

FAMIGLIACECCHI

Wine Spectator

WINE SPECTATOR – 15 FEBBRAIO 2019



SAVVY SHOPPER

Budget Bordeaux

Bordeaux's 2016 reds offer a lot to be excited about. These superb wines feature ripe fruit and vibrant structure, and because quality was widespread, there are many fine values. Here are some of the highlights.

CHÂTEAU D'AIGUILHE Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2016 (92, \$28) Loganberry, black currant, bay leaf, tobacco, violet; fleshy, juicy

CLOS MARSALETTE Pessac-Léognan 2016 (92, \$26) Elegant, silky; red currant, plum, cedar, tobacco, herb, sanguine, iron

CHÂTEAU LARRIVAUX Haut-Médoc 2016 (91, \$18) Plum, red currant, blackberry compote, licorice snap, bramble, tobacco; fresh, focused

CHÂTEAU LILIAN LADOUYS St.-Estèphe 2016 (91, \$22) Cassis, plum paste, cherry preserves, floral, mineral, toast

CHÂTEAU MALESCASSE Haut-Médoc 2016 (91, \$18) Dark currant, blackberry compote, tobacco, charcoal, earth; solid

CHÂTEAU MARSAU Francs Côtes de Bordeaux 2016 (91, \$21) Racy; black currant, blackberry confiture, anise, chalk

CHÂTEAU LA VIEILLE CURE Fronsac 2016 (91, \$21) Warm fruitcake, ripe plum, boysenberry preserves, toast; ripe, flattering

CHÂTEAU BELLE-VUE Haut-Médoc 2016 (90, \$23) Dark, juicy; steeped currant, blackberry fruit, ganache, tobacco

CHÂTEAU CAP DE FAUGÈRES Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2016 (90, \$17) Loganberry, red currant coulis, tobacco, iron; racy

CHÂTEAU PUYGUERAUD Francs Côtes de Bordeaux 2016 (90, \$17) Mouthwatering, savory; red currant, damson plum, tobacco

Italy 101

The following producers are probably familiar to many wine lovers, most likely for their high-end bottlings. Yet this group of entry-level reds, carrying much lower price tags, are all crafted with the same care. They provide the perfect introduction to Italy.

FRATELLI REVELLO Barbera d'Alba 2017 (92, \$20) Dense, fluid; blackberry, black cherry

PAOLO SCAVINO Vino da Tavola-Piedmont Red NV (92, \$15) Black currant, violet, rosemary; elegant, succulent

AZELIA Nebbiolo Langhe 2015 (91, \$23) Rich, sinewy; cherry, plum, licorice, earth, chalk, stone

BRANCAIA Toscana Tre 2016 (91, \$23) Black cherry, iron, earth, tobacco, coffee; dense

CORDERO DI MONTEZEMOLO Barbera d'Alba 2017 (91, \$24) Round, supple; black currant, blackberry, violet, earth

CECCHI Sangiovese Toscana 2016 (90, \$13) Round, juicy, firm; cherry, plum, earth, iron

The Americas

These New World reds deliver a lot of bang for the buck. All of them are signature varieties from their regions, with the exception of the Sparkman, which is an eclectic blend of Syrah, Tempranillo, Grenache, Petite Sirah, Souzao and Touriga Nacional.

ALEXANDRIA NICOLE Syrah Horse Heaven Hills Jet Black Destiny Ridge Vineyard 2016 (93, \$28) Refined, focused; huckleberry, bay leaf, pepper

ANKO Malbec Salta 2017 (92, \$20) Dark plum, boysenberry, macerated cherry, mineral; pure

SPARKMAN Wilderness Columbia Valley 2015 (92, \$25) Currant, licorice, tar, espresso, pepper; balanced, focused, polished

BODEGA GARZÓN Tannat Uruguay Reserve 2017 (91, \$20) Raspberry, red plum, pepper, slate, mineral; juicy, crunchy

BROOKS Pinot Noir Willamette Valley Runaway Red 2017 (90, \$23) Plump, vibrant; raspberry, spiced cinnamon

White Light

From the heart of Europe to the far reaches of the Southern Hemisphere, these expressive whites are sure to relieve the winter blues.

GREYWACKE Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2018 (92, \$23) Pineapple, mango, orange zest, green apple peel; vibrant

NIGL Grüner Veltliner Niederösterreich Freiheit 2017 (92, \$20) Exuberant, savory; peach, tarragon, cardamom, mineral

BERNHARD OTT Niederösterreich Am Berg 2017 (92, \$21) Peach, pineapple, lily, rose, vanilla, coconut; firm, dense

HIEDLER Grüner Veltliner Niederösterreich Löss 2017 (91, \$18) Peach, tobacco; tight, dense

NOCTON Chardonnay Tasmania 2018 (91, \$25) Crisp, succulent; honey, melon, floral, passion fruit

LA TUNELLA Sauvignon Friuli Colli Orientali 2017 (91, \$22) White peach, pink grapefruit pâte de fruit, tarragon, mineral; lively

AUGUST KESSELER Riesling Kabinett Pfalz R 2016 (90, \$19) Harmonious, expressive; mirabelle plum, smoke, vanilla

KONO Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2018 (90, \$14) Key lime, lemon sherbet, lemon verbena; intense, focused

—Bruce Sanderson



VOLVER Alicante Tarima Hill Old Vines 2016 (91, \$17) **SMART BUY** Intense, expressive; cassis, blueberry, cola, cocoa, licorice

SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED



97 MOCCAGATTA Barbaresco Bric Balin 2015 **\$62 ITALY** This red features an intense display of cherry, kirsch, rose, sandalwood and spice aromas and flavors, all matched to a firm, racy structure.

COLLECTIBLE



98 CHÂTEAU LÉOVILLE LAS CASES St.-Julien 2016 **\$291 FRANCE** This is really dense, yet remarkably polished and poised, delivering wave after wave of blueberry, açai berry, raspberry and blackberry puree flavors. Truly unique.

SMART BUY



90 SCHLOSS GOBELSBURG Grüner Veltliner Kamptal Schlosskellerei 2017 **\$16 AUSTRIA** A jolt of electricity from the acidity fuels the peach, white raspberry and ground ginger notes in this white, with a pure-tasting finish.

BEST VALUE



88 CLINE Zinfandel Lodi Old Vine 2017 **\$11 CALIFORNIA** Plump, with up-front fruit, this Zin offers appealing raspberry and licorice flavors.

IN THIS ISSUE'S BUYING GUIDE

You'll find **121 classic wines** and more than **450 outstanding wines** from among reviews of nearly **675 new releases**. Tasting notes and scores for those wines, along with **hundreds of additional wines** reviewed since our last issue, can be found at WineSpectator.com using the Wine Ratings search, a members-only service.

FAMIGLIA CECCHI

Wine Spectator **Buying Guide**

90 **Cecchi Sangiovese Toscana 2016 \$13** Round and juicy, boasting cherry, plum, earth and iron flavors. Finishes firm and lean, with balance overall. Fine length. Best from 2020 through 2028. 7,000 cases made.—B.S.