

Wine Spectator

December 2015 Circulation: 756,000

100 TOP VALUES

The world of wine is ever-changing. New producers, regions and wines emerge each year to compete for our attention. It can be difficult to stay on top of this constantly shifting landscape, to know which new style is actually worth exploring. But even as the names evolve, the basics of wine stay the same. This means that learning the fundamentals—for example, what grapes typically produce what types of wine or where certain wines grow best—is knowledge you can apply at restaurants or wineshops at any time.

Knowing the basics is also key to searching out value. Wine doesn't have to be complicated or expensive, but you have to know where to look to find the best values. That was our focus in choosing this diverse selection of wines from around the globe, all rated 88 points or higher and priced at \$20 or less. Some wines are out of reach for many of us, but not these great values—they're easily found and ready to be opened.

Sparkling

The complex process for making sparkling wine, coupled with high demand, tends to translate into steep prices. Yet affordable sparklers are being made in diverse styles in both Old World and New World regions. France and Italy have long been associated with sparkling wine, but impressive versions from Washington, New Mexico and New Zealand may come as eye-openers.



88 BELLENDA Brut Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore San Fermo 2014

Italy Bright and tangy, with lively flavors of nectarine, kumquat, fresh ginger and steeped white cherry. Balanced and creamy.

