

Top 50 value buys from South America

Few wine regions, let alone entire continents, can perform as well as South America when it comes to value for money. From 247 wines tasted over two days, our experts have chosen the best with UK availability, all priced under £12.99. From a Brazilian sparkling to Chilean sweet wines, a Uruguayan white plus Argentina's finest reds, there's something here to please every palate

The tasters



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is *Decanter's* tastings director who has worked in wine for more than 20 years



Patricio Tapia

is the DWWA Regional Chair for Argentina and writes an annual guide to the wines of South America



Dirceu Vianna Jr MW

is wine director for the Coe Group in the UK. He was born in Brazil and is South America's first male Master of Wine



Peter Richards MW

is the DWWA Regional Chair for Chile, who published the *Chile Wine Brief 2013*



Jane Parkinson

is an award-winning wine writer as well as an author, broadcaster and columnist based in the UK

1 Miolo, Cuvée Tradition, Vale de Vinhedos, Serra Gaúcha, Brazil NV

17/20pts (90/100pts)

£12.48 **Buy Great Wine**

Elegant, light floral tones and toasty peach notes on the nose complement a simple and clean palate, which is streaked with crisp apple, lemon and grapefruit. Refreshing, wonderful value and a great alternative to Prosecco. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 12%

2 Cono Sur, Sparkling Brut Rosé, Bío Bío Valley, Chile NV 16.25 (87)

£9.99 **Budgens, Tesco and independents**

Beautiful summer berry aromas lead on to a succulent, juicy palate. Mellow strawberry, cherry and raspberry tones blend refreshingly through to the long, defined finish. Plump, juicy and easy-going. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 12%

3 Cono Sur, Reserva Especial Riesling, Bío Bío Valley, Chile 2014 18.5 (95)

£9.99 **Morrisons, Tesco and independents**

Green apple, lime and toasty aromas combine with petrol notes. The expressive palate showcases vibrant lime against elegant minerality, while honeyed tones add succulence and purity. Racy, zesty and lively, this is an outstanding example of Riesling. **Drink** 2015-2018 **Alc** 13.5%

4 Cono Sur, 20 Barrels Sauvignon Blanc, Casablanca, Chile 2013 17.25 (90+)

£12.99 **Tesco**

An exquisite nose of tropical mango and asparagus immediately engages. Sweetly intense, a beautifully fresh acidity underpins the broad, impressive palate which is jam-packed with flavour. Rich, powerful and enticingly complex. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13%

5 Ventolera, Litoral Sauvignon Blanc, Leyda, Chile 2013 17.25 (90+)

£12.30 **Bedales, Harperwells**

Subtle, leafy and smoke aromas give way to a confident, zesty palate. Zingy herbs, citrus fruit and saline flavours are complex and textural. Charming, sophisticated and very promising. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.5%

6 Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite), Los Vascos Sauvignon Blanc, Casablanca, Chile 2014 16.75 (89)

£8.99-£10.99 **Bon Coeur, Bucktrout, Dart's**

Farm, Laithwaite's, O'Brien's, Upton-upon-Severn Wines, Tajo Trading

Elegant apple, lime and herbal aromas lead to a youthful, expressive palate of intense lemon, crisp green apple, mango, fine herbs and fresh grapefruit. Vibrant and moreish. **Drink** 2015 **Alc** 13%

7 Cono Sur, Reserva Especial Sauvignon Blanc, Casablanca, Chile 2014 16.5 (88)

£9.99 **Ocado, Waitrose and independents**

Sweetly herbal nose of gooseberry, pink grapefruit and peppery notes. The lively, exuberant palate boasts juicy, intense mango, passion fruit and fresh herbs. Modern and pretty – complex for the money. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13%

8 Garzón, Albariño, Uruguay 2014

16.5 (88)

£12.99 **House of Menzies, Turton Wines**

Crisp apple and lime aromas are lifted by the floral tones. Ripe, approachable peach and nectarine fruit fill the creamy palate, lapping at the juicy, lively acidity. Fresh and sophisticated without trying too hard. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 12.5% ➤



Enriched fruitiness and aromatic expression.



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9 Nieto Senetiner, Torrontés, Cafayate, Salta, Argentina 2014 16.5 (88)
£9.49 Chester Beer & Wine, D Byrne & Co, Highbury Vintners, Wineraks

Brave and lean, with floral and citrus aromas. Hints of fresh curry leaf and nutty accents add intrigue. Youthful, vibrant and flinty palate of star fruit, apple and lime. A kick of zippy acidity gives great focus. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5%

10 Graffigna, Centenario Torrontés Reserve, Salta, Argentina 2013 16.25 (87)
£9.99 Ocado

A restrained bouquet leads to a forward, invigorating palate showing excellent purity of fruit in a lean and direct way. On the palate, citrus fruit merges with fresh star fruit, floral accents and flinty minerality. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5%

11 Quintay, Sauvignon Blanc Grand Reserve, Casablanca, Chile 2014 16 (86)
£12.99 Ocado, We Are Wines, Aston Jones, East End Cash & Carry, High Spirit, Yorkshire Vintners
Gooseberry, cucumber and vibrant pea pod aromas take centre stage in this extrovert wine. Confident tropical fruit notes join asparagus and fine herbs on the dry, refreshing palate. Cheerfully forward. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13%

12 Cousiño Macul, Antiguas Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo Valley, Chile 2012 17.75 (92)
£11.99 Majestic, Ravensbourne Wine, Upton upon Severn, Wright Wine Co, Whitebridge Wine
A bouquet of succulent brambles, ripe plums and violets leads on to a intensely concentrated, peppery palate, laced with

mouthwatering cherry fruit and caressed by soft, sophisticated tannins. Engaging and down-to-earth. Utterly charming. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

13 Salentein, Barrel Selection Malbec, Uco Valley, Argentina 2013 17.75 (92)
£11.15 Matthew Clark
Bright and young, full of creamy red fruit aromas and lovely floral accents. Rich, perfumed meat and beetroot flavours pack the elegant palate, while grippy tannins give a taut mouthfeel. It cries out for grilled meats. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

14 Amalaya, Malbec-Syrah-Cabernet Sauvignon, Calchaquí, Salta, Argentina 2014 17.25 (90+)
£11 widely available via UK agent Liberty Wines



Soft, round and complex layers of juicy black cherry, rich smoky beef and smooth oak define the palate. Distinctive and densely concentrated, the fruit intensity persists to the finish. Powerful and robust. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

15 Finca Sopenia, Sopenia 2 Cabernet Sauvignon-Malbec, Gualtallary, Tupungato, Uco Valley, Argentina 2014 17.25 (90+)

£11.25 Ellis of Richmond
Vivacious yet soft and approachable. Cabernet lends spice and bright acidity, while Malbec imparts juicy red fruit. Abundant blackcurrant flavours are tamed by elegant beetroot tones and healthy tannins. Well crafted and restrained. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14.5%

16 J Bouchon, Canto Sur, Maule, Chile 2014 17.25 (90+)

£11.99 Bancroft Wines
Easy-drinking and extremely pretty, this refreshing Carmenere boasts a perfumed cherry aroma and lifted, jammy palate. Tight yet supple and juicy, flecks of spice and green notes add complexity. Brilliant value. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13%

17 Mauricio Lorca, Fantasia Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2014 17.25 (90+)
£11.49 Hennings, Ten Green Bottles, Refreshers, Wright Wine Co, Dorset Wine Co
Elegantly sweet and rounded, a polished, creamy nose offers black fruits dashed with spice. Richly spiced and floral, suggestions of savoury tones boost the highly textural palate. Smooth, rotund and supple. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%



18 Tabali, Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo, Chile 2013 17.25 (90+)
£9.99 Blas Ar Fwyd Cyf, Camber Wines, D Byrne & Co, The Bottlestop

Glossy, polished oak and blackcurrant on the nose. The intense, firm, textural palate is full of juicy red cherry and herb tones plus broad oak and grippy tannins Classic Maipo Cabernet. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

19 Trapiche, Pure Malbec, Uco Valley, Argentina 2015 17.25 (90+)
£8.99 Co-Op

An honest Malbec, blending soft, creamy fruit with polished oak and butter-soft tannins. The classic palate is vividly expressive and lifted, with lovely floral and fruit characters winding throughout. Textbook. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

20 Finca Las Moras, Barrel Select Malbec, Pedernal, San Juan, Argentina 2014 17 (90)

£11.99 Bibendum PLB
You can taste the high altitude in this focused, complex, intense wine. Powerful sweet plum and blackcurrant fruit line the creamy, chocolatey palate enlivened by vivacious acidity. Ripe, elegant and long. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

21 Los Haroldos, Roble Bonarda, La Consulta, Uco Valley, Argentina 2012 17 (90)

£11 widely available via UK agent Momentum
Bright acidity lifts racy and intense red fruits, herbs and spices. The palate has a defined weight and body, but this remains a crisp and refreshing Bonarda. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5% ➤

Softer tannins and richer colour.



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22 Luigi Bosca, Finca La Linda Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2013 17 (90)
£7.95-£10.95 *Slurp, Oxford Wine Co, Dunell's Premier Wine, Bodnant Welsh Food Co, Dorset Wine Co, Street Wines*
Polished, crunchy, ripe strawberry and cherry. Complex and robust, the intense palate smooths out to an elegant finish. Great value. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5%

23 Otaviano, Penedo Borges Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2014 17 (90)
£9.75 *Lea & Sandeman*
Bright strawberry and floral aromas. Lively and fresh peppery spice add to milk chocolate creaminess on the palate. Hard to resist. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

24 Piedra Negra, Malbec Reserve, Uco Valley, Argentina 2013 17 (90)
£12.50 *Tanners*
Rich, robust and voluptuous. Lifted clove and stone fruit aromas give way to a sweetly refined palate of florals, fig and blackcurrant. Firm tannins give a textural, opulent profile. **Drink** 2015-2018 **Alc** 14%

25 Turi, Merlot, Central Valley, Chile 2014 17 (90)
£7.99 *widely available via UK agent Cachet Wine*
Pepper, cassis and moreish chocolate tones envelop rich baked plum and wild herb aromas. Warm earth, leather and rugged savoury threads twist around fine grained tannins. **Drink** 2015-2019 **Alc** 13%

26 Chakana, Estate Bonarda, Mendoza, Argentina 2014 16.75 (89)
£10.99 *Bacchanalia, Hailsham Cellar, Lancaster Wine Co, R Campbell & Sons, Penistone Court*

Abundant layers of toasty oak, creamy cherry fruit and sweet spices. Mellow and refreshing, the developing dark fruit tones add depth and complexity to the bright simplicity. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.5%

27 Errazuriz, Max Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Aconcagua, Chile 2013 16.75 (89)
£12.99 *Waitrose, Vino Wines, Hailsham Cellars, Evingtons, Dike & Sons, Whalley Wine Shop*
Ripe and creamy cherry, currant and spicy green peppercorn on a youthful, oaky palate. With meaty, smoky aromas and ripe tannins, this is a complex and attractive wine. **Drink** 2015-2019 **Alc** 14%

28 Renacer, Punto Final, Malbec, Lujan de Cuyo, Argentina 2014 16.75 (89)

£10.99 *widely available via UK agent Liberty Wines*
A polished Malbec with a compact texture which vibrates with elegance. Floral and rounded red cherry notes plus a touch of sweetness on the finish makes it very appealing. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

29 Santa Rita, Medalla Real Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo, Chile 2011 16.75 (89)
£11.99-£12.23 *The Drink Shop, Majestic*
Exuding a strong sense of place, this combines smoky, eucalyptus aromas with a creamy palate of sweet blackcurrant and ripe tannins. Fig and chocolate tones round out the finish, lending weight and texture. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

30 Tabalí, Reserva Limited Edition Syrah-Carmenere, Limarí, Chile 2012 16.75 (89)
£10.75 *Boutinot*
Intense and concentrated, yet still well balanced. Savoury and full of characterful beetroot, spice, nutmeg and thyme notes to augment the ripe red cherry fruit. The precise tannins and bright acidity give great structure. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

31 Trapiche, Broquel Malbec, Uco Valley, Argentina 2013 16.75 (89)
£12.99 *Flagship Wines, Hailsham Cellars, Winedirect, Vintage House, Italian Continental, Blyth Valley Wines*
Powerfully intense bramble fruit set against, youthful tannins. Fresh and classy, the fruit density is lifted by aromas of cumin spice and crushed violets. Long and lingering. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14.4% ➤





32 Casa Silva, Reserva Carmenere, Colchagua, Chile 2014 16.5 (88)
£10.95 **Averys, Charles Steevenson, Field & Fawcett, George Hill & Co, Lockett Bros, Stainton Wines**
Soft, mellow tea leaf aromas lead to a beautifully balanced palate. Exuding great energy, ripe red plum fruits, smoke and clove combine to show typical Carmenere weight, while minty notes lift and inspire. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.5%

33 Casarena, Winemaker Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, Lujan de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina 2014 16.5 (88)
£9.99-£10.99 **Robinson's Brewery, Drinks Emporium**
This warm, intense Cabernet feels welcoming and ready to drink. An intense acidity refreshes against smooth sweet oak, subtle spice and herbaceous notes. Elegant black fruits keep things bright and fresh. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14.3%

34 Chakana, Estate Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2014 16.5 (88)
£10.99 **Hailsham Cellars, Blyth Valley Wines, The Wine Shop, Eagles Wines, Robert & Speight**
This is a simple, classic Malbec, offering pure, vibrant cherry fruit, dashed with spice and floral accents. The well-integrated acidity supports and drives, providing an essential freshness and vitality. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

35 J Bouchon, Cabernet Sauvignon Block Series, Maule, Chile 2012 16.5 (88)
£12.99 **Cellar by the Quay, The Dorset Wine Co, Village Wines Ware**
Firm, focused and appealingly rustic in

style. Grippy tannins and an intense acidity provide firm and refreshing structure against beautiful macerated black cherry, spiced dark fruit compote and hints of savoury development. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5%

36 Morandé, Gran Reserva Pinot Noir, Casablanca, Chile 2013 16.5 (88)
£12.99 **widely available via UK agent Barwell & Jones**
Classic cranberry and raspberry aromas lead to a soft, fruity palate of rich, juicy cherry and strawberry and a jammy, spiced kirsch finish. Striking all the right notes for a Chilean Pinot, this shows great depth and personality while remaining appealing for everyday summer drinking. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%



37 Salentein, Barrel Selection Cabernet Sauvignon, Uco Valley, Argentina 2012 16.5 (88)
£11.15 **Matthew Clark**
Honest and pure, this Cabernet boasts an attractive bouquet of dried cranberry and glacé cherry. The crunchy red fruit on the savoury-tinged palate feels chic and appealing against the expressive nose. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14.5%

38 Santa Carolina, Reserva Carmenere, Cachapoal, Chile 2013 16.5 (88)
£8.99-£10.99 **Ocado, Excel Wines**
Pure, juicy plum and currant fruit is streaked with resinous, earthy, tobacco notes and fine, firm tannins. Savoury and linear in style, showing a hint of maturity, this is a thoroughly grown-up expression of the grape. **Drink** 2015-2018 **Alc** 13.5%

39 Tabalí, Reserva Especial Pinot Noir, Limarí, Chile 2013 16.5 (88)
£10.99 **Camber Wines, Great Grog, Tiny's Tipples, Tivoli Wines**
Intensely aromatic ripe strawberries, marshmallows and hints of lavender lace the nose. Dense tannins dominate the palate, though charming cherry fruit shines through. A modern and easy-going wine. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 13.5%

40 Alamos, Selección Malbec, Uco Valley, Argentina 2013 16.25 (87)
£12.99 **Bibendum PLB**
Creamy spiced chocolate notes blend effortlessly on the fresh, polished palate. Sweet, mellow oak and intense, maturing black cherry fruit linger to the long finish. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.9% ➤



41 Casa Silva, Colección Carmenere, Colchagua, Chile 2014 16.25 (87)
£9.45 Fine Wines Direct, Lea & Sandeman, Wine Tasting Co, Stainton Wines, Portland Wines
Spiced fruit cake and simple, juicy black fruits dominate, with notes of mint and pepper adding complexity. Round, ripe and classic. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14%

42 El Porvenir, Amauta Absoluta Tannat, Cafayate, Salta, Argentina 2013 16.25 (87)
£9.99 JC & RH Palmer, Peter Graham, Halifax Wine Co, Vagabond Wines
Concentrated fig, black cherry and plum fruit backed by fine structure. Soft, sweet and unctuous, this is rich, fruit-driven and appealing. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14.5%

43 Ruca Malen, Petit Verdot, Mendoza, Argentina 2012 16.25 (87)
£12.75 Corney & Barrow
Slick and concentrated, plum, blackcurrant and spicy redcurrant on the vital, tangy palate. Elegant and gentle with grippy tannins, **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14.5%

44 Turi, Cabernet Sauvignon, Central Valley, Chile 2014 16.25 (87)
£7.99 widely available via UK agent Cachet Wine
A charming fresh, peppery wine where juicy black cherry combines with a hint of oak. Lightly floral and spiced, this is a crowd pleaser. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.5%

45 Viñalba, Reservado de la Familia Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina 2013 16.25 (87)
£9.99 Morrison's
Perfumed, minty aromas lead to a fresh,

intense palate of red fruits and herbs, weaving good complexity and interest throughout. Perfect for barbecue. **Drink** 2015-2018 **Alc** 14.5%

46 Cono Sur, Reserva Especial Pinot Noir, San Antonio, Chile 2014 16 (86)
£9.99 Waitrose, Morrisons, Ocado
Simple and super-ripe, this beautiful Pinot exudes sweet cherry and spicy tones. Crunchy raspberry, gamey and meaty notes add textural interest and weighty appeal. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 14%

47 Cucao, CS Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Colchagua, Chile 2011 16 (86)
£8.20 Tanners
Vivacious and smooth, creamy red cherry fruit and leafy freshness are backed by

mellow, leathery, smoky hints of development. Firm tannins and bright acidity ensure balance is retained perfectly. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 13.5%

48 Vistalba, Corte C, Luján de Cuyo, Argentina 2013 16 (86)
£11.75 Great Western Wines
Rich, sweetly ripe fruit and spicy opulence shows the generosity of the Malbec grape. Intensely concentrated with a voluptuous profile, this is one to serve at hearty meals. **Drink** 2015-2016 **Alc** 14.5%

49 Casas del Bosque, Late Harvest Riesling, Casablanca, Chile 2013 17.25 (90+)
£11.89/375ml widely available via UK agent ABS Wine Agencies
Honeyed lemon and sweet floral notes fill the bouquet. Smoky baked toffee apple flavours build across the intense and unctuous palate. Richly textural, there's an underlying steely minerality that ensures a sense of balance. Wonderful value. **Drink** 2015-2017 **Alc** 11.5%

50 Morandé, Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc, Casablanca, Chile 2013 17.25 (90+)
£8-£10/375ml Field & Fawcett, Stainton Wines, Tom l'Anson, The Wine Co, Telford Wines
Barley sugar aromas lead on to honeyed apricot, peach and rich marmalade. Vivacious acidity enlivens toffee-coated dried fruit and nuts on the sweet, engagingly opulent palate all the way to the bittersweet orange rind finish. Fabulous value. **Drink** 2015-2018 **Alc** 11.5%

For full details of UK stockists, see p111

