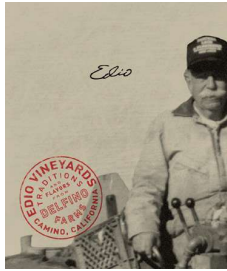


# BUYINGGUIDE



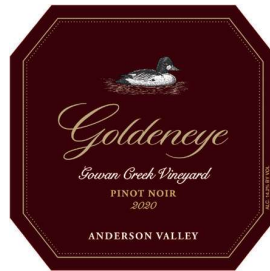
**93 Edio 2020 Estate Blend Grenache (El Dorado).** This wine has a savoriness that's plain delicious. Find flavors of wild strawberry, overripe raspberry, white pepper funk, roses, tree bark, cumin, coriander and an innate earthy quality that sits in the back-breath. The palate is knit together by fine-grained, well-integrated tannins, modest acidity and a lingering finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.3% **Price:** \$40



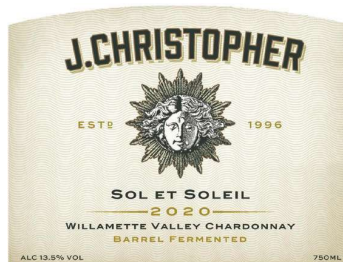
**93 Exprimere 2021 Mia Peake Ranch Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** This is the slightly sharper companion to this brand's "Persey" bottling, starting with tart cran-pomegranate and orange peel aromas that pick up a bit of chaparral spice. The clean palate carries similar flavors of tart red fruit, herb and pepper, wrapped in polished tannins. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.1% **Price:** \$118



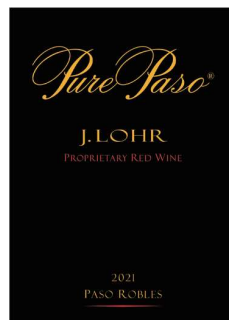
**93 Falcone 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon (Paso Robles).** Intoxicating aromas of cherry compote, cardamom and clove make for a spicy and attractive nose on this bottling. The chalky texture of the palate frames dark fruit, savory herb and well-balanced hard spices. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$40



**93 Goldeneye 2020 Gowon Creek Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** Bright, fresh and vibrant, this wine has a fine-grained tannic texture. It bursts with beautifully nuanced notes of cranberry juice, boysenberry jam, cherry compote, strawberry preserve, chocolate, vanilla, nutmeg, toast and black tea, all leading toward a lingering finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$90



**93 J. Christopher 2020 Sol et Soleil Chardonnay (Willamette Valley).** This lighter-bodied Chardonnay strikes first with aromas of grilled lemons and peaches, then jasmine flowers, butter and roasted filberts. Goose bump-inducing acidity jump-starts flavors like blood orange olive oil cake and white grapefruit. The wine's crisp texture almost crunched with each sip. *Editors' Choice.* —M.A.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$50



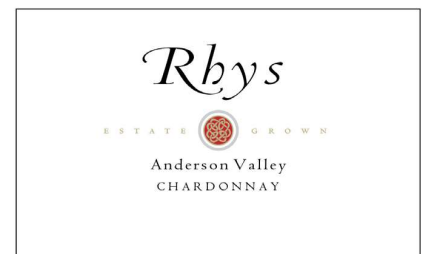
**93 J. Lohr 2021 Pure Paso Red Blend (Paso Robles).** This relatively recent proprietary red-blend creation continues to impress each vintage, showcasing Paso power with deft balance in pleasing ways. Aromas of blackberry jam, violet extract and root-beer floats proceed from the nose into a comforting palate of strawberry, cola and peppery spices. Firm, lingering tannins lead through the caramel-laced finish. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 15% **Price:** \$27



**93 Louis Roederer NV Collection 244 Brut (Champagne).** The latest iteration of Roederer's nonvintage collection, this is tense with a fine aging character. It has richness and great fruit, a fine line of structure at the end. Drink now. *Maisons Marques & Domaines USA. Editors' Choice.* —R.V.  
**abv:** 2.5% **Price:** \$70



**93 Recanati 2020 Reserve Wild Carignan (Israel).** This deep garnet-colored wine offers aromas of blackberry, Mission fig and roasted yellow pepper. A web of polished tannins backs Luxardo cherry, cassis, dark chocolate, caramel and freshly ground nutmeg flavors that sail into a satisfying finish. *Kosher.* Palm Bay International. —M.D.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$50



**93 Rhys 2021 Estate Grown Chardonnay (Anderson Valley).** This Chardonnay packs bags of flavor yet maintains a light, delicate nature through and through. Initial aromas speak of wet-stone minerality, lemon, lime, kiwi and star fruit, alongside a lily-of-the-valley floral note. The palate adds to those layers with tones of white peach, lime leaf and lemongrass. Sinewy acidity rides a firm, lean line through the center of this medium-bodied white. The finish lingers and begs for another sip. *Editors' Choice.* —S.B.  
**abv:** 12.8% **Price:** \$55

is fleeting on the palate, where mace and star-anise spices enliven the tart citrus core. —M.K.  
**abv:** 12% **Price:** \$35

**88 Decoy NV Brut Cuvée Champagne Blend (California).** Perfect for a casual sip of bubbles, this offers notes of lemon, lime, green apple, petrol, baby's breath, and just-ripe yellow peach and apricot. —S.B.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$25

**88 Decoy NV Limited Brut Rosé (California).** A fun sparkling rosé ideal for any casual occasion, this offers notes of yellow nectarine, apricot, navel orange, honeysuckle, white grape and lychee, with a kiss of sweetness on the palate. —S.B.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$35

**88 Picnic Punch 2022 Piquette Albariño (Santa Barbara County).** This low-alcohol canned piquette is cloudy when poured into the glass. It shows large bubbles that lift aromas of yellow grapefruit, wool and clay. The grapefruit and clay combo continues on the palate. —M.K.  
**abv:** 5.5% **Price:** \$6/375 ml

**86 Barefoot Bubbly NV Brut Rosé Sparkling Blend (California).** For full review see page 21. *Best Buy.*  
**abv:** 11.5% **Price:** \$10

## ROSÉS

**93 Birichino 2022 Vin Gris Rosé (California).** A soft, pale shade of pink in the glass, this mostly Central Coast-grown rosé blend of 72% Grenache, 11% Carignane, 7% Cinsault, 7% Mourvèdre and 3% Rolle offers wet stone, smashed plum and subtle herb aromas on the nose. The palate's texture is stony and chalky, giving an edge to the plush rose-water and melon flavors. *Best Buy.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$18

**93 Ojai 2022 Rosé (California).** This blend of fruit from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties offers a pale, slightly yellow color in the glass and elegant floral aromas on the delicate nose. The palate is tightly wound and packed with energetic acidity, showing chalk, brisk grapefruit and zesty pluot flavors. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$34

**93 Pelio 2021 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Monterey).** A pale yellowish-pink in the glass, this rosé shows crisp melon and citrus peel on the delicate nose. The palate begins with a citrus blast and then opens toward pluot flesh as the chalky texture takes hold. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.8% **Price:** \$32

**93 The Language of Yes 2022 Le Cerisier Pink Wine Rosé (Central Coast).** For full review see page 13. *Hidden Gem.*  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$35

**92 Caella 2022 Rosé of Grenache (Santa Barbara County).** A yellowish pink in the glass, this bottling is crisp on the nose, with citrus-sprayed melon aromas and a wet-clay minerality. There's a stony grip to the palate, where melon, tangerine and pear-skin flavors align. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.2% **Price:** \$25

**92 Cavaletti 2022 The 109 Mile Rosé (California).** Patrick Kelley travels throughout Southern California to source grapes for this pink blend of 50% Tempranillo and 50% Grenache. A pale yellow in the glass, it offers clean melon rind and yucca flower aromas. The grippy palate shows Meyer lemon and yellow melon-flesh flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$27

**92 Goldeneye 2022 Vin Gris of Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** Fruits, florals, earth and herbs blend beautifully in this wine. The palate offers energetic acidity and a slight phenolic grip for textural intrigue. Enjoy notes of white peach and nectarine, just-ripe apricot, rose petal, lily, dusty earth floor, and fresh and dried herbs. Everything continues to intertwine during the lengthy finish. *Editors' Choice.* —S.B.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$38

**92 Paradise Springs 2022 Pink Ash Rosé (California).** This bottling, which features art by actor Billy Zane, began as a wildfire-relief fundraiser and remains a solid rosé many vintages into production. Aromas of raspberry granita and crisp plum lead into a steely palate of pomegranate and strawberry flavors that stay tightly woven. —M.K.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$35

**92 Peake Ranch 2022 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** A pale-pink shade in the glass, this rosé is clean, tight and light on the nose, with subtle watermelon, bubblegum and cotton-candy aromas. The palate is stony in flavor and texture, giving a rocky backbone to the melon and Rainier cherry flavors. —M.K.  
**abv:** 12.5% **Price:** \$32

**91 Dawn's Dream 2022 Clone 236 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands).** Soft aromas of bubblegum, cherry syrup and light mint show on the nose of this rosé, which is darker than most. The palate is spritzed with lemon peel and pink-grapefruit flavors that give an edge to the rich cherry core. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$38

**91 Los Robles Hills 2022 Benincasa Puerta del Cielo Vineyards Rosé (Malibu Coast).** For full review see page 16. *Hidden Gem.*  
**abv:** 13.1% **Price:** \$25

**91 Ojai 2022 Rosé of Paseante Noir (Ventura County).** This rosé of a hybrid grape developed by UC Davis is impressive, offering juicy strawberry, watermelon and bubblegum aromas while holding a steely line of minerality. The palate

is chalky in texture and restrained in flavors, with hints of pluot and plum flesh. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$34

**91 Pennyroyal Farm 2022 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** Energetic acidity along with a slight spritz gives this rosé of Pinot Noir verve and vivacity, elevating flavors of lemon, lime, citrus blossom and just-ripe white peach. What makes this expression stand out is the earthy background, offering gentle suggestions of both fresh and dried herbs. *Editors' Choice.* —S.B.  
**abv:** 13.7% **Price:** \$28

**91 Terah 2022 Rosé (Paicines).** This rosé blend of 50% Syrah and 50% Grenache hails from the exciting Paicines Ranch vineyard, which was planted with regenerative techniques. A rusty hue in the glass, it offers aromas of cherry, orange rind and earth. The palate is quite grippy and packed with tart red-plum flavors that are balanced by crushed sticks and dusty stones. —M.K.  
**abv:** 11.9% **Price:** \$26

**91 Vina Robles 2022 Huerhuero Vineyard Rosé (Paso Robles).** A slightly orange-ish shade of pink in the glass, this rosé blend of 65% Syrah, 30% Grenache and 5% Viognier offers tightly wound peach, melon and crushed-rock aromas on the nose. The palate is lively with rose water and watermelon flavors that have a rocky-earth mineral backbone. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$26

**90 Chloe 2021 Rosé (Central Coast).** A salmon hue in the glass, this bottling is always worthy of attention, thanks to vibrant aromas of cherry, raspberry and lemon peel. The palate combines a stony texture with vibrant and fresh watermelon flavors that are cut by mandarin orange juice. *Best Buy.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$17

**90 Ferrari Ranch 2022 Rosé of Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains).** A pale pink in the glass, this bottling offers bubblegum, strawberry cream and chalk aromas on the nose. The palate is firm in texture and billowy in bubblegum flavors. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$28

**90 Husch 2022 Blaze Rosé (Mendocino).** Very pale pink the glass, this rosé of Zinfandel offers delicate aromatics to match. The nose suggests water lily, river rock, white peach and nectarine, mandarin orange and pink-grapefruit zest. On the palate, the wine comes to life with energetic acidity and notes of white strawberry and just-ripe red cherry. A slight phenolic grip adds textural intrigue. Altogether, this is a light, bright, fun and engaging sipper. *Best Buy.* —S.B.  
**abv:** 13.7% **Price:** \$18

**90 Joel Gott 2022 Rosé (Central Coast).** For full review see page 19. *Best Buy.*  
**abv:** 13.6% **Price:** \$17

strawberry flavors, benefiting from a baking-spice element that cuts through the ripeness. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$59

**91 Ojai 2021 Fe Ciega Devoto Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** Rich aromas of berry, smoked herb and slightly funky meats converge on the nose of this bottling. There's a tarry tone to the palate, where dark berry, dried meat, thyme and chocolate flavors cling together in a curious harmony. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$58

**91 Peake Ranch 2021 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** Cherry cordial, light cola, sandalwood and a pinch of herbs converge on the nose of this appellation cuvée that's actually all estate-grown. That woody spice shows through on the sip, where tense, tarry minerality plays against the cran-raspberry flavors. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$45

**91 Presqu'île 2022 Pinot Noir (Santa Barbara County).** A light shade in the glass, this county cuvée offers strawberry, red plum and graham cracker aromas alongside a rusty minerality. The palate is both zippy and ripe, with cherry flavors that are cut by a fiery acidity. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$24

**91 Storm Wines 2021 John Sebastiano Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** Hollowed-out red-plum aromas meet with raspberry, wet stone and damp herb on the nose of this bottling. The palate is loaded with earthy herb and wet-clay flavors that give depth to the crisp pomegranate core. Still young, the wine will likely show more layers with time. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13% **Price:** \$58

**91 Tercero 2021 Kessler-Haak Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** Savory aromas of soy sauce and bay leaf meet with tart cranberry on the engaging nose of this bottling. Very dry on the palate, it offers tobacco and eucalyptus leaf flavors that give depth to the red fruits. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.1% **Price:** \$50

**91 Velvet Bee 2018 Therese Noelle Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** A lighter shade in the glass, this bottling pops on the nose with cranberry, pomegranate, dusty thyme and leather aromas. The palate's tight weave steadily opens into flavors of red currant, cranberry and peppered charcuterie. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.86% **Price:** \$45

**90 Fess Parker 2021 Older Barrel Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills).** Dusty aromas of cranberry, fennel frond and dried meats show on the nose of this wine. There's peppery spice to the palate, where charcuterie flavors join with riper red fruits. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.1% **Price:** \$60

**90 Goldeneye 2020 Confluence Vineyard Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** This well-balanced, easy-to-sip Pinot Noir offers complex layering in a friendly, approachable way. Notes of red and black

cherry and plum, toasted wood, cacao, nutmeg and dusty earthiness carry through the aromas and flavors. The palate offers a sandy tannic texture, solid acidity and a lengthy finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$90

**90 Husch 2021 Estate Bottled Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** Wonderfully balanced, this wine is perfect for any casual occasion. Enjoy notes of red cherry, raspberry, wet river rock, cranberry and black tea. The palate sticks together with firm tannins cut by generous acidity, all leading toward a solid finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$28

**90 Lucienne 2021 Smith Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands).** Roasted strawberry, chaparral and fennel-pollen aromas converge on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. Roasted strawberry and dried fig-paste flavors meet with sagebrush spices on the palate. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$60

**90 Lyric 2022 Pinot Noir (Monterey County).** Fat black-cherry aromas are spiced by cola and clove on the nose of this bottling. The palate is framed by dusty tannins, with more cherry-cola components taking center stage. *Best Buy.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$20

**90 Outlier 2022 Pinot Noir (Lake County).** This wine opens with a pop of red cherry, followed by notes of black tea, herbes de Provence and red and black cherry and plum. The palate brings together a chalky tannic texture that's cut by good acidity, leading toward a flavorsome finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 13.2% **Price:** \$25

**90 Presqu'île 2021 Bien Nacido Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley).** This bottling shows a rustic, Old World-leaning style, beginning with aromas of leather, herb-coated and gamy meats, and crushed berries. The palate combines a similar herb and dried-meat component. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.9% **Price:** \$62

**90 Rhys 2021 Alpine Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Cruz Mountains).** Smoothed-out aromas of dark berry and plum pick up lots of baking and barrel spice on the nose of this jammy bottling. The palate is ripe, with stewed fig flavors that are balanced by decent acidity and slender tannins. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.4% **Price:** \$130

**90 Rhys 2021 Porcupine Hill Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** This somewhat deeper and darker expression of Pinot Noir offers notes of red and black cherry and plum, raspberry, cacao, tree bark, forest floor and licorice. It's medium to full bodied on the palate, with strong, coarse tannins, generous acidity and a lingering finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.1% **Price:** \$130

**90 Starmont 2021 Pinot Noir (California).** This medium- to full-bodied wine offers a plush tannic texture and dark-toned aromas and flavors of black cherry, boysenberry, black tea, black plum,

forest floor, mushroom and wood. An easy-to-enjoy red, it will pair well with varied dishes. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$27

**90 Testarossa 2021 Cuvée Los Gatos Pinot Noir (Monterey).** This affordable county cuvée succeeds remarkably in this vintage, offering hibiscus, pomegranate and dusty sagebrush aromas on the nose. The palate is lively and fresh with more pomegranate as well as oregano and thyme flavors. *Editors' Choice.* —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$32

**89 Bailarin 2019 Lemoravo Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands).** Earthy and extracted aromas of loam and red fruit pick up light mintiness on the nose of this wine. The palate is bold with boysenberry and minty herbs, as dark chocolate elements add nuance to the finish. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.5% **Price:** \$50

**89 Cabana Wines 2021 Pinot Noir (Lodi).** This well-balanced and enjoyable wine is perfect for any casual occasion. Find aromas and flavors of dark red roses, damp forest floor, fresh rain in the rainforest, cacao, off-the-bush boysenberry, raspberry and wild strawberry. A soft tannic texture and a solid dose of acidity knit it together. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14% **Price:** \$30

**89 Goldeneye 2021 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** This well-balanced, quaffable Pinot Noir expresses notes of red cherry, vanilla, chocolate and wild strawberry. Medium bodied, the wine carries a soft, sandy tannic texture, generous acidity and a clean finish. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.2% **Price:** \$62

**89 Loring Wine Company 2021 Cortada Alta Vineyard Pinot Noir (Santa Lucia Highlands).** Tart hibiscus tea and brisk pomegranate aromas are a bit wild on the nose of this bottling. The texture is pleasantly taut on the palate, where ripe raspberry and cranberry flavors emerge. —M.K.  
**abv:** 13.5% **Price:** \$59

**89 McClain Cellars 2020 Love & Happiness Pinot Noir (Santa Ynez Valley).** Black plum and chai spices approach a prune note on the nose of this bottling. The palate is dark and rich with boysenberry and lavender flavors, with toasted spice elements adding depth. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.96% **Price:** \$72

**88 Bramble & Bramble 2021 Pinot Noir (Anderson Valley).** Well balanced and quaffable, this Pinot Noir offers notes of rose petal, wet stone, black and red cherry, cacao, vanilla and toasted wood. —S.B.  
**abv:** 14.3% **Price:** \$51

**88 Donati Family Vineyard 2021 Family Reserve Pinot Noir (Monterey).** Oak dominates this bottling thoroughly, starting with hickory, caramel and vanilla on the nose. The palate has a hint of baked cherry, but it's mostly oak spice. —M.K.  
**abv:** 14.4% **Price:** \$54