

Wine Spectator

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California's Best Chardonnays

JAMES LAUBE SELECTS THE
Top 30 Producers

VALUE REDS
FROM
PORTUGAL

**GREAT
GRILLING**
FROM TEXAS



AUSTRALIA
BEYOND SHIRAZ

ULTIMATE
GIN AND TONIC

JULY 2011
\$5.95



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TOP WINES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
QUINTA DO VALLADO Touriga Nacional Douro 2009 Polished and ripe, with mocha and spice and flavors of blackberry, French roast coffee and black olive. Effusive dark chocolate, Asian spice and toast on the finish.	95	\$55
WINE & SOUL Douro Pintas 2009 Plush, with balanced ripeness to the blueberry, kirsch and dark plum; notes of cherry tart are pure-tasting and feature bracing minerality.	94	\$100
CHURCHILL Douro Quinta da Gricha 2009 Concentrated, with a mix of anise and berry flavors, dried berry and cherry notes. White pepper, sage and tarragon on the finish.	93	\$80
QUINTA DO CRASTO Douro Vinha Maria Teresa 2009 Elegant, with luscious flavors of dark currant, blackberry, boysenberry and spice. Creamy finish has a dollop of mocha.	93	\$160
NIEPOORT Douro Charme 2009 Suave and spicy, with bright flavors of cherry, plum tart, currant and sandalwood. Focused, with a pure finish supported by fine tannins.	93	\$100
QUINTA DO VALE MEÃO Douro 2009 Flavorful, with concentrated kirsch, dark plum and dark cherry. Lots of mocha and chocolate midpalate; hint of smoke on the finish.	93	\$60
WINE & SOUL Douro Quinta da Manoella Vinhas Velhas 2009 Loads of cream and spice. Well-structured and refined, with cherry, plum tart and dark currant. Juicy, mineral-infused finish.	93	\$100

95 Wine & Soul Vintage Port Pintas 2009 \$75

Offers a floral nose, with fruity flavors of berry and cherry that are flanked by seductive sandalwood and cedar notes. Well-integrated tannins provide good punch, with rich licorice notes dominating the ripe, chewy finish. Best from 2016 through 2032. 250 cases made.—K.M.