

Splurge on a special bottle of wine this Victoria Day weekend

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After a long, cold winter including a pounding ice storm in April, the unofficial start of summer is certainly cause for celebration. So lift a glass this Victoria Day weekend with a really special bottle of wine — one that delivers amazing value for money. Here are five wines well worth the splurge — and why.

Wine recommendations



2016 La Valentina Pecorino, Colline Pescaresi IGT, Abruzzo, Italy (Vintages 541433 \$17.95 available in stores and online)

I have a soft spot for Pecorino — the wine, not the cheese — because of its inherently rich, almost oily texture balanced by bracing grapefruit-squirt acidity. It's an exciting style that's a bit undersung and this bottle is a textbook example. Expect the characteristic note of struck steel on the nose and palate combined with quiet allusions of salted grapefruit zest and cool apple. The viscous centre is shot through with bracing acidity that scrapes the palate clean and leaves a slight chalkiness behind. If you like the refreshing, relatively neutral character of Pinot Grigio, unoaked Chardonnay and Verdicchio, you'll love this Pecorino.

Score: 92+