, lending a sense of great power and long-term aging potential. Drink from 2019. Henriot Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$115

27

97 Il Paradiso di Manfredi 2006 Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). This gorgeous Brunello seamlessly weaves together sensations of tilled soil, blue flower, ripe black cherry, leather, truffle, clove, white pepper and Mediterranean herbs. It's balanced and smooth, with velvety tannins and fresh acidity. Even though it's already delicious, it will continue to develop complexity for years. Grand Cru Selections, Oliver McCrum Wines. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$152

28

96 Sineann 2012 Champoux Vineyards Block One Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). Block One is the original (1972) planting at Champoux, and it has anchored many of Washington's finest wines over the past 20 years. Few if any better are than this, a huge wine with massive flavors of dense black fruits, from berries to cherries to cassis. It's seen plenty of new oak, giving it a cedar-soaked scent, but the sheer power of the wine promises a long and expressive development over the coming decades. —P.G.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$72

29



97 Joseph Phelps 2010 Insignia Estate Grown Red Wine (Napa Valley). This is, as always, a gorgeous wine, rich, balanced and delicious. It shows classic Napa Valley ripeness, with blackberry jam, plum, dark chocolate and sweet oak flavors. Plush and velvety doesn't begin to do it justice. Despite its fabulous lushness, this is a wine to age. Depending on your taste, it will provide excellence from now until 2030. —S.H.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$225

30

96 Joh. Jos. Prüm 2012 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Goldkap (Mosel). A mélange of rose petals, lychee, caramel and honey scent this stunningly aromatic Riesling. It's unctuously creamy on the palate—silky and rich in sweet grapefruit and mango flavors—but deftly touched with acidity and minerality as well. A masterpiece now, but sure to captivate further from 2020 and beyond. Valckenberg International, Inc. —A.I.
abv: 8% **Price:** \$125

31

97 Tenuta San Guido 2010 Sassicaia (Bolgheri Sassicaia). This supremely elegant and age-worthy Sassicaia opens with an intense bouquet of black cherry, Mediterranean herbs, blue flower, cedar and leather aromas. Powerful but graceful, the palate delivers a vibrant core of black cherry accented with white pepper, mineral and balsamic notes alongside youthful but polished tannins and vibrant acidity. It's not as exuberant as some of its counterparts, but it may outlive all the other Bolgheri 2010s. Drink 2018–2040. Kobrand. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$227

32

95 Château Malartic-Lagravière 2012 Pessac-Léognan. A dense, wood-aged wine, it brings richness, intense fruit and acidity together. It's complex and concentrated, powerfully structured and full of yellow fruits as well as lemon juice, edged with toast. It's a wine for aging, so drink from 2018. Multiple U.S. importers. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$56

33

95 Ken Wright 2012 Tanager Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton District). The Tanager ranks among the top three wines from Ken Wright in a superb lineup. A rich mix of Asian spices coat a sensuous wine with a rich core of ripe black cherry fruit. Seams of cola and saffras run through the palate, and on into a lengthy and utterly delicious finish. Cellar this if you can keep your hands off it! —P.G.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65



34

97 Shafer 2009 Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon (Stags Leap District). This is clearly one of the greatest Shafer Hillside Selects ever. It shows incredibly concentrated blackberry, dark chocolate and ripe cassis flavors, wrapped into impeccably rich tannins. Made from 100% Cabernet, it's a superb example of Hillside. Tasted from the same bottle a day later, the wine was even richer and more satisfying, which is a solid indicator of ageworthiness. Drink now–2028. —S.H.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$240

35

97 Ornellaia 2010 Bolgheri Superiore. The 2010 Ornellaia celebrates the wine's 25th anniversary, and it could not have been a more spectacular vintage. It opens with aromas of crushed blue flowers, black berries, pipe tobacco and thyme that give way to an elegant, structured and polished palate. It delivers intense blackberry flavors layered with white pepper, Mediterranean herbs, mineral and mocha brightened by fresh acidity alongside smooth, velvety tannins. This will age and develop for decades. Drink 2016–2040. Folio Fine Wine Partners. —K.O.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$240

36

96 Corliss Estates 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon (Columbia Valley). This is the finest Cabernet yet from Corliss, a fully-realized wine with power and finesse. From opening scents of figs, berries and roasted coffee, on into a compact, potent mid-palate that still seems quite young and fresh, this wine keeps adding layer upon layer as it breathes. Concentrated and perfectly balanced, it will age beautifully for another 15–20 years. —P.G.
abv: 14.7% **Price:** \$75

37

96 Louis Jadot 2012 Echézeaux. Hugely dense, packed with ripe and generous black fruits, this is already showing its serious side with complex tannins and a dark, brooding texture that also brings out the wood aging. The fruit, a gorgeous array of perfumed black plums and damsons, is developing well, just hinting at future greatness. Drink from 2022. Kobrand. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$280

38



96 Von Strasser 2011 Estate Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Diamond Mountain). To call this Cabernet huge is an understatement. The tannins are hard and dramatic. As for the fruit, you can hardly find strong enough descriptors. It shows blackberry jam and black currants, cassis liqueur and minerals raised to fabulous mountain concentration. Violets and oak add to the equation. Somehow it all balances out, resulting in a wine of unusual grace and power. But it needs age. Drink 2019–2031, if not beyond. —S.H.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$80

39

96 Monteraioni 2010 Baron' Ugo Riserva (Chianti Classico). Here's a gorgeous Chianti Classico that shows great intensity, breeding and class. It opens with quintessential varietal aromas of leather, blue flower, berry and spice. The palate delivers juicy black cherry, white pepper, cinnamon and mint alongside bracing but refined tannins and fresh acidity. It already has compelling depth but is still young and needs time to develop even more complexity. Drink 2016–2030. A.I. Selections. —K.O.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$63

40

96 Quinta Vale Dona Maria 2011 Vinha do Rio (Douro). From old vines near the river that runs through the Vale Dona Maria vineyards, this is a superbly intense wine. It has a great structure, dark plum fruits and already a fine balance. Big and bold, its power is balanced with elegance, some freshness and a great potential. Drink from 2017. Adventures In Wine. —R.V.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$90

41

96 Domaine Rossignol-Trapet 2011 Chambertin. This is full of fruit and weighty tannins. Coming from one of the finest vineyards in Burgundy, it is going to have great power and an opulent nature. This wine also has elegance, its black fruits controlled and with a mineral edge. That doesn't take away the power, it enhances the stylishness of this grand wine. Drink from 2020. The Wine Cellarage. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$240

42



96 Laird 2010 Flat Rock Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon (Yountville). It's not just the fruit, which is immaculately ripe in blackberries and black currants. The wine also stands out for the richness of the oak, so perfectly integrated, and the overall balance. Beautiful acidity and thick, rich, supple tannins come along with a gorgeous, long, dry finish. The vineyard is in Yountville. You'll want to cellar this 100% Cab until at least 2020, and it could be going strong longer. —S.H.
abv: 14.8% **Price:** \$85

43

95 Januik 2012 Bacchus Vineyard Riesling (Columbia Valley). Spectacular is the word that comes to mind here. Tasted over many hours, this stunning effort proved itself over and over. A mix of citrus oils, tree fruits, a hint of honey, tea, lemon verbena and more, it delivers astonishing complexity and flavor for such a young wine. It should continue to evolve and improve from 2024–2034. —P.G.
abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$20

44

97 Marchesi Antinori 2010 Solaia (Toscana). Already one of Italy's most iconic bottlings, this gorgeous 2010 is already a classic. Its complex and intense bouquet unfolds with ripe blackberries, violets, leather, thyme and balsamic herbs. The pal-

ate shows structure, poise and complexity, delivering rich black currants, black cherry, licorice, mint and menthol notes alongside assertive but polished tannins and vibrant energy. This wine will age and develop for decades. Drink 2018–2040. Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$325

45

95 Trisaetum 2013 Estates Reserve Dry Riesling (Willamette Valley). Trisaetum produces both a dry and an off-dry cuvée from each of its estate vineyards, and continues the practice with this Estates Reserve. This offers extra concentration, grip and complexity. Floral, citrus, stone fruit and bracing acidity combine in a midpalate that is packed with young fruit flavors. Good as it is, the best is yet to come. —P.G.

abv: 12%

Price: \$32

46



95 Château Calon Ségur 2011 Saint-Estèphe. This wine has so many of the structural elements of a Saint-Estèphe, but also is enveloped by ripe fruitiness. Black in color and dense in character, it has sweetness from the plum juice fruits and great acidity. But it is also firm, powerfully projecting a serious potential. Drink from 2022. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$65

47

96 Dyer 2010 Dyer Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Diamond Mountain). Showing precision craftsmanship, this wine hails from a tiny vineyard on Napa's famed Diamond Mountain. Only 225 cases were produced, but it's worth a search if you're looking for classic mountain Cabernet capable of extended aging. The wine has a linearity that defines elegance, yet is rich in blackberries and cassis, with oak nuances. Containing small quantities of Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot for complexity, it will reward aging until at least 2018, and should be going strong in 2030. —S.H.

abv: 14.3%

Price: \$80

48



95 Teso La Monja 2011 Alabaster (Toro). Smoky berry, lemon peel, graphite and huge black-fruit aromas provide a stellar opening. Raw tannins and staunchness create a powerful palate that needs time to mellow out. Flavors of loud oak, black fruits, hard spices, toast and licorice finish peppery, tough and with some heat. Best from 2015–2023. Jorge Ordoñez Selections. —M.S.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$220

49

95 Château du Cèdre 2010 Le Cèdre (Cahors). This is a great vintage of Le Cèdre. With dark tannins and impressive structure, it is big and fruity while never overwhelming. Dense black fruits, bitter cherries and dark chocolate combine with mineral, juicy acidity. It's a wine to age for many years, don't drink before 2018. Martine's Wines. —R.V.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$68

50



95 JM Cellars 2011 Klipsun Vineyard Merlot (Red Mountain). This is the winery's first single-vineyard Merlot. Polished and dense, its aromatics are a multidimensional mix of cassis, espresso, cacao and tobacco. Firm and full, the flavors continue along the same lines, going deep into a thoroughly satisfying finish. —P.G.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$42

51

95 Lazy Creek 2012 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley). Full-bodied and generously flavorful, this is shaped and accented by oak influences, but still governed by rich, enticing flavors of ripe plum, dark cherry, blackberry and cinnamon. It features great depth of flavor, breadth in the silky texture and length on the finish. Best now through 2020. —J.G.

abv: 14.3%

Price: \$42

52

95 Dow's 2012 Quinta Senhora da Ribeira Vintage Port. This Port comes from a vineyard across the Douro from Quinta do Vesúvio. It is supremely elegant, with sophisticated black and red fruits that are sustained by a layer of fine, dusty tannins. On the dry side for a Vintage, it has acidity, structure and obviously great potential for aging. Drink from 2025. Premium Port Wines, Inc. —R.V.

abv: 20%

Price: \$62

53

95 Château Léoville Barton 2011 Saint-Julien. Great swathes of fruit cross the tannic core in this impressive wine. Hints of wood aging peek out from beneath the sumptuous richness and spice. It is ripe, dense and obviously set for long aging. Drink from 2018. —R.V.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$80

54

96 Isole e Olena 2010 Cepparello (Toscana). It opens with an enticing fragrance of black berries, toast, Mediterranean spices and a touch of vanilla. The vibrant, youthful palate delivers a core of black cherry accented with black pepper layered with mocha, mint and tobacco notes. The racy acidity and solid but brooding tannins demonstrate that this wine still needs time to develop to its extraordinary potential. Drink 2018–2035. Multiple U.S. importers. —K.O.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$80

55

95 Failla 2012 Whistler Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). This is one of Failla's riper, fruitier 2012 Pinots. Classic Sonoma Coast Pinot, with brisk acidity and complex flavors, it shows wild raspberry, cherry and blueberry fruits, persimmons, cola, and earthier notes of sautéed wild mushrooms



and truffles. It's dry, tannic and tart, but as good as it is now, it will improve by resting until 2020. —S.H.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$52

56

95 Maison Bleue 2011 Boushey Vineyard Le Midi Grenache (Yakima Valley). This was fermented with 50% whole clusters, which slows down and evens up the process. Along with rich flavors of black raspberry fruit, it's dense with savory herbs and marvelous details of earth and forest floor. Delicious now, but just wait until 2020–2022! —P.G.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$45

57

95 Rudi Pichler 2012 Wösendorfer Kirchweg Riesling Smaragd (Wachau). The tightly closed nose only gives away a little ripe red apple. Even with the fruit locked underneath the stones, the sleek power, the impression of saltiness and lime-zest purity of this wine whisper promises. These will be kept, at least if you wait until 2017. This one will last and last. Winebow. —A.K.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$75

58

95 Château Suduiraut 2010 Sauternes. This is a gorgeously ripe, opulent wine that shows a rich fruit-salad ripeness, as well as darker notes of botrytis. The wine is full and very ripe with flavors of honey, fennel and lemon, with sweetness balanced by acidity. This is a wine that could be drunk soon but will age magnificently. Drink from 2016. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$85

59

95 Domaine Drouhin Oregon 2010 Laurene Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). This reserve-level Pinot from DDO is exceptional in every way. Silky, elegant and deeply-fruited, it marries a plush midpalate of red berries and cherries to compelling grace notes of pine needle, cola and mocha. Delicious and age-worthy; if past vintages are any indication, this can go until 2029. —P.G.
abv: 13.9% **Price:** \$65

60



95 Allegrini 2010 Amarone della Valpolicella Classico. Boasting an enviable combination of opulence and finesse, this opens with aromas of black plum, vanilla, baking spices and grilled herbs. The rich palate doles out plum cake, black cherry, black pepper, cinnamon and nutmeg alongside smooth, velvety tannins. Gripping intensity holds on through the long finish. Drink through 2025. E & J Gallo. —K.O.
abv: 15.5% **Price:** \$85

61

95 Clos Fourtet 2011 Saint-Émilion. Clos Fourtet is a continuing success. This 2011 is both rich and seriously structured. Ripe, with a mineral character, it starts firm and then shows generous blackberry fruits. Still young, it should not be drunk before 2018. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$85

62

95 Mark Ryan 2011 Wild Eyed Syrah (Red Mountain). Force Majeure and Ciel du Cheval are the sources for this pure, compelling Red Mountain Syrah. The complex aromatics shoot up a smorgasbord of cured meat, truffle and umami notes, leading into a crisp, racy palate with lovely blueberry-dominated fruit flavors. Aging in 500-liter puncheons smoothes it out while contributing just a hint of new toast. —P.G.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$48

63

95 Pascal Bouchard 2012 Les Clos Grand Cru (Chablis). This grandest of the Chablis Grand Crus is giving very little at this early stage in its development. It's a serious and powerful wine, with rich fruits still dominated by steely acidity. Wait until 2019 and it will be a powerhouse of complex, ripe and structured flavors. New England Wine and Spirits Inc. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$89

64



95 Venge 2011 Bone Ash Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Napa Valley). This is made from 100% Cabernet grown in the St. Helena estate vineyard. The wine is exceptionally pure and delicious, rich in black currant, chocolate, black cherry and lots of toasty new French oak. The all-important tannins are exquisitely ripe and as fine as velvet. Nowhere near ready, this wine wants a good eight years in the cellar, and will gradually evolve through the mid-2020s, at the very least. —S.H.
abv: 14.9% **Price:** \$85

65



95 John Duval Wines 2010 Eligo Shiraz (Barossa). This is likely the most ageworthy Shiraz winemaker John Duval has crafted since leaving Penfolds. The oak is subtle, the fruit still tight. It's full bodied but bursting with potential, shown in hints of black cherries and plums, mocha and mint. The finish is long, mouthwatering and softly dusty in texture, making it luscious yet firm. Drink 2018–2030. Old Bridge Cellars. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$100

66

95 La Chablisienne 2011 Château Grenouilles Grand Cru (Chablis). Château Grenouilles is crafted from a portion of the Grenouilles Grand Cru Vineyard that is wholly owned by La Chablisienne. It produces its flagship wine: dense, powerful and concentrated, with a strong mineral and racy texture. It's destined for a long life thanks to its woody richness and tight acidity. Drink from 2018. Multiple U.S. Importers. —R.V.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$95

67



95 Quinta do Noval 2012 Vintage Port. The dark, almost black color and the wonderful violet aromas set the scene for this complex, dense and textured wine. It has a touch of spice, along with the rich plum and dark berry fruits. While it is rich, it is also a dry style of Vintage, bringing out structure as much as opulence. Drink from 2030. Vintus LLC. —R.V.
abv: 19.5% Price: \$100

68

95 Adelsheim 2012 Winderlea Vineyard Pinot Noir (Dundee Hills). Sadly, just 64 cases of the Winderlea were made. With 40-year-old vines production is limited, but what complexity and focus can be found here! The fruit is tight and bright, the acids bring a mix of lemon, lime, orange and pineapple. The wine seems to romp and cavort across the tongue, with a mélange of ripe berries, chocolate and coffee. If you can keep your hands off it, it should get better and better over through 2025 at least. —P.G.
abv: 13.5% Price: \$105

69

95 Pol Roger 2004 Extra Cuvée de Réserve Vintage Brut (Champagne). Just approaching maturity, this rich wine is sumptuous and complex. It has intense fruitiness, with apple and grapefruit flavors that are followed by a tight texture as well as the first signs of toastiness. It has plenty of life yet. Drink now–2024. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 12.5% Price: \$114

70



95 Flowers 2011 Sea View Ridge Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). The most notable thing about this Pinot is its intensity of flavor. A blend of both new Dijon clones and older California selections of Pinot Noir, it is stunning with flavors of raspberries, cherries and Dr. Pepper. It's a balanced, elegant wine with vibrant texture, but needs time to truly shine. Hold till at least 2017. —S.H.
abv: 13% Price: \$65

71

95 Charles Heidsieck 2005 Brut Millésimé (Champagne). Still very young, this holds great potential. Rich, full-bodied and densely structured, it is a wine first, sparkling second. Ripe apple and peach flavors partner with a strongly mineral texture. It needs to age more in bottle, so drink from 2016. Remy Cointreau USA. —R.V.
abv: 12% Price: \$125

72



95 Col d'Orcia 2006 Poggio al Vento Riserva (Brunello di Montalcino). This iconic Brunello seamlessly combines power and finesse. It opens with earthy aromas of underbrush, tobacco, tilled soil and blackberries. The dense palate delivers juicy black cherry and raspberry alongside black pepper, licorice and a balsam note. It's impeccably balanced but still very young, and still showing racy acidity and assertive tannins. Give it time to soften and develop more complexity. Drink 2016–2031. Palm Bay International. —K.O.
abv: 15% Price: \$150

73

95 Cadence 2010 Cara Mia Vineyard Bel Canto (Red Mountain). The best Cara Mia yet, this is Red Mountain Cabernet Franc from the estate vineyard, with 15% Merlot and 8% Petit Verdot included. Stylish and compact, this seems sculpted with pure, vivid purple fruits, balanced against crisp, fine-grained tannins. The depth and concentration are noteworthy. —P.G.
abv: 14.4% Price: \$60

74

94 Maurodos 2010 San Román (Toro). This burly Tempranillo opens with an alluring blend of graphite, stony mineral, marzipan and ripe black-fruit aromas. The palate is lusty, giant and tannic, but not mean or fierce. Blackberry, cassis and chocolate flavors end with café mocha and licorice notes, while tannic grab suggests aging this until 2015–16 and drinking through 2023. Grapes of Spain. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% Price: \$70

75



94 Terredora Di Paolo 2009 Fatica Contadina (Taurasi). This gripping, delicious wine seamlessly weaves together sensations of blue flower, exotic incense, ripe black cherry, mature plum, cracked pepper, mocha, clove and graphite. It's already delicious and well balanced, with bracing tannins and racy acidity, but give it time to soften and develop complexity. Drink 2019–2029. Vias Imports. —K.O.
abv: 14% Price: \$34

76

95 Domaine Chanson 2011 Héritiers Paul Chanson (Corton Vergennes). From vines owned by the Chanson family, this is a wonderfully rich wine, deliciously fruity at the same time. Apple and citrus as well as richer apricots come through powerfully. It's structured with a sense of opulence, richness that also has a tight texture. It needs to age; drink from 2019. Terlato Wines International. —R.V.
abv: 13% Price: \$187

77

94 Quinta de Lemos 2009 Touriga Nacional (Dão). Originally from the Dão region, Portugal's oldest wine area, Touriga Nacional still produces some of its best wines in its home base. This powerful wine is a fine example of what Celso de Lemos set out to do when he set up the 62-acre estate. This wine has black fruits, dark tannins, a light perfumed character and considerable potential. Powered by its structure and acidity it is developing slowly and surely. Drink from 2017. MHW, Ltd. —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$35

78



94 Gary Farrell 2012 Rochioli Vineyard Chardonnay (Russian River Valley). This flinty Chardonnay shares a full oak expression with a whiff of petrol, suggesting a decant or cellaring until 2016 to fully soften. It offers sublime lemon curd and minerally peach flavor amid tangy acidity and a bright finish. It displays a ying-yang between polish and power. —V.B.
abv: 13.6% **Price:** \$50

79

94 Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Müller-Burggraef) 2012 Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Auslese (Mosel). Touches of fennel and saffron lend an earthy touch to this sweet, silky nectar of peach and marmalade. While lavishly glycerin on the tongue, the palate extends to a bristling lemon-lime finish. Penetratingly fruity, yet anchored with acidity and minerality, this is delicious now but has a bold future through the next decade. Winesellers Ltd. —A.I.
abv: 8% **Price:** \$52

80

94 Château de Gaudou 2012 Le Sang de la Vigne (Cahors). Hugely rich, this was fermented in egg-shaped cuves that have given an impressively rounded character to a wine still so young. The tannins are opulent, letting the black fruits speak powerfully. It still is a wine to age, so drink after 2019. Laville Imports. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$30

81

94 Gini 2012 La Frosca (Soave Classico). Made from 55-year-old vines, this Soave is one of the flag bearers of the denomination. It opens with enticing floral and mineral aromas together with a whiff of pears. The elegant, linear palate delivers golden apples, citrus, and white peach alongside almond and mineral. It's already crisp and delicious but it will also age. Drink 2015 through 2027. Multiple U.S. importers. —K.O.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$25

82

94 Bacalhôa Wines of Portugal 2009 Palácio de Bacalhôa (Península de Setúbal). The top red from the Bacalhôa vineyard, this is monumentally rich and ripe with the smoothest texture, hints of maturity as well as red fruits and rounding wood-aging flavors. It's opulent and still merits some aging. Drink ideally from 2017. Grape Expectations (CA). —R.V.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$41

83

94 San Felice 2010 Poggio Rosso Riserva (Chianti Classico). Here's an outstanding Chianti Classico made from 80% Sangiovese, 10% Pugnitello and 10% Colorino that opens with earthy aromas of underbrush, leather, violet, dark spices and red berries. The structured palate delivers rich black cherry, black pepper, clove and balsamic herbs alongside bracing yet refined tannins. It still shows some youthful aggression, so give it time to soften and develop complexity. Drink 2015–2025. Premium Brands. —K.O.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$50

84

94 Yalumba 2008 The Signature Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz (Barossa). Always one of Yalumba's top offerings, the 2008 doesn't show any of the vintage's ill effects. Instead, this blend of Cabernet (56%) and Shiraz (44%) offers a rich, open-knit mouthful of chocomint and dark plum, underscored by savory, meaty notes. This is full bodied and supple, yet muscular, with at least a decade of cellaring potential. Negotiants USA, Inc. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$54

85

94 Domaine de la Bégude 2010 Rouge (Bandol). Generous and opulent, this is a wine that has both fine perfume and ripe black-fruit flavors. There is a deliciously juicy element to the wine, yet it's bal-

anced with ample acidity. With its attractive, herbal edge, this is a wine that can age. Drink from 2016. Kysela Père et Fils. —R.V.
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$43

86

94 Paul Hobbs 2012 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Powerful and lush, this is a velvety, classically styled Russian River Valley Pinot, weighty and lip smacking in black cherry and touch of earth buoyed by finely hued acidity. Perfectly enjoyable right now, it'll age, too, the spicy undertones coaxed to take center stage. —V.B.
abv: 14.4% **Price:** \$55

87

94 Bergström 2012 Gregory Ranch Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton District). An early release from the 2012 vintage, it explodes from the glass with richly scented cherry fruit limned with citrus and floral highlights. As good as it is, and already drinking beautifully, it has the structure and complexity to reward further aging. —P.G.
abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$57

88

94 Mailly Grand Cru 2002 Exception Blanche Blanc de Blancs (Champagne). From one of the great vintages so far this century, this is, as its name suggests, exceptional. It has such a strong steely mineral character from the Côte des Blancs' chalk soil and a coiled texture. Apple skin and lemon juice give the fruitiness to the wine, which is still young. Drink now–2025. Saranty Imports. —R.V.
abv: 12% **Price:** \$85

89

94 Luis Pato 2010 Vinha Barrosa Baga (Beiras). Beautifully perfumed, this is full of ripe tannins and generous fruitiness. From a single vineyard with old vines, the wine is structured, dense and so concentrated. It shows how Baga can develop when handled by a master, with its black plum fruits and great future. Drink now, but the wine will continue to develop at least until 2017. Wine In-Motion. —R.V.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$42

90



94 Dr. Loosen 2012 Erdener Treppchen Riesling Auslese (Mosel). Lanolin and honeycomb lend a mineral slick to sweet peach and honey flavors in this lavishly rich Riesling. It's marmalade sweet on the palate, yet brisk in lemon acidity that stretches out the finish. It's delicious now, but those mineral complexities will shine from 2018 on. Loosen Bros. USA. —A.I.
abv: 7.5% **Price:** \$64

91



94 Château La Nerthe 2010 Cuvée des Cadettes (Châteauneuf-du-Pape). La Nerthe's Cuvée des Cadettes shows a bit of oak on the nose in its hints of vanilla and toasted coconut, but also copious amounts of raspberry fruit. It's full bodied and lush, with the fruit gently cosseted by oak, not at all overwhelmed, and the finish is long and plushly textured. While approachable even now, it should be at its best sometime after 2020. Pasternak Wine Imports. —J.C.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$170

92

94 Reuling Vineyard 2012 Chardonnay (Sonoma Coast). This gorgeous rendering comes from the owners of Reuling Vineyard itself, made famous years ago by the likes of Mark Aubert. Here, in winemaker Matt Taylor's hands, the wine recalls orange blossom and steely wet stone. Layers of mid-weight pear and almond paste deliver aching complexity on through the fig-infused finish. This is one to cellar 2019–2024. —V.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$70

93

94 Speri 2010 Vigneto Monte Sant'Urbano (Amarone della Valpolicella Classico). From one of Valpolicella's storied estates, this single-vineyard Amarone combines structure and elegance. It seamlessly weaves together intense sensations of crushed black plum, blackberry, black pepper, cinnamon, tilled earth and leather. Balanced with fresh acidity and velvety tannins, it boasts an extraordinarily smooth texture. Drink 2015–2025. Empson USA Ltd. —K.O.
abv: 15% **Price:** \$86

94

94 Evening Land 2012 Seven Springs Vineyard Summum Chardonnay (Eola-Amity Hills). The Summum block sits at the vineyard's highest elevation, and seems to ripen more slowly and give extra complexity at lower sugar levels. Elegant and refined, with fruit flavors less in your face than its sister cuvées, this mixes citrus flavors of lemon, lime and pink grapefruit, along with lighter suggestions of pineapple and a hint of papaya. It's complex and captivating, with a long, racy finish. —P.G.
abv: 13.1% **Price:** \$90

95

93 Montecastro 2010 Alconte Crianza (Ribera del Duero). Start packing your cellar with 2010 Ribera gems like this wine, which is offering graphite and mineral plum and berry aromas in front of a full-bodied, hard-driving palate. Ripe, extracted blackberry and lightly herbal flavors finish with tons of residual weight and tannins. This is loud, burly and delicious; drink from 2016–2030. Classical Wines. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$30

96

93 Domaine du Pegau 2010 Cuvée Réserve (Châteauneuf-du-Pape). At the moment, the 2010 Réserve is intense but moody, showing a smoky, gamy, feral side. The fruit is subdued but concentrated, picking up multiple earthy, spicy nuances including iodine and licorice. It's a big wine, with chewy tannins that leave the impression of fine suede behind on the long finish. Give it another five years in the cellar. Hand Picked Selections. —J.C.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

97



93 Ken Forrester 2011 The FMC Chenin Blanc (Stellenbosch). This is a rich, well-balanced and layered white, with lots of aging potential. Notes of red apple, peach, melon and orange blossom mingle with spicy accents of toasted brioche, clove and vanilla bean. It's medium weight and crisp in acidity, with a long, evolving finish that ends decadent yet elegant. Drink now–2020. Cape Classics. —L.B.
abv: 14% **Price:** \$65

98

93 Cheval des Andes 2009 Red (Mendoza). Toasty, minty and true to form, this Malbec-Cabernet blend is heady stuff, with hard tannins and plenty of ripeness. Blackberry, coffee, chocolate and herbal flavors are aggressive yet harmonious, while the finish is black and muscular in nature. With such tough tannins, this needs time to settle; best after 2017. Moët Hennessy USA. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$89

99

93 Ata Rangi 2012 Pinot Noir (Martinborough). This looks to be among the best vintages for this wine, or at least it's one of the most flattering to taste young. Stunning floral notes emerge from the glass, wrapped in ripe black-cherry scents. On the palate, it's slightly plummier, but still retains those exciting rose-petal nuances and folds in hints of spice and earth. Despite the evident suppleness, there's a sense of weight and structure that suggests ageability as well. Drink 2015–2022. Epic Wines. —J.C.
abv: 13% **Price:** \$69

100

92 Ochagavia 2011 Raíces Nobles Cabernet Sauvignon (Maipo Valley). Crisp, spicy aromas of red fruits matched against oregano, basil and olive notes give this Cabernet a lot of character and points of interest. The palate is tight and well structured, while dark berry, spice, herb and chocolate flavors flow onto a toasty, minty, warm and tannic finish. This is a bit aggressive now; give it two years and drink through 2019. Santa Carolina. —M.S.
abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$24