

HOT WINES

These are the most exciting discoveries from our editors' most recent tastings, published exclusively in *Wine Spectator Insider*. They are high-scoring wines from around the world that may be difficult to find, but are worth seeking out.

MASSETO

Toscana 2015

98 points | \$700 | 390 cases imported | Red

This red leads off with exquisite notes of vanilla and toast framing black cherry, blackberry, cedar and iron flavors. Ripe and powerful, yet polished and silky, with dense tannins well-integrated into the structure. The fruit returns in the end, along with a licorice note. A superb young version, showing fine potential. Merlot. Best from 2021 through 2035. From Italy.—*B.S.*

CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME

Gigondas Le Poste 2016

98 points | \$143 | 22 cases imported | Red

Offers a perfumed feel to the lavender, violet and savory notes that lead off, followed quickly by ripe, focused fresh cherry, cassis and raspberry puree flavors, all harnessed by very fine chalky minerality, which extends through the lengthy finish. Best from 2020 through 2040. From France.—*J.M.*

CHÂTEAU DE ST.-COSME

Gigondas Le Claux 2016

97 points | \$143 | 79 cases imported | Red

This offers a range of sage, savory and bay leaf aromas followed by crushed black cherry, bitter plum and red currant fruit, all supported by racy, mouthwatering chalky cut. Dense, but fresh and well-defined throughout. Long finish. Best from 2020 through 2040. From France.—*J.M.*

DOMAINE DES BOSQUETS

Gigondas La Colline... 2016

96 points | \$75 | 40 cases imported | Red

This delivers a gorgeous display of fruit, with raspberry, boysenberry and blackberry notes in lockstep as they race through, infused with light anise, bergamot and rooibos tea accents along the way. The racy, chalky structure holds the finish, giving this sleek tension. Best from 2020 through 2036. From France.—*J.M.*

DOMAINE DES BOSQUETS

Gigondas Le Lieu Dit... 2016

95 points | \$55 | 100 cases imported | Red

Deliciously ripe, featuring a bright and lively display of red currant, raspberry and blackberry coulis flavors that race along, underscored by fine but persistent chalky tannins and backed by lilac, violet, rooibos tea and savory notes along the way. The long finish ripples with fresh acidity. Best from 2020 through 2036. From France.—*J.M.*

CARPINETO

Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva 2013

95 points | \$30 | 6,400 cases imported | Red

The stunning bouquet of ripe black cherry, black currant, leather and woody spice notes is enticing, while the sweet fruit is a match for the dense structure. The lengthy finish lingers, with tobacco, eucalyptus and iron accents. Drink now through 2030. From Italy.—*B.S.*

WINE SPECTATOR'S TASTERS

The Most Experienced Team of Wine Journalists in the World

Wine Spectator's tasting staff includes 16 tasters and tasting coordinators in two offices. They work together to review more than 16,000 wines each year; more than 360,000 reviews are available in our online database. Together, our 11 tasters count more than 235 years of tasting experience.

We always taste wine blind, in our offices in Napa and New York. This is your guarantee that our reviews are fair and objective, and that a wine's reputation or price does not influence its score. Each editor specializes in the wines of specific regions; initials appended to the review identify the taster of each wine. We score wines using the 100-point scale (see green box).

James Laube Senior editor, Napa

Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1983. Tasting beat: California

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1984. Tasting beat: At large

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Argentina, California, Chile

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Spain

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1993. Tasting beat: Austria, Burgundy, Italy

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Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

95–100	Classic
90–94	Outstanding
85–89	Very good
80–84	Good
75–79	Mediocre
50–74	Not recommended