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Best of the Best

Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "Soberanes Vineyard" Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir	Santa Lucia Highlands	Single Vineyard Series		98	Warm, spicy, fig and nutmeg; meaty; dried rose petal; prosciutto

Best Lewis-Clark Vly – Wash

Basalt Cellars	2020 Basalt Cellars Wasem Estate Stone Garden Red	Lewis-Clark Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Cocoa powder; well integrated; well balanced; silky tannins

Best of Anderson Valley AVA

Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Grüner Veltliner, Anderson Valley	Anderson Valley			98	Minerality; white flower; stone fruit.

Best of Argentina AVA

GALLO	2023 Alamos Malbec Seleccion	Mendoza			97	Earthy, toasty, savory, soft tannins, lingering finish, dark chocolate, true to varietal.

Best of California AVA

Hemispheres	2024 Redland Ranch Chardonnay	California			95	Ginger fruit; Crisp; clean; bright tropical fruit

Best of Central Coast AVA

Constellation	2023 Unshackled Unshackled 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon	Central Coast			97	Green herbs; dark charry; spices; baking chocolate; brambly

Best of Chalk Hill

Notre Vue Estate Wine Group	2024 Balverne Sauvignon Blanc	Chalk Hill	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Sustainable	97	Crisp and rich, grapefruit, tropical.

Best of Chile

Hemispheres	2022 Alquira Carménère	Chile, Valle Central			98	Blackberry; round; green olive; salty ocean; long finish.

Best of Clarksburg AVA

DaVero Farms & Winery	2022 DaVero Farms & Winery Falanghina	Clarksburg (Yolo)	Single Vineyard	Lost Slough Vineyard	95	Minerally; Subtle spice; Vaguely floral. Layered and succulent.

Best of Delaware AVA

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Nassau Valley Vineyards	NV Nassau Valley Vineyards Naked Chardonnay	Delaware	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		90	Well produced. Balanced sweetness.
Best of Dry Creek						
Amphora Winery	2022 Amphora GSM	Dry Creek Valley		Gasparini-Beals Vineyard, Crafted in Tuscan Clay Amphorae	97	Complex; good example of true berry; cherry, nice aromas.
Best of Finger Lakes AVA						
Brashley Vineyards LLC	2022 Brashley Vineyards Dry Riesling Wagner Vineyard	Finger Lakes	Single Vineyard		97	Wonderful nose of cumquat. Incredible texture, nectarine.
Best of Fountain Grove District AVA						
Bricoleur Vineyards LLC	2024 Bricoleur Vineyards Kick Ranch Viognier	Fountaingrove District	Estate		92	Very appealing. Nice floral nose. Subtle substantive mid-palate.
Best of France						
Hemispheres	NV Lacalice Grenache	Languedoc AOC			97	Really fruity but not sweet. Element of spice. Wild strawberry. Rose all day.
Best of Italy						
Hemispheres	2023 Cantina Etrusca Friulano	Friuli DOC			97	Balanced, floral, white pear; good acidity
Best of Knights Valley AVA						
EHRET Winery	2022 EHRET Winery Cabernet Sauvignon	Knights Valley	Estate Single Vineyard	Bavarian Lion Vineyard	98	Cellar-worthy, olive oil, redwood, spice; well made
Best of Lake County AVA						
R Vineyards	2023 R Vineyards Reba Red	Lake County		Vineyard Select	94	Rich and earthy; nice blend
Best of Livermore Valley AVA						
Garre Vineyard and Winery	2022 Garré Vineyard and Winery Cabernet Franc	Livermore Valley	Estate Grown and Produced		99	Excellent nose; dark raspberry, silky tannins, pleasing finish

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Best of Mendocino County AVA

Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards White Roan	Mendocino County			97	Ripe entry; tropical notes; nice finish; some complexity; nice acid, tasty

Best of Mokelumne River

Oak Farm Vineyards	2023 Oak Farm Vineyards Grenache Noir	Lodi, Mokelumne River	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Green & Sustainable under Lodi Rules	91	Strawberry. Dry sherry. Very berry. Solid grenache.

Best of Monterey County AVA

Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "Soberanes Vineyard" Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir	Santa Lucia Highlands	Single Vineyard Series		98	Warm, spicy, fig and nutmeg; meaty; dried rose petal; prosciutto

Best of Napa County AVA

Rutherford Wine Company	2021 Rutherford Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon	Napa			98	Dark concentrated, chewy; Deep layers; well balanced with a long finish; silky

Best of Napa Valley AVA

Penrose Hill	2024 Anachronism Vintner's Reserve	Rutherford			96	Crowd pleaser; floral and zingy; showstopper; very pleasant from aroma to finish

Best of Nevada

Charleston Peak Winery	2023 Charleston Peak Winery Sauvignon Blanc	Nevada	Single Vineyard		91	Peach, citrus, refreshing, crisp.

Best of New Zealand AVA

Hemispheres	2024 Lanark Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough			99	Grassy, grapefruit, rich and full

Best of North Carolina AVA

JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2022 JOLO Vineyards Carolus XII	North Carolina			97	Toast, earthy, balanced, complex; well structured; hint of allspice, dark fruit; great acid with a lingering finish

Best of North Coast AVA

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Rutherford Wine Company	2024 Predator Chardonnay	North Coast			97	Mineral, lemon pit, really pleasant mouth feel.
Best of Oak Knolls						
Fortunati Vineyards	2022 Fortunati Vineyards Chardonnay	Napa Valley, Oak Knoll District	Estate Grown		98	Apple, pear, nice acid, well integrated throughout, bright finish, nice use of oak.
Best of Ohio AVA						
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2024 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Vineyards White	Ohio			91	Nice acidity and blending; complex with nice structure
Best of Ontario						
Potter Settlement Artisan Winery	2021 Potter Settlement Artisan Winery Tawny Portage	Ontario VQA			99	Caramel apples; candied orange peel; dried apples, apricots; exquisite
Best of Paso Robles AVA						
Penrose Hill	2024 Les Bottes à Terre Sauvignon Blanc	Paso Robles			97	Grapefruit, consumer friendly, bright and fresh, crowd pleaser.
Best of Rockpile AVA						
McCarter Cellars	2024 McCarter Cellars Zinfandel Leigh Thomas Vineyard	Sonoma County, Rockpile			91	Elegant, blackberry, spicy notes.
Best of Rogue Valley AVA						
Belle Fiore Winery	2022 Belle Fiore Icon Montepulciano	Rogue Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Black cherry, spice, earth control tannin. Lip smacking dark fruit.
Best of Russian River Valley AVA						
McCarter Cellars	2023 McCarter Cellars Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley			98	Bright fruit, cherry, blueberry, caramel, creme brulee.
Best of San Luis Rey						
Charleston Peak Winery	2019 Charleston Peak Winery Left Bank Blend	San Luis Rey	Single Vineyard	barrel aged	93	
Best of Santa Cruz Mountains AVA						
Perrucci Family Vineyard	2022 Perrucci Family Vineyard Malbec	Santa Cruz Mountains Appellation	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Black fruit, lovely, easy; bright and outstanding

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Best of Santa Rita Hills

Fortunati Vineyards	2023 Fortunati Vineyards Pinot Noir	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard	94	Bright red fruit, clean; beautifully balanced; baked berries

Best of Santa Ynez Valley AVA

Brick Barn Wine Estate	2022 Brick Barn Wine Estate Rhône Blend	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate	99	Plum, currant; bold

Best of Shenandoah Valley AVA

Fraser Family Vineyards	2024 Fraser Family Vineyards Dolcetto	Shenandoah Valley (Amador)	Estate Bottled	96	Cocoa powder, dark fruits, savory herbs, rosemary.

Best of Solano

Legis Vineyards & Winery	2021 Legis Vineyards & Winery Cabernet Sauvignon	Green Valley (Solano)	Estate Private Reserve	91	Varietally correct, seamless, smooth finish, black peppercorn.

Best of Sonoma Coast AVA

Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast		97	Red plum and cherry; spicy, earthy with a long finish

Best of Sonoma County AVA

Brue Skok Cellars	2018 BSC Wines Judge's Verdict Rhone Style Red Blend	Sonoma County	Rhone Style Blend	99	lively fresh blend; food wine; blueberry and peppercorn

Best of Sonoma Valley AVA

Rock and Clay Wines LLC	2024 Rock and Clay Wines White Blend	Sonoma Valley		99	Honeyed apricot, quince; superb nose, bright stone fruit; perfect mouthfeel; makes me want to own a yacht

Best of South Africa AVA

Penrose Hill	2024 Weelderige Velde Pinotage	Western Cape		94	Black cherry and coffee

Best of Spain

Hemispheres	2023 Finca del Marquesado Tempranillo Blanc	Rioja DOCa		98	Candied grapefruit, bright, zingy, zesty finish, crowd pleaser.

Best of Tehama County AVA

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New Clairvaux Vineyard	2024 New Clairvaux Vineyard Albarino	Tehama County	Single Vineyard	St. James Block	99	Wonderful stone fruit aroma, lemon curd, honey flavored with touch of brine.
Best of Temecula Valley AVA						
Churon Inn and Winery	2023 Churon Winery Tempranillo	Temecula Valley	Estate	Aged in French and American oak for 21 months	94	Crunchy red fruit, pleasant mouth feel, gentle earthy notes.
Best of Virginia AVA						
Pearmund Cellars	2022 Pearmund Cabernet Franc	Virginia		Silver Creek Vineyard	99	Olives, green tea, dried bay leaves; green peppercorn
Best of Washington State AVA						
Basalt Cellars	2019 Basalt Cellars Merlot	Washington State			97	refreshing terroir-based; brambly
Best Port						
Potter Settlement Artisan Winery	2021 Potter Settlement Artisan Winery Tawny Portage	Ontario VQA			99	Caramel apples; candied orange peel; dried apples, apricots; exquisite
Best Red						
Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "Soberanes Vineyard" Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir	Santa Lucia Highlands	Single Vineyard Series		98	Warm, spicy, fig and nutmeg; meaty; dried rose petal; prosciutto
Best Rose						
Hemispheres	NV Lacalice Grenache	Languedoc AOC			97	Really fruity but not sweet. Element of spice. Wild strawberry. Rose all day.
Best Sparkling						
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 Rayson Pearl D Blanc	North Carolina			97	Fun blend, true to varietal. Balanced, lemon apple pie, spice, great acid. Crowd pleaser.
Best White						
Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Grüner Veltliner, Anderson Valley	Anderson Valley			98	Minerality; white flower; stone fruit.

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Best of Class

Amphora Winery	2022 Amphora GSM	Dry Creek Valley		Gasparini-Beals Vineyard, Crafted in Tuscan Clay Amphorae	97	Complex; good example of true berry; cherry, nice aromas.
Basalt Cellars	2019 Basalt Cellars Merlot	Washington State			97	refreshing terroir-based; brambly
Basalt Cellars	2020 Basalt Cellars Wasem Estate Stone Garden Red	Lewis-Clark Valley	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled		97	Cocoa powder; well integrated; well balanced; silky tannins
Belle Fiore Winery	2022 Belle Fiore Icon Montepulciano	Rogue Valley	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Black cherry, spice, earth control tannin. Lip smacking dark fruit.
Brashley Vineyards LLC	2022 Brashley Vineyards Dry Riesling Wagner Vineyard	Finger Lakes	Single Vineyard		97	Wonderful nose of cumquat. Incredible texture, nectarine.
Brick Barn Wine Estate	2022 Brick Barn Wine Estate Rhône Blend	Santa Ynez Valley	Estate		99	Plum, currant; bold
Bricoleur Vineyards LLC	2024 Bricoleur Vineyards Kick Ranch Viognier	Fountaingrove District	Estate		92	Very appealing. Nice floral nose. Subtle substantive mid-palate.
Brue Skok Cellars	2018 BSC Wines Judge's Verdict Rhone Style Red Blend	Sonoma County		Rhone Style Blend	99	lively fresh blend; food wine; blueberry and peppercorn
Charleston Peak Winery	2019 Charleston Peak Winery Left Bank Blend	San Luis Rey	Single Vineyard	barrel aged	93	
Charleston Peak Winery	2023 Charleston Peak Winery Sauvignon Blanc	Nevada	Single Vineyard		91	Peach, citrus, refreshing, crisp.
Churon Inn and Winery	2023 Churon Winery Tempranillo	Temecula Valley	Estate	Aged in French and American oak for 21 months	94	Crunchy red fruit, pleasant mouth feel, gentle earthy notes.
Constellation	2023 Unshackled Unshackled 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon	Central Coast			97	Green herbs; dark charry; spices; baking chocolate; brambly

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DaVero Farms & Winery	2022 DaVero Farms & Winery Falanghina	Clarksburg (Yolo)	Single Vineyard	Lost Slough Vineyard	95	Minerally; Subtle spice; Vaguely floral. Layered and succulent.
Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della "Soberanes Vineyard" Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir	Santa Lucia Highlands	Single Vineyard Series		98	Warm, spicy, fig and nutmeg; meaty; dried rose petal; prosciutto
Domaine Della	2023 Domaine Della Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir	Sonoma Coast			97	Red plum and cherry; spicy, earthy with a long finish
Effingham Winery	2023 Effingham Viognier	Albermarle County	Barrel Aged	Barrel Aged in Acacia, Sur lie style	98	Good fruit, live and lovely; elegant; suede texture; like linen gloves
EHRET Winery	2022 EHRET Winery Cabernet Sauvignon	Knights Valley	Estate Single Vineyard	Bavarian Lion Vineyard	98	Cellar-worthy, olive oil, redwood, spice; well made
Feather river Vineyards	2024 Feather River Vineyards LLC Trinity Blanc	Nebraska	Estate Grown, Estate Bottled		94	High tone fruit, orange blossom, spritzy and zippy.
Fortunati Vineyards	2023 Fortunati Vineyards Pinot Noir	Sta. Rita Hills	Single Vineyard		94	Bright red fruit, clean; beautifully balanced; baked berries
Fortunati Vineyards	2022 Fortunati Vineyards Chardonnay	Napa Valley, Oak Knoll District	Estate Grown		98	Apple, pear, nice acid, well integrated throughout, bright finish, nice use of oak.
Fraser Family Vineyards	2024 Fraser Family Vineyards Dolcetto	Shenandoah Valley (Amador)	Estate Bottled		96	Cocoa powder, dark fruits, savory herbs, rosemary.
GALLO	NV Barefoot Cellars Pinot Grigio	American			95	Peach and floral
GALLO	NV Barefoot Bubbly Barefoot Bubbly Peach	California			96	Good acid, refreshing, passion fruit.
GALLO	2023 Alamos Malbec Seleccion	Mendoza			97	Earthy, toasty, savory, soft tannins, lingering finish, dark chocolate, true to varietal.
Garre Vineyard and Winery	2022 Garré Vineyard and Winery Cabernet Franc	Livermore Valley	Estate Grown and Produced		99	Excellent nose; dark raspberry, silky tannins, pleasing finish
Hemispheres	2024 Redland Ranch Chardonnay	California			95	Ginger fruit; Crisp; clean; bright tropical fruit

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Hemispheres	NV Jolie Lou Sparkling Rose	France		97	Bright, watermelon, strawberry, lime zest, refined.
Hemispheres	2022 Alquira Carménère	Chile, Valle Central		98	Blackberry; round; green olive; salty ocean; long finish.
Hemispheres	2023 Cantina Etrusca Friulano	Friuli DOC		97	Balanced, floral, white pear; good acidity
Hemispheres	2023 Finca del Marquesado Tempranillo Blanc	Rioja DOCa		98	Candied grapefruit, bright, zingy, zesty finish, crowd pleaser.
Hemispheres	2024 Lanark Sauvignon Blanc	Marlborough		99	Grassy, grapefruit, rich and full
Hemispheres	NV Lacalice Grenache	Languedoc AOC		97	Really fruity but not sweet. Element of spice. Wild strawberry. Rose all day.
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2022 JOLO Vineyards Carolus XII	North Carolina		97	Toast, earthy, balanced, complex; well structured; hint of allspice, dark fruit; great acid with a lingering finish
JOLO Winery & Vineyards	2024 Rayson Pearl D Blanc	North Carolina		97	Fun blend, true to varietal. Balanced, lemon apple pie, spice, great acid. Crowd pleaser.
Legis Vineyards & Winery	2021 Legis Vineyards & Winery Cabernet Sauvignon	Green Valley (Solano)	Estate Private Reserve	91	Varietally correct, seamless, smooth finish, black peppercorn.
McCarter Cellars	2024 McCarter Cellars Zinfandel Leigh Thomas Vineyard	Sonoma County, Rockpile		91	Elegant, blackberry, spicy notes.
McCarter Cellars	2023 McCarter Cellars Pinot Noir	Russian River Valley		98	Bright fruit, cherry, blueberry, caramel, creme brulee.
Nassau Valley Vineyards	NV Nassau Valley Vineyards Naked Chardonnay	Delaware	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	90	Well produced. Balanced sweetness.

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Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards White Roan	Mendocino County			97	Ripe entry; tropical notes; nice finish; some complexity; nice acid, tasty
Navarro Vineyards	2024 Navarro Vineyards Grüner Veltliner, Anderson Valley	Anderson Valley			98	Minerality; white flower; stone fruit.
New Clairvaux Vineyard	2024 New Clairvaux Vineyard Albarino	Tehama County	Single Vineyard	St. James Block	99	Wonderful stone fruit aroma, lemon curd, honey flavored with touch of brine.
Notre Vue Estate Wine Group	2024 Balverne Sauvignon Blanc	Chalk Hill	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Sustainable	97	Crisp and rich, grapefruit, tropical.
Oak Farm Vineyards	2023 Oak Farm Vineyards Grenache Noir	Lodi, Mokelumne River	Estate Grown, Produced and Bottled	Certified Green & Sustainable under Lodi Rules	91	Strawberry. Dry sherry. Very berry. Solid grenache.
Pearmund Cellars	2022 Pearmund Cabernet Franc	Virginia		Silver Creek Vineyard	99	Olives, green tea, dried bay leaves; green peppercorn
Penrose Hill	2024 Les Bottes à Terre Sauvignon Blanc	Paso Robles			97	Grapefruit, consumer friendly, bright and fresh, crowd pleaser.
Penrose Hill	2024 Weelderige Velde Pinotage	Western Cape			94	Black cherry and coffee
Penrose Hill	2024 Anachronism Vintner's Reserve	Rutherford			96	Crowd pleaser; floral and zingy; showstopper; very pleasant from aroma to finish
Penrose Hill	2024 Pasarlo Vino Blanco	Chile			97	Grapefruit, floral, bright, balanced.
Perrucci Family Vineyard	2022 Perrucci Family Vineyard Malbec	Santa Cruz Mountains Appellation	Estate Bottled & Produced		97	Black fruit, lovely, easy; bright and outstanding
Potter Settlement Artisan Winery	2021 Potter Settlement Artisan Winery Tawny Portage	Ontario VQA			99	Caramel apples; candied orange peel; dried apples, apricots; exquisite
R Vineyards	2023 R Vineyards Reba Red	Lake County		Vineyard Select	94	Rich and earthy; nice blend

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Rock and Clay Wines LLC	2024 Rock and Clay Wines White Blend	Sonoma Valley		99	Honeyed apricot, quince; superb nose, bright stone fruit; perfect mouthfeel; makes me want to own a yacht
Rutherford Wine Company	2024 Predator Chardonnay	North Coast		97	Mineral, lemon pit, really pleasant mouth feel.
Rutherford Wine Company	2021 Rutherford Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon	Napa		98	Dark concentrated, chewy; Deep layers; well balanced with a long finish; silky
Seavin, Inc	NV San Sebastian Winery Port - Ruby	American		92	Orange zest, chocolate, elegant style.
Seavin, Inc	NV San Sebastian Winery Blanc De Fleur	Florida	Methode Champenoise	97	Midori melon, blueberry, herbaceous, savory, candied lime, true to varietal.
Seavin, Inc	NV Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards Crescendo	Florida	Methode Champenoise	91	Nectarine, watermelon, strawberry, balanced.
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2024 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Vineyards White	Ohio		91	Nice acidity and blending; complex with nice structure
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2024 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Riesling	American		97	Peach, citrus, balanced.
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	2024 The Vineyards at Pine Lake Moscato	American		97	Floral, rich, mineral, balanced.
The Vineyards at Pine Lake	NV The Vineyards at Pine Lake Columbiana Red	NONE		96	Flourless chocolate cake, Boysenberry jam with a dash of orange bitters; lively, edgy elbows