
A World of Possibility

New World regions abound with values—not always from the grapes you expect



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The question of which grapes will produce the best value wines from which regions is not always easy to answer. That means wine lovers looking for affordable options often simply fall back on their assumptions. Some grape varieties, you think, are too high-end to yield well-priced versions, while others, though typically less expensive, don't seem to deliver high-enough quality to qualify as real values. Across the New World, however,

producers have found innovative ways to do both at the same time: Keep prices down while raising quality.

We don't intuitively associate international superstars such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay with value, but as the New World has expanded the map for these grapes, producers around the globe have crafted value bottlings from these powerhouse varieties. Likewise, less familiar grapes are increasingly making their mark with distinctive examples that offer exciting alternatives to the major categories. Carmenère from Chile and Grenache and GSM blends from California are notable examples.

This changing landscape can be challenging to navigate, which is why we've selected these 100 great values to steer you in the right direction, all of them rated 88 points or higher and priced at \$25 or less. They come from every corner of the New World, from California, Oregon, Washington and New York to the major wine countries of the Southern Hemisphere: Argentina, Chile, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Although each of these regions has its signature wines, they all produce a broad range of other bottlings worth exploring. From Argentina, for example, you'll find a host of ripe Malbecs, but also rich Cabernets and elegant Pinot Noirs. Let the diversity of these offerings be an inspiration to look beyond old standbys and try something new.

89 | \$20 FOLIE À DEUX Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast 2017

Offers raspberry, cherry and crushed plum flavors that are fresh and focused, with a backbone of zesty acidity. Ends with savory and spicy accents on the long, minerally finish. *California —K.M.*

89 | \$22 SEAN MINOR Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast 2016

Fresh-tasting cherry, currant and mulled berry flavors are supported by sinewy acidity in this focused version, with hot stone notes on the finish. *California —K.M.*

89 | \$23 CHERRY PIE Pinot Noir Monterey-Sonoma-Santa Barbara Counties 2016

There's an engaging freshness to the dried cherry, currant and roasted plum flavors, backed by medium-grained tannins. Well-structured, with a minerally finish. *California —K.M.*

89 | \$24 CARDWELL HILL Pinot Noir Willamette Valley 2015

A tart and lively version, with appealing rose petal and black cherry flavors that finish with sleek tannins. *Oregon —T.F.*

88 | \$14 CASTLE ROCK Pinot Noir Willamette Valley 2017

This is lively and plump, offering easygoing fruit, with raspberry and toasted spice flavors. *Oregon —T.F.*