

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Biweekly Publication

HIGH-WATTAGE COLLECTIBLE GEMS MINGLE WITH VALUE OVERACHIEVERS in this week's *Wine Spectator Insider*, which hops from Washington to France, Australia to South Africa.

At up to 95 points, some of Burgundy's iconic Pinots and Chardonnays show their stuff, with the latest Clos de Tart *monopole* at the fore. *Crus* around Corton, Beaune and Meursault are ably represented by Joseph Drouhin, Domaine Faiveley and Bouchard Père & Fils. More rugged reds can be found Down Under, with Shiraz, Grenache and blends from Jim Barry and Yalumba, while Washington and **South Africa add more big reds to the mix with Cabernet and Merlot.** Value hunters shouldn't miss the 10 wines here at \$30 and under—as low as \$15—and 90-plus points. See the five Hot Wines on page 4.

AUSTRALIA

GIACONDA

Shiraz Victoria Warner Vineyard 2010

93 points | \$170 | 50 cases imported | Red

Smooth and generous, layered with blueberry, blackberry, black tea and spice flavors on a polished frame, lingering with hints of moss on the integrated finish. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

YALUMBA

Shiraz-Viognier Eden Valley Hand Picked 2010

93 points | \$31 | 150 cases imported | Red

Vibrant, expressive and complex, this offers a tightly woven expression of plum, blackberry and grapefruit peel flavors, coming together seamlessly as the finish expands. Shows presence and depth. Drink now through 2020.—*H.S.*

JIM BARRY

Shiraz Clare Valley The McRae Wood 2010

91 points | \$47 | 100 cases imported | Red

Supple, expressive, powerful and elegant, with dill and kale overtones to the rich blackberry and plum fruit flavors, coming together seamlessly on the finish. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

JOHN DUVAL

Plexus Red Barossa Valley 2011

91 points | \$40 | 1,000 cases imported | Red

Broad and open-textured, with pure blueberry and spice flavors. Not heavy, but the flavors persist into the deftly balanced finish. Shiraz, Grenache and Mourvèdre. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

PEPPERJACK

Barossa Red Barossa 2012

91 points | \$24 | 10,000 cases imported | Red

Fresh and lively, this offers precise flavors and fine-grained tannins, with lingering raspberry, dark plum and floral notes. Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec, Grenache, Sangiovese, Cabernet Franc and Tempranillo. Drink now through 2019.—*H.S.*

SCHILD

Grenache Barossa Valley Edgar Schild Reserve 2012

91 points | \$70 | 250 cases imported | Red

Sleek and expressive, with black cherry and cranberry flavors riding on superfine tannins, hinting at plum and five-spice powder notes, finishing expressively. Drink now.—*H.S.*

SONS OF EDEN

Kennedy Barossa Valley 2011

91 points | \$30 | 400 cases imported | Red

Smooth and expressive, brimming with coffee-accented blackberry and purple plum flavors, tumbling through the open-textured finish. Grenache, Shiraz and Mourvèdre. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

FRANCE

Burgundy

DOMAINE FAIVELEY

Corton Clos des Cortons Faiveley 2011

93 points | \$225 | 304 cases imported | Red

Lean, yet succulent and defined, sporting aromatic floral, cherry, strawberry and spice notes, accented by a touch of briar. The structure is firm and linear, with a tightly wound finish for now. Very elegant, this should come into its own in the next several years. Best from 2017 through 2028.—*B.S.*

BOUCHARD PÈRE & FILS

Beaune Grèves Vigne de l'Enfant Jésus 2011

92 points | \$100 | 300 cases imported | Red

This rich version is tinged with smoke and spicy oak notes, set against a core of cherry fruit. Firms up on the finish, where hints of licorice and spice linger. This remains fresh and balanced, gaining suppleness with air. Drink now through 2020.—*B.S.*

CHANSON PÈRE & FILS

Beaune Clos des Mouches Domaine 2011

92 points | \$110 | 700 cases made | Red

The floral, berry and sandalwood aromas are seductive in this red, featuring plenty of juicy cherry, strawberry, rose and spice flavors. Delicate yet intense, with fine tannins and a spicy aftertaste. Best from 2015 through 2023.—*B.S.*

JOSEPH DROUHIN

Meursault Perrières 2011

92 points | \$119 | 250 cases imported | White

This is linear and well-defined, offering lemon-infused apple and butterscotch flavors that meld with the structure. This sleek style stays long and lemony on the finish, with a spicy accent. Best from 2015 through 2022.—*B.S.*

JOSEPH DROUHIN

Gevrey-Chambertin 2011

91 points | \$61 | 700 cases imported | Red

Graphite and floral notes enhance the pure cherry flavor in this well-defined red. Firm yet long on the finish. Very elegant and charming. Best from 2015 through 2024.—*B.S.*

ALBERT MOROT

Beaune Toussaints 2011

91 points | \$65 | 150 cases imported | Red

Juicy, sporting cherry, raspberry and currant flavors, shaded by smoke and eucalyptus accents. The oak stands out on the finish, which is spicy and long. The most approachable of the three Morot *crus*. Best from 2015 through 2022.—*B.S.*

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE POINT VINEYARDS

Isliedh Cape Point 2012

93 points | \$62 | 100 cases imported | White

Alluring, with tangerine, persimmon, straw and brioche notes aligned with a creamy frame. The long stony finish shows hints of heather and ginger. Drink now through 2015.—*J.M.*

DE TRAFFORD

Elevation 393 Stellenbosch 2008

93 points | \$100 | 20 cases imported | Red

Dark earth, roasted plum, singed cedar and coffee notes form the frame of this old-school Cabernet, with bay, tobacco, mulled currant, mint and steeped blackberry fruit at the core. The long finish lets the savory notes play out beautifully. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Shiraz and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2018.—*J.M.*

DE TRAFFORD

Sijnn Malgas 2010

93 points | \$40 | 100 cases imported | Red

This has good range, with blueberry, loganberry and blackberry fruit pumping along, lined with texture-enhancing charcoal and roasted alder notes. Shows lots of briary grip through the finish, revealing a buried iron accent. Let this settle in the cellar for a bit. Shiraz, Mourvèdre, Touriga Nacional and Trincadeira. Best from 2015 through 2020.—*J.M.*

RUST EN VREDE

Stellenbosch 2011

93 points | \$50 | 3,750 cases made | Red

Dense, with dark currant, fig and blackberry fruit, layered with charcoal, grilled savory and tobacco notes. An iron edge underpins the finish, adding length and cut to match the heft. A serious Cabernet blend. Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz and Merlot. Best from 2015 through 2020.—*J.M.*

RUST EN VREDE

Syrah Stellenbosch Single Vineyard 2011

93 points | \$97 | 113 cases made | Red

A ripe, bold style, with blueberry, blackberry and plum sauce flavors, lined with brambly structure and backed by lots of toasted spice and anise notes. This fruit-driven style has the grip for balance, revealing a graphite accent that runs through the finish. Best from 2015 through 2019.—*J.M.*

CAPE POINT VINEYARDS

Sauvignon Blanc Cape Point Reserve 2012

92 points | \$47 | 100 cases imported | White

Shows lovely purity, with a beam of gooseberry and Meyer lemon pulsing along, backed by straw, white peach and salted butter notes. Long finish. Drink now through 2015.—*J.M.*

GUARDIAN PEAK

Cabernet Sauvignon Stellenbosch Lapa 2011
92 points | \$41 | 1,150 cases made | Red

Shows good density, with layers of fig, plum paste and currant preserves lined with sweet tobacco leaf and well-toasted vanilla notes. Long and polished through the finish, revealing a buried iron accent for contrast. Solidly built. Drink now through 2018.—*J.M.*

CAPE POINT VINEYARDS

Sauvignon Blanc Cape Point 2012
91 points | \$25 | 750 cases imported | White

Stylish, with honeysuckle, straw, white peach, gooseberry and fleur de sel notes. Very subtle and long. Drink now.—*J.M.*

BELLINGHAM

Grenache Blanc-Viognier Paarl The Bernard Series
Whole Bunch 2012
90 points | \$22 | 200 cases imported | White

Enticing, with brioche, creamed pear, persimmon, heather and green plum aromas and flavors, all carrying through the deftly toasted finish. Has weight and freshness. Drink now.—*J.M.*

BUITENVERWACHTING

Sauvignon Blanc Constantia Bayten 2013
90 points | \$15 | 4,000 cases imported | White

Very solid, with a crunchy feel along the edges and pure white peach, flint and honeysuckle notes racing along. A terrific value. Drink now.—*J.M.*

ERNIE ELS

Cabernet Sauvignon Stellenbosch Proprietor's 2011
90 points | \$45 | 276 cases made | Red

A solid, winery Cabernet, with pleasantly layered anise, currant, blackberry paste and sweet tobacco leaf notes. An echo of apple wood holds the finish. Drink now through 2015.—*J.M.*

GLEN CARLOU

Grand Classique Paarl 2010
90 points | \$20 | 3,500 cases imported | Red

A broad, plush, well-toasted style, with ganache and mint notes backed by flavors of fleshy plum sauce and blackberry preserves. A big, mouthfilling, crowd-pleasing style, delivering a plush finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2016.—*J.M.*

WASHINGTON

FORT WALLA WALLA

Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley
Les Collines Vineyard 2009
92 points | \$45 | 138 cases made | Red

Lithe, with a crisp feel to the dark berry, cherry and meaty flavors, weaving in fennel, smoke and toasty oak notes as the finish lingers effortlessly. Has all the components, but needs time to come together. Best after 2015.—*H.S.*

FORT WALLA WALLA

Reserve Walla Walla Valley 2009
92 points | \$45 | 129 cases made | Red

Polished, expressive and gentle in texture, with smoky blackberry and licorice flavors that extend into a long and intense finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

GUARDIAN

The Rookie Red Mountain 2010
92 points | \$42 | 200 cases made | Red

Firm and focused, with juicy flavors of currant, black pepper and licorice set on a lithe frame. Tannins grace the refined finish. Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2015 through 2020.—*H.S.*

ABEJA

Chardonnay Washington 2012
91 points | \$36 | 660 cases made | White

Polished, sleek and expressive, playing pear and almond flavors against lively acidity and mouthcoating texture. Lingers enticingly on the medium-weight finish. Drink now through 2018.—*H.S.*

COUGAR CREST

Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley
Cougar Hills Vineyard 2009
91 points | \$40 | 1,240 cases made | Red

Ripe and generous, with crunchy tannins around a plump, lingering core of blackberry, plum and black pepper flavors. Best from 2015 through 2019.—*H.S.*

WATERBROOK

Syrah Columbia Valley 2011
91 points | \$15 | 1,217 cases made | Red

Sleek and expressive, with ebullient raspberry, red plum and white pepper flavors, mingling harmoniously and floating easily on the velvety finish. Drink now through 2017.—*H.S.*

COUGAR CREST

Dedication Seven Columbia Valley 2010
90 points | \$20 | 3,785 cases made | Red

Velvety and round, with pulsing flavors of currant and plum, hinting at clove, pepper and roasted meat notes. Merlot, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2020.—*H.S.*

KANA

Dark Star Columbia Valley 2010
90 points | \$20 | 200 cases made | Red

Smooth and supple, with black tea-accented blackberry and pear flavors, mingling harmoniously as the rich finish persists against polished tannins. Syrah, Mourvèdre, Grenache, Cunoise and Cinsault. Drink now through 2017.—*H.S.*

WATERBROOK

Chardonnay Columbia Valley 2012
90 points | \$14 | 4,846 cases made | White

Vibrant and expressive, balancing complex pear, quince and clotted cream flavors on a pinpoint of bright acidity. Harmonious finish. Drink now through 2017.—*H.S.*

HOT WINES

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

JIM BARRY

Shiraz Clare Valley The Armagh 2007

95 points | \$227 | 50 cases imported | Red

Focused, open-textured and expressive, layered with ripe cherry, black currant, smoke and pepper flavors, coming together smoothly and harmoniously as the finish expands and persists. Best from 2015 through 2025. *From Australia.—H.S.*

CLOS DE TART

Clos de Tart 2010

95 points | \$525 | 200 cases imported | Red

Rich and dense, this red offers deep aromas of cherry, raspberry, flowers and spice, with the oak spice more prevalent on the palate. Beautifully balanced, giving an effortless impression overall, presenting a lingering aftertaste of ripe fruit, oak and mineral. Best from 2017 through 2040. *From France.—B.S.*

DE TRAFFORD

Cabernet Sauvignon Stellenbosch 2009

94 points | \$45 | 240 cases imported | Red

Loam, espresso and bittersweet cocoa notes lead the way here, with a dense core of steeped black currant and warm plum sauce flavors. The long, charcoal-lined finish has a plush feel, ending with a savory echo. Drink now through 2020. *From South Africa.—J.M.*

DE TRAFFORD

Syrah Stellenbosch 393 2010

94 points | \$80 | 56 cases imported | Red

Features a dark profile, with blackberry, steeped black currant and melted black licorice notes rolled together. Fruit cake, plum skin and bramble accents add grip on the finish. Though still rather backward, this is showing more guts than polish now, featuring loads of charcoal-infused structure. Should age wonderfully. Best from 2016 through 2022. *From South Africa.—J.M.*

RUST EN VREDE

Cabernet Sauvignon Stellenbosch

Vineyard Selection 2010

94 points | \$97 | 113 cases made | Red

A big, rich, muscular style, with flavors of currant paste, fig preserves and racy cherry confiture. Bitter orange and cherry pit notes, along with savory and iron details, fill in the background. The long, energetic finish features a bolt of iron. Should age well. Best from 2015 through 2020. *From South Africa.—J.M.*

WINE SPECTATOR'S TASTERS

The Most Experienced Team of Wine Journalists in the World

Wine Spectator's tasting staff includes 17 tasters and tasting coordinators in two offices. They work together to review nearly 20,000 wines each year, more than any other publication. Together, our ten senior tasters count more than 140 years of tasting experience.

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

James Laube Senior editor, Napa

Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1981. Tasting beat: California

Harvey Steiman Editor at large, San Francisco

Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1983. Tasting beat: Australia, Oregon, Washington

Kim Marcus Managing editor, New York

Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Argentina, Austria, Chile, Germany, Portugal

Thomas Matthews Executive editor, New York

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

Bruce Sanderson Tasting director, New York

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

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1997. Tasting beat: Bordeaux, Loire Valley, Rhône Valley, South Africa

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2000. Tasting beat: Alsace, Beaujolais, Champagne, Italy

Tim Fish Senior editor, Napa

Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2001. Tasting beat: California

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

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

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THIS DIVERSE WINE SPECTATOR INSIDER offers everything from Cabernet to Trebbiano, with picks up to 96 points. Red wine drinkers will appreciate the Barolos and Barbarescos of Italy's Piedmont region from storied houses such as Bruno Giacosa, Giacomo Conterno and Domenico Clerico, but don't miss the exciting Cabernet, Syrah and Pinot from some of South Africa's top names, including Rust en Vrede, Hamilton Russell, Kanonkop and Stark-Condé.

For fans of whites, a selection of Mosel and Rhine Rieslings entices, with von Hövel, Fritz Haag and Schloss Lieser in the mix, while a grab bag of Italian curiosities yields Chardonnay and Trebbiano. A dozen wines here come in at \$40 or less. Be sure to check out the six Hot Wines on page 4.

GERMANY Riesling

A.J. ADAM

Riesling Spätlese Mosel Hofberg 2012

94 points | \$50 | 56 cases imported | White

This has a savory aroma, with long, lush and unctuous flavors of peach pie, coconut milk, butter cream and apricot tart. Very suave, presenting a finish redolent of honey and lemon meringue. A pure and elegant version. Drink now through 2040.—*K.M.*

ALFRED MERKELBACH

Riesling Spätlese Mosel Ürziger Würzgarten Urglück 2012

94 points | \$24 | 112 cases imported | White

Racy and rich, with a powerful yet restrained structure, a creamy texture and mineral, green peach and dried apricot flavors. Loaded with extract, this presents a long finish that offers accents of sage and anise. Complex. Drink now through 2040.—*K.M.*

JOH. JOS. CHRISTOFFEL ERBEN

Riesling Spätlese Mosel Ürziger Würzgarten 2012

93 points | \$29 | 168 cases imported | White

Intensely creamy and lush-tasting, with concentrated yet elegant flavors of peach cobbler, apple compote and apricot tart that are well-spiced. Notes of honey cream and hints of sage emerge on the pure, vivid finish. Drink now through 2020.—*K.M.*

AUGUST KESSELER

Riesling Auslese Gold Cap Rheingau

Lorcher Schlossberg 2011

93 points | \$154 | 37 cases made | White

Unctuously rich, with plush, concentrated flavors of glazed apricot, peach cobbler and pineapple. Luscious notes of ripe pear chime in as well. The elegant finish echoes with lacy spice, honey and vanilla accents. Drink now through 2040.—*K.M.*

LEITZ

Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Rheingau

Rüdesheimer Berg Roseneck 2012

93 points | \$42 | 56 cases imported | White

Shows fine extraction and intensity to the pure-tasting flavors of grapefruit, white currant and gooseberry. Light and smoky midpalate, with an ironclad structure and a long finish filled with mineral, spice and savory herb details. A powerful and refined dry-style Riesling. Drink now through 2018.—*K.M.*

WITTMANN

Riesling Auslese Rheinhessen Morstein 2012

92 points | \$115 | 1,200 cases made | White

Taut yet focused, with smoky notes to the crisp green apple, pear and dried apricot flavors. Quite juicy midpalate, presenting accents of white pepper and sea salt, which linger on the finish. Drink now through 2040.—*K.M.*

SCHLOSSGUT DIEL

Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Nahe Dorsheim 2012

91 points | \$36 | 6 cases imported | White

Offers lots of flinty accents to the crisp, lithe flavors of grapefruit, gooseberry and lemon-lime. Shows a stony dryness as well, filling the finish alongside notes of salted almond. Powerful, with energetic acidity on the finish. Drink now through 2018.—*K.M.*

MAX FERD. RICHTER

Riesling Auslese Mosel Graacher Himmelreich 2012

91 points | \$38 | 50 cases imported | White

This offers an engaging crispness and clarity to the flavors of Fuji apple, quince and Bosc pear, accented by notes of tarragon. The mineral-infused finish lingers. Drink now through 2035.—*K.M.*

ITALY

Piedmont

PRODUTTORI DEL BARBARESCO

Barbaresco 2009

93 points | \$37 | 23,333 cases made | Red

Bright cherry, strawberry, floral, licorice and herbal aromas and flavors highlight this fragrant, elegant red. Silky and pure, with fine, ripe tannins for support. Best from 2015 through 2028.—*B.S.*

PAITIN

Barbaresco Sori Paitin Vecchie Vigne Riserva 2008

93 points | \$100 | 330 cases made | Red

A spice- and balsamic-laden version, boasting sweet fruit, licorice, leather and tobacco notes on a rich framework. This shows fine balance and harmony. Best from 2015 through 2024.—*B.S.*

GIACOMO ASCHERI

Barolo Coste & Bricco 2010

92 points | \$75 | 400 cases made | Red

This has the purity, elegance and precision of the vintage, offering cherry, strawberry, floral and spice aromas and flavors, with an underlying mineral element. Best from 2017 through 2032.—*B.S.*

DOMENICO CLERICO

Barolo Pajana 2009

92 points | \$75 | 1,083 cases made | Red

The rich cherry and raspberry flavors are accented by spice in this dense yet ripe red. Mint and tobacco accents chime in on the resonant, long finish. Best from 2016 through 2031.—*B.S.*

DOMENICO CLERICO

Barolo Percristina 2005

92 points | \$135 | 916 cases made | Red

Rich for the vintage, delivering cherry, raspberry, tobacco, tea and spice flavors, this is backed by stiff tannins, with ample fruit. Fresh and long. Best from 2015 through 2028.—*B.S.*

PAITIN

Barbaresco Serra 2010

92 points | \$53 | 1,000 cases made | Red

Permeated by fine-grained tannins, this red boasts cherry, floral, underbrush and tobacco flavors. Lingering on the finish, this ends with sweet fruit and mineral accents. Best after 2015.—*B.S.*

MASSIMO RIVETTI

Barbaresco Serraboella Riserva 2006

92 points | \$80 | 500 cases imported | Red

A nose of rose, cherry, raspberry and spice flavors announces this harmonious red. Leather, tobacco and spice notes fill the supple texture and linger on the aftertaste. Drink now through 2024.—*B.S.*

CANTINA DEL PINO

Barbaresco Ovello 2008

91 points | \$62 | 450 cases made | Red

Cherry, chocolate and leather flavors butt up against a dense wall of dusty tannins in this austere red. Features a savory quality that should match well with food. Best from 2016 through 2026.—*B.S.*

ITALY

Other

EMIDIO PEPE

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2005

93 points | \$88 | 2,500 cases made | Red

Fine-grained tannins frame this supple red, with flavors of plum sauce, black cherry and red licorice, accented by savory notes of *sous-bois*, mushroom and spice box. Drink now through 2020.—*A.N.*

D'ANGELO

Aglianico del Vulture Caselle 2007

92 points | \$45 | 200 cases imported | Red

Shows a seamless integration of the lightly dusty tannins, offering a minerally undertow and flavors of date, black olive, pekoe tea leaf, ground anise and mocha. Drink now through 2024.—*A.N.*

FATTORIA GALARDI

Roccamonfina Terra di Lavoro 2011

92 points | \$90 | 1,500 cases imported | Red

There's drive to this well-meshed, sanguine red, offering flavors of herbs, dried currant, iron and black olive, with sinewy tannins and balancing acidity. Drink now through 2021.—*A.N.*

NINO NEGRI

Sforzato di Valtellina 5 Stelle Sfurat 2010

92 points | \$81 | 300 cases imported | Red

A graceful red, with polished tannins and delicately knit layers of ripe black cherry and damson plum fruit, cured tobacco and accents of ground anise and mocha. Drink now through 2029.—*A.N.*

ODOARDI

Calabria GB 2011

92 points | \$45 | 260 cases imported | Red

Supple and silky, this balanced red displays notes of raspberry linzer torte and maraschino cherry, with subtle hints of smoke, chocolate and espresso. Gaglioppo. Drink now through 2021.—A.N.

EMIDIO PEPE

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo 2009

92 points | \$78 | 1,660 cases made | White

A vibrant white, with pretty apple blossom and beeswax aromatics, this shows a savory side, delivering fleur de sel, almond skin and dried herb notes. Drink now through 2021.—A.N.

TOMMASI

Toscana Poggio al Tufo Rompicollo 2011

92 points | \$18 | 3,000 cases imported | Red

Presents a whiff of blackberry, bacon and ink, followed by dark berry, black pepper and spice notes. Rich and supple. Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2015 through 2022.—B.S.

VIE DI ROMANS

Chardonnay Friuli Isonzo Ciampagnis Vieris 2011

92 points | \$34 | 2,000 cases made | White

A vein of smoky mineral underscores this sleek white, with racy acidity enlivening the rich flavors of macerated peach, lemon meringue, beeswax and honeyed almond. Drink now through 2024.—A.N.

BISCEGLIA

Aglianico del Vulture Gudarrà Riserva 2007

91 points | \$45 | 900 cases made | Red

The herb, graphite and floral notes are richly aromatic on the nose, accenting flavors of plump cherry and strawberry fruit, star anise and grilled mushroom. Drink now through 2019.—A.N.

D'ANGELO

Aglianico del Vulture 2010

90 points | \$20 | 600 cases imported | Red

Well-knit, with a savory side of grilled portobello, balsamic and dried herb notes, meshed with flavors of blackberry coulis, black licorice drop and espresso. Drink now through 2020.—A.N.

SOUTH AFRICA Red

CIRRUS

Syrah Stellenbosch 2010

93 points | \$40 | 225 cases made | Red

A toasty style, with an ample core of crushed plum, steeped currant and blackberry paste flavors, rolled with charcoal and backed by a lingering anise note. Best from 2015 through 2020.—J.M.

NEIL ELLIS

Cabernet Sauvignon Jonkershoek Valley

Vineyard Selection 2010

93 points | \$43 | 390 cases made | Red

Shows muscle and purity, with a broad swath of tannins leading the way for now, offering a lovely core of steeped red currant, blackberry and black cherry fruit. Best from 2015 through 2020.—J.M.

HAMILTON RUSSELL

Pinot Noir Hemel-en-Aarde Valley 2012

93 points | \$46 | 2,700 cases imported | Red

Alluring, with gorgeous toasted spice and cherry confiture aromas, backed by silky red currant, damson plum and cherry fruit flavors. Drink now through 2018.—J.M.

KANONKOP

Cabernet Sauvignon Simonsberg-Stellenbosch 2010

92 points | \$40 | 100 cases imported | Red

A sleek, taut style, with good energy to the core of black currant, plum and anise flavors, lined with mouthwatering iron and briar notes. Drink now through 2018.—J.M.

STARK-CONDÉ

Cabernet Sauvignon Stellenbosch 2011

92 points | \$27 | 750 cases imported | Red

Dark, with a loamy edge to the notes of smoldering tobacco, steeped black currant, warm plum preserves and charcoal. Deep yet understated. Drink now through 2018.—J.M.

STARK-CONDÉ

Syrah Jonkershoek Valley Three Pines 2010

92 points | \$42 | 200 cases imported | Red

Features a dark profile, with a note of baker's chocolate framing the core of crushed plum, blackberry confiture and black currant paste. Best from 2015 through 2021.—J.M.

DE TOREN

Fusion V Stellenbosch 2011

91 points | \$60 | 650 cases imported | Red

Offers mocha and black tea aromas that meld with the plum, blueberry and currant fruit. Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Drink now through 2018.—J.M.

HASKELL

Il Stellenbosch 2009

91 points | \$40 | 114 cases imported | Red

Juicy, with plum sauce, blackberry coulis and boysenberry pâte de fruit flavors enlivened by anise and fruitcake notes. Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Mourvèdre. Drink now through 2018.—J.M.

HOT WINES

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

VON HÖVEL

Riesling Auslese Gold Cap Mosel Scharzhofberger 28 2012
96 points | \$50/375ml | 100 cases made | White

Lush, juicy and full of vibrant fruit flavors, including red peach, Anjou pear and glazed apricot, all flanked by plenty of minerality. This offers loads of cream and spice accents, lingering on the broad-textured finish. Drink now through 2045. *From Germany.—K.M.*

FALLETTO DI BRUNO GIACOSA

Barbaresco Asili Riserva 2007
95 points | \$400 | 170 cases imported | Red

Ripe and bursting with sweet cherry, floral, licorice and spice flavors, this Barbaresco is expressive, supple, balanced and dense, showing the structure to age and a finish of fig and tobacco notes. Best from 2016 through 2030. *From Italy.—B.S.*

GIACOMO CONTERNO

Barolo Cascina Francia 2009
94 points | \$175 | 2,083 cases made | Red

Aromas of warm mint tea and cherry lead to balsamic and underbrush flavors in this dense, linear red. The tannins are brusque, yet there's sweetness too. Just needs time. In 2009, there is no Monfortino Riserva, so those grapes went into this blend. Best from 2016 through 2030. *From Italy.—B.S.*

FRITZ HAAG

Riesling Auslese Mosel
Brauneberger Juffer Sonnenuhr 2012
94 points | \$56 | 450 cases made | White

Mouthwatering richness and lush juiciness give this good lift. Pear tart and ripe apple flavors mix with doughy notes, accented by plenty of cream and spice. Light and airy on the finish. Complex and elegant. Drink now through 2038. *From Germany.—K.M.*

SCHLOSS LIESER

Riesling Auslese Mosel Niederberg Helden 2012
94 points | \$50 | 200 cases made | White

A racy style, with notes of dried lemon zest to the cream-infused ripe apple, pear tart and gooseberry flavors. Hints of dried basil and tarragon add a zesty edge. Offers a mineral finish, accented by sea salt and white pepper hints. Drink now through 2038. *From Germany.—K.M.*

RUST EN VREDE

1694 Classification Stellenbosch 2009
94 points | \$128 | 293 cases made | Red

Densely packed, with dark currant, fig and blackberry notes, lined with a strong charcoal edge, this is impressively rendered, delivering a muscular feel through the bramble- and ganache-filled finish. Cuts a broad swath, but the tarry spine pins everything together. Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2015 through 2020. *From South Africa.—J.M.*

WINE SPECTATOR'S TASTERS

The Most Experienced Team of Wine Journalists in the World

Wine Spectator's tasting staff includes 17 tasters and tasting coordinators in two offices. They work together to review nearly 20,000 wines each year, more than any other publication. Together, our ten senior tasters count more than 140 years of tasting experience.

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

James Laube Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1981. Tasting beat: California

Harvey Steiman Editor at large, San Francisco
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1983. Tasting beat: Australia, Oregon, Washington

Kim Marcus Managing editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Argentina, Austria, Chile, Germany, Portugal

Thomas Matthews Executive editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Spain

Bruce Sanderson Tasting director, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1993. Tasting beat: Burgundy, Italy

James Molesworth Senior editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1997. Tasting beat: Bordeaux, Loire Valley, Rhône Valley, South Africa

MaryAnn Worobiec Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1997. Tasting beat: California, New Zealand

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Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2000. Tasting beat: Alsace, Beaujolais, Champagne, Italy

Tim Fish Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2001. Tasting beat: California

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

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