

WINE ENTHUSIAST

VINS DE
Loire

LOIRE WINES 2026 RATINGS

Anjou

Best Buy

Famille Bonin

Regard, 2025

91

Cabernet Franc

Black plums and pencil shavings frolic with hay and forest floor on a nose that raises additional notes of dried violet blossom. The palate echoes and brings along additional notes of rose petal that ride atop a finish guided by supple tannins.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$17.00 – Red

Anjou Villages

Best Buy

Domaine des Poupées

Joué Cabernet Franc, 2021

90

Cabernet Franc

Fragrant aromas of muddled red cherry, cassis, and dewy forest floor open on the nose of this cooler vintage that is ready for its close-up. The palate begins with chalky briary fruit, with still-youthful tannins that soften with more time in the glass. Pair with chicken paillard, quesadillas, and ramen noodles.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$15.00 – Red

Anjou Villages Brissac

Domaine Asseray

Clos Gagnerie, 2022

92

Cabernet Sauvignon

Perfumed aromas of muddled black cherry, dried grass, and cranberry flakes open on a nose accented by the faintest suggestion of mint leaf. The palate is svelte, with polished tannins that reveal a bit of chalk on the finish, adding depth.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$26.00 – Red

Bonnezeaux

Editor's Choice

Château de Fesles

2015

95

Chenin Blanc

Gold in color this perfumed wine pulls you in with aromas of honey-drizzled golden apple, pear tart, and lemon curd. The palate is rich, robust, fulsome, and unapologetically sweet with complexity to match. Pair with foie gras, pâté, or simply serve instead of dessert.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$50.00 – White



Bourgueil

Editor's Choice

Yannick Amirault 93

Cabernet Franc

Red-rose-petal-dusted aromas of muddled red cherry and Darjeeling tea open on a nose that is bolstered with freshly tilled earth. Grippy tannins wash across wet stone and a wave of chalk that will continue to soften and integrate with more time in bottle. Decant now and enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$22.00 – Red

Best Buy

Domaine des Geslets 92

Les Geslets, 2024

Cabernet Franc

Playful, pillowy aromas of red currant and red raspberry open on the nose, along with pencil shavings and hibiscus tea. The palate begins with youthful, grippy, mineral-laden tannins that foreshadow the heights the wine will reach with two or three more years of age in bottle. Decant for an hour and drink now, or enjoy from 2029 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$18.00 – Red

Domaine du Petit Bondieu 92

Couplets, 2023

Cabernet Franc

Toasted red cherry and blackberry aromas lift from the glass, along with raspberry and muddled pomegranate. The palate is an amalgam of well-integrated briary fruit and still-velvety tannins that enjoy an unrushed finish that lingers. Decant now and drink from 2027 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$22.00 – Red

Domaine Guion Stephane 92

Grand Mont, 2022

Cabernet Franc

Perfumed aromas of red currants, red-cherry flakes, and freshly picked raspberries open on the lively nose. Velvety in texture, the wine raises chalky tannins that converge around and dominate a midpalate which resolves in shattered stone. Decant now and enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$30.00 – Red

Famille Cognard 92

Cuvée Les Tuffes, 2020

Cabernet Franc

Smoky red-cherry, blackberry, and dried cranberry aromas open into a similarly tilted palate that elevates still-kicking, grippy tannins. Flavors of white peach rest comfortably against a backdrop of just-ripened berry fruit that resolves on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.6%

Retail: \$25.00 – Red

Best Buy

SCEA de la Dime 92

Clos de l'Abbaye, 2022

Cabernet Franc

Ruby-red in color, the wine opens with restrained aromas of violet blossom and pink-rose petal. Velvety, still-youthful tannins lead on the palate, joined by a supple layer of chalk that persists and elevates the finish. This bistro-friendly wine would complement many dishes.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – Red

Domaine du Petit Bondieu 90

Petit Mont, 2024

Cabernet Franc

Boysenberry and black-raspberry aromas open on the nose, guided by purple blossom and a touch of bread dough. Tannins flex their youth while tipping a hat towards chalk-dusted black fruit that propels the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$22.00 – Red

Chinon

Editor's Choice

Domaine Couly-Dutheil 94

Les Chanteaux, 2023

Chenin Blanc

This is an impressive Chinon. Perfumed aromas of quince, golden apple, and orange marmalade charm a nose that is steeped in a pool of bread dough and honeysuckle. The rich and fulsome palate is built on a foundation of ripe fruit that remains remarkably bright and fresh while supported by a measured layer of acidity that finishes with a touch of banana peel.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$32.00 – White

Editor's Choice

Domaine Couly-Dutheil

94

Clos de l'Echo, 2020

Cabernet Franc

Aged Chinon is a gift and so is this wine. Ruby in color, the wine offers mingled aromas of red cherry, forest floor, and hibiscus tea to open its floral nose. The palate is supple, with relaxed tannins that linger and beg for another sip. Drink now through 2033.

R.S. - Alcohol: 15%

Retail: \$38.00 - Red

Best Buy

Domaine Nicolas Paget

94

Les Quinquenays, 2020

Cabernet Franc

Black-raspberry, Kirsch, and dried cherry aromas are made more complex by the touch of soy sauce that appears on the nose to add depth. The palate is the epitome of what Chinon can achieve, with patience and time in the bottle. Silky fruit rests on a bed of pillowy tannins that lingers and enchants the finish.

R.S. - Alcohol: 14%

Retail: \$17.00 - Red

Editor's Choice

Domaine de la Commanderie

93

Tradition, 2022

Cabernet Franc

A mix of red-raspberry and pencil-shaving aromas beguiles the nose with enchanting aromatics that are dusted with dried purple blossom. Briary fruit empties into a tributary of black tea before resting in a pool of plush tannins that persists on the finish. This wine is mature and ready to drink now through 2033.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$35.00 - Red

Editor's Choice

Domaine de la Haute Olive

93

Les Clos, 2024

Cabernet Franc

Voluptuous aromas of dried pink rose petal, pencil shavings, and black cherry open on a nose that is charmingly floral-tilted. The mineral-driven palate brings dusty salinity and concentrated red fruit to the fore, guided by youthful tannins that have miles to go before they sleep.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$25.00 - Red

Domaine Fabrice Gasnier

93

Vieilles Vignes, 2022

Cabernet Franc

This is a classic Chinon. Integrated aromas of raspberry, dried cherry, and plum open on a nose that is accented with red-rose petals. The palate is elegant and svelte, with inklings of hibiscus tea and supple tannins that fill the finish. Enjoy now through 2034.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$22.00 - Red

Editor's Choice

François Reverdy

93

Cravant-les-Côteaux, 2020

Cabernet Franc

Elegance personified. Restrained aromas of red currant, red cherry, and muddled strawberry open on a nose accented with a touch of soy sauce. The palate juxtaposes well-integrated fruit against a wall of velvety, still-youthful tannins that will continue to evolve in bottle. Decant and drink now through 2033.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$66.00 - Red

Best Buy

Cynthia & Valentin Gasnier

91

Les Deux Rives, 2024

Chenin Blanc

This is a solid Chenin Blanc. Bread-dough and forest-floor aromas open on a nose that is guided by a touch of bread dough and chamomile. The palate is a mélange of just-ripened Comice pear and red apple that washes across wet river stone towards a lemon-spritzed finish.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$16.00 - White

Angélique Léon

90

2022

Cabernet Franc

Inviting aromas of blackberry, cocoa powder, and red raspberry charm the nose. Mineral-driven red fruit opens on the palate, with chalky tannins that persist until the finish. This wine requires food to show its best. Decant for an hour and drink now, or open from 2028 onwards.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$24.00 - Red

Best Buy

Baudry & Dutour

90

Château de la Grille, 2022

Cabernet Franc

Black plum and subtle hints of tobacco elongate on the nose, alongside a cup of blackberry tea. The still-youthful palate strives towards balance with grippy tannins that lead on the attack and form the majority of the taste that will continue to soften over time. Decant now, or drink from 2028 onwards.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 - Red

Domaine de la Chapelle

Les Joueurs, 2024

90

Cabernet Franc

Expressive, ripe, black-cherry aromas open on the nose, alongside black tea and a touch of cranberry. The taut and chalky palate rides a wave of acidity to the finish, which empties into a pool of shattered stone. Decant and drink now, or enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$22.00 – Red

Best Buy

Domaine de la Haute Olive

Le Chene Vert, 2024

90

Cabernet Franc

Restrained aromas of black plum, pencil shavings, and crushed dried violet blossom open on the nose. Youthful tannins lead on the attack, followed by chalk-dusted acidity that persists to the finish. Decant for an hour and drink now, or enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – Red

Domaine de la Noblaie

Les Chiens Chiens, 2022

90

Cabernet Franc

A Chinon for every day. Perfumed aromas of red raspberry, red cherry and rhubarb fill the nose along with dried orange peel. Mouthwatering cranberry refreshes and rejuvenates the palate.

R.S. – Alcohol: 14%

Retail: \$18.00 – Red

Crémant de Loire

Best Buy

Domaine de Nerleux

La Folie des Loups Rosé, 2022

93

Sparkling Blend

Open this wine to kick off a fine evening with friends. Mature aromas of bread dough, peach, and brioche circle around the glass with impressive precision. The fulsome palate is comforting, aided by golden fruit that brings exuberance to the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$20.00 – Rosé



Editor's Choice

Langlois

Blanc de Blancs Extra Brut, 2021

93

Sparkling Blend

Cool vintages win in the long run with patience, and this bottling is a winner. Orange-peel and bread-dough aromas lead on the nose, along with citrus pith and biscuit. Chalky acidity leads on a palate buttressed by muddled green apple and Bosc pear that finishes in a pocket of lime peel.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$50.00 – Sparkling

Editor's Choice

Langlois

Cadence 140 ans, 2004 Magnum

93

Sparkling Blend

Bready aromas unfurl in the glass from this 2004, lemon-colored vintage, proving that Loire Crémant develops beautifully with age. The nose opens with pastry and bread dough and ends with a smattering of lemon tart. The palate is chalky and elegant with a springy fruit core that wants you to enjoy the juxtaposition of age and vitality that exists simultaneously in this bottling.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$225.00 – Sparkling, magnum only



Best Buy

Alliance Loire

Prince Alexandre Brut, NV

91

Sparkling Blend

This Crémant is destination. Seductive aromas of nectarine, white peach, and golden apple enthrall a nose guided by forest floor and hints of field grass. The palate is fresh, punctuated by moments of lemon citrus and chalk dust.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 – Sparkling

Best Buy

Bouvet Ladubay 91

Brut Excellence, NV

Chenin Blanc-Chardonnay

Green-apple and subtle white-peach aromas unfurl on a nose guided by Gala apple and orange blossom. The palate echoes the nose and adds white blossom that refreshes the finish. Pair with clams casino, fried clams, and onion rings.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 - White

Domaine Asseray 91

2023

Sparkling Blend

Pair this bottling with any night of the week. Gold in color, the wine's aromas of buttered, orange-marmalade toast open on the nose, buttressed by honeysuckle and bread dough. The palate is fresh, with a suggestion of white nectarine that continues to the finish.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$26.00 - Sparkling

Best Buy

Gratien Meyer 91

Brut Rosé, NV

Grolleau

This is the wine you pick up when you want to have fun, but you're also a wine enthusiast. Inviting aromas of muddled golden apple, honeysuckle, and orange blossom open on the nose. The palate follows suit with a mix of tart-and-tangy orchard fruit that raises and elongates the finish.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$10.99 - Rosé

Best Buy

Château de Mauny 90

Brut, NV

Chenin Blanc-Chardonnay

Sparkling wine was meant to be enjoyed every day, as is this bottling. Enticing aromas of orange marmalade, golden apple, and honeysuckle draw you in on the nose. The palate is fresh, with layered orchard fruit that is playful and soothing. Pair with anything fried, roasted, or broiled.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$16.00 - White

Best Buy

Famille Bougrier 90

Première Idylle Brut, NV

Chenin Blanc-Chardonnay

Gold in color, the wine has perfumed aromas of bread dough, apple compote, lilac, and white tea. The palate follows suit with additional flavors of hay, acacia blossom, and forest floor. This wine is a perfect accompaniment to roasted chicken, focaccia, and falafel.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$18.00 - Sparkling

Muscadet de Sèvre et Maine Village Appellations

Best Buy

Domaine Bid'Gi 94

La Haye Fouassière, 2018

Melon Blanc

This wine impresses. Intoxicating aromas of bread dough, banana peel, yogurt, and muddled golden apple open on the nose and focus your senses. The muscular palate is firm, with notes of toasted pastry, honeysuckle, and acacia blossom.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13.2%

Retail: \$18.00 - White

Editor's Choice

Domaine Menard-Gaborit 94

Monnières-Saint Fiacre, 2022

Melon Blanc

This is a standout Muscadet. Elegant, layered aromas of freshly baked apple tart, toasted pastry, and brioche charm the nose with an intoxicating perfume. A fulsome palate follows with well-integrated, soft-and-supple fruit that runs barefoot across dusty forest floor and dried white rose petals.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$36.00 - White

Best Buy

Famille Lieubeau 94

Clisson, 2023

Melon Blanc

This Muscadet impresses. The expressive nose pulls you in with seductive aromas of brioche, green-apple tart, quince, and orange marmalade. The layered, complex palate flaunts flavors of sun-kissed Comice pear and hay, along with a touch of almost-ripened white nectarine that lingers.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$19.00 – White



Editor's Choice

Domaine des Tilleuls 93

Vallet, 2022

Melon Blanc

Lemon-gold in color, this wine has a charming nose of white peach, yellow apple, and orange blossom punctuated by hints of honeysuckle. Firm in texture, the fulsome wine washes across wet river stone on the midpalate that benefits from a streak of salinity. Pair with moules-frites, Dover sole, and fried clams.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$35.00 – White

Best Buy

Les Frères Couillaud 93

Château de la Ragotière Vallet, 2020

Melon Blanc

Expressive aromas of forest floor, white-button mushroom, freshly sliced yellow apple, and dried white blossom enchant the nose. The palate echoes with more reserved intensity, alongside more subtle flavors of hay, turned earth, and crushed shells.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Editor's Choice

Domaine de l'Épinay 92

Clisson, 2023

Melon Blanc

The quality shows in the bottle from this fifth-generation wine producer. Crystalline aromas of brioche, bread dough, and green-apple tart lift from the glass, guided by a touch of freshly turned earth. The palate is svelte and well integrated, with pockets of pencil shavings and crushed stone emerging on a finish that delights.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$27.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine de la Haute Fèvre 92

Château-Thébaud, 2020

Melon Blanc

Pastry, acacia blossom, and honeysuckle aromas entice the nose as though you were enjoying a glass of wine in a kitchen, with bread baking in the oven. The palate follows suit and opens with chalky acidity that brushes up against Barlett pear and some shattered stone that reveals a touch of lemon citrus on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$17.00 – White

Best Buy

La Tour Gallus 92

Gorges, 2019

Melon Blanc

Alluring aromas of brioche, bread dough, and muddled Gala apple are layered and orange-blossom dusted. Stony in texture, the mineral-driven palate has a subtle streak of tangy acidity that lifts the finish. Pair with sunny outdoor evenings, grilled salmon, and oysters.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$14.00 – White

Muscadet Sèvre et Maine

Best Buy

Gadais Père et Fils 94

Péninsula Vieilles Vignes, 2023

Melon Blanc

This is a fine Muscadet. Gold in color, the wine opens with a mix of Fuji apple, dried hay, and early-fall field-grass aromas that lift from the glass and charm the nose. Creamy in texture, the palate combines chalky acidity with just-ripened orchard fruit that bumps up against shattered stone.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Best Buy

Château-Carré 92

Château l'Oiselinière
de la Ramée, 2023

Melon Blanc

When you open this wine, you'll soon seek it out again. Rich waves of yellow apple, fall field grass, and orange blossom consume a nose that draws you in. Firm in texture, the palate raises well-integrated orchard fruit framed by earthy acidity that resolves in dried lilac blossom on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Best Buy

Les Frères Couillaud 92

Château de la Ragotière
Les Veilles Vignes, 2024

Melon Blanc

Savory aromas of freshly cut herbs enchant the nose alongside white peach, kumquat zest, and melon. Firm in texture, an amalgam of orchard fruit, forest floor, and dried hay present as an elegant whole, with restrained intensity and finesse. Pair with arugula, rosemary chicken, and pesto pasta.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine de la Foliette 91

L'Origine, 2025

Melon Blanc

Inviting aromas of lilac, pencil shavings, and bread dough seamlessly converge and present as a coordinated whole on the nose. Gently layered flavors of acacia blossom and Bosc pear flow into pillowy, crushed stone, unlocking a touch of citrus on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$15.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine du Bourgeois 90

Le Bourgeois, 2024

Melon Blanc

This is a delicate wine. Aromas of slivered almond, walnut, and honeysuckle beguile the nose along with bread dough. Round in texture, subtle flavors of shattered stone, yogurt, and dried white blossom are accented by a touch of lilac on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$14.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine du Colombier – Jean-Yves Bretaudeau 90

2025

Melon Blanc

This is a solid Muscadet. Aromas of dried white-rose petal, toasted walnut, and green apple join freshly turned earth on the nose. Stony in texture, the palate adds crushed shells lifted by chalk-dusted acidity that effortlessly lingers.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$15.00 – White

Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil

Editor's Choice

Vignoble de la Jarnoterie 93

Concerto, 2022

Cabernet Franc

Smoky red currant and rhubarb aromas flirt with rose hip and cocoa nibs before running through a meadow of wild-flowers and freshly tilled earth. Briary fruit rides ahead of grippy, still-youthful tannins that lead into Darjeeling tea. Drink now through 2032.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$40.00 – Red

Editor's Choice

Yannick Amirault 93

Les Malgagnes, 2023

Cabernet Franc

Layered aromas of blackberry, black cherry, and rose hip entice the nose, along with hints of dried purple blossom. The well-integrated palate is a mélange of black-fruit bolstered by relaxed tannins that add depth. This wine is ready to be enjoyed now.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$24.00 – Red

Best Buy

Amirault – Clos des Quarterons 92

Les Gravilices, 2022

Cabernet Franc

Another terroir-led masterpiece from Xavier Amirault, this wine opens with rose-petal and red-cherry aromas that lead into hibiscus and freshly picked strawberry. The palate is elegant in body, with integrated black fruit that is in proportion to chalk-dusted tannins that please and persist.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$18.00 – Red

Vignoble de la Jarnerie

Élégante, 2024

91

Cabernet Franc

Reserved aromas of mulberry, black plum, and cassis begin on a nose accented by a touch of black olive. Velvety tannins lead on the attack, followed by plush, briary fruit that finds resolution on an elongated finish. Pair with Korean barbecue, Thai basil chicken, and cheeseburgers.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$25.00 – Red

Famille Cognard

Cuvée Estelle, 2024

90

Cabernet Franc

Aromas of blackberry and black olive converge on a nose bolstered by a savory tinge that leans into black tea. The palate is fresh and bright, with grippy tannins that lounge in a pool of chalk dust. This is a versatile wine that could be paired with a myriad of dishes.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$24.00 – Red

Saumur

Domaine de Rocheville

Côte de Parnay
Chenin Blanc, 2023

92

Chenin Blanc

The wine opens with chalk-dusted white-nectarine, green-apple, and lilac aromas that flirt with forest floor and summer meadow. The palate follows, with reserved orchard fruit layered atop a streak of stony acidity. Pair with tuna, sushi, and moules-frites.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$45.00 – White



Best Buy

Château Fouquet
2021

92

Cabernet Franc

Woodsy forest floor and young-cedar aromas swirl from your glass, joined by raspberry, black plum and hints of Alpine strawberry blossom in this biodynamically produced wine. Crushed seashells provide a pleasing underlay of minerality and add another dimension of flavor along with black-tea leaf.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$16.00 – Red

Domaine de la Paleine

Esprit de Chenin, 2022

91

Chenin Blanc

Bread dough and pastry aromas entice a nose framed by golden apple and a touch of baby's breath. The palate is firm in texture, with flavors of dried gardenia blossom and dusty forest floor. This wine craves sauerkraut, pork knuckles, and potatoes.

R.S. – Alcohol: 14%

Retail: \$24.00 – White

Domaine Armand David

Siébrtit, 2024

90

Cabernet Franc

Fragrant aromas of violet blossom, pencil shavings, raspberry, and black cherry open on the earthy nose. The palate is steely in texture, with bright briary fruit that is lifted by grippy tannins that carry over to the black-tea-dusted finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$24.00 – Red

Best Buy

Manoir de la Tête Rouge

Bagatelle Cabernet
Franc, 2023

90

Cabernet Franc

Don't wait for the weekend to enjoy this bottling. Red-raspberry, field-grass and black-tea aromas converge on a nose accented by violet blossom. The palate starts with Saumur's signature flavors of black tea and plum fruit that are supple and often elongated. Pair with filet mignon, pork tenderloin, and braised mushrooms.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – Red

Saumur Champigny

Editor's Choice

Clotilde Legrand **95**
Les Rogelins, 2011

Cabernet Franc

This mature wine is elegant and enticing. Ruby with garnet edges, its fragrant aromas of red raspberry, muddled black plum, black olive, and cocoa nib beguile the nose. The palate revolves around silky fruit that is in perfect balance, with a tannin structure that is supple, soft, and seductive.

R.S. - Alcohol: 15%

Retail: \$54.00 - Red



Editor's Choice

Château de Parnay **93**
Clos du Château, 2021

Cabernet Franc

Aromas of blackberry, dried mushroom, and rose hip open on the nose, guided by streaks of mint leaf and pencil shavings. The palate is beautifully supple and relaxed, with silky tannins that resolve on the finish. This cooler vintage is ready to drink now.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$50.00 - Red

Editor's Choice

Domaine de Nerleux **93**

Clos des Châtains
Vieilles Vignes, 2022

Cabernet Franc

This classic, mature Saumur-Champigny is ready for its closeup. Elegant aromas of muddled black plum, raspberry tart, and toasted bread open on a nose that delights the senses. The palate is plush in texture, with relaxed tannins that invite you in for afternoon Darjeeling tea and a biscuit.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$25.00 - Red

Best Buy

Domaine de Rocheville **92**

Les Pierres Blanches
Cabernet Franc, 2023

Cabernet Franc

Ruby in color, the wine opens with cocoa powder, hibiscus tea, and blackberry accented with black plum. An amalgam of red-and-black fruit fills the palate buttressed by elongated, silky tannins that persist. This is a perfect wine-by-the-glass choice to enjoy with friends.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 - Red

Best Buy

Domaine Filliatreau **92**
La Grande Vignolle, 2023

Cabernet Franc

This wine shoots above its weight. A mélange of raspberry and juicy black cherry opens on a nose guided by violet blossom and black tea. Still-adolescent tannins find a pathway into maturity via a palate that is chalky yet sensual. Decant and drink now or enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$19.00 - Red

Best Buy

Domaine La Bonnelière **90**

Tradition, 2024

Cabernet Franc

You can open this wine any night of the week, and it will likely pair with what you're having. Sultry aromas of black cherry, blackberry, and red plum entice a nose that is accented by a touch of apricot skin. The mineral-driven palate runs across wet river stone and resolves in a pool of chalk dust.

R.S. - Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$15.00 - Red

Saumur Puy-Notre-Dame

Domaine de l'Enchantoir **91**

Pied à l'Etrier, 2021

Cabernet Franc

Bread-dough and cherry-tart aromas open on a nose dusted with graphite and dried cranberry flakes. The palate is firm, with chalk-dusted black fruit that persists to the finish, along with hints of purple blossom. Pair with steak, kebabs, and poultry spiced with Montreal seasonings.

R.S. - Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$25.00 - Red

Savennières

Moulin de Chauvigné

91

Spirituelles Clos
Brochard, 2024

Chenin Blanc

Lemon in color, the wine delivers reserved aromas of yellow apple, white-peach skin, and dried white blossom on the nose. The firm and textured palate rests on a foundation of pencil shavings and forest floor. This wine will continue to develop with age. Decant now and enjoy from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$28.00 – White

Moulin de Chauvigné

91

Intemporelles, 2023

Chenin Blanc

Delicate hay and dried field-grass aromas frame golden apple and a touch of bread dough on the nose. The steely palate opens with tart green fruit and resolves in a pool of chalky acidity. Pair with shellfish, a cheese course, and fried anchovies.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$22.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine des Forges

90

Le Moulin du Gué,
2024

Chenin Blanc

Stone-dusted aromas of Comice pear, late-summer field grass, and baby's breath open on the nose. The palate is mineral driven, with a rounded layer of salty acidity that is in balance with the reserved, orchard-fruit core.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$18.00 – White

Touraine

Editor's Choice

Domaine Biet

93

Rouge Caractère,
2023

Cabernet Franc–Malbec

There are wines to sip, and wines to take pleasure in; this is the latter. Enticing aromas of blackberry, white-button mushroom, and muddled raspberry frolic with dew-dusted forest floor and strawberry leaf on the nose. The fulsome palate takes command, supported by a backbone of black raspberry and black olive.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$25.00 – Red

Best Buy

Château de Quincay

91

Launay, 2025

Malbec

This wine opens with aromas of black plum, dark chocolate, and violet blossom that flirt with cassis. Silky in texture, supple tannins massage dark fruit that cascades across the chalk-dusted finish. The wine is still youthful. Decant now, or open from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$18.99 – Red

Best Buy

Domaine Biet

91

Sauvignon Blanc,
2025

Sauvignon Blanc

The wine opens with breadly aromas of lilac, white nectarine, and orange blossom, all accented by a handful of forest floor. The palate is earthy and attractive, with a realness about itself that draws you into it. This versatile wine would flatter many dishes.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$18.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine De La Renaudie

91

Sauvignon, 2025

Sauvignon Blanc

A mix of quince and muddled Asian pear aromas lead into field grass and dried white blossom on the nose. The palate is firm and filled with ripe orchard fruit that is accented with the slightest touch of orange zest. This wine would pair beautifully with a basket of warm bread and salted butter.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$16.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine Jacky Marteau

91

2025

Gamay

Alluring aromas of bread dough, violet blossom, and black plum lift from the glass and elevate blackberry. A touch of boysenberry joins on the palate with velvety tannins that ride a wave of supportive acidity. This wine will continue to develop with more time in bottle. Decant now or drink from 2028 onwards.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$18.00 – Red



Best Buy

Domaine Joël Delaunay **90**
Sauvignon Blanc, 2025

Sauvignon Blanc

Gentle aromas of freshly cut herbs, Bartlett pear and geranium lift from the glass and are guided by a touch of orange blossom. The palate is supple and mineral laden, with springy freshness and acidity that charms the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$18.00 – White

Best Buy

Domaine Pré Baron **90**
La Couarde Sauvignon Blanc, 2025

Sauvignon Blanc

Fragrant wildflower blossoms open into a meadow of field grass and crushed stone on a nose that is accented by a touch of baby's breath. The palate echoes the nose and is pillowy in texture, guided by the slightest suggestion of forest floor on the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Best Buy

Paris-Simoneau **90**
Réserve Sauvignon Blanc, 2025

Sauvignon Blanc

Layered aromas of golden apple, pencil shavings, and baby's breath entice a nose that glides across dewy forest floor. The palate delivers flavors of chalk-dusted white peach and dried orange peel that bump up against the faintest suggestion of bread dough. Pair with a baguette and soft, gooey cheese.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12%

Retail: \$15.00 – White

Best Buy

Saget la Perrière **90**
Les Eclaireurs Le Vin des Copains, 2025

Gamay-Cabernet Franc

Aromas of red cherry and brioche enchant the nose guided by dried hay and leather. The palate is slightly grippy in texture, with velvety tannins that lean into shattered stone and cranberry flakes. This gentle, Pinot Noir and Cabernet Franc blend is ready to drink now.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$19.00 – Red

Touraine Azay-le-Rideau

Best Buy

Domaine Nicolas Paget **90**
Harmonie, 2022

Chenin Blanc

Aromas of white peach skin, yellow apple, and roasted orange slice open on the nose, along with a touch of honeysuckle. The palate combines fresh orchard fruit and bread dough supported by a springy streak of acidity that carries the finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$18.00 – White

Touraine Chenonceaux

Best Buy

Domaine François Cartier **92**
2024

Sauvignon Blanc

Sauvignon Blanc is a distinctive white wine, and this bottling embodies that distinction. Integrated aromas of orange peel, white peach, and kumquat zest open on the nose, which boasts tropical-fruit undertones that lead into a palate of equal intensity. The wine also flirts with field grass.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Editor's Choice

Domaine de la Rochette **92**
2023

Sauvignon Blanc

Honey-drizzled white peach opens on the nose along with a touch of ginger skin and orange blossom. The firm and muscular palate elevates just-ripened orchard fruit that is anchored in forest floor, bringing an additional layer of subtlety. Pair with General Tso's chicken, croque monsieur, or buttered seafood.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$30.00 – White



Domaine de la Chaise

91

Touraine
Chenonceaux, 2022

Red Blend

Aromas of black tea, raspberry, rose hip, and muddled strawberry arrive on the nose, along with hibiscus. The palate opens with velvety tannins that meet with more briary fruit on a chalky finish that goes on and on.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$30.00 – Red

Best Buy

Domaine Bellevue

90

Silex des Martinières,
2024

Sauvignon Blanc

Lemon-gold in color, the wine invites you into field grass, crab apple, and white nectarine, all resting on a foundation of dew-dusted forest floor. The palate follows suit, with integrated stone fruit that is elevated by chalky acidity that completes with a touch of citrus.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$13.00 – White

Touraine-Oisly

Best Buy

Domaine Delobel

91

L'Ellipse Sauvignon
Blanc, 2024

Sauvignon Blanc

Powerful aromas of freshly cut herbs, white peaches, and white-button mushrooms open on a nose that is anchored in forest floor. Restrained in comparison, the palate opens with tart yellow apple and orange peel that assuage and lead into more complexity that raises the finish. Pair with savory and herb-forward dishes including chicken Marbella.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$15.00 – White

Best Buy

Lionel Gosseume

90

Climat N°1, 2024

Sauvignon Blanc

Inviting savory aromas pull the senses into muddled yellow apple, lemon peel, and dusty forest floor. The palate begins with tangy acidity that mellows on the mineral, chalk-dusted finish. Pair with shellfish, fried anchovies, and risotto.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$17.00 – White

Val de Loire PGI

Best Buy

La Fille Couillaud

91

Bernier, 2023

Pinot Noir

Muddled black-cherry, rhubarb, and field-herb aromas perfume the nose, along with hay and dew-dusted forest floor. Delicately textured, pillowy tannins open into briary fruit and black tea on a palate that is relaxed and developed.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$15.00 – Red



Best Buy

Réthoré Davy

90

Parcelles Pinot Noir,
2025

Pinot Noir

Focused aromas of black-cherry compote, black plum, and red currant open on a nose accented by rose hip and red-cherry flakes. Relaxed fruit and supple tannins persist on a finish dusted with crushed shells and a touch of chalk.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$15.00 – Red

Vouvray

Domaine François et Julien Pinon

92

Non Dosé Brut, 2022

Chenin Blanc

Buttery aromas of toasted brioche, apple tart, and bread dough open on the nose, followed by a touch of Comice pear. The palate opens with a moment of tangy acidity that leads into reserved orchard fruit that rides its way to a lemon-zested finish.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$40.00 – Sparkling

Vignoble Alain Robert

Les Charmes, 2024

92

Chenin Blanc

The wine opens with a fragrant nose of muddled golden apple and Asian pear that frolics in a bed of orange blossom. The palate is more reserved in contrast, with rich, integrated orchard fruit that is firm and floral. Pair this with charcuterie, a bread course, and a dessert tray of sliced fruit.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$24.00 – White



Best Buy

Damien Pinon

Le Brut de Brut, NV

91

Chenin Blanc

Floral aromas of lilac and white-rose petal open on a nose guided by green apple and a touch of dusty forest floor. Juicy fruit kicks off the palate, which dives into a pool of dried lemon peel that lends added depth. Pair with goat cheese, croquettes, and endless evenings.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – Sparkling

Best Buy

Domaine de la Fontainerie

Sec, 2022

91

Chenin Blanc

Exuberant aromas of muddled golden apple, lemon curd, and orange marmalade open on a nose that is playful and accented with honey-suckle. The palate welcomes with orchard fruit that runs across wet river stone which empties into a pool of chalk-dusted white nectarine. Pair with rotisserie chicken, pan-fried salmon, and apple pie.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13%

Retail: \$20.00 – White

Best Buy

Maison Darragon

Le Haut des Ruettes
Dem-Sec Chenin Blanc,
2025

90

Chenin Blanc

Aromas of bread dough and pastry lift from the glass, guided by dew-dusted forest floor and a frosting of pencil shavings. The off-dry wine embraces Empire apple, honey-drizzled orange peel, and white tea. Pair with spicy dishes that could benefit from a touch of sweetness to offset the spice like chicken tikka masala, pad kra pao and hot-honey-glazed anything.

R.S. – Alcohol: 13.5%

Retail: \$18.00 – White

Best Buy

Vignoble Alain Robert

Troglodyte, NV

90

Chenin Blanc

Honey-drizzled yellow-apple and orange-marmalade aromas entice the nose along with Asian pear and a touch of quince. Tart fruit leads into chalk on the midpalate and finishes with a spritz of lemon. Pair with risotto, roasted salmon and fried clams.

R.S. – Alcohol: 12.5%

Retail: \$19.00 – White