

A NUMBER WE WOUld BE MADELLE BY MADELLE STORY

Chambers Rosewood Vineyards NV Muscat (Rutherglen). Like Chambers' entry-level Muscadelle, this Muscat offers an affordable introduction to the Rutherglen style of sticky. The Muscat is full and round, with relatively simple notes of spiced orange and crème caramel and a finish that is sweet but balanced. Old Bridge Cellars. Editors' Choice.—J.C.

abv: 18.5%

Price: \$16/375 ml



Chateau de l'Oiselinière 2012 Les Illustres Sur Lie (Muscadet Sèvre et Maine). Lightly wood-aged, this is a smooth and ripe wine. A touch of toast rounds out the fresh fruit flavor of juicy Golden Delicious apple. The wine is dry, crisp and fruity at the end, with bright acidity. Esprit du Vin. Editors' Choice. —R.V.

Editors' Choice. —R.V. abv: 12%

Price: \$19



Concannon 2010 Conservancy Petite Sirah (Livermore Valley). This is complex, delicious, bold and tannic, bringing the big structure that is expected without being heavy handed. It offers concentrated blackberry and fig aromas, richly jammy flavors that stay dry and a tannic but not tough texture. —J.G.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$16



90 Etude 2012 Ellenbach Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sonoma Coast). The winery ventures up north to extreme conditions along the Sonoma Coast and a vineyard named for being as far as "hell and back." The wine is balanced between oak and fruit, with mellow blue and red berry tones as well as a touch of wild herb. —V.B.

abv: 14.2%

Price: \$60



Flying Horse 2013 Sauvignon Blanc (Napa Valley). The producer adds a small percentage of Pinot Blanc to the wine to great effect, combining seamlessly with the Sauvignon Blanc and resulting in notes of honeydew, green fig and subtle herb. The blend offers layers that are both fresh and fruity. —V.B.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$25



90 Fritz 2012 Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley). Oaky and full bodied, this conveys a strong impression of big berry fruit. Spice and herbal components are underplayed, letting the fruit come forth in all its glory. This is an attractive and ready-to-drink wine. —V.B.

abv: 14.4%

Price: \$30



Georges Vigouroux 2011 Château de Haute-Serre Grand Vin Seigneur Malbec (Cahors). Haute-Serre is high on the plateau above the Lot river. It produces wines that are structured with complex tannins and an austere fruit character. This 2011 is in that mold. It has acidity as well as juicy black fruits, plus striated tannins that are in the process of being smoothed by the wood aging. Drink from 2018. Baron Francois Ltd. —R.V.

CARNEROS
PINOT NOIR

2012
DIJON CLONE
SELECTION

90 Gloria Ferrer 2012 Dijon Clone Selection Pinot Noir (Carneros). This is an earthy, chalky wine, medium bodied and silky in wild strawberry, garden herb and fresh mint notes. From estate-grown Pinot, it is a balanced, accessible selection to drink now. —V.B.

abv: 14.5%

aby: 15%

Price: \$50

Price: \$25



Gordon Estate 2013 Reserve Estate Grown Chardonnay (Columbia Valley). A light golden hue, this richly aromatic wine offers notes of toasty barrel spices, apricot and dried mango. It's full bodied, almost unctuous in feel, with abundant, sweet stone-fruit flavors and a lingering finish.—S.S.

abv: 13.4%

Price: \$28