

BEST BUYS

NEW ZEALAND SAUVIGNON BLANC

TOP BUYS (the best of the Best Buys; take list to any retailer)

- 85 \$5 [Yellowtail] AUS-NZ nv (screw cap).** \$4.47-\$5.47 TW&M. \$10/2 btls CVS. ??? Target. ??? WhFoods. \$8 wine.com. \$8 MSRP. WS 88 (tasted 6/30/16). WE 84. Cellartracker 85 (11 votes). “Everything a great wine should be” WineExpertGuide.com. “Winner” SeriousEats.com.
- 86+ \$7 Cupcake Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$7 TW&M. \$8 Target. \$10 B&M. ??? Cost+. ??? Target. \$12 Sh-L. \$12 MSRP. **WBB 86.** “Best Buy” BTI 90. Cellartracker 84 (9 reviews). Gold Exceptional BTI. Vivino.com 3.5 stars (516 reviews). TW&M customers 4 stars (11 reviews). (2016 vintage: \$7 TW&M. \$8 Safeway. \$8 CVS. \$9 wine.com. \$12 Sh-L. **WBB 87**).
- 87 \$8 Nobilo Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$8 Costco. \$9 TW&M. \$11 B&M. \$11 Safeway. \$11 CVS. \$13 wine.com. \$13 MSRP. C\$17 LCBO. NM 90. WS 89. KensWineGuide.com 89. CostcoWineBlog.com 87. Cellartracker 83 (7 votes).
- 88 \$9 Brancott Marlborough 15 (screw cap).** \$9 TW&M. \$10 Safeway. \$10 wine.com. \$11 Sh-L. \$13 K&L. \$14 MSRP. WS 90. BCampbell 90. “Best Buy” WE 89. Decanter 86. Cellartracker 88 (44 reviews). Silver Outstanding IWSC 15. Silver Air New Zealand 15. Bronze Decanter. Bronze IWC 16. **2014 vintage:** \$13 MSRP. W&S NR).
- 88 \$9 Matua Valley Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$9 TW&M. \$11 Safeway. \$13 B&M. \$13 Sh-L. \$15 MSRP. C\$20 LCBO. WS 88. Cellartracker 90 (12 reviews). KensWineGuide.com 89. Gold SFI 16. Commended IWC 15. TW&M customers 5 stars (8 reviews). Vivino.co 4 stars (1,786 reviews). **[2014 vintage:** \$11 MSRP. WS 86. Cellartracker 87 (25 reviews). BCampbell 84. Vinum Mag 15.5/20. W&S NR]
- 88 \$9 Villa Maria Private Bin Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$9 K&L. \$9-\$13 TW&M. \$10 Wclub. \$13 MSRP. C\$15.45 LCBO. BCampbell 91. WS 90. NM 90. Decanter 86. Cellartracker 88 (30 reviews).
- 87 \$9 Lake Chalice The Nest Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$9 K&L. \$16 MSRP. RP 90. BCampbell 89. Bronze Air New Zealand 15. (**2014 vintage:** \$11 K&L. \$18 MSRP. “Best Buy” WE 90. WS 86).
- 88 \$10 Giesen Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10 K&L. \$12 wine.com. C\$15 LCBO. Decanter 95. TP 90. BCampbell 90. RP 88. WS 88. WineAlign.com 88. WE 87. Platinum Medal, Best in Show Decanter. (**2014 vintage:** \$15 MSRP. TP 90. WW 90. WS 89).
- 88 \$10 Oyster Bay Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10 TW&M, CA. \$12 B&M. \$12 Safeway. \$15 MSRP. #72 Top 100 Best Buys of 2016 WE 90. WS 87. Double Gold SFI 16. Silver IWSC 15. Bronze IWC 16. Commended Decanter 16.
- 88 \$10 Mud House Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10 JJB. \$12 wine.com. \$12 Sh-L. \$15 MSRP. WS 90. BCampbell 89. Decanter 87. Cellartracker 89 (6 reviews). Bronze Decanter 16. Bronze Air NZ 15. (**2014 vintage:** \$10 K&L. \$17 MSRP. WS 90. KensWineGuide.com 90. Silver Air NZ 16).
- 85± \$10 Prophecy Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10 TW&M. \$10 wine.com. \$10 Target. Vivino.co 3.8 stars (542 reviews). “Wonderful summer cooler” CheapWineFiunder.com.
- 89± \$10+ Kim Crawford Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10.47 TW&M. \$13 Safeway. \$13 CVS. \$14 B&M. C\$17 LCBO. \$18 MSRP. \$10/375L Zachys. “Best Buy” BTI 93. NM 91. WS 90. RP 86. BCampbell 84. Decanter 83. Cellartracker 89 (127 reviews). Silver IWC 15. Silver Air NZ 15. Silver Bruxelles 16. Commended IWC 16. Commended IWC 16. TW&M customers 4.2 stars (30 reviews). (**2016 vintage:** \$15 K&L. \$16 wine.com. \$17 Sh-L. \$18 Zachys. \$18 MSRP. \$19 JJB. Bronze Air NZ 16).
- 88 \$10 Starborough Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$10 TW&M. \$10 Target. \$11 wine.com. \$11 CVS. ??? Target. \$13.49 B&M. \$15 MSRP. BCampbell 89. WE 88. **WBB 87.** Cellartracker 88 (17 reviews). Gold Air NZ 15. TW&M customers 5 stars (8 reviews). Grassy style.
- 88 \$11 Pencarrow (Palliser) Martinborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$11 K&L. \$15 Sh-L. RChan 93-94. Skim 91. Wine-searcher 88 average critic score. (**2014 vintage:** WE 90).

- 87 **\$11 Villa Maria Private Bin Marlborough NZ 16 (screw cap)**. \$11 Sh-L. \$13 B&M. \$13 wine.com. \$15 MSRP. RChan 17.5/20. WS 87. RP 86. W&S NR.
- 88 **\$11+ The Crossings Awatere Valley NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$11.49-\$12.29 TW&M. \$15 MSRP. \$16 Sh-L. #49 Top 100 Best Buy of 2016 WE 90. WS 89. Decanter 87. Cellartracker 88 (5 reviews). "Top 10 Budget Wines" FoodieAndWine.com. **(2016 vintage: \$11 wine.com. Bronze Air NZ)**.
- 88 **\$12 Brancott Flight Song Marlborough NZ 15**. \$12-\$14 TW&M. \$16 MSRP. BCampbell 91. "Best Buy" BTI 90. WS 89. WE 86.
- 88 **\$13 Marisco The Ned Late Harvest Waihopai River Marlborough 15**. \$13 TW&M. \$18 MSRP. "Editor's Choice" WE 92. BCampbell 90. WS 88. Decanter 87. Gold Air New Zealand 15. Bronze IWSC 15. Bronze Decanter 16. Bronze IWC 16. **(2014 vintage: \$18 MSRP. RP 87)**.
- 88 **\$13 Babich Marlborough NZ 14 (screw cap)**. \$13 Sh-L. \$15 MSRP. C\$16 BCLS. Decanter 90. WS 88. W&S NR. Silver Decanter 16. Silver IWSC 15. Commended IWC 16. Vivino.com 3.9 stars (673 reviews). BCLS customers 4.3 stars (59 votes). (2016 vintage: \$14 wine.com).
- 87 **\$13 Mohua (Peregrine) Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$13 wine.com. \$14 MSRP. Decanter 91. WS 90. TP 90. RP 85. Cellartracker 87 (4 reviews). **[2014 vintage: WS 89. Cellartracker88.1 (9 votes)]**.
- 89 **\$14 Spy Valley Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$14 TW&M. \$15 K&L. \$15 Sh-L. \$17 wine.com. \$18 B&M. \$20 MSRP. BCampbell 92. WS 90. WE 90. RP 86. Vivino.com 3.8 stars (2,496 reviews).
- 87 **\$14 Yealands Peter Yealands Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$14 B&M. \$14 wine.com. \$14 MSRP. \$16 LCBO. WS 90. Cellartracker 88 (10 votes). Decanter 86. W&S NR. Silver IWC 16. Silver IWSC 16. Bronze Decanter 16. **(2014 vintage: \$16 MSRP. WW 90. WS 88)**.
- 89 **\$15 Innocent Bystander Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$15 MSRP. #84 Top 100 Best Buys of 2016 WE 90. KensWineGuide.com 89. Cellartracker 89.8 (7 reviews). Vivino.com 3.7 stars (20 reviews).
- 88+ **\$15 It's a Headsnapper Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap; bottled in US)**. \$15 MSRP. "Best Buy" BTI 90. "Very Good" Ultimate-Beverage.com 86. Double Gold Best of Class SFC 16.
- 89 **\$15 Elephant Hill "The Reserves" Hawke's Bay NZ 14 (screw cap)**. \$15 K&L. BCampbell 93. RChan 18/20 (91-92). ST 91. Decanter 91. RP 87. There is also a non-reserves wine, \$15 at K&L.
- 89 **\$15 Misha's Vd The Starlet Central Otagi NZ 13 (screw cap)**. \$15 K&L. BCampbell 93. RChan 91. SKim 90. RP 89. **(2014 vintage: RP 87. Silver Outstanding IWSC 15)**.
- 87 **\$15 Momo (Seresin) Organic Marlborough NZ 14 (screw cap)**. \$15 K&L. \$15 wine.com. \$18 NaturalWine.com. \$18 MSRP. BCampbell 92. WW 89. RP 87. WS 86. WineAlign.com 87. Cellartracker 84 (10 reviews). Vivino.com 3.5 stars (246 reviews). **(2013 vintage: RP 85)**.
- 90+ **\$16 Nobilo Icon Marlborough NZ 15**. \$15.77 Safeway. \$18.49 TW&M. \$19 wine.com. \$22 MSRP. C\$25 LCBO. Decanter 95. NM 93. Gold Decanter 16. **[2014 vintage: WE 88. WS 87. Cellartracker 88 (19 votes). C\$26 LCBO]**.
- 90 **\$16 Villa Maria Cellar Selection Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$16 WClub. \$18 MSRP. \$20 Sh-L. WE 91. BCampbell 91. WS 89. RP 88. Decanter 88. W&S NR. Silver Air New Zealand 15. Bronze Decanter 16. **[2014 vintage: BCampbell 91. WE 90. The Wine Front 88. Cellartracker 90 (13 votes)]**.
- 91 **\$17 Greywacke Marlborough NZ 16 (screw cap)**. \$17 Costco. \$20 K&L. \$26 wine.com. Decanter 91. "Intense...very long" JR 17/20 (=91). Slightly grassy. **[2015 vintage: \$22 wine.com. \$23 MSRP. \$25 Sh-L. \$30 Zachys. WE 91. Vinous 91. The Wine front 91. WS 90. RP 87. W&S NR]**
- 91 **\$18 Dog Point Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$18 TW&M. \$18 K&L. \$19 Sh-L. \$24 MSRP. JS 93. Vinous 92. WW 91. RP 90. WS 90. **(2014 vintage: \$22 MSRP. "Editor's Choice WE 92. WS 92. WW 92. RP 91)**.
- 90+ **\$18 Craggy Range Te Muna Road Vd Martinborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$18 K&L. \$19 B&M. \$20 wine.com. \$20 Sh-L. \$21.90 Safeway. \$22 MSRP. CG 93. "Editor's Choice" WE 91. WS 90. Decanter 90. RP 89. W&S NR. **(2014 vintage: \$18-\$20 TW&M. \$22 MSRP. WS 92. TP 92. WE 90. W&S NR)**.
- 90 **\$18 Te Mata Cape Crest Hawkes Bay NZ 16 (screw cap)**. \$18 Astor. \$20 K&L. \$?? MSRP. RCampbell 94-95. Skim 95. RP 90. ST 90. WS 90. **(2015 vintage: W&S 90)**.
- 91 **\$19 Astrolabe Province Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap)**. \$19 K&L. \$19 wine.com. \$24 MSRP. Decanter 95. WW 91. WS 90. WE 90. TP 90. RP 85. **(2014 vintage: \$24 MSRP. WS 92. RP 90. WE 88)**.

- 90 \$19 TWR (Te Whare Ra) Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$19 K&L. RChan 94. BCampbell 93. Skim 93. RP 88. “New Zealand Star” Stephen Spurrier, Decanter. (2014 vintage: \$20 MSRP. C\$25 LCBO. WS 89. RP 88).
- 91 \$20 Marisco The King’s Favour Walhopai Marlborough 15 (screw cap).** \$20 MSRP. Decanter 95. “Editor’s Choice” WE 92. WS 90. Platinum Decanter 16. Silver IWSC 15. Silver IWC 16. Silver Air New Zealand 15. (2014 vintage: \$20 MSRP. RP 89. Silver IWC 15. Bronze IWSC 15).
- 91 \$20 Ata Rangi Martinborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$20 K&L. \$20 WClub. \$21 Sh-L. \$27 wine.com. BCampbell 95. RChan 91-92. [2014 vintage: \$19 K&L. \$24 MSRP. \$27 wine.com. BCampbell 92. WS 89. RP 89. Cellartracker 89 (6 votes)].
- 91 \$20 Seresin Marlborough NZ 14 (screw cap; biodynamic).** \$20 K&L. \$20 Sh-L. \$25 Astor. \$27 MSRP. JS 93. WW 92. BCampbell 92. WS 89. RP 86.
- 88 C\$20 Babich Black Label Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** C\$20 LCBO. RP 88. Cellartracker 89 (7 votes). Decanter 85. Gold SFI 16. Commended Decanter 16. Commended IWC 16. Commended IWSC 15. (2014 vintage: \$17 MSRP. WS 86).
- 90 \$23 Yealands Single Vd Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$23 MSRP. WW 92. WS 91. RP 89. Silver Outstanding IWSC 15. Silver Decanter 16. Bronze IWC 16. Bronze Air New Zealand 15. (2014 vintage: RP 90).
- 92 \$25 Greywacke Wild Sauvignon Marlborough NZ 14 (screw cap).** \$25 K&L. \$29 MSRP. \$32 wine.com. JS 94. WS 93. RP 92. Vinous 92. (2013 vintage: RP 91. WE 90).
- 91 \$25 Cloudy Bay Marlborough NZ 15 (screw cap).** \$25 TW&M, CA. \$29 WClub. \$30 Zachys. \$31 MSRP. \$31.70 Safeway. \$32 wine.com. BCampbell 95. DoctorWine 94. WS 92. Vinous 91. WE 89. RP 88. W&S NR. Cellartracker 89 (71 reviews). (2016 vintage: \$27 K&L). (2014 vintage: \$28 MSRP. WS 93. WW 92. WE 91. RP 90. W&S 88).
- 91 \$25 Pegasus Bay Sauvignon Blanc-Semillon Waipara Va NZ 12 (70%-30%; screw cap).** \$25 K&L. \$32 wine.com. The Wine Front 94. RChan 92-93. BCampbell 92. Decanter 92. Tim Atkin 92. WS 89. ST 89. (2014 vintage: \$31 MSRP. WWS 89. (2013 vintage: \$28 MSRP. WS 87).
- 92 \$29 Dog Point Section 94 Marlborough NZ 13 (screw cap).** \$29 K&L. \$35 MSRP. RChan 96-97. BCampbell 96. Decanter 96. JS 93. WS 93. Vinous 92. WE 91. RP 90+. Decanter 90. (2014 vintage: \$38 MSRP. WS 92. WE 92. WW 92. RP 91).
- 92 \$30 Brancott Chosen Rows Marlborough NZ 10 (screw cap).** \$30 K&L. \$50 MSRP. BCampbell 96. WE 93. WS 93. Falstaff Mag 93. Huon Hooke 92. RP 91. Decanter 90.
- 91 \$30 Giesen The August 1888 Marlborough NZ 12 (screw cap).** \$30 K&L. \$17-\$44 RP. \$45 MSRP. BCampbell 95. The Wine Front 92. WE 91. Decanter 90+. RP 89. WS 89. Gold Air New Zealand 14. Silver Air New Zealand 13. Bronze Air New Zealand 15. Commended Decanter 15. (2013 vintage: \$40 MSRP. RP 90. WS 88).

Legend and Abbreviations

AG=Anthony Gismondi, Vancouver, Canada; AWS=American Wine Society Wine Competition; BCLS=British Columbia Liquor Stores, Canada; B&M=BevMo Beverages & More; BTI=Beverage Testing Institute, Chicago, IL; 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; FTLOP=ForThrLoveOfPort.com; HH=Hilton Head Int’l Wine Competition; IWC=Int’l Wine Challenge, UK (world’s largest wine competition); IWR=Int’l Wine Review; JJB=JJ Buckley (online and pick-up in Berkeley, CA); LB=Long Beach Wine Competition; LCBO=Liquor Control Board of Ontario, Canada; Lodi=Lodi Wine Competition; Ludwig’s, San Rafael, CA; MRSP=Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price (price at the winery); 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; SWJ=Sonoma Wine Journal; TA=TonyAspler.com, Toronto, Canada; TG=Tasters Guild Wine Competition; TP=The Tasting Panel; TW&M=Total Wines & More (CA, AZ, south eastern states); TrJ=Trader Joes; WBB=WineBestBuys; WBIB=Wine Blue Book; WClub=The Wine Club, San Francisco, CA; WCC=Wine Currents, Canada; WE=Wine Enthusiast; WN=Wine News; WS=Wine Spectator; W&S=Wine & Spirits; WW=Wilfred Wong, wine.com; Wy=Winery; Zachys=Zachys Wine & Liquor, Scarsdale, NY.

#142, 12/21/16