## Publisher's PICKS



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J. Lohr 2021 Riverstone Chardonnay, Arroyo Seco. Monterey (\$14) The 35th vintage of this beloved wine showcases how cool-climate Monterey—specifically Arroyo Seco—packs charm, elegance, texture, and balance into Chardonnay. Of course, the talented hands of winemaker Kristen Barnhisel had an impact, as malolactic fermentation and sur lie aging have added to the wine's innate richness. Striking scents of lemon meringue, creamed corn, and yellow flowers emerge effortlessly. Acidity waves its wand on the palate, lending crystal-clear focus and casting a textural spell with mouthwatering notes of summer peach, lime, and kiwi. The finish of candied yam and mandarin orange peel is exotic. 94



Six Eight Nine 2021 White Wine, California (\$20) This refreshing and clean blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay is vivacious, with pretty aromas of wildflowers and pineapple and an unctuous entry of pear and honeysuckle. A thread of salinity weaves through vanilla toffee and papaya. **93** 



689 CELLARS



St Huberts 2020 The Stag Cabernet Sauvignon, Paso Robles (\$21) Dramatic notes of ripe mulberry, vanilla, cedar, and sweet tobacco wrap around a core of silky tannins. Boysenberry preserves linger on the finish. 90

TREASURY WINE ESTATES









RouteStock 2021 Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast (\$20) McIntosh apple, lemon bar, and melon comprise the clean entry of this brisk Chardonnay before coconut and cookie dough spread across the midpalate. Well balanced, with an elegant flair. 92

WILSON DANIELS





RouteStock 2021 Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast (\$23)

Silky and graceful, this is a fine by-the-glass wine. Aromas of earth and wild strawberry carry over to the palate, where notes of underbrush and soy sauce add a savory cast. With a dash of white pepper, a sweet-tart finish of cranberry lingers. 92



WILSON DANIELS



Böen 2020 Chardonnay, Sonoma (68%)/Monterey (18%)/Santa Barbara (14%) Counties (\$24) By uniting a trio of appellations, Joseph Wagner has created a finely tuned wine with a creamy, juicy profile and a stark acid structure. Kiwi, passion fruit, and gardenia enhance toasty vanilla notes.



Traces of pear skin and lemon bar make the finish memorable. 93

COPPER CANE WINES & PROVISIONS



Pedroncelli 2020 Mother Clone Zinfandel, Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County (\$24) A hearty and ripe yet elegant style with rich notes of mocha, a slathering

of blackberry reduction, and a creamy licorice finish. 93



Barrel Select Red Blend, Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County (\$24) This blend of Merlot, Syrah, Sangiovese, and Zinfandel strikes a chord with balanced acidity and dry, dusty tannins supported by a firm frame of ripe fruit. An intense entry of black cherry and plum offers a chewy texture

atop base notes of anise and balsamic. Wild strawberry and cedar appear on the finish.





Notes of ripe blackberry are so concentrated that they're almost liqueur-like. Spiced cedar frames a juicy middle, followed by coffee bean and vanilla. 91



