

Andretti 2013 Montona Reserve Chardonnay (Napa Valley). Deceptively shy about its use of oak, this white exudes rich aromas of baked pear and vanilla yet delivers a refreshing amount of acidity on the palate, remaining crisp yet softly layered around a medium build. The finish lingers on a ginger snap accent. —V.B.

abv: 14.2%

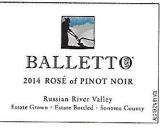
Price: \$53



Bailly Lapierre NV Brut Pinot Noir (Crémant de Bourgogne). Rich and full in mouthfeel, this wine is maturing well, giving some suggestions of bottle age alongside ripe pear and apple flavors. The acidity is still fresh, resulting in a crisp, tight finish. Drink now. Ruby Wines Inc. Editors' Choice.—R.V.

abv: 12%

Price: \$25



90 Balletto 2014 Estate Grown Estate Bottled Rosé of Pinot Noir (Russian River Valley).

Light and pretty pinkish-orange in color, this crisp wine offers candied grapefruit and strawberry, made from both whole-cluster pressed grapes and a bleed off from the producer's regular fermentation. It dances in acidity, remaining bright and fresh on the palate throughout. —V.B.

abv: 13.2%

Price: \$18



Russian River Valley state Grown - Estate Bottled - Sonoma County

Balletto 2013 Estate Grown Estate Bottled Pinot Gris (Russian River Valley). From a Pinot Noir specialist in the heart of the Russian River Valley, this white is equal parts floral and fruity, shy and dry, with a succulent layering of lime, grapefruit and fig. A medium level of acidity wraps itself around a viscous core, keeping the wine fresh on the palate. It's the right kind of weighty, finishing with ginger and honey. —V.B.

abv: 13.8%

Price: \$18



Bonny Doon 2013 A Proper Claret (California). This creative blend of 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Merlot, 15% Tannat, 13% Petit Verdot, 8% Syrah and 1% Petite Sirah offers roasted red-bell pepper, black gravel, black plums, chocolate cake and caramelized beef on the umami-driven nose. The palate is tighter, with elderberries, cranberries and decent tannic grip, proving tasty but not quite as exciting as the nose suggests.—M.K.

abv: 13.5% Price: \$16



Canard-Duchêne NV Charles VII Grande Cuvée de la Rosé Brut (Champagne). Another in the range of pale-colored rosés from this producer, this is named after the French king Charles who was crowned by Joan of Arc. It is a structured wine, although with plenty of refreshing red fruits and light tannins from the red wine in the blend. It's attractive, soft at the end and ready to drink. Thiénot USA. —R.V.

abv: 12%

Price: \$60



Canard-Duchêne NV Cuvée Lé (Champagne). This is an attract and fruity wine. Plenty of acidity gives a to the palate, while allowing ripe apple flavors to come through on the tight and finish. Thiénot USA. —R.V. abv: 12%



Casa de la Ermita 2009 Petit Verd la). This mature varietal Petit Verd prises with ripe, spicy, peppery aromas of blackberry. In the mouth, it is full and ta not fierce or impossible to penetrate. Light blackberry and plum flavors come with var prior to a finish defined by prune, chocolat and vanilla flavors. Drink now. The Spanisition. —M.S.

abv: 14.5%



Chardonnais 2013 Chardonnay (Ney). A lightly textured wine that lemon chiffon, this has plenty of body to feel rich on the palate, along with ample a keep it refreshingly crisp. Apple and pear r fore, maintaining the fruitiness from start—V.B.

abv: 13.3%