

Best Of 2018

# The 50 Best Wines Under \$50

Wine critic Elin McCoy tasted it all in 2018. Here are the liquid luxuries anybody can afford.

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By Elin McCoy

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This year, I'm happy to report, it's easier than ever to buy great wines without spending a fortune. From my tastings, I've chosen 50 wines that cost under \$50 a bottle—and deliver both value and sheer deliciousness for the price.

I could have picked many, many more.

For example, while Oregon is known for pinot noir, I found stellar bargains among its chardonnays and rieslings. Besides superb sauvignon blancs, New Zealand excels at other whites and reds at good prices. Rieslings from everywhere continue to remain undervalued for quality, as are less-known varieties such as Carignane that are making a comeback. Entry level and second wines from the best estates almost always offer top value, especially among the Bordeaux from the 2015 vintage now arriving on retail shelves.

[...]

## Regal Reds



### **2015 La Valentina Spelt Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva DOC (\$21)**

*Smoky, smooth, and multilayered, this rich red packs real depth and elegance at a bargain price.*

([www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-12-07/the-50-best-wines-under-50](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-12-07/the-50-best-wines-under-50))