Recommendation 1

Wine 1

If you appreciate a wine that's developing beautifully and exhibiting the complexity that great wines show as they mature, then look no further. A blend based on Tempranillo with 10% Graciano and 5% Mazuelo, this offers gorgeous evocations of dried plum, fig, pressed flowers and leather. The tannins have softened to velvety perfection and there's still plenty of verve here. With its effortless charm, this is a subtly nuanced wine posing as a crowd-pleaser. Savour it with cured or braised meats or stuffed mushrooms. (Vintages panel, July 2018)

Wine 2

An impressive follow up to the 2008 tasted for last year's report, this intensely coloured GranReserva is still very youthful, reflecting the freshness and concentration of the 2010 vintage.Modern, aromatic and stylishly oaked with glossy blackberry fruit. Drink 2019-2026. Score - 93. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, Rioja Special Report 2018)

Wine 3

... this is a cuvée of Tempranillo and Mazuelo from the Rioja Alavesa with 5% Garnacha from the Rioja Baja. Still youthful, it needs a little more time to assimilate its oak, but has plenty of sturdy, spicy dark berry fruit. Drink Date: 2019-24. Score - 91. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, Rioja Special Report 2018)

Input)

Like the 2011 - the first of two back-to-back warm vintages in Rioja, this 2012 has 10% Graciano to provide acidity and freshness for the Tempranillo. It's an elegant interpretation of the year, with well-integrated French oak, some clove spice and refined tannins. Drink Date: 2019-2024. Score - 92. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, Rioja Special Report 2019)

Recommendation 2

Wine 1

A fresh and racy style, with bright red currant and damson plum fruit flavors bouncing along, accented by savory, fresh tobacco leaf and mineral notes. Everything pulls together nicely through the energetic finish. Drink now through 2021. Score - 92. (James Molesworth, winespectator.com, Dec. 15, 2017)

Wine 2

Freshly-picked blackcurrants, blackberry leaf and herbs. Full body, soft tannins, a fine line of acidity, plenty of herbal undertones and a grainy finish. Drink in 2020. Score - 89. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, March 16, 2018)

Wine 3

Pure, rich and powerfully fruity, with concentrated red plum, dark currant and blackberry flavors supported by medium-grained tannins. Fresh acidity shows on the finish, offering notes of chocolate and raspberry ganache. Drink now through 2022. Score - 93. (Kim Marcus, winespectator.com, Nov. 15, 2016)

Input)

An unctuous red, dripping with molten chocolate notes that wrap around concentrated dark and red fruit flavors. Very creamy, with a plush finish that offers a rich array of spice and mocha details. Drink now through 2024. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. Score - 93. (Kim Marcus, winespectator.com, 2018)

Recommendation 3

Wine 1

Light aromas of strawberries, dark chocolate and cinnamon. Medium to full body, juicy tannins and a lively finish. Drink now. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Sept. 11, 2018)

Wine 2

This is all smooth edges, with cherry flavors and a note of licorice. The tannins are refined and the finish conjures up hints of leather and tobacco. Drink now through 2022. Score - 90. (Bruce Sanderson, winespectator.com, Oct. 15, 2018)

Wine 3

Deep garnet colour; aromas of dried fruit, blackberry, black pepper, leather and cigar tobacco; extra-dry, full-bodied with bright acidity; flavours of plum, cherry, prunes, leather and earth; tannins are firm and the finish long.

Input)

Wild berry, crushed violet, pipe tobacco and chopped herb aromas leap out of the glass. Smooth and savory, the full-bodied palate shows restraint and elegance, delivering red cherry, pomegranate, ground clove and black pepper alongside taut, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Ranks #35 of Wine Enthusiast's Top 100 Wines of 2018. Score - 96. (Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, May 1, 2018)

Recommendation 4

Wine 1

[The Concours des Vins d'Orange did not include a tasting note.] (Concours des Vins d'Orange, 2017)

Wine 2

[The Concours Général Paris competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours Général Paris, 2017)

Wine 3

A Grenache-led blend, the 2016 Costieres de Nimes Nostre Pais features compelling aromas of crushed stone, black olive and blueberry. It's medium to full-bodied, with crunchy, fresh fruit and silky but firm tannins. It should drink well through 2025. Drink Date: 2019-2025. Score - 91. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2018)

Input)

[The Concours des Vins d'Orange did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins d'Orange, 2017)

Recommendation 5

Wine 1

Cave de Cairanne was founded in 1929. Their 2017 La Reserve Plan de Dieu is a blend of Grenache, Carignan and Syrah. The grapes were harvested and fermented separately before being blended together at the end of the winter and further aged for 8 months in concrete. This is a finely balanced wine with violet, plum, blackberry, cedar and vanilla notes and a savoury tinge that adds complexity to the finish. Try this with roasted meats or turkey burgers. (Vintages panel, June 2018)

Wine 2

Saturated, deep black-red in colour with a pure, exuberant and exciting scent mingling notes of smoke, bramble, blackberry, blackcurrant and redcurrant. The flavours are joyful. There's a fruit core of singing lyricism, both vivid and fresh without being acidulous; the wine is tannic enough to give its fruit shape and gravitas but not roughness or austerity; and it has overtones which bring light and shade to the wine via faint notes of smoke, of cleansing bitterness, of the saltiness which is such a hallmark of parts of Crozes, and of the 'stony' flavours which lovers of terroir wine crave. A gorgeous success. Score - 93. (Andrew Jefford, decanter.com, July 18, 2016)

Wine 3

On the right bank of the Rhone River, the wine-growers of Laudun and Chusclan have joined forces to craft excellent value-priced organic wines. The Terra Vitae has aromas of fresh grapes, licorice and herbs, and is ripe, plush-textured and round on the palate. Superb with roasted lamb, grilled meats and fine cheeses.

Input)

You can't go wrong with the Southern Rhône, which is on a roll with a string of outstanding vintages. This juicy blend from the celebrated Perrin family is a gem, with ripe red berry fruit and spice notes. Delicious with Mediterranean-style pizza or hearty lamb stew.

Recommendation 6

Wine 1

This cabernet sauvignon is made for enjoying with meat. Its deep ruby colour is filled with aromas of ripe cherry and raspberries. Smooth on the palate with more ripe, juicy berry fruit flavours with added hints of licorice and pepper. The vibrant acidity and moderate tannins add balance to a pleasant finish.

Wine 2

You know those bottles that bring you to your knees? This is one of them. Backstory: One of the better wine agencies in Toronto, Halpern Enterprises, went to California to scout a $20 Cab that kills it - and they came back with this very serious find. With a crushed velvet mouth feel - all polished on top and plush underneath - this wine draws you in with flavours of ripe mixed berries, café latte, smoked plum, milk chocolate, toasted tobacco and vanilla cream. Elegant yet slightly brooding, this wine is a steal. Score - 96. (Carolyn Evans Hammond, Toronto Star, July 6, 2018)

Wine 3

The Hope family, owners of Liberty School, helped transform the 'wild west' of Paso Robles into a wine lover's destination thanks to wines like this rich Cab with its black fruit flavours. A real crowd-pleaser with barbecued fare or a meat-lovers' pizza.

Input)

California has a world-class reputation for great cabernet sauvignon, and this luscious example does not disappoint. It brims with aromas of ripe berries, mocha and violets that lead to flavours of cassis and chocolate-covered cherries and ends in a smooth finish with a hint of spice. Enjoy with grilled steak or on its own.

Recommendation 7

Wine 1

An alluring bouquet of truffle, dried cherry, floral and tar leads off, followed by flavors of cherry, spice and leather. Mineral and tobacco notes chime in as this cruises to a long finish. Full of sweet fruit and spice, this reveals a hint of licorice in the aftertaste. Drink now through 2030. Score - 94. (Bruce Sanderson, winespectator.com, April 30, 2017)

Wine 2

New leather, tilled earth, dark spice, underbrush and a balsamic note mingle together on this compelling red. The full-bodied palate evokes ripe black cherry, licorice, tobacco and crushed herb while youthfully assertive noble tannins provide the framework. Hold for even more complexity. Drink 2023-2036. Score - 96. (Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sept. 1, 2017)

Wine 3

Aromas of leather, scorched earth, underbrush, dark spice and a balsamic note take shape in the glass along with an intriguing smoky note. The firm full-bodied palate delivers dried black cherry, clove, iron, star anise and game alongside tight velvety tannins. Drink: 2023-2031. Score - 95. (Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sept. 1, 2017)

Input)

The aromas are so complex yet subtle with wet earth, mushrooms and dark fruits. Dried flowers as well. Full body, chewy tannins that are ultra-fine and powerful, yet there is a finesse and beauty to them as I said from barrel. Classic, great nebbiolo. Try in 2023. Score - 98. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, June 16, 2019)

Recommendation 8

Wine 1

Made from grapes grown in the Niagara Peninsula, this cabernet blend offers a complex array of red currant, blackberry, coffee bean and tobacco aromas. On the palate, it is fresh with juicy black fruit flavours, supple tannins and a lingering smoky note that comes through on the finish.

Wine 2

Red ruby red colour; aromas of cassis, green pepper, plum, vanilla and spicy oak, with earth and tobacco notes; dry, medium bodied, rounded palate, flavours of red currant, plum and vanilla, with earth and blackberry.

Wine 3

Medium deep ruby; aromas and flavours of oak, cassis, plum, blackberry jam, vanilla and cedar; dry, medium bodied with good depth of fruit, structured tannins and good length.

Input)

Bees are hardworking, unselfish and in tune with their environment - all qualities that would also describe Ontario winegrowers! Enjoy aromas and flavours of blackcurrant and cherry, with licorice and spicy notes. Serve with grilled meats or a selection of local cheeses.

Recommendation 9

Wine 1

Deep ruby; aromas of cherry, plum, mulberry, chocolate and light floral notes; extra-dry, medium-bodied, intense flavours of cherry, plum, spice, vanilla with refreshing acidity and soft tannins.

Wine 2

Another release that fits into the crazy value category is the 2015 Cotes du Roussillon Bastide Sobirana Lieu Dit La Colombine, which is made from 50% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 20% Carignan, and was brought up all in concrete tanks. Creamy, polished and sexy, with classy notes of violets, crushed berry fruits, licorice and toasted spice, this straight up fruit bomb will put a smile on anyone's face over the coming 2-3 years. Drink Date: 2016-2019. Score - 91. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, April 27, 2016 )

Wine 3

[The VinoSub30 wine competition did not include a review of this wine]. Score - 93. (vinosub30.com, 2017)

Input)

If 2015 was 3000 per cent better as a vintage compared to 2014 (which was de-classified) than where does that put Apostolos Thymiopoulos' 2016? Well for one thing the vines are another year older, no longer babies and gifting youthful, still charmingly volatile but now maturing adolescent fruit. There is a new layer in the cherries and the pinot noir-like ethereal character but there too is this new gear, savoury, as if ripened pods of sweet (liquorice-accented) carob are falling into your hand, straight from the tree. This Young Vines is getable in ways it has not been before. You gotta drink here. Drink 2018-2021. Score - 90. (Michael Godel, winealign.com, June 5, 2018)

Recommendation 10

Wine 1

The colour is a clear, medium ruby; fresh, inviting aromas of ripe red berries and cherries; dry with medium body, light/medium tannins and balanced acidity supporting red berry, vanilla, spice and herbal flavours; the finish is medium in length.

Wine 2

Ruby red colour; fresh berry fruit and touch of spice in aroma and flavour, medium body and medium finish

Wine 3

Light ruby red; aromas of raspberry, cherry and light jammy fruit; dry, medium bodied, with smooth mouthfeel; dried red berry and cranberry fruit, plum and leather flavours.

Input)

A portion of the monies made from sales of this Baco Noir and Cabernet Franc blend goes to the Fergie Jenkins Foundation, which provides support to a number of Canadian charities. This is juicy, fruity and fun. Ripe and round with red cherry, dark fruit and some distinctly Cabernet Franc tones mixed in. Lithe and fresh with good length. (Vintages panel, Aug. 2017)

Recommendation 11

Wine 1

\*\*\*LATE ARRIVAL. PRODUCT NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE.\*\*\*From a long-standing, well-respected name in Ontario winemaking, this Syrah is ripe and rich with blackberry and redcurrant fruit, plum, chocolate, spice and an underlying earthiness. Enjoy with lamb or barbecued ribs. (Vintages panel, Sept. 2018)

Wine 2

Strawberry, cherry, beetroot and earthy notes, with suggestions of sweet spice. An easygoing Pinot Noir with plenty of character. (Vintages panel, March 2017)

Wine 3

From the Niagara wine region in Ontario, Creekside's Laura's 2016 is a full-bodied Bordeaux blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon with 2% Syrah added into the mix and showing a lot of promise. On the nose field berries, wet stone, chocolate, earthiness and hint of vanilla. There's plenty of acidity for food and some warming alcohol on the palate. Long toasted oak and cherry finish. Decant and drink now or hold in cellar for three to five years. Food pairings: tourtière, lamburger, pork pies. Drink 2019-2023. Score - 90. (Natalie MacLean, nataliemaclean.com, May 13, 2019)

Input)

LENS (Lake Erie North Shore) has a long growing season that permits the grapes to develop ripe, full-flavoured fruit while maintaining the balance integral to fine wines. The warm temperatures allow winemakers in LENS a great range of varietals to work with. Syrah, which loves the sun and warmth, thrives there. This one is soft and approachable, with complex suggestions of red and black fruit, chocolate, toast, cured meat and black pepper spice. Perfect for burgers or ribs. (Vintages panel, March 2018)

Recommendation 12

Wine 1

Tasted at the Cru Bourgeois annual tasting, the 2015 Chateau l'Argenteyre has an attractive bouquet with blackberry, bilberry, sous bois and tobacco scents that gain intensity with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, good structure and an insistent grip on the finish that is backed up by clean and fresh fruit. I like the sturdiness of this Médoc, coupled with just the right amount of finesse. Tasted September 2017. Drink Date: 2018-2028. Score - 90. (Neal Martin, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

This is really rich and powerful. Full-bodied, round and chewy. Very long and dense. It's really something. Better than the 2015. Best ever? Score - 93-94. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, April 4, 2017)

Wine 3

Made from mostly Merlot aged for nine months in barrel, this offers blackcurrant and plum fruit along with suggestions of sweet spices. An affordable taste of Bordeaux's 2015 vintage that'll impress alongside beef tenderloin with a reduction of red wine and rosemary. (Vintages panel, May 2018)

Input)

The 2016 Chateau la Pirouette, a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, offers Bing cherry and wild strawberry on the nose, almost Saint-Julien-like in style. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, quite dry tannin, but there is plenty of black fruit here laced with cedar and undergrowth, a touch of mushroom on the finish. I appreciate the stylishness, the understated manner of this Bordeaux rouge, and it should give several years of pleasure at a very wallet-friendly price. Drink Date: 2018-2025. Score - 90. (Neal Martin, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Recommendation 13

Wine 1

Cave de Cairanne was founded in 1929. Their 2017 La Reserve Plan de Dieu is a blend of Grenache, Carignan and Syrah. The grapes were harvested and fermented separately before being blended together at the end of the winter and further aged for 8 months in concrete. This is a finely balanced wine with violet, plum, blackberry, cedar and vanilla notes and a savoury tinge that adds complexity to the finish. Try this with roasted meats or turkey burgers. (Vintages panel, June 2018)

Wine 2

[The Concours des Vins d'Orange did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins d'Orange, 2017)

Wine 3

At the top of the Domaine Alary hierarchy is the 2015 Cairanne la Jean de Verde, a Grenache-dominated cuvée from the estate's highest vineyards. This berry-scented beauty is full-bodied, creamy and rich on the palate, with a velvety texture that pulls you in, then slaps you with tannins on the finish. It should drink well for a decade. Drink Date: 2018-2028. Score - 93. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017 )

Input)

100% Syrah, from a 40ha estate that is one of the biggest in the appellation. The 2013 vintage in the Rhône is a very different story from Bordeaux, as clearly displayed here. This is delicious: bright and juicy red fruits, crushed rocks and liquorice; it's so drinkable now, but will age well. Elegance with generosity. Drinking Window: 2018-2027. Score - 94. (Jane Anson, decanter.com, Dec. 2, 2017)

Recommendation 14

Wine 1

[At the time of publication, Tim Atkin's tasting note was not yet available.] Score - 92. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, 2019)

Wine 2

A fruitier carmenere with cherry, rose and lilac aromas and flavors that follow through to a full body. Fine tannins. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 29, 2017)

Wine 3

Sourced from a warm area that has a good diurnal swing and a warm finish to the season that suits this variety. The nose has a striking array of blackberries and leaves, leading to a palate that has a very sleek, polished and long finish. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, April 5, 2019)

Input)

The Cordillera range showcases some of the best terroirs in Chile, Peumo (for Carmenère) among them. It's a plush, rich, aromatic example of the country's signature grape, boasting fine tannins, silky, leafy dark berry fruit and very stylish oak. Drink Date: 2019-26. Score - 92. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, Chile Special Report 2018)

Recommendation 15

Wine 1

Big in flavor and structure, this dark-colored, full-bodied wine is concentrated and laced with fine-grained tannins to support rich blackberry flavors. It's smooth and mouthfilling, with a lingering finish. Score - 90. (Jim Gordon, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

The 2015 Crozes Hermitage Cuvee Louis Belle is cedary and rich, full-bodied and amply endowed with dark berry fruit and velvety tannins. It does show too much oak to be truly classic, but it's hedonistically delicious in a clean, modern style. It has a decade or more of pleasure ahead of it. Drink Date: 2018-2030. Score - 94. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Dec. 29, 2017)

Wine 3

Ripe & spicy berries from 2 weeks skin contact (no sulphur), mostly older oak (some American, absent in Merlot & Cab) well integrated. 2015 vintage warmth contained, though, despite 14.5% alcohol. Score - 93. (Platter's South African Wine Guide, 2019)

Input)

Wonderfully perfumed and inviting, the bouquet shows black/blueberry, violet, cedar and vanilla characters, together with nuances of clove and black pepper. The palate offers excellent fruit purity and concentration, without being heavy, and delivers velvety texture and fine, polished tannins. This is beautifully styled and refined with plenty of delectable flavours. A single vineyard wine from the Gimblett Gravels district. At its best: now to 2025. Score - 94. (Sam Kim, wineorbit.co.nz, Dec. 2017)

Recommendation 16

Wine 1

bright ruby colour with pink rim; cherry and raspberry aromas; dry, medium body; juicy ripe berry flavour with medium finish

Wine 2

Clear ruby with purple tint; fragrant nose of ripe cherries and raspberries; dry, medium body; ripe berry flavour with a touch of spice; balanced acidity

Wine 3

A deep ruby colour with forward dark fruit aromas that include black berries, currants and cherries; medium body, easy drinking

Input)

Value priced pinot noir. Deep ruby red colour. Lively aromas of ripe strawberry, sweet cherry and raspberry with light spice and floral/leafy notes. Dry, mid-weight, with soft tannins and a fresh, fruity palate leading to. flavours of tangy red fruit, plum and cherry pie with spicy/peppery, cocoa notes on the finish.

Recommendation 17

Wine 1

The 2016 Chateau la Pirouette, a blend of 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot and 5% Petit Verdot, offers Bing cherry and wild strawberry on the nose, almost Saint-Julien-like in style. The palate is medium-bodied with firm, quite dry tannin, but there is plenty of black fruit here laced with cedar and undergrowth, a touch of mushroom on the finish. I appreciate the stylishness, the understated manner of this Bordeaux rouge, and it should give several years of pleasure at a very wallet-friendly price. Drink Date: 2018-2025. Score - 90. (Neal Martin, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

Tasted at the Cru Bourgeois annual tasting, the 2015 Chateau l'Argenteyre has an attractive bouquet with blackberry, bilberry, sous bois and tobacco scents that gain intensity with aeration. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, good structure and an insistent grip on the finish that is backed up by clean and fresh fruit. I like the sturdiness of this Médoc, coupled with just the right amount of finesse. Tasted September 2017. Drink Date: 2018-2028. Score - 90. (Neal Martin, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 3

Cave de Cairanne was founded in 1929. Their 2017 La Reserve Plan de Dieu is a blend of Grenache, Carignan and Syrah. The grapes were harvested and fermented separately before being blended together at the end of the winter and further aged for 8 months in concrete. This is a finely balanced wine with violet, plum, blackberry, cedar and vanilla notes and a savoury tinge that adds complexity to the finish. Try this with roasted meats or turkey burgers. (Vintages panel, June 2018)

Input)

Made from mostly Merlot aged for nine months in barrel, this offers blackcurrant and plum fruit along with suggestions of sweet spices. An affordable taste of Bordeaux's 2015 vintage that'll impress alongside beef tenderloin with a reduction of red wine and rosemary. (Vintages panel, May 2018)

Recommendation 18

Wine 1

A fresh and silky red with berry and light chocolate character. Medium body, integrated and pretty. What you want in a Crianza. Drink now. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Aug. 2, 2018)

Wine 2

The 2014 Ercavio Roble is pure Tempranillo that followed a classical vinification, fermentation in stainless steel, malolactic fermentation in cement and a short aging (six months) in used French barriques. The nose is very classic, too, nicely crafted, fine with a nice combination between berry and spice with subtle oak. It has a commercial profile in a very pleasant way. The palate shows very good volume and a fine texture with elegant tannins. It tastes like a much more expensive wine. This is superb value and a faithful representation of Tempranillo from La Mancha in a good vintage. Drink Date: 2016-2018. Score - 90. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, June 29, 2016)

Wine 3

The 2012 Convento San Francisco, pure Tempranillo matured in oak for 19 months, has a nice commercial profile, with a mix of berry fruit and spicy oak, and a tasty palate with fine-grained tannins and moderate acidity. It finishes quite tasty. Drink Date: 2017-2021. Score - 90. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2017)

Input)

The aromatic and perfumed Bobal 2014 Rayuelo clearly called my attention. It had fragrant notes of violets not often found in the variety, which can sometimes be a little too rustic. It also has a lot of freshness while being juicy, and the oak is nicely integrated after some time in bottle. It matured in barrel for eight months but has been in bottle since June 2016. This represents a very good value. Drink Date: 2018-2021. Score - 91. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Dec. 29, 2017)

Recommendation 19

Wine 1

The 2014 Ercavio Roble is pure Tempranillo that followed a classical vinification, fermentation in stainless steel, malolactic fermentation in cement and a short aging (six months) in used French barriques. The nose is very classic, too, nicely crafted, fine with a nice combination between berry and spice with subtle oak. It has a commercial profile in a very pleasant way. The palate shows very good volume and a fine texture with elegant tannins. It tastes like a much more expensive wine. This is superb value and a faithful representation of Tempranillo from La Mancha in a good vintage. Drink Date: 2016-2018. Score - 90. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, June 29, 2016)

Wine 2

[The VinoSub30 wine competition did not include a review of this wine]. Score - 93. (vinosub30.com, 2017)

Wine 3

Ripe blackberry, plum and prune aromas are smoky and generous. A lush but fresh and balanced palate rests comfortably on a bed of firm tannins. Ripe blackberry, blueberry and prune flavors end long and earthy, with chewy tannins and balsamic complexity. Drink through 2022. Score - 90. (Michael Schachner, Wine Enthusiast, Sept. 1, 2016)

Input)

The eponymous red 2015 Prieto Pariente is a 50/50 blend of Tempranillo and Garnacha from a warm, healthy vintage when they had to harvest earlier to keep the acidity and avoid overripeness. The two varieties fermented separately with indigenous yeasts in 2,500-liter vats after a four-day cold soak. Halfway through the fermentation, it was pressed and put to finish fermentation in 300-liter oak barrels without skins. Malolactic is in barrel and the aging was extended until bottling in September 2016. It had aromas of very high ripeness, dried plums and nuts, and some tree bark-like aromas that gave it a rustic profile with some beeswax and honey undertones. It's a little earthy, and the palate revealed some earthy, somehow rustic tannins. Drink Date: 2017-2020. Score - 90. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2017)

Recommendation 20

Wine 1

bright medium ruby colour; currant and cherry with a touch of spicy oak in the nose; medium body, dry wine, black cherry and spice flavours and oak finish

Wine 2

An award-winning local winery, this offering from Kacaba is a great introduction to quality reds from Ontario. Plush and flavourful with notes of red berry, cedar, and mocha mingling on a medium-weight palate that is brightened by a hit of acidity wrapping up with fine/integrated tannins.

Wine 3

Dark ruby colour; aromas of dark berry, light spice with herb and sweet oaky notes; dry, medium-full body, with a firm structure, black currant and plum flavours; and a long finish.

Input)

Clear, deep purple colour; aromas of blackberry, spice and earth; dry and medium bodied with a sweet fruit core of blackberry and spice; hint of earth on the medium length finish, drink now or hold 2-3 years.

Recommendation 21

Wine 1

[The Berliner Wein Trophy competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Berliner Wein Trophy, Feb. 2018)

Wine 2

The 2010 Finca Iscorta De Peciña Gran Reserva is their usual blend of Tempranillo with 3% Garnacha and 2% Graciano, sourced from 50-year-old vines from their Finca Iscorta vineyard in the Sonsierra zone; therefore, it is a single-vineyard bottling. It fermented with indigenous yeasts and aged in well-seasoned American oak barrels for 48 months with manual and gravity rackings every six months. This feels very harmonious, combining some primary notes with more-developed tertiary aromas. The palate also reveals a rare mix of power and elegance that only the very best vintages are capable of. It has polished tannins, good volume, freshness and length. Drink or hold, there should be no rush. Drink Date: 2018-2030. Score - 94+. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2018)

Wine 3

The eponymous red 2015 Prieto Pariente is a 50/50 blend of Tempranillo and Garnacha from a warm, healthy vintage when they had to harvest earlier to keep the acidity and avoid overripeness. The two varieties fermented separately with indigenous yeasts in 2,500-liter vats after a four-day cold soak. Halfway through the fermentation, it was pressed and put to finish fermentation in 300-liter oak barrels without skins. Malolactic is in barrel and the aging was extended until bottling in September 2016. It had aromas of very high ripeness, dried plums and nuts, and some tree bark-like aromas that gave it a rustic profile with some beeswax and honey undertones. It's a little earthy, and the palate revealed some earthy, somehow rustic tannins. Drink Date: 2017-2020. Score - 90. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2017)

Input)

If 2008 felt cool and Atlantic, the 2009 Roda I could be described as Mediterranean, from a warm and healthy vintage. Here they aim for black fruit character while the regular Roda should show red fruit. The grapes are sourced from over 30-year-old vines and is mostly Tempranillo with some 5% Graciano. It matured in first and second use French oak barrels for 16 months. It's a warm vintage, without reaching the heights of 2011, but there was some stress in the peak of the summer, which in some wines might have provided some dry tannins. The advantage of old vines is that they are able to absorb these effects. There was some rain in September that might have saved the vintage. In general, everybody talks about a very healthy vintage, but again the challenge is to keep the freshness. The nose shows those aromas of thyme and rosemary, with dark fruit, ripe and a bit heady. The palate is truly spicy, voluptuous and full, with dusty, fine tannins and a tasty finish. 99,661 bottles produced. Drink Date: 2016-2022. Score - 93. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Aug. 30, 2016 )

Recommendation 22

Wine 1

deep ruby colour; red berry, cherry and green pepper aromas; dry, medium body; ripe fruit flavour with balanced acidity

Wine 2

clear ruby red; cherry, berry and floral aromas; dry, medium body; lots of ripe fruit flavour, well balanced

Wine 3

A unique bottle wrap makes this Ontario blend as attractive as it is delicious. Flavours of currant and plum make it ideal with root vegetables.

Input)

The sunny 2016 vintage was great for ripening red wines such as this cheekily named blend. Aromas of blackberry, plum, sweet spices and cedar introduce a bright, ripely fruity wine with a long, tasty finish. A fine choice for grilled beef or black-bean burgers. (Vintages panel, April 2019)

Recommendation 23

Wine 1

Medium ruby colour; aromas and flavours of mocha, vanilla and oak with black cherry and spice notes; medium-bodied and fruity.

Wine 2

pale ruby colour; raspberry, sour cherry and touch of vanilla in the nose; dry light to medium body; soft cherry and cranberry flavours, soft, smooth finish

Wine 3

Chateau St. Jean is located in Sonoma County, a region rich in winemaking history. This Pinot Noir displays lovely aromas of raspberry, strawberry and cranberry as well as hints of rose and toasted oak. The palate offers juicy flavours and soft tannins that give a creamy texture and long fruit-driven finish.

Input)

The 2015 Pinot Noir La Rinconada Vineyard offers striking purity in its fruit and exceptional pedigree. Super-ripe red cherry, lavender, rose petal, hard candy, spice and floral notes race from this expressive, open-knit wine. The Rinconada is exuberant but also light on its feet. It will be virtually impossible to resist upon release, as it is the sexiest wine in this range. Drinking window: 2020-2030. Score - 95. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Sept. 2017)

Recommendation 24

Wine 1

Founder Luis Pereyra Cotapos longed to produce Bordeaux-style wines in Chile. Since 1875, this dream has been a driving force behind Santa Carolina's success. This Cab has rich notes of blackberry, pepper spice and cassis with Maipo's characteristic herbal qualities.

Wine 2

Dense, dark aromas of raisin and blackberry set up a full and chunky palate with a creamy texture. Mildly salty berry flavors include a whack of oak spice, while oak-led flavors settle in on a finish that tastes slightly baked and feels warm. Score - 90. (Michael Schachner, Wine Enthusiast, May 1, 2019)

Wine 3

The same grower has supplied this varietal Cabernet since the beginning and deserves a round of applause. The vineyard is at 600 metres in the Alto Maipo and it shows in the freshness and precision of the wine. Subtle wooded, with well-toned tannins. Drink Date: 2020-2030. Score - 94. (Tim Atkin, MW, timatkin.com, Chile Special Report 2018)

Input)

From a vineyard in Buin planted to clonal cabernet sauvignon in 2009. This zone near the Maipo River has alluvial soils with abundant gravel that's especially favorable for the variety, particularly for obtaining very smooth-textured cabernets like this one. It's like cream on the palate, with ripe red fruit notes seasoned with herbs and spices. Score - 93. (Patricio Tapia, Descorchados, 2018)

Recommendation 25

Wine 1

purple garnet with blueberry plum nose. Soft and mellow with velvety blackberry flavors in the end

Wine 2

ruby red colour; plum and cherry aromas; medium body; dark fruit flavours, balanced acidity soft tannins with good length to finish

Wine 3

Lots tar and ripe fruit, yet always fresh and floral. Medium body, polished and velvety tannins and a flavorful finish. Pretty fruit. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Nov. 25, 2018)

Input)

Clear ruby red with purple highlights; ripe cherry, and plum aromas with a touch of chocolate; dry, medium to full body; forward fruit flavours, balanced acidity and soft tannins for a smooth finish

Recommendation 26

Wine 1

The Wahluke Slope is one of the warmest and driest areas in Washington and the conditions are ideal for producing robust and ripe reds with exceptional varietal purity. This Cabernet is approachable and appealing with generous dark fruit, cherry, cassis, dried herbs, vanilla and chocolate. Silky and rich with caressing tannins, it is perfect for lamb, steak, or grilled ribs.

Wine 2

Columbia Crest has risen from strength to strength since emerging in 1983, and Vintages customers have fallen in love with this focused and appealing Cab. Smooth, generous and fruity with chocolate and coffee notes. Try with coffee-and-porter-braised brisket.

Wine 3

Ripe and structured, with black fruit, cassis and vanilla. This fresh, balanced wine offers considerable value and is crafted in an approachable, engaging style that will have broad appeal, especially when served with steak. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Input)

The Columbia Valley may be a huge viticultural designation (the area includes nearly all of Washington's AVAs), but this doesn't mean the wines are all over the place. Far from it, as this focused, refined Cabernet Sauvignon shows. Dark fruit, cassis, chocolate and coffee tones lie atop a concentrated, firm underlying structure. This is a great wine that will have broad appeal. Perfect for medium-rare steak. (Vintages panel, Sept. 2018)

Recommendation 27

Wine 1

Medium ruby-colored, the 2016 Gigondas La Gille (90% Grenache and the rest other permitted varieties) is silky and polished, with beautiful kirsch, dried earth, spice box and dried flowers aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and polished, it's already drinking nicely yet has enough tannin (not to mention balance) to keep for a decade. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Wine 2

[The Concours de Vins Macon did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins Macon, 2018)

Wine 3

A blend of 80/20 Grenache and Syrah, the 2017 Côtes du Rhône gives up ample dark fruits, black cherries, licorice, and herbs. It's medium to full-bodied, has good acidity, and a big, rich, opulent style. Score - 89-91. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28. 2018)

Input)

Grenache, Syrah. 50% aged in foudres. Delicious blueberry and redcurrant purity - really delicious, with excellent clarity and intensity. Rounded, furry tannic texture, good balance, liquorice notes on the finish. Totally complete and satisfying. Among the best of their crus bottlings. Superior. Drink 2019-2026. Score - 17 (out of 20). (Richard Hemming, MW, jancisrobinson.com, Nov. 27, 2017)

Recommendation 28

Wine 1

You know those bottles that bring you to your knees? This is one of them. Backstory: One of the better wine agencies in Toronto, Halpern Enterprises, went to California to scout a $20 Cab that kills it - and they came back with this very serious find. With a crushed velvet mouth feel - all polished on top and plush underneath - this wine draws you in with flavours of ripe mixed berries, café latte, smoked plum, milk chocolate, toasted tobacco and vanilla cream. Elegant yet slightly brooding, this wine is a steal. Score - 96. (Carolyn Evans Hammond, Toronto Star, July 6, 2018)

Wine 2

Opaque purple/red colour; cassis and oak aromas with hints of mint & vanilla; full-bodied with intense fruit flavours and light tannins in finish

Wine 3

Deep ruby colour; cassis, blackberry, cedar and soft vanilla aromas; medium body; cassis, vanilla and spice flavours with grippy tannins

Input)

[The San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, 2019)

Recommendation 29

Wine 1

The 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon comes from clone 337 and is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon aged 22 months in French oak. This wine displays notes of wood spice, earth, black and red currants, licorice and tobacco leaf. It is full-bodied, has excellent purity, and was bottled with no fining or filtration. This is an impressive, concentrated wine to drink over the next 15 or so years. Drink Date: 2016-2031. Score - 94. (Robert Parker Jr., robertparker.com, March 3, 2016)

Wine 2

They have multiple cuvées, including their 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Dollarhide Estate Vineyard coming from Napa Valley. This is a big, robust style of Cabernet Sauvignon with blackberry and graphite, some licorice, and plenty of underbrush and earth. Full-bodied and powerful, it will benefit from several years of bottle age and evolve for at least two decades. Drink Date: 2016-2036. Score - 93. (Robert Parker Jr., robertparker.com, Oct. 29, 2015)

Wine 3

The 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon, which is a blend of 93% Cabernet Sauvignon and the rest Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, is a beauty of classicism and balance. Dense purple in color, with notes of crème de cassis, blackberry, cedar wood and forest floor, the wine is full-bodied, beautifully concentrated and pure, with moderate tannins and the potential for 20-25 years of upside. Drink Date: 2016-2041. Score - 92. (Robert Parker Jr., robertparker.com, Dec. 30, 2016 )

Input)

The impressive, full-bodied, multidimensional 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon Correlation ratchets up the opacity of the color. It exhibits impressive blackberry and blueberry fruit, camphor and white flower characteristics. It should drink beautifully for 10-15 years. Drink Date: 2014-2029. Score - 93-95. (Robert Parker Jr., robertparker.com, Oct. 30, 2014 )

Recommendation 30

Wine 1

This is sourced from old vines, many over 100 years of age, planted in some of the oldest soils on earth. Full-bodied, concentrated and rich with sophisticated, refined blackberry, earth, spice and meat tones. A big, bold wine for big, bold meat dishes.

Wine 2

This Shiraz is Kilikanoon's idea of an entry-level wine. Some introduction! A hedonistic pleasure, it's plush with blackberry jam, cherry and toasted oak. A bold match for barbecued spare ribs, spicy sausage pizza or grilled hanger steaks.

Wine 3

Plums, cassis, sweet preserves, bell pepper and spice on the nose with a hint of licorice; dry, medium to full bodied, nicely balanced acidity, with lush, ripe cassis, wood spice, bell pepper and spice on the palate; warm, supple finish.

Input)

Tahbilk, founded in 1860, has long been a favourite of Vintages customers. Their 2016 Shiraz is a lush, structured wine with powerfully articulated dark berry, spice, vanilla and dark chocolate. It's big and bold, characteristically tight-knit and complete, with good freshness. Try this with a peppery roast beef. (Vintages panel, May 2018)

Recommendation 31

Wine 1

A simple and straightforward cab with some berry and fresh-herb character. Medium body, some firm tannins and a flavorful finish. Drink now. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Nov. 19, 2018)

Wine 2

This is always a big, round, generous wine, and the 2015 is no exception to the rule. Juicy and ripe with sweet plums, blackberries, vanilla, spice and succulent tannins, this will be brilliant with your favourite cut of steak, grilled medium rare. (Vintages panel, June 2018)

Wine 3

Winemaker and GM Christophe Paubert grew up in the Sauternes region of Bordeaux, and worked four years at Chateau d'Yquem and other New World regions before coming to Stags Leap. There is typical Napa generosity, richness and softness here, with a lovely nose of chocolate, bumbleberry pie and subtle merlot dried herbs/tea. It is full bodied, plush and quite elegant, with decent acid at its core. Alcohol is up there, tannins are nicely meshed. Excellent length. Score - 91. (David Lawrason, winealign.com, Feb. 19, 2019)

Input)

This expressive, well-balanced red was produced with grapes sourced from the Mount Veeder sub-region of Napa Valley. The nose unfolds gently with blackberry, cassis and sweet cherry aromas supported by hints of graphite, pipe tobacco, cedar and violet. A wash of ripe dark fruit envelops the palate adorned with dark chocolate, espresso bean and sweet vanilla. Dry, medium bodied with firm tannin, balancing fresh acidity and refined structure, it offers a delicious, lengthy, fruit-driven finish. Enjoy with magret de canard and plum compote. Score - 91. (Lisa Isabelle, winecurrent.com, Jan. 29, 2018)

Recommendation 32

Wine 1

You know those bottles that bring you to your knees? This is one of them. Backstory: One of the better wine agencies in Toronto, Halpern Enterprises, went to California to scout a $20 Cab that kills it - and they came back with this very serious find. With a crushed velvet mouth feel - all polished on top and plush underneath - this wine draws you in with flavours of ripe mixed berries, café latte, smoked plum, milk chocolate, toasted tobacco and vanilla cream. Elegant yet slightly brooding, this wine is a steal. Score - 96. (Carolyn Evans Hammond, Toronto Star, July 6, 2018)

Wine 2

[The San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, 2019)

Wine 3

Ruby colour; aromas of raspberry and plum fruit with hints of vanilla; lovely replay of raspberry fruit on the palate; medium-bodied and fruity with a vanilla finish.

Input)

This winery's colourful founder, the Count of Buena Vista, pioneered premium winemaking in California: he imported vines from Europe, dug Sonoma's first wine caves and introduced innovative viticultural techniques. This Zinfandel-based blend shows red plum, cherry, mulberry and smoky grilled meat notes on a wave of tangy acidity. Pour with savoury herbed ribs and unpeeled mashed potatoes. (Vintages panel, May 2017)

Recommendation 33

Wine 1

Saturated, deep black-red in colour with a pure, exuberant and exciting scent mingling notes of smoke, bramble, blackberry, blackcurrant and redcurrant. The flavours are joyful. There's a fruit core of singing lyricism, both vivid and fresh without being acidulous; the wine is tannic enough to give its fruit shape and gravitas but not roughness or austerity; and it has overtones which bring light and shade to the wine via faint notes of smoke, of cleansing bitterness, of the saltiness which is such a hallmark of parts of Crozes, and of the 'stony' flavours which lovers of terroir wine crave. A gorgeous success. Score - 93. (Andrew Jefford, decanter.com, July 18, 2016)

Wine 2

[The Concours des Vins Macon did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins Macon, 2018)

Wine 3

[The Concours de Bordeaux did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours de Bordeaux, 2018)

Input)

Another release that fits into the crazy value category is the 2015 Cotes du Roussillon Bastide Sobirana Lieu Dit La Colombine, which is made from 50% Grenache, 30% Syrah and 20% Carignan, and was brought up all in concrete tanks. Creamy, polished and sexy, with classy notes of violets, crushed berry fruits, licorice and toasted spice, this straight up fruit bomb will put a smile on anyone's face over the coming 2-3 years. Drink Date: 2016-2019. Score - 91. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, April 27, 2016 )

Recommendation 34

Wine 1

Grenache, Syrah. 50% aged in foudres. Delicious blueberry and redcurrant purity - really delicious, with excellent clarity and intensity. Rounded, furry tannic texture, good balance, liquorice notes on the finish. Totally complete and satisfying. Among the best of their crus bottlings. Superior. Drink 2019-2026. Score - 17 (out of 20). (Richard Hemming, MW, jancisrobinson.com, Nov. 27, 2017)

Wine 2

Tasted out of barrels, the 2015 Cotes du Ventoux la Terre du Petit Homme is a head turner. Made from equal parts Grenache and Syrah, it's a full-bodied, incredibly pure red that offers ample notes of black raspberries, wild strawberries, garrigue and crushed flowers. It has a touch of oak to integrate, beautiful mid-palate depth and a great finish. It's a smokin' good effort that will have a decade of longevity. Score - 91-93. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, Dec. 30, 2016 )

Wine 3

The 2015 Gigondas Pierre Aiguille is an elegant, polished wine from this estate and is made from 80% Grenache and 10% each of Syrah and Mourvèdre. Destemmed and aged in tronconique tanks, it offers a slightly darker slant to its fruit with notes of black raspberries, cassis and toasted spice. These carry to the palate where it shows surprising texture and beautiful tannin quality. All in all, it should end up being an outstanding wine that will drink nicely for 10-12 years. Score - 89-91. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, Dec. 30, 2016)

Input)

Medium ruby-colored, the 2016 Gigondas La Gille (90% Grenache and the rest other permitted varieties) is silky and polished, with beautiful kirsch, dried earth, spice box and dried flowers aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and polished, it's already drinking nicely yet has enough tannin (not to mention balance) to keep for a decade. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Recommendation 35

Wine 1

Deep ruby colour; aromas of dried fruit, cherry, raisin; balanced, slightly off dry and round on the palate; easy drinking

Wine 2

Vanilla shading around a core of ripe cherry, plum and spice. Pour with fried caciocavallo cheese with marinara dipping sauce, or a pasta dish featuring zucchini and sun-dried tomatoes. (Vintages panel, Jan. 2018)

Wine 3

An easy drinking, pleasant rustic red from Southern Italy that's excellent value. Bright red colour with a slight brick edge; aromas of ripe cherry, plum, light herb and spice; Dry, medium to full-bodied, soft, rounded and well-balanced palate, shows juicy ripe red berry, herb, warm dark fruit, and spice flavours.

Input)

A super rich blend of southern Italian grape varieties made in the appassisimento style. Shows opulent aromas of ripe plum, dark berries, mocha, spice, jam and dried fruit. Palate is ripe, richly textured, and well balanced, with lush flavours of dried berries, candied fruit, plum and vanilla, with smoky chocolate notes.

Recommendation 36

Wine 1

[The Concours International de Lyon did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours International de Lyon, 2018)

Wine 2

There's excellent fruit and spice on the nose and palate, with a medium body, fine tannins and a fresh finish. Very good for the vintage. Score - 87-90. (James Suckling, winespectator.com, 2009)

Wine 3

Fresh nose with berries and chocolate with hints of hazelnuts. Sandalwood. Medium-bodied, linear and focused with fine tannins and a delicious finish. Drink and enjoy. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 2, 2018)

Input)

[The Concours Général Paris did not include a tasting note.] Score - Silver. (Concours Général Paris, 2018)

Recommendation 37

Wine 1

The 2016 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Domaine Barville is brilliant stuff, and probably the finest vintage of this wine to date. Based on 80% Grenache, 15% Syrah and 5% Mourvèdre, with classic red and black fruits, garrigue, and spice, this beauty hits the palate with full-bodied richness, an opulent texture, and sweet tannin. Drink it over the coming 10-12 years. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Wine 2

Grand Tinel's charming, forward 2015 Chateauneuf du Pape is a solid value for drinking over the next decade or so. It features subtle cinnamon and nutmeg aromas, modest cherry fruit, plush tannins and some leathery notes on the silky finish. It's a classic blend of 70% Grenache, 20% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre. Drink Date: 2017-2027. Score - 92. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 3

A big, rich and unctuous blend of 70% Grenache and 30% Syrah, the 2015 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Laurus yields classic notes of ripe black fruits, licorice and peppered meats, full-bodied richness, sweet, polished tannin and a rich, opulent style on the palate that's a joy to drink. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Oct. 19, 2017)

Input)

The top wine of the estate, the 2011 Chateauneuf du Pape Cuvee Anonyme is a hidden gem in the vintage! A blend of Grenache, Mourvedre, Syrah, Counoise and Vaccarese, from 90-year-old vines and aged in one-third new barrels (although you wouldn't know it), it possesses fabulous notes of blackberry and currant fruit, big minerality, roasted meats and leather. Full-bodied, with beautiful freshness, big tannin and a layered, thrillingly concentrated mid-palate, it will be better in another year or two, and have over 15 years of longevity. Drink 2015-2026. Score - 95. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, Oct. 30, 2013)

Recommendation 38

Wine 1

A blend of 70% Grenache, 20% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre from the local cave cooperative, the 2017 Rasteau Tradition is a medium to full-bodied effort marked by supple tannins, lovely fresh cherry and stone fruit flavors and a mouthwatering finish. It should drink well for 3-4 years. Drink Date: 2018-2022. Score - 89. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Nov. 30, 2018)

Wine 2

A smoking value, the 2016 Vinsobres Les Cornuds is a spicy, cedary, and peppery effort that has classic garrigue and saddle leather notes, medium body, ripe tannin, and a good finish. It's a terrific wine that sells for a great price. Score - 90. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Wine 3

Lesec's 2016 Cairanne is a blend of Grenache, Syrah and old-vines Carignan, matured almost entirely in tank. Enticing raspberry and cola notes carry a bit of cracked pepper as well, and this medium to full-bodied wine is juicy and mouthwatering on the long finish. It should drink well for at least 5-6 years. Drink Date: 2017-2022. Score - 91. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Input)

Sappy flowers, framboise, black cherry, leather and licorice all emerge from the 2015 Côtes du Rhône Villages Plan de Dieu Remy Ferbras Terre de Mistral, which is medium-bodied, supple, layered and silky, with tons of charm and elegance. I suspect it will represent a terrific value and should keep for 4-5 years. Drink Date: 2016-2021. Score - 90. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, Dec. 30, 2016)

Recommendation 39

Wine 1

ruby red colour; rich xmas cake aromas of berries, plums and spice; dry, medium body; full flavour of ripe fruit,smooth, with spice finish

Wine 2

Now under the stewardship of brother and sister Marilisa and Franco Allegrini, this historic family-run winery continues to be one of the leading and most innovative producers in Veneto. This Ripasso is fresh and juicy, with complex, rich aromas and flavours of black plum, raspberry and strawberry joining earthy notes of tar and licorice. A perfect complement for the rich gravy, stuffing and cranberry sauce flavours that accompany a traditional Thanksgiving feast (if you can wait that long). (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Wine 3

[Luca Maroni did not include a tasting note.] Score - 90. (Luca Maroni, lucamaroni.com, 2019)

Input)

Alluring aromas of red and dark cherry/berry fruit mingle with cedar and floral notes. A delectable river of racy tang and ripe juicy fruit envelop the palate with red cherry and black currant interwoven with notions of mixed spice and dark mulberry. It's nicely balanced, medium weight with good texture while the lingering, rich, dry finish is lip-smacking good. Pour with osso buco or chicken cacciatore. Value. Score - 90. (Vic Harradine, winecurrent.com, Dec. 3, 2018)

Recommendation 40

Wine 1

The Ravaut family has been making wines in Burgundy for six generations. This supple Pinot Noir was grown in the commune of Ladoix-Serrigny in Côte de Beaune and displays lovely red cherry, strawberry, floral, cedar and spice notes with delicate mineral and smoke undertones. Savour it with braised duck or coq au vin. (Vintages panel, Oct. 2017)

Wine 2

Juicy, displaying black cherry and raspberry fruit, backed by light earth and chalky tannins. Balanced, with moderate length. Drink now through 2020. Score - 89. (Bruce Sanderson, winespectator.com, Oct. 15, 2016)

Wine 3

In the southern end of Côte de Beaune; Burgundies here are always light-bodied, as was this wine, but the purity of the fruit shines through. Score - 89. (Ed McCarthy, winereviewonline.com, March 20, 2018)

Input)

Wines bearing the Ladoix appellation are grown in the commune of Ladoix-Serrigny, which neighbours Aloxe-Corton in the Côte de Beaune. This supple Pinot Noir spent 15 months in oak and shows lovely strawberry, red cherry and plum with wisps of smoked herbs and spice. It'll go nicely with smoked duck or herb-crusted chicken thighs. (Vintages panel, Oct. 2017)

Recommendation 41

Wine 1

Clear ruby red colour; cherry and spice aromas with a hint of vanilla; rich chocolate cherry flavour, well balanced with a smooth finish

Wine 2

From the clay and limestone soil of northern Spain comes this elegant Rioja aged in oak barrels. Expect spicy, dark-fruit flavours, a toasty nuance and a woody finish.

Wine 3

Deep garnet in colour; forward aromas of red berry and cherry, with notes of vanilla oak and underbrush; on the palate the wine is dry, with medium body, bright acidity and fine-textured tannins; flavours of cherry, along with the spicy and vanilla notes of oak; the finish is warm and soft.

Input)

Deep garnet colour; black cherry and touch of vanilla nose; ripe fruit flavours with a touch of oak, lush finish

Recommendation 42

Wine 1

Plums and dried fruit with fresh-herb undertones. Medium body, fine tannins and a juicy finish. Drink now or hold. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 13, 2017)

Wine 2

Barrel Sample. This dark and brooding wine is packed with dense tannins and a black plum-skin flavor that's hovering behind the density. The wine has power and fine concentration, yielding a complex, solid wine with aging ability. Score - 95. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, March 1, 2015)

Wine 3

Features roasted alder and juniper out front, with a core of pastis-soaked plum, blackberry and black currant fruit underneath. The vivid finish features a mouthwatering edge. Best from 2014 through 2024. Score - 90. (James Molesworth, winespectator.com, March 31, 2013)

Input)

This wine is crafted from the younger vines in vineyards that produce the wine of a 'mystery' top-flight Pauillac producer. This 2014 is rich, dense and tight-knit. It offers impressive smoky black fruit in a balanced package. The tannins here are considerable and will support cellaring. Follow this for 3-5 years. The producer may not identify itself, but this wine's provenance is clear. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2017)

Recommendation 43

Wine 1

The dark, stormy and meaty side of Shiraz is more than ample in this South Australian number, in fact its bloody-crikey all in. All the fruits under the warm and sanguine aromatic colours of the rainbow swirl and paint the sky in Man Ray swath. Fruit sweetened brushstrokes thicken to texture while splashes of acidity help the merge into tannic poster-posturing. Well made and from the right stuff. Drink 2020-2026. Score - 90. (Michael Godel, winealign.com, April 24, 2019)

Wine 2

Made entirely with Shiraz from a single vineyard, this wine wowed our panel with its amazing intensity of ripe plum, smoke and vanilla backed by a subtle minty note. Big and balanced, with good length, it'll make a great partner for braised mutton or beef. (Vintages panel, April 2018)

Wine 3

Paarl has a rich winemaking history, with French Huguenots having planted vineyards as early as the 1680s. This ripe, balanced, gently chewy Shiraz shows a wealth of red and black cherry and blackberry along with waves of woodsmoke and a sprinkling of white pepper. It'll pair nicely with mixed grill. (Vintages panel, Oct. 2018)

Input)

Ripe & spicy berries from 2 weeks skin contact (no sulphur), mostly older oak (some American, absent in Merlot & Cab) well integrated. 2015 vintage warmth contained, though, despite 14.5% alcohol. Score - 93. (Platter's South African Wine Guide, 2019)

Recommendation 44

Wine 1

This is gorgeous, with rich, involved aromas of dark fruit and mocha. The palate is round and full with an easy-to-enjoy opulence. Smooth and long with great replays and silky, polished tannins. Pair this beauty with grilled ribs with a sticky sauce, or braised beef. (Vintages panel, June 2019)

Wine 2

With 85 years of winemaking, this winery continues to grace dinner tables with many styles. Made by drying the grapes gives it depth and density. Aromas and flavours of figs, prunes, tobacco and cherry, with plum, dates and spice notes lead to a full-bodied and smooth finish. Try with rich cheeses.

Wine 3

Super ripe mixed-berry aromas are wrapped around the fine tannins of this rich and powerful red. Although there's a little hint of sweetness, both it and the high alcoholic content are well integrated. Long, surprisingly gentle finish. Drink now. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Oct. 22, 2018)

Input)

Impressions : a wine of the highest analytical and sensorial quality. It is full-bodied, well-balanced, elegant and harmonious. The purity of the fruit on the nose is the result of high quality grapes and irreproachable winemaking.Without its velvety character ever subsiding, the balsamic compote of pure blackberry essence shines through. Bravo! Score - 99. (Luca Maroni, lucamaroni.com, Sept. 9, 2017)

Recommendation 45

Wine 1

Winemaker and GM Christophe Paubert grew up in the Sauternes region of Bordeaux, and worked four years at Chateau d'Yquem and other New World regions before coming to Stags Leap. There is typical Napa generosity, richness and softness here, with a lovely nose of chocolate, bumbleberry pie and subtle merlot dried herbs/tea. It is full bodied, plush and quite elegant, with decent acid at its core. Alcohol is up there, tannins are nicely meshed. Excellent length. Score - 91. (David Lawrason, winealign.com, Feb. 19, 2019)

Wine 2

From a large, single vineyard in cooler Carneros where moderate merlot often ripens well, this has a generous, floral, plummy, typical merlot nose of plum and blackberry with chocolate and some smoke from oak ageing. It is full bodied yet quite delicate and elegant with fine tannin. Very good definition here, with cab sauv and cab franc in the blend combining to add some tension. Score - 91. (David Lawrason, winealign.com, Feb. 5, 2019)

Wine 3

This expressive, well-balanced red was produced with grapes sourced from the Mount Veeder sub-region of Napa Valley. The nose unfolds gently with blackberry, cassis and sweet cherry aromas supported by hints of graphite, pipe tobacco, cedar and violet. A wash of ripe dark fruit envelops the palate adorned with dark chocolate, espresso bean and sweet vanilla. Dry, medium bodied with firm tannin, balancing fresh acidity and refined structure, it offers a delicious, lengthy, fruit-driven finish. Enjoy with magret de canard and plum compote. Score - 91. (Lisa Isabelle, winecurrent.com, Jan. 29, 2018)

Input)

A soft and pretty red now with chocolate, berry and currant character. Full body, round tannins and a delicious finish. Layered and rich style. Delicious. Drink now. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 23, 2018)

Recommendation 46

Wine 1

This wine is a blend of fruit from Lodi and Clarksburg and was aged in a combo of French and American oak. It's soft and approachable with ripe black fruit, cassis, vanilla and rich, smoky oak. Great value at this price, and a fine pairing for thick steaks. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Wine 2

This cabernet sauvignon is made for enjoying with meat. Its deep ruby colour is filled with aromas of ripe cherry and raspberries. Smooth on the palate with more ripe, juicy berry fruit flavours with added hints of licorice and pepper. The vibrant acidity and moderate tannins add balance to a pleasant finish.

Wine 3

Medium ruby colour; aromas and flavour of ripe black cherries and cocoa; dry and fruity with soft tannins.

Input)

The Hope family, owners of Liberty School, helped transform the 'wild west' of Paso Robles into a wine lover's destination thanks to wines like this rich Cab with its black fruit flavours. A real crowd-pleaser with barbecued fare or a meat-lovers' pizza.

Recommendation 47

Wine 1

Barrel Sample. This dark and brooding wine is packed with dense tannins and a black plum-skin flavor that's hovering behind the density. The wine has power and fine concentration, yielding a complex, solid wine with aging ability. Score - 95. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, March 1, 2015)

Wine 2

A small part of Château Peyrabon (Haut-Médoc) is in the Pauillac appellation and is vinified and bottled separately. The wine delivers great fruit and equal richness. It is spicy, packed with black plum and berry flavors. It is a powerful dense wine to age for several years. Drink from 2023. Score - 92. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, April 1, 2017)

Wine 3

Extreme nose of crushed raspberries and minerals. Full body, with very integrated tannins and a fresh clean finish. Lasts for minutes. Very well done. Better in 2016. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 16, 2013)

Input)

The power of the 2010 vintage is very apparent in this superripe wine. Dominated by rich, perfumed Cabernet Franc, it's concentrated, dark and dense. Its juicy black fruit is still in the background, moving slowly forward as it matures. Drink from 2020. Cellar Selection. Score - 93. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2017)

Recommendation 48

Wine 1

Food-friendly and a super value, this refreshing, cool-climate Pinot Noir from New Zealand offers classic flavours of black cherry and raspberry with earthy notes. Shines with a range of foods, such as pulled pork sandwiches, roasted chicken or salmon ceviche.

Wine 2

Clear ruby red colour; cherry aroma with an earthy touch; dry, medium body; soft cherry with a touch of spice in flavour, medium finish

Wine 3

A smart pinot noir with plenty on offer in terms of fresh flowers, fresh leafy nuances, red cherries, orange zest and oak spice. The palate has an attractive bed of fine-grained tannins and neat resolve. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Nov. 13, 2017)

Input)

Oyster Bay's Pinot Noir 2017 is a supple, smooth, medium-bodied red wine. Featuring aromas of black cherries, plum, dried herbs and dark spice. Racy acidity makes this wine mouth-watering and zesty. A lovely, long finish. Pair with roast chicken or turkey. Drink: [Now]-2022. Score - 91. (Natalie MacLean, nataliemaclean.com, May 7, 2019)

Recommendation 49

Wine 1

A linear and tight syrah with medium-to-full body, ultra-fine tannins. Lovely texture. Long and flavorful finish. Straight line. Racy. Drink or hold. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 22, 2019)

Wine 2

Blackberry, black walnut, stone and black tea aromas. Full body, very ripe and rich with loads of fruit. Long and flavorful. A beauty. Dark and delicious. Drink now. Score - 94. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 29, 2017)

Wine 3

The purity of fruit on the nose of currants, spices, herbs, dust, charcoal and citrus undertones. Bright and so vivid on the palate with ripe yet really polished tannins that envelop raw blue fruit in juicy acidity before closing out fruity but with such finesse and minerality. Drink now or hold. Score - 94. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, March 16, 2018)

Input)

Aromas of blackberry, blueberry, slate and stone. Full body and lovely fine tannins. Long finish. Fantastic. Drink now. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 29, 2017)

Recommendation 50

Wine 1

The 2014 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon reveals a medium to deep garnet-purple color and nose of dusty earth, cloves, cigar boxes and lavender over a core of red and black currants, black cherries and a waft of baker's chocolate. Full-bodied, concentrated and seductive, it delivers mouth-filling fruit with a solid frame and grainy tannins, finishing long and earthy. Drink Date: 2018-2030. Score - 93. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

A blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, 4% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Poetry spent 21 months in French oak prior to bottling. It too is inky purple/blue colored and offers heavenly notes of graphite, liquid rocks, crushed violets, blueberries, charcoal and cassis. Fabulously concentrated, opulent, layered, and ripe, with serious amounts of tannin that come out with time in the glass, this monumental beauty should only be purchased by patient consumers as it's going to need 7-8 years or more of cellaring. Score - 100. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Dec. 29, 2017)

Wine 3

This expressive, well-balanced red was produced with grapes sourced from the Mount Veeder sub-region of Napa Valley. The nose unfolds gently with blackberry, cassis and sweet cherry aromas supported by hints of graphite, pipe tobacco, cedar and violet. A wash of ripe dark fruit envelops the palate adorned with dark chocolate, espresso bean and sweet vanilla. Dry, medium bodied with firm tannin, balancing fresh acidity and refined structure, it offers a delicious, lengthy, fruit-driven finish. Enjoy with magret de canard and plum compote. Score - 91. (Lisa Isabelle, winecurrent.com, Jan. 29, 2018)

Input)

Deep garnet-purple colored, the 2014 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley opens with wonderfully expressive crème de cassis, plum preserves and blueberry pie notes with hints of pencil shavings, dried Mediterranean herbs, tapenade, wood smoke and tilled soil. Medium to full-bodied, it has a rock-solid, firm frame of ripe, grainy tannins and just enough freshness to lift the densely packed, muscular fruit, finishing long and earthy. Drink Date: 2018-2031. Score - 93. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, March 29, 2018)

Recommendation 51

Wine 1

The 2017 Côtes du Rhône Villages Le Ponnant offers more depth and richness as well as darker fruits, spice, saddle leather, and dried flower aromas and flavors. It's rich, medium to full-bodied, beautifully balanced, and long. Score - 90-92. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Wine 2

Medium ruby-colored, the 2016 Gigondas La Gille (90% Grenache and the rest other permitted varieties) is silky and polished, with beautiful kirsch, dried earth, spice box and dried flowers aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and polished, it's already drinking nicely yet has enough tannin (not to mention balance) to keep for a decade. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Wine 3

80% Grenache, 20% Syrah. Full ruby. Potent, spice-tinged aromas of raspberry liqueur and potpourri pick up a smoky mineral accent with aeration. Deeply concentrated red fruit and floral pastille flavors take a darker turn as the wine opens up, developing licorice and cola nuances and a hint of cassis. Closes smooth, sweet and very long, showing resonating floral character and gentle tannic grip. Score - 91-93. (Josh Raynolds, vinous.com, Sept. 2017)

Input)

The 2015 Gigondas Pierre Aiguille is an elegant, polished wine from this estate and is made from 80% Grenache and 10% each of Syrah and Mourvèdre. Destemmed and aged in tronconique tanks, it offers a slightly darker slant to its fruit with notes of black raspberries, cassis and toasted spice. These carry to the palate where it shows surprising texture and beautiful tannin quality. All in all, it should end up being an outstanding wine that will drink nicely for 10-12 years. Score - 89-91. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, Dec. 30, 2016)

Recommendation 52

Wine 1

Here is a second wine with very fine tannins that last very, very long. The fruit is pure and very pretty. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, April 29, 2016)

Wine 2

Packed with tannins, this is a dark, dense wine. Its impressive structure frames rich blackberry and plum fruits. Let this wine age for several years and don't drink before 2022. Editors' Choice. Score - 91. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2018)

Wine 3

Ripe and exotic wine with lots of ripe fruit such as plum and berry. Chocolate too. Full body, chewy tannins and a long finish. Walnut. Chocolate finish. Decadent. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, July 20, 2017)

Input)

The 2014 Malartic-Lagravière is a gorgeous wine, but it is also flamboyant and exotic, especially in its flavor profile. Super-ripe red cherry and plum make a strong first impression. Sweet floral and spice notes, along with ripe, silky tannins, add to the wine's sensuality. A rich, powerful wine with soft contours and striking depth, the 2014 is a real beauty. It will be even more compelling once the new oak tannins soften a bit further. The blend is 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot. Tasted two times. Drinking window: 2022-2039. Score - 94+. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Feb. 2017)

Recommendation 53

Wine 1

Ripasso is an iconic Italian wine, made with a second fermentation of Valpolicella on the lees of Amarone. It's dry, with a ripe cherry bouquet and a velvety mouthfeel. Serve with rich pasta dishes, roasted meats or aged cheeses.

Wine 2

Due Torri wines are crafted by iconic Venetian vintner Cesari using grapes from family growers with long histories of producing quality fruit. This offers gorgeous aromas of fig, dark cherry, plum, violets and sweet spices and a satiny, elegant mouthfeel. One to savour with mushroom risotto or a grilled-steak pizza. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Wine 3

70% Corvina, 25% Rondinella, 5% Molinara. An openness to the nose with florality, creaminess as well as brooding blackcurrant fruit. Plump and ripe on the palate with refreshing acidity. Blueberry and cherry notes. Score - 97. (Decanter World Wine Awards, 2018)

Input)

Now under the stewardship of brother and sister Marilisa and Franco Allegrini, this historic family-run winery continues to be one of the leading and most innovative producers in Veneto. This Ripasso is fresh and juicy, with complex, rich aromas and flavours of black plum, raspberry and strawberry joining earthy notes of tar and licorice. A perfect complement for the rich gravy, stuffing and cranberry sauce flavours that accompany a traditional Thanksgiving feast (if you can wait that long). (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Recommendation 54

Wine 1

10% whole bunch. It's a floral, lifted, spicy shiraz with beautiful, fluid fruit running sweetly throughout. It's medium in weight but it feels generous, an infusion of bacony/toasty oak adding positively to the impression. Tip top. Drink By: 2030. Score - 95. (Campbell Mattinson, winecompanion.com.au, Aug. 1, 2018)

Wine 2

Medium to full red colour with a tint of purple, the aromas are of spices and dark berries, while the palate is intense and nicely balanced, with appropriate firm tannins and a clean aftertaste. A bright, fresh, well-crafted wine, very approachable young. Drink Date: 2017-2026. Score - 89. (Huon Hooke, therealreview.com, Oct. 8, 2017)

Wine 3

[Huon Hooke did not include a tasting note.] Score - 4 Stars (out of 5). (Huon Hooke, huonhooke.com, Dec. 13, 2017)

Input)

Machine harvested, crushed, destemmed, fermented, after 12 days pressed to stainless steel and 10% French oak barriques for 10 months. Highly perfumed, inexpensive and totally enjoyable punching well above its weight. All florals, black pepper and spice with juicy red fruits and a savoury overlay. It's medium-bodied, buoyant with supple tannins, ultra-refreshing and frighteningly easy to drink. Drink By: 2022. Score - 95. (Jane Faulkner, winecompanion.com.au, Aug. 1, 2018)

Recommendation 55

Wine 1

The bouquet and medium to full-bodied palate sing loud and clear, with blackberry and plum fruit skillfully enshrined in fine, ripe tannins, plus a nudge of oak. There is a harmony, a completeness, to the wine that means it is totally open-ended, its drinking window without borders. Score - 96. (James Halliday, winecompanion.com.au, Nov. 1, 2017)

Wine 2

Classic Langhorne Creek flavours of sweet black plums, chocolate and coffee grounds, and there's more. It's richly flavoured and full-bodied, but not heavy, more glossy, with cedary oak and plush tannins. Balanced. Complex. Hedonistic. Drink By: 2028. Score - 95. (Jane Faulkner, winecompanion.com.au, Aug. 1, 2017)

Wine 3

Nice, bright and straightforward raspberries, red plums, mulberries and some blackberries. The palate has smooth, round and fleshy fruit, as well as good length. The tannins are well-managed here. Drink in the next three or four years. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Aug. 14, 2018)

Input)

Packs a wallop, with intense blackberry, plum and licorice notes, set on a dense body, with sink-your-teeth-into-them tannins and black pepper and Earl Grey tea details on the finish. Great focus. Drink now through 2028. Score - 92. (MaryAnn Worobiec, winespectator.com, Aug. 31, 2018)

Recommendation 56

Wine 1

100% Sagrantino. Intense, inky blueberry, kirsch, wild cherry, chocolate and spicy nose. The elegant, full-bodied and sophisticated palate has plenty of black and forest fruit notes, plus very well-integrated high alcohol. A food-friendly wine for contemplation, not for drinking. Score - 95. (Decanter World Wine Awards, 2018)

Wine 2

[Luca Maroni did not include a tasting note.] Score - 98. (Luca Maroni, lucamaroni.com, March 16, 2018)

Wine 3

[The Berliner Wein Trophy competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Berliner Wein Trophy, 2018)

Input)

There's a pleasing creaminess to the intense tannins of this harmonious, full-bodied red, offering crushed cassis and black raspberry fruit that shows accents of lavender and rosemary, with licorice, espresso and loamy earth notes. An iron fist in a velvet glove, this should unfurl beautifully with age. Best from 2020 through 2035. Highly Recommended. Ranks #96 in the 2018 Wine Spectator Top 100. Score - 95. (Alison Napjus, winespectator.com, July 31, 2018)

Recommendation 57

Wine 1

Another excellent, very spicy and complex Vacqueyras here from the Lavau family, dense, dark, savoury and full, a blend of half grenache, with 40% syrah and the rest mourvèdre. Tannins are pleasantly grippy and acids in balance, while savoury dark fruit, pot pourri and spice linger nicely. I'd give this another year or two in the cellar at least to come round; in my experience, this wine ages very well. Score - 91. (John Szabo, MS, winealign.com, Jan. 19, 2017)

Wine 2

A blend of 70% Grenache, 20% Syrah and 10% Mourvèdre from the local cave cooperative, the 2017 Rasteau Tradition is a medium to full-bodied effort marked by supple tannins, lovely fresh cherry and stone fruit flavors and a mouthwatering finish. It should drink well for 3-4 years. Drink Date: 2018-2022. Score - 89. (Joe Czerwinski, robertparker.com, Nov. 30, 2018)

Wine 3

Medium ruby-colored, the 2016 Gigondas La Gille (90% Grenache and the rest other permitted varieties) is silky and polished, with beautiful kirsch, dried earth, spice box and dried flowers aromas and flavors. Medium to full-bodied, pure, and polished, it's already drinking nicely yet has enough tannin (not to mention balance) to keep for a decade. Score - 93. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Aug. 28, 2018)

Input)

As to the reds, classic notes of garrigue, red plums, black cherries, and Asian spice emerge from the 2015 Vacqueyras Signature. Pure, polished, medium-bodied, beautifully textured and balanced, it's another rocking Vacqueyras that shows how successful this appellation was in 2015. The blend is 62% Grenache, 30% Syrah and the balance Mourvèdre and Cinsault. Score - 92. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Oct. 19, 2017)

Recommendation 58

Wine 1

Ruby colour. Dark cherry and raspberry fruit with an underlying herbal note; dry, medium-bodied with berry fruit and earth flavours.

Wine 2

Albert Bichot Bourgogne Pinot Noir is bursting with aromas and flavours of raspberries with hints of spice.

Wine 3

clear ruby red colour; ripe raspberry and cherry aromas; dry, light to medium body; lively fruit flavours with balanced acidity and medium length finish

Input)

The Coteaux Bourguignons came into being with the 2012 vintage, and the AC includes wines made throughout 'greater Burgundy,' from Auxerrois (northeast of Chablis) down to and including Beaujolais. This exciting new designation allows winemakers to blend fruit from the best parcels from multiple areas to create bold new expressions. Reds can be made from four grapes: Gamay, Pinot Noir, César and Tressot. The Bertrand Ambroise Lettre d'Éloïse is 100% Pinot Noir and offers impressive black cherry with red fruit, plum and an evocative, complex underbrush quality. Bright, light and refreshing. Give it a try with turkey breasts in a mustard-and-sage breading. (Vintages panel, April 2017)

Recommendation 59

Wine 1

Aromas of blueberry, blackberry and cherry follow through to a full body, chewy and powerful tannins and a long and flavorful finish. Touches of tar and bitter lemon aftertaste. Better in a year or two. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Nov. 21, 2016)

Wine 2

[The 2018 Luca Maroni did not include a review of this wine.] Score - 93. (lucamaroni.com, 2018)

Wine 3

The 2015 Irpinia Aglianico is a highly drinkable and accessible wine that makes a great impression straight out of the gate. My mind takes me to an immediate food association, along the lines of roast beef or grilled bacon. This Aglianico shows a dark and inky appearance with robust aromas of blackberry confit, spice, leather and charred earth. The natural freshness and structure of the wine will cut through fatty foods. Some 30,000 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2018-2022. Score - 91. (Monica Larner, robertparker.com, Dec. 7, 2018)

Input)

There's minerality on the nose of this Barbera, but also some smoky complexity, not to mention brambleberries and blackcurrants. A structured palate with firm tannins, refreshing acidity, and a succulent, chewy finish. Drink now. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Oct. 20, 2017)

Recommendation 60

Wine 1

clear ruby red colour; ripe raspberry and cherry aromas; dry, light to medium body; lively fruit flavours with balanced acidity and medium length finish

Wine 2

This estate has been vastly improved since it was bought by the Richard family whose coffees are familiar in many French cafés. Richly aromatic and juicy, this wine is full, packed with fruit and acidity, and already delicious to drink. Score - 91. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, March 1, 2018)

Wine 3

The youngest of Beaujolais's 10 crus, Régnié was elevated to cru status in 1988. This is a ripe, pretty wine showing berry fruit, plum, cherry and floral notes and a touch of earth. Pair it with charcuterie or grilled duck. (Vintages panel, Oct. 2017)

Input)

Here's a Beaujolais that is tender and so well balanced, to the point of refinement. Which is what I expect from Fleurie. No flashy berry bombs and violets, it is aromatically restrained with dried strawberry-cherry fruit, dried herb woodsy, straw notes and a touch of leather. Quite complex but not flamboyant. Acids, tannin and alcohol are in perfect symmetry, to the point it slides down way too easily - soothing and refreshing. Very good length. A lovely expression of what they used to describe as 'French Country Wine'. I am buying more. Score - 90. (David Lawrason, winealign.com, Jan. 6, 2019)

Recommendation 61

Wine 1

Interesting aromas of dark fruit with orange-peel and apricot undertones. Medium-bodied, tight and focused. Round tannins and a delicious finish. Why wait? Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 2, 2018)

Wine 2

Very rich, ripe and concentrated with plush dark plums and blackberries on offer with the tannins nicely cut in assertive but balanced style. Drink or hold. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 2, 2018)

Wine 3

Blackberry, blueberry and chocolate undertones follow through to a full body, round and velvety tannins and a juicy finish. Lots of fruit here. Impressive wine. Drink in 2021. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 2, 2018)

Input)

A round and juicy red with berry and chocolate character, chewy tannins and a flavorful finish. Medium to full body. Needs a year or two to soften. Try in 2020. Score - 90. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Feb. 2, 2018)

Recommendation 62

Wine 1

Deep ruby colour with aromas of dark berry fruit, cassis and hints of vanilla; picks up some chocolate and spice on the palate

Wine 2

Deep ruby red colour; aromas of sweet black fruit, chocolate cake and vanilla with notes of dark fruit, cherry and spice; dryish, medium to full-bodied, soft, rounded, moderately structured palate, supporting flavours of dark fruit, cherry, blueberry, spice, vanilla and dark chocolate, notes of cinnamon and sweet fruit.

Wine 3

The Hope family, owners of Liberty School, helped transform the 'wild west' of Paso Robles into a wine lover's destination thanks to wines like this rich Cab with its black fruit flavours. A real crowd-pleaser with barbecued fare or a meat-lovers' pizza.

Input)

Named after the founder and his father, Josh Cellars sources its fruit from various premium site throughout the state. This blended wine exudes aromas of blue fruit, plum, blackberry and dark spices. In the mouth, it's bold and juicy with supple tannins and added flavours of toasted almonds and hazelnuts on a long finish.

Recommendation 63

Wine 1

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 2019 through 2033. 2,500 cases made. Smart Buys. Score - 94. (Bruce Sanderson, winespectator.com, Oct. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

Red flower, intense cherry, underbrush, leather and balsamic notes are some of the aromas that emerge. The palate brings together black cherry, crushed raspberry, fig, licorice and black tea supported by bracing tannins and fresh acidity. Give this time to develop more complexity. Best after 2018. Score - 93. (Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Oct. 1, 2014)

Wine 3

A ripe and attractive montepulciano that shows dark cherries, blackberry compote and vanilla. Full-bodied, round and chewy with lots of essence-like fruit. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, June 16, 2019)

Input)

Aromas of blue flower, ripe plum, new leather and menthol take center stage on this firmly structured red. The elegant palate delivers ripe blackberry, red cherry, vanilla, licorice and pipe tobacco while firm fine-grained [tannins] provide polished support. Drink: 2019-2030. Score - 92. (Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, June 1, 2017)

Recommendation 64

Wine 1

Burgundian style Pinot with lifted cherry, raspberry and plum aromas followed by an expansive palate showing leather, earth and spicy oak. Score - 92. (Decanter World Wine Awards, 2017)

Wine 2

A charter member of Sustainable Winemaking Ontario, Château des Charmes has, from its earliest days, been a leader in the commitment to sustainability. The 2016 Paul Bosc Estate Vineyard Pinot Noir has prominent black cherry and blackberry with earth and oak in support. Big unresolved tannins will reward 5+ years of patience, but there is plenty of balance here, too. This will be great tonight with roast duck or beef bourguignon. (Vintages panel, March 2018)

Wine 3

92% Pinot Noir, 8% Gamay. Rather silky and intense, displaying baking spices, sweet herbs, candied cherry and raspberry. Cracked black pepper shines on palate which ends in juicy fashion. Score - 92. (Decanter World Wine Awards, 2019)

Input)

100% Pinot Noir. Black raspberry, strawberry and boysenberry aromas and flavours with a gentle touch of leather and smoky oak. Big, complex wine. Score - 90. (Decanter World Wine Awards, 2017)

Recommendation 65

Wine 1

This winery is located in the heart of the beautiful landscape of rolling hills called Langhe (a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2014), flanked by the Alps. From that stunning terrain springs this equally stunning wine: a full, richly flavoured Barbaresco showing suggestions of berries and cherry along with spicy and herbal notes. Savour it with roast meats and wild mushrooms, or a selection of aged cheeses. (Vintages panel, July 2018)

Wine 2

There is evidence that Nebbiolo, the grape variety behind such wines as Barolo and Barbaresco, has been used to make wine since the 13th century. This wine exhibits equal parts delicacy and structure and offers leafy tobacco and red fruit character. Sip over the next five years with roast beef and mushrooms. (Vintages panel, July 2018)

Wine 3

This example has a lifted floral note right off the bat and is loaded with purple and black fruit, plum and underbrush. There's also plenty of acidity, which promises ageability and will make this great with food. A very fine option for grilled steak and mushrooms. (Vintages panel, Jan. 2018)

Input)

Made from the Nebbiolo grape of Barolo and Barbaresco fame, this wine is grown in limestone-rich hillside vineyards and matured in oak for eight months. It's solidly structured, balanced and quite elegant, with plenty of tangy red fruit character. A nice choice for cured meats and firm cheeses. (Vintages panel, July 2018)

Recommendation 66

Wine 1

You can't go wrong with the Southern Rhône, which is on a roll with a string of outstanding vintages. This juicy blend from the celebrated Perrin family is a gem, with ripe red berry fruit and spice notes. Delicious with Mediterranean-style pizza or hearty lamb stew.

Wine 2

[The Concours des Vins d'Orange did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins d'Orange, Feb. 4, 2017)

Wine 3

Cave de Cairanne was founded in 1929. Their 2017 La Reserve Plan de Dieu is a blend of Grenache, Carignan and Syrah. The grapes were harvested and fermented separately before being blended together at the end of the winter and further aged for 8 months in concrete. This is a finely balanced wine with violet, plum, blackberry, cedar and vanilla notes and a savoury tinge that adds complexity to the finish. Try this with roasted meats or turkey burgers. (Vintages panel, June 2018)

Input)

Saturated, deep black-red in colour with a pure, exuberant and exciting scent mingling notes of smoke, bramble, blackberry, blackcurrant and redcurrant. The flavours are joyful. There's a fruit core of singing lyricism, both vivid and fresh without being acidulous; the wine is tannic enough to give its fruit shape and gravitas but not roughness or austerity; and it has overtones which bring light and shade to the wine via faint notes of smoke, of cleansing bitterness, of the saltiness which is such a hallmark of parts of Crozes, and of the 'stony' flavours which lovers of terroir wine crave. A gorgeous success. Score - 93. (Andrew Jefford, decanter.com, July 18, 2016)

Recommendation 67

Wine 1

While the wine is no more than medium-bodied, it has life and lift that immediately grab attention, allied with a seductive mix of red and blackcurrant fruit, oak spice and dried bay leaf. Even the tannins are warm and inviting, the finish leaving the mouth in a good frame of mind. A surprise packet in every way. Drink By: 2024. Special Value. Score - 94. (James Halliday, winecompanion.com.au, Nov. 3, 2016)

Wine 2

This shows the greatness of the vintage with graphite, stone, oyster shell, blackberry, and licorice. Smoke undertone. Full body yet linear and energetic with a fabulous finish. A stunning wine. Great value for the quality. Drink now. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 1, 2018)

Wine 3

[The San Diego International Wine & Spirits Challenge did not include a review with their score.] Score - 94. (San Diego International Wine & Spirits Challenge, 2018)

Input)

Quite seamless, the palate long and detailed, the tannins supple and ripe. It's complex, full-bodied yet fine. There's texture, a grit with bright acidity keeping this buoyant. Lots of detail, it just needs more time in bottle and will reward the patient. Special Value. Drink By: 2032. Score - 95. (Jane Faulkner, winecompanion.com.au, Aug. 1, 2017)

Recommendation 68

Wine 1

This is a dense and textured cab with chewy and rich tannins. Full body, hazelnut and clove character with the black currants. Very long and gorgeous. Needs three or four years to come together. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 20, 2016)

Wine 2

A red with intensity plus blackberry and blueberry character. Full body, very silky and refined. Shows length and beauty. Drink or hold. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 20, 2016)

Wine 3

A juicy and fruity wine with lots of berry and chocolate character. Full body, a round and velvety texture and a flavorful finish. Plenty going on here. A blend of malbec, cabernet sauvignon, merlot and syrah. Drink or hold. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, June 21, 2017)

Input)

A dense and silky red with lots of blackberry and sweet tobacco character. Full body, pretty tannins and a savory finish. Stylish. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 20, 2016)

Recommendation 69

Wine 1

Dense, dark aromas of raisin and blackberry set up a full and chunky palate with a creamy texture. Mildly salty berry flavors include a whack of oak spice, while oak-led flavors settle in on a finish that tastes slightly baked and feels warm. Score - 90. (Michael Schachner, Wine Enthusiast, May 1, 2019)

Wine 2

Quite a serious wine with sophisticated dry tannins and a long, tight finish. This will benefit from ageing through at least 2020, though there's already lovely redcurrant fruit and subtle spices. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, March 16, 2018)

Wine 3

A fruity and complex red with smoke and spice. Some cedar, too. Full body, round and velvety. Pretty finish. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, March 16, 2018)

Input)

An undeniably rich cabernet with a hint of chocolate. Still very youthful with real delicacy. Concentrated powdery dry tannins and a very long, fresh finish with some minerality. Drink or hold. Score - 94. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, March 16, 2018)

Recommendation 70

Wine 1

California has a world-class reputation for great cabernet sauvignon, and this luscious example does not disappoint. It brims with aromas of ripe berries, mocha and violets that lead to flavours of cassis and chocolate-covered cherries and ends in a smooth finish with a hint of spice. Enjoy with grilled steak or on its own.

Wine 2

The Hope family, owners of Liberty School, helped transform the 'wild west' of Paso Robles into a wine lover's destination thanks to wines like this rich Cab with its black fruit flavours. A real crowd-pleaser with barbecued fare or a meat-lovers' pizza.

Wine 3

You know those bottles that bring you to your knees? This is one of them. Backstory: One of the better wine agencies in Toronto, Halpern Enterprises, went to California to scout a $20 Cab that kills it - and they came back with this very serious find. With a crushed velvet mouth feel - all polished on top and plush underneath - this wine draws you in with flavours of ripe mixed berries, café latte, smoked plum, milk chocolate, toasted tobacco and vanilla cream. Elegant yet slightly brooding, this wine is a steal. Score - 96. (Carolyn Evans Hammond, Toronto Star, July 6, 2018)

Input)

This cabernet sauvignon is made for enjoying with meat. Its deep ruby colour is filled with aromas of ripe cherry and raspberries. Smooth on the palate with more ripe, juicy berry fruit flavours with added hints of licorice and pepper. The vibrant acidity and moderate tannins add balance to a pleasant finish.

Recommendation 71

Wine 1

Red ruby red colour; aromas of cassis, green pepper, plum, vanilla and spicy oak, with earth and tobacco notes; dry, medium bodied, rounded palate, flavours of red currant, plum and vanilla, with earth and blackberry.

Wine 2

Pale ruby colour; spicy berry and cherry aromas and flavours; light and fruity on the palate.

Wine 3

Ruby colour; cherry, cassis, & vanilla aroma; matching flavour, balanced; medium/light body

Input)

Deep ruby/purple colour; aromas of black fruit, dried herbs, plum and green pepper; dry, medium-bodied, well structured with flavours of red bell pepper, berry and dark chocolate; long, lively finish.

Recommendation 72

Wine 1

A fresh and fruity wine showing blackberry, currant and cherry aromas. Full to medium body with medium silky tannins and a long and flavorful finish. A pleasure to drink now. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 1, 2016)

Wine 2

Clearly defined walnut and berry character with a hint of spice. Medium to full body, round tannins and a flavorful finish. Needs time still to soften. Drink in 2020. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Aug. 2, 2018)

Wine 3

Aromas of rose petals and raisins carry to a compact palate that is chewy and tannic. Blocky plum and berry flavors are slightly flat on a finish with scraping tannins. Drink through 2021. Score - 88. (Michael Schachner, Wine Enthusiast, Feb. 1, 2018)

Input)

Blackberry and blueberry with black-pepper and clove aromas and flavors. Medium to full body, firm and silky tannins and a flavorful finish. Real deal. Why wait? Drink and enjoy. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Aug. 2, 2018)

Recommendation 73

Wine 1

The single-vineyard 2013 Brunello di Montalcino Sugarille has a tighter core and a blacker heart compared to the Rennina. This wine is momentarily more difficult to penetrate and comprehend. It makes a more abrupt first impression but then relaxes and reveals more of its character only after it has spent extra time in your company. Then, it becomes suddenly exuberant and loud. This is a dynamic expression of Sangiovese with bold ripe fruit, spice and balsam notes to carry it forward during cellar aging. This vintage offers firmness and strength. Drink Date: 2020-2037. Score - 94. (Monica Larner, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2018)

Wine 2

The 2012 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva Poggio al Vento is a monumental wine from this storied appellation in southern Tuscany. From a warm vintage, this is a deeply textured, rich and succulent rendition of Sangiovese. You taste the exuberant flavors of sun-drenched fruit. However, you also taste some evolution (remember, we are talking about a wine released seven years after the harvest) with tarry notes of toasted spice, licorice and Spanish cedar. This wine ages in large oak casks (of various sizes) for four years followed by an additional two years in bottle. We can look forward to more bottle evolution as the wine moves forward in time. Some 20,000 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2020-2040. Score - 95. (Monica Larner, robertparker.com, Jan. 31, 2019)

Wine 3

Made with fruit from a slightly cooler site, the 2013 Brunello di Montalcino Filo di Seta takes a few minutes to open but is well worth the wait. Despite the tight and nervous character of Sangiovese, this wine is suddenly generous, opulent and exuberant all at once. It's like meeting a person for the first time who initially seems shy, but then who suddenly moves in for the big bear hug. Its disposition is as generous as it is genuine. The mouthfeel is textured, supple and warm. Drink Date: 2020-2035. Score - 94. (Monica Larner, robertparker.com, Feb. 28, 2018)

Input)

There are few Brunello vintages afforded more attention in the last 10-plus, certainly '04 and '06, increasingly better even from '08 and looking forward towards what greatness will come in 2015. Yes but not solely magnified through the lens of patience and bottle time, from 2010 La Mannella has coupled upon and layered over itself like compressed fruit and puff pastry. Though it begs for drink now attention, another seven years will be needed before it can safely be labeled as uncoiled and to reveal all that is wrapped so tight. Rich is not the operative but unmistakeable as Cortonesi it is; that natural clay soil funk of resolution and fully hydrated chalk. This is to sangiovese as Les Preuses Grand Cru Chablis or Rangen Grand Cru Alsace are to Riesling. It carries in its pocket the absolute meaning and genetic responsibility of where it comes from, with a curative and restorative ability to get you lost. Drink: 2019-2031. Tasted February 2017. Score - 96. (Michael Godel, winealign.com, March 3, 2017)

Recommendation 74

Wine 1

Packed with red-berry fruits, this is all about fine tannins and balanced acidity. It's the sort of wine that will age relatively quickly, so drink from late 2019. Score - 88. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, April 1, 2019)

Wine 2

From a great Douro vintage, this is a ripe wine, packed with generous fruit and concentrated tannins. Berry flavors and juicy acidity dominate a wine that has plenty of power while keeping elegance and stylishness. Drink now. Editors' Choice. Score - 93. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Oct. 1, 2017)

Wine 3

Rich, ripe and full of fruit, this blend of Touriga Nacional and Alfrocheiro is generous and structured. It has dark tannins and concentrated black fruits (rich with wood aging), spice and fine acidity. Drink this full-bodied wine from 2018. Editors' Choice. Score - 91. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2017)

Input)

This shows ink, violet essence, iodine and brambles. A wealth of black fruit character, too. Mouth-watering acidity, grainy tannins and a fruity finish. Drink now. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 19, 2017)

Recommendation 75

Wine 1

Pale to medium ruby-colored with a hint of purple, the 2014 Pinot Noir Stewart gives cranberry and sour cherry notes on the nose with underlying underbrush, garrigue, dried herbs and damp soil hints. Medium-bodied with a taut, muscular palate of expressive red fruit and earth flavors, it has a solid backbone of firm, grainy tannins and plenty of freshness, finishing with great length and depth. Drink Date: 2017-2023. Score - 91+. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, Aug. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

Aromas of blueberries and dried strawberries. Dusty character to the tannins. Medium to full body and a soft and fresh finish. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 15, 2017)

Wine 3

Precise and harmonious, offering layered raspberry and cherry flavors laced with smoky anise and spice notes, building richness toward polished tannins. Drink now through 2025. Highly Recommended. Score - 94. (Tim Fish, winespectator.com, Feb. 28, 2019)

Input)

The pale to medium ruby-purple 2016 Pinot Noir Estate has a wonderful open nose of black cherry, blueberry pie, cinnamon stick, nutmeg, warm earth and autumn leaves with pretty red and blue flower perfume. Light to medium-bodied, it fills the mouth with black and blue fruits layers plus oodles of spice and flower notes, with fine, grainy tannins and mouthwatering acidity, finishing very long and layered. Drink Date: 2018-2025. Score - 92. (Erin Brooks, robertparker.com, Aug. 31, 2018)

Recommendation 76

Wine 1

Deep purple; intense cassis aroma & flavour with herbal notes; medium-full bodied with firm tannins and raspberry notes in the finish.

Wine 2

This distinctly woody wine's eucalyptus perfume derives from its wood aging. Luckily, that quality shares space with black fruit and dark fruit tannins. Dense and powerful, it needs time. Drink from 2021. Score - 90. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2017)

Wine 3

Clear medium ruby in colour; forward aromas of cherry, cassis and ripe plum, with just a hint of toasty oak; dry, with lively acidity and flavours of blackcurrant and black cherry, with nuances of spice, vanilla and a minerally note on medium-length finish.

Input)

Deep ruby/garnet red colour; complex bouquet of prunes, bell peppers, cedar and smoky notes; rich flavours follow nose, balanced long finish and firm tannins.

Recommendation 77

Wine 1

An awesome Grenache, the 2012 Primus Inter Pares comes from the Monette's Vineyard in Walla Walla. Deep, rich and layered, with knockout black raspberry, kirsch, licorice and floral notes, it flows onto the palate with full-bodied richness, sweet fruit and a seamless, elegant feel that stretches out beautifully on the finish. It's a sexy, impeccably made Grenache to drink over the coming 8-10 years. Drink: 2014-2024. Score - 95. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, June 2014)

Wine 2

The Wahluke Slope is one of the warmest and driest areas in Washington and the conditions are ideal for producing robust and ripe reds with exceptional varietal purity. This Cabernet is approachable and appealing with generous dark fruit, cherry, cassis, dried herbs, vanilla and chocolate. Silky and rich with caressing tannins, it is perfect for lamb, steak, or grilled ribs.

Wine 3

Supple and generous, with plush blueberry and currant fruit on a velvety texture, lingering gently. Drink now through 2019. Score - 88. (Harvey Steiman, winespectator.com, Feb. 28, 2017)

Input)

Coming from 100% Cabernet Franc, the 2015 Qed Axiom of Choice offers a classic, yet polished, expression of Cabernet Franc. It reveals a medium ruby/purple tinged color, notes of spring flowers, blueberries, cassis, lead pencil shavings and damp earth, medium-bodied richness, and sweet, present tannin that emerge on the finish. With beautiful complexity, and elegant, ethereal texture and a great finish, it has more than a passing resemblance to a classic vintage of Cheval Blanc. It's going to continue drinking nicely for 15+ years. Drink Date: 2019-2032. Score - 95. (Jeb Dunnuck, robertparker.com, June 30, 2017)

Recommendation 78

Wine 1

Lots of walnut, toasted oak, dark chocolate and dried fruit character. Some fig. Full body, chewy tannins and a flavorful finish. Big. Let the tannins mellow with two or three years of bottle age. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Oct. 20, 2017)

Wine 2

Complex aromas of smoke, ash and dark fruits with a precision and intensity. Layered and gorgeous. Loads of dark fruit and perfume. Full-bodied with round and wonderfully polished tannins. Wonderful length and richness. Goes on for minutes. Try in 2023 but already good now. Score - 96. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, June. 16, 2019)

Wine 3

A brightness and clarity to this wine with strawberry, cherry and floral character. Medium to full body, silky tannins and a chewy finish. Intense and powerful. Better in 2020. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 5, 2017)

Input)

Rather advanced aromas of plum, dried fruit and flowers follow through to a full-bodied palate, with firm tannins and a long finish. Pretty and structured. Best after 2009. 3,500 cases made. Score - 92. (James Suckling, winespectator.com, Feb. 28, 2006)

Recommendation 79

Wine 1

Paarl has a rich winemaking history, with French Huguenots having planted vineyards as early as the 1680s. This ripe, balanced, gently chewy Shiraz shows a wealth of red and black cherry and blackberry along with waves of woodsmoke and a sprinkling of white pepper. It'll pair nicely with mixed grill. (Vintages panel, Oct. 2018)

Wine 2

Ripe & spicy berries from 2 weeks skin contact (no sulphur), mostly older oak (some American, absent in Merlot & Cab) well integrated. 2015 vintage warmth contained, though, despite 14.5% alcohol. Score - 93. (Platter's South African Wine Guide, 2019)

Wine 3

A blend of 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 12% Cabernet Franc, 4% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Poetry spent 21 months in French oak prior to bottling. It too is inky purple/blue colored and offers heavenly notes of graphite, liquid rocks, crushed violets, blueberries, charcoal and cassis. Fabulously concentrated, opulent, layered, and ripe, with serious amounts of tannin that come out with time in the glass, this monumental beauty should only be purchased by patient consumers as it's going to need 7-8 years or more of cellaring. Score - 100. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, Dec. 29, 2017)

Input)

The 2015 Syrah (100% Syrah) comes from the Porseleinberg and Goldmine Vineyards and is partially destemmed and aged 18 months in 500- and 600-liter barrels. It offers a beautiful bouquet of blueberries, violets, crushed rocks and pepper to go with a medium to full-bodied, voluptuous, yet elegant style on the palate. With sweet tannin, beautiful purity of fruit, and a great finish, it's another sensational Syrah from winemaker Marc Kent. It's certainly not far behind the more expensive Porseleinberg Syrah, has incredible character, and will drink nicely for at least a decade. Drink Date: 2018-2028. Score - 94. (Jeb Dunnuck, jebdunnuck.com, March 20, 2018)

Recommendation 80

Wine 1

A big, well-framed Aussie Cabernet with the stuffing to appeal to fans of Cali Cabs. It's crafted in a complex but approachable and crowd-pleasing style, loaded with dark fruit, cherry, vanilla, nutmeg and oak tones. Ripe and rich with a mineral underbelly and a refinement that surprises at this price point. This wants steak or rack of lamb. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Wine 2

Minty notes signal Coonawarra. Dried herbs and fresh acidity speak of Clare. Perfumed and very poised. Drinking Window: 2019-2027. Score - 95. (Sarah Ahmed, decanter.com, May 10, 2019)

Wine 3

[The Sommelier Challenge did not include a tasting note.] Score - 92. (Sommelier Wine Awards, 2018)

Input)

From Coonawarra, McLaren Vale, Barossa Valley, Wrattonbully and Padthaway, matured for 12 months in French (25% new) and American (9% new) oak. The transition from tasting shiraz to cabernet is - as it should be - immediate and striking, in no way softened by the use of some American oak along with the French. Cassis, olive (green and black), together with bramble and bay leaf, are as fragrant as they are potent in the mouth. Needs a year or two to settle down. Drink By: 2031. Score - 94. (James Halliday, winecompanion.com.au, Oct. 1, 2018)

Recommendation 81

Wine 1

This stellar, gracefully understated Merlot is bolstered by small additions of four other red Bordeaux varieties. It opens with a fresh tropical note that's unexpectedly bright and slowly unwinds to reveal threads of plum, cinnamon, mocha and espresso bean flavor. Score - 93. (Virginie Boone, Wine Enthusiast, Aug. 1, 2017)

Wine 2

A juicy and rich red with blackberry, blueberry and mint. Full body, chewy tannins and a fresh finish. A vivid petite sirah. Drink now. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 21, 2017)

Wine 3

Aromas of currants and fresh herbs with hints of tobacco. Full body, ripe fruit and a soft and velvety finish. Drink in 2019. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 26, 2017)

Input)

The 2016 The Big Easy is fabulous. Rich, powerful and flamboyant to its core the Big Easy hits the palate with tremendous fruit intensity. Super-ripe red cherry, raspberry jam, white chocolate, vanillin and new American oak shape this opulent Syrah/Petite Sirah/ Grenache blend. Winemaker Blair Fox has dialed in a style that captures all the exuberance of past editions, but with more nuance than the Big Easy has ever shown ... The 2016 is simply outrageously delicious. Drinking window: 2020-2031. Score - 95. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Sept. 2018)

Recommendation 82

Wine 1

Ruby colour; aromas of raspberry and plum fruit with hints of vanilla; lovely replay of raspberry fruit on the palate; medium-bodied and fruity with a vanilla finish.

Wine 2

You know those bottles that bring you to your knees? This is one of them. Backstory: One of the better wine agencies in Toronto, Halpern Enterprises, went to California to scout a $20 Cab that kills it - and they came back with this very serious find. With a crushed velvet mouth feel - all polished on top and plush underneath - this wine draws you in with flavours of ripe mixed berries, café latte, smoked plum, milk chocolate, toasted tobacco and vanilla cream. Elegant yet slightly brooding, this wine is a steal. Score - 96. (Carolyn Evans Hammond, Toronto Star, July 6, 2018)

Wine 3

Medium ruby colour; smoky plum and black cherry notes with dried sweet herbs and spicy oak notes; ripe fruit core with berry fruit, dried herbs and vanilla flavours; medium-bodied and fruity.

Input)

This is an amazing price for such quality, the wine resplendent in accessible red cherry and blackberry fruit and leathery tannins. Elegant and fairly restrained, it's soft, structured and young, with room to develop further. Juicy and creamy, it delivers minty spice on the finish. Editors' Choice. Score - 89. (Virginie Boone, Wine Enthusiast, August 2014)

Recommendation 83

Wine 1

Deep garnet colour; intense aromas and flavours of cassis, blackberry fruit, oak, chocolate and vanilla; ripe, soft and juicy on the palate.

Wine 2

Born on the historic Madrone Vineyard Estate, which was originally planted in 1863, Valley of the Moon Winery has been making wine in Sonoma for over 150 years. Now owned by Tony Stewart of Quails' Gate Winery in British Columbia, the winery and vineyards are certified for sustainability by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance. This is an impressive structured Cabernet showing deep cassis character along with coffee and mint shading, and lovely elegance despite its heft. A good choice for cocoa-rubbed beef tenderloin. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2018)

Wine 3

[The 2018 San Francisco International Wine Competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - 95. (San Francisco International Wine Competition, 2018)

Input)

Broadside founder Stephanie Terrizzi is a leader in bio-organic viticulture; Broadside was the first solar-powered winery in Paso Robles's Tin City. This 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon is a great barbecue wine, with just the right touch of herbs and spice alongside the dark fruit and pure cassis tones. Fire up the grill and pair the wine with some portobello mushroom burgers, grilled vegetables or lamb burgers. (Vintages panel, Nov. 2017)

Recommendation 84

Wine 1

This is a dense and textured cab with chewy and rich tannins. Full body, hazelnut and clove character with the black currants. Very long and gorgeous. Needs three or four years to come together. Score - 95. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, May 20, 2016)

Wine 2

The cold vintage has done wonders with this wine from a vineyard in Los Arboles, 1,200 meters above sea level in the Tunuyán Department. It's planted on rocky riverbed soil - the kind of soil that cabernet clearly likes. This wine has herbal notes, red fruit everywhere you turn, and black fruit, too, as well as that spicy side so typical of the variety. And the tannins are firm and tense, yet docile at the same time. Very elegant and very fresh. Score - 95. (Patricio Tapia, Descorchados, 2019)

Wine 3

Nicolás Catena helped revolutionize Argentina's wine industry after visiting California in the 1980s. This, his benchmark Malbec, has rich blackberry, blueberry, dark chocolate, exotic spices and mint. For grilled sausages, aged steaks or rare roast beef.

Input)

Nicolás Catena utilizes the fruit of four different vineyards, at altitudes ranging from 945 metres to 1,524 metres, to create this full-bodied and concentrated wine. Generous black fruit, cassis and black pepper with sensual tannins. Enjoy with grilled pepper steak.

Recommendation 85

Wine 1

A firm and silky red with dark berry and mineral character. Medium to full body. Lovely energy and focus. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, April 5, 2018)

Wine 2

Aromas of blackberries, burnt orange peel and hints of chocolate. Full body, chewy tannins and a savory finish. There is a bigger, warmer profile to this. Drink now. Score - 94. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, June 21, 2017)

Wine 3

The blueberry and blackberry aromas are very expressive here. Full-bodied, yet tight and composed with lightly chewy tannins and a salty, limestone undertone. Focused and intense. Drink or hold. Score - 96. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, April 5, 2018)

Input)

The purity of fruit on the nose really makes an impression with notes of brambleberries, boysenberries, citrus, licorice, roasted herbs and loads of Chinese spies. The full-bodied palate delivers a wealth of fruit, but it's so focused and refined. The acidity is right on point as is the precision and refinement. Drink now or hold. Score - 96. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 27, 2018)

Recommendation 86

Wine 1

Medium ruby colour; blackberry and plum fruit aromas with spicy, black pepper notes; ripe and juicy fruit flavours with a peppery, medium-long finish.

Wine 2

Medium ruby in colour; aromas of black cherry and spice; dry, and medium-bodied, with balanced acidity and fine-grained tannins; flavours of plum, cherry and spicy oak lead to a lengthy finish.

Wine 3

An award-winning local winery, this offering from Kacaba is a great introduction to quality reds from Ontario. Plush and flavourful with notes of red berry, cedar, and mocha mingling on a medium-weight palate that is brightened by a hit of acidity wrapping up with fine/integrated tannins.

Input)

From a pioneer of premium Ontario red wines, this Bordeaux-inspired blend has been crafted to perfection every year since 1989. Notes of blackcurrant, grilled herbs, tobacco and cedar. Savour with blackened Ontario lamb, slow-cooked pork shoulder or roast beef.

Recommendation 87

Wine 1

Tantalizing oak and rich fruit flavors vie for attention in this full-bodied, firmly tannic and well-structured wine. It has plenty of concentration with, boysenberry jam aromas, lush fruit and chocolate flavors. Best Buy. Score - 90. (Jim Gordon, Wine Enthusiast, Sept. 1, 2018)

Wine 2

Zinfully delicious Cali Zinfandel that features all you're looking for in the state's classic variety. The aromas suggest hickory smoke, black cherry, vanilla and spice cupboard. A rich, fruity wine perfect for steaks or meat-based pasta dishes.

Wine 3

Youthful and zesty, with lively black raspberry, licorice and smoky pepper flavors. Drink now through 2022. Score - 89. (Tim Fish, winespectator.com, June 30, 2018)

Input)

Dry Creek Valley is home to one of the densest concentrations of old-vine Zinfandel in the world, some of which provides the backbone of this wine. Notions of campfire smoke, vanilla wafers, ripe blackberry and blackcurrant jam introduce a ripe, robust Zin brimming with sweet fruit along with touches of smoke and spice. Savour through 2022 with smoky brisket or ribs. (Vintages panel, March 2019)

Recommendation 88

Wine 1

LENS (Lake Erie North Shore) has a long growing season that permits the grapes to develop ripe, full-flavoured fruit while maintaining the balance integral to fine wines. The warm temperatures allow winemakers in LENS a great range of varietals to work with. Syrah, which loves the sun and warmth, thrives there. This one is soft and approachable, with complex suggestions of red and black fruit, chocolate, toast, cured meat and black pepper spice. Perfect for burgers or ribs. (Vintages panel, March 2018)

Wine 2

A little juicier and riper than what you may expect from Ontario if you're used to drinking Red from Niagara. It's fantastic when you see the Lake Erie North Shore appellation on the bottle. All the vibrant fruit is still met with great acidity to keep the whole thing in balance. Score - 4 Stars (out of 5). (André Proulx, andrewinereview.ca, Aug. 31, 2018)

Wine 3

Light ruby red colour; lots of fresh red and black cherry aromas with hints of smoked meat and spice on the nose; dry, medium bodied, with round, ripe berry fruit flavour and crisp finish.

Input)

From the Niagara wine region in Ontario, Creekside's Laura's 2016 is a full-bodied Bordeaux blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon with 2% Syrah added into the mix and showing a lot of promise. On the nose field berries, wet stone, chocolate, earthiness and hint of vanilla. There's plenty of acidity for food and some warming alcohol on the palate. Long toasted oak and cherry finish. Decant and drink now or hold in cellar for three to five years. Food pairings: tourtière, lamburger, pork pies. Drink 2019-2023. Score - 90. (Natalie MacLean, nataliemaclean.com, May 13, 2019)

Recommendation 89

Wine 1

clear medium ruby colour; black cherry and currant with light oak spice aromas; medium body, dry wine, cherry fruit and oak spice flavours to finish

Wine 2

[The Concours de Vins Macon did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours des Vins Macon, 2018)

Wine 3

Great value young ripe and fruity Rhone red. Visually it is a deep ruby colour, while on the nose there is red cherry, raspberry, anise and light spice. Palate is dry, medium bodied and balanced. Immediately appealing from the first sip, showing flavours of ripe raspberry, plum and red fruit with notes of earth and spice.

Input)

Clear medium ruby; aromas of black raspberry, with underlying garrigue notes; on the palate, dry with medium to full body, moderate tannins and acidity; flavours of ripe plum, spicy oak, herbs and cracked black pepper.

Recommendation 90

Wine 1

Over 130 years old, Spain's Torres Winery almost single-handedly established the now-famous Penedès wine region. Intense redcurrant and plum, plus coffee bean flavours, with silky tannins. Pair with spicy beef fajitas, empanadas, filet mignon or grilled lamb.

Wine 2

The 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Feather is lovely, unfurling in the glass with aromas of cassis, blackberries, petroleum jelly and burning embers. On the palate, it's full-bodied, ripe and powerful, with an expansive attack and an ample core of dark berry fruit, underpinned by a fine-grained, stony chassis of ripe tannins. This wine is made by Howell Mountain veteran Randy Dunn, and its profile - while marked by the torrid 2015 vintage - will be familiar to followers of the wines he produces there. Drink Date: 2020-2035. Score - 96. (William Kelley, robertparker.com, June 29, 2018)

Wine 3

The aromatic and perfumed Bobal 2014 Rayuelo clearly called my attention. It had fragrant notes of violets not often found in the variety, which can sometimes be a little too rustic. It also has a lot of freshness while being juicy, and the oak is nicely integrated after some time in bottle. It matured in barrel for eight months but has been in bottle since June 2016. This represents a very good value. Drink Date: 2018-2021. Score - 91. (Luis Gutiérrez, robertparker.com, Dec. 29, 2017)

Input)

The 'black label' vineyards are situated in Pacs del Penedès, close to Vilafranca: 29ha of unirrigated Cabernet Sauvignon on alluvial soils over sand and clay, generally harvested at the end of September ... It's dark in colour, fragrant and enticing on the nose, and svelte, poised and finally melting on the palate ... the fruits have a rounded unction - it has more texture and structural depth as well as refinement. It's very 'solar' and Mediterranean, yet there's a rich fleshiness to this Cabernet ... Drink 2018-2030. Score - 94. (Andrew Jefford, decanter.com, June 24, 2018)

Recommendation 91

Wine 1

The 2016 Cabernet Sauvignon L'Esprit des Pavots is a dense, rich second wine that takes fruit from both Les Pavots and Au Paradis, Peter Michael's estate vineyard in Oakville. Dark cherry, plum, chocolate, new leather, licorice and spice are pushed forward in a succulent, racy wine that will drink well right out of the gate. This is the first vintage in which Les Pavots is a blend of fruit from both estate vineyards. The blend is 34% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot, 28% Cabernet Franc and 9% Petit Verdot. Drinking window: 2020-2030. Score - 92. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, May 2019)

Wine 2

Deep garnet-purple, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer Dr Crane Vineyard leaps from the glass with opulent crème de cassis, raspberry tart and black forest cake notions plus underlying cigar box, mocha, licorice and forest floor suggestions. Full-bodied, rich, spicy and decadently generous in the mouth, it has a firm, velvety foundation and wonderful precision, featuring an invigorating lift on the very long, multilayered and provocatively earthy finish. Drink Date: 2019-2045. Score - 99. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, Dec. 29, 2017 )

Wine 3

The 2016 The Big Easy is fabulous. Rich, powerful and flamboyant to its core the Big Easy hits the palate with tremendous fruit intensity. Super-ripe red cherry, raspberry jam, white chocolate, vanillin and new American oak shape this opulent Syrah/Petite Sirah/ Grenache blend. Winemaker Blair Fox has dialed in a style that captures all the exuberance of past editions, but with more nuance than the Big Easy has ever shown ... The 2016 is simply outrageously delicious. Drinking window: 2020-2031. Score - 95. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Sept. 2018)

Input)

If you were to come back as a vine, Jerry Seps's steep hillside vineyard would be a pretty tempting place to put down roots. His vineyard faces north toward Mount St. Helena and east toward the Palisades?not a house or a road in sight, only trees, meadows and craggy rocks left by the volcano. Ideally, you'd come back as a zinfandel vine. The vineyard's cool morning sun and volcanic soils grow zin with racy energy, a sensation that's captured beautifully in this 2013. With air, the wine transforms all of its blueberry flavor, peachy red fruit and youthful oak into something finer, opening over the course of several days toward mouthwatering flavors of fresh-picked black raspberries and bright, rustic mineral notes that seem patterned after the volcanic rock. Score - 95. (Joshua Greene, wineandspiritsmagazine.com, 2016)

Recommendation 92

Wine 1

(Translated from the Italian) ... there is an absolute fusion of warmth and fragrance, power and sophistication, impulse and depth of expression in this great wine ... There is the power and density of expression, a roundness in taste, a balance of composition that gives everything an embracing softness, of perfect sophistication of flavour ... A great wine, of exceptional agricultural and oenological value. Absolutely one of the best red Italian wines of the year. Score - 98. (Luca Maroni, lucamaroni.com, June 6, 2019)

Wine 2

Deep ruby colour; fruit forward bouquet of plum, prune, cherry, spice and vanilla; medium-bodied and dry with flavours that follow the nose, raspberry, plum, prune, cherry, spice and light tannins that add balance.

Wine 3

Medium ruby in colour; aromas of plum, black cherry and leather; medium body and dry with smooth well integrated flavours of red fruit, plum and cherry.

Input)

[lucamaroni.com did not provide a tasting note along with this score] Score - 93. (lucamaroni.com, July 21, 2017)

Recommendation 93

Wine 1

One of the greatest value Cabs Napa has to offer. Layered, complex and stunning with rich black fruits and cedar in a sumptuous and elegant package. Balanced and structured, this is a classy Napa Cabernet. Enjoy with filet mignon and blueberry compote.

Wine 2

The 2016 The Big Easy is fabulous. Rich, powerful and flamboyant to its core the Big Easy hits the palate with tremendous fruit intensity. Super-ripe red cherry, raspberry jam, white chocolate, vanillin and new American oak shape this opulent Syrah/Petite Sirah/ Grenache blend. Winemaker Blair Fox has dialed in a style that captures all the exuberance of past editions, but with more nuance than the Big Easy has ever shown ... The 2016 is simply outrageously delicious. Drinking window: 2020-2031. Score - 95. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Sept. 2018)

Wine 3

A juicy and rich red with blackberry, blueberry and mint. Full body, chewy tannins and a fresh finish. A vivid petite sirah. Drink now. Score - 93. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 21, 2017)

Input)

Aromas of currants and fresh herbs with hints of tobacco. Full body, ripe fruit and a soft and velvety finish. Drink in 2019. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 26, 2017)

Recommendation 94

Wine 1

This wine punches above its weight [at this price point] - the luscious black cherry and hedgerow fruits do a good job of making it seem twice the price. Sultry black pepper, sweet spice, baked strawberry, currants and liquorice all mingle in the swirling, inky sea. This is deep, but is supple rather than dense. Drinking Window: 2017-2022. Score - 92. (decanter.com, Sept. 25, 2017)

Wine 2

While the wine is no more than medium-bodied, it has life and lift that immediately grab attention, allied with a seductive mix of red and blackcurrant fruit, oak spice and dried bay leaf. Even the tannins are warm and inviting, the finish leaving the mouth in a good frame of mind. A surprise packet in every way. Drink By: 2024. Special Value. Score - 94. (James Halliday, winecompanion.com.au, Nov. 3, 2016)

Wine 3

[The Sommelier Challenge International Wine & Spirits Competition did not include a tasting note.] Score - 92. (sommelierchallenge.com, 2018)

Input)

Grown on the Lopresti Vineyard at the southern end of McLaren Vale, east of Port Willunga. Matured in used French oak for 12 months. Red fruits prominent on the bouquet, with cherry and raspberry in the mix, along with a suggestion of stewed rhubarb and a slightly earthy undertone. Just lightish medium weight on the palate, the fruit tending to be more savoury than sweet, and the astringency of acid and tannin nicely in balance. Drink By: 2024. Score - 89. (Steven Creber, winecompanion.com.au, Jan. 1, 2018)

Recommendation 95

Wine 1

Deep red. Ripe, mineral-tinged red berry and cherry scents, along with a hint of succulent herbs and building spiciness. Smooth and open-knit, showing very good depth to the bitter cherry and black raspberry flavors, which take on a smoky quality with aeration. Shows the forward character of the vintage and finishes long and supple, with repeating spiciness and gentle, even tannins. (20% new French oak). Drinking window: 2021-2027. Score - 90. (Josh Raynolds, vinous.com, June 2019)

Wine 2

Aromas of raspberries, cherries and hints of citrus. Medium body, firm tannins and a fresh finish. A bright red. Drink now. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 15, 2017)

Wine 3

This is an affordable bottle of splendid Oregon pinot noir made using grapes sourced from the Umpqua Valley in the south of [the] state. Beautifully smooth with soft tannins and flavours of pomegranate and soft fruits. Balanced and elegant, it makes a superb accompaniment to aromatic spiced foods or dishes of game or lean meat. And at this price it's a bargain buy. (John Clarke, independent.co.uk, March 20, 2018)

Input)

Winemaker Alexandrine Roy selected the finest 15 barrels of wines made from estate fruit in 2014 for this wine. Harvest Brix 23.8º. Clones are Pommard, 115 and 777. Native yeast fermentation. Aged in French oak barrels, 25% new. Moderately light reddish purple color in the glass. The nose is remarkably complex, offering scents of dark red and black cherry and berry, rose petal, aged leather, and turned earth. A noticeable contrast to the 'Beehive' bottling, with more structure, more savory and earthy facets, less flashy fruit, and slightly more oak contribution at this young age. A very sophisticated wine that is clearly built to age. The mid weight flavors of black raspberry and blackberry are set off by notes of spice and toast and emerge slowly in the glass over time. The finish is uncommonly generous as all great wines are. When tasted several hours later, the wine was more giving, indicating that it should be decanted if drunk now, but will benefit from more time in the cellar. Still evolving when tasted from an opened bottle two days later. Enjoy this one for its complexity and longevity. Score - 96. (William Gaffney, princeofpinot.com, Feb. 1, 2017)

Recommendation 96

Wine 1

Intense and well-centered on vivid ripe currant, blackberry and cherry flavors, shaded by cedar notes and framed by firm, chewy tannins. Leaves you with a rustic impression and a solid core of fruit. Drink now through 2028. Score - 92. (James Laube, winespectator.com, Sept. 30, 2017)

Wine 2

If you were to come back as a vine, Jerry Seps's steep hillside vineyard would be a pretty tempting place to put down roots. His vineyard faces north toward Mount St. Helena and east toward the Palisades?not a house or a road in sight, only trees, meadows and craggy rocks left by the volcano. Ideally, you'd come back as a zinfandel vine. The vineyard's cool morning sun and volcanic soils grow zin with racy energy, a sensation that's captured beautifully in this 2013. With air, the wine transforms all of its blueberry flavor, peachy red fruit and youthful oak into something finer, opening over the course of several days toward mouthwatering flavors of fresh-picked black raspberries and bright, rustic mineral notes that seem patterned after the volcanic rock. Score - 95. (Joshua Greene, wineandspiritsmagazine.com, 2016)

Wine 3

Aromas of currants and fresh herbs with hints of tobacco. Full body, ripe fruit and a soft and velvety finish. Drink in 2019. Score - 91. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Jan. 26, 2017)

Input)

Deep garnet-purple, the 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon Beckstoffer Dr Crane Vineyard leaps from the glass with opulent crème de cassis, raspberry tart and black forest cake notions plus underlying cigar box, mocha, licorice and forest floor suggestions. Full-bodied, rich, spicy and decadently generous in the mouth, it has a firm, velvety foundation and wonderful precision, featuring an invigorating lift on the very long, multilayered and provocatively earthy finish. Drink Date: 2019-2045. Score - 99. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, Dec. 29, 2017 )

Recommendation 97

Wine 1

The 2014 Malartic-Lagravière is a gorgeous wine, but it is also flamboyant and exotic, especially in its flavor profile. Super-ripe red cherry and plum make a strong first impression. Sweet floral and spice notes, along with ripe, silky tannins, add to the wine's sensuality. A rich, powerful wine with soft contours and striking depth, the 2014 is a real beauty. It will be even more compelling once the new oak tannins soften a bit further. The blend is 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot. Tasted two times. Drinking window: 2022-2039. Score - 94+. (Antonio Galloni, vinous.com, Feb. 2017)

Wine 2

[The Concours International de Lyon did not include a tasting note.] Score - Gold. (Concours International de Lyon, 2018)

Wine 3

Packed with tannins, this is a dark, dense wine. Its impressive structure frames rich blackberry and plum fruits. Let this wine age for several years and don't drink before 2022. Editors' Choice. Score - 91. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, Dec. 31, 2018)

Input)

Barrel sample. This is a solid effort that showcases both great blackberry fruit and sweet tannins right at the forefront. There is also fine acidity and a layer of wood that gives a dry, firm, age-worthy aftertaste. Score - 94. (Roger Voss, Wine Enthusiast, April 1, 2013)

Recommendation 98

Wine 1

Supple and elegantly structured, with expressive raspberry and orange zest aromas and polished flavors that pick up depth and momentum toward a spicy finish framed by refined tannins. Drink now through 2023. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. Ranked no. 75 in the 2017 Wine Spectator Top 100. Score - 93. (Tim Fish, winespectator.com, Dec. 31, 2017)

Wine 2

Aromas of blueberries and dried strawberries. Dusty character to the tannins. Medium to full body and a soft and fresh finish. Drink now. Score - 92. (James Suckling, jamessuckling.com, Dec. 15, 2017)

Wine 3

The pale to medium ruby-purple 2016 Pinot Noir Estate has a wonderful open nose of black cherry, blueberry pie, cinnamon stick, nutmeg, warm earth and autumn leaves with pretty red and blue flower perfume. Light to medium-bodied, it fills the mouth with black and blue fruits layers plus oodles of spice and flower notes, with fine, grainy tannins and mouthwatering acidity, finishing very long and layered. Drink Date: 2018-2025. Score - 92. (Erin Brooks, robertparker.com, Aug. 31, 2018)

Input)

Precise and harmonious, offering layered raspberry and cherry flavors laced with smoky anise and spice notes, building richness toward polished tannins. Drink now through 2025. Highly Recommended. Score - 94. (Tim Fish, winespectator.com, Feb. 28, 2019)

Recommendation 99

Wine 1

Great black cherry, spicy jam for Aglianico Benevento 2015. Score - 92. (Luca Maroni, lucamaroni.com, July 21, 2017)

Wine 2

(a blend of 70% Montepulciano and 30% Sangiovese): Bright ruby. High-pitched, primary aromas of blackcurrant, strawberry, graphite, violet and spices. Densely packed and youthfully imploded, with very refined, pure flavors of fresh dark fruits complicated by cedar and violet. This firm-edged, rather brooding wine finishes long and fine-grained. Aged for 12 months in large oak barrels. Drinking Window: 2016-2025. Score - 92. (Ian D'Agata, vinous.com, July 2015)

Wine 3

[Gambero Rosso did not include a tasting note along with the score.] Score - 3 Glasses (out of 3). (Gambero Rosso Italian Wines, 2017)

Input)

The 2015 Irpinia Aglianico is a highly drinkable and accessible wine that makes a great impression straight out of the gate. My mind takes me to an immediate food association, along the lines of roast beef or grilled bacon. This Aglianico shows a dark and inky appearance with robust aromas of blackberry confit, spice, leather and charred earth. The natural freshness and structure of the wine will cut through fatty foods. Some 30,000 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2018-2022. Score - 91. (Monica Larner, robertparker.com, Dec. 7, 2018)

Recommendation 100

Wine 1

Medium to full red colour with a tint of purple, the aromas are of spices and dark berries, while the palate is intense and nicely balanced, with appropriate firm tannins and a clean aftertaste. A bright, fresh, well-crafted wine, very approachable young. Drink Date: 2017-2026. Score - 89. (Huon Hooke, therealreview.com, Oct. 8, 2017)

Wine 2

This wine punches above its weight [at this price point] - the luscious black cherry and hedgerow fruits do a good job of making it seem twice the price. Sultry black pepper, sweet spice, baked strawberry, currants and liquorice all mingle in the swirling, inky sea. This is deep, but is supple rather than dense. Drinking Window: 2017-2022. Score - 92. (decanter.com, Sept. 25, 2017)

Wine 3

Deep crimson-purple; whereas the '11 had to fight every inch of the way, this wine displays almost contemptuous ease in the way it has marshalled the layers of black fruits and ripe tannins that soak up the new oak inputs. This will be one of the long-lived, great Black Labels. Drink By: 2042. Score - 97. (James Halliday, winecompanion.com.au, July 27, 2015)

Input)

Deep garnet-purple, the 2013 The Signature (Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz) has very youthful, pure black fruits aromas with a pronounced black plum and black currant nose with underlying pepper, Provence herbs and licorice suggestions. Big, dense and profoundly expressive in the mouth, the palate is firmly constructed with chewy tannins and great persistence. This is just starting to open, so forget it for 3-5 years and drink it over the next twenty. Score - 93. (Lisa Perrotti-Brown, MW, robertparker.com, June 30, 2017)