

From our local vines, a Top 100

WINE & SPIRITS

WELCOME TO the seventh annual Wine Adviser Top 100, focused exclusively on the wines of Oregon and Washington. To compile this list I have searched through a year's worth of tasting notes and selected one wine each — the highest scoring — from 100 different wineries. It is my goal to be inclusive, which is why every winery gets just a single spot on the list. I trust that this will give readers a better sense of the scope and depth of the region's offerings.

The wines listed here were reviewed between November 2011 and September 2012. All told, about 2,000 wines were tasted and scored in that time. The scores are from my notes published in Wine Enthusiast magazine, for whom I am the Northwest Tasting Panel reviewer. The full reviews are available, free, online at www.winemag.com. Both score and price are considered, so within each numerical rank, the least expensive wines (based on the original suggested retail) are ranked higher because they offer better value.

Some of these wines have already sold through, but remember, the goal is to give you a broad overview of the top 5 percent of the year's wines. Two unavoidable biases are built into the list. First is a bias toward red wines over white. I have nothing against white wines, but for whatever reason, as a group they score lower on average than red wines, and not just from me. The same is true for virtually every major reviewer in the country.

A second bias: the list favors more expensive wines. Almost always, wines cost more when they cost more to produce. Better grapes, better barrels, better corks and bottles, more bottle age, all add to the expense of production. So there is a definite correlation between cost and quality as far as this list is concerned. That said, more than a few wines listed are \$20 or less.

You will find vintages 2007 to 2011 represented here. Wineries release vintages according to their own schedule, but each is the most recent vintage for the listed wine I have tasted. Where two or more wines share the same score and price, a tie is indicated with an asterisk.



1. Cayuse 2009 En Chamberlin Vineyard Syrah (\$75)
2. Figgins 2009 Estate Red Wine (\$85)
3. Quilceda Creek 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$135)
4. Charles Smith 2009 Royal City Syrah (\$140)
5. K Vintners 2009 The Hidden Syrah (\$70)
6. Leonetti Cellar 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$88)
- *7. (Tie) Dunham 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon XV (\$45)
- *8. Gramercy Cellars 2009 Lagniappe Syrah (\$45)
- *9. Maison Bleue 2010 Gravière Red (\$45)
10. Tamarack Cellars 2008 DuBrul Vineyard Reserve (\$50)
- *11. (Tie) Corliss Estates 2007 Syrah (\$55)
- *12. J. Bookwalter 2009 Conflict Red (\$55)
13. Seven Hills 2009 Pentad Red (\$60)
14. Betz Family 2009 Père de Famille Cabernet Sauvignon (\$65)
15. Evening Land Vineyards 2010 Summum Chardonnay (\$90)
16. Rulo 2010 Chardonnay (\$20)
17. Tranche 2008 Chardonnay (\$30)
18. Abeja 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$44)
19. Nefarious Cellars 2010 Rocky Mother Syrah (\$45)
20. Mark Ryan 2009 Long Haul Red (\$48)
21. Woodward Canyon 2009 Artist Series #18 Cabernet (\$49)
- *22. (Tie) Pirouette 2009 Red Wine (\$50)
- *23. Lauren Ashton 2009 Cuvée Arlette Red (\$50)
24. Andrew Will 2009 Sorella (\$75)
25. Bergström 2009 Bergström Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$81)
26. Boudreaux Cellars 2007 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (\$100)
27. Brian Carter Cellars 2009 Opulento Port (\$20)
28. Trisaetum 2011 Ribbon Ridge Estate Riesling (\$24)
29. Fielding Hills 2009 Tribute Red (\$32)
- *30. (Tie) àMaurice 2008 Red (\$35)
- *31. Gorman 2011 Big Sissy Chardonnay (\$35)
- *32. Soos Creek 2009 Ciel du Cheval Red (\$35)
- *33. Watermill 2008 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (\$35)
34. Kontos Cellars 2008 Caimbry Cabernet Sauvignon (\$40)
35. Archery Summit 2010 AB OVO Pinot Gris (\$42)
- *36. (Tie) Efesté 2009 Eléni Syrah (\$45)
- *37. Brittan Vineyards 2009 Basalt Block Pinot Noir (\$45)
- *38. (Tie) Tendril 2009 Pinot Noir (\$48)
- *39. Buty 2008 Columbia Rediviva Cabernet-Syrah (\$48)
40. Ken Wright 2010 Freedom Hill Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$50)
- *41. (Tie) Kelley Fox 2010 Maresh Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$60)
- *42. Rasa Vineyards 2009 Doctrina Perpetua Syrah (\$60)
- *43. (Tie) Ross Andrew 2009 Old Block Boushey Syrah (\$65)
- *44. Domaine Serene 2008 Evenstad Reserve Pinot Noir (\$65)
45. DeLille Cellars 2009 Chaleur Estate Red Wine (\$75)
46. The Eyrie Vineyards 2010 Estate Pinot Gris (\$15)
47. Antolin Cellars 2010 Viognier (\$19)
48. Ch. Ste. Michelle/Dr. Loosen 2011 Eroica Riesling (\$20)
49. Tulpen Cellars 2008 Syrah (\$24)
- *50. (Tie) Southard 2009 Lawrence Vineyard Syrah (\$25)
- *51. Eight Bells 2009 Syrah (\$25)
- *52. (Tie) Alder Ridge 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$30)
- *53. Forgeron 2009 Merlot (\$30)
- *54. Syncline 2010 McKinley Springs Syrah (\$30)
55. Ellanelle 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$35)
56. L'Ecole 2009 Seven Hills Estate Syrah (\$37)
57. Sparkman 2009 Ruckus Syrah (\$38)
- *58. (Tie) Crossfork Creek 2010 Dark Matter Syrah (\$40)
- *59. Doyenne 2011 Winemaker's Select Roussanne (\$40)
- *60. (Tie) Stevens 2008 XY Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (\$42)
- *61. Lemelson 2009 Chestnut Hill Pinot Noir (\$42)
62. Baer 2009 Arctos Red (\$43)
63. JM Cellars 2009 Boushey Vineyard Syrah (\$45)
64. Le Cadeau 2010 Équinoxe Pinot Noir (\$48)
65. Cristom 2009 Jessie Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$50)
66. Dusted Valley 2008 Rachis Syrah (\$53)
- *67. (Tie) Pamplin 2009 Proprietary Red (\$55)
- *68. Pedestal 2009 Merlot (\$55)
- *69. Pepper Bridge 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (\$55)
- *70. Adelsheim 2010 Elizabeth's Reserve Pinot Noir (\$55)
71. Roco 2009 Private Stash #7 Pinot Noir (\$70)
72. Sineann 2010 Block One Cabernet Sauvignon (\$75)
73. Bridgman 2011 Riesling (\$11)
- *74. (Tie) Thurston Wolfe 2009 Touriga Nacional Port (\$16)
- *75. Hogue 2010 Genesis Riesling (\$16)
- *76. (Tie) Ponzi 2011 Pinot Gris (\$17)
- *77. Elevation Cellars 2011 Imperium Riesling (\$17)
78. Gamache 2010 Estate Riesling (\$18)
79. Barrister 2011 Klipsun Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc (\$19)
- *80. (Tie) Poet's Leap 2011 Riesling (\$20)
- *81. RoxyAnn 2009 Viognier (\$20)
- *82. (Tie) Insania 2010 White (\$25)
- *83. Ch. Ste. Michelle 2009 Cold Creek Chardonnay (\$25)
- *84. (Tie) Trio 2009 Far Away Vineyard Mourvèdre (\$26)
- *85. Animale 2009 Mourvèdre (\$26)
- *86. (Tie) Walla Walla Vintners 2009 Cabernet Franc (\$28)
- *87. Steppe Cellars 2008 StoneTree Vineyard Syrah (\$28)
- *88. Upland Estates 2008 Syrah (\$28)
- *89. Dumas Station 2008 Estate Merlot (\$28)
90. Siduri 2010 Pinot Noir (\$29)
- *91. (Tie) Domaine Drouhin 2010 Arthur Chardonnay (\$30)
- *92. Thistle 2009 Pinot Noir (\$30)
- *93. Woodinville Wine Cellars 2009 Syrah (\$30)
- *94. (Tie) Coeur de Terre 2009 Estate Pinot Noir (\$34)
- *95. Amavi Cellars 2010 Les Collines Vineyard Syrah (\$34)
- *96. (Tie) Browne Family 2010 Chardonnay (\$35)
- *97. Hyland 2009 Pinot Noir (\$35)
98. Raptor Ridge 2009 Reserve Pinot Noir (\$38)
- *99. (Tie) Soléna 2009 Guadalupe Vineyard Pinot Noir (\$40)
- *100. Panther Creek 2008 Freedom Hill Pinot Noir (\$40)

Paul Gregutt's blog is www.paulgregutt.com.
Email: paulgwine@me.com.
Susan Joufflas is a Seattle Times staff illustrator.