

Anthony Dias Blue Reviews



Every month I will be offering recommendations of currently available wines and spirits. These are my favorites from the more than 500 wines and 50 or so spirits I taste each month. The opinions are solely my own and in no way have any commercial considerations been brought to bear on my selections. I rate these products on the 100-point scale and nothing printed here will have scored less than 85.

Wines and spirits are rated as follows: 85-89 VERY GOOD; 90-94 OUTSTANDING; 95-100 CLASSIC. Although scores are a good guideline, these recommendations will more useful if you read the comments as well. - Anthony Dias Blue

WINE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Prices listed are suggested retail)

DOMESTIC



90 Dutch Crossing 2004 Sauvignon Blanc, Dry Creek Valley (\$19) Balanced and floral, with bright citrus and lovely spice.

DIRECT DISTRIBUTION

92 Summerland 2004 Viognier, Paradise Road Vineyard, Santa Ynez Valley (\$22) Aromatic, racy and bright with notes of honey, spice and ginger; complex and delicious.



SOUTHERN WINE & SPIRITS

90 Treana 2002 White, Mer Soleil Vineyard, Central Coast (\$25) An intense Marsanne-Viognier blend with long, rich flavors.

SOUTHERN WINE & SPIRITS

90 Niebaum-Coppola 2003 Blancaneaux, Saddle Vineyard, Rutherford (\$40) Fresh, minerally fruit and lovely aromatics mark this Rhône-style white (42% Marsanne, 32% Roussanne, 26% Viognier).

SOUTHERN WINE & SPIRITS



90 Toasted Head 2002 Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley (\$18) Deep and plummy with concentrated blackberry fruit and lovely texture.

YOUNG'S MARKET

92 Seven Sinners 2003 Syrah, The Ransom, Napa Valley (\$18) Smooth and silky with ripe, juicy berry fruit, lovely sweet oak and bright acidity.

STRANGE WINES

90 de Lorimier 2001 Estate Merlot, Alexander Valley (\$20) Forward and juicy with pure, racy plum fruit and grippy tannins.

EPIC WINES

90 Cinnabar 2001 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon, Santa Cruz Mountains (\$40) Dark and vibrant with keen plum fruit, mellow oak and spice.

WINE WAREHOUSE