

INSIDER REVEALS CAN'T MISS WHITE WINES MADE BY BIBIANA GONZALEZ RAVE

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

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CAN'T-MISS REDS AND WHITES FROM TOP REGIONS ACROSS THE WINE WORLD this week's *Wine Spectator Insider*, with new releases from California, Washington, France and Spain. This is a report of the most exciting wines our editors have discovered in the tasting recent weeks.

Succulent Chardonnays from Golden State stalwarts Aubert, Pahlmeyer and Rombauer offer flavorful expressions of this beloved grape. Washington master Christophe Baron offers a knockout Rhône-style reds from his Cayuse, Horsepower and No Girls labels. Reds from France and Spain round this out. The latest release of Quilceda Creek's coveted Cabernet Sauvignon is here. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.



CALIFORNIA Chardonnay

AUBERT

Chardonnay Carneros Larry Hyde & 93 points | \$85 | 1,040 cases made

Beautifully crafted, sleek, rich and deftly a racy core, tilting toward spicy green notes of honeydew and pear. Finishes with a kiss of oak that captures the essence of the wine. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.

ROMBAUER

Chardonnay Carneros Home Ranch 93 points | \$70 | 250 cases made

Ultrarich, smooth and creamy, with tiers of custard apple and oak flavors that fascinate. A style some will swoon over, while others will be over the top. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.

WAYFARER

Chardonnay Fort Ross-Seaview Wayfarer Vineyard 2015 93 points | \$80 | 800 cases made | White

Ultrarich and flavorful, with a tasty mix of tangerine, nectarine, white peach and honeysuckle flavors woven together in a full-bodied style that's broad and expansive, highlighting the core citrus flavors. Ends with a long, juicy, lingering aftertaste. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.



CATTLEYA

Chardonnay Russian River Valley 2015 92 points | \$50 | 200 cases made | White

Weaves together a complex web of lively peach, tangerine and nectarine flavors, with the right dose of toasty, vanilla-accented oak. The vibrancy and purity of the fruit pushes forward in a charming manner. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.

CATTLEYA

Chardonnay Russian River Valley Pratt Vineyard 2015 92 points | \$70 | 67 cases made | White

Clean and pure, with a distinct peach and nectarine core that holds focus and ends with a long, persistent, lingering finish that beguiles with juiciness. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.

PAUL HOBBS

Chardonnay Sonoma Coast Dinner Vineyard 2015 92 points | \$80 | 474 cases made

Ultrarich and deeply extracted, this is potent with tiers of fig, anise, honeydew, apricot and a firm tannic presence and a long finish. Drink now through 2020.—J.L.

LAFOND

Chardonnay Sta. Rita Hills Lafond Vineyard 2015 92 points | \$42 | 287 cases made | White

Ripe and lively, with an enveloping mineral character and notes of apple, citrus and pastry flavors. Vibrant acidity that features accents of slate and flint. Drink now through 2020.—K.M.



HOT WINES

These are the most exciting discoveries from our editors' most recent tastings, published exclusively in Wine Spectator Insider. They are high-scoring wines from around the world that may be difficult to find, but are worth seeking out.

CAYUSE

Syrah Walla Walla Valley Cailloux Vineyard 2014

95 points | \$85 | 857 cases made | Red

Impressively expressive and well-built, with evocative raspberry and smoky bacon aromas and sleek, dynamic black cherry, crushed rock and green olive flavors that build momentum toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2025. *From Washington.—T.F.*

CAYUSE

Syrah Walla Walla Valley En Cerise Vineyard 2014

95 points | \$85 | 406 cases made | Red

Impeccably built and expressive, with vivid raspberry, smoky meat and crushed rock aromas and impressive, harmonious flavors of cherry, pepper and orange zest that linger toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2023. *From Washington.—T.F.*

PAHLMAYER

Chardonnay Napa Valley 2015

95 points | \$75 | 2,500 cases made | White

A gorgeous mouthful of rich, buttery Chardonnay, loaded with exotic tropical fruit, pear, melon and pineapple flavors. Impressively opulent and silky. Drink now through 2022. *From California.—J.L.*

QUILCEDA CREEK

Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley 2014

94 points | \$140 | 4,050 cases made | Red

Refined and structured, with expressive dark berry and toasted clove aromas and richly layered plum, stony mineral and thyme flavors that gain depth toward polished tannins. Drink now through 2026. *From Washington.—T.F.*

DOMAINE TAWSE

Gevrey-Chambertin Champeaux 2014

94 points | \$86 | 19 cases imported | Red

A powerful, spicy red, this reveals cherry, currant, light herb and tobacco notes, allied to a moderately dense, tightly woven structure. Offers plenty of intensity and a long, saturated finish. Best from 2020 through 2036. *From France.—B.S.*

DOMAINE TAWSE

Gevrey-Chambertin Lavaux-St.-Jacques 2014

94 points | \$96 | 15 cases imported | Red

Rich and supple, this red boasts cherry, raspberry, spice and floral aromas and flavors. Complex and well-structured, with a long, sweet, fruit-, spice- and mineral-tinged aftertaste. Best from 2020 through 2035. *From France.—B.S.*

