

# Wine Spectator

**90 Points!**

## **LASSETER FAMILY WINERY 2013 Enjoué**

10 California Wines for Under \$25

New reviews of whites and rosés from across the Golden State

March 9, 2015



### **LASSETER FAMILY Enjoué Sonoma Valley 2013 Score: 90 | \$24**

A lovely rosé, with tart strawberry and orange blossom aromas and delicately layered flavors of watermelon, almond and mineral. Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre.

Drink now. 475 cases made.—*Tim Fish*

Serious rosé fans should be on the lookout for Lasseter Family's 2013 Enjoué. John Lasseter, the chief creative officer behind Walt Disney and Pixar Animation, and his wife are fans of rosés from Southern France. The wine is a blend of Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre from their Sonoma Valley estate, Justi Creek Vineyard. —  
*Augustus Weed*

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*Tasting Highlights bring the best wines from our editors' most recent tastings to WineSpectator.com members.*

Spring is just around the corner, and this week we're highlighting some refreshing values for the warmer weather ahead. It's a diverse group, ranging from graceful Chardonnays to distinctive rosés, and even a Grüner Veltliner, all priced at less than \$25.

Kunde Estate leads the way here, with a lush and intense single-vineyard Sauvignon Blanc from Sonoma Valley. Winemaker Zachary Long used grapes from a section of Kunde's estate vineyard, which sits at an elevation of 300 feet, and aged the wine in older French oak for additional texture.

There are several wallet-friendly Chardonnays to choose from, including Buehler's Russian River Valley bottling. Winemaker David Cronin blended grapes from two vineyards and used a touch of new French oak to produce this elegant and graceful wine. For a few dollars less, try the ripe and smooth Layer Cake from Jayson Woodbridge.

Serious rosé fans should be on the lookout for Lasseter Family's 2013 Enjoué. John Lasseter, the chief creative officer behind Walt Disney and Pixar Animation, and his wife are fans of rosés from Southern France. The wine is a blend of Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre from their Sonoma Valley estate, Justi Creek Vineyard.

Austrian variety Grüner Veltliner is slowly gaining ground in California. Zocker founder Jack Niven grows Grüner and Riesling at his Paragon Vineyard in Edna Valley, and this wine shows the light and crisp side of this versatile grape.

**KUNDE ESTATE Sauvignon Blanc Sonoma Valley Vineyard Block 4SB20 2013 Score: 91 | \$22**

A lush mouthful of rich, ripe pineapple, honeysuckle and lemon-lime flavors, bright, aromatic and distinctive, set on a silky, light body, with mouthwatering acidity. Shows terrific balance and intensity. Drink now. 640 cases made.—*M.W.*

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A lovely rosé, with tart strawberry and orange blossom aromas and delicately layered flavors of watermelon, almond and mineral. Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre. Drink now. 475 cases made.—*T.F.*

**CLOS PEGASE Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley Carneros Mitsuko's Vineyard Musqué Clone 2013 Score: 89 | \$22**

Lovely, with succulent peach accents to the core of crisp lemon, apple and melon flavors. The acidity is refreshing without being bracing. Floral and herbal tea accents echo in the background. Drink now. 1,200 cases made.—*M.W.*

**BERINGER Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley 2013 Score: 88 | \$16**

Vividly juicy, featuring a clean, focused beam of lime juice, accented by notes of pineapple, coconut water and fresh lemon thyme. Refreshing and balanced, with a crisp finish. Drink now. 2,500 cases made.—*M.W.*

**BUEHLER Chardonnay Russian River Valley 2013 Score: 88 | \$16**

The fresh grass, honeydew, honeysuckle and subtle pear and citrus notes are elegant and graceful, smooth in texture and long on the finish. Drink now. 20,000 cases made.—*J.L.*

**DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE Vin Gris D'Amador Sierra Foothills 2013 Score: 88 | \$18**

Distinctive, with smoky orange zest aromas and racy raspberry, pepper and apricot flavors. Grenache, Mourvèdre, Roussanne, Grenache Blanc, Marsanne and Viognier. Drink now. 685 cases made.—*T.F.*

**FREI BROTHERS Chardonnay Russian River Valley Reserve 2013 Score: 88 | \$20**

Lots of spice, creamy oak and vanilla notes join vibrant pear, melon, honeysuckle and floral scents, ending smooth and graceful. Drink now. 135,000 cases made.—*J.L.*

**LA FOLLETTE Chardonnay North Coast 2013 Score: 88 | \$20**

Clean, pure and spicy, with a touch of mint to the red apple and honeydew melon flavors. Refreshing finish. Drink now. 4,387 cases made.—*J.L.*

**LAYER CAKE Chardonnay Central Coast 2013 Score: 87 | \$12**

Ripe, smooth and easy on the pocketbook, with simple flavors of apple and honeydew melon. Drink now. 16,000 cases made.—*J.L.*

**ZOCKER Grüner Veltliner Edna Valley Paragon Vineyard 2013 Score: 87 | \$20**

Crisp and clean, with lemon, lime and grapefruit flavors, accented by hints of lemon verbena on the lip-smacking finish. Drink now. 3,365 cases made.—*M.W.*