Wine Spectator

Recommended Wines From Spain

Nearly 825 wines were reviewed for this report. A free alphabetical list is available at www.winespectator.com/101512.
WineSpectator.com members can access complete reviews for all wines tasted using the online Wine Ratings search.
For recommended wines from Rioja, see the chart on page 60.

TOP WINES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
TESO LA MONJA Toro Alabaster 2009	95	$243
Blackberry, blueberry, smoke, licorice, clove and mineral notes are harmonious and complex in this rich, smooth red.		
BODEGA DEL ABAD Mencía Bierzo Carracedo 2007	93	$90
Plush and expressive, this modern red shows a dense, velvety texture that carries kirsch, plum, cocoa, anise and herbal flavors.		
BODEGAS LOS ASTRALES Ribera del Duero Christina 2009	93	$90
This rich red shows concentration and focus, with dark cassis, espresso, licorice and mineral flavors. Extracted but not heavy.		
LA CONRERIA D'SCALA DEI Priorat Iugiter 2007	93	$40
A racy red, with cut and focus, offering vibrant flavors of black cherry, wild berry, wild herb and mineral.		
DESCENDIENTES DE J. PALACIOS Bierzo Pétalos 2009	93	$24
This polished red shows density and harmony, with well-integrated flavors of mineral, wild berry, fresh herbs and smoke.		
BODEGA MATARROMERA Ribera del Duero Gran Reserva 2001	93	$110
A graceful red, with firm tannins, excellent balance and harmonious, savory flavors of black cherry, tobacco, licorice and game.		
BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS MONTEABELLÓN Ribera del Duero Finca La Blanquera 2006	93	$80
This polished red delivers dark, focused flavors of coffee, toast, black currant and mineral on a sleek frame. Lithe and dense.		
TESO LA MONJA Toro Victorino 2009	93	$69
Smoky, spicy notes mingle in this plush, modern red, framing cocoa, blackberry, tar and licorice flavors, with a firm backbone.		
AVANTHIA Godello Valdeorras 2010	92	$30
This rich, powerful white has a full-bodied, muscular structure, with dense flavors of pineapple, vanilla, spice and mineral.		
EMILIO LUSTAU Amontillado Jerez 30 Years Old VORS NV	92	$95 / 500ml
Offers a great interplay of sweet and salty, with caramel, halva and toasted sesame flavors and intense salt and walnut hints.		

TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
BODEGAS RESALTE DE PEÑAFIEL Ribera del Duero Peña Roble Reserva 2004	92	$20
Still firm and fresh, this powerful, harmonious red delivers a deep core of black cherry, fresh herb and light earth flavors.		
CAN BLAU Montsant 2009	91	$17
Cherry, pomegranate, mountain herb and smoke notes mingle in this expressive red. Mazuelo, Syrah and Garnacha.		
MARQUÉS DE GRIÑON Syrah-Petit Verdot Dominio de Valdepusa Caliza 2007	91	$20
Focused yet dense, this modern red exhibits vibrant currant, licorice, black pepper and smoke flavors. Stays lithe and lively.		
BODEGAS ATALAYA Almansa La Atalaya 2009	90	$16
A very aromatic red, offering flavors of cassis, ripe cherry, damson plum and smoky mineral. Garnacha Tintorera and Monastrell.		
BODEGAS BORSAO Garnacha Campo de Borja Tres Picos 2010	90	$17
This rich red is brimming with raspberry jam, chocolate, licorice and wild herb flavors. A lively modern style.		

TOP VALUES (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
BODEGAS LUZÓN Jumilla Selección 12 Crianza 2008	90	$15
This supple red delivers black cherry, smoke, mineral and licorice flavors that build through the smoky, meaty finish.		
PEDRO ROMERO Amontillado Jerez Dry Rich NV	90	$14
Enticing, with smoky date and walnut aromas and flavors, laced with hints of salted caramel and iodine.		
BODEGAS RAMÓN BILBAO Albariño Rias Baixas Valiñas 2010	89	$14
This polished white shows good density, with well-integrated flavors of pear, melon, grapefruit and mineral. Fresh and lively.		
BODEGAS CAMPANTE Ribeiro Viña Reboreda 2010	89	$11
Firm and fresh, this white offers focused, clean notes of pear, almond and mineral, remaining lively through the finish.		
GODELIA Bierzo 2008	89	$17
This red is supple, yet brims with racy fruit and lively acidity, offering cherry, berry, mountain herb and iron notes.		
PEDRO ROMERO Oloroso Jerez Medium Rich NV	89	$14
This has off-dry hints, but stays racy and dry overall, with allspice, dried blood orange and salted caramel flavors.		
SAN ALEJANDRO Garnacha Calatayud Las Rocas Viñas Viejas 2007	89	$18
Espresso and mocha notes frame a core of morello cherry and blackberry in this velvety, modern red, which is supple, yet has lively acidity.		
DEHESA DE RUBIALES Viño de la Tierra de Castilla y León Alaia 2009	88	$11
This light, firm red offers a distinctive mix of morello cherry, licorice, dark chocolate and fresh herb flavors.		
ADEGA CONDES DE ALBAREI Albariño Rias Baixas Salneval 2010	87	$10
A generous texture is backed by firm acidity in this fresh white, which offers peach, melon and light herbal flavors.		
FREIXENET Brut Cava Cordon Negro NV	87	$12
This shows good finesse, displaying a subtle juiciness, joined by aromatic apricot, quince, mandarin orange and almond notes.		
JAUME SERRA Brut Cava Cristalino NV	87	$10
There's a savory edge to the apple pastry, ginger and almond cream flavors in this well-cut and focused cava.		
AVIVA VINO Garnacha Campo de Borja Aletta 2009	86	$9
Bright and leafy, with fresh cherry and herb flavors and fresh acidity.		
BODEGAS LUIS GURPEGUI MUGA Tempranillo Viño de la Tierra de Extremadura Pintoresco 2009	86	$9
A lively, focused red, with crisp black cherry and plum fruit.		
TAPEÑA Garnacha Viño de la Tierra de Castilla 2009	86	$10
This chunky red has black cherry, dried currant and chocolate flavors.		
BODEGAS BORSAO Campo de Borja Rosé 2010	85	$8
Light and lively, this fresh rosé offers bright berry and floral notes.		
EL CEP Brut Cava Kila 2009	85	$8
Tight and focused, with fresh flowers, pear, dried fruit and spice.		
DOMINIO DE EGUREN Viño de la Tierra de Castilla Rosado Protocolo 2010	85	$7
A soft, dry rosé, with cherry and strawberry. Bobal and Tempranillo.		