

—Jean Chartron—

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

Vol. 12, No. 30 | Aug. 3, 2016

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Weekly Publication

AN INTERNATIONAL ARRAY OF TOP-SHELF WINES DELIVER WORLD-CLASS DELIGHT in this week's *Wine Spectator Insider*, with stunning selections of Napa Cabernet Sauvignon from the promising 2013 vintage and sensational Châteauneuf-du-Pape and Burgundy bottlings. A diverse set of New Zealand picks round this out.

Cab contenders Scarecrow, Charles Krug, Realm and more bring bold flavors from the Golden State. Burgundy's Jean Chartron and Louis Latour show Chardonnay's elegance, while Château de Beaucastel and Domaine St.-Préfert excel with vibrant Southern Rhône whites. Bell Hill, Craggy Range, Astrolabe and Cloudy Bay clearly demonstrate why New Zealand is a wine region to watch. Seven releases here rate 90-plus points and cost \$40 or less. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.

FRANCE Burgundy

JEAN CHARTRON

Puligny-Montrachet Clos du Cailleret 2014

94 points | \$87 | 19 cases imported | White

Peach, white flower, lemon and stone flavors are accented by oak spice nuances. Rich yet vibrant, this is balanced on the long, lemon- and spice-inflected aftertaste. Drink now through 2025.—B.S.

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.

JEAN CHARTRON

Puligny-Montrachet Clos de la Pucelle 2014

95 points | \$87 | 10 cases imported | White

As much about the supple texture and integration of all the elements as the bright peach, melon, floral and lilting spice flavors. Almost seamless from beginning to end, with lively acidity propelling the citrus- and spice-infused finish. Best from 2018 through 2027. *From France.*—B.S.

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

95-100	Classic
90-94	Outstanding
85-89	Very good
80-84	Good
75-79	Mediocre
50-74	Not recommended

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Weekly Publication

TREASURES FROM FRANCE FILL THIS WEEK'S *WINE SPECTATOR INSIDER*, with exceptional releases from Champagne, the Rhône Valley and Burgundy, up to 97 points, while top picks from Napa showcase the best of the New World. This is a report of the most exciting wines our editors have discovered in their tastings in recent weeks.

California superstars Schrader Cellars, Alpha Omega, Mumm and Inglenook deliver a range of Golden State styles, from hearty Cabernet Sauvignon to elegant bubbly. But French producers take the crown here, with top-scoring versions from the Rhône's Jean-Louis Chave and Burgundy's Jean Chartron and Domaine Faiveley. The latest release of Louis Roederer's Brut Champagne Cristal is here. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.

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.

JEAN CHARTRON

Bâtard-Montrachet 2014

95 points | \$262 | 10 cases imported | White

A bright, peach-, lemon cake- and spice-flavored white, whose smooth texture is married to well-integrated acidity. Elegant and subtle, yet detailed, it sneaks up on you, building to a terrific finish. Best from 2018 through 2030. *From France.—B.S.*

WINE SPECTATOR'S TASTERS

The Most Experienced Team of Wine Journalists in the World

Wine Spectator's tasting staff includes 16 tasters and tasting coordinators in two offices. They work together to review nearly 20,000 wines each year, more than any other publication. Together, our nine senior tasters count more than 140 years of tasting experience.

We always taste wine blind, in our offices in Napa and New York. This is your guarantee that our reviews are fair and objective, and that a wine's reputation or price does not influence its score. Each editor specializes in the wines of specific regions; initials appended to the review identify the taster of each wine. We score wines using the 100-point scale (see green box).

James Laube Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1981. Tasting beat: California

Harvey Steiman Editor at large, San Francisco
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1983. Tasting beat: Australia, Oregon, Washington

Kim Marcus Managing editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Argentina, Austria, Chile, Germany, Portugal

Thomas Matthews Executive editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1988. Tasting beat: Spain

Bruce Sanderson Senior editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1993. Tasting beat: Burgundy, Italy

James Molesworth Senior editor, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1997. Tasting beat: Bordeaux, Loire Valley, Rhône Valley, South Africa

MaryAnn Worobiec Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 1997. Tasting beat: Australia, California, New Zealand

Alison Napjus Senior editor and tasting director, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2000. Tasting beat: Alsace, Beaujolais, Champagne, Italy

Tim Fish Senior editor, Napa
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2001. Tasting beat: California

Gillian Sciaretta Tasting coordinator, New York
Joined *Wine Spectator* in 2012. Tasting beat: France

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

95-100	Classic
90-94	Outstanding
85-89	Very good
80-84	Good
75-79	Mediocre
50-74	Not recommended

—Jean Chartron—

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

Vol. 12, No. 35 | Sept. 7, 2016

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Weekly Publication

FRANCE REIGNS SUPREME IN THIS WEEK'S *WINE SPECTATOR INSIDER*, jam-packed with stellar releases from Burgundy, Champagne and the Loire, up to 97 points, while noteworthy bottles from Napa and Washington represent the best of the New World. This is a report of the most exciting wines our editors have discovered in the tasting room in recent weeks.

Harmonious white Burgundy from masters Domaine Faiveley and Jean Chartron goes toe-to-toe with luxurious vintage Champagne courtesy of Moët & Chandon and Vilmart. Succulent dessert releases from the Loire show yet another side of France. Napa's 2013 Cabernet vintage continues to win accolades, with flavorful versions here from Bond, Schrader, Hall, Realm and more. Red picks from Washington round out this selection. Nine great-value wines rate 90-plus points and cost \$40 or less. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.

FRANCE Burgundy

JEAN CHARTRON

Montrachet 2014

95 points | \$712 | 5 cases imported | White

This lip-smacking white reveals buttery lemon, peach and apple flavors, with a light dusting of spices. Creamy and underscored by lively acidity. Best from 2018 through 2032.—*B.S.*

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.

JEAN CHARTRON

Chevalier-Montrachet Clos des Chevaliers 2014

96 points | \$312 | 6 cases imported | White

An effusive white, featuring aromas and flavors of toasted baking spices, butterscotch, lemon and apple. Balanced and refreshing, with a spice- and mineral-inflected aftertaste. Feels approachable now, but should be better in a year or two. Best from 2018 through 2030. *From France.*—*B.S.*

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

95-100	Classic
90-94	Outstanding
85-89	Very good
80-84	Good
75-79	Mediocre
50-74	Not recommended

A FIRST LOOK AT OUR EDITORS' MOST EXCITING NEW WINES

Vol. 12, No. 37 | Sept. 21, 2016

Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin R. Shanken *Editor and Publisher*

A Members-Only, Weekly Publication

REMARKABLE WINES FROM ESTABLISHED AND EMERGING REGIONS offer diversity in this week's *Wine Spectator Insider*, with stunning red, white and sparkling bottlings from France, Italy and Washington. This is a report of the most exciting wines our editors have discovered in their tastings in recent weeks.

France shows the breadth of its bounty, boasting standout releases from three regions: creamy, balanced Burgundy from leaders such as Jean Chartron and Arlaud; dark, powerful reds from Provence's Domaine Tempier; and exquisite Champagne from Moët & Chandon, Vilmart and more. Italian contenders Falletto di Bruno Giacosa and Giovanni Rocca deliver top Barolos, while Washington-based Charles Smith presents dynamic New World Syrah. Eleven great-value wines scored 90-plus points and cost \$40 or less. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.

FRANCE Burgundy

JEAN CHARTRON

Corton-Charlemagne 2014

94 points | \$182 | 10 cases imported | White

Butterscotch, vanilla and peach aromas and flavors hold court in this mouthfilling, toasty white. Creamy and balanced, with a long, spicy aftertaste. Best from 2019 through 2030.—*B.S.*

Wine Spectator's 100-Point Scale

95-100	Classic
90-94	Outstanding
85-89	Very good
80-84	Good
75-79	Mediocre
50-74	Not recommended