



WINE SPECTATOR'S Advance

A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE BUYING GUIDE FOR THE OCT. 15 & 31, 2017 ISSUE,
FEATURING ALL OF THE SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

Wine Spectator's Oct. 15 & 31 double issue features a wine lover's guide to New York City. This fantastic insider's look at the city that never sleeps includes 100 pages of restaurants, wine and food shops, hotels and notable attractions. Plus, don't miss our annual tasting report on Tuscany, with hundreds of great wines from multiple vintages.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

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- 99** **DOMAINE ST.-PRÉFERT Châteauneuf-du-Pape Collection Charles Giraud 20 15 • \$93**
Gorgeous, starting off with warm ganache and Turkish coffee aromas, followed by dense, fleshy layers of fig cake, steeped plum and warm blackberry confiture. Shows lots of juicy energy through the finish, with anise and singed juniper accents adding range. Cellar first, then enjoy the smoke show. Best from 2020 through 2045. 1,000 cases made.—J.M.
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- 97** **DOMAINE DE LA JANASSE Châteauneuf-du-Pape Vieilles Vignes 20 15 • \$90**
Ripe and focused, with a delightful mix of cassis, blood orange and cherry coulis flavors streaming through, backed by black tea and apple wood accents. Finely beaded acidity lets the fruit stretch out, while a light mineral edge adds range. Shows an echo of licorice snap at the very end. Dense, but there's remarkable grace here. Best from 2020 through 2040. 392 cases imported.—J.M.
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- 97** **DOMAINE ST.-PRÉFERT Châteauneuf-du-Pape Auguste Favier Réserve 20 15 • \$55**
Vibrant and captivating, with exuberant fruitcake, cinnamon and black tea aromas leading the way for a fleshy core of raspberry pâte de fruit, plum sauce and cassis, all allied to a lovely velvety texture. Maintains intensity through the finish, showing a long echo of pastis. Best from 2020 through 2040. 1,300 cases made.—J.M.
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- 95** **YVES CUILLERON Condrieu La Petite Côte 20 15 • \$54**
Layers of fig, pear, quince, nectarine and yellow apple fruit course through this gorgeous white, gilded with hazelnut oil, orange pith and bitter almond notes. Offers an opulent range, yet remains focused. Shows Viognier's uniqueness. Drink now through 2021. 210 cases imported.—J.M.

COLLECTIBLES

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- 97** **FALLETTO DI BRUNO GIACOSA Barolo Falletto Vigna le Rocche Riserva 20 11 • \$400**
This alluring red starts out with soft rose, cherry, raspberry and menthol flavors, all harmonious, before picking up tar, tobacco and mineral elements, playing out on the long finish. This has mellowed somewhat, but the fruit never gives up, even as mouthcoating tannins emerge. Best from 2023 through 2040. 900 cases made.—B.S.
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- 97** **JEAN GRIVOT Richebourg 20 14 • \$1,500**
A rich and fleshy version, exhibiting black cherry, blackberry, violet, iron and spice flavors. Firmly structured, yet charmingly concentrated and pure, with terrific balance. Extends nicely on the long finish. Best from 2021 through 2040. 95 cases imported.—B.S.
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- 97** **LOUIS LATOUR Romanée St.-Vivant Les Quatre Journaux 20 15 • \$650**
Though packed with black currant, blueberry and cherry fruit, this red is wrapped up in a firm structure today, giving an austere feel. All the components are in the right proportion and there's no denying the saturated aftertaste that echoes the core of cherry. Best from 2023 through 2045. 280 cases made.—B.S.
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- 96** **JEAN-LOUIS CHAVE Hermitage 20 14 • \$325**
This starts strong, with warm ganache, steeped fig and crushed blackberry flavors, then gains steam, picking up smoldering charcoal, bay leaf and juniper accents as the wine drives and expands through the finish. Offers a long echo of graphite, with the fruit keeping pace. Very impressive for the vintage. Best from 2020 through 2040. 2,500 cases made.—J.M.
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SMART BUYS

- 94** **MARCO & VITTORIO ADRIANO Barbaresco Basarin 20 14 • \$25**
Elegant, leading off with perfumed aromas of rose, cherry, strawberry and white pepper. The profile is sleek, with a solid base of acidity and tannins. Shows terrific length, evoking fruit and mineral on the aftertaste. Best from 20 19 through 2033. 2,500 cases made.—B.S.
- 94** **DOMAINE DES BAUMARD Savennières 20 15 • \$30**
Alluring, with quince, creamed pear, verbena and green almond flavors allied to a creamy texture, all offset beautifully through the finish by light quinine and mineral hints. Approachable, but this seems built for the cellar. Best from 20 18 through 2030. 1,500 cases imported.—J.M.
- 92** **CARPINETO Chianti Classico Riserva 20 13 • \$26**
Smoky aromas introduce this succulent red, with flavors of black cherry, leather, earth and tar that show concentration and play off the vibrant structure. Drink now through 2028. 200,000 cases made.—B.S.
- 92** **FORGE Riesling Finger Lakes Classique 20 15 • \$19**
Weighty for a Riesling, with a rounded feel and layers of creamed yellow apple, white peach and persimmon flavors. Delivers energy and cut throughout, with lemon pith, citrus oil and chamomile accents filling in. Shows length and range through the finish. Drink now through 2021. 1,800 cases made.—J.M.
- 91** **KARINE LAUVERJAT Sancerre 20 16 • \$23**
Crunchy, with lots of gooseberry and thyme notes bouncing around, while flint and fleur de sel accents drive the mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2020. 3,000 cases made.—J.M.
- 90** **ANTIGAL WINERY & ESTATES Malbec Mendoza Uno 20 14 • \$18**
Well-structured, with rich flavors of dried raspberry and cherry tart accented by beefy notes. The mineral finish is refined and well-spiced. Drink now through 2020. 70,000 cases made.—K.M.
- 90** **AVIGNONESI Rosso di Montepulciano 20 15 • \$17**
An elegant red, balancing cherry, leather, tobacco and earth notes with a vibrant structure. Still firm, playing out with mineral and tobacco accents on the finish. Drink now through 2020. 7,900 cases made.—B.S.
- 90** **GLORIA FERRER Blanc de Noirs Carneros NV • \$22**
Vibrantly floral strawberry and gingerbread aromas pair with crisp red apple and spice flavors that bounce along the finish. Drink now. 22,000 cases made.—T.F.
- 90** **MASON Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley Yount Mill Vineyard 20 16 • \$19**
Clean, smooth and crisp, offering a lip-smacking mix of pear, melon and Key lime flavors, with plenty of intensity on the finish. Drink now. 4,900 cases made.—M.W.

BEST VALUES

- 90** **POLIZIANO Rosso di Montepulciano 20 15 • \$15**
This red opens with ripe plum and cherry fruit, yet it also has a brooding side. Firm tannins provide support, while earth and iron elements add depth. Best from 20 18 through 2023. 17,000 cases made.—B.S.
- 89** **JOEL GOTT Sauvignon Blanc California 20 16 • \$14**
Silky and elegant, with crisp Key lime, Meyer lemon and fresh herbal shadings on a light, refreshing body. Shows plenty of persistence on the finish. Drink now. 74,000 cases made.—M.W.
- 88** **BROTTE Côtes du Rhône Esprit Barville 20 15 • \$13**
Juicy raspberry and blackberry fruit sits atop bramble and anise notes. Open-knit, but with good energy. Drink now. 12,500 cases made.—J.M.

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

BEST VALUES (continued)

87 **LES COSTIÈRES DE POMEROLS Picpoul de Pinet 2016 • \$10**
Salty and mouthwatering, this creamy white encases pureed peach, almond and yellow apple notes that are fresh and well-meshed. Hints of crunchy herb grace the crisp finish. Drink now. 65,000 cases made.—G.S.

87 **STONECAP Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley 2015 • \$8**
Supple and easygoing, with zesty cherry and coffee flavors. Drink now through 2022. 13,428 cases made.—T.F.

86 **KIRKLAND SIGNATURE Côtes de Provence Rosé 2016 • \$9**
Light cherry and watermelon rind notes are stitched with a savory thread in this rosé, ending with a crisp finish. Grenache, Cinsault, Mourvèdre, Tibouren, Rolle, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now. 30,000 cases made.—J.M.

ABOUT THE SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

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

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

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

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

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