



WINE SPECTATOR'S Advance

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE BUYING GUIDE FOR THE **JUNE 15, 2015** ISSUE,
FEATURING ALL OF THE SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

Wine Spectator's June 15 wine country travel issue features Napa Valley. Whether you're looking for luxury, adventure or discovery, our guide to this premier region provides everything you need for a perfect getaway. Plus, don't miss our tasting reports on South Africa and U.S. sparkling wine.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

- 96 REYNVAAN** Syrah Walla Walla Valley In The Hills Foothills In The Sun Vineyard 2012 • \$60
Plush and expressive, dripping with blueberry, plum and cream flavors, this features a savory aromatic note of river rock and white pepper on the long, seamless finish. Not a huge wine, but fleshy and seductive. A subtle hit of mineral wakes things up on the coda. Drink now through 2022. 260 cases made.—*H.S.*
- 96 SHIBUMI KNOLL** Chardonnay Russian River Valley Buena Tierra Vineyard 2012 • \$70
A dazzling effort, with striking purity, richness and focus, featuring a plump, silky texture that oozes with fresh fruit aromas and a deep core of rich pear, fig, honeydew melon and spice notes, ending with a burst of lip-smacking butterscotch hints. Drink now through 2021. 325 cases made.—*J.L.*
- 95 DEHLINGER** Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Goldridge Old Vines 2012 • \$65
Beautifully crafted, combining dark, rich berry notes with firm structure, acidity and tannins. The harmony and interplay of each element makes this sing, with the tiers of blackberry, huckleberry, boysenberry and spice lingering through the finish. Drink now through 2024. 160 cases made.—*J.L.*
- 95 MASI** Amarone della Valpolicella Classico Serègo Alighieri Vaio Armaron 2008 • \$85
An elegant, impeccably balanced red, layering sculpted tannins with finely knit flavors of plumped black cherry, plum sauce, cured tobacco, dark chocolate and woody spice. A rich vein of smoky minerality sings on the lasting finish. Drink now through 2035. 4,000 cases made.—*A.N.*
- 94 LOUIS LATOUR** Gevrey-Chambertin 2012 • \$80
Opulent and dense, delivering black cherry, raspberry and earth aromas and flavors. The tannins sneak up, exerting considerable grip on the finish. Fresh, long and concentrated. Best from 2020 through 2036. 1,615 cases made.—*B.S.*
- 93 PYRAMID VALLEY** Pinot Noir Marlborough Growers Collection
Cowley Family Vineyard 2010 • \$35
Creamy, supple-textured and bursting with fresh red raspberry, cranberry, white pepper, spicy tobacco and fresh herbal notes of thyme and clary sage. Vibrant acidity keeps the flavors fresh and bright, coupling power and elegance. Drink now through 2025. 1,060 cases made.—*M.W.*
- 92 ROBERT OATLEY** Chardonnay Margaret River Finisterre 2013 • \$33
Fresh and vital, with tangy, citrusy acidity set against pineapple-accented pear flavors, lingering effortlessly on the open-weave finish. Drink now through 2020. 900 cases made.—*H.S.*

COLLECTIBLES

- 96 CLAUDE DUGAT** Gevrey-Chambertin Lavaux St.-Jacques 2012 • \$299
This concentrated red offers effusive cherry, raspberry and spice aromas and flavors, with hints of licorice, graphite and floral. Very pure and balanced, with a long aftertaste of cherry, sandalwood and mineral. The finish goes on and on. Best from 2020 through 2036. 25 cases imported.—*B.S.*
- 94 LOUIS LATOUR** Chambertin Cuvée Héritiers Latour 2012 • \$310
An intense, mineral style, lean and racy, with cherry, raspberry, tobacco and kirsch flavors. Saturated, tannic and balanced, with a long, palate-staining finish. Best from 2020 through 2035. 95 cases made.—*B.S.*

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SMART BUYS

- 92 BODEGAS GODEVAL** Valdeorras Viña Godeval Cepas Vellas 2013 • \$20
This alluring white delivers a broad range of flavors in a pillowy texture, while crisp, well-integrated acidity maintains the focus. Melon, coconut, spice and smoke flavors mingle harmoniously on the plush palate. The mineral element is fresh and long. Godello. Drink now through 2018. 1,800 cases imported.—*T.M.*
- 91 DESCENDIENTES DE J. PALACIOS** Bierzo Pétalos 2013 • \$23
Expressive flavors of black cherry, currant, licorice, mineral and smoke mingle in this focused red. The texture is gentle but firm, with well-integrated tannins and racy acidity providing structure. A compact wine that shows good intensity. Drink now through 2023. 30,000 cases made.—*T.M.*
- 90 ALLRAM** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Strassertaler 2013 • \$25
Focused and fresh lemon meringue and Key lime pie flavors define this bright, juicy style. Presents a minerally midpalate, with gooseberry notes that linger on the finish. Drink now. 10,000 cases made.—*K.M.*
- 90 CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE-DR. LOOSEN** Riesling Columbia Valley Eroica 2013 • \$20
Bright and generous, with hints of apricot and peach adding depth to the pear and mineral flavors, lingering easily on the light frame and lively, off-dry finish. Drink now through 2018. 31,000 cases made.—*H.S.*
- 90 COLUMBIA** Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley 2013 • \$16
Dense and focused, playing the coffee and mineral-accented blackberry flavors against a blanket of fine tannins, coming together smoothly on the purposeful finish. Best from 2016 through 2019. 105,000 cases made.—*H.S.*
- 90 KILLIBINBIN** Cabernet Sauvignon Langhorne Creek Seduction 2013 • \$15
Rich and ripe, with generous flavors of blackberry, plum, tar and spice that glide seamlessly through the polished finish, lingering impressively. Drink now through 2017. 1,000 cases imported.—*H.S.*
- 90 UNIÓN DE COSECHEROS DE LABASTIDA** Tempranillo Rioja Tierra Crianza 2011 • \$23
A gentle texture masks good density in this smooth red. Black cherry, graphite, fresh herb and mineral flavors mingle nicely, with well-integrated tannins and balsamic acidity lending a balanced structure. Not showy, but harmonious. Drink now through 2025. 2,000 cases imported.—*T.M.*
- 90 PURPLE STAR** Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley 2012 • \$18
Supple, lithe and generous, with raspberry, guava and grapefruit flavors that meld seamlessly with the polished tannins and lacy acidity, lifting the finish. This has presence and distinction. Drink now through 2020. 1,700 cases made.—*H.S.*
- 90 BODEGAS EPIFANIO RIVERA** Ribera del Duero Erial 2012 • \$24
This graceful red offers black cherry and cranberry flavors, with appealing floral, graphite and leafy notes. The texture is fleshy but fresh, the wine harmonious and long. This emphasizes expressiveness over structure. Drink now through 2020. 3,000 cases imported.—*T.M.*
- 90 ST. HALLETT** Shiraz Barossa Faith 2013 • \$16
Lithe, focused and juicy, with red berry, cherry, tar and gingerbread spice flavors that push through a layer of fine tannins into the long, expressive finish. Best after 2016. 5,000 cases imported.—*H.S.*

BEST VALUES

- 89 CÀNTELE** Salice Salentino Riserva 2011 • \$15
Juicy flavors of ripe wild strawberry and red licorice mark the start to this light- to medium-bodied red, with supple tannins lending some structure and weight. Savory accents of *garrigue*, loamy earth and star anise echo on the finish. Drink now through 2025. 20,833 cases made.—*A.N.*

Initials at the end of each tasting note indicate the *Wine Spectator* editor who blind-tasted and scored the wine and wrote the review. The tasters are as follows: James Laube (*J.L.*); Kim Marcus (*K.M.*); Thomas Matthews (*T.M.*); James Molesworth (*J.M.*); Bruce Sanderson (*B.S.*); Harvey Steiman (*H.S.*); Tim Fish (*T.F.*); Alison Napjus (*A.N.*); MaryAnn Worobiec (*M.W.*).

BEST VALUES (continued)

88 **FOUR VINES** Chardonnay Santa Barbara County Naked Unoaked 2013 • \$12
Offers a mix of citrus-infused green apple, pineapple and mango notes, presented in a fresh, snappy style, with flavors that linger on the finish. Drink now through 2019. 50,000 cases made.—*J.L.*

85 **JACOB'S CREEK** Chardonnay South Eastern Australia Classic 2014 • \$8
Light and refreshing, with appealing apricot-scented apple and spice flavors. Drink now. 25,000 cases imported.—*H.S.*

85 **OXFORD LANDING** Chardonnay South Australia 2014 • \$9
Light and lively, with peppery accents to the pear and citrus flavors. Drink now. 10,000 cases imported.—*H.S.*

ABOUT THE SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

Highly Recommended: The issue's most impressive wines. Includes top-scorers and wines that represent optimal purchases based on their combination of score, price and availability.

Collectibles: Wines that will improve most from additional bottle age and that show the greatest potential to gain in value.

Smart Buys: Wines that deliver fine character at affordable prices and that are broadly available.

Best Values: Wines with solid scores, modest prices and wide distribution.

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