

Wine Spectator Insider

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RIGHT BANK BORDEAUX MAKES A BIG SHOWING in this week's *Wine Spectator Insider*, alongside new releases from California, Champagne and Spain, up to 96 points. This is a report of the most exciting wines our editors have discovered in the tasting room in recent weeks.

Zinfandels from Golden State master Mike Officer deliver freshness and complexity. Bubbly from Champagne stars Dom Pérignon and Piper-Heidsieck offer elegance and refinement. A spate of Sherries show the range of this newly hip category. But Bordeaux reds from La Mondotte, Château Pavie, Vieux Château Certan and more express the promise of the 2014 vintage, with purity and the ability to age. Nine standout wines scored a classic 95 points or higher. Turn to page 4 for the six Hot Wines.

CALIFORNIA Zinfandel

CARLISLE

Zinfandel Russian River Valley Carlisle Vineyard 2014
94 points | \$47 | 681 cases made | Red

Here's proof that Zinfandel can be ripe, well-structured and retain lively acidity. Aromas of fresh violet, eucalyptus and huckleberry open to complex and focused flavors of raspberry, savory bramble and Asian five-spice powder. Drink now through 2028.—*T.F.*

CARLISLE

Zinfandel Russian River Valley
Limerick Lane Vineyard 2014
93 points | \$47 | 102 cases made | Red

Brambly and loaded with cracked pepper, this Zinfandel has personality to spare, showing zesty accents of raspberry, smoky sage and brown spices. Drink now through 2028.—*T.F.*

CARLISLE

Zinfandel Russian River Valley Papera Ranch 2014
93 points | \$47 | 853 cases made | Red

Well-knit and precise, with a core of lively acidity and tannins to balance the ripe fruit, showing notes of blackberry, dark fruitcake spices, sandalwood and pepper. Drink now through 2028.—*T.F.*

32 WINDS

Zinfandel Dry Creek Valley 2014
92 points | \$39 | 223 cases made | Red

Stylish and well-built, with floral black cherry and briary licorice aromas, and zesty, ripe raspberry, dried sage and white pepper flavors. Drink now through 2027.—*T.F.*

DAY

Zinfandel Sonoma County 2015
92 points | \$27 | 1,500 cases made | Red

Bold and rich, with a lively, structured core, plus black raspberry and pepper aromas, and ripe, zesty black cherry and sweet black licorice flavors. Drink now through 2026.—*T.F.*

BUENA VISTA

Zinfandel Sonoma Valley Arpad's Selection 2014
91 points | \$38 | 348 cases made | Red

Loaded with cracked pepper aromas and flavors, defined by a balanced structure and boasting accents of ripe cherry and raspberry, plus smoky licorice. Drink now through 2026.—*T.F.*