

# Wine Spectator

## THOMAS MATTHEWS' RECOMMENDED WINES FROM SPAIN

For complete reviews, see the Buying Guides of this and previous issues or [www.winespectator.com](http://www.winespectator.com).  
An alphabetical listing of all wines tasted for this report is available at [www.winespectator.com/121508](http://www.winespectator.com/121508).

### TOP WINES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>J.C. CONDE DELGADO Y OTROS</b> Ribera del Duero Neo 2004 Shows power and harmony. Black plum, dark chocolate, mineral and game flavors. Ripe, rich and thick.	96	\$58
<b>BODEGAS LAN</b> Rioja Culmen Reserva 2004 Beautiful modern red. Offers a velvety texture supported by ripe, well-integrated tannins and plenty of sweet toasty oak.	96	\$60
<b>BODEGAS Y VIÑAS DOS VICTORIAS</b> Toro Gran Elias Mora 2005 This red has an iron grip now, but there's impressive concentration. Shows rich cassis, coffee, anise and tar notes.	95	\$85
<b>BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS PUJANZA</b> Rioja Cisma 2005 Voluptuous and focused, this rich red shows ripe blackberry and boysenberry flavors. Great depth and balance.	95	\$220
<b>BODEGAS HNOS. SASTRE</b> Ribera del Duero Pesus 2005 Blueberry, lilac, sandalwood, dark chocolate and mineral flavors mingle in this seductive red. Muscular tannins.	95	\$750
<b>BODEGAS ALTO MONCAYO</b> Garnacha Campo de Borja Aquilon 2005 Dense and structured, yet plush and inviting. Raspberry jam and dark chocolate. A modern style, yet pure and clean.	94	\$156
<b>ARDÈVOL</b> Priorat Terra d'Hom 2005 Delivers deep, rich fruit flavors of plum, blackberry and cassis, backed by powerful tannins. Rugged yet balanced.	94	\$60
<b>BODEGAS LOS ASTRALES</b> Ribera del Duero 2004 Alluring and exotic. Kirsch and raspberry ganache aromas leap from the glass. Modern style, yet distinctive. A bit wild.	94	\$55
<b>BODEGAS LUIS CAÑAS</b> Rioja Hiru 3 Racimos 2004 Ripe fruit and smoky oak mingle seamlessly in this rich, thick red. Delicious, in the international style.	94	\$118
<b>CELLERS CAPAFONS-OSSÓ</b> Priorat Mas de Masos 2004 Licorice, lilac and mineral notes accent blackberry and cassis fruit in this dense red. Well-integrated, muscular tannins.	94	\$70
<b>BODEGAS EL NIDO</b> Jumilla El Nido 2005 Intense and distinctive. Blueberry and blackberry flavors are jammy yet maintain focus. Long, fresh, sweet, floral finish.	94	\$154
<b>BODEGAS FUENTESPINA</b> Ribera del Duero F 2003 Powerful and distinctive. Menthol, hoisin and rosemary notes frame black cherry, mineral and earth flavors.	94	\$75
<b>BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS MAUROS</b> Toro San Román 2004 Alluring plum, blackberry, cola and spice cake flavors are rich and balanced in this expressive red.	94	\$62
<b>ÁLVARO PALACIOS</b> Priorat L'Ermitea 2005 Bright and juicy, this red brims with blackberry and raspberry fruit, accented by smoke, mineral and floral notes.	94	\$700
<b>ABADIA RETUERTA</b> Syrah Viño de la Tierra de Castilla y León Pago Garduña 2005 Ripe, polished flavors of plum pudding, mincemeat and licorice in this powerful red. Lively through the complex finish.	94	\$110

### TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
<b>BODEGAS BORSAO</b> Campo de Borja Crianza Selección 2005 Dense and balanced, this polished red carries plum, blackberry, black pepper and tar flavors. Muscular tannins.	92	\$16
<b>ADEGA CONDES DE ALBAREI</b> Albariño Rias Baixas 2007 Focused and distinctive, this solid white offers pine, lanolin, pineapple and honey flavors. Complex yet balanced.	90	\$10
<b>BODEGAS LAN</b> Rioja Reserva 2004 A silky texture carries expressive flavors of black plum, violet, licorice and smoke in this focused, balanced red.	90	\$17
<b>ROMERO &amp; MILLER</b> Rioja Rentas de Fincas Reserva 2002 A plush texture carries flavors of black cherry, tobacco, cedar and tar in this plump red. Stays fresh and firm.	90	\$18
<b>BODEGAS MUGA</b> Rioja White Barrel Fermented 2006 Subtle but intriguing, this white offers gooseberry, almond, anise and light herb flavors.	89	\$15
<b>PAZO SERANTELLOS</b> Albariño Rias Baixas 2007 Marries a plush texture with a steely backbone, offering ripe flavors of pear, melon and honeysuckle.	89	\$10
<b>SITIOS DE BODEGA</b> Rueda Conclass 2006 This broad-shouldered white has a muscular structure, but remains graceful thanks to vibrant acidity.	89	\$12
<b>BODEGAS RAMÓN BILBAO</b> Tempranillo Rioja Crianza 2005 Frames black cherry jam flavors with tobacco and dark chocolate notes. Thick and juicy, with well-integrated tannins.	88	\$13
<b>BODEGAS VAL DE VID</b> Verdejo Rueda Condesa Eylo 2007 Green apple and pear flavors are ripe yet crisp in this silky white. Bright lemon-lime acidity keeps it lively.	88	\$13
<b>BODEGAS BERBERANA</b> Tempranillo Viño de la Tierra de Castilla Dragón 2005 This plump red offers sweet cherry, spice, cedar, herbal and smoky flavors, with soft tannins. Generous and fresh.	87	\$7
<b>BODEGAS ARAGONESAS</b> Campo de Borja Coto de Hayas 2006 A lush texture carries the fresh flavors of sweet black plum, morello, chocolate and spice in this generous red.	86	\$8
<b>MARQUÉS DE CÁCERES</b> Rioja Rosado 2007 A firm, dry rosé, with expressive cherry and berry flavors, accented by herb and floral notes.	86	\$9
<b>MARQUÉS DE CÁCERES</b> Rioja White 2007 This light white offers bright peach and floral notes, with crisp, citrusy acidity. Clean and refreshing.	86	\$8
<b>BODEGAS ATECA</b> Garnacha Calatayud de Fuego Old Vines 2006 Wild berry, cranberry and toast. Exuberant but a bit unsettled.	85	\$7
<b>HIJOS DE ANTONIO BARCELÓ</b> Tempranillo Viño de la Tierra de Castilla y León Peñascal 2005 Cherry, berry, herb and leaf notes. Just enough tannin for grip.	85	\$8