

12 Days of Winesmas

Why settle for a partridge in a pear tree when you can have great wine instead?





They're here! They're here! The holidays are here!

If you need a reason to celebrate, we've got not one, not two, but 12 wines to put you in the holiday spirit. These stocking stuffers include everything from vintage Champagne to California cult cabs. And as these Winesmas bottles blossom into maturity, you can enjoy a gift that keeps on giving.



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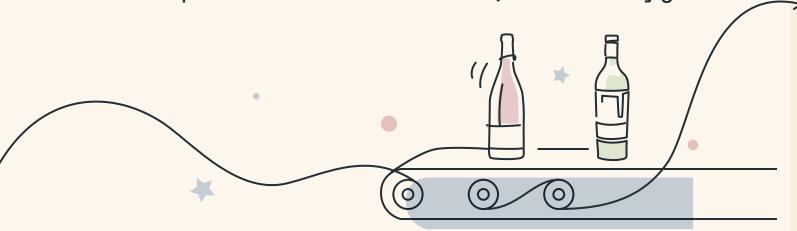
How Winesmas Works

There's a good chance that "The Twelve Days of Christmas" didn't make your Spotify Wrapped this year. If that's the case, have no fear. Here's a quick explainer of how its cousin, Winesmas, works.

Starting on Thursday, December 8, we will release one wine every weekday at 1 PMM EST on the Vinovest Marketplace.

Once a wine sells out, it's gone for good. The final wine will be released on Friday, December 23.

For a complete list of the wines and dates, here is a handy guide:



WINE	ESTIMATED RELEASE PRICE	RELEASE DATE
2018 Ornellaia	\$246	Thursday, Dec 08
2015 Poggio di Sotto Brunello di Montalcino Riserva	\$311	Friday, Dec 09
2013 Sassicaia	\$316	Monday, Dec 12
2016 Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino	\$133	Tuesday, Dec 13
2006 Piper-Heidsieck Rare Brut Millésimé	\$286	Wednesday, Dec 14
2005 Pommery Cuvée Louise Brut Millésimé	\$166	Thursday, Dec 15
Laurent-Perrier Champagne Grand Siècle No. 25	\$123	Friday, Dec 16
2014 Henri Giraud Argonne Aÿ Grand Cru	\$419	Monday, Dec 19
2012 Bollinger La Grande Année	\$108	Tuesday, Dec 20
2008 Dom Pérignon	\$277	Wednesday, Dec 21
2019 Dominus	\$324	Thursday, Dec 22
2019 Inglenook Rubicon	\$169	Friday, Dec 23



This year was...a lot. With the global economy headed for the toilet, we're grateful to be doing what we love with people like you. With festivities in full swing, we wanted to share some of the reasons we're giving holiday cheer.



What We're Grateful For

- 1. Coravins
- 2. SOMM TV
- 3. Rewined candles
- 4. Great wine (obviously)
- 5. The Vinovest community
- 6. Our ambassador, CJ McCollum
- 7. Champagne paired with fried chicken
- 8. The people with whom we share that great wine



Now we know what you're thinking. The Vinovest wishlist is going to be nothing but wine. Guilty, we do love ourselves a glass of white or red. However, Vinovest has more than 360,000 bottles in storage, so we're good on the wine front (if there is such a thing.)

Instead, our wishlist focuses on things that can improve your wine investing experience. Some of these things are within our control. Others, not so much. If you think our wishlist is missing anything, let us know in the Vinovest Community.



What's on Our Wishlist

- 1. Vinovest auctions
- 2. Global inflation to chill out
- 3. Collaborations between wineries
- 4. In-person winery tours for clients
- 5. Stabilization of foreign exchange rates
- 6. More charting tools and insights for Vinovestors
- 7. A personal invite to the NBA's secret wine society
- 8. Bottle watchlists and favoriting on the marketplace



If I were that partridge in a pear tree,

I'd be pretty nervous about not getting gifted this holiday season







On the first day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2018 Ornellaia

Those looking for a slice of Bordeaux in Tuscany need not look further than Ornellaia. The brainchild of Marchese Lodovico Antinori, the 2018 vintage features 51% merlot, 40% cabernet sauvignon, 7% cabernet franc, and 2% petit verdot. Even with the various Bordeaux grapes and stays in oak and barriques, the final blend sings with one voice. It's a seamless, soaring wine with "a true sense of wholeness and consistency," according to wine critic Monica Larner.

This vintage is unique for two reasons. First, it's reliance on merlot. For the first time ever, the red grape accounts for 50% of the blend. General manager Axel Heinz praised the vintage's merlot for its exceptional "aromatic depth and complexity that does not come as easily (as power and concentration)." Second, the estate collaborated with Belgian artist Jan Fabre to produce a limited edition label for one bottle per case. Translation: 2018 Ornellaia delivers both style and substance.

THE FINAL SIP:

The 2018 version of this Bordeaux-style red blend is off to a superb start and should only add weight with age.

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
VINTAGE									
44.9%	45.8%	55.6%	37.6%	59.4%	48.4%	30.9%	53%	48.60%	60.00%



On the second day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2015 Poggio di Sotto Brunello di Montalcino Riserva

"It is a wonderful and immensely pleasurable wine that will be a joy to revisit if the unlikely opportunity should ever arrive." Those are the opening words of wine critic Jeb Dunnuck's review of this investment-worthy Brunello and with good reason. This rare 2015 sangiovese headlines a superb vintage with its cornucopia of pure fruit, elegant structure, and restrained power.

That's not all. The 2015 Poggio di Sotto Brunello di Montalcino Riserva has been decades in the making. When Piero Palmucci founded the estate, he did not do so on a whim. He spent years researching the best soils and microclimates for sangiovese. His findings led him to a small vineyard in southern Montalcino in 1989. Since then, Palmucci has found ways to improve his Brunello, like selecting the finest clones and optimizing planting density. The 2015 vintage represents those exacting standards in a bottle.

THE FINAL SIP:

Poggio di Sotto has become synonymous with excellence, and this 2015 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva shows why.

2004 VINTAGE	2005 VINTAGE	2006 VINTAGE	2007 VINTAGE	2008 VINTAGE	2010 VINTAGE	2011 VINTAGE
137.8%	160.0%	69.4%	58.6%	237.8%	2.5%	24.6%





On the third day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2013 Sassicaia

It's impossible to talk about great Super Tuscans without mentioning Sassicaia. Not only does this Bordeaux-style red blend continuously enamor critics and connoisseurs, but it is also the first of its kind. Mario Incisa della Rocchetta produced the seminal vintage in 1948, even though the Italian wine classification system refused to recognize it. Incise della Rocchetta would get the last laugh, though. In 1994, Sassicaia was granted its own classification.

The 2013 Sassicaia reveals what makes this Tuscan treasure so special. A blend of 85% cabernet sauvignon and 15% cabernet franc, the blend is balanced and graceful with dazzling acids, lively red fruits, and tremendous length. Don't dare open a bottle in youth, though. The austere structure commands at least 15 years in the cellar before opening.

THE FINAL SIP:

The 2013 Sassicaia captures what makes this legendary label even among Tuscan icons.

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
VINTAGE									
76.3%	60.7%	85.7%	108.9%	79.4%	89.8%	85.3%	100.00%	107.20%	104.20%





On the fourth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2016 Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino

The guiding principle of Valdicava involves expressing genius loci or the spirit of the place. The estate takes painstaking measures to ensure that every component of its Brunello di Montalcino exists in harmony. That includes cultivating some of the finest sangiovese in Montalcino, a region gifted with an idyllic coastline and moderate rainfall. As a result, Valdicava has become famous for red wines that balance aroma with a generous body.

The 2016 vintage shows immense promise in youth. The nose features a potpourri of red cherries, plums, candied orange, cedar, leather, and a splash of spice. Velvety tannins glide across the palate amid veins of minerality.

Patience is of the utmost importance for collectors, as this sangiovese commands at least a decade of cellaring.

THE FINAL SIP:

The 2016 Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino is promising now and has a future brighter than the Tuscan sun.

2001	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012
VINTAGE									
29.4%	-10.2%	44.8%	216.0%	183.8%	31.6%	321.9%	615.9%	23.2%	26.40%





On the fifth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2006 Piper-Heidsieck Rare Brut Millésimé

Step aside, Home Depot. Piper-Heidsieck is the new name in hardware. This revered Champagne house has earned more awards than any winery in the region, including 275 medals over the past century. That includes chief winemaker Régis Camus notching "Sparkling Winemaker of the Year" a jaw-dropping eight times.

The 2006 Piper-Heidsieck Rare Brut Millésime only adds to the legacy of this luxury cuvée. It has already racked up gold medals at Mundus Vini, Concours Mondial de Bruxelles, and the International Wine Challenge. The blend features 70% chardonnay and 30% pinot from eight grand cru vineyards that yield a multi-faceted bouquet, palpable tension, and timeless elegance.

THE FINAL SIP:

In unsurprising news, the most awarded Champagne house racked up more hardware with the release of 2006 Piper-Heidsieck Rare Brut Millésimé.

1988 VINTAGE	1988 VINTAGE 1990 VINTAGE		2002 VINTAGE	
20.40%	92.30%	28.30%	83.3%	





On the sixth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2005 Pommery Cuvée Louise Brut Millésimé

Pommery Cuvée Louise Brut Millésimé is a fitting tribute to Louise Pommery, one of the original titans of Champagne. Pommery took over her husband's wine estate after he died in 1860. Once at the helm, she purchased 120 limestone and chalk pits that proved the perfect cellars for aging Champagne. Pommery also produced the first 'brut' Champagne without sugar, another innovation that would soon become commonplace in the region.

Wine.com called this cuvée "an absolutely pure wine...(that) is like a caress, its texture is velvety and creamy. The attack is frank, without asperity and imbalance." Racy acids add brightness and warmth to the blend that counterbalances the darker nutty, tobacco, and leather notes of the pinot noir. For the finale, 2005 Pommery Cuvée Louise Brut Millésimé culminates in a harmonious crescendo of honey, citrus, and bitterness.

THE FINAL SIP:

Simply put, 2005 Pommery Cuvée Louise Brut Millésimé does justice to its namesake.

1995	1996	1998	1999	2000	2002	2004	2005	2006
VINTAGE								
183.50%	21.10%	20.70%	94.70%	16.80%	21.90%	-5.40%	348.40%	420.40%



Laurent-Perrier Champagne Grand Siècle No. 25

ANNUAL RETURN 25.38%

ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 33,000 CASES

AGING WINDOW 2022 - 2045

RARITY ***

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

99

James Suckling 97

Wine Advocate Dunnuck

On the seventh day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: Laurent-Perrier Champagne Grand Siècle No. 25

The highly anticipated release of Laurent-Perrier Champagne Grand Siècle No. 25 did not disappoint. After all, this vintage Champagne was only the second time the house produced this cuvée in consecutive vintages. The blend features chardonnay and pinot noir from nine grand cru vineyards, as well as three vintages (2006, 2007, and 2008). As Gary Westby of K&L Wines put it, the goal of Grand Siècle No. 25 was to "recreate the 'perfect' vintage."

The myriad parts come together in equal parts intensity, brawn, and grace. Floral notes mix with herbs and citrus overtop a compact body loaded with tangy acids. A generous mousse-like complexion tapers into a long and persistent finish. For those with the self-restraint to cellar this beauty, expect the underlying power to emerge with each passing year.

THE FINAL SIP:

Laurent-Perrier fuses three vintages to create a prestige Champagne greater than the sum of its parts.

22ND EDITION	24TH EDITION
87.50%	14.00%



On the eighth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2014 Henri Giraud Argonne Aÿ Grand Cru

The 2014 Henri Giraud Argonne is the distillation of 12 generations of winemaking expertise. All the new oak barrels come from the nearby Argonne forest, which has seen ten centuries of great Champagne. The cellar master, Sebastien Le Golvet, even leads the toasting himself. Meanwhile, the Champagne exclusively features grand cru fruit. Not only is grand cru the highest classification in France, but Giraud utilizes sustainable viticulture to ensure a pure expression of his wine

The resulting cuvée is immaculate, with the richness of Aÿ on full display. Layers of white fruit, citrus, walnuts, and toasted bread create a concentrated body that manages to remain delicate and graceful. Meanwhile, splashes of minerality lend themselves to a multi-dimensional mouthfeel. The only problem? Giraud only produced 5,000 bottles of this riveting Champagne.

THE FINAL SIP:

This extraordinary Champagne lives up to its grand cru billing and then some, with structure and complexity that will reward collectors for decades.

2004 VINTAGE	2006 VINTAGE	2008 VINTAGE		
130.80%	229.30%	240.20%		



On the ninth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2012 Bollinger La Grande Année

The legendary 2012 harvest has taken Champagne houses in transcendent form. This vintage cuvée from Bollinger is no exception. Wine Spectator anointed 2012 La Grande Année as the 10th best wine on its Top 100 list, while Le Guide Hachette des Vins awarded it two stars.

The flagship Champagne features a blend of 65% pinot from Aÿ and Verzenay and 35% chardonnay from Oiry and Le Mesnil-sur-Oger. After an extensive slumber in oak barrels and casks plus time on the lees, this Champagne is rearing to go. Out of the gate, a citrus bouquet envelops the nose while bright acids swirl amid layers of fresh apples, hazelnuts, red berries, and coffee. The youthful energy belies a built-to-age structure that should blossom over the next four decades. In the words of wine critic Wilfred Wong, "One never turns down a "Bolly" under any circumstances."

THE FINAL SIP:

If you want the finest iteration of La Grande Année possible, it doesn't get much better than this.

1992	1995	1996	1997	1999	2000	2002	2004	2005	2007
VINTAGE									
132.00%	77.70%	62.50%	27.00%	82.40%	133.10%	134.10%	120.00%	102.10%	90.70%





On the tenth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2008 Dom Pérignon

It's easy to see why collectors and critics love Dom Pérignon. The vintage Champagne is world-renowned, with admirers ranging from Lady Gaga to the Shah of Iran. Dom Pérignon is also made selectively. The estate only declares a vintage when the requisite chardonnay and pinot noir meet its lofty standards.

The 2008 vintage not only met those standards but exceeded them. Many have called the vintage one of Champagne's greatest in decades. The combination of immaculate fruit and low yields has left critics grasping for words. As Wilfred Wong put it, "Studying a wine of this magnitude sometimes needs patience...There is no question this is one of the winery's best efforts."

THE FINAL SIP:

Critics love it. Collectors love it. And we think you'll love 2008 Dom Pérignon, too.

1996	1998	1999	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2009
VINTAGE									
70.10%	69.50%	85.20%	93.10%	94.00%	100.00%	98.10%	86.70%	113.40%	109.70%





On the eleventh day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2019 Dominus

Dominus is one of the great American wines. The red blend hails from the historic Napanook Vineyard, which sits in the foothills of Mayacamas. While the vineyard was planted in 1838, it didn't achieve global acclaim until legacy winemaker Christian Moueix took the helm. In the last decade alone, this cult cabernet has notched a whopping 14 perfect scores from critics.

The 2019 vintage is a blend of 90% cabernet sauvignon, 6% petit verdot, and 4% cabernet franc that captures the uniqueness its terroir. It's round, juicy, and earthy, with a reserved personality and plenty of potential. Wine critic Lisa Perrotti-Brown projects this gem to age well for another four decades, calling it "a spectacular expression of the vintage.

THE FINAL SIP:

Any serious collector California cult cabs would be remiss to omit 2019 Dominus from their cellar.

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
VINTAGE										
64.60%	61.10%	48.30%	44.40%	18.60%	61.90%	7.10%	108.20%	18.00%	31.30%	7.90%



2019 Inglenook Rubicon VINTAGE QUALITY ANNUAL RETURN -1.01% ANNUAL PRODUCTION: 3,900 CASES AGING WINDOW 2024 - 2044 RARITY CRITICAL ACCLAIM 100 Jane Anson 97 Wine Enthusiast P6 Wine Advocate

On the twelfth day of Winesmas, my true love gave to me: 2019 Inglenook Rubicon

Rubicon is the flagship wine of Inglenook. While the exact proportions of this Bordeaux-style red blend change year-to-year, this vintage clocks in 81% cabernet sauvignon, 11% merlot, 5% cabernet franc, and 3% petit verdot. Aged for 20 months in 74% new French oak, the result is a classic Rubicon with silky tannins and boundless energy.

Although 2019 Inglenook Rubicon comes from the New World, it wields Old World sensibilities. Estate owner Francis Ford Coppola (yes, the legendary director) calls this red blend "a wine that can please contemporary taste, but with a historical aspect [that defines] our vineyards at their zenith." With critic scores in the mid to high 90s, the marriage of these two worlds is happily ever after.

THE FINAL SIP:

Francis Ford Coppola has another masterpiece on his hands that belongs alongside his Godfather trilogy and Apocalypse Now.

2005 VINTAGE	2009 VINTAGE	2010 VINTAGE	2011 VINTAGE	2012 VINTAGE	2013 VINTAGE
-17.20%	-6.50%	39.80%	-7.70%	-10.00%	-28.60%



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