

Anthony Dias

BLUE *REVIEWS*


In each issue, Editor-in-Chief Anthony Dias Blue selects a wide range of the best wines and spirits from among the more than 500 he samples over the course of a month. The reviews are subjective editorial evaluations, made without regard to advertising, and products are scored on a 100-point scale:

85-89: VERY GOOD

90-94: OUTSTANDING

95-100: CLASSIC

Once products are selected for publication, producers and importers will be offered the option of having their review accompanied by an image (bottle photo or label art) for a nominal fee. There is no obligation to add an image, nor does the decision affect the review or score in any way.

 The “twisty” icon indicates wines sealed with a screwcap closure.

For additional Blue Reviews, go to www.tastingpanelmag.com.

Prices are for 750 ml. bottles unless otherwise noted.

DOMESTIC



90 **Four Vines Winery 2012 Maverick Zinfandel, Amador County (\$22)** Silky and juicy with generous red fruit and spice; rich, fresh and lively with bright, fresh tangy flavors; long and balanced.

PURPLE WINE COMPANY

90 **Clayhouse Wines 2013 Grenache Blanc-Viognier, Red Cedar Vineyard, Paso Robles (\$23)** Juicy and crisp with racy acidity and fresh, tangy fruit; lively, balanced and long. 70% Grenache Blanc, 30% Viognier.

MIDDLETON FAMILY WINES

90 **Bouchaine Vineyards 2011 Estate Chardonnay, Carneros (\$30)** Smooth and lush with ripe fruit and a core of juicy acidity; tangy, crisp and long with depth and good balance.



92 **Dolin 2012 Pinot Noir, Rincon Vineyard, Arroyo Grande Valley (\$45)** One of four new Central Coast-sourced Pinots from this Malibu-based winery; juicy and silky with notes of earth, spice and savory style; long, elegant and lovely.

91 **Spottswode 2013 Sauvignon Blanc, 28% Napa Valley, 72% Sonoma Mountain (\$36)** Soft and rounded with ripe citrus and depth; juicy, deep and showing minerals and ripe flavors; classic, rich and balanced with great length. 15% Sauvignon Musqué.



90 **Cambridge Cellars 2012 Meritage, Napa Valley (\$23)** Smooth and ripe with juicy fruit and mellow flavors of plum and berries; lovely balance and lush texture; fresh, bright and nicely structured.

92 **MacRostie 2012 Chardonnay, Sangiacomo Vineyard, Carneros (\$44)** Bright and juicy with generous flavors of pear and citrus; racy acidity and lovely texture, balanced and long.

90 **Mike Ditka 2011 The Icon Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley (\$50)** Smooth and juicy with bright acidity and good structure; balanced, spicy and long. (Just wondering... does Mike stomp the grapes himself?)



TERLATO WINES INTERNATIONAL

92 **Panther Creek Cellars 2012 Pinot Noir Reserve, Willamette Valley (\$50)** Lots of tangy acidity and bright black cherry and cola flavors; dense and complex with notes of earth, spice and racy style.