

W&S 2018 All-Stars

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When you've got limited time and limited funds, it helps to have a few brands in your back pocket—producers you can rely on for good wine at low prices.

Well, we've got 50 for you—the W&S All-Stars. These are the brands that consistently excel in the world of wines for \$20 or less.

Whether you're stopping by the wine store on your way to the beach, buying for a last-minute barbecue, stocking up for a week in the woods or relaxing after a hard day at work, these producers are worth noting. You might even want to buy them by the case.

W&S 2018 All-Stars

LAKE HOUSE REFRESHERS



Chateau Ste. Michelle

With substantial vineyard holdings in the Columbia Valley, Chateau Ste. Michelle has the infrastructure and economy of scale to render under-\$20 bottlings that are exceptional for the price, none more so than its crisp, delineated rieslings. In fact, Ste. Michelle makes more riesling than any other winery on earth.



Cave Spring Cellars

Among the first growers to realize the potential for riesling in Ontario's cool climate, the Pennachetti family planted vines at Cave Spring in the 1970s. Now they farm 71 acres of the variety, putting out wines like the elegant 2016 Niagara Escarpment Riesling. It's substantial enough to take on roast sturgeon—and just \$16. (MGZ Associates, Clarence, NY)



Dr. Konstantin Frank

Dr. Konstantin Frank was the first to plant vinifera vines in the Finger Lakes region of New York, pioneering what is now a thriving industry focused on cold-hardy vines. The winery remains a leader in bright, springy whites like riesling and rkatsiteli—as well as its newest addition, grüner veltliner, a floral, limey wine ready for a sweet-pea risotto.



Villa Maria

New Zealand is now the third-largest wine shipper to the US, right behind Italy and France. And a lot of that is based on sauvignon blanc, where Villa Maria excels. At \$14, its Private Bin Sauvignon Blanc offers the full, fruity guava-scented pleasures of New Zealand sauvignon without the green-pepper bite; for a dollar more, the Private Bin Chardonnay is full-flavored and smooth, a match for a wheel of Brie. (Chateau Ste. Michelle, Woodinville, WA)

W&S All-Stars: The 411

To compile this list of the 50 top brands for wines costing \$20 and less, we poured over the 15,521 wines we tasted over the last 12 months, looking for the brands that had multiple recommendations within that price point. Then we selected out the ones that rose to the top of the list: Each of these brands had at least three wines recom-

mended at \$20 or less, and many had several more.

Many of these wineries also have wines in our Top 100 Values of the Year (p. 44), a selection of the best wines for \$20 and less. But when it comes to consistency over a wide range of wines, these are the names to know in 2018.

50 All-Star Brands POCKET GUIDE

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|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A to Z | Cleto Chiarli | Innocent Bystander | Domaine Skouras |
| Adriano Adami | Concha y Toro | Louis Jadot | Steele |
| Compañía de Viños del Atlántico | Marqués de la Concordia | Kirkland Signature | Tangent |
| Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) | Cramele Recas | La Celia | Tasca d'Almerita |
| Gérard Bertrand | D'Arenberg | Leitz | Domaine Terra Vecchia |
| Canoe Ridge | Delgado Zuleta | Quinta da Lixa | Villa Maria |
| Castel Sallegg | Dr. Konstantin Frank | Paul Mas | Vinaceous |
| Cave Spring Cellars | Georges Duboeuf | Adega de Monção | Waldschütz |
| Cavino | Herdade do Esporão | Moraitis | Waterbrook |
| Chateau Ste. Michelle | Fowles Wine | Nervi | Wilm |
| Paul Cheneau | Friedrich Wilhelm Gymnasium | Ravenswood | Wittmann |
| Cléebourg | Greek Wine Cellars: D. Kourtakis | Recanati | Yalumba |
| | Hogue | Quinta de la Rosa | |