

100

Wine Spectator

TOP VALUES

OF 2014

WINES FROM AROUND THE WORLD
\$20 OR LESS AND 87 POINTS OR HIGHER

SELECTED FROM MORE THAN
18,000 WINE REVIEWS IN 2014





Rows of Pinot Noir line the ridgetops in New Zealand's Marlborough region.

89 \$15 BODEGAS MARTÍN CÓDAX Albariño Rías Baixas 2012 WHITE Spain's Rías Baixas region, on the Atlantic coast, produces lively whites, and this firm example offers peach, grapefruit and green almond flavors on a steely core. Drink now through 2015. 66,000 cases imported.—T.M.

ARGENTINA/CHILE

92 \$17 DE MARTINO Cabernet Sauvignon Maipo Valley Legado Reserva 2011 RED This complex Cabernet from the historic center of Chilean winemaking unfurls with a lithe minerality, showing red berry, plum and dark cherry flavors. Drink now through 2019. 8,000 cases made.—K.M.

91 \$14 VIÑA CONO SUR Cabernet Sauvignon-Carmenère Colchagua Valley 2011 RED This suave red blends Cabernet with Chile's distinctive Carmenère grape to deliver refined, mineral-infused flavors of dark currant, plum and dried blackberry. Drink now through 2020. 8,000 cases imported.—K.M.

91 \$19 FINCAS PATAGONICAS Malbec Mendoza Zolo Reserve 2012 RED Malbec thrives in Argentina's Mendoza region, and this deeply colored, robust version has lusciously spiced dark plum, blackberry and currant flavors. Drink now through 2020. 2,600 cases imported.—K.M.

91 \$19 VIÑA SAN PEDRO Cabernet Sauvignon Maipo Valley 1865 Single Vineyard 2011 RED A dense, rich Cabernet, offering concentrated dark plum, mocha and dried blackberry flavors that feature notes of slate and pepper. Drink now through 2018. 43,000 cases made.—K.M.

90 \$18 ALTOS LAS HORMIGAS Malbec Uco Valley Terroir 2011 RED Lithe and open-textured, this Malbec from one of Argentina's leading estates shows notes of paprika and dark chocolate to its dark plum, cherry and boysenberry flavors. Drink now through 2018. 7,000 cases made.—K.M.

89 \$13 ALAMOS Torrontés Salta 2013 WHITE This has a supple, mouthfilling intensity for a Torrontés—an aromatic white grape unique to Argentina—with a flush of finely crafted spiced apple, dried apricot and ripe pear notes. Drink now through 2016. 28,000 cases imported.—K.M.

89 \$11 BODEGA SEPTIMA Malbec Mendoza 2012 RED This Malbec offers a core of ripe plum and dark currant flavors, with a mix of dried herbs, hot stone and cocoa powder on the finish. Drink now through 2019. 30,000 cases imported.—K.M.

89 \$13 PASCUAL TOSO Malbec Mendoza 2013 RED A lithe and focused Malbec, showing red plum, licorice and cocoa powder flavors that are supported by ample fresh acidity and end with a zesty, sage-filled finish. Drink now through 2018. 100,000 cases made.—K.M.

89 \$18 VIÑA TABALI Chardonnay Limarí Valley Reserva Especial 2012 WHITE This well-concentrated Chardonnay from a pioneering estate in Chile's cool, northerly Limarí Valley shows a good balance between its fruit and spice flavors, with apple, pear and snap pea details. Drink now through 2016. 6,000 cases made.—K.M.

88 \$12 VERAMONTE Sauvignon Blanc Casablanca Valley 2013 WHITE Casablanca is another cool-climate Chilean region ideal for white wine production, and this crisp Sauvignon Blanc shows flavors of Meyer lemon and Key lime pie. Drink now through 2016. 35,000 cases imported.—K.M.

ARGENTINA & CHILE

Malbec and Cabernet, respectively, are the signature varietals of South American powerhouses Argentina and Chile. With fast-modernizing wine industries, the two countries are making impressive wines that can compete with far pricier versions from other countries.

AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

91 \$17 FOWLES Shiraz Victoria Are You Game? 2012 RED A peppery style of Aussie Shiraz, this is vivid, lively and graceful, revealing black pepper overtones to its with cherry and blueberry fruit, with a polished texture. Drink now through 2018. 2,400 cases imported.—H.S.

90 \$18 CHATEAU TANUNDA Cabernet Sauvignon Barossa Grand Barossa 2012 RED Cabernet has been coming on strong in Australia, and this firm, focused and juicy version from Barossa—the home of big reds—delivers with black cherry, orange peel and black tea flavors. Drink now through 2020. 6,000 cases imported.—H.S.

90 \$13 JACOB'S CREEK Chardonnay Adelaide Hills Reserve 2013 WHITE This bright and inviting Chardonnay from South Australia's cool-climate Adelaide Hills is intense and stylish, showing lively flavors of lemon curd, pineapple and pear on a taut frame. Drink now through 2017. 10,000 cases imported.—H.S.

90 \$15 PETER LEHMANN Clancy's Barossa 2011 RED Based on Cabernet, this red is supple, expressive and appealing, with pure blueberry and plum fruit, shading the finish with loamy earth and sweet spice hints. Drink now through 2016. 15,000 cases imported.—H.S.

90 \$15 GREG NORMAN ESTATES Shiraz-Cabernet Limestone Coast 2010 RED Fresh and vibrant, this lively style blends Australia's two signature red grapes to deliver dense black cherry and raspberry fruit. Drink now through 2018. 10,000 cases made.—H.S.

90 \$18 SAINT CLAIR Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2013 WHITE New Zealand's Marlborough region yields fine Sauvignon Blancs, and this tangy version shows good focus and intensity, with vivid white grapefruit, lime and lemon flavors. Drink now. 15,000 cases imported.—M.W.

90 \$15 SCHILD GMS Barossa Valley 2012 RED Dark and distinctive, this Grenache-based red offers smoky, licorice-accented plum and currant flavors, with a harmonious finish. Drink now through 2019. 5,000 cases imported.—H.S.

89 \$19 KIM CRAWFORD Pinot Noir South Island 2012 RED Kiwi Pinot Noir is making a name for itself, and this version offers a peppery, crisp expression of fresh raspberry, cherry and cranberry, with details of spice, black tea and tobacco. Drink now through 2023. 18,000 cases imported.—M.W.

89 \$13 MATUA Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough 2013 WHITE Offering a tangy core of lime zest, ruby grapefruit and dried pineapple flavors, this vibrant and fragrant version is juicy and refreshing on the finish. Drink now. 100,000 cases imported.—M.W.

89 \$13 NOBILO Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough Regional Collection 2013 WHITE Flavors of pear, green apple and lemon zest are intense, focused and smooth, with a hint of lime. Drink now. 480,000 cases imported.—M.W.