

The world's best wine magazine

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Decanter

**58 great reds
under £15**

**New World wines
you'll really want to try**

Crus bourgeois 2010
'A very positive tasting'
says Steven Spurrier

White Burgundy 2011
**'Elegance and purity over
power and concentration'**

Californian Cabernets
**Rating the 2009 vintage
from Napa and Sonoma**

Oregon Pinot Noir
Restaurant of the Year
Travel: Central Loire
Inside Villa Maria
Col d'Orcia

*Also
this
month*



NEW WORLD REDS

the palate, opening up to gorgeous seductive fruit.
Drink 2013–2016 Alc 14.5%



Amalaya, Calchaquí Valley, Salta 2011 17 (90)
£9.99–£10.25 **AG Wines, Majestic, Slurp, The Fine Wine Co, Liberty Wines, Swig**
Ripe yet fresh black plums, strawberries, white pepper and spice aromas carry through a fleshy and well-groomed palate.
Drink 2013–2015 Alc 14%

Argento, BSM, Mendoza 2012 17 (90)
£8.99 **Bibendum, Raisin Fine Wine**
The toasty oak graciously balances the black fruit, rounding it up in a broad chocolatey feeling. On the modern side in style. **Drink 2013–2015 Alc 13.5%**

Finca Sopenia, Reserve Malbec, Tupungato, Mendoza 2010 17 (90)
£13.95 **Christopher Piper, Davys Wine Merchants, James Nicholson, Secret Cellar, Winehound**
Concentrated yet elegant and perfumed. Toasty and chocolatey oak notes with black cherries and hints of violets. Lots of round tannins. **Drink 2013–2015 Alc 14%**

Mendel, Lunta, Malbec, Lujan de Cuyo, 2010 17 (90)
£11.99 **Aitken, Bacchanalia, Majestic**
Exudes dark cherries and ripeness. Has a well-groomed masculine palate, which opens into Christmas fruit cake and chocolatey notes. **Drink 2013–2015 Alc 14%**

Doña Paula, Paula Malbec, Mendoza 2011 16 (86)
£8.99 **Great Wines Direct, Slurp**
Unoaked and uncomplicated with amazing fruit concentration. Aromas of violets, spices and dark berries, and a rounded palate. **Drink 2013–2014 Alc 14%**

Chile

by Peter Richards MW,
DWWA Regional Chair, Chile

I LOVE RED wine and we all love a bargain. There's arguably no better country than Chile for over-delivering at under £15, and reds are a particular forte – increasingly diverse, expressive, engaging wines that don't break the bank.

Elqui, San Antonio and the rapidly improving south (Maule/Itata) are prime sources of expressive, undervalued reds. Nor should we forget the oft-maligned Central Valley, where producers are able to fashion balanced reds from a number of different sources.

The cooler 2010 and 2011 vintages produced elegant reds, though the better wines from the warm 2009 are ageing well too. Note also that alcohol levels are falling: a welcome shift in stylistic emphasis, without compromising on flavour – these are heart-warming, characterful reds, ideal for winter.

My top 10 includes established classics and new faces. Prices have risen – driven by currency exchange issues and rising taxes in the UK – but this is the same for everyone. It's testament to Chile's pragmatic business approach that prices haven't risen further. Many of the country's wines continue to represent outstanding value for money.

Richards recommends...

Viña Leyda, Reserva Syrah, Leyda Valley 2010
19/20pts (96/100pts)

£6.50–£7.99 **Majestic, The Wine Society**
This beautifully spicy, savoury Syrah is taut, toasty and irresistibly moreish. Snap up before the price heads north. **Drink 2013–2014 Alcohol 14%**

Viña Mayu, Syrah Reserva, Elqui Valley 2009 18.5 (95)
£8.48–£9.99 **Asda, Guy Anderson, Sainsbury's**
The meaty, dried violet and creamy notes have evolved beautifully in bottle. **Drink 2013–2014 Alc 14%**

Undurraga, TH Pinot Noir, Leyda 2010 18.5 (95)
£12.50–£15 **Moreno, The Wine Society**
Red-fruit aromas give way to a sensuous mouthfeel. An utterly sexy Pinot. Fine, chalky tannin, elegantly layered, tangy and harmonious acidity. **Drink 2013–2015 Alc 13.5%**

Viña Mayu, Sangiovese, Elqui Valley 2011 18 (93)
£6.98 **Asda, Guy Anderson**
Aromas of elegantly dried cherries and herbs lead into a juicy, refreshing, gently spicy flavour profile with a hint of bitter chocolate. **Drink 2013 Alc 14.5%**



De Martino, Viejas Tinajas Cinsault, Itata 2011 17.5 (91)
£8.95 **Les Caves de Pyrène, The Wine Society**
Made with minimal intervention in large earthenware jars, the juicy cherry, fresh herbs and elegantly grainy palate makes for a lissom experience. **Drink 2013 Alc 13%**

Cono Sur, Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo 2009 17 (90)
£8.99 **Sainsbury's**
Classy, with rounded fine tannins, subtle mint and tobacco notes and layered earthy fruit and cream flavours. **Drink 2013 Alc 14%**

Louis-Antoine Luyt, Trequilemu Carignan, Maule 2010 17 (90)
£14.95 **Les Caves de Pyrène, Slurp**
There's a wild, feral streak to this juicy, floral *vino de tierra*. It's succulent yet lifted, with a rakish tilt to its cap. **Drink 2013 Alc 12.9%**

Odfjell, Armador Carmenere, Central Valley 2011 16.5 (88)
£9.95 **widely available via UK agent Alliance**
Marries a red pepper and floral freshness with a succulent, smooth texture and invigorating finish. **Drink 2013 Alc 13.5%**

Pérez Cruz, Cot Limited Edition, Maipo 2010 16.5 (88)
£13.50–£14.99 **Hallgarten, Oddbins, Slurp, Wimbledon Wine Cellars, Wine & the Vine**
Rich cassis with creamy coffee notes and super-fine tannin; it needs a nice juicy steak to come into its own. **Drink 2013–2014 Alc 14%**

Cono Sur, Bicicleta Pinot Noir, Central Valley 2011 16 (86)
£7.49 **Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury's, Slurp, Waitrose**
Surely one of the best value Pinot Noirs on the market, with punchy black cherry aromas and a vigorous, tangy, spicy palate profile. **Drink 2013 Alc 13.5%**

Above: whether a Chilean Syrah or an Australian Pinot Noir, our experts' selection of great-value reds are perfect drinking this winter