

35TH ANNUAL BUYING GUIDE

Wine & Spirits

SPECIAL ISSUE



TOP 100



WINES, WINERIES + BEST BUYS



THE BEST FOR \$12 OR LESS

Worried about inflation? We take comfort in the fact that we can still get a great bottle of wine for \$12. Here are some of the best options, picked from the 10,231 wines that we opened for our blind tastings this year.

<p>\$12</p>  <p>Quinta da Lixa</p> <p>2020 Vinho Verde Escolha Vinhão</p> <p>Scents of red berries, woodland moss and earthy mineral notes; a light red with plenty of fresh acidity. (92 POINTS)</p> <p>Grape2Glass, Newark, NJ</p>	<p>\$12 /1L</p>  <p>Setzer</p> <p>2019 Weinviertel Liter Grüner Veltliner</p> <p>Simple veltliner with plump green fruit and banana notes. (88 POINTS)</p> <p>Skurnik Wines & Spirits, NY</p>	<p>\$12</p>  <p>Sterling</p> <p>2018 California Vintner's Collection Meritage</p> <p>Decant this to go from thick and chewy to streamlined and red-fruited, with merlot at center stage. (88 POINTS)</p>	<p>\$12</p>  <p>Veramonte</p> <p>2020 Casablanca Valley Reserva Sauvignon Blanc</p> <p>Stone-hitting-stone smokiness gives way to fragrant lime and Asian pear notes, with a hint of kelp. (92 POINTS)</p> <p>González Byass USA, Chicago, IL</p>	<p>\$12</p>  <p>Voyatzki</p> <p>2020 Peloponnese Kyklos Moschofilero</p> <p>Moschofilero's floral and herbal notes in a satiny texture, underlined by wet-stone minerality. Elegant and firm. (92 POINTS)</p> <p>Celina Imports, Old Bethpage, NY</p>
<p>\$11</p>  <p>Volcanes de Chile</p> <p>2019 Casablanca Valley Reserva Pinot Noir</p> <p>A light-bodied pinot with simple raspberry and purple-grape flavors. (87 POINTS)</p> <p>Vias, NY</p>	<p>\$10</p>  <p>Diez Siglos</p> <p>2020 Rueda Nekora Verdejo</p> <p>Spicy, clean and refreshing, with notes of saffron and preserved lemon. For a Moroccan tagine. (92 POINTS)</p> <p>Boutinot USA, FL</p>	<p>\$10</p>  <p>Kirkland Signature</p> <p>2018 Sonoma County Old Vine Zinfandel</p> <p>Dark, smoky and dense, with scents of ground chocolate, brown sugar and plum. (88 POINTS)</p>	<p>\$10</p>  <p>Longford Estate</p> <p>2020 Monterey County Pinot Noir Rosé</p> <p>A pale, crunchy rosé with ripe cherry and leesy richness balanced by mouthwatering acidity. (90 POINTS)</p>	<p>\$10</p>  <p>Vezanzones</p> <p>2019 Ribera del Duero El Sueño Roble Tempranillo</p> <p>Red berry and licorice aromas in a crisp, clean, friendly wine. (88 POINTS)</p> <p>Baccus (Ercomar), Newark, NJ</p>

\$12



Brumont

2016 Madiran
Petit Torus

A broad tannat-cabernet blend, with red-fruited tannins lifted by leather and spice. **(90 POINTS)**

Regal Wine Imports,
Moorestown, NJ

\$12



Casa de Vila Verde

2020 Vinho Verde
Tiroliro

Crisp, luscious pear and lemon flavors and a fine mineral clarity. Pure Vinho Verde pleasure. **(92 POINTS)**

Artisans & Vines, Silver Spring, MD Transport, Miami, FL

\$12



El Porvenir

2020 Valle de Cafayate
Amauta Absoluto Torrontés

Precise, high-altitude torrontés bursting with citrus and florals—acacia, lily and chrysanthemum. **(91 POINTS)**

Brazos, Brooklyn, NY

\$12



Familia Traversa

2019 Montevideo
Tannat

Robed in purple fruit, combining ocean-crisp flavors of plums and dark raspberries. For charcuterie. **(90 POINTS)**

American Estates Wines,
Summit, NJ

\$12



Paringa

2019 South
Australia Shiraz

A brash red with bright cherry flavors and a hint of road tar on a summer's day at the beach. **(88 POINTS)**

Quintessential, Napa, CA

\$12



14 Hands

2019
Washington
State Rosé

Balanced, satisfying rosé with straightforward scents of cherry blossoms and strawberries. **(90 POINTS)**

\$11



Avalon

2018 Lodi
Cabernet
Sauvignon

Loads of crunchy red plum and evergreen spice in a clean and lush cabernet. **(89 POINTS)**

\$11



Duorum

2018 Douro Tons
de Duorum

Strawberry-ripe sweetness and rosemary scents marked by the schist terroir of the Douro. **(90 POINTS)**

Winebow Imports, NY

\$11



Morandé

2020 Maule
Valley Pionero
Reserva País

Rustic and gamey país with notes of grilled red fruit and bright cranberry flavors. **(92 POINTS)**

Int'l Wine & Spirits
Transport, Miami, FL

\$11



Villa Dria

2019 Côtes de
Gascogne Terre
de Feu

Mouthwatering acidity powers white floral and citrus flavors in this blend of chardonnay and gros manseng. **(90 POINTS)**

Sevier, Denver, CO

\$9



AVA Grace

2018 California
Cabernet
Sauvignon

Thick, tannic cabernet, all cocoa powder, plum and India ink. For ribs. **(87 POINTS)**

\$9



Cavino

Samos Vin Doux

A graceful meringue-like cloud of flavor imbued with sunny, honeyed lemon scents. **(90 POINTS)**

Celina Imports,
Old Bethpage, NY

\$9



Chateau Ste. Michelle

2020 Columbia
Valley Dry
Riesling

Bursting with lemon and apple high-acid fruit—juicy, irresistible summer wine. **(90 POINTS)**

\$8



Fetzer

2019 California
Chardonnay

Pineapple and applesauce flavors with a mineral, steely edge. Straightforward California juice. **(88 POINTS)**

\$7



Domaine d'en Ségur

2020 Côtes du
Tarn Le Rosé

Blush and pale, a vibrant cabernet-syrah rosé with pretty red fruit and fresh rhubarb scents. **(92 POINTS)**

Bird Rock Import,
Westport, CT