

CULTIVATING A WINE COLLECTION TO CONNECT TERROIR, PEOPLE, FOOD AND CULTURE

Now in our eigth year, Artisan's Cellar has cultivated a portfolio distributing wines selected by seven importers, our own hand-picked direct imports, and wine in other formats.

Our Italian selections, driven by tradition and the relationship between food and wine, have grown to represent nearly all of the country's 20 regions. We've stepped outside of Italy and into France to further our collection from winemakers farming with respect to soil life and the environment, producing wines without additives or unnecessary manipulation that focus on terroir and digestibility. As we grow, we are continuing down this path into other regions including Spain, Slovenia, Croatia, and the United States.

We built a new building, expanded our staff, and launched the largest keg filling operation in the eastern United States in 2014. We're grateful for the interest and enthusiasm you have for the wines in our portfolio. We pledge our continuous effort toward being your reliable source to hear and learn about, taste, and enjoy both old favorites and many more new wine offerings to come.

Scott Braunschweig Founder

Scott Braunschweig



ITALY - SPARKLING WINES

ABRUZZO

Cantina Frentana Cococciola Spumante Brut IGT, 2015

100% Cococciola; This rare, indigenous Abruzzese grape variety is hand-harvested, soft-pressed, and undergoes both fermentations in stainless steel. The result is a fresh, vibrant, sparkling wine with notes of flowers, citrus, and almond.

LOMBARDY

Arcari e Danesi Dosaggio Zero Franciacorta DOCG, NV

100% Chardonnay; Taut, with green apple, a smoky slate-like minerality, and a long finish flecked with un-sweet honey notes. A very complex bottling that remains wonderfully drinkable.

SoloUva Franciacorta DOCG, NV Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Chardonnay; An underappreciated technique is employed here, which leverages the must itself for the second fermentation with no sugars added. The result in this particular bottling is lots of lemon anchored by a hint of fresh-baked bread and a slight seasoning of minerals on the edges.

VENETO

Ca' dei Zago Col Fondo Prosecco di Valdobbiadene DOC, 2014

Glera with small amounts of Verdiso, Perera, & Bianchetta; Biodynamically farmed; Hand-harvested, gravity-pressed, and fermented in concrete tanks for 10 - 20 days. The final 1% of fermentation is finished in the bottle, in the style of a methode ancestrale sparkling wine. A uniquely rich, layered wine showing stone fruit, flower, and citrus notes.

Vignale di Cecilia Vino Bianco Frizzante Val di Spin, NV

40% Garganega, 30% Glera, & 30% Pinella; The earth-driven, mushroom-kissed nose here turns to a lovely, lively palate electrified by lemon, lime, and a bit of lemongrass before turning more savory again on the finish. Layered and complex.

Vignale di Cecilia Prosecco Veneto DOC, NV

100% Glera; This 100% Glera is set apart from so many other Prosecco bottlings by the clay soils of its origins and the natural-yeast fermentation that ties it far more firmly to the terroir than others. The result is a lower-alcohol, small-production gem electric with fresh fruit boosted by acidity that calls out for being opened at the table, alongside seafood or even lighter meats with cream sauces.

Villa degli Olmi Prosecco, NV

100% Glera; The perfect aperitif! Pale yellow in color and made by natural fermentation, this great-valued Prosecco has a beautifully fresh bouquet of canteloupe and floral tones. Typical Glera personality on the palate with hints of pear and almonds.

ITALY - WHITE WINES

ABRUZZO

Cantina Frentana Terre Valse Trebbiano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2016

100% Trebbiano; Hand-harvested and fermented in stainless steel tanks, followed by in-bottle refinement, this tropical, beautifully structured Trebbiano zips along on a seam of acidity, and is supremely food-friendly at the table.

Cantina Frentana Terre Valse Terre di Chieti Pinot Grigio IGT, 2014

100% Pinot Grigio; Hand-harvested, fermented in temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks and rested for two months in the bottle before release, this Pinot Grigio is exactly the sort of wine that will make consumers reconsider everything they think they know about the grape variety. Walnut, honey, and fruit combine to create a wine of subtlety and complexity.

Cantina Frentana Costa del Mulino Cococciola Abruzzo DOC, 2016

100% Cococciola; Fermented in temperature-controlled stainless tanks with additional bottle aging, this complex wine boasts rich fruit, spice, and floral notes. For fans of expressive yet under-appreciated grape varieties, this is a phenomenal bottling, and brilliantly priced, too.

Cantina Frentana Costa del Mulino Pecorino Abruzzo DOC. 2014

100% Pecorino; Aged 5-6 months in stainless tanks with additional bottle aging; Straw color yellow fruit, sage, and wildflower aromas; fresh, rich taste with complex fruity structure.

Cantina Frentana Organic Pecorino Terre di Chieti IGT, 2014

100% Pecorino; Certified Organic; Hand-harvested Pecorino grapes remain on the skins for one day before being soft-pressed and then fermented in stainless steel. The result is a straw-colored wine bursting with citrus, wildflower, and loads of personality.

ALTO ADIGE

Casata Monfort Blanc de Sers IGT, 2010 limited

25% Vanderbara, 25% Vernaza, 25% Veltliner Rosso, & 25% Nosiola; An unusual, deeply exciting blend of local grape varieties is cold-soaked prior to pressing, which releases extra aromatics into the must. 65% of it is then fermented in stainless steel, while the remaining 35% is fermented over the course of the following 7 months in old barriques. The two components are then blended, bottled, and allowed to rest, creating a stunning wine shimmering with citrus and sage.

CAMPANIA

Masseria Frattasi Falanghina Taburno DOC, 2016

100% Falanghina; Grown according to traditional methods popular in during the middle ages. Berries from 45-year-old Falanghina vines are soft-pressed, fermented, undergo partial malo, and age in steel for three months prior to bottling. The resulting wine is straw yellow, with ripe pear, jasmine, and minerality. Full-bodied and generous.

San Giovanni Paestum IGT, 2015

85% Fiano, 10% Trebbiano, & 5% Greco; The vines for this wine mature in full view of the water, whose saline fingerprint is felt with each sip, as are subtle flowers and white orchard fruit, all of it concentrated and impeccably balanced.

EMILIA-ROMAGNA

La Collina Lunaris Secco Malvasia dell'Emilia IGT, NV

100% Malvasia di Candia Aromatica; Certified Biodynamic; At only 11% alcohol, and with a delicate yet persistence perlage, this unique, unexpected gem works perfectly as either an aperitif or alongside a wide range of foods, from sushi to charcuterie and beyond. Candied fruit, citrus, nut, and flower notes whisper through this exciting sparkler with a hint of sweetness on the mid-palate, and a finish as dry and bracing as you'd hope.

Poderi dal Nespoli Pagadebit DOC, 2016

90% Bombino Bianco & 10% Sauvignon Blanc; Based on a white grape variety more typically associated with Puglia than Emilia-Romagna, this crisp, refreshing wine is nonetheless a winner, with a floral and citrus character that allows it to work well alongside a variety of dishes. That, combined with its BTG pricing, make it particularly well-suited to adventurous wine lists.

LIGURIA

Il Monticello Vermentino Colli di Luna DOC, 2015

100% Vermentino; Bright enough to be served right from the fridge yet with enough underlying depth to show its more savory side closer to cellar temperature, this remarkable Vermentino weaves a stunning path through autumn orchard fruit and lemony notes, and a slight herbal character. The sort of bottle that empties with surprising speed once it's uncorked.

MARCHE

Fattoria San Lorenzo II Casolare Bianco Marche IGT, 2016

100% Verdicchio; Fermented with native yeast in concrete and then aged for three months on the lees, this is a wine that embodies that most rare of qualities: Deep character and BTG pricing. Light straw-yellow with greenish reflections, with notes of flowers, exotic fruit, and almond, this white works with a wide range of dishes, in particular simple pastas and white-meat preparations. It's also delicious on its own, as a refreshing aperitif.

Fattoria San Lorenzo Verdicchio Classico Vigna di Gino DOC, 2016 Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Verdicchio; More terroir-driven, and with slightly higher alcohol than its "Casolare Bianco" cousin, this Verdicchio is vinified and aged in concrete, and benefits from six months on the lees prior to bottling. It shows assertive minerality, almost flinty and saline in nature, and a texture that makes it wonderfully drinkable.

Fattoria San Lorenzo Verdicchio Classico Superiore Vigneto delle Oche DOC, 2015 Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Verdicchio; Named in honor of the geese ("oche") that eat the grass and weeds between the vines, this stunning single-vineyard Verdicchio embodies everything that makes the variety such an important one in Le Marche. With its almost oil-like texture and notes of nut, flowers, flint, and zippy acidity, this white is as versatile as it is pleasurable.

PIEDMONT

Le Cantine di Indie Vino del Popolo Bianco IGT, 2014

100% Cortese; Fermented with natural yeast in stainless steel; White orchard fruit and springtime flowers inform this silky, downright gulpable BTG-priced beauty.

Terre di Maté Regaldina Gavi di Gavi DOCG, 2014

100% Cortese; Certified Organic; This is an expression of Cortese that is seldom seen, a fascinating bottling born of a clay-based vineyard planted in 1990. Fermented and aged in stainless steel; Aromas of pastry dough and lemon confiture burst through this well-spiced, yellow-apple, and lemon-blossom-flavored Gavi.

Terre di Maté Maté Vino Bianco, 2014

100% Cortese; Certified Organic, With no added sulfites, this bottling boasts assertive acidity and a long finish, which allows the yellow apple, white licorice, and tarragon of the mid-palate to linger luxuriously.

SARDINIA

Tenute Soletta Sardo Vermentino DOC, 2016

100% Vermentino; Transporting aromas of honeysuckle and jasmine presage a palate with ample acid structure framing honeysuckle, hyacinth, orange blossom, and minerality. The combination of generous aromatic complexity and food-friendly structure is miraculous.

SICILY

Tenuta La Favola Bianco della Tenuta, Sicilia IGP, 2015

60% Grillo & 40% Catarratto; Like Sicily in a glass, this blend of Grillo and Cataratto, fermented with natural yeast in stainless steel, is vibrant, shimmering with lemon and other citrus fruit and anchored by a background herbal note that calls out for food.

Marabino Muscatedda Moscato di Noto DOC, 2015

100% Moscato di Noto; Hailing from Southeast Sicily, this is Moscato done in a style that few people are familiar with. Fermented dry, it still showcases the honey and stone fruit notes typical of the variety, but without the added layer of sweetness obscuring their fullest expression.

Marabino Èureka Chardonnay Siciliane Bianco IGT, 2014

100% Chardonnay; Certified Biodynamic; This Chardonnay, harvested from a 3.5-acre plot, is fermented on its skins for greater aromatic complexity and texture, and boasts yellow fruit, a floral note, and distinct minerality.

TUSCANY

Capannelle Chardonnay IGT, 2012

100% Chardonnay; Hand-harvested Chardonnay, aged in new Allier barriques (70%) and stainless steel (30%) for eight months. This Tuscan beauty is proof that the totemic region is capable of producing world-class white wines, too. Dry, persistent, and well-centered, with citrus, pear, toast, and a flint-like minerality.

VENETO

Badissa Pinot Grigio delle Venezie IGT, 2016

100% Pinot Grigio; Pinot Grigio has come a long way in recent years, and this BTG-priced gem is proof. Boasting plenty of citrus fruit and apple, and zipped through with minerality to spare, Badissa's 2015 is fantastic with a range of foods or simply on its own.

Mom's Pinot Grigio delle Venezie IGT, 2015

100% Pinot Grigio; Fresh, vivacious, and bursting with citrus and mineral, this is the Pinot Grigio that could convince the remaining naysayers that the great grape variety is capable of far more than innocuous, forgettable juice. This is a winner, and incredibly easy to drink multiple glasses of it.

Vignale di Cecilia Benavides IGT, 2013

50% Garganega & 50% Moscato; A likely unfamiliar blend of Garganega and Moscato, this one is aromatic with the former and minerally and citric from the latter. Fascinating and deeply rewarding.

ITALY - ROSÉ WINES

ABRUZZO

Cantina Frentana Terre Valse Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Cerasuolo DOC, 2016

100% Montepulciano; Showing off the exciting side of Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, this detailed red benefits from a notably soft pressing, a 24-hour soak on the skins, and a two-week fermentation. The result is a food-friendly red that is just as lovely on its own, with aromas of red berry fruit and wildflowers, and flavors of bright wild berries.

Cirelli Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo Rosé Montepulciano DOC, 2016

100% Montepulciano; Certified Organic; Grapes were hand-harvested into baskets and immediately destemmed and crushed. Skin contact maceration, pressed, and fermented. 3 months of aging in stainless steel vat. Unfined, unfiltered, with 90 mg/l of sulfur at bottling.

SICILY

Tornatore Rosato Nerello Mascalese Etna DOC, 2016

100% Nerello Mascalese; There is a wild edge to the brambly berry fruit here, which is lent further complexity with herbs, minerality, and, on the finish, a hint of dried lavender. Concentrated and serious.

VENETO

Cantina di Negrar Chiaretto Rosé Blend Bardolino DOC, 2015

65% Corvina, 30% Rondinella, & 5% Molinara; Hand-harvested; Captivating, concentrated red-berry fruit finds its counterpart in flowers and an ideal hint of mineral, while an acid-zipped structure keeps it all fresh—perfect for light summertime dishes at dinner...or lunch, for that matter.

ITALY - RED WINES

ABRUZZO

Cantina Frentana Terre Valse Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2015

100% Montepulciano; Aged for a year in stainless steel, followed by a year in bottle prior to release, this astoundingly priced wine speaks of ripe cherry and bread crust, all of it framed by beautiful tannins and enlivened with well-balanced acidity.

Cantina Frentana Organic Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2014

100% Montepulciano; Certified Organic; Delicate pressing of stunning organic fruit has resulted in an intensely flavored red with excellent tannic structure, a vivid expression of maraschino cherries, and a long finish.

Cantina Frentana Rubesto Riserva Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2013

100% Montepulciano; After 20 days of maceration, these hand-selected and late-harvested grapes spend a full year in French oak barrels, followed by additional time in bottle prior to release. After all of that, the wine in the glass is a deep ruby color, with plenty of red fruit, vanilla, and spice, all carried on a seriously structured frame. Great for the cellar, or to enjoy now after a short stint in the decanter.

Cantina Frentana Panarda Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2011

100% Montepulciano; Everything about this wine's production is done to enhance the final product: Late-harvested grapes are hand-selected from old vines, given a prolonged maceration, and then aged for 18 months in small oak barrels. The result is a deeply beautiful wine with aromas of spice, wood, violets, and flavors of ripe red fruit.

Cirelli Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOC, 2015

100% Montepulciano; Certified Organic; Hand-harvested, fermented in amphora, and then sent for a six-month stint in stainless steel, this is as honest a Montepulciano d'Abruzzo as you'll find, with cherry and red-berry fruit to spare, all of it carried on a texture impeccably balanced between acid and tannin.

ALTO ADIGE

Loacker Morit Saint Magdalener Classico DOC, 2011 limited

90% Schiava & 10% Lagrein; Biodynamically farmed; Schiava and Lagrein are co-fermented with natural yeast in steel and large old barrels, and then benefit from additional bottle-aging prior to being released. The finished product is light in color with bright fruit and spice, as well as subtle hints of smoke on the finish. Supremely food-friendly.

BASILICATA

De Leonardis Piano del Moro Aglianico del Vulture DOC, 2013

100% Aglianico; Biodynamically farmed; The De Leonardis brothers, Carmine and Michele, estate is located in the heart of the Vulture Valley at the foot of Mount Vulture, the area often referred to as the cradle of the Aglianico grape. The grapes are harvested from 40-year-old vines. The wine spontaneously ferments and then is aged for 6 months in a mix of new and old French tonneaux with minimal addition of sulfur at bottling. Deep purple hues with a complex aroma of currant, blackberry, and hints of red berries with ripe tannins and a long finish.

Cantina di Venosa Terre di Orazio Aglianico del Vulture DOC, 2011

100% Aglianico; Beautiful bouquet of violets and red currants. Pleasantly tannic on the palate, with a dry, full and intense structure. Wonderful expression of volcanic soil.

Cantina di Venosa Gesualdo Aglianico del Vulture DOC, 2008

100% Aglianico; With an area of 800 hectares, Cantina di Venosa is the largest producer of Aglianico in the Vulture area. Deep purple color, great balance ripe black fruits, spices, velvety tannins, rich volcanic soil texture.

CALABRIA

Caparra e Siciliani Cirò Classico DOC, 2013

100% Gaglioppo; Traditional vinification, followed by refinement in steel vats and oak casks, results in a full-bodied, intense wine that starts off floral but then turns warmer and denser, with notable notes of black cherry. Custom-made for hearty meals.

CAMPANIA

Nanni Copé Sabbie di Sopra il Bosco IGT, 2012, 2013, 2014

70% Pallagrello Nero, 25% Aglianico & 5% Casavecchia; One winemaker, one vineyard, one wine, which is vinified in stainless tanks, undergoes malolactic in new French tonneaux, and then aged for one year in new and old wood as well as steel vats. All of that labor produces a wine that is intense yet silky and delicate, vibrant yet full of finesse, with flowers, iron, rich spice and raspberry, all of it zipped through with lively acidity.

San Giovanni Castellabate, 2013

80% Aglianico & 20% Piedirosso; Distinctive pink peppercorn spice flashes through the high-toned red cherry of this brambly, structured red.

EMILIA-ROMAGNA

Cordani Magia Gutturnio Frizzante DOC, 2012

60% Barbera & 40% Croatina; Certified Biodynamic; Even passionate fans of Italian sparklers may not be familiar with this particular blend, the result of which is a lively, bracingly dry, mouthwateringly vivid wine. Unusual for Italian bubbles, this one is fermented in both steel and cement.

La Collina Il Quaresimo Lambrusco dell'Emilia IGT, NV

40% Maestri, 30% Grasparossa, 20% Lambrusco Salamino, & 10% Malbo Gentile; Certified Biodynamic; Hand-harvested grapes are naturally fermented, and inoculated only if fermentation stops prior to finishing. The product of this level of attention is a dark-ruby-colored wine with delicate perlage, loads of personality, and notes of berry and violet. The interplay of tannin and acid is extraordinary.

Poderi dal Nespoli Sangiovese Romagna Superiore DOC, 2012

100% Sangiovese; From the underappreciated Bidente Valley in Romagna, this fruit-driven, ripe red zips along on a beam of cherry, blackberry, and plum, all delicately spiced with oak. An excellent sipper or accompaniment to food.

FRIULI

Le Due Terre Pinot Nero DOC, 2011

100% Pinot Nero (Pinot Noir); Organically farmed; Hand-harvested, vinified in stainless steel tanks using natural yeasts, then aged 22 months in barrique, this Friulian beauty is further proof that Italy is home to some truly stunning Pinots, with its Old World characteristics of smoke and flowers alongside subtle fruit.

Le Due Terre Merlot DOC, 2013

100% Merlot; Hand-harvested, vinified in concrete tanks, and then aged for 22 months in barriques. Red plum and berry mingle with tobacco and the gentle herbal notes that smartly grown Merlot boasts when done.

Le Due Terre Sacrisassi Rosso Colli Orientali del Friuli DOC, 2009, 2010, 2011

50% Refosco & 50% Schioppettino; Hand-harvested, vinified in concrete tanks and aged 22 months in barriques; Dark fruit with earth, tobacco, and spice, full bodied.

LOMBARDY

Martilde Bonarda DOC, 2013

100% Croatina; Blue and purple fruit, including mulberry, amped up with cacao powder, is complicated by an unexpected bread-dough aroma. With a steak or on its own, this is fascinating...and delicious.

Martilde Zaffo Bonarda DOC, 2006

100% Croatina; Fresh and mature all at once, this stunner of a wine is an absolute steal for the price. The interplay of purple-berry fruit, porcini, and forest floor is riveting.

MARCHE

Cantina di Ripatransone Mojo Marche Sangiovese IGT, 2015

100% Sangiovese; Hand-harvested with a 30-plus-day vinification, followed by six months in stainless steel tanks, has allowed this red to develop beguiling notes of mature fruit, spice, and licorice, all of it carried on tannins as balanced as they are food-friendly.

Fattoria San Lorenzo II Casolare Rosso Marche IGT, 2016

Montepulciano & Sangiovese; The intersection of Sangiovese and Montepulciano, two grape varieties equally beloved on their own, has led to a wine of vivid red color with lively spice and cherry notes. Highly versatile at the table, and BTG-friendly pricing.

Fattoria San Lorenzo Rosso Piceno Vigna di Gino DOC, 2015 Also available in 1.5 Liter

60% Montepulciano & 40% Sangiovese; Expressive fruit from 35-year-old vines is vinified for 15-18 days in stainless steel tanks, aged 9 months with 90% in stainless and 10% in French oak barrels, and bottled fined but unfiltered. The juice itself is cherry-expressive, with plenty of spice complicating it all.

Fattoria San Lorenzo Vigneto del Solleone Montepulciano IGT, 2008, 2009

100% Montepulciano; Montepulciano is here shown the respect it deserves yet all too often doesn't receive. This stunner benefits from 30 months in oak, followed by 6 additional ones in bottle prior to release. All of that time allows balsamic, spice, and blackberry notes to develop, resulting in a wine that embodies the remarkable potential of Montepulciano.

San Savino Picus Rosso Piceno Superiore DOC, 2010

60% Montepulciano & 40% Sangiovese; Hand-harvested and fermented in stainless steel tanks, then aged for 18-24 months in French oak casks. The result is a full-bodied wine singing an aria of licorice, cinnamon, cherry, and mixed red berries. Effusive and delicious.

PIEDMONT

Le Cantine di Indie Vino del Popolo Langhe Rosso DOC, 2014

50% Nebbiolo, 30% Barbera, & 20% Dolcetto; Indie's first label, produced by Eugenio Bocchino, is fermented in stainless steel and concrete tanks using natural yeasts, then aged for 8 months in older tonneau. The wine itself is ruby in color, with cherry, wild rose, and herbs on the nose and a palate boasting fresh fruit, persistent tannins, and zippy acidity.

Cascina Pace Barbera d'Alba DOC, 2014

100% Barbera; Classic notes of leather and cigar tobacco, fruit in the cherry and red raspberry family, amplified acidity, nicely drying tannins, a touch of tomato vine, and tart red plum. Bring on the food!

Cascina Pace Roero Riserva DOCG, 2012

100% Nebbiolo; Aged for 32 months, at least 6 months in oak. It's aromatic with earth notes, dark fruit, and prune; Savory meaty notes with hints of mushroom and wet earth supported by black cherry and currant flavors; Silky texture with firm tannins and brisk acidity.

Cascina Roccalini Barbaresco DOCG, 2011

100% Nebbiolo; Hand-harvested from 50-year-old vines, fermented in stainless steel using natural yeasts, and aged for 18 months in wooden casks followed by 6 months in stainless and a year in the bottle. The result is bright with red fruit, cranberry, plum, violets and a touch of tobacco and spice, and a 2011 speaking of currant, flowers, and minerality.

Eugenio Bocchino La Serra Barolo DOCG, 2007

100% Nebbiolo; Hand-harvested; Three years of aging in French oak and further time in bottle prior to release have created a wine lively with anise, chocolate, and rose aromas that lead to a palate of delicate, maturing cherry, and earth.

Ferdinando Principiano Dosset Dolcetto, NV

100% Dolcetto; The name means Dolcetto in the local dialect, but while "Dosset" may be unfamiliar, the infinite charms of this wine are anything but. Lithe and energetic with low enough alcohol content that you can pair it with nearly anything. This red, crafted with no added sulfites, is proof that Piedmont is home to some truly remarkable wines at prices that won't break the proverbial bank.

Ferdinando Principiano Coste Langhe DOC, 2014

100% Nebbiolo; A demonstration of the livelier, fresher side of Nebbiolo from Piedmont, this gem sees no oak (just 10 months in stainless steel), no yeast innoculation and no sulfur additions. The result is a wine of remarkable red-fruit vivaciousness, kissed with the slightest suggestion of spice that begs for a big bowl of pasta to be enjoyed alongside it.

Ferdinando Principiano Barolo di Serralunga DOCG, 2011

100% Nebbiolo; An astounding wine at a just-as-astounding price, bursting with high-toned aromas of eucalyptus, fruit framed by excellent tannic structure, and enough minerality to tie it indubitably to the land in which it was grown and crafted.

Iuli Umberta Barbera del Monferrato VdT, 2015

100% Barbera; Hand-harvested; Fresh, giving, and easy to love, with bright red fruit, plum, cherry, and a hint of cassis. A perfect expression of the Barbera grape untouched by wood, and a terrific house wine that pairs well with a huge range of dishes.

Iuli Rossore Barbera del Monferrato Superiore DOC, 2014 Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Barbera; Hand-harvested; 22 months of aging in second-year French oak barrels, plus 6 months in the bottle, have resulted in distinctive ripe cherry and plum notes and a uniquely elegant texture. Proof that Barbera with a few years on it can really sing.

Iuli Malidea Monferrato Rosso DOC, 2010 Also available in 1.5 Liter

60% Nebbiolo & 40% Barbera; Hand-harvested; This is as close to a perfect Piedmontese blend as you can find, the intersection of Nebbiolo and Barbera resulting in a wine of remarkable tannins and aromatic complexity of the former and fruit and acidity of the latter. Exquisite and exciting.

Iuli Barabba Barbera del Monferrato Superiore DOC, 2006 Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Barbera; Single vineyard with 70+ year old vines; Hand-harvested, vinified in temp-controlled stainless-steel vats, malolactic fermentation in the barrel, aged 24 months in new French oak barrels with 6 months bottle aging; Dark ruby-red with intense aromas of dark fruit and minerality, a beautiful weight and texture on the palate, striking acidity with a long finish.

Iuli Nino Monferrato Rosso DOC, 2010, 2012 Also available in 1.5 Liter

100% Pinot Nero (Pinot Noir); Hand-harvested; Floral, fruit-expressive, and kissed with spice, this is a wine that benefits from time in the glass, yet is more than enjoyable as soon as the cork is popped from the bottle.

PUGLIA

Pichierri-Savese Vittoria Negroamaro del Salento IGT, 2014

100% Negroamaro; Soft-pressed Negroamaro that shows the more elegant side of the variety, with rich fruit, soft tannins, and infinite pairing possibilities. A brilliant embodiment of what Negroamaro is capable of in far Southern Italy.

Cantine di Terravecchia Pàmpana Puglia, 2013

100% Negroamaro; Spicy plum fruit, cherry, and mulberry, with a hint of cedar-y lift on the back, finishes with gorgeous intimations of cardamom. This is exceptionally honest, well-crafted, and inextricably tied to its stunning Puglian terroir.

SARDINIA

Tenute Soletta Sardo Cannonau DOC, 2012

100% Cannonau; Showcasing the savory side of Grenache, this Sardinian stunner is lifted by garrigue-kissed cherry leading to a finish of leather and tobacco, just the slightest bit salty in character—demanding another sip or three.

SICILY

Angelo Nero d'Avola Sicilia IGT, 2015

100% Nero d'Avola; Wines like this one embody exactly why Nero d'Avola has seen its proverbial stock rise so quickly in recent years: With evocative plum and mulberry notes merged with a tobacco-like spiciness, this is a wine destined to improve any dinner it's sipped alongside.

Le Cantine di Indie Polpo Rosso IGT, 2015

100% Nerello Mascalese; Certified Organic; This variety is normally found on and near Mt. Etna and is a completely different expression of this Sicilian variety. Young vines on clayey loam soil fermented in stainless steel for 6 months; Strawberry in color with a nose of fresh fruit and roses which follows through to the mouth.

Marabino Noto Nero d'Avola DOC, 2013

100% Nero d'Avola; Certified Biodynamic; Fermented in French Rovere casks for 10 months; Long maceration on skins with no addition of sulfur – not even at bottling; deep ruby red in color with intense yet soft tannins and a spicy nose of red fruit and flowers.

Frank Cornelissen Rosso del Contadino Terre Siciliane Rosso IGT, 2015

75% Nerello Mascalese, 25% Allicante Boushet, Minella Nera, Uva Francesa, Sangiovese, Minella Bianco & Insolia; Organically farmed; Hand-harvested and fermented in small tubs, this phenomenal Sicilian blend proves yet again what Cornelissen and his land are capable of. There are no yeasts, sulfites, or anything else added to this highly pleasurable, fragrant, and fruit-expressive winner.

Frank Cornelissen Rosso MunJebel CS Terre Siciliane Rosso IGT, 2014

100% Nerello Mascalese; Organically farmed; From ungrafted vines grown on the Chiusa Spagnola vineyard, situated lower on the valley floor and a bit hidden, this formidably structured wine, with its fruit and assertive earth characteristics, is a remarkable bottling.

Frank Cornelissen Rosso MunJebel MC Terre Siciliane Rosso IGT, 2014

100% Nerello Mascalese; Organically farmed; Produced from an area of the Contrada Monte Colla, this wine benefits from the land's steel slope, ample sun, and exposure to the winds blowing off of Mt. Etna. The sandy clay soil and the old-vine Nerello Mascalese, planted in 1946, achieve a thoroughly unique expression here, resulting in a big wine (15% alcohol) with a character that can be referred to accurately in terms of the great reds of Hermitage.

Frank Cornelissen Rosso MunJebel VA Terre Siciliane Rosso IGT, 2014

100% Nerello Mascalese; Organically farmed; Blended from the three highest vineyards that Cornelissen works with: Barbabecchi, Guardiola and Tartaraci. It beautifully expresses the ungrafted old vines from which it comes, the high terraces in which they're grown, and the infinite potential of this Northern valley of Mt. Etna. Notably elegant tannins lead to a more lush mouthfeel.

Frank Cornelissen MunJebel Rosso PA Terre Siciliane Rosso IGT, 2014

100% Nerello Mascalese; Organically farmed; From the producer as responsible for the renaissance of Etna's wines as anyone in Sicily, this 100% Nerello Mascalese is crafted from vines that are more than 60 years old, and grown in a range of the best vineyards that several of Cornelissen's top crus come from. With sweet fruit attenuating appropriately assertive tannins, this is a haunting, utterly delicious red.

Tenuta La Favola Nero d'Avola Sicilia IGP, 2016

100% Nero d'Avola; Deeply complex yet utterly gulpable, this Nero d'Avola pulls from the Sicilian soil a real sense of place, the copious berry fruit punched up with spice and a floral note that, given the structure of the wine, promises to evolve in fascinating ways for several years to come.

Tenuta La Favola La Favola DOC, 2012 limited

100% Nero d'Avola; Hand-harvested; Seven months in French oak prior to bottling lends this wine a sense of richness and spice that fans of Nero d'Avola will find beyond seductive. Notes of almond, licorice, peony, and spice dance throughout.

Vino di Anna Jeudi, 2015

90% Nerello Mascalese, 5% Nerello Cappuccio, & 5% Alicante; Particularly low-intervention winemaking allows the fantastic blend here to shine through with stunning clarity. It's a fairly floral wine, the wild strawberry and cherry playing against a structure that finds its balance between tannin and acid with laser-like precision.

Vino di Anna Palmento VdT, 2016

87% Nerello Mascalese, 5% Nerello Cappuccino, 3% Alicante & 5% Local White Grapes; This entirely foot-trodden red (made with 5% white grapes), starts off with copious amounts of tart cherry and cranberry, which is then softened up by a sweet hit of riper cherry, mulberry, and an anchoring hint of mushroom.

TUSCANY

Angelo Sassetti Pertimali Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, 2012

100% Sangiovese Grosso; Hand-harvested, fermented on the skins under temperature control for 15-20 days, then vinified in stainless steel tanks for 2-3 weeks, the aged for 40 months in English oak barrels, followed by a finishing touch of 4-6 months bottle aging. All of that TLC results in a deep ruby red wine with reflections of garnet, an ambrosial bouquet of spice, forest floor, ripe fruit and rose petals, and a palate assertive enough to handle even the most full-flavorful meats and cheeses.

Cantina Aretino Barone Albergotti Toscana Rosso IGT, 2011

70% Sangiovese, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Canaiolo, & 5% Montepulciano; Hand-harvested, aged 12 months in the barrel, 3 in the bottle; Deep ruby color, delicate vanilla and fruit aroma, berry, vanilla and wood flavor, dry, full-bodied, and well-structured.

Cantina Aretino Fonterosso Chianti Riserva DOCG, 2010

80% Sangiovese, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot, & 5% Canaiolo; Hand-harvested, cold-pressed, aged 2 years in various oak barrels then blended; Deep ruby red, pleasingly intense, delicate floral aroma, wild berry taste, dry, balanced, good structure and finish.

Capannelle Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG, 2011, 2012

Sangiovese with Colorino & Canaiolo; Vinified on the skins for 18-20 days, aged 18 months in large Austrian barrels; Deep ruby red with purplish reflections, intense aromas of toast, coffee, chocolate, vanilla, and red fruits, developing slowly to moss, brushwood, iris, juniper, and fennel. Slightly astringent, warm, structured, and fresh with flavors of iris, musk, and vanilla.

Capannelle Solare IGT, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010

Sangiovese & Malvasia Nera; Vinified 15-20 days with carbonic maceration; aged 12-14 months in Allier, Nevers and Troncais oak barriques; Intense ruby color with garnet hues, aromatic with hints of brushwood, musk, vanilla, almond, plum, and magnolia. Velvety and full bodied with well-balanced acidity, warm with rounded tannins.

Godiolo Vino Nobile di Montepulciano DOCG, 2008

98% Prugnolo Gentile, 2% Canaiolo, & Colorino; Certified Organic; Hand-harvested, fermented in stainless steel tanks using natural yeasts and aged 18 months in French oak tonneaux; Black cherry and pomegranate are joined by black plum, leather, and a minerality reminiscent of gunflint. Remarkable at nearly six years old.

Godiolo Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva DOCG, 2006

90% Prugnolo Gentile, 7% Canaiolo, 2% Colorino & 1% Mammolo; Certified Organic; Hand-harvested from 35+ year old vines, fermented in stainless steel tanks using natural yeasts and aged 24 months in French oak tonneaux; Tobacco, espresso, leather, and charred vanilla pod dance with cola spice and still-fresh cherry fruit in this decade-old wonder that still has time to evolve...but is drinking perfectly right now.

Il Caprandole Tirle Rosso Toscano IGT, 2005, 2007

50% Merlot, 40% Sangiovese, & 10% Fogliatonda; Hand-harvested, vinified in stainless steel tanks using natural yeasts, rests 90 days on the skins, then aged in stainless steel & barriques for 24 months and 12 months in the bottle; Ruby red color, fruity, and floral with emetic and balsamic notes. Almost ferrous minerality with sweet tannins. Freshness lingers through a long and vibrant progression.

Il Marroneto Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, 2007

100% Sangiovese Grosso di Brunello; Biodynamically farmed; This hand-harvested beauty is aged for 39 months in Allier and Slavonian oak casks, followed by six months in the bottle. The result is both classic and utterly exquisite, a fragrant, fruity wine with a finish that rolls on forever. Classically styled and exceptionally balanced.

Il Marroneto Brunello di Montalcino Madonna delle Grazie DOCG, 2006

100% Sangiovese Grosso di Brunello; Biodynamically farmed; Hand-harvested near the 13th century church, Madonna delle Grazie, rests completely still on the skins in Allier oak vats for the first two days, fermentation lasts 20-22 days, aged 41 months in oak casks, followed by ten months bottle aging; Complex and sophisticated with classic fruity notes and an elegant lingering finish. A great meditation wine!

L'Aietta Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, 2010

100% Sangiovese; Organically farmed; Tobacco leaf and leather lend heft and spice to kirsch and chocolate notes of this licorice-flecked red that spent 40 months in Slavonian oak casks.

Pacina Toscana IGT, 2011 Also available in 1.5 Liter

97% Sangiovese & 3% Canaiolo / Ciliegiolo; Certified Organic; Estate dates to 900 AD; All of these bottlings are singing beautifully right now, boasting classic notes of spice, leather and tobacco alongside their expressive dark fruit flavors and tannins that remain remarkably fresh. Delicious and very versatile at the table.

Pacina Toscana Rosso il Secondo IGT, 2013

90% Sangiovese, 7% Canaiolo/Ciliegiolo, & 3% Trebbiano; Certified Organic; Dense and ripe, yet with complicating notes of herbs and dried fruit. This benefits from spontaneous fermentation in concrete tanks and bottling with a minimal use of sulfites, lending the wine a serious sense of place and complexity.

Pacina La Malena IGT, 2008

100% Syrah; Certified Organic; Excellent Syrah, and proof of how well the grape variety does in regions you might not initially expect. It's intensely expressive on the nose, with peppercorn and spice slicing through the berry fruit, and a more giving palate with just enough peppercorn and balanced tannins to allow it to pair with a huge range of dishes.

Poggio Trevvalle Morellino di Scansano Passera DOCG, 2013

100% Sangiovese; Unlike many bottlings of Morellino di Scansano, this one doesn't require decanting or a rich meal alongside it to allow it to truly shine. Sweet tannins frame a wine bursting with raspberries and strawberries, all of it lively with plenty of acidity. Remarkable bottling.

Poggio Trevvalle Montecucco DOC, 2011

60% Sangiovese, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, & 20% Merlot; Dark fruit, cedar, pine, spice, cocoa, and tobacco define this full-bodied red, all of that complexity in impeccable balance, and lingering through to a long, elegant finish.

Querciavalle Rosso del Cavalier Tranquillo Toscana IGT, 2016

80% Sangiovese, 18% Canaiolo Toscano, & 2% Trebbiano; Fruity aromas and flavors of cherry, red current, and spice are framed by ripe tannins and a gorgeously round texture. The blend here is as classic as it gets, and is all the more rewarding for it.

UMBRIA

Terre Margaritelli Roccascossa Umbria IGT, 2015

Sangiovese & Cabernet Franc; These two grapes join forces in this bottling to prove how deliciously these two titans of the wine world can play together. Well-structured and giving at the same time, with flashes of berry, cherry, and spice all contributing to the stunning whole. Remarkable, and an amazing value.

Leonucci Montignanello VdT, 2012

85% Sagrantino & 15% Merlot; The rich, structured depths of Sagrantino are here softened up beautifully by the addition of Merlot, lending this Umbrian stunner a textural sensibility that consumers may not expect. It will win them over, however, especially given the astounding food-friendliness of the wine.

VENETO

Le XI Terre Amarone della Valpolicella Classico DOC, 2012

80% Corvina & 20% Rondinella; Hand-harvested as the grapes begin to dry on the vine, a process that continues in crates for 90-130 days. Following an extended maceration, a slow fermentation, and then a minimum of two years in French oak barrels and 8 more months in bottle, this Amarone is a blockbuster: Cherry, plum, licorice, pepper, and cinnamon are elegant, robust, well-balanced, and velvety.

Le XI Terre Bardolino DOC, 2016

Corvina, Rondinella, & Sangiovese; Bringing together two of the main grapes used in Amarone with an unexpected dose of Sangiovese, this shimmering red boasts aromas of berries spiced with clove and cinnamon. The palate is dry yet round and remarkably fresh.

ITALY - DESSERT WINES

PIEDMONT

La Caudrina Moscato d'Asti, 2015 500 ml

100% Moscato; Vines planted in marl-limestone and hand-picked grapes create this fragrant, aromatic stunner. It's vivid straw yellow in color with delicate floral notes on the nose. A pleasantly acidic, and persistently delicious dessert wine to accompany a variety of sweet treats or to sip on its own as a refreshing summer drink.

Ezio Cerruti Botrytis Sol, 2010 375 ml

100% Moscato Bianco; Organically farmed, Hand-harvested; A true labor of love: The fruit is macerated for a full year before being vinified in oak barrels with native yeasts, after which it spends three additional years in wood, followed by 6 months in bottle. All of that work produces a wine of remarkable depth, with candied citrus, orange blossom, and spice.

PUGLIA

Pichierri-Savese II Sava Dolce Primitivo di Manduria DOC, 2007 750 ml

100% Primitivo; Harvested over-mature and withered to raise sugar & alcohol, fermented in glass-lined cement tanks, aged 8 months in large amphorae casks and French oak barrels, unfiltered; 16% Alcohol, 50 g/l Residual Sugar; Deep ruby color, bright cherry, and current aromas, rich and smooth with intense fruit flavors, port-like sweetness with a rich finish. Pour gently.

SARDINIA

Soletta Dolce Valle IGT, 2004 500 ml

100% Moscato; Hand-picked after grapes wither on the vine, 2 years aging in stainless tanks, 6 months further refinement in the bottle; 15.5% Alcohol, 90.5 g/l Residual Sugar; The rich bouquet is intense and persistent with aromas of dried fruits and syrups, sweet and soft flavors of dried pears and apricots with an amber honey, melon aftertaste.

TUSCANY

Pacina La Sorpresa Bianco Dolce VdT, 2006 375 ml

50% Trebbiano Toscano & 50% Malvasia del Chianti; Certified Organic; The grapes are dried on straw mats for 3 months, naturally fermented, aged 6 years in small chestnut barrels, and filtered with Dutch-weave cloth prior to bottling. During the 6 years this wine ages in small barrels, it is sealed with a wax cork and remains untouched, with no exposure to air other than the small pores of the wood. Stefano and Giovanna don't know what the wine will be like until they open the wax seal 6 years later. Some vintages are a bit sweeter than their Vinsanto, with hints of nectar and dark honey. In those cases, they declassify the wine and call it "La Sorpresa," or "The Surprise," named this way since its first vintage in 1995.

FRANCE - SPARKLING WINES

BURGUNDY

Bertrand de Monceny Blanc de Blancs Brut, NV

100% Chardonnay; This 100% Chardonnay is fantastically generous with lemon drop and fresh orange lent even further freshness with a touch of tarragon. An excellent example of what makes non-Champagne French sparkling wines so special.

CHAMPAGNE

Lassaigne Vignes de Montgueux Brut Blanc de Blancs Champagne AOC, NV

100% Chardonnay; This non-vintage blanc de blancs is a blend of nine different vineyard sites and two successive vintages. The fruit is fermented with indigenous yeast and a slight touch of sulfur to prevent oxidation, after which the wine undergoes malolactic fermentation and is aged in new and used barrels for 12 to 24 months before being disgorges by hand. The nose shows assertive minerality and citrus zest, which turn to a palate of melon, citrus, and more minerality. Terroir-driven and expressive at once.

Jean-Pierre Baudouin Prestige Champagne AOC, NV

100% Pinot Noir; Hand-harvested; Fermented with stems and selected yeasts in temperature-controlled vats, with its flavors of blood orange and red-berry fruit, as well as a healthy dose of enlivening acidity, this Cuvée Prestige is a standout even within the always impressive world of blanc de noirs Champagnes.

LOIRE VALLEY

Domaine Phillipe Tessier Petillant Phil'en Bulle Cremant Blanc, 2014

Romorantin & Örbois; An unusual yet stunningly memorable blend of Romorantin and Orbois—organic and from 20- to 30-year-old vines—with a seam of minerality zipping through the brisk fruit notes. Remarkable.

Domaine du Facteur Extra Brut Vouvray, 2013

100% Chenin Blanc; Mathieu Cosme took over the property from his father after leaving Huet. He farms organically with Biodynamic preparations to create terroir driven wines that showcase a time and place. Only indigenous yeasts are used to create this extra-brut Methode Champenoise Vouvray.

JC Garnier Brut Nature Vin de France, NV

33% Gamay, 33% Grolleau, & 33% Pineau d'Aunis; Organically farmed; Jean Christophe Garnier is one of the rising stars in the Loire Valley natural wine scene. Formerly a sommelier, he now works as a pure artist in constant search of expressing his personality in his wines. From vines planted in 1980 on silt and sand; The wine is fermented in fiberglass vats and aged for 6 months before disgorgement. Light, refreshing, and delicious.

SUD OUEST

Domaine d'Astruc Blanc de Blancs Methode Traditionelle Limoux, NV

100% Chardonnay; The mineral, fresh lemon, and lemon pith come off as almost bracing in character, while the complimentary flavors of yellow apple and berry lend this fresh, friendly sparkling wine an attention-grabbing level of complexity.

Plageoles Mauzac Nature Pet Nat Gaillac, 2015

100% Mauzac; Crafted from the great grape variety of Gaillac, this fantastic Mauzac pet nat is anchored by a nutty note that finds its counterpart in crisp autumn orchard fruit and a flavor profile that, while far from sweet, isn't quite bone dry either. In other words: It's impossible to stop sipping once you've started.

FRANCE - WHITE WINES

ALSACE

Domaine Christian Binner Les Saveurs, 2014

Riesling, Sylvaner, Auxerrois, Gewürtztraminer, & Pinot Gris; Certified Organic & Biodynamically farmed; Established in 1770, comprising steep vineyards that have been chemical free for nearly 25 years. Clay-silt on limestone mother rock with no added yeast, no chaptalization, and no filtration. Slightly effervescent which adds freshness, or can be decanted if one prefers. A cloudy pale straw in the glass with pretty floral scents of rose hip, lychee, cherry blossom, and lemon drops. The palate is a supple and a buoyantly ripe expression of white fruit and silken minerality.

Domaine Christian Binner Riesling Schlossberg AOC, 2010

100% Riesling; Certified Organic & Biodynamically farmed; All of the grapes for this stunning wine are hand-harvested in October and undergo a long, slow pressing, after which the juice sees a low-temperature fermentation. The wine itself is aged in 100-year-old barrels on its fine lees for 11 months, is bottled unfiltered, and speaks of petrol, white fruit, and mineral. It lingers on the tongue with impeccable balance and length.

BURGUNDY

Domaine Didier Montchovet Bourgogne Aligoté AOC, 2011

100% Aligoté; Certified Biodynamic; Hand-picked from 30 to 70-year-old vines, fermented in enamel vats, aged six months and bottled after fining with powdered clay; Fresh, fruity, fine and delicate flavors, immediately expressive.

Domaine Oudin Chablis AOC, 2015

100% Chardonnay; The leanness of Chablis is here joined by a creamy hint that results from one year of aging on the lees prior to bottling. With its clay and limestone pedigree and southern exposure, you can practically taste the sunshine in every sip.

Domaine Oudin Chablis 1er Cru Vaugiraut AOC, 2014

100% Chardonnay; Hand-harvested; 70-year-old vines, growing on clay and limestone soil with southern exposure, produce impeccable fruit that is fermented in temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks and rests on the lees in tank for at least a year before bottling. Nearly yellow in the glass with lovely scents of round citrus, beeswax, and creamy minerality backed by limestone, sea-like brininess, and supple hints of lemon tree. The palate is loaded with juicy lemon and melon, all zipped through with stone-like minerality and excellent acidity.

Les Faverelles Fleur Blanc Bourgogne Vézelay AOC, 2012

100% Chardonnay; Certified Organic; This unexpectedly complex Bourgogne Blanc comes from a 1.2 ha plot with an average vine age of 25 years, is fermented with natural yeast, and bottled unfined and unfiltered. It's herbal and mineral, yet with a giving, round mouthfeel.

Domaine Huber-Verdereau Vieilles Vignes Mercurey Blanc AOC, 2013

100% Chardonnay; Organically farmed since 1994 & Certified Biodynamic; The 47-year-old vineyards are situated 22km south of volnay on soft clay and limestone. The wine is fermented and aged in 50% stainless steel and 50% old barrel.

Domaine Valette Et Pourtant AOC, 2011 limited

100% Chardonnay; Organically farmed; Hand-harvested in Viré-Clessé on clay and limestone from 60+ year old vines; Wine is slowly direct-pressed into old barrels for fermentation and then aged for 30 months on the lees. High-toned with good fruit and freshness.

Domaine Valette Tradition Pouilly-Fuissé AOC, 2010 limited

100% Chardonnay; Organically farmed; Wine is slowly direct-pressed into old barrels for fermentation and then aged for 24 months; Soft and fragrant with good acidity and complexity.

JURA

Caves Jean Bourdy Blanc Côtes du Jura AOC, 2010 limited

100% Chardonnay; Biodynamically farmed; Grapes are hand-harvested from a 2.5 hectare plot of vines averaging 30-40 years old on clay and limestone soil with blue marl. Grapes are direct pressed to initial fermentation with natural yeasts and then second fermented in tank before a minimum of three to four years aging in old oak barrels ranging up to 80 years old. Fragrant with ripe apple and pineapple on the nose with a juicy, round, mineral finish.

LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Domaine de la Patience Chardonnay VdP des Coteaux du Pont du Gard, 2015 Also available in 3 Liter Box

100% Chardonnay; Certified Organic; Pale yellow with a brightly acidic and fruity nose kissed with minerality, and crisp citrus and peach flavors. Excellent on its own or alongside a wide range of dishes.

Château La Baronne Roussanne, 2014

100% Roussanne; Inherently pleasurable glycerine hints to the Roussanne's texture here carry honey, herbal tea, stone fruit, and a hint of spice. Complex enough to enjoy on its own, yet perfectly suited for the dinner (or lunch) table as well.

LOIRE VALLEY

Domaine Le Fay d'Homme la Part du Colibri Gros-Plant du Pays Nantais AOC, 2013

100% Gros Plant (Folle Blanche); Certified Organic; Hand-harvested fruit from 35+ year old vines is fermented in underground cement tanks covered with glass tiles using natural yeasts. The wine is light in color with green reflections, fresh and vigorous on the palate with an anchoring hint of minerality.

Domaine Le Fay d'Homme Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie AOC, 2015

100% Melon de Bourgogne; Certified Organic; A fresh, fruity expression of Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie, boasting copious amounts of fresh fruit and a creamy enough mouthfeel to allow it to pair well with far more than simply traditional ovsters.

Domaine Le Fay d'Homme Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie Saint Fiacre, 2012

100% Melon de Bourgogne; Certified Organic; Proof that truly great Muscadet has the potential to improve with age. This one, which benefits from 41 months in glass-tile-lined cement tanks after fermentation, combines the allure of candied mandarin orange with the more savory notes of the region's telltale minerality.

Domaine La Grange Tiphaine Clef de Sol Blanc Montlouis sur Loire AOC, 2011

100% Chenin Blanc; Certified Organic; Hand-harvested from 80-year-old vines, this Chenin is aged on the lees without racking until bottling to ensure a gentle oxygenation. The wine itself shows notes of honeysuckle, pear, and lime, is dry on the palate with just a hint of sweetness, and finishes with plenty of fruit and acidity.

Domaine Chardon Sauvignon Blanc Touraine AOC, 2016

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Organically farmed; This gorgeous Loire-Valley Sauvignon Blanc is a golden yellow color with notes of exotic fruit, citrus, and spicy herbs, which lead to a long, lively, subtly salty finish. Seems custom-made for food.

Domaine Sébastien Riffault Les Quarterons Sancerre AOC, 2014

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Certified Organic; Sancerre Sauvignon Blanc is known for its intense minerality, crisp texture, and citrus quality. Absolutely no fertilizers or chemicals are used. Riffault is a member of The Association of Vins Naturels and The Renaissance Group of Appellations. He takes the natural approach to winemaking and leaves his grapes on the vine extremely late for complete ripeness. Vinified in stainless steel tanks, 3 month fermentation undergoing malolactic, then aged 18 months sur lies in stainless.

Domaine Sébastien Riffault Auksinis Sancerre AOC, 2010 limited

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Certified Organic & Hand-harvested; Low yield from 50-year-old vines growing on portlandian limestone and chalk with some serious noble rot, about 15-20% of the grapes that make up this cuveé see botrytis. 36 months of fermentation and aging in barrel then 12 months in the bottle. No chapitalization on any of his wines. Auksinis means "golden" in Lithuanian. Mineral, fruity, dry clean finish.

Domaine Sébastien Riffault Sauletas Sancerre AOC, 2010 limited

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Certified Organic & Hand-harvested; A uniquely bright expression of Loire Sauvignon Blanc—this one crafted from 50-year-old vines—with gobs of citrus fruit cut through with spice and amplified by mineral-tinged acidity.

Domaine Sébastien Riffault Skeveldra Sancerre AOC, 2010 limited

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Certified Organic & Hand-harvested; Following three years of aging in barrel, and then another year in the bottle, this silex-grown Sauvignon Blanc is true to its name: "Skeveldra" means "stone fragment" in Lithuanian, and the wine itself shows a distinctly salty, savory character—though it's softened up with enough herbaceousness and a round texture to keep it appealing even without food to accompany it.

Domaine de L'Ange Vin Cuvée Bistrologie VdF, NV

100% Chenin Blanc; All the hallmarks of successful low-intervention winemaking are here: The small vineyard size (just five hectares), the hand-harvesting, the wild-yeast fermentation, and the lack of added sulfur. As a result, this Chenin Blanc is allowed the full range of its expression, with excellent acidity amping up the classic apple and autumn fruit notes.

SUD OUEST

Château Bellevue Bergerac Sec. 2014

90% Sauvignon Blanc & 10% Semillon; Showing the more mellow side of Sauvignon Blanc, this excellent Bordeaux Blanc, composed of 10% Semillion in addition, boasts pleasant citrus and green notes alongside a subtly waxy character whose weight and depth lend added complexity.

Château Haut Lavigne Blanc Côtes de Duras AOC, 2014

66% Sauvignon Blanc & 34% Semillon; Organically farmed; This Bordeaux-style blend is crafted from separately vinified whole clusters that, once blended and aged on fine lees, show scents of apricot, flowers, almond skin and beeswax, as well as refreshing melon and citrus with a core of white pit fruit, mineral, and herb.

Les 3 Domaines La Croix Blanche Vin de Pays Côtes de Gascogne, 2015

50% Sauvignon Blanc & 50% Colombard; Organically farmed; At only 11.5% alcohol and with remarkable freshness, this white, with lots of grapefruit, lime, and tangy acidity, is a phenomenal warm-weather sipper, and a fantastic BTG option year-round.

FRANCE - MACERATED & ROSÉ WINES

LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Domaine de la Patience From The Tank Rosé, NV 3 Liter Box

80% Grenache & 20% Syrah; Summertime was made for this wine. Or, actually, every season was made for this wine. Blended from Grenache and Syrah and conveniently packaged in a 3-liter box, this vibrant rosé is pure Southern Rhone, with red fruit to spare and practically vibrating with energy.

Les Chemins de Bassac Isa Rosé Vin de Pays, 2016

Grenache Noir, Mourvèdre, & Syrah; The Côtes de Thongue may not be familiar to a wide swath of consumers yet, but it will be soon. Wine like this beauty assure it will. This is a giving yet spice-kissed bottling that can be enjoyed either chilled or closer to cellar temperature to allow for a greater expression of the Southern French terroir.

Château La Baronne Les Lanes Rosé Corbieres AOP, 2015

Carignan, Mourvèdre, & Grenache; This stunningly appealing blend is vegan-friendly, fermented with natural yeasts, and boasts remarkably old vines in part of its blend (the Carignan was planted in 1965!). It speaks of raspberry and other ripe red fruit, a touch of spice, and enough acidity and energy to show beautifully right from the fridge or with some of that chill dissipated.

PROVENCE

Teres Antique Les Secrets d'un Terroir VdP de Méditerranée, 2016

60% Cinsault, 30% Grenache, & 10% Tibouren; Mattieu Savatier is the owner of Château du Rouet, an estate that produces Côtes de Provence and VDP Méditerranée located near the Mediterranean Sea. Direct pressing and fermentation at low temperature in stainless steel. Pale salmon in color, with fresh fruit flavors and a crisp, refreshing, dry finish.

Château Saint Anne Rosé Bandol AOC, 2014

100% Mourvèdre; Certified Biodynamic; Château Saint Anne is a 15 ha estate located in Bandol, one of the top Appellations of Provence. The proximity to the sea and strong winds between the steep hills have created a micro climate which makes it possible to plant and grow on terraces in spite of the punishing summer heat. This is why Mourvèdre, a variety which struggles to ripen elsewhere, is at home here in Bandol. This rosé is naturally fermented in stainless steel vat, no additives, with minimal amounts of sulfur added at bottling.

FRANCE - RED WINES

ALSACE

Domaine Binner Pinot Noir, 2015 limited

100% Pinot Noir; What do you get when you combine old-vine Pinot Noir, native yeast, hand-harvested and fertilizer-free vineyards, and a total absence of added sulfites? This spectacular Pinot Noir, whose careful 11 months of aging in century-old wooden vats allows the storied land from which it comes to shine through with every honest, vividly expressive sip.

Domaine Binner Pinot Noir Cuvée Beatrice, 2014 limited

100% Pinot Noir; Produced from a parcel of less than a single hectare, this delicious Pinot Noir perfectly balances its fruitier notes with an earthy pull beneath that lends the wine both depth and soul. The vines that go into this beauty average 45 years old, and the concentration and character they bring to each and every bottle is stunning.

BORDEAUX

Château le Bergey Bordeaux AOC, 2015

85% Merlot & 15% Cabernet Sauvignon; Certified Organic; A fantastic example of how delicious appellation Bordeaux can truly be. This wine is ruby red with a nose of raspberry and brambly fruit, a classic over-performer that delivers far more than the price might suggest.

Château Saincrit Bordeaux Superieur, 2014

100% Merlot; Dusty, grippy tannins frame a red bursting with plum skin, black cherry, and peppercorn—perfect, in other words, to pair with everything from steak to hard cheese and charcuterie.

Château Tire Pé 'Tire Pé Diem' Bordeaux AOC, 2014

80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc & 10% Cabernet Sauvignon; Organically farmed; Buoyant and fruity on the palate, with juicy red currant, plum, and sweet herbs. Shows just as well on its own as it does at the table.

Château de Grandchamp Montagne Saint-Émilion AOC, 2010

75% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, & 5% Cabernet Sauvignon; Organically farmed; Winemaker Gonzaga Maurice began winemaking in 2005 when he purchased 3.2 hectares of land and a cellar that both required an extensive amount of repair. Vines are planted on mostly clay with limestone soils that provide structure, power and impressive chew. The wine is fermented in cement and wood and aged entirely in used barrels.

Château Esprit Meylet Saint-Émilion AOC, 2011 limited

75% Merlot, 25% Cabernet Franc & Sauvignon; Certified Organic & Biodynamically farmed; Family owned since 1875, when it was called the Clos Le Clou. Michel Favard inherited the vines from his great-grandfather and was the first full-time winemaker in the family. Hand-harvested from 60-year-old vines, fermented in conical oak tanks, the cap is punched using Burgundian methods, no pumps, but gravity is used to work the wine, no sugars or yeasts are used, aged 2 years in oak barrels (20-40% new), no fining or filtration, released after 6-7 years of aging.

BURGUNDY

Jean-Paul Dubost Beaujolais Villages AOC, 2016

100% Gamay; Biodynamically farmed; Domaine Dubost is a 4th generation domaine which has been in the hands of Jean-Paul Dubost since the mid-nineties. They farm about 21 ha, 9 ha of which are within the Villages appellation growing on sandstone. Hand-harvested, semi-carbonic maceration, fermented with natural yeasts in concrete then matured for 10 months in 500-liter casks, bottled without chaptalization or acidification and a light filtration and 25mg/l of sulfur is added at bottling.

Jean-Paul Dubost Moulin-á-Vent Beaujolais AOC, 2014

100% Gamay; Hailing from one of the great individual crus of Beaujolais, this 2014 embodies so much of what makes Moulin-a-Vent such a remarkable wine, and so different from ordinary Beaujolais or Beaujolais-Villages. It's anchored by an earthy tug, vaguely leather-like against the mixed-berry fruit, and lifted ever so subtly with a tinge of drying flowers.

Domaine de Botheland Rémi Dufaitre Brouilly AOC, 2013

100% Gamay; Organically farmed; From 70-year-old vines, classic whole-bunch carbonic style and no temperature control, this expressive Brouilly is fermented in concrete tank and speaks of purple fruit, clay, and olive notes with a long finish.

Domaine de Botheland Rémi Dufaitre Côte de Brouilly AOC, 2013

100% Gamay; Organically farmed; from 80-year-old vines, fermented in concrete tanks and then transferred into tonneau and bottled around the same time as the Brouilly. Darker fruit on the nose with great concentration, rustic tannins, and lift from the old vines.

Domaine de Botheland Rémi Dufaitre Beaujolais Nouveau AOC, 2015 limited

100% Gamay; Organically farmed; Too often, Beaujolais Nouveau is an exercise in cynicism, a grape-y concoction better suited to a cocktail than a proper wine glass. Not so with this beauty, which is fermented in concrete and then immediately put in bottle, and that speaks of fresh, exuberant fruit and a hint of flowers on the finish.

Domaine de Botheland Rémi Dufaitre L'Air de Rien Beaujolais Villages AOC, 2013

100% Gamay; Organically farmed; Sourced from 80-year-old Gamay vines, this is Beaujolais-Villages at the far end of the spectrum of what the AOC is capable of. The grapes that ultimately produce this wine are the final ones to be harvested, undergo fermentation in tonneau, and spend nine months aging in barrel. The result is a wine of delicacy and precision, intimately tied to the land with which it comes, and with no added sulfur at bottling to get in the way.

Domaine Huber-Verdereau Bourgogne Rouge AOC, 2014

100% Pinot Noir; Organically farmed since 1994 & Certified Biodynamic; The Bourgogne Rouge comes from de-classified parcels out front of the Volnay village. Like the Chardonnay, the style is also built to be super pure. This rouge is macerated for 22 days and only pumped over every 2 days. The wine is then aged in 50% concrete and 50% used barrels for 8 months.

Domaine Huber-Verdereau Pommard AOC, 2011 limited

100% Pinot Noir; Organically farmed since 1994, Certified Biodynamic & Hand-harvested; The embodiment of the quintessentially Burgundian concept that great vineyards, when allowed to produce top-notch fruit, result in exquisite wine, especially when left to their own devices during vinification. With only 175 cases produced, this is a feminine and pure wine, with light red berries, lots of acid and minerality, and delicate tannins. One for contemplation.

Domaine Huber-Verdereau Volnay AOC, 2011 limited

100% Pinot Noir; Organically farmed since 1994 & Certified Biodynamic; Hand-harvested from four parcels planted in 1995, 1973, and 1957 on clay and limestone soil 280-300 meters above sea level that exist on a fault. The wines are macerated for 4 days then fermented with natural yeasts in concrete and aged in French oak barrels, 20% new oak, for 15 months. Delicate nose with bright red fruit flavor and surprising texture.

Domaine Huber-Verdereau La Combe Danay Monthelie AOC, 2013

100% Pinot Noir; Organically farmed since 1994 & Certified Biodynamic; Harvested from 9 hectares on mostly white limestone from an appellation only containing 125 hectare. Wine is 100% destemmed and aged in very old barriques.

Catherine & Dominique Derain La Plante Chassey Mercurey AOC, 2013

Pinot Noir & a touch of Pinot Beurot; Certified Biodynamic; Garnet in the glass and with aromas of cherry pit, orange peel and wild herbs, this powerful, appealingly rustic Mercurey delivers a palate of zesty red berry fruit, orange pulp, and mineral-infused herbaceousness.

JURA / SAVOIE

Jean-Yves Péron Champs Levat Vin de Pays d'Allobrogie, 2011 limited

100% Mondeuse; Biodynamically farmed; The grapes are hand harvested and fermented with natural yeasts and without the addition of sulfur, then aged one year in barrel on lees. Firm tannins frame a medium body with vital acidity that recalls Mondeuse's ancient relationship to Syrah, bright red raspberry and dark licorice.

LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Domaine Ribiera Causse Toujours Vin de Pays d'Herault, 2011

80% Grenache & 20% Syrah; Certified Organic; Winemaker Regis Pichon works 7.5 hectares of vines on schiste and marne covered by galets roules on the sloping hills around the small village of Aspiran in the Languedoc. Handharvested from 35-year-old vines, de-stemmed and fermented for 3 weeks before spending 10 months in tank. He ferments with naturally occurring yeasts and only adds small amounts of sulfur at bottling without fining or filtration.

Domaine Rimbert Cousin Oscar Vin de France, 2016

100% Cinsault; Schist-grown Cinsault, from ancient vines, possesses the deep sense of minerality that is the hallmark of wines grown on this type of land. The fact that this gulpable bottling is so instantly appealing in its lovely fruit notes is just a bonus.

Domaine Rimbert Le Mas au Schiste Saint Chinian AOC, 2013

40% Carignan, 30% Syrah, 25% Grenache, & 5% Mourvedre; Hand-harvested; Varietals are fermented separately in tanks using indigenous yeasts, 1/3 of the cuvée is aged in old oak before blending, bottled using gravity with slight filtration; Ruby in the glass, the nose is redolent with cherry cordial, blueberry jam, and crushed stones backed by black olive and hummus; elegant on the palate and generous with red and black fruit steeped in mineral-infused cocoa tones.

Domaine des Deux Anes Premiers Pas Corbieres AOC, 2014

Carignan with a little black Grenache; Biodynamically farmed & Hand-harvested; Dark ruby with shimmering purple highlights, this sings with beautiful scents of red currant, ripe pomegranate, plum and pear skin. There is lots of red and black fruit on the palate, all backed by a pretty dusting of mineral-infused garrigue. Over delivers for the money.

Les Chemins de Bassac Isa Rouge Vin de Pays des Côtes de Thongue, 2013

Grenache, Mourvedre, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, & Pinot Noir; Certified Organic; Each varietal is vinified separately in stainless steel tanks to preserve freshness, the individual flavors, and aromatics. Deep ruby with pretty purple highlights, a heady medley of cherry, strawberry, currant, plum, and orange spice on the nose, and the palate is a delightful expression of bright and juicy, red and black fruit flavors with moderate tannins and a deft touch of acidity.

Domaine de la Patience Merlot VdP des Coteaux du Pont du Gard, 2014

100% Merlot; Certified Organic; The nose on this charmer is full of baking chocolate, ripe plum and sweet herbs, with a ripe palate bursting with loads of crushed blackberry, plum, and waves of garrigue-infused minerality.

Château La Baronne Corbieres Rouge Les Lanes AOC, 2011

60% Grenache & 40% Carignan; Certified Organic; At the estate, traditional grape varieties of the Languedoc have always been important, but the Lignères Family has a special affection for Carignan, constantly striving to heighten expression, finesse and elegance of this emblematic variety. The domaine is proud to cultivate one of the oldest Carignan vines of the Languedoc dating back to 1892; Fermented in concrete and stainless steel.

LOIRE VALLEY

Domaine Le Fay d'Homme la Part du Colibri Abouriou, 2013 limited

100% Abouriou; Hand-harvested from 30+ year old vines, this Abouriou boasts black cherry and elderberry, excellent tannic structure, and a hint of rusticity that is well-countered by plenty of finesse.

Domaine Chardon Gamay Touraine AOC, 2016

100% Gamay; Organically farmed; Notes of strawberry and black currant are zipped through with peppercorn. Proof that great Gamay isn't limited to Beaujolais, and has the potential to sing beautifully when treated with respect and care.

Gaspard Pinot Noir Touraine, 2015

100% Pinot Noir; Organically farmed; Exemplifying the lighter side of Pinot Noir, this Loire Valley gem brings together the earthy and savory notes of forest floor with appealing wild berry and dark cherry notes. Complex yet wonderfully easy to love.

Domaine de la Chevalerie Diptyque Dernier Cri Bourgueil AOC, 2013

100% Cabernet Franc; Organically farmed; This vineyard has been in the same family for fourteen generations. This cuvee is made from vines averaging 30 years of age where the soil is a mix of alluvium sand and gravel, fermented in stainless steel for 8 to 10 days. The result is a light violet color wine. The nose shows young red fruit. In the mouth, the wine is round, light and fresh. Drinking slightly chilled is best.

Domaine Cousin-Leduc Pur Breton Vin de France, 2015

100% Cabernet Franc; Certified Biodynamic; Ripe plum, cherry, red apple, and chalk tones on the nose, with strawberry, bing cherry and red apple on the palate. Full without being aggressive, and fruity without being the least bit sweet.

Domaine du Mortier Les Pins Bourgueil AOC, 2011 limited

100% Cabernet Franc; Certified Organic; Brothers Fabien and Cyril Boisard founded the winery ten years ago with a practical method to promote eco-diversity. Harvested from 40-year-old vines on gravel soil, clusters are de-stemmed and mascerated for 20 days in the tank. The wine is unchapitalized and fermented with indigenous yeast then aged in 15-year-old oak barrels for 10 months.

Domaine Chahut et Prodiges Coup de Canon Touraine Amboise AOC, 2009

100% Grolleau; Organically farmed; Hand-harvested from 60-year-old vines, carbonic maceration occurs for 2 - 3 weeks with no racking or pumping, aged 8 to 10 months in stainless steel tanks. A subtle, purely delicious, thirst-quenching wine with spicy berry fruit and a little forest floor.

Domaine Sébastien Riffault Raudonas Sancerre AOC, 2011 limited

100% Pinot Noir; Certified Organic; Grapes are hand-harvested with some botrytis from a .05 ha plot of 40-year-old vines. Fermentation and 36-month élevage in 8-15 year-old barrels. Raudonas means "red" in Lithuanian. Light bodied, delicate fruit aromas and flavor with good acidity.

Domaine de L'Ange Vin Lumiere des Sens VdF, 2014

100% Pineau d'Aunis; Certified Organic & Hand-harvested; Robinot's grapes grow in a mixture of red clay, quartz, and limestone in the Jasnieres appellation. This is the kind of wine that could very easily convince major-variety traditionalists that there's more to the wine world than Cabernet and Merlot. Carefully crafted from 50- to 80-year-old Pineau d'Aunis vines, this wine is absolutely delicious, with pepper and spice slicing through more generous notes of plum and dark cherry. A masterpiece.

PROVENCE

Château Saint Anne Bandol Rouge AOC, 2011

90% Mourvèdre & 10% Grenache; Certified Biodynamic; The proximity to the sea and strong winds between the steep hills have created a micro climate which makes it possible to plant and grow on terraces in spite of the punishing summer heat. This is why Mourvèdre, a variety which struggles to ripen elsewhere, is at home here in Bandol. The wine is fermented naturally in stainless steel vats and then aged in oak for a very long time. 2g/hl of sulfur added at bottling.

RHÔNE VALLEY

Domaine du Jas Côtes du Rhone AOC, 2015

60% Grenache & 40% Syrah; Organically farmed & Hand-harvested; Classic Southern Rhône in style, wine with a nose that shows white pepper and spice and a palate that's both gamey and fresh with red fruit.

Domaine Les Deux Terre Silène Merlot VdF, 2015

100% Merlot; Vincent and Manu combined their vineyards and stopped selling fruit so they could make wine together. Les Deux Terre or "the two lands", refers to their collaboration. Located in Ardèche and helped by some of the best in the area, they create wines for pure enjoyment. This Merlot undergoes partial carbonic maceration to extract deep fruit flavors while retaining the structure and acidity present in the grapes.

Grégory Guillaume L'Excentrique VdP de l'Ardèche, 2014

Merlot & Grenache Blend; Certified Organic; Located in Villeneuve de Berg, Grégory belongs to the new generation of natural producers of the Ardèche. This wine is from his first vintage off of a 0.3 hectare plot of 20-year-old vines on limestone and clay soils. Hand-harvested and fermented using carbonic maceration methods and aged in oak. Unfined, unfiltered and zero SO2 added.

Terres des Chardons Bien Luné Costières de Nîmes AOC, 2012

50% Syrah & 50% Grenache; Certified Biodynamic; Terre des Chardons has magnificent parcels nourished with pebbles from thousands of years ago from the Rhône. Hand-harvested from gneiss soil, Grenache undergoes 15 days maceration, Syrah 20 days, then fermented in concrete and fiberglass with natural yeast and aged in concrete tanks.

Les Vignerons d'Estezargues From the Tank Rouge Côtes du Rhone AOC, NV Also available in 3 Liter Box

40% Grenache, 35% Syrah, & 15% Carignan; With elegant notes of smoky red fruit, violets, sweet herbs, and baking chocolate, this turns rich on the palate with ripe cherry and berry flavors as well as a mineral note, all of it finishing subtly floral and spicy.

SUD OUEST

Clos Siguier Cahors AOC, 2015

95% Côt & 5% Tannat; Organically farmed; The 60-year-old vines that produce this wine still impart a sense of vivacity, with black cherry, red currant and cool black tea aromas, and succulent red and black fruit on the palate given bass-note heft with a stone-like sense of minerality.

Château Haut Lavigne Rouge Côtes de Duras AOC, 2016

72% Merlot & 28% Cabernet Franc; Organically farmed; Deep, alluring plum, fresh currant and blackberry aromas lead to red and black fruit on the vibrant palate. Even at more than three years of age, this remains fresh and vital, a testament to the fruit and the land from which it comes.

Fabien Jouves Tu Vin Plus Aux Soirees Vin de France, 2016

70% Malbec & 30% Cabernet Franc; Certified Biodynamic; From the legendary wine region of Cahors comes this blend of Malbec and Cabernet Franc that embodies all the power and complexity that fans look to this locale for: It's dark and dense, with assertive fruit and an underlying sense of savory structure.

La Vignereuse CroiZADe Gaillac, 2014

Syrah & Duras; Hand-harvested; From 40-year-old Syrah and 10-year-old Duras, this bottling showcases the spicier side of both grape varieties, with peppercorn notes sizzling above more subtle flavors of brambly berry fruit.

La Vignereuse A la Santé des Mécréants Gaillac, 2014

100% Duras; Hand-harvested; Hailing from just north of Toulouse, in South West France, this is a bottling that embodies much of what makes the wines of Gaillac so exciting. The fruit of four-decade-old Duras vines has been transformed into a wine of vibrancy and spice, with enough of a bass-note underpinning it all to make this excellent at the table or on its own.

FRANCE - DESSERT WINE

LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Vinyer de la Ruca Banyuls, 2012

100% Grenache Noir; Certified Organic; Two hectares of land result in just 1,000 bottles of this paradigm-shifting stunner. The hand-destemmed grapes are crushed by the feet of "small women," as the producer told us, while they listen to live music. The result of all that care and consideration has resulted in a wine dripping with fig paste and molasses, maple notes, brambly berry compote, and a finish sparked with peppercorn, tobacco, leather, and schist-like minerality. Sweet but not cloying, this is a wildly complex, wonderfully unforgettable wine that will haunt you long after you've finished the liquid in the hand-blown glass bottle.

SPAIN - SPARKLING WINES

CATALONIA

Vinyes Singulars Ancestral Rosado, NV

Xarel.lo, Macabeu, & Monastrell; Just a single day of maceration has turned this wine into a stunningly evocative example of why more consumers should be drinking Catalonian sparkling rosado. With no added sulfites and enough layered fruit to keep every glass expressive and fun, this is a steal.

Clos Lentiscus Blanc de Blancs Brut Nature Penedès, 2013

100% Malvasia; Marine fossils in the soil lend this toasty, yeasty gem a sense of salinity, but higher-pitched notes of crab apple, citrus, and lime pith keep it fresh. The tension between these two parts of the wine are remarkable, and make for a sparkling wine that evolves in the glass in truly fascinating and delicious ways.

Partida Creus VN15 Ancestral Blanco Penedès, 2015

Garnatxa Blanco, Macabeu, Moscatell, Panse, Parellada, Vinyater, & Xarel.lo; Certified Organic; Unlike most sparkling wines from the Penedes, this brilliant take on the category is crafted from some less popular varietals in addition to the more familiar Macabeo, Parellada, and Xarel.lo. As a result, it is a far more layered evocation of Catalonian bubbly than usual, with layers of aromatics subtly informing the spice, fruit, and mineral underpinning.

Partida Creus BS15 Ancestral Blanc de Sumoll Penedès, 2015

100% Blanco de Sumoll; Certified Organic; This hand-harvested, ancestral-method sparkler spends at least 10 months on its fine lees, resulting in ripe fruit characteristics that gain verve from bright acidity and fine-grained bubbles.

EXTREMADURA

Via de la Plata Cava Brut Nature, NV

70% Macabeo & 30% Parellada; Certified Organic, Hand-harvested, and grown on clay; fermented and bottled using the traditional champenoise method. After 30 years of making quality Cava and with retirement in sight, Aniceto made sure his winery landed in the right hands and maintained its artisanal traditions. Ever since taking over, Luis Miguel is determined to sacrifice quantity for quality in order to keep Vía de la Plata amongst Spain's best bubblies. Light gold in color, citrus fruit on the palate.

Via de la Plata Cava Brut Rosado, NV

100% Garnacha; Certified Organic, Hand-harvested, and grown on clay; fermented and bottled using the traditional champenoise method. Aged for 9-25 months before degüelle. Via de la Plata was the first sparkling wine to receive the Cava DO outside of Catalonia. Refreshing with good fruit and soft floral notes.

SPAIN - WHITE WINES

ANDALUSIA

Marenas Viñedo & Bodega Bajo Velo Montilla-Moriles DO, 2011

100% Pedro Ximénez; Organically farmed; Hand-harvested with no additives in the cellar. This wine is fermented dry after 3 years under flor; If you're a fan of sous voile, this wine is for you. Smoke, salt, and acid; An incredible expression of a wine from the albariza (chalky soils) from this region.

Marenas Viñedo y Bodega Montepilas, 2016

100% Montepila; This is a wine that will utterly enthrall—it's crafted from a little-known grape native to Montilla that gets its color from skin that's been burned by the local sun, bleeding off some of its pigment into the juice itself. And with no added sulfites, no fining, and no filtering, the notes of spice-tinged stone fruit and orange oil can shine through with clarity and honesty.

Urium Fino en Rama, NV 500 ml

100% Palomino; The nose of this rare, utterly delightful sherry is dominated by yeast, which, on the palate, opens up to reveal a deeply savory core of smoky umami complicated by a mysterious hit of citrus. Beguiling.

BASQUE

Ulibarri Artzaiak Ondarribi Zuri, 2015

100% Ondarribi Zuri; Very serious Basque white, almost waxy in texture, especially the finish. It's sourced from a two-hectare plot of vines by brothers who first made their name as shepherds and cheese-makers. The wine itself shows the sub-region's proximity to the Bay of Biscayne with minerality and saltiness, yet because the fruit is harvested somewhat later than most, it's more evolved and textured. This is a spectacular wine with well-calibrated notes of stone fruit and citrus, versatile at the table yet fantastic unaccompanied, sipped on its own.

CASTILE AND LEÓN

Bodegas Vega de Tera Verdejo, 2014

100% Verdejo; Organically farmed & Hand-harvested; This pure Verdejo is pale yellow in the glass with a vibrant nose of tropical fruit and ripe peach. The palate is full of bright stone fruit that is beautifully balanced with crisp, refreshing acidity with a hint of minerality. Astounding wine for the money.

Barco del Corneta "Cu-cú" Verdejo, 2013

100% Verdejo; Certified Biodynamic; Yellow apple and hard apricot on the mid-palate lead to a subtly briny, mineral finish that lingers, and stands up to a wide variety of dishes.

CATALONIA

Cellars de Can Suriol Azimut Blanc, 2014

40% Macabeu, 30% Garnatxa, & 10% Malvasia; Certified Organic; Harvested from 25-year-old vines planted on calcerous clay on a 5 hectare vineyard at 250 meters altitude. The grapes are vinified in 15,000-liter stainless steel tanks for 30 days with only indigenous yeasts. After the wine goes into concrete tanks for 3 months for malolactic fermentation and battonage. The wine is unfined and goes through a soft paper filter to remove tartaric particles.

Finca Parera Clar Xarel.lo Blend Penedès, 2016

Xarel.lo, Gewurtztraminer, & Chardonnay; This bottling, which leverages one of the major grape varieties in the region's bubbly, possesses the minerality you'd expect from the calcareous clay terroir, and the pure energy so typical of biodynamically farmed fruit. It's a game-changer.

Vinyes Singulars Xarel.lo Catalonia, 2015

100% Xarel.lo; The vineyard was planted back in 1959—for a sense of context, Eisenhower was still President!—and in the intervening 58 years, the vines have sunk their roots deep into their storied land, resulting in a wine of ample character on the palate and a haunting aromatic profile that will stay with you long after the bottle is empty.

Partida Creus VN Vinel.lo Blanco Penedès. 2016

Garnatxa Blanco, Macabeu, Moscatell, Panse, Parellada, Vinyater, & Xarel.lo; Certified Organic; An exquisite blend of grape varieties that you don't often see in the same bottle, this unfined and unfiltered 2015, crafted with foot-trodden grapes fermented with native yeast, is bright with autumn orchard fruit and given excellent posture with vibrant acidity.

Escoda-Sanahuja Els Bassots Chenin, 2013

100% Chenin Blanc; Organic & Biodynamically farmed; Chenin Blanc may not be the first grape variety that comes to mind when thinking of Catalonia, but this bottling will make you a believer with its ripe fruit and bright citrus aromatics leading the way to a creamy, balanced palate perfectly spiced with oak. For enjoying now or holding onto in the cellar.

Clos Lentiscus Perill Blanc Penedès, 2015

100% Xarel.lo; Deeply savory with a hint of saltiness from the marine fossils in the soil, and with an overlying note of apricot, apple skin, and pear fritter. This 100% Xarel.lo is fermented and aged in amphora with bit of skin contact, which lends it a slightly oxidative note. It's aged on the lees before being bottled unfiltered and unfined.

Stol n Xarello Penedès, 2013 limited

100% Xarel.lo; A silky palate carries flavors of grapefruit, citrus pith, salt, and herbal notes like tarragon and shiso. Its laser-beam clarity of flavor and taut acidity promise several years of evolution, but it's difficult to resist right now.

EXTREMADURA

Cerro La Barca Vegas Altas Blanc, 2016

100% Eva de los Santos; Certified Organic; Winemakers Juan Sojo and Ángel Luis González studied oenology together and have been making wines together ever since. Ángel Luis comes from a background in agriculture while Juan comes from a background in science, together they want to prove their homeland's winemaking potential and in doing so have recovered one of the region's forgotten varieties: Eva de los Santos. Fermented using indigenous yeasts in stainless steel vats for over 35 days preserving the natural carbonation and bottled without fining or filtration.

GALICIA

Bodegas Albamar Albamar Albariño Rias Baixas DO, 2014

100% Albariño; Certified Organic; Grown on sand and clay a mere 50 meters from the ocean, this quintessentially marine-inflected Albariño is zipped through with a salty character and a burst of lemon. Custom-made for fish and seafood.

Narupa Alala Albariño Rias Baixas DO, 2014

100% Albariño; Unlike most Rías Baixas Albariño, this bottling benefits from a small portion of the estate fruit having been aged in used wood. The resulting layers of complexity are stunning, the palate singing with classic stone-fruit notes punched up with the telltale minerality and subtle salty notes of the appellation.

RIOJA

Compañon Arrieta Herrigoia Zuri Viura Rioja, 2014

85% Viura & 15% Malvasia; Certified Organic; The Viura grape is also known as Macabeo; Grapes are hand-harvested from the upper parts of multiple plots in the vineyard; Flavors are fresh with good acidity and a pleasant aftertaste.

VALENCIA

Flos de Pinoso Bianco, 2015

50% Macabeo & 50% Airén; Certified Organic; Hand selection and indigenous yeasts combine to produce a wine intimately tied to its terroir, with refreshing apple and citrus fruit, bright acidity and a clean finish that practically demands another sip.

SPAIN - ROSÉ WINES

CATALONIA

Clos Lentiscus Brut Nature Rosé Samso Penedès, 2013

100% Samso; Organically & Biodynamically farmed; This toasty, yeasty gem is made from single-vineyard Carignan (Samso) vines planted inside Garraf National Park in 1939. Fermented in stainless steel vats with indigenous yeasts added. Beautifully dry and crisp with hints of wild strawberries, salinity, and almonds.

CASTILE AND LEÓN

Bodegas Vega de Tera Rosado, 2015

100% Prieto Picudo; Organic & Biodynamically farmed; This rosado has it all: It's organic and biodynamic, fermented with natural yeasts, sees no oak whatsoever, and is crafted in a run of just 7,000 bottles. The level of care that is lavished on it is clear in the first sip and sniff: Watermelon Jolly Rancher and red cherry flavors are lifted by a hint of scrubby dried herbs and watermelon rind that inform it but don't dominate.

SPAIN - RED WINES

ANDALUSIA

Bodegas Cauzón Mozuelo Norte de Granada DO, 2014

85% Garnacha & 15% Garnacha Tintorera; Ramon Saavedra's family has always owned a small vineyard but would only make wine for consumption. He pursued a career as a chef, until he decided to return to his native Cortes y Graena in the Granada province of Andalucía...red rocks and sand as far as the eye can see. He took over his family's small vineyard and planted another 4 hectares on alluvial soil deposited at the base of Sierra Nevada. The grapes see short skin maceration (about 4 days), are pressed, and fermented in stainless steel with no oak treatment. Unfiltered, unfined, no sulphur.

ARAGON

QUO Grenache Campo de Borja, 2015

100% Grenache; Classic Garnacha nose of ripe dark cherries, spice, and a hint of dried oregano. The palate is nicely concentrated, with chocolate-y tannins, roasting cacao nibs, and leather notes complicating the tobacco and black cherry flavors.

CASTILE AND LEÓN

Bodegas Vega de Tera Tinto Joven, 2014

80% Tempranillo & 20% Prieto Picudo; Organically farmed; The nose here is full of dark berries, stone fruit, and graphite. On the palate, spicy fruit and tannins integrate into a medium-bodied, expressive, and fresh wine. Lots of complexity for a joven.

Bodegas y Viñedos Akilia Villa de San Lorenzo Bierzo DO, 2013

100% Mencia; Fruit from 40% Chano Villar, 20% Lombano, & the rest from his most recently acquired vineyard, Villarin (1 ha). East facing vineyard composed of 80-year-old bush pruned vines planted on clay loam over quartzite and slate. Each parcel vinified separately. All of which fermented in cement only difference being 12 months of oak aging for Lombano.

Daniel Ramos Zerberos El Altar Garnacha, 2014

100% Garnacha; Praticing Organic; One of four single-vineyard Garnachas from Daniel Ramos. Some of the vines in this vineyard go back 80 years. There is no filering or fining to this wine and only indigenous yeasts are used. Nice cherry notes that blend harmoniously with notes of herbs and spices.

Daniel Ramos Zerberos del Tiemblo Garnacha, 2013

100% Garnacha; Praticing Organic; One of four single-vineyard Garnachas from Daniel Ramos. The vines are planted in a mix of granitic and schist soils, which lead to a wonderful minerality mixed in with notes of sour cherry and thyme. Aged 12-months in Frenck oak.

Mandrágoras Tragaldabas, 2013

100% Rufete; Shimmeringly bright in appearance, this unforgettable bottling is defined by its more floral characteristics yet balanced out beautifully with subtle tannins and a freshness that's all too rare with wines this effusively perfumed.

CASTILLA-LA MANCHA

Castillo de Jumilla Monastrell Jumilla, 2014

100% Monastrell; Blackberry and green and black peppercorn waltz alongside one another in this phenomenal Monastrell from Jumilla. Like so many of the standout reds from there, it's just as alluring on its own—the fruit is fantastic—as it is paired with a great meal, which if planned properly will really bring out the spice.

Castillo de Jumilla Crianza Jumilla, 2012

90% Monastrell & 10% Tempranillo; Effusive cherry, plum, and boysenberry anchor this joyful red, with mineral and vanilla-tinged spice lending it remarkable complexity. Impossible to stop sipping.

Pinodoncel Cincomeses Jumilla, 2014

50% Monastrell, 30% Syrah, & 20% Petit Verdot; Ripe, giving fruit notes are made even more intriguing with the added complexity of a smart use of oak, which lends this lovely red decadent hints of vanilla and crème brûlée alongside heaps of cherry compote and plum cake.

Jiménez-Landi Bajondillo Mentrida, 2016

85% Garnacha, 15% Syrah & Cabernet; Following a 20-day maceration, this Garnacha - Syrah - Cabernet blend is vinified with its natural yeasts and aged in used wood, the better to not interfere with the terroir that sings through with such clarity. Notes of berry fruit and minerality and lifted with hints of herb. Excellent now, and with the potential to improve in the bottle in the short-term.

Jiménez-Landi Sotorrondero Garnacha Mentrida, 2015

70% Garnacha & 30% Syrah; From one of the great yet still-too-unfamiliar appellations of Spain, this standout red provides a riveting glimpse into the magic that the Mentrida D.O. is capable of. Earthy notes coexist alongside lively Garnacha fruit and a hint of spice, demanding sip after sip.

Julia Casado La Del Terreno Monastrell Jumilla, 2015

100% Monastrell; Remarkably fresh acidity lifts this 100% whole-cluster Monastrell right from the glass. It's an excellent example of what makes Spanish wine so exciting right now: Produced at a 100%-sustainable bodega that grew out of shipping containers, the fruit is foot-trodden in cement and then aged in used French barriques that had previously been employed to age Casa Castillo. It's the full package.

CATALONIA

Cellar de Can Suriol Azimut Negre, 2013

40% Ull de Llebre (Tempranillo), 20% Garnatxa, 20% Monastrell, 10% Syrah, & 10% Samsó (Carignan); Harvested from 20-year-old vines on calcerous clay and vinified in 15,000-liter stainless steel tanks for 20 days with only indigenous yeasts. After the wine goes into concrete tanks for 8-15 months for malolactic fermentation and battonage for 3 months. The wine is unfined and goes through a soft paper filter to remove tartaric particles. It is lightly sulfured at bottling.

Clos Lentiscus Perill Noir Penedès, 2010

100% Sumoll; Aged for a year in amphora and the rest of the time in bottle, this brilliantly made wine is bright with acidity and still seems remarkably young, yet it also shows amazing hints of maturity, with flowers, tart cherry, and pomegranate, as well as flashes of earthier and more herbaceous notes. Subtly grippy tannins carry this wine through to a generous finish.

Escoda-Sanahuja Les Paradetes, 2011

Tempranillo, Garnatxa, Samsa, Cabernet Franc, & Merlot; Organic & Biodynamically farmed; This wine greets us with frontal and succulent tannins, becomes round and voluminous but, stays fresh. The terroir gives it a bit of metallic ...mentholated flavor. Got a slipping tannin with a fantastic ending bouquet. Delicious, strong, clear, fast, and aerial.

Els Jelipins El Penedès Superior, 2010, 2011

60% Sumoll & 40% Garnacha; Each bottle of this wine is hand-painted, showing the symbolic heart of Els Jelipins, although the heart changes with every vintage. Inside that bottle, the wine itself shows an intense nose of kirsch and well-defined red fruit, accompanied by a subtle hint of balsamic and flowers with notes of cacao and mineral.

Finca Parera Fins Als Kullons Penedès, 2016 1 Liter

Xarel.lo, Garnacha Blanc, & Sumoll; Biodynamically Farmed; Minimal intervention and no added sulphur. This light-bodied red from Ruben Parera, is so easy to especially when lightly chilled, with hints of red berries and hibiscus. Definitely a porch pounder!

Partida Creus VN Vinel.lo Rojo Catalonia, 2016

Blend of Garnacha, Sumoll, Samso, Queixal de Llop, & Ull de Perdiu; Organically farmed; Fermented with native yeast, no sulfur, or anything else added. Massimo Marchiori and Antonella Gerosa are an Italian couple from Piedmont making wines in the Baix Penedès. They are recovering old vines in the area, in some cases unwanted and abandoned due to low yields and unknown varietals, farming them organically and producing grapes and wines of extreme quality and concentration. Cutting acidity, light, and juicy with an earthy finish.

Partida Creus SM Sumoll Baix Penedés, 2014

100% Sumoll; Certified Organic; One of the more Mediterranean wines they make. Juicy dark fruit that's ripe and grippy without losing the acidity, freshness, and drinkability that characterizes all of their wines. Foot treaded, whole cluster fermentation in stainless steel where it remains for a year until bottling unfiltered and unfined.

EXTREMADURA

Cerro La Barca Vegas Altas Tinto, 2014

100% Tempranillo; Certified Organic; Winemakers Juan Sojo and Ángel Luis González studied oenology together and have been making wines ever since. Ángel Luis comes from a background in agriculture while Juan comes from a background in science, together they want to prove their homeland's winemaking potential and in doing so have recovered one of the region's forgotten varieties: Eva de los Santos.

GALICIA

As Furnias As Furnias Vino Tinto, NV

45% Brancellao, 15% Caiño Longo, 5% Caiño da Terra, 15% Sousón, & 20% Espadeiro; Certified Biodynamic; The blend may be unfamiliar to many, but the character of the wine is immediately appealing, with a nose showing wild blackberry, raspberry, and blueberry, as well as a subtle bouquet of forest floor.

Bodegas Albamar Fusco Mencia Ribeira Sacra DO, 2014

100% Mencia; Certified Organic; Mencia has been on a roll in recent years, and bottlings like this embody exactly why. Dark fruit with a nice counterpoint of earthy, vegetal characteristics, as well as a stony sense of minerality.

Silice Viticultores Red Blend, 2015

This Mencia-dominant blend (with 20% of Merenzao, Albarello, Garnacha Tintorera, and more) shows minerality and salinity cutting through brambly purple berry fruit, as well as red cherry, cranberry, spice, and flowers. A remarkable wine that is proof that the legendary white wines of Galicia's Rias Baixas aren't the only ones to seek out from the region.

RIOJA

Compañon Arrieta Tempranillo Rioja DO, 2016

100% Tempranillo; Certified Organic; Carbonic maceration and fermentation in cement results in a purple wine with an aroma of wild blackberry, raspberry, and strawberry. Fruit-forward with well-structured tannins.

VALENCIA

Flos de Pinoso Rosso, 2015

100% Monastrell; Certified Organic; Proof that Monastrell should be far more widely consumed than it currently is, especially at a price like this: Copious notes of red and black forest fruit, hints of spice, and plenty of power, yet impeccably balanced. An unexpectedly perfect BTG option.

SPAIN - VERMOUTH

De Muller Iris Blanco Vermouth, Catalonia, NV

Sweet yet never cloying, this blanco vermouth would make an excellent addition to a range of cocktails—or to simply sipping all fresco, maybe cut with a little seltzer. The tension between the nuttier aspects of it against the licorice lift of anise is electric, and demands sip after sip.

De Muller Iris Dorado Vermouth, Catalonia, NV

Practically an entire world of exotic spice swirls in the glass with this vermouth, the rich, warming notes of cinnamon and licorice twisted up with the minty lift of chamomile and more.

De Muller Iris Rojo Vermouth, Catalonia, NV

The herbal complexity of this vermouth counters its sweetness perfectly, making it ideal for both sipping on the rocks, perhaps with a splash of soda water, or as part of an unexpectedly riveting Manhattan. Sage, thyme, rosemary, and a panoply of other botanicals lend this a dizzying sense of depth.

UNITED STATES - SPARKLING WINES

NEW YORK

Bloomer Creek Tanzen Dame Pet Nat Finger Lakes, 2015

Riesling & Cayuga White; A harmonious blend of two well-known varietals of the Finger Lakes, this bottling is disgorged, unfiltered, and unfined with no added sulfur, after all the fruit is hand-harvested.

UNITED STATES - WHITE WINES

CALIFORNIA

Dirty & Rowdy Family Wineries Sémillon, Yountville, Napa Valley, 2014

100% Sémillon; Organically farmed; 80% of grapes see skin contact during alcoholic fermentation in open top tanks for 15 days and are pressed off to 13 oak barrels (11 French and 2 old American) and a small stainless-steel tank. The remaining 20% of the fruit was pressed off immediately to the concrete egg for fermentation. In the egg as fermentation happens, bubbles form and the shape of the egg constantly pushed juice in circles. 2012 was a year filled with intense flavors balanced with natural acidity. Give it a little decant and pour just under cellar temp.

Donkey and Goat Gadabout, California, 2016

Grenache Blanc, Roussanne, Marsanne, Vermentino, & Chardonnay; Rhône meets Sardinia meets Burgundy...what's not to love? This highly original blend proves that the unlikeliest of combinations often results in the most exciting wines. Stone fruit, spice, almond-like nuttiness, and minerality carry the day with this magnificent natural bottling from one of the most intriguing producers in the Golden State.

Donkey and Goat Ramato Anderson Valley, 2015

100% Pinot Gris; Extended skin-contact gives this Pinot Gris its unusual color, and leads to riveting notes of cranberry, stone fruit, and leather, as well as a sense of brininess that sets this apart from most other examples of the grape variety on the market today.

Kutch Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay, 2015

100% Chardonnay; The first vintage of Kutch's Chardonnay, and it's already been bowling over critics. Justifiably so: Rarely is a California Chardonnay so deeply reminiscent of Meursault yet wholly possessed of its own inimitable character. Haunting and exhilarating at the same time.

Leo Steen Jurassic Park Chenin Blanc, Santa Ynez Valley, 2012

100% Chenin Blanc; Fossil-strewn, well-drained soil are among the keys to this mineral-driven Chenin Blanc. The 2012 embodies the character of the vineyard perfectly, with those vibrant mineral notes pulsing through flashes of almond, yellow stone fruit, and white tea, all carried on a texture as appealing as those expressive flavors and aromas.

Leo Steen Saini Vineyard Chenin Blanc, Dry Creek Valley, 2015

100% Chenin Blanc; Brightly citric and floral aromatics presage crunchy autumn fruit and a deeply held sense of minerality that pulses through it all. Pure, delicious, and a great introduction to Leo Steen.

Merriam Vineyards Danielle Sauvignon Blanc, Russian River Valley, 2015

94% Sauvignon Blanc & 6% Sémillon; Crafted from fruit that's farmed organically and CCOF-certified, this vineyard is in full view of the farmhouse-style tasting room, right near the Russian River. The wine is aged in 50% neutral oak for added softness to its crisp, clear aromas of ripe green bell pepper, and excellent acidity cuts through ripe passionfruit and mango.

Methode Sauvage Vista Verde Vineyards Chenin Blanc, 2016

100% Chenin Blanc; Chad Hinds focuses his efforts on Chenin and Cabernet Franc. Vista Verde, located right outside the Chalone AVA, offers incredible fruit that Chad ferments naturally into barrel. Malo is not inhibited. The Chenin is ripe with vibrant acidity and subtle savory notes.

Ryme Weeks Vineyard Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast, 2013

100% Chardonnay; A three-week indigenous-yeast fermentation and elevage in neutral barrels has resulted in a wine that will evolve in the cellar for a long time but that, right now, is bracing with acidity, pear, and a deep sense of terroir-derived minerality.

Ryme Las Brisas Vineyard 'Hers' Vermentino, Carneros 2016

100% Vermentino; The embodiment of a less-is-more philosophy of winemaking, this Vermentino is fermented with native yeasts after being whole-cluster pressed, and is every bit as crisp and vivacious as you'd hope. Notes of citrus and flowers are cut through with acidity and minerality, proving that Carneros does so much more than excellent Pinot Noir.

Ryme 'His' Vermentino, Carneros, 2014

100% Vermentino; A plush-textured expression that boasts notes of flowers, tangerine, and persimmon, this orange wine reflects all of the efforts that went into every aspect of its production, including foot-pressing, a two-week fermentation on the skins, and nine months of barrel aging. A game-changing Vermentino.

NEW YORK

Billsboro Kashong White, Finger Lakes, 2014

70% Cayuga White & 30% Vidal Blanc; Proof that great wine doesn't all come from the classic grape varieties, this stunner is crisp and fruity, with gobs of tangerine and lime zest, as well as an anchoring hit of acid.

Billsboro Dry Riesling, Finger Lakes, 2015

100% Riesling; Notes of stone and peach define the palate, traveling along a racy beam of lime. From one of our favorite domestic Riesling producers, this beauty is stunning on its own or at the table.

Billsboro Pinot Gris, Finger Lakes, 2012

100% Pinot Gris; This Alsace-inspired wine has a delightful bouquet of bosc pear and fuji apple, and a palate bright with minerality and spice.

Bloomer Creek Edelzwicker Blue Cap, Finger Lakes, 2013

50% Cayuga White, 45% Gewürtztraminer, & 5% Riesling; Comprising a blend of Riesling, Gewürztraminer, and Cayuga White, this homage to the great Edelzwickers of Alsace is most firmly rooted in its Finger Lakes home, with notes of spice and stone fruit, and a texture that practically demands sip after sip after sip.

Bloomer Creek Edelzwicker Black Cap, Finger Lakes, 2013

55% Cayuga White, 30% Gewürtztraminer, & 15% Riesling; Immensely pretty floral notes on the nose in the vein of rosewater and jasmine, joined by a touch of exotic spice, candied ginger, lemongrass, and tropical fruit. These turn to dryer flavors than the nose implies, zipped up with minerality and pleasantly balanced acid, as well as hard tropical fruit, hints of melon pith, and a finish like lemon oil.

UNITED STATES - RED WINES

CALIFORNIA

Cain Cuvée NV12, Napa Valley, 2012

Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, & Petit Verdot; The flagship wine for the vast majority of Champagne houses is a non-vintage blend, so why shouldn't great red wines also be composed of multiple years' harvests? The Cain Cuvée is proof that they absolutely can be. Based on the 2012 vintage yet not exclusively composed from it, the Cain Cuvée NV12 is an exceptional gathering of fruit from some of the top growers in Napa, a wine that's crafted to express the more lithe side of the legendary appellation and the fruit that grows there. Which is does, and brilliantly so.

Cain Concept, The Benchland, Napa Valley, 2008

Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot, & Merlot; More savory than fans of quintessential Napa Cabernet-based blends might expect, this Bordeaux-style bottling has plenty in common with its French inspiration: Coffee, earth, leather, tobacco, and spice anchor ripe dark-berry fruit that even seven years on is fantastically concentrated.

Cain Five, Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley, 2006

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec, & Petite Verdot; This Cabernet Sauvignon-dominant blend is a testament to the quality of Cain and the brilliance of its winemaker's vision: Remarkably structured by its notable tannins yet never overwrought, and with enough fruit to keep you going back for another sip, yet certainly not defined by it.

Cain Five, Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley, 2012

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Malbec, & Petite Verdot; Almost delicate in texture given the expectations of this sort of blend in Napa, the 2012 vintage of this always-fascinating wine is both savory and fresh, fantastic on its own and delicious alongside a wide range of food.

Dirty & Rowdy California Familiar Mourvèdre, 2014

100% Mourvèdre; Whole-cluster fermentation, native yeast, foot-tread fruit, and a seriously transporting, aromatically complex, and brightly fruited wine to show for all that effort. Which was well worth it, in our estimation.

Dirty & Rowdy Antle Vineyard Mourvèdre, Monterey County, 2014 limited

100% Mourvèdre; Only 154 cases of this whole-cluster-fermented revelation were produced, but the impact of each and every bottle of dramatic. Plum, tobacco, spice, and herb vie for primacy here, all of them working their magic within a beautifully structured textural framework. Unfined, unfiltered, and unforgettable.

Donkey and Goat Gallivanter Mendocino County, 2015

Merlot, Syrah, Pinot Noir, Grenache, Mourvédre, etc.; The red equivalent to the Gadabout, this bottling is made in true minimalist fashion with no filtration, fining or added sulphur. Fermented in French oak, it's a harmonious blend of varietals and appellations

Indie Cuvées James Cabernet Sauvignon, California, 2015

100% Cabernet Sauvignon; A member of the Indie Cuvees, the James Cab is a wine priced for the people from the same producers Indie already works with in their portfolio. Fermented with natural yeasts in stainless steel with 5-6 days maceration, the wine ages in stainless steel for another 4 months to create a fresh and juicy California wine to be enjoyed by all.

Kutch Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir, 2014

100% Pinot Noir; Delicate floral nuances rise above the cherry fruit in this remarkably priced wine that could fetch substantially more. Winemaker Jamie Kutch proves his acumen yet again with the most finicky of grape varieties, imprinting his own vision while fully respecting the fruit and terroir.

Kutch Falstaff Vineyard Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast, 2012

100% Pinot Noir; Jamie Kutch is emerging as one of the rock-star winemakers in the world of California Pinot Noir, and this beauty embodies all that he's doing right. Generous spice and fruit are carried along on a structure that's irresistible right now and holds loads of promise for years to come. Excellent acidity, hints of high-toned herb, and spice alongside gorgeous fruit.

Kutch McDougall Ranch Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast, 2014

100% Pinot Noir; Satisfying both New World Pinot lovers and fans of Burgundy, the 2014 McDougall Ranch bottling flashes both generous fruit as well as a savory, more earthy side that lingers as long in the memory as it does on the finish.

Leo Steen Upper Scala Vineyard Syrah, Sonoma Mountain, 2013

100% Syrah; Unlike many California Syrahs, this one rings in at less than 14% alcohol, which allows the bright acid (and Syrah tannins) to frame blackberry that's lifted from the glass with ambrosial floral notes.

Lost and Found Carignan Mourvèdre, Sonoma Coast, 2015

Carignan & Mourvèdre; Rich and generous yet still seriously structured, this beauty elicits boysenberry and mulberry rounding out well-spiced flavors of black cardamom, scorched earth, root beer spice, chocolate, and a hint of coffee. With Carignan vines from 1940 and Mourvèdre from 1890, this bottling is a testament to both excellent winemaking and stellar fruit sourcing.

Lost and Found Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley, 2013

100% Pinot Noir; Taut and steely, with cranberry and red raspberry joined by incisive minerality and, with air, a hint of red licorice. Excellent concentration on the palate as well, with a finish that speaks of subtle springtime flowers that turn in the direction of rose petals on the finish. Grippy tannins and impeccable balance promise enjoyment immediately and potential in the cellar.

Merriam Vineyards Cuvée Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley, 2013

100% Pinot Noir; Just four acres of vineyard are the source of this precise, immensely appealing Pinot Noir bursting with flavors of spiced cherry, toasty vanilla, allspice, and a mix of wild berries, all of it cut through with ample acidity to maintain freshness.

Merriam Vineyards Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Russian River Valley, 2011

100% Cabernet Sauvignon; A fully mature and exceptionally giving wine, with dried currants, a hint of sage, lifted cedar and sandalwood, sweet fruit, melted tannins leading to a silky mouthfeel, and minty aromatics.

Merriam Vineyards Jones Vineyard Cabernet Franc, Dry Creek Valley, 2011

95% Cabernet Franc & 5% Cabernet Sauvignon; Lots of cinnamon bumping up against well-structured acid, clove, purple berry fruit, and tea notes, all carried on an assertive structure and drying tannins that are still ripe.

Methode Sauvage Cabernet Franc "Occult Cab", 2016

100% Cabernet Franc; Chad blends parcels from Santa Cruz Mountains and Sonoma to create a direct opposite impression to California's "Cult Cabs." The wine is wild and intriguing with deep mineral notes balanced by linera acidity and rich fruit. California Chinon for all intents and purposes.

Ryme Carignane Testa Vineyard, Mendocino, 2014

100% Carignane; Dry-farmed, organic 90-year-old vines produce deeply concentrated berries that are crushed by foot and fermented in an open-topped vessel. The result is a wonderfully spicy red whose leather and cherry notes are lifted by an overlay of sandalwood.

Ryme Alegria Vineyard Cabernet Franc, Russian River Valley, 2012

100% Cabernet Franc; Eschewing the all-too-typical tendency to over-ripen Cabernet Franc, and to cook out its inherent aromatic complexity, this cooler-climate bottling showcases the grape variety's high-toned herbal notes without sacrificing any of the fruit.

Ryme Las Brisas Vineyard Pinot Noir, Carneros, 2013

100% Pinot Noir; From one of the cooler vineyards in Carneros—and it's been farmed by the same person for nearly half a century—this Pinot Noir is a wonderfully elegant and energetic bottling. Between the native-yeast fermentation and aging in neutral oak, the mineral and herb notes come to the fore, which makes this wine an excellent pairing partner for a range of dishes…or simply on its own.

Ryme Luna Matta Vineyards Aglianico, Paso Robles, 2013

100% Aglianico; Foot-trodden and fermented with its stems, this is Aglianico as it can and should be: Rich and robust, with generous helpings of dark-berry fruit joined by a savory scorched earth note that serves to highlight the lovely fruit of the vintage.

NEW YORK

Billsboro Cabernet Franc, Finger Lakes, 2013

98% Cabernet Franc & 2% Cabernet Sauvignon; Harvested in early October and then transferred into open top containers. After spending about 10 days on its skins, this Bordeaux varietal was pressed off and transferred to American oak barrels and aged for about 9 months. It has a deep cranberry color with hints of spice and fresh fruit. Rich on the palate with soft tannins on the end.

Billsboro Pinot Noir, Finger Lakes, 2013

100% Pinot Noir; Notes of leather and cherry find their counterpart in black-pepper spice, all of it proving that the Finger Lakes are truly a home for world-class Pinot Noir.

Billsboro Syrah, Finger Lakes, 2012

97% Syrah & 3% Cabernet Sauvignon; Dark in color, with mature fruit and floral notes on the nose leading to hints of spice and a soft creaminess on the palate.

Bloomer Creek Cabernet Franc, Finger Lakes, 2013

100% Cabernet Franc; Classic aromatic profile, with cherry, eucalyptus and older herbs, as well as a beautiful seam of minerality, and a palate of elevated acidity and minerality, joined by a hint of something almost vegetable, higher-toned spice notes like clove and cinnamon stick, and a touch of pomegranate seeds. Delicious and quite complex.

Bloomer Creek White Horse Red Blend, Finger Lakes, 2014

70% Cabernet Franc & 30% Merlot; The name of this food-friendly red is a sly reference to the Right Bank icon that inspired it: Cheval Blanc. As such, it's a blend of Cabernet Franc and Merlot, and boasts a combination of earthiness and red-fruit pop that will appeal to fans of Bordeaux-style blends everywhere.

OREGON

Montebruno Kathken Pinot Noir, 2012

100% Pinot Noir; Not that we needed the proof, but this bottling is a gorgeous embodiment of the fact that great Pinot from the Eola Hills can be crafted in a way that its aging potential is significant. It's excellent now, with its huckleberry and blueberry fruit edged with minerals and carried along on a beam of tannins, but patience will most certainly be rewarded.

Montebruno Crawford Beck Vineyard Willamette Valley, Pinot Noir, 2012

100% Pinot Noir; A deliciously layered Pinot Noir, with rich red fruit, stones and spice, all of which lead to a finish of deep floral aromatics.

UNITED STATES - DESSERT WINE

CALIFORNIA

Merriam Vineyards Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc, RRV, 2014 375 ml

100% Sauvignon Blanc; An exuberant, unusual style of Sauvignon Blanc, this brings to mind the best of Sauternes but in a fresher vein, with tropical fruit dancing alongside orange blossom and passionfruit. The sweetness here informs the palate, but never dominates it, with lots of peach cobbler and warm honey.

OTHER REGIONS - WHITE WINES

AUSTRALIA

Ngeringa Chardonnay, 2009 limited

100% Chardonnay; Biodynamically farmed; Hand-harvested, fermented in barriques using natural yeasts, 100% natural malolactic fermentation with light fining and no filtration, aged 12 months in mostly older French barriques, 15% new oak. A rounded, alluring wine marked by aromas of ripe Nashi pear and flint stone, honeycomb and mineral complexity on the palate with fine, chalky tannins and a driven, crisp, acidic structure, attractive balance, and persistence.

AUSTRIA

Brunn Grüner Veltliner Kamptal, 2016 1 Liter

100% Grüner Veltliner; Generous orchard fruit and orange oil on the nose are joined by a hint of lentil, all of which morphs into a palate expressing lime, mandarin orange, and a touch of spice. Remarkable on its own, and downright extraordinary given the price and the one-liter bottle.

Brunn "Green" Grüner Veltliner Kamptal, 2015

100% Grüner Veltliner; Riper aromatically than the other Gruner, yet still fantastically fresh. On the palate, white pepper spices up hard apple and stone fruit, all of it carried on a frame both powerful vivacious.

Martin Arndorfer Vorgeschmack White Kamptal, 2016

80% Grüner Veltliner & 20% Riesling; Sweetly giving and bracingly mouthwatering all at once. White flowers, honey and lemon dancing with lemongrass and candied ginger. Complex and immensely lovably.

Martin Arndorfer Strasser Weinberge Grüner Veltliner, 2015

100% Grüner Veltliner; From the three most important vineyards in the valley, this reserve bottling shows classic notes of lime and lentil, and a sense of weight from the 10 months it spends on the full lees (without any stirring).

Martin Arndorfer Grüner Veltliner Die Liedenschaft 2012 limited

100% Grüner Veltliner; From Austrian rock-star Arndorfer's "passion line" of wines comes this exceptional expression of the great white grape of Austria, crafted in a way to, as Arndorfer notes on his web site, "show the grandeur of this grape variety" and to "highlight the Burgundy vein of the Gruner Veltliner." With this spicy, long-lived bottling, he has most definitely accomplished his mission.

Martin Arndorfer Riesling die Leidenschaft, 2008 limited

100% Riesling; Die Leidenschaft is German for "the passion," Martin's love of using oak for roundness and complexity. Late harvest of two first growth vineyards; Fermented and aged partly in stainless steel and barrique; Bright white peach on the nose with the minerality, structure and elegance reminiscent of Meursault; Medium to full bodied, perfect balance, beautiful acidity and a long finish.

CHILE

Cacique Maravilla Gutiflower, 2015

70% Moscatel de Alejandría, 20% Corinto, & 10% Torontel; Organically farmed; Instantly appealing aromatics that hint at rose water and peach presage a palate that's fresh, mineral, and just the slightest bit salty. Delicious alone and even better with food.

Laurent Family Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc, 2016

100% Sauvignon Blanc; Created by the practicing organic/biodynamic Bordeaux winemaker, Gerard Laurent of Château L'Escart, this BTG-priced Sauvignon Blanc from the Maipo Valley shows juicy high acidity with flavors of lime, grass, and pineapple.

CROATIA

Kosovec Škrlet Moslavina, 2014

100% Škrlet; Organically farmed; A beautiful nose of meadow flowers, honey, lime tree, a hint of light spice and fresh citrus. Solid acidity on the palate with great balance—this is delightful.

GERMANY

Gustavshof Vom Berg Riesling Trocken, Rheinhessen, 2015 1 Liter

100% Riesling; Demeter Certified; Grapes grown on biodynamic limestone and loess soil during a long, dry maturation period with help from diurnal shifts. Using only native yeasts and hand-harvesting the fruit, the final product of these aromatic grapes is crisp, ripe, and well-balanced.

Kalls Riesling Kabinett "Steinacker" Pfalz, 2015 1 Liter

100% Riesling; Classic nose of Pfalz Riesling, with petrol, peach, and a hint of nectarine. The palate is quite savory, with lemongrass and ginger, as well as lime blossom and orange oil. It finishes with spice and mineral, and any small amount of residual sugar comes off as ripe fruitiness, not sweetness. Beautifully balanced.

GREECE

Domaine Ligas Lamda Vin Blanc Greece, 2015

100% Assyrtiko; Organically farmed in the valley of Mount Paiko with help from a windy micro-climate, all of Thomas Ligas' wines are created with little to no filtration or treatments. This white was created by free drops, without a press.

PORTUGAL

Las Lilas Vinho Verde, 2016

Louriero & Treixadura; So fresh and lively that it even drinks well at cellar temperature. Properly chilled, however, it's a home run for the hot weather, bursting with lime blossom and fresh lime, pink grapefruit, and an anchoring sense of minerality. The perfect amount of subtle spritz makes this impossible to stop drinking. It dramatically over-delivers for the price.

SLOVENIA

Rojac Istra Malvazija Slovenska Istra Primorska, 2013

100% Malvazija Istriana; Organically farmed & Hand-harvested; Very lemony and fresh, with an unexpected hint of oatmeal and almond. On the palate, this is bone dry and shot through with citrus and white fruit with shimmering acidity.

Burja Estate Zelen, 2015

100% Zelen; Zelen means "green" and Burja is the top producer for this varietal in Slovenia. Vinified one month in stainless steel tanks, natural malolactic fermentation, then aged six months in stainless steel. Think of a Friulian Loire Chenin on the palate, very floral, but having a built-in mineral structure with underbrush, fennel & earth under tones.

Burja Estate Malvazija, 2013

100% Istrska Malvazija; Perfect expression of the Vipava Valley's special terroir. Vinified one month in stainless steel tanks, natural malolactic fermentation, then aged 6 months in stainless steel; delicate fruity nose with a hint of herbs, clean, fresh, and mineral with a long finish.

Marjan Simcic Pinot Grigio Slovenia, 2015

100% Pinot Grigio; Simcic's Pinot Grigio is a phenomenal answer to everyone who thinks that the grape variety is not capable of achieving greatness. Because this one, indeed, has. 12 - 24 hours of maceration, fermentation with native yeasts, and 8 months on the lees lend this wine a creaminess of texture that frames flavors of stone fruit, melon, and spice, as well as a subtle floral hint.

Marjan Simcic Ribolla Collio, 2014

100% Ribolla; Unexpected complexity lifts this Ribolla, whose autumn and citrus fruit notes are cut through with vivid minerality. The fruit is sourced from a vineyard that's more than half a century old, which means that each successive vintage promises to only get more complex and expressive.

Marjan Simcic Ribolla Selekcija Slovenia, 2012

100% Ribolla; Six days of skin contact have rendered this white rich gold in color, and have lent it a distinct presence on the palate. That fantastic mouthfeel carries with it flavors of subtly aromatic wood as well as citrus fruit and pastry. This is a delicious testament to Simcic's art.

Marjan Simcic Sauvignonasse Collio, 2014

100% Sauvignonasse; A riper expression of the grape variety than many, this rich bottling shows ripe peach and floral notes, alive with minerality and anchored by a hint of almond. Exceptionally interesting, and an eye-opening example of what this particular grape variety is capable of.

Marjan Simcic Chardonnay Opoka Slovenia, 2012

100% Chardonnay; From one of the masters of winemaking in Slovenia comes this Chardonnay that will challenge all preconceived notions about the variety. It's named after the opoka (or marl) soil that it's grown in, fermented with natural yeasts, and sees four days of skin contact in 4,000-liter barrels. The result is a wine of weight yet liveliness, with pastry notes attenuated by drying fruit, with a touch of honey lending it generosity.

Marjan Simcic Sauvignon Blanc Opoka Slovenia, 2013

100% Sauvignon Blanc; 23 months spent in massive barrels have added weight and depth to this Sauvignon Blanc. Its stone fruit and licorice demand attention, and the tactile nature of it on the palate—the result of skin contact during its production—result in a wine of magnificent idiosyncrasy and excitement.

OTHER REGIONS - ROSÉ WINES

AUSTRIA

Strohmeier Sparkling Rosé Sekt Steirerland, NV

100% Blauer Wildbacher; Bracing and beautiful, and proof that you don't necessarily have to be terribly familiar with a grape variety—in this case, Blauer Wildbacher—to fall head-over-heels in love with the wine vinified from it. Strawberry and citrus commingle with more savory notes, making it uniquely friendly at the table with a huge range of foods.

Maria & Sepp Muster Rosé Vom Opok Steirerland, 2014

Zweigelt, Blaufrankisch, & Blauer Wildbach may not be the most familiar blend for rosé, but one sip of this Austrian gem will likely convince you of what you've been missing. It leverages spice and mineral to punch up the generous red-berry notes that lend this wine such energy and vibrancy.

GREECE

Domaine Ligas Pata Trava Rosé Mecedonia IGP, 2015

100% Xinomavro; Organically farmed in the valley of Mount Paiko with help from a windy micro-climate, all of Thomas Ligas' wines are created with little to no filtration or treatments. Lots of funk on the nose gives way to a pleasant taste of baking spice and orange blossom.

ISRAEL

Jacques Capsuoto Cotes de Galilee Village Cuvée Eva Rosé, 2015

Grenache Noir, Cinsault, & Mourvèdre; Berry and wild strawberry dance alongside one another in this gulpable rosé that still possesses enough complexity and detail to sing with a huge range of lighter dishes.

PORTUGAL

Las Lilas Vinho Verde Rosé, 2016

60% Vinaho, 30% Borracal, & 10% Espadiero; Estate grown fruit by winemaker Jose Oliviera. This lightly effervescent gem is perfect for warmer evenings with cherry flavors, and a crisp, elegant, floral composition.

OTHER REGIONS - RED WINES

ARGENTINA

Alto3 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve Catamarca, 2012

100% Cabernet Sauvignon; Ripe and generous, with sun-warmed wild strawberries, melted red licorice, brambly berry fruit, creme de cassis, chocolate, black and pink peppercorn, a hint of cedar, and just a touch of menthol. From one of the highest altitude vineyards in the world (nearly 5,000 feet!), and made entirely by hand, from the vineyard to the labeling of the bottles.

AUSTRALIA

Ngeringa Syrah, 2008 limited

100% Syrah; Biodynamically farmed & Hand-harvested; Black cherries, subtle dark chocolate and an edge of graphite and slate, flavors of blueberries, prune and plum with white pepper, cloves, and nutmeg. The palate evolves with ripe, full, powdery tannins.

AUSTRIA

Brunn "Red" Zweigelt Kamptal, 2015

100% Zweigelt; Textbook nose of white and green peppercorn, with fruit that is almost Beaujolais Cru-like in its balance of cherry and mineral. More peppercorn sweeps in on the finish, as well as a decidedly savory note of spice-rubbed bacon. Wonderfully versatile at the table.

Martin Arndorfer Vorgeschmack Red, 2015

80% Zweigelt & 20% Pinot Noir; Vorgeschmack is German for "appetizer." Hand-picked and fermented in open stainless-steel tanks with 10-day maceration, Zweigelt aged 8 months in big barrels, Pinot Noir in barrique; Red fruit, a variety of berries with smart tannins. Great for many occasions, pairs with pasta, tuna, and other flavorful fishes.

CHILE

El Grano Carmenere, 2015

100% Carmenere; Organically farmed; Located 70 miles south of Santiago. This Carmenere embodies so much of what fans of the great grape variety find most appealing, with capsicum, green bean and mint, all lent heft by ripe cassis and spice.

El Viejo Almacén Huaso de Sauzal Cariñena, 2014

100% Cariñena; Organically farmed; Bursting with plenty of red fruit and buttressed by delicious tannins, this Cariñena is a very well-structured bottling, demonstrating the full potential of the grape variety in Chile.

El Viejo Almacén Huaso de Sauzal Garnacha, 2014

100% Garnacha; Organically farmed; The quintessentially medicinal, high-toned cherry notes of Garnacha are here anchored by a sense of brambly fruit and herb. This is lifted and well-anchored to its terroir at the same time.

Laurent Family Vineyard Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, 2016

92% Cabernet Sauvignon & 8% Carmenere; Created by the practicing organic/biodynamic Bordeaux winemaker, Gerard Laurent of Château L'Escart, this BTG-priced dry red sparkles with flavors of mixed red and black fruit alongside notes of bell pepper. Nice acidity and light tannins to round out the fruit.

GERMANY

Kalls Red Blend Kobnert, Pfalz, 2014 1 Liter

Indigineous Blend; Aromas of brambly red berry fruit with a hint of spice presage a palate with sarsaparilla and more of that fruit. With a slight chill, this is a perfect warm-weather red, either on its own or with food.

Rita & Rudolf Trossen Trossen Rot, Mosel, 2015

Pinot Noir & Dornfelder; Germany may be far more famous for its world-class white wines than it is for its reds, but that latter category is not to be overlooked. This particular bottling, with its shimmering sense of clarity and extremely energetic red fruit, is a perfect example of the deeply food-friendly, utterly delicious reds of the country.

ISRAEL

Jacques Capsuoto Cotes de Galilee Village Cuvée Samuel Rouge, 2014

Mourvèdre, Grenache Noir, Counoise, & Syrah; Captivating fruit—brambly berry, cherry, plum—is spiced up with a twist of peppercorn on the palate and something almost meaty through the finish. Amazing either unaccompanied or with high-heat dishes like BBQ and seared meats and vegetables.

PORTUGAL

Quinta de Ramozeiros Tinto Douro, 2013

Touriga National, Touriga Franca, Tinta Roriz, Tinta Borroca, & Sousao; A fascinating balance between bright acid and rich concentration to the allspice, plum, warm licorice, wild strawberry, and cigar humidor. The minerality leans in the direction of the slate-like, which lends a subtle sense of savoriness to the wine. Delicious.

SLOVENIA

Marian Simcic Pinot Noir Selekcija Slovenia, 2012

100% Pinot Noir; Grown on marl, slate, and sandstone soils, this Pinot Noir is showing beautifully at five years old, the notes of mandarin oil and mint adding an unexpected twist to subtly maturing cherry, berry, and spice.

Marjan Simcic Merlot Opoka Slovenia, 2009

100% Merlot; At eight years of age, this bottling shows that Merlot has the potential to age brilliantly, even when it's not grown in the classic appellations of the variety in Bordeaux and Napa. In the time since it was bottled, this marl-born beauty has taken on notes of leather and tobacco spice, as well as plum and a hint of earthiness. It's a show-stopper.

B. UNITED INTERNATIONAL INC.

KIUCHI SHUZOU LTD., JAPAN

Kiuchi Shuzou Asamurasake, NV 720 ml

This thoroughly unique sake's name translates to "Morning Purple Red Rice Sake," which is an accurate description of the treasure in the bottle: It's crafted from red rice, feels just the lightest bit fizzy on the tongue, and shows flavors of subtly sweet berries. On its own and with food, this is a massive treat.

Kiuchi Shuzou Kurashizuku, NV 180 ml

Made from the first pressing and steaming of highly polished rice, Kurashizuku, whose name means "first-run sake of the brewery," is a deeply expressive evocation of this top-quality producer. It's marked by citrus and rice-like notes, with the perfect hit of alcohol to give it power alongside all that elegance.

Kiuchi Shuzou Tarusake, NV 720 ml Also available in 896 ml Cask

The name of this sake comes from the Japanese word for sake barrels, which are traditionally cedar. This beauty is crafted from less-polished rice, and perfect for pairing with heartier foods, like pork, beef, and salmon. The partial cedar fermentation comes through clearly on the nose, with deep spice and cedar notes, almost a hint of patchouli, and the spicy palate echoes those aromas, and will sing alongside fried foods like schnitzel.

Kiuchi Shuzou Vintage Gekkakow, NV 720 ml

This vintage daiginjo represents the apex of the brewery's art. It's produced from 35% polished Yamada Nishiki rice and cold-matured for longer than three years. The result is a sake of remarkable complexity, with coconut and stone-fruit notes dancing alongside tropical hints and licorice-like spice.

Kiuchi Shuzou Yuzu Wine, NV 500 ml

Reminiscent of Torrontes with its white peach and yellow nectarine, lemon-drop candy, orange blossom and lemon blossom. Fascinating, bravely styled, and deeply successful.

MAKANA MEADERY, SOUTH AFRICA

IQhilika African Chili Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

A phenomenal mead to start with, this beauty is aged over roasted chili peppers that are indigenous to Africa, resulting in a stunning balancing-act between the inherently sweeter notes of the mead with the spicy hit of those peppers. Alongside aromatically complex dishes or even just straightforward fried ones, this is a winner.

IQhilika African Dry Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

An unexpected yet thoroughly transporting expression of mead, this bottling is dryer than most, with citrus and floral flavors working wonders alongside more savory, nutty notes. With earthy meats and barbecue, as well as Southeast Asian fare, this is a game-changer.

IQhilika African Herbal Blossom Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

Plenty of acidity yet also a warming quality from the mulling spice flavors and aromas, as well as hibiscus, rose hips, and cinnamon stick notes. Spiced and aromatically complex yet not overly perfumed. The four years of aging in Thelema merlot barrels has lent this gorgeous liquid a wonderful sense of depth.

IQhilika African Coffee Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

Distinct coffee notes push up against the almost sour hints of lemon acidity, but then the coffee comes back and anchors it all again. Deeply complex and totally unexpected.

IQhilika African Cape Fig Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

This is a spiced metheglin made from blending Makana's Sweet Mead with the leaves of the great Cape Fig tree, which, amazingly, possess more pronounced flavor that the fruit. Each sip, as a result, finds a perfect balance between the sweeter character of honey and a fresh zip of fruit. Astounding.

DANSK MJOD, DENMARK

Dansk Mjod Viking Blod, NV 750 ml Also available in 10 L and 20 L Stainless Steel Keg

A wild, wonderful departure from most mead on the market, this hop- and hibiscus-zipped bottling is expectedly floral, yet those notes are attenuated with spice and citrus fruit. Fascinating, and utterly delicious.

Dansk Mjod Vikingernes Mead, NV 750 ml

Wildly versatile, with the potential to shine either on its own in place of a dessert wine, or before dinner on the rocks as a thoroughly unexpected and subtly floral start to a meal. Either way, this is a delicious, evocative mead, and one that's stunningly easy to drink a great deal of.

Dansk GI Ginger Mead, NV 750 ml Also available in 10 L Stainless Steel Keg

Dominant ginger notes lend this mead both spice and a sense of exoticism, yet the honey keeps it all in check. Either on its own or alongside more aromatically spiced dishes, this is a game-changer.

Dansk Ribe Mead, NV 750 ml

True to its name, which is an homage to the 1300-year-old town of Ribe (the oldest in Scandinavia), this bottling has been crafted with the experts at the Ribe Viking Center. The result is a mead whose honey sweetness is balanced out with the addition of hops, and whose fruitier notes come from apples from the region. It's as terroir-driven a mead as you'll see, and phenomenally delicious.

STEINWALDER, GERMANY

Steinwaelder Hausbrennerei Schraml Distilled Aventinus Edelster, NV 750 ml

Beautiful nose, with hints of barrel spice but not overwhelming so, a bit of hoppiness in the citrus, banana, and clove notes, and layered flavors of very delicate cinnamon, charred lemon peel, and fresh orange

KEGS - WHITE WINES

Artisan's Cellar Arneis d'Asti

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Arneis; This Arneis is sourced from the magnificently hilly terrain in and around Asti—perfect, in other words, for the cultivation of top-notch white wine grapes in addition to the famous Dolcetto and Barbera. It explodes with white-blossomed mountain flowers and stone-fruit aromatics, all gently cut through with a subtle sense of kaffir lime leaf. On the palate, this Piemontese beauty is crisp and well-delineated, with crunchy flavors of apple and citrus fruit, all of it finishing with a remarkably pretty note of lemon blossom. The balance between subtle aromatic lift and perfectly ripe fruit here is stunning. 13.3% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Arneis del Piemonte

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Arneis; With the Alps flanking the region on three sides, and providing stunningly diverse terroirs in which to craft great wine, Piedmontese whites like this one are increasingly gaining the respect they so richly deserve. Autumnal aromas of hard apple, complicated by a hint of quince, lead to a mineral-tinged palate with lemon pith and nectarine flavors. These turn to a savory finish seasoned with a hint of stone fruit, and briny notes that demand a second sip. Tremendously food-friendly, with a structure well suited to a wide range of lighter dishes, or to simply sipping on its own. 11.5% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Kamptal Grüner Veltliner

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Grüner Veltliner; From the Niederosterreich appellation of Austria where the grapes are macerated in whole bunches, then aged for 6 months in stainless steel tanks. The 25-year-old vines rest in Loess soil. Classic Grüner nose with lentils and green peas, mineral, stones, and a hint of lemon pith. On the palate, this shows plenty of citrus fruit and spice, with a beautiful seam of minerality running through the concentrated middle all the way to a honey-tinged, almost saline finish. 12% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Loire Valley Muscadet

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Melon de Bourgogne; From the Sèvre-et-Maine appellation in the Loire Valley where the 40-year old vines grow in gneiss soil. Aged 6 months in inox tanks. Deeply mineral, crisp and clean, with fresh lemon and a bit of lime, as well as a touch of herb which lifts this lithe, lively white that practically begs for oysters to pair with it. 11.8% alcohol

N2 Alexander Valley Chardonnay Sonoma, California, 2012

20.0 L PET Keg

100% Chardonnay; This Alexander Valley Chardonnay was fermented in one-year old French oak barrels, lees stirred weekly, and then stored in stainless steel tanks to preserve freshness. A mid-weight, classic style California Chard with aromas of ripe figs, almonds and lime zest with a hint of toast. 13% Alcohol

N2 White California, NV

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

Blend of Pinot Blanc, Albariño, & Muscat; Hand-crafted and blended at the winery while young and lower in alcohol, this blend is composed of three different varieties to add complexity. The Pinot Blanc provides body and richness, Albariño contributes minerality and acidity and Muscat lends fragrant nuances of orange blossoms and nectarines. A crisp, aromatic, off-dry delightful glass of wine. 12.8% Alcohol

KEGS - RED WINES

Artisan's Cellar Piemonte Rosso

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

45% Nebbiolo, 35% Barbera, & 20% Dolcetto; From the Langhe appellation, the grapes are fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks; 50-60 year old vines in clay soil with good sand content. Chalk and cherry on the nose turn to a palate of dark red berry fruit, Rainier cherry, bright acidity, well-integrated tannins, a subtle hint of spice, and the slightest suggestion of ground cacao nib and dried purple-blossomed flowers on the finish. Excellent as a sipper, and just as successful with food. 13.6% Alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Barbera del Piemonte

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Barbera; Barbera reaches its heights in Piedmont, and this stellar example, which leverages the full range of the region's geology, diverse soils, and altitude, is a fantastic snapshot-in-a-keg of what makes it so special. A deeply comforting nose of burnished leather, brown spice, and cigar tobacco complicate evocative cherry aromas, and presage bright flavors of cherry and cranberry, the pulse of acidity keeping this as fresh and lively as you'd expect from a well-crafted Piemontese Barbera. That sense of brightness is amplified when this red is served slightly chilled—right from the keg, it's delicious immediately. 12.5% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Sicilia Rosso

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

65% Nero d'Avola & 35% Syrah; Grown in view of the grand Mount Etna, and with the sea nearby, this dynamic blend embodies all that is so exciting about the wines of Southeastern Sicily right now, and expresses the unique terroir and interplay of geography so typical of this part of the island. It's rich and compelling in the glass, with plum and spice cake aromas boasting just a bit of black licorice at the edges. The palate shows excellent concentration, with sweet, dusty tannins begging for a nice piece of meat to savor alongside. More plum and spice cake flavors are joined by dark cherry and a hint of dried fig, all resolving with a sense of sneakily floral peppercorn. 13.2% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Syrah Terre Siciliane

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

100% Syrah; Sourced from a small organic producer not far from Siracusa, with a deep and abiding commitment to the land—it's been in their family for several generations—this is a deeply honest expression of Sicilian Syrah. With a bass-note of beef carpaccio and higher-toned aromas of black-cherry liqueur and sandalwood, this Sicilian Syrah shows the more mysterious side of the grape variety. All of this complexity finds its counterpart in a palate of cherry and purple plum, more of that carpaccio spiced with cracked pepper, and a lingering sense of acidity on the finish that allows the fullness of this remarkable red to linger longer than expected. 13.6% alcohol

Artisan's Cellar Toscana Rosso

19.5 L Stainless Steel Keg

85% Sangiovese & 15% Cabernet Sauvignon; We sourced this amazing Toscana from one of the top producers in the region, a standout property whose hilly location and commitment to growing the best Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese, and Merlot in Tuscany is unrivaled. Wild strawberries lift from the glass and are joined by cherry wood and a seam of spice. Those strawberry and spice notes come through on the palate, too, and are accompanied by leather and a sense of flint-like minerality. This is a wonderfully balanced wine, touched by a barely perceptible hint of grilled sage and cinnamon stick on the finish that lend both freshness and further complexity. They also make this gem perfect with everything from stews and braises to straightforward pasta with tomato-based sauce. Or simply on its own: It shows that well. 13.1% alcohol

N2 Chateau Big Top Bordeaux & Languedoc, France, NV

20.0 L PET Keg

This delightful red blend includes Cabernet Sauvignon & Syrah from Bordeaux & Languedoc; Deep red color, notes of herbs, red and dark fruits. Rich with ripe, berry flavors, supple acidity, minerality and velvety tannins. 13% Alcohol

N2 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley & Lodi, California, 2012

20.0 L PET Keg

20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc, & 8% Petit Verdot from St. Helena, Napa Valley & 67% Cabernet Sauvignon from Lodi California. This style is perfect for kegs, fresh, vibrant, juicy red fruit aromas, minimal oak and primarily grape tannin. 13.2% Alcohol

N2 Côtes du Rhone, NV

20.0 L PET Kea

80% Grenache & 20% Syrah; This traditional blend is made from grapes grown in Vacqueyras and around the Southern Rhone. The well-balanced juice was stored in concrete tanks which gives it a clean, red cherry and black pepper flavor unmuted by oak. Nice medium tannins and a smooth finish. 12.9% Alcohol

N2 Langhe Rosso Piedmont, Italy, NV

20.0 L PET Keg

A delicious blend of Monferrato Barbera, La Morra Nebbiolo, & Dolcetto di Dogliani; The three stars of Piedmont beautifully blended to highlight the heart of the region. Fermented in stainless steel and concrete tanks using natural yeasts, then aged eight months in older tonneau; Ruby color with purple reflections, cherry, wild rose and herbs on the nose with a taste of fresh fruit, persistent tannins and firm acidity. 13% Alcohol

EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL

MARCHE

Costa Digiano Extra Virgin Olive Oil - Mignola, 2015 200 ml

Prized for its rareness, unique flavor and quality, Mignola is an endangered, indigenous variety of Le Marche. Costa Digiano has 120 Century-old Mignola trees. Certified organic; Hand-picked at optimal ripeness to maximize the character, spiciness and boldness of the fruit, as well as shelf life. Olives are pressed within eight hours of harvest and naturally decanted in air-tight, temperature-controlled vats until bottling. The oil is unfiltered. The label features original art by California Artist Will Tams, each bottle is numbered and includes the date of harvest. Burgundy bottles contain a drop-stop pour spout, cap and foil wrapper.