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WINE ENTHUSIAST

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THINK PINK

PHOTOS MARK LUND

While it's true that rosés are delicious any time of year, there's no better antidote to hot weather.

Natives of the Mediterranean basin have worshipped the restorative powers of rosé for decades. They know that the best way to refresh is a glass of something that transforms the light and warmth of the sun into a delicious chilled elixir that soothes body and soul.

Today, consumers the world over have finally caught on. Consumption of premium dry rosé is growing rapidly, led by the wines of Provence. Upscale brands like Domaines Ott and Château d'Esclans/Whispering Angel (*Wine Enthusiast's* 2014 European Winery of the Year), celebrity involvement (Brad Pitt/Angelina Jolie and Drew Barrymore) and specialized events like La Nuit en Rosé have fueled the category's charge.

Selected from more than 1,000 rosés reviewed by our tasting panel in the past year, these are our picks for summer's indispensable beverage.

OLDWORLD

Rhône

88 Louis Bernard 2015 Côtes du Rhône.

This plump, succulent wine has enough cinnamon and peppery spice notes to maintain interest sip after sip. Boisset Family Estates. **Best Buy.** abv: 13.5% Price: \$13

Languedoc-Roussillon

90 Château de Lancyre 2015 Le Rosé (Coteaux du Languedoc Pic Saint Loup). Small red-berry flavors accented by rosemary and peach pit are framed by soft tannins and delicate spice. Hand Picked Selections.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$18

Provence

93 Château Minuty 2015 Rosé et Or (Côtes de Provence). This medley of red fruit and peach that's sharpened by acidity and pepper should improve though 2016. Treasury Wine Estates. **Cellar Selection.** abv: 12.5% Price: \$40

Rhône

92 Domaine des Carteresses 2015 Tavel. Cherry-scented goodness, accented by hints of cracked pepper, cinnamon and allspice. Yum! Fruit of the Vines Inc. abv: 14% Price: \$18

Provence

93 Domaine Saint-André de Figuière 2015 Confidentielle (Côtes de Provence La Londe). La Londe's schist soils give this concentrated wine fresh acidity and a light touch. AP Wine Imports. **Editors' Choice.** abv: 13% Price: \$23

Languedoc-Roussillon

89 Hecht & Bannier 2015 Rosé (Languedoc). Notes of lavender, menthol and bay grace red cherry and berry tones. Frederick Wildman & Sons Ltd.

Best Buy.

abv: 12.5%

Price: \$13

Provence

91 Château Vignelaure 2015 La Source (Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence). A light tang of minerality provides structure and refreshment. Dionysos Imports Inc. **Best Buy.** abv: 13% Price: \$14