

# BEST BUYS

## DOMESTIC & AUSTRALIAN WHITE RHONE BLENDS & VARIETALS

### Viognier, Marsanne, Roussanne, Grenache Blanc, Picpoul

#### K&L San Francisco, Redwood City & Hollywood, CA

#### “The best wine web site in the U.S.” The Wall Street Journal 4/10/10

- 89 \$12 Chateau Tahbilk Marsanne Nagambie Lakes Victoria Australia 09 (screw cap). \$12 K&L. \$13.29 wine.com. JH 91. RP 90. Australian Wine J 87. “A winner” Toronto Sun.
- 90 \$12 Chateau Tahbilk Marsanne Nagambie Lakes Victoria Australia 10. \$12 K&L. \$13.20 wine.com. JH 92. RP 89. Australian Wine J 91.
- 88 \$14 Yalumba Viognier Eden Valley Australia 10 (screw cap). \$13 Costco. \$14 K&L. \$19.29 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. ST 90. RP 86. WBB=88. CellarTracker.com 88 (2 ratings)
- 89 \$14 d’Arenberg The Hermit Crab Marsanne-Viognier McLaren Vale Australia 09 (screw cap). \$14 K&L/WhFoods. \$15 Cost+. \$16.49 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. W&S 90. WE 87.
- 87 \$15 Bridlewood Viognier Central Coast CA 08 (4%Chard-4%Marsanne-2%Roussanne). \$12 B&M. \$15 K&L. \$19 MSRP. RP 88. CellarTracker 87 (27 ratings).
- 90 \$18 Tablas Creek Patelin de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 10 (50%GrenBl-33%Viognier-10%Roussanne-7%Marsanne). \$18 K&L. \$20 wine.com. WS 91. RP 87-89. RP 89. W&S 89.
- 91 \$18+ Quady North Viognier Mae’s Vd Ox Block Applegate Valley OR 09. \$18.49 K&L. \$25 MSRP. WS 91. Editor’s Choice WE 91.
- 90 \$20 Alban Viognier Central Coast CA 09. \$20 K&L. \$26 Zachys. \$24 MSRP. RP 90. ST 91. CellarTracker.com 91 (20 ratings). Snooth.com 3½ stars (4 ratings).
- 89 \$20 Cold Heaven Viognier Santa Ynez Valley CA 09. \$20 K&L. ST 91. CellarTracker.com 86 (6 ratings). Wine of the Week 10/12/11 Daily News. .
- 89 \$20 Qupe Marsanne (15% Roussanne) Santa Ynez Valley CA 10. \$16 WClub. \$18 Astor. \$20 K&L/MSRP. Editor’s Choice WE 90. RP 87. CellarTracker.com 90 (10 ratings).
- 89 \$20 Melville Viognier Verna’s Estate Santa Barbara Co CA 10. \$20 K&L/WClub. \$24 JJB. \$26 MSRP. ST 91. RP 88. CellarTracker 88 (27 ratings).
- 89 \$20 Ojai Viognier Roll Ranch Santa Barbara Co CA 09. \$20 K&L. \$26 MSRP. ST 91. RP 87. CellarTracker.com 87 (3 ratings).

## BEVERAGES & MORE (B&M) 100 stores in CA and NV

- 89 \$9 **Beringer Alluvium White Wine Knights Valley CA 08 (50%SauvBl-40%Semillon-8%Chard-2%Viognier)**. \$9 B&M. \$18 MSRP. \$7-\$18 wine-searcher.com. WS 89. RP 89. ST 89. WE 88. WBB 88. CellarTracker.com 89 (12 ratings), More a Bordeaux blend; outstanding Best Buy.
- 88 \$9 **McManis Family Viognier CA 10**. \$9 B&M. \$10 Cost+. \$11 MSRP. \$10-\$13 wine-searcher.com. LA 93. CA 88. WBB 87. CellarTracker 86.8 (5 ratings). Gold LA 11. Silver CA 11.
- 88 \$9 **Loredona Viognier Lodi CA 10**. \$9 B&M. \$11 WhFoods. Best Buy BTI 86. CA 95. WBB 87. Gold Best of California CA 11. Silver World Wine Championships (BTI). Snooth.com 3½ stars.
- 89 \$12 **Yalumba Viognier Y Series South Australia 10 (screw cap)**. \$9 Cost+. \$12 B&M. Best Value WS 89. #93 Top 100 Best Buys of 2011 WE 88. WBB 88.
- 86 \$11 **Toasted Head (RH Phillips) EXP Viognier Dunigan Hills Yolo Co CA 08**. \$11 B&M. \$24 MSRP. WE 85. CellatTracker 86 (1 rating). Snooth 3 stars (4 ratings). Bronze SFI 10.
- 87 \$12 **Bridlewood Viognier Central Coast CA 08 (4%Chard-4%Marsanne-2%Roussanne)**. \$12 B&M. \$15 K&L. \$19 MSRP. RP 88. CellarTracker 87 (27 ratings).
- 86 \$12 **Bonterra Viognier Organic Grapes Mendocino-Lake Co's CA 09 (2%Muscat)**. \$12 B&M. \$14 WhFoods. \$14.79 wine.com. \$12-\$22 Google.com. Snooth 3 stars (23 ratings).
- 86 \$16 **Rosenblum Viognier Kathy's Cuvee CA 09 (85%Lodi-15%SantaBarbara)**. \$16 B&M. \$14-\$21 wine-searcher.com. Cellartracker 86 (1 rating). Snooth 3½ stars (11 ratings).
- 89 \$19 **Fess Parker Viognier Santa Barbara Co CA 09**. \$19 B&M. \$22 MSRP. RP 89. WS 88. CellarTracker.com 88 (3 ratings). CheapWineRatings.com 90.
- 88 \$19 **Conundrum White Table Wine CA 10 (Chard-SauvBlanc-Semillon-Viognier-Muscat; screw cap)**. \$17 Costco. \$18 K&L. \$19 B&M. \$20 wine.com. \$25 WhFoods. \$16-\$25 google.com/products. CellarTracker.com 87.5 (34 ratings). "Rich, complex" Miami Herald. "There is no wine in all of California comparable to Conundrum" Food & Wine. Has some viognier, but not really a Rhone blend; sounds interesting WBB.

## COST PLUS – WORLD MARKET 260 stores in 30 states (10%discount on 4 btls)

- 89 \$9 **Yalumba Viognier Y Series South Australia 10 (screw cap)**. \$9 Cost+. \$12 B&M. Best Value WS 89. #93 Top 100 Best Buys of 2011 WE 88. WBB 88.
- 88 \$10 **McManis Family Viognier CA 10**. \$9 B&M. \$10 Cost+. \$11 MSRP. \$10-\$13 wine-searcher.com. LA 93. CA 88. WBB 87. CellarTracker 86.8 (5 ratings). Gold LA 11. Silver CA 11.
- 89 \$15 **d'Arenberg The Hermit Crab Marsanne-Viognier McLaren Vale Australia 09 (screw cap)**. \$14 K&L/WhFoods. \$15 Cost+. \$16.49 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. W&S 90. WE 87.

## ZACHYS, SCARSDALE, NY One of the country's largest wine selections

- 91 \$23 **Alban Viognier Central Coast CA 10**. \$23 Zachys. \$24 WClub. \$24 MSRP. RP 91-93.
- 90 \$26 **Alban Viognier Central Coast CA 09**. \$20 K&L. \$26 Zachys. \$24 MSRP. RP 90. ST 91.

## **TRADER JOES (TrJ) 337 stores in 26 states**

- 85 \$4 **Blue Fin Viognier CA 09**. \$4 TrJ. CellarTracker.com 84 (4 ratings). Vivino.com 90. "Below Average" WineDrankByJohnJaster.blogspot.com.
- 85 \$5 **Honey Moon Viognier CA 10**. \$5 TrJ exclusive. CellarTracker.com 79 (8 ratings). Recommended CheapWineFinder.com. "...greatest bargain wine..." blog.wine-accessorzed.com. "...a fantastic wine..." TheFrugalTasters.com.
- ?? \$7 **Smoking Loon (Don Sebastiani) Viognier CA 09 (5% Chard)**. \$7 TrJ. \$8.79 wine.com. \$8-\$9 wine-searcher.com. "I would gladly purchase this wine again" WineAtFive.net
- 87 \$7 **Found Object (Castoro) Viognier Paso Robles CA 10. (screw cap)**. \$7 TrJ. WBB 87. "A well made wine, varietally correct" CellarTracker.com. SoThisIsGradSchool.wordpress.com 4 stars.

## **COSTCO 527 warehouse stores in North America, World's lrgest wine retailer**

- 88 \$13 **Yalumba Viognier Eden Valley Australia 10 (screw cap)**. \$13 Costco. \$14 K&L. \$19.29 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. ST 90. RP 86. WBB=88. CellarTracker.com 88 (2 ratings)
- 88 \$17 **Conundrum White Table Wine CA 10 (Chard-SauvBlanc-Semillon-Viognier-Muscat; screw cap)**. \$17 Costco. \$18 K&L. \$19 B&M. \$20 wine.com. \$25 WhFoods. \$16-\$25 google.com/products. CellarTracker.com 87.5 (34 ratings). "Rich, complex" Miami Herald. "There is no wine in all of California comparable to Conundrum" Food & Wine. Has some viognier, but not really a Rhone blend; sounds interesting WBB.

## **TOTAL WINES & MORE (TW&M)**

### **67 stores in CA, AZ, NV, NJ, DL, GA, NC, SC, FL**

- 86 \$13 **Sobon Viognier Amador Co CA 09**. \$13 TW&M. \$15 MSRP. WE 86. CA 86. Bronze CA 11.
- 88 \$18+ **Tablas Creek Cotes de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 09**. \$18.49 TW&M. \$25 wine.com/MSRP. RR 90. ST 89. RP 89-91. TW&M 4 stars (1 rating).

## **WHOLE FOODS 302 stores in 38 states and 6 on Canada**

### **#3 in Top Green Power Partners by US Environmental Protection Agency**

- 88 \$11 **Loredona Viognier Lodi CA 10**. \$9 B&M. \$11 WhFoods. Best Buy BTI 86. CA 95. WBB 87. Gold Best of California CA 11. Silver World Wine Championships (BTI). Snooth.com 3½ stars.
- 87 \$11 **Brassfields Serenity High Valley CA nv (65%SauvBl-28%PinotGrigio-7%Gewurz)**. \$11 WhFoods ("perfect for viognier lovers"). \$15 MSRP. \$10-\$16 wine-searcher.com. Snooth .com 3½ stars (12 ratings).
- 86 \$14 **Bonterra Viognier Organic Grapes Mendocino-Lake Co's CA 09 (2%Muscat)**. \$12 B&M. \$14 WhFoods. \$14.79 wine.com. \$12-\$22 Google.com. Snooth 3 stars (23 ratings).
- 89 \$14 **d'Arenberg The Hermit Crab Marsanne-Viognier McLaren Vale Australia 09 (screw cap)**. \$14 K&L/WhFoods. \$15 Cost+. \$16.49 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. W&S 90. WE 87.

## **THE WINE CLUB San Francisco, Santa Clara & Santa Ana, CA**

### **Largest wine merchant west of the Mississippi, according to their web site**

- 87 \$11 **Peirano Viognier The Heritage Collection Lodi 08.** \$11 WClub. \$14 MSRP. Gold Best Buy Chicago Value Wine Challenge. Silver San Joaquin Valley Winegrowers Assoc.
- 89 \$16 **Qupe Marsanne (15% Roussanne) Santa Ynez Valley CA 10.** \$16 WClub. \$18 Astor. \$20 K&L/MSRP. Editor's Choice WE 90. RP 87.
- 88 \$19 **Treana Viognier-Marsanne Central Coast CA 08.** \$19 WClub. \$18-\$34 Vinopedia.com. \$25 MSRP. WS 88.
- 89 \$20 **Melville Viognier Verna's Estate Santa Barbara Co CA 10.** \$20 K&L/WClub. \$20-\$27 RP. \$27 MSRP. ST 91. RP 88.

## **WINE.COM Retail and online in Berkeley, CA**

### **The #1 Rated Online Wine Store, according to one wine industry journal**

- 89 \$13+ **Chateau Tahbilk Marsanne Nagambie Lakes Victoria Australia 09 (screw cap).** \$12 K&L. \$13.29 wine.com. JH 91. RP 90. Australian Wine J 87. "A winner" Toronto Sun.
- 90 \$13+ **Chateau Tahbilk Marsanne Nagambie Lakes Victoria Australia 10 (screw cap).** \$12 K&L. \$13.29 wine.com. JH 92. RP 89. Australian Wine J 91.
- 86 \$14+ **Bonterra Viognier Organic Grapes Mendocino-Lake Co's CA 09 (2%Muscat).** \$12 B&M. \$14 WhFoods. \$14.79 wine.com. \$12-\$22 Google.com. Snoot 3 stars (23 ratings).
- 89 \$16+ **d'Arenberg The Hermit Crab Marsanne-Viognier McLaren Vale Australia 09 (screw cap).** \$14 K&L/WhFoods. \$15 Cost+. \$16.49 wine.com. \$16 MSRP. WS 90. W&S 90. WE 87.
- 90 \$20 **Tablas Creek Patelin de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 10 (50%GrenBl-33%Viognier-10%Roussanne-7%Marsanne).** \$18 K&L. \$20 wine.com/MSRP. WS 91. RP 87-89. RP 89. W&S 89.
- 88 \$20 **Conundrum White Table Wine CA 10 (Chard-SauvBlanc-Semillon-Viognier-Muscat; screw cap).** \$17 Costco. \$18 K&L. \$19 B&M. \$?? WhFoods. \$20 wine.com. \$16-\$25 google.com/products. CellarTracker.con 87.5 (34 ratings). "Rich, complex" Miami Herald. "There is no wine in all of California comparable to Conundrum" Food & Wine. Has some viognier, but not really a Rhone blend; sounds interesting WBB.
- 91 \$24 **K Vintners Viognier Columbia Valley WA 10.** \$19 JJB. \$24 wine.com. \$26 Zachys. \$25 MSRP. RP 91. WS 90. CellarTracker.com 91 (2 ratings).
- 89 \$25 **Tablas Creek Cotes de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 09 (45%Viognier 28%Roussanne-20%Marsanne-7%GrenBl).** \$18.49 TW&M. \$25 wine.com/MSRP. RR 90. ST 89. RP 89-91. TW&M 4 stars (1 rating).
- 91 \$27 **Tablas Creek Cotes de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 10 (54%Viognier-30%Gren-8%Marsanne-8%Roussanne).** \$25 K&L. \$26 JJB. \$27 wine.com. \$22-\$27 RP. \$27 MSRP. JS 92. RP 90.
- 91 \$30 **John Duval Plexus MRV White Barossa Valley Australia 10 (62%Marsanne-26%Roussanne-13%Viognier; screw cap).** \$30 wine.com. \$30 MSRP. \$24-\$30 wine-searcher.com. World Wine (Australia) 93. ST 92. RP 91. WS 85.

## **SAFEWAY 3<sup>rd</sup> largest supermarket with 1731 stores in western and central U.S.**

None available

## JJ BUCKLEY, OAKLAND, CA

- 90 \$18 **Tablas Creek Patelin de Tablas Paso Robles CA 10 (50%GrenacheBlanc-33%Viognier-10%Roussanne-Marsanne)**. \$18 JJB. \$20 MSRP. WS 91. JS 90. ST 90. W&S 89. RP 89. WE 87.
- 91 \$19 **K Vintners Viognier Columbia Valley WA 10**. \$19 JJB. \$24 wine.com. \$26 Zachys. \$25 MSRP. RP 91. WS 90. CellarTracker.com 91 (2 ratings).
- 89 \$24 **Melville Viognier Verna's Estate Santa Barbara Co CA 10**. \$20 K&L/WClub. \$24 JJB. \$26 MSRP. ST 91. RP 88. CellarTracker 88 (27 ratings).
- 90 \$25 **Cold Heaven Viognier Le Bon Climat Santa Barbara Co CA 09**. \$25 JJB. \$30 K&L. ST 91.
- 91 \$26 **Tablas Creek Cotes de Tablas Blanc Central Coast CA 10 (54%Viognier-30%Gren-8%Marsanne-8%Roussanne)**. \$25 K&L. \$26 JJB. \$27 wine.com. \$22-\$27 RP. \$27 MSRP. JS 92. RP 90.
- 91 \$28 **Tablas Creek Esprit de Beaucastel Blanc Paso Robles CA 04**. \$28 JJB. RP 91.

## SHERRY-LEHMANN, NEW YORK CITY

- 87 \$8 **Kunde Viognier (9% Chard) Sonoma Valley CA 08 (screw cap; sustainably-farmed)**. \$8 Sh-L. \$8-\$23 wine-searcher.com. \$15 MSRP. WE 88. CellarTracker.com 87.3 (19 ratings).
- 88 \$18 **Miner Family Viognier Simpson Vd CA 09**. \$18 Sh-L. \$10-\$22 wine-searcher.com. \$20 MSRP. WE 89. WS 86. RR ??. CellarTracker.com 89 (12 ratings).
- 90 \$20 **Yangarra Viognier McLaren Vale Australia 09 (screw cap)**. \$20 Sh-L. \$29 MSRP. WS 90. Kenswineguide.com 90.

## ASTOR WINES – New York City's largest wine store online

- 89 \$18 **Qupe Marsanne (15% Roussanne) Santa Ynez Valley CA 10**. \$16 WClub. \$18 Astor. \$20 K&L/MSRP. Editor's Choice WE 90. RP 87.

### Legend and Abbreviations

ADB=Anthony Dias Blue; AG=Anthony Gismondi, Vancouver, Canada; ARG=Argentina Wine Competition; AWS=American Wine Society Wine Competition; Astor=Astor Wines & Spirits, New York City; BCLS= British Columbia Liquor Stores, Canada; B&M=BevMo Beverages & More; BTI=Beverage Testing Institute; CA=California State Fair Wine Competition; CG=Connoisseurs Guide; CGV=California Grapevine; DA=Dallas Int'l Wine Competition; East=Int'l Eastern Wine Competition; FLakes= Finger Lakes Wine Competition; Hachette=Le Guide Hachette des Vins, France; HH=Hilton Head Int'l Wine Competition; IN=Indiana Int'l Wine Competition; IWC=Int'l Wine Challenge, UK (world's largest wine competition); IWR=Int'l Wine Review; JH=James Halliday, Australian Wine Companion; JR=Jancis Robinson (UK); LB=Long Beach Wine Competition; LCBO=Liquor Control Board of Ontario, Canada; Lodi=Lodi Wine Competition; MSRP=Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price; NM=Natalie MacLean, Ontario, Canada; NW=New World Int'l Wine Competition; PR=Pacific Rim Int'l Wine Competition; RP=Robert Parker (Wine Advocate); RS=Riverside Wine Competition; SD=San Diego Wine Competition; SFC=San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition. SFI=San Francisco Int'l Wine Competition; Sh-L=Sherry-Lehmann Wines & Spirits, NY, NY; SN=Sonoma Harvest Fair Wine Competition; ST=Stephen Tanzer; TESCO=largest retailer of wine in UK; TG=Tasters Guild Wine Competition; TW&M=Total Wines & More (CA, AZ, NV, NJ, DL, GA, NC, SC, FL); TrJ=Trader Joes; WBB=WineBestBuys; WBIB=Wine Blue Book; WC=The Wine Club, San Francisco; WCC=Wine Currents, Canada; WE=Wine Enthusiast; WN=Wine News; WS=Wine Spectator; W&S=Wine & Spirits; WW=Wilfred Wong (BevMo); Wy=Winery; Zachys=Zachys Wine & Liquor, Scarsdale, NY.