



Handy Hint: Cut out these notes and tape them to your bottle

Cellar Notes

August 2020

Prestige Red - Under \$50

RED - 2016 Mas Doix 'Salanques', Priorat, Spain - \$49.00 From the east coast of Spain just south of Barcelona, fairly rocky soil and steeply sloped vineyards yielded this full throttle blend of Grenache, Caringan, and Syrah. It truly speaks its place of origin showing earthy fruit, dried lavender and sage, plus suggestions of chorizo and seared meat on an open fire pit. This firm wine would benefit from decanting at least one hour. An ideal companion for roast lamb, veal, or game as well as rich flavored cheeses, it will continue to mature gracefully for 5 to 7 years. Enjoy today - 2027

94pts Jeb Dunnuck - "...Giving up a rocking bouquet of plum and blueberry fruits intermixed with plenty of minerality, violets, and hints of iodine, it's medium to full-bodied, loaded with fruit, has a stacked mid-palate, and loads of character." **93pts Wine Advocate** "The 2016 Salanques is phenomenal, one of the finest vintages ever. It has an expressive nose combining notes of flowers, wild herbs and berries... The palate is medium-bodied, with fine, slightly dusty tannins and very good freshness. It's terribly balanced and tasty. It should develop beautifully in bottle."

Collector Series - Under \$30

RED - 2015 Pamplin Family J/R/G - \$29.95 - This handsome Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot blend delivers ripe extracted blueberry and blackberry flavors with notes of cedar, tobacco, and other Bordeaux-like impressions. From an Oregon winery, using fruit sourced from some of Washington's finest vineyards, its rich and subtle texture carries enough tannin to give it good aging potential. A lovely combination with grilled foods, or serve alongside Cambozola cheese for a real treat. Enjoy today - 2025.

92pts Tasting Panel - "Deep ruby color and lush texture with fresh, ripe plum. Showing depth, style, and composure, it's a lovely effort from this exceptional winery." **91pts & "Editors' Choice" Wine Enthusiast** "Cabernet Sauvignon (86%) the balance Merlot. Aromas of spice, graphite and cherry are followed by initially subdued fruit and barrel flavors that emerge over time. Give it time to open up."

WHITE - 2018 Colli di Lapio 'Alexandros' Greco di Tufo, Campania, Italy - \$28.95 This delicious white delivers mild smoky notes adding to a creamy minerality and green apple tang. With a beautiful silky texture and a white pepper tinge this lovely wine comes from Greco, a Greek grape widely grown in Italy's southern district of Campania. Enjoy today - 2023.

92pts Wine Advocate - "The Colli di Lapio 2018 Greco di Tufo shows instant freshness and purity with yellow or white fruit aromas of honeysuckle, fragrant peach and passion fruit. There is a pretty mineral or salty signature on the finish."

Classic Series - Under \$20

RED - 2014 Substance 'Vineyard Collection' Northridge Merlot - \$19.95 - Substance Merlot from Charles Smith is a standout in every regard. It is truly a stunning example of dark cherry-scented mocha, dried pomegranate and charred pipe tobacco all wrapped up in a vibrant, layered wine. Pair this with simple preparations of beef, lamb and roasted vegetables. Enjoy today - 2025.

94pts Wine Advocate - "One of the best Merlots coming out of Washington, the 2014 Merlot Northridge Vineyard shows a gorgeous spice, dried violet, cassis and graphite character, a full-bodied, seamless and elegant personality as well as thrilling purity and class. Drink it over the coming 7-8 years."

WHITE - 2016 Tranche Pinot Gris, Columbia Valley, WA - \$19.95 - From a second winery operation of the Corliss winery in Walla Walla, this sweetheart Pinot Gris is the last vintage they will produce. Showing rounded yet sparky impressions of lime and pear, its smooth mouthfeel brings it to a refreshingly crisp finish. Roast chicken or a savory onion tart would be appropriate on the menu. Enjoy today - 2021.

Award Series - Under \$15

RED - 2017 Corsini Langhe Rosso, Piedmont, Italy - \$14.95 - Ruggeri Corsini's Langhe Rosso 'Matot', comprised of a blend of Dolcetto, Barbera and Nebbiolo, delivers expressive bright fruit and medium body. Displaying fresh and effusive blueberry, blackberry and mild balsa impressions, its slightly rustic nature and gentle acidity invites a variety of grilled meats, fresh pasta with sun dried tomatoes, or pesto and parmesan cheese. Enjoy today - 2025.

WHITE - 2018 Armas de Guerra Bierzo Blanco, Bierzo, Spain - \$14.95 - Guerra is one of the most historic wineries in Spain, founded in 1879, the oldest winery in the Bierzo region. Today the Guerra winery farms 1/3 of all the vineyards of the region, however they only make wine with the best 10% of grapes coming from organic and dry farmed vines that are 50+ years old! This refreshing white displays citrus zest aromas with hints of chamomile and fennel. It is juicy and broad, we noted fleshy pear, peach and Meyer lemon flavors, finishing with a lively orange pith note. Any shellfish specialties like scallops, mussels, clams, lobster, crab and oysters would make an exceptionally good match. Enjoy today - 2023.

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