

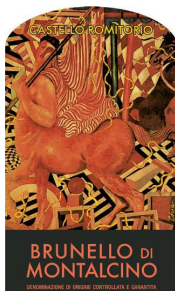
# SPECTATOR SELECTIONS

## Highly Recommended

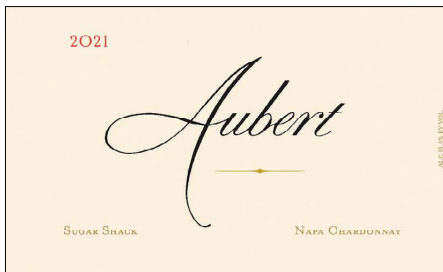
The issue's most impressive wines. Includes top-scorers and wines that represent optimal purchases based on their combination of score, price and availability.



**97 Le Chiusse Brunello di Montalcino 2019 \$113** ITALY A racy, penetrating red, evoking cherry, strawberry, rose hip, orange peel, wild herb and mineral flavors, driven by bracing acidity and underscored by firm, linear tannins, showing excellent balance and length. Complex and energetic, this should develop well. Best from 2027 through 2043. 1,750 cases made, 300 cases imported.—B.S.



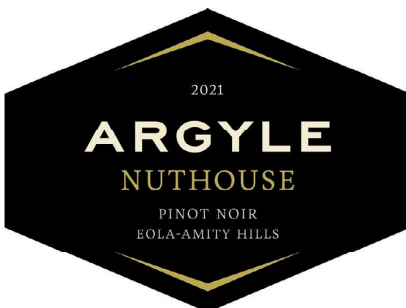
**97 Castello Romitorio Brunello di Montalcino 2019 \$83** ITALY Notable for its pure cherry and kirsch aromas and flavors, this red is also stylish and graceful. Rose, wild thyme and stony mineral elements come into play as this develops on the palate. Beautifully integrated, fresh and firm, this glides to a long, resonant aftertaste. Best from 2026 through 2042. 3,800 cases made, 730 cases imported.—B.S.



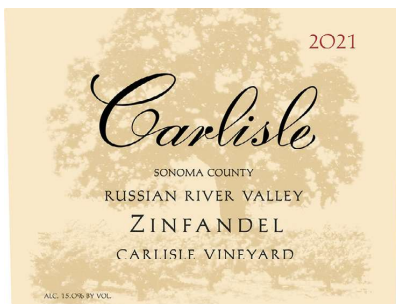
**96 Aubert Chardonnay Napa Sugar Shack 2021 \$110** CALIFORNIA A stunning white, with nectarine, pineapple and golden kiwifruit notes bursting out of the glass. Details of lemon curd, candied ginger peel, orange blossoms and salted caramel mingle well with the smooth, supple frame. The flavors are generous and intense, but there's an equal delicacy and sense of finesse on the long, expressive finish. Drink now through 2034. 674 cases made.—M.W.



**96 Evening Land Pinot Noir Eola-Amity Hills La Source Seven Springs Estate 2022 \$80** OREGON A wine of depth and density, this red remains light on its feet. Compelling raspberry flavors are layered with notes of forest floor, star anise and savory spices that build richness and tension toward refined tannins. Drink now through 2034. 544 cases made.—T.F.



**94 Argyle Pinot Noir Eola-Amity Hills Nut-house 2021 \$55** OREGON This handsome, brooding Pinot offers multilayered raspberry and cherry flavors highlighted by spiced cinnamon and sandalwood notes before finishing with medium-grained tannins. Drink now through 2033. 3,200 cases made.—T.F.



**94 Carlisle Zinfandel Russian River Valley Carlisle Vineyard 2021 \$54** CALIFORNIA A dynamic Zin, briary but polished, featuring expressive raspberry and dark cherry flavors accented by dried sage, orange zest and savory pepper. Ends with zesty tannins. Drink now through 2033. 753 cases made.—T.F.



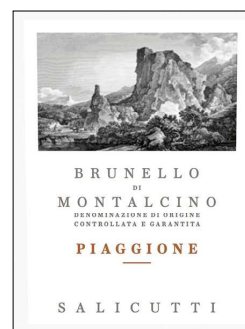
**94 Bodegas Palacios Remondo Rioja Oriental Viñas Viejas de la Propiedad 2021 \$55** SPAIN A lovely, silky red, showing pinpoint balance and overall harmony. Offers a generous range of ripe boysenberry, baked cherry, dried lavender and star anise notes, with a light tang of orange peel acidity and supple, fine-grained tannins. Long and graceful on the spiced finish. Drink now through 2034. 3,866 cases made, 500 cases imported.—A.N.

## Collectibles

Wines that will improve most from additional bottle age and that show the greatest potential to gain in value.



**98 Argiano Brunello di Montalcino Vigna del Suolo 2019 \$285** ITALY Iron, mineral and wild herb aromas and flavors frame the cherry and raspberry fruit in this sleek, racy red, which is harmonious and full of energy, with a long aftertaste driven by the firm structure and bracing acidity, as well as flint and stone elements. This is special. Best from 2027 through 2043. 430 cases made, 99 cases imported.—B.S.



**98 Podere Salicutti Brunello di Montalcino Piaggione 2019 \$126** ITALY Alluring and harmonious, this red features fresh, ripe cherry, strawberry, rose and mineral flavors allied to a beautifully integrated structure. Silky in texture and complex, this evolves to a long, intense aftertaste echoing the fruit and picking up savory notes of Mediterranean herbs. So delicious, you'll want to drink this now. Best from 2026 through 2045. 470 cases made, 380 cases imported.—B.S.