

Highlands 41 2020 Black Granite Red **Blend (Paso Robles).** This is a rather meaty, substantial wine for a fair price. Aromas of boysenberry, elderberry, roast beef and violet lead into a thick palate of cassis, more violet and pleasant mocha touches. -M.K.

**abv:** 14.9% **Price:** \$15

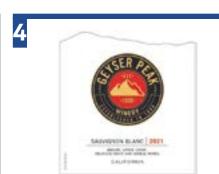


90 Harken 2020 Barrel Fermented Chardonnay (California). This fullbodied wine leads with bold new-oak aromas of grilled bread, wood char and butter, followed by luscious, ripe pear and vanilla flavors accented with toasted almonds. It's an unapologetic, barrelfermented wine that gives a lot of pleasure. —J.G. abv: 14.5%

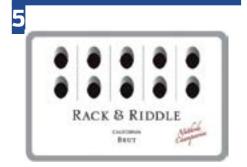


**90** Jean-Luc Colombo 2021 Cape Bleue Rosé (Mediterranée). A blend of 67% Syrah and 33% Mourvèdre sourced from vineyards outside of Marseille, this is a svelte yet juicy wine packed with crisp raspberry, nectarine and apricot flavors. Pale pink and brisk in style, it's a wine to enjoy young alongside spring and summer fare. Taub Family Selections. —A.I.

**Price:** \$15 abv: 12%



**90** Geyser Peak 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). Nicely concentrated mineral, citrus and light herb flavors are energized by good, snappy acidity in this super well-balanced and mouthwatering wine. —J.G. **Price: \$14** 



**92** Rack & Riddle NV Brut Sparkling Blend (California). An attractive, toasty aroma and a good sense of maturity give extra flavor emphasis to this mouthfilling, smooth and wellbalanced wine. Its hints of toasted almond, freshly baked bread and ginger are delicious. -J.G. **Price:** \$15

abv: 12.5%

**90** CVNE 2021 Rosado (Rioja). This deep-hued rosé has a bouquet of green apple and strawberry with a dusting of dried hillside herbs. It is full in the mouth, with flavors of tangerine, lemon sorbet, butterscotch, and sage. Donna White Communications. -M.D. **abv:** 13.5% Price: \$15

**90** Colomé 2021 Torrontés (Salta). This wine shows great varietal typicity with an aromatic nose of geranium flower, white peach and citrus fruit. It has nice acidity with subtle herbaceous notes and green apple, linden tea and stone fruit flavors. It has a bitter pleasant finish. Folio Fine Wine Partners. -J.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$12



8

Yalumba 2021 The Y Series Viognier (South Yalumba 2021 The Y Series Viogniei (2004) Australia). Despite being Yalumba's entrylevel Viognier, this is one of its most delicious white offerings. Highly aromatic, it wafts a perfume of honeysuckle, orchard blossom and fuzzy peach skin. The palate is more viscous than the nose implies, but there's enough acidity to keep it fresh. Peach and lemon flavors linger on the finish. Drink with Thai curry or a similarly bold Southeast Asian dish. Winebow Imports. —C.P.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15



**90** Biutiful NV Brut Nature Sparkling Blend (Cava). With persistent bubbles in the glass and aromas of green pear, hazelnut and almond blossom, this sparkling wine has flavors of Granny Smith apple, baking bread, toasted nuts and jasmine. Bold acidity washes over the side palate and holds on into the finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.

**Price:** \$15



**92** OZV 2020 Old Vine Estate Grown Zinfandel (Lodi). An earthy, doughy aroma shows how fresh this wine is, before revealing layered, indulgent flavors of raspberry syrup, blackberry jam and dark chocolate that coat the mouth. With a full body, smooth texture and lingering finish, it's easy to love. —J.G. abv: 14% Price: \$15



Dark Horse 2021 Pinot Grigio (California). Delicate aromas of Anjou pears and lemon blossoms lead to juicy, crisp and vivid green-apple and lemon-lime flavors in this wellbalanced and refreshing wine. —J.G.

abv: 13% Price: \$8

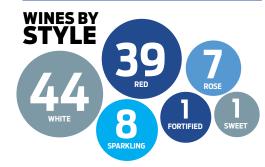




91 19 Crimes 2021 Martha's Chard Chardonnay (California). A deft touch with oak gives this medium- to full-bodied wine a spicy complexity, from a toasted baguette aroma to light butter and ginger flavors over golden apple and Bosc pear flavors. -J.G. **abv:** 13.8%

90 Château de Terrefort-Quancard 2019 Bordeaux-style Red Blend (Bordeaux Supérieur). A complete wine, this offers balanced tannins and smoky dark fruits. Acidity and spice from wood aging add to the complexity and potential. Drink this wine from 2023. Deutsch Family Wine and Spirits. —R.V.

**abv:** 13.5% Price: \$14





**88** Bogle 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). Ripe green apples and a touch of citrus give this medium-bodied wine a good core of fruit flavor, while a tangy balance and smooth texture make it very pleasant to sip. -J.G.

**abv:** 13.5%

**90** Zenato 2021 Red Blend (Bardolino Chiaretto). Red berry, baking spice and floral notes recalling violet waft out of the glass. On the dry, tangy palate, fresh acidity accompanies juicy red cherry, strawberry and white pepper notes. Winebow Imports. -K.O.

**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$15



**88** Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards NV Sweet Riesling (Finger Lakes). Ripe pineapple and mango aromas meld with sunny lemon and iced-tea accents on the nose. It's luscious and juicy on the palate, with loads of creamy tropical fruit flavors met with zesty acidity. This is a tasty sweet Riesling that is easy to sip. —A.P.

**abv:** 11.3% **Price:** \$13

90 Chateau Ste. Michelle 2021 Dry Riesling (Columbia Valley). This wine is consistently one of the best values in the world, and the latest vintage does not disappoint. The aromas enchant, with notes of Nestea Lemon Iced Tea, peach, citrus, lime leaf and honeysuckle. Dry, straight-down-the fairway lime and other citrus flavors follow. The balance is impressive. —S.S. abv: 13% Price: \$9

**90** Golan Heights Winery 2021 Mount Hermon Red Bordeaux-style Red Blend (Galilee). This dark garnet wine has aromas of black cherry, caramel and violet. It is very smooth in the mouth, with velvety tannins, flavors of

juniper and a floral finish. Kosher. Yarden Wines, Inc. -M.D. **abv:** 14% **Price:** \$14

blackberry, raspberry, butterscotch, lavender and



**86** The Beachhouse 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Western Cape). Pungent and fruity from first sniff, this white leads with aromas of mango, peach and melon that are kissed with a spray of lime juice. It's light on the palate, though with a soft impression of fullness thanks to the ripe fruit flavors that carry through to the close. Cape Classics. —L.B.

**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$10





**90** Ryder Estate 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (California). This light, delicate and well-balanced wine offers fresh strawberry and raspberry flavors, a nice touch of crisp acidity and a lingering, fruity finish. —J.G. **abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15

**HOW THE WINES BREAK DOWN** 

ARGENTINA: 7

**abv:** 11.5%

AUSTRALIA: 4 | BULGARIA: 1 | CHILE: 4 | FRANCE: 9



















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Pacific Redwood 2020 Organic Syrah (California). This serious, dark and tannic wine is nevertheless sleek and wellbalanced. It emphasizes blackberry, wood char and 90% cacao flavors, so it's slightly on the grippy, bitter side, but shows how good certified organic wines can be. -J.G.

abv: 14.1% **Price:** \$15



Rui Roboredo Madeira 2019 Castello 93 RUI RODOTEUU MAGEIRA \_\_\_\_\_

This vineyard in Douro Superior has produced fruit for a fine, full-bodied and structured wine. With its black fruits, firm tannins and concentration, the wine will age. Drink from 2024. MS Walker. -R.V.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$14

23



**93** City Limits 2020 Street Art Syrah (Columbia Valley). Appealing aromas of blueberry, blackberry, smoked meat and herb lead to savory and blue fruit flavors. The palate shows intensity, layering and depth, leading to a long, flower-filled finish, bringing some tannic heft. It's hard to believe this much goodness comes in a bottle at this price. —S.S.

**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$15 24

Château de Gaudou 2018 Grande Lignée Malbec-Merlot Malbec-Merlot (Cahors).

Dense with rich tannins, this wine shows off black fruits and a powerful structure. With its concentration and succulent acidity and texture, the wine is set to age further. Drink from 2024. La Ville Imports. —R.V.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price: \$12** 

Robert Mondavi 2021 Private Selection Chardonnay (California). This nicely ripe yet well-balanced wine delivers the classic apples and pears accented by lightly toasted oak, nutmeg and a touch of balsam. It is complex, nicely layered and deftly spiced, especially considering the low price. —J.G.

abv: 13.5% Price: \$11

26



Peirano 2020 The Heritage Collection Cabernet Sauvignon (Lodi). This fullbodied vet well-balanced and smooth-textured wine fills the bill nicely with its concentrated black fruit flavors, mouthfilling body and soothing, velvety tannins. -J.G.

**abv:** 14.8% **Price:** \$15

When & Where 2020 One More Episode Shiraz (Riverland). From the warm, inland Riverland of South Australia, this is a surprisingly fresh tipple. While the cherry, blackcurrant and black-licorice candy notes suggest ripeness, the wine also has lifted acidity and an almost unexpected wallop of sinewy tannins. Dusty red Aussie earth notes add a sense of place while a stripped-back winemaking feel makes this a rustic, crowd pleasing barbecue wine at a weeknight price. Hudson Wine Brokers. -C.P. **Price: \$12** abv: 14%

28



McManis 2021 Certified Sustainable Estate Grown Pinot Noir (Lodi). This warm, generous and rounded wine has a relaxed, broad texture embracing mulled plums, cherries and subtle vanilla and cinnamon notes. Full in body and rather light in tannins, it's easy to drink. —J.G.

abv: 13.5% **Price: \$12** 



DFJ Vinhos 2019 Vega Portuguese Red (Douro). Venturing out of DFJ's usual Lisboa region, this wine from the Douro has plenty of structure and a fine mineral undertone. Thanks to its ripe black fruits, the wine is balanced and ready to enjoy. Multiple U.S. importers. -R.V.

abv: 13% **Price:** \$12

30



Oak Grove 2021 Family Reserve Viognier (California). Generous aromas and flavors of white peaches, fennel bulb slices and a touch of vanilla give this medium-bodied and well-balanced wine plenty to appreciate. —J.G. abv: 13% Price: \$9







**91 Boutinot 2020 Uva Non Grata Gamay (Vin de France).** Perfumed floral aromas, this wine is elegant in the glass. Black currant, blueberries, dried thyme and cassis on the palate; complex with round medium tannins and well balanced acid. Boutinot USA, Inc. —J.T.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15

**32** 

**91** Fiorini 2020 Corte degli Attimi Lambrusco di Sorbara (Lambrusco di Sorbara). Made with organically grown grapes, this lightly hued, polished sparkler opens with delicate aromas of violet, red berries and a hint of bread dough. Elegant and vibrant, the dry palate offers crushed strawberry, pink grapefruit and a hint of saline alongside bright acidity and a refined perlage. de Grazia Imports, LLC. —K.O.

**abv:** 11.5% **Price:** \$15

33

Point Ormond NV White Blend (Victoria). The latest release of this value white blend consists of Roussanne, Marsanne and Chardonnay. It's aromatic and fruity, with fresh tropical fruit, peach and lemon backed by flowers and oyster shells. Like biting into freshly sliced pineapple, the palate is bright, fruity and refreshing, with some subtle skins-y textural components. Little Peacock Imports. —C.P.

**abv:** 12.8% **Price:** \$15

34

Paltrinieri 2020 Piria Lambrusco di Sorbara (Lambrusco di Sorbara). Aromas of violet and strawberry follow over the dry, juicy palate along with raspberry compote and blood orange. Bright acidity keeps it vibrant and refreshing while small, continuous bubbles create a refined perlage. Lyra Wine. —K.O.

**abv:** 11% **Price:** \$15

35

Deltetto 2021 Daivej Arneis (Roero). Delicately scented, this offers aromas suggesting spring blossom and white stone fruit. Made with organic grapes, the linear, savory palate offers juicy white peach, ripe yellow pear and

fennel seed alongside tangy acidity that gives it a clean finish. Tradizione Imports. —K.O.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

36

**91** Wagner 2020 Semi Dry Estate Bottled Riesling (Finger Lakes). Perfumed aromas of lemon thyme, citrus peels, crushed stone and pink grapefruit show incredible lift on the nose. Loads of upfront acidity propel a river of fruit and earth flavors on the semidry palate, with a gentle peach fuzz texture giving it even more appeal. —A.P.

**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$15

**37** 

Prost 2020 Riesling (Rheinhessen). Crisp Asian-pear and yellow-apple flavors abound in this bright-fruited Riesling. There's just a whisper of sweetness here lending richness to a svelte palate framed by streaks of tart tangerine acidity and a lingering crushed-stone finish. A well-priced, elegant wine best enjoyed young. The German Wine Collection. —A.I.

**abv:** 10.5% **Price:** \$14

38



Pacific Rim 2021 Riesling (Columbia Valley). The aromas provide plenty of appeal, with notes lime leaf, herb, peach and jasmine. Off-dry drinking stone fruit flavors follow. There's pleasing acidity throughout.—S.S. aby: 11.5%

Price: \$13

39

**90** Babich 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). Youthful and fruity, this perfumed wine opens with juicy lemon and lime, peach skins and chalky dust, underscored by green herbal notes. The palate is round and lightly creamy with crisp acidity and a lovely herbal and citrus skins quality. MHW, Ltd. —C.P.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$13

40



The Pinot Project 2020 Pinot Noir (California). Beautiful, fresh fruit flavors light up this no-nonsense wine, delivering the varietal's classic red and black cherries, along with light cinnamon nuances and a good, lightly tannic texture. It's easy to quaff and interesting, too. —J.G.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$13

4

**90** Casas del Bosque 2019 Reserva Carmenère (Rapel Valley). Full bodied and balanced, this red opens with aromas of rose petals, plum, and struck match. The palate features concentrated blackberry, plums and meaty flavors with just enough acidity to lift it up. It has supple tannins and a good finish with dark-chocolate notes. Southern Starz, Inc. —J.V.

**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$13

**42** 



**90** Estancia 2020 Merlot (Central Coast). Fresh red fruit and dark wood spice aromas make for a very approachable and familiar nose on this widely available bottling. There's decent heft to the palate, where soft tannins frame flavors of dried meat, dark cherry and leather. —M.K.

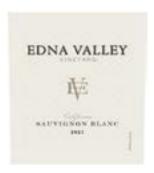
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$13





Castello di Gabbiano 2018 Cavaliere d'Oro Red Blend (Chianti Classico). Aromas of dark-skinned fruit, cedar and underbrush emerge from the glass. The polished, easy-drinking palate offers black plum, star anise and clove alongside smooth tannins. Drink through 2025. Treasury Wine Estates. -K.O.

abv: 14% Price: \$11



Edna Valley Vineyard 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (California). This medium-bodied wine shows the classic snap peas and fresh herbs in the nose, and tangy citrus and green veggie notes on the palate. A savory, brothy expression sets it apart. -J.G.

**abv:** 13% **Price: \$14** 

Sogrape 2020 Silk & Spice Portuguese Red (Portuguese Table Wine). This blend from across regions in Portugal is smooth and ripe, rich in black fruits and made to drink young. It is a fine wine, with black fruit and juiciness. Celebrating the Portuguese explorers of the Indies in the Renaissance, the wine is ready to drink. Evaton, Inc. -R.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price: \$14**  46

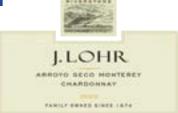


Acrobat 2020 Chardonnay (Oregon). This is an exciting new release from a challenging vintage. It's sharp and crisp, packed with white peach and apple fruit backed by vivid acidity. Fresh and inviting, it's a perfect cold weather aperitif and may well be your go-to white come spring. —P.G.

**abv:** 14.4% **Price: \$14** 

Morandé 2021 Estate Reserve Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Aromatic and intense notes of white grapefruit, guava and a hint of asparagus in the glass of this Sauvignon Blanc sourced from Casablanca. The palate is creamy with rich citrus and exotic fruit flavors blended with subtle chamomile flower notes. It has refreshing acidity and a crisp citrus finish. International Wine And Spirits. —J.V.

abv: 13.5% **Price: \$14** 

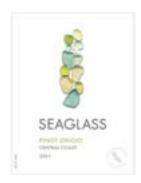


J. Lohr 2020 Riverstone Chardonnay (Arroyo Seco). This widely available wine is worth stocking for midweek enjoyment. Light aromas of lemon, honey, nectarine and crushed white rock lead into a palate of baked apple and lemon juice, all framed by a chalky structure. -M.K.

abv: 14% **Price: \$14** 

Tenuta Rapitata 2020 Fine d'Avola (Sicilia). Made entirely from Tenuta Rapitalà 2020 Alto Reale Nero Nero d'Avola, this opens with black-skinned berries, eucalyptus and culinary spice aromas. The straightforward palate offers dried black cherry, baking spice and cinnamon alongside smooth tannins. Enjoy soon. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. -K.O.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$14 **50** 



SeaGlass 2021 Pinot Grigio (Central Coast). This widely available bottling of a variety that is often made in a watery style is fresh and dynamic on the nose, with grass, lime pith, red apple and rainy cement aromas. There's a stony grip to the sip, where that red apple flavor returns alongside Aisan pear and wet stone. -M.K.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price: \$14** 

Willamette Valley Vineyards 2020 Riesling (Willamette Valley). This medium-sweet wine pays tribute to a style that seems to be vanishing from most serious portfolios in favor of the dry Rieslings that can often be more versatile with food. But in Oregon the natural acidity serves as a counterweight to the sugar, and though this reaches just 8.4% alcohol, it is fruity more than sugary, with plenty of snap and tang in the finish. Golden apples, golden raisins and a dash of molasses set up well against aciddriven flavors of Meyer lemons. —P.G.

**Price:** \$14 abv: 8.4%



Giesen 2021 Sauvignon (Marlborough). Aromas and flavors are subtle and layered, reminiscent of peach skin, lime, grapefruit and jalapeño. There's a roundness to the midpalate and the acidity is bright and well integrated, with the flavors flowing gently through to the finish. Pacific Highway Wines & Spirits. —C.P.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$14

Alta Vista 2021 Vive Malbec (Mendoza).

Blackberry, blueberry, and peppercorn aromas on the nose. Light to medium in weight, the palate offers concentrated black fruit flavors and subtle notes of spices alongside nice acidity. It has a medium fresh finish. It's a great value Malbec. Kobrand. —J.V.

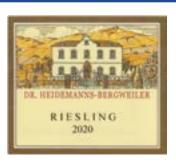
abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$12

54

## Bonny Doon 2021 Vin Gris de Cigare Pink Wine of the Earth Rosé (Central Coast).

Crisp aromas of melon, peach and rose petal are doused in an engaging tinge of fresh lime on the nose of this bottling. The palate is very approachable with ripe peach and melon flavors that aren't shy. -M.K.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15



Dr. Heidemanns-Bergweiler 2020 Riesling (Mosel). Bold streaks of sun-drenched yellow peach and nectarine are accented by hints of saffron and cut stone in this delightfully honeyed white. Semidry in style yet balanced by a piercing spine of acidity, it's a juicy, intensely fruity sip that's immediately welcoming. Miller Squared Inc. —A.I.

abv: 8.5% **Price:** \$13

56

## YEALANDS



Yealands 2021 Sauvignon Blanc Rosé (Marlborough). This ballerina pink rosé is a balanced and refreshing drop that drinks like a straight SB. The varietal vegetal characters are out in full force on the aromatic nose. Summer veg garden notes of green bell pepper and tomato leaf mingle with pink grapefruit, pineapple and passionfruit. The palate is bone dry with zingy

acidity and crunchy green veg and juicy fruit flavors. There's a bit of a sulphuric burn towards the finish, but overall a highly crowd-pleasing drop. Palm Bay International. -C.P.

abv: 13% **Price: \$15** 

57

Finca la Celia 2020 Pioneer Cabernet Franc (Uco Valley). Red berry, spices, and a light note of licorice show in the glass of this medium-bodied wine. Vanilla is nicely blended with bright red fruit flavors and herbaceous notes on the palate. It finishes with rosemary flavors. Apollo Fine Wines & Spirits. —J.V.

abv: 14% Price: \$15

Cono Sur 2021 Bicicleta Reserva 86 Sauvignon Blanc (Central Valley).

Aromas of lime and grass shape the nose. The palate shows herbaceous and mild citrus fruit flavors alongside light acidity. Fetzer Vineyards. —J.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price: \$10** 

Château Roquefort 2021 Bordeaux-style White Blend (Bordeaux Blanc). Perfumed and with fine fruit, the wine is full of baked apple fruitiness. Its rounded spicy aftertaste gives the wine complexity and a fine tangy aftertaste. Drink now. Duclot La Vinicole. —R.V.

abv: 12.5% **Price: \$15** 

60



Fox Run 2020 Semi-Dry Riesling (Seneca Lake). Rounded aromas of yellow apple and white peach meet dried field flowers and sun-baked clay in this semidry Riesling that deftly balanced fruit and earth elements. The palate shows a pleasing textural creaminess that is further filled out by ripe apple and peach flavors, with plenty of fresh acidity to lend ample balance. —A.P.

abv: 11.6% **Price: \$15**  61

## Masia Salat NV BIOL NAME (Cava). Organic Grapes Sparkling Blend (Cava). Masia Salat NV Brut Nature Made With

Pale yellow and with a steady column of tiny bubbles, this wine has a nose of nectarine and pear. Flavors of peach and pineapple are joined by light notes of eucalyptus and nutmeg. There is a touch of pink grapefruit on the finish. Winesellers, Ltd. —M.D.

**abv:** 11.5% **Price:** \$14

Koha 2021 Sauvignon Blanc (Marlborough). This is a bright, zippy and balanced Sauvignon for drinking cold in the height of summer. Passionfruit and lime burst from the glass followed by fresh herbs like fennel fronds and lavender. There's a slipperiness to the palate, the juicy fruit lingering on the finish. Banville Wine Merchants. —C.P.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15

63

Kaiken 2020 Estate Malbec (Mendoza). Blackberry and raspberry aromas are

followed by light notes of espresso and chalk. Medium firm tannins and good acidity on the smooth palate. This is a medium-bodied wine with plenty of strawberry and blackberry flavors and notes of milk chocolate. It finishes with herbal notes. Guarachi Wine Partners. -J.V.

abv: 14% **Price:** \$15



Frisk 2021 Prickly Riesling (Victoria).
This is a straightforward Riesling with a touch of sweetness and, as the name implies, a wee bit of fizz. Honey, petrol, lime leaf and lavender lead on the nose, followed by a palate that is fresh and fruity and falls away quickly. Drink cold with salty cheese. Old Bridge Cellars. -С.Р.

abv: 10% **Price:** \$12

Domaine Saint Andrieu 2021 Oratoire Saint Andrieu Rosé (Coteaux Varois en

**Provence).** Fresh and crisp, this floral wine has bright acidity. The wine's texture is tangy, hinting at spice and lively with tongue-tingling acidity. Drink now. Kindred Vines. -R.V.

**abv:** 13% **Price: \$15** 



Produttori di Manduria 2020 Alice Verdeca (Salento). Ripe aromas of vellow apple, melon and white blossoms mix with a hint of candied banana. It's juicy and gently creamy on the palate, with driven acidity pushing along all the ripe fruit flavors. There's excellent presence and lift to it all. Massanois Imports. —A.P.

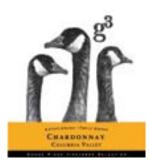
**abv:** 13% **Price: \$15** 



Matchbook 2020 Old Head Estate Bottled Chardonnay (Dunnigan Hills).

This rich and oaky wine offers plenty of butterscotch, ginger and nutmeg flavors on a full body. It's very concentrated in flavor and balanced to the soft side. —J.G.

**abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$15 68



Goose Ridge 2021 g3 Estate Grown Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). The aromas bring notes of cornfield, herb and melon. Rounded, fresh, very varietal flavors follow. It's a Chardonnay prototype at a can't be beat price. -ss

abv: 13.4% **Price: \$15** 

**69** 

La Selva 2020 Bio Red Blend (Morellino di Scansano). Made from organically farmed 90% Sangiovese and 10% Merlot, this features aromas of dark-skinned fruit, underbrush and spice. The lively palate offers blackberry, star anise and black pepper alongside velvety tannins. Enjoy through 2025 to catch the fruit richness. Omniwines Distribution. -K.O. abv: 14%

**Price:** \$15

Precision Wine 2020 Fly By Cabernet Sauvignon (North Coast). Very ripe, very deep and moderately tannic, this potent and fullbodied wine oozes dried cherries, dried plums and black-fig flavors over ample, oaky, vanilla and nutmeg notes. -J.G.

abv: 14.5% **Price: \$15** 

Palacio De Canedo 2020 Agricultura Ecológica Godello (Bierzo). Pale strawcolored in the glass, this wine has aromas of grapefruit and mountainside brush. It feels good in the mouth, with bright flavors of pineapple, grapefruit, lemon zest and thyme. Regal Wine Imports Inc. -M.D.

abv: 14% **Price: \$15** 

Burgozone 2020 Côte du Danube Pinot Noir (Danube Plain). This light cherry red Bulgarian Pinot Noir has aromas of black cherry and red raspberry with top notes of tobacco and saddle leather. It is soft on entry with flavors of cherry vanilla, tobacco leaf and a bright splash of ripe macerated cherries on the finish. Siema LLC. —J.J.

**abv:** 14.5% **Price: \$15**  **73** 



Underground Wine Project 2021 And Why Am I Mr. Pink Rosé (Columbia Valley). Pale peach in color, the aromas offer notes of watermelon, bubble gum, cherry and herb. Fuller flavors follow, with enough acid to stand them up. Light kiwi notes are threaded throughout. It's considerably broader feeling than recent vintages while still delivering balance. -S.S.

abv: 12.5% **Price:** \$15

La Posta 2020 Armando Bonarda (Mendoza). This red opens with vanilla and nutmeg aromas followed by cherry and red plum. The palate shows intense red fruit flavors with a hint of vanilla. It's balanced with good acidity, and finishes with a light note of oak. Vine Connections. —J.V.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

Lovely Creatures 2020 Cabernet Sauvignon (Western Cape). Enticing aromas of ripe red plum, boysenberry and blackberry form the nose of this bright, refreshingly fruit-fueled Cab. It's smooth and satiny on the palate, with more of those ripe and juicy fruit flavors that the nose first offered on display in the mouth that are then picked up by a delicate framework of fine tannins and ample acidity. It's a well-balanced and easy-to-like pour. Drink now. Vine Street Imports. —L.B.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

76



**90** Atrevida 2020 Malbec (Mendoza). Dried herbs, strawberry and raspberry are combined with dark chocolate on the nose. This is a fresh, full-bodied Malbec with smooth tannins, herbaceous notes, plenty of fruit and toasted oak. Good acidity balances the flavors leading to a fresh finish with cherries in the aftertaste. Vino Del Sol. -J.V.

abv: 14% **Price: \$15** 

Mermosa NV Mersecco Blanc de Blancs Sparkling Blend (Oregon). This carbonated, easy-drinking fizz is principally Pinot Gris, with small percentages of Riesling and Chardonnay. Apple and lemon meringue flavors are in play, and it's finished dry, though not searingly so. —P.G.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15

78



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Masottina 2021 Collezione 96 Brut Rosé Sparkling Blend (Prosecco). Lovely aromas of spring wild flower, stone fruit and botanical herb form the enticing nose. On the gently foaming palate, fresh acidity and a polished perlage accompany white peach, ripe pear and strawberry. Tri-Vin Imports. -K.O.

abv: 11% **Price:** \$15

Château Viella 2019 Tradition Tannat-Cabernet Franc (Madiran). This wine comes from an estate owned by the Bortolussi family since the 1950s. The classically rich wine has plenty of the firm Tannat tannins. These are mitigated by perfumed Cabernet Franc to give a ripe, structured wine that will age further. Drink from 2025. Sussex Wine Merchants. -RV

**abv:** 14% **Price: \$15** 

80

Warwick 2019 The First Lady Pinotage (Western Cape). Spiced plum, raspberry and cherry aromas lead the bouquet of this attractive wine, with top notes of earthy, whole baking spice for added interest. It's ripe and fruity on the medium-weight palate, with satiny tannins and a bright snap of red fruit acidity that provide lift and freshness through the close, followed shortly after by just a kiss of cocoa. Elektra Wines LLC. -L.B.

abv: 14% **Price: \$15** 



**Barton & Guestier 2021 Bistro Pinot Noir** (Vin de France). Juicy raspberries and cherries with a touch of spice on the nose of this wine. Ripe cherry, raspberry and cassis bounce off the palate. The acidity is crisp, with medium tannins. Enjoy now. BGPL USA. -J.T.

abv: 12% **Price:** \$13

82

Charles & Charles 2021 Rosé (Columbia Valley). Syrah makes up 44% of this wine, Grenache 25%, Mourvèdre 24% and the rest a splash of Cabernet Sauvignon. It's a very appealing pale copper color with a pink tinge. The aromas are generous, with notes of watermelon, bubble gum and yellow strawberry. A quite light, crisp, flavorful palate follows, with tart acid upping the interest. More please. -S.S.

abv: NA **Price: \$13** 

83

St. Urbans-Hof 2020 Nik Weis Urban Riesling (Mosel). Dusty, salty mineral tones cut through tart, juicy streaks of pink grapefruit and lemon in this easy-drinking wine. Just a shade off dry, it's a bang-for-your buck, elegant wine that's ready to drink. HB Wine Merchants. -A.I. abv: 10% **Price:** \$13

84

Pajzos 2019 T Dry Furmint (Tokaj). Straw colored in the glass, this dry Hungarian Furmint has aromas of guava, pineapple and quince. In the mouth it is well balanced with flavors of lemon pith, lemon curd and white flowers. The finish has gentle florality. VOS Selections. -J.J.

**abv:** 12% **Price: \$13**  85



Line 39 2019 Merlot (California). This concentrated, well-balanced and broadtextured wine wraps light tannins around dark plum, black cherry and light oak spice flavors. A full body and velvety texture make it mouthfilling. —J.G.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$11

86



Cupcake 2020 Chardonnay (Monterey County). Light apple flesh and white melon aromas pick up a toasted almond warmth on the easy nose of this bottling. The palate is very straightforward with honeysuckle and light pear flavors. -M.K.

abv: 14.1% Price: \$11

87



**88** Mezzacorona 2021 Pinot Grigio (Delle Venezie). This bright white opens with aromas of white spring flower and white stone fruit. On the refreshing palate, crisp acidity accompanies Granny Smith apple, tangy saline and a hint of white almond. Prestige Wine Imports. -K.O.

**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$11

**89** Veramonte 2021 Reserva Sauvignon Blanc (Casablanca Valley). Herbs and lime appear on the nose of this fresh and lively white. It's medium bodied with vibrant acidity. Citrus and green flavors are intense leading to a lemony finish. It's great value. Gonzalez Byass USA. —J.V.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$14

89

Santi 2021 Infinito Red Blend (Bardolino Chiaretto). This savory rosato has delicate aromas of wild red berries, Spanish broom and wild herbs. On the bright palate, tangy acidity accompanies red cherry, pomegranate and a hint of white pepper before a juicy finish. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. —K.O.

**abv:** 12% **Price:** \$14

90

Alvarez y Diez 2021 Sotomonte Verdejo (Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y León).

With a fresh nose of grapefruit, lemon and just-mowed grass, this wine dances on the tongue with flavors of toasted pineapple, white peach and white flowers. There is a touch of talc on the finish. Grapes of Spain. —M.D.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$13

91

**90** Château Haut-Théron 2020 Malbec (Cahors). This is a smoky, spicy, wood flavored wine that also has plenty of ripe black fruits. As the wine develops and is smoothed by the wood aging, it will develop richness and a fine concentration. Drink from 2025. Apollo Fine Wines and Spirits. —R.V.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$15

92



Giocato 2020 Pinot Grigio (Goriska Brda). This wine is light straw-colored with aromas of lemon zest and apple blossom. The palate expresses flavors of melon, apple and cantaloupe. August Wine Group. —J.J.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$13

93

Waterbrook 2021 Pinot Gris (Columbia Valley). Generous, very varietal aromas of fresh melon, pear and apple lead to a crisp palate with a lot of fruit flavor. There's much to enjoy. —S.S.

**abv:** 13.2% **Price:** \$11

94

**87** Santa Julia 2021 [+] Malbec (Mendoza). This light to medium-bodied red opens with peppercorn and blackberry aromas. Soft tannins and moderate acidity frame the sweet notes of ripe black fruit flavors on the palate. It finishes short. Winesellers, Ltd. —J.V.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$11

95

**87** Vigneti Zanatta 2020 Salana Cannonau (Cannonau di Sardegna). Aromas of darkskinned fruit, spice and underbrush lead the way. The straightforward palate offers black plum, white pepper and clove alongside pliant tannins. Drink soon. World Wide Cellars. —K.O.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$11

96



**86** Los Monteros NV Brut Método Tradicional Sparkling Blend (Cava). This brut Cava offers a standard mouthfeel and solid overall balance. Yeast, apple and green melon flavors finish with a creamy note of cultured butter. Cream Wine Company. —M.S.

**abv:** 11.5% **Price:** \$10

97

Sokol Blosser 2020 Evolution Pinot Noir (Oregon). In an eco-friendly box wine format that holds the equivalent of two regular bottles, this brings the price down to about as low as you will find for any vintage-dated Oregon Pinot Noir. The quality is exceptional given the cost and the troubled vintage. It tastes like true, unadorned Oregon Pinot, with tart berries, cranberries and cherries. The tannins are ripe and balanced, and the finish clean and persistent. —P.G.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$28/1.5 L

98



87 Bota Box NV Old Vine Zinfandel (California). Good, direct berry flavors and a medium to full body make this a hearty, fruity wine. Blackberries, black grapes and light baking spices make a pleasant combination. —J.G.

**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$23/3 L

99

Valdecuevas 2021 Flor Innnata Verdejo (Rueda). Medium straw to the eye, this wine has aromas of grapefruit and cut grass. Flavors of apple, peach, vanilla and toast wind down to a soft floral finish. Toros & Vinos LLC.—M.D.

**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$8

100



Leonard Kreusch 2020 Liebfraumilch White Blend (Rheinhessen).
Soapy green-floral aromas and ripe white peach and lemon flavors mark this blend of Müller‐Thurgau, Silvaner, Riesling, Scheurebe and Ortega grapes. It's an uncomplicated, fleshy wine that unabashedly fruity and primary but balanced by bright tangerine acidity and a touch of nuttiness on the finish. Best enjoyed young. Leonard Kreusch, Inc. —A.I.

abv: 10%

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