



## SEPTEMBER 2015

### Blue Reviews EXTRA! September–October 2015

By: Anthony Dias Blue

#### WHITE

- 90** Dry Creek Vineyard 2014 Sauvignon Blanc, Dry Creek Valley (\$18)  
Lush and juicy with tangy citrus and racy acidity; smooth, round and balanced; mineral, rich and bright with excellent length.
- 90** Duckhorn 2013 Chardonnay, Napa Valley (\$35)  
Smooth, rich and bright with lively acidity and mellow texture; juicy, fresh and rounded with finesse and style; long, balanced and complex.
- 90** Ghost Hill Cellars 2013 Pinot Noir Blanc, Bayliss-Bower Vineyard, Yamhill-Carlton (\$25)  
Juicy and tangy, crisp and lively; fresh and clean, long and lively with bright fruit and dry style.
- 90** Migration 2013 Chardonnay, Russian River Valley (\$32)  
Smooth and bright with lush fruit and creamy texture; juicy, bright and balanced.
- 91** Migration 2013 Chardonnay, Charles Heintz Vineyard, Sonoma Coast (\$55)  
Bright and juicy with silky texture and elegant style; soft oak, vanilla and pear; long and balanced.
- 92** Migration 2013 Chardonnay, Searby Vineyard, Russian River Valley (\$55)  
Lush and ripe with juicy citrus and smooth texture; creamy and rich, tangy and balanced; crisp and long.
- 93** Migration 2013 Chardonnay, Dierberg Vineyard, Santa Maria Valley (\$55)  
Silky and ripe with smooth, juicy, bright fruit; round and balanced with depth, finesse and length.
- 93** Migration 2013 Chardonnay, Split Rail Vineyard, Anderson Valley (\$55)  
Silky, bright and juicy with elegance and lively acidity; tangy and balanced with long, fresh style and lovely finesse.
- 90** Murrieta's Well 2013 The Whip, Livermore Valley (\$22)  
Smooth and ripe with tangy fruit and balanced flavors; juicy and ripe, fresh and long. 28% Semillon, 24% Chardonnay, 14% Sauvignon Blanc, 11% Orange Muscat, 11% Viognier, 11% Gewurztraminer, 1% White Roussane.  
WENTE FAMILY ESTATES
- 91** Pali Wine Co 2013 Chardonnay, Huber Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$39)  
Smooth and elegant with juicy pear, fig and hints of peach; soft oak, light toast and lovely balance; long and fresh.
- 93** Pellet Estate 2013 Chardonnay, Sunchase Vineyard, Sonoma Coast (\$68)  
Lush, rich and deep with juicy acidity and lovely structure; long, intense and elegant with silky texture; long and classic. KRILL FAMILY
- 90** Ponzi Vineyards 2014 Pinot Blanc, Willamette Valley (\$20)  
Bright, juicy and crisp with racy acidity and tangy fruit; ripe, tangy and fresh; lively and long. WILSON DANIELS

- 91** Stonestreet 2013 Chardonnay, Alexander Valley (\$40)  
Smooth and creamy with ripe pear, toasty oak and lovely depth; juicy, bright and complex; deep and balanced. JACKSON FAMILY WINES
- 90** Stonestreet 2014 Sauvignon Blanc, Alexander Valley, Sonoma County (\$40)  
Juicy, clean and fresh with complex flavors of spice and bright fruit; silky, lush and nicely textured; long and balanced. JACKSON FAMILY WINES
- 92** Trefethen 2013 Harmony Chardonnay, Oak Knoll District (\$50)  
Bright, clean and juicy with nicely integrated flavors; tangy, fresh and lifted with seamless style and a long, elegant finish.

#### REDS

- 90** Airfield Estates 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Runway, Yakima Valley (\$28)  
Smooth and dense with plum, blackberry and cherry fruit; lush and deep with balance and style; velvety and long, juicy and long.
- 90** Cavatappi Winery 2012 Sangiovese, Molly's Cuvée, Columbia Valley (\$20)  
Silky and dense with juicy fruit and lively acidity; clean, balanced and showing plum, raspberry and spice. 98% Sangiovese, 1% Syrah, 1% Merlot.
- 90** Cesari 2013 Mara, Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore DOC, Italy (\$23)  
Dark, deep and juicy with concentration and ripe blackberry and cassis; juicy, clean and intense with tangy style; lively, balanced and long. 75% Corvina, 20% Rondinella, 5% Molinara. OPICI IMPORTS
- 90** Clayhouse Wines 2012 Inconceivable Wine Cabernet Sauvignon, Columbia Valley (\$40)  
Smooth and silky with lovely plum and blackberry; seamless and lush with lovely structure and good length. MIDDLETON FAMILY WINES
- 90** Clos du Val 2013 Pinot Noir, Carneros (\$32)  
Silky and fresh with juicy raspberry and cassis; bright, tangy and balanced; lively and long with lots of charm.
- 92** Davies Vineyards 2013 Pinot Noir, Ferrington Vineyard, Anderson Valley (\$55)  
Silky and smooth with bright, juicy cherry fruit; racy acidity and tangy style; long and crisp. SCHRAMSBERG/WILSON DANIELS
- 91** Davies Vineyards 2013 Pinot Noir, Nobles Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview (\$55)  
Dense and meaty with spice, cherry and rich texture; smooth, lush and juicy with balance and style. SCHRAMSBERG/WILSON DANIELS
- 96** J. Davies 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Diamond Mountain District (\$100)  
Deep plum, blueberry and raspberry; lush and dense with velvety texture and lovely acid structure; bright and juicy with spectacular depth and finesse; stunning now with a great aging potential. 83% Cabernet Sauvignon, 17% Malbec. SCHRAMSBERG/WILSON DANIELS

- 91** Diora 2013 Pinot Noir, La Petite Grace, Monterey (\$30)  
Tangy berry fruit; smooth, dense, toasty and balanced with lovely spice, black cherry and chocolate; long and juicy.
- 92** Duckhorn 2011 Cabernet Franc, Napa Valley (\$70)  
Smooth and silky with bright plum, black raspberry and spice; supple, juicy and fresh with tangy acidity and lovely balance; long and elegant.
- 90** Duckhorn 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon, Three Palms Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$95)  
Velvety and smooth with black raspberry, cassis and spice; juicy and tangy with notes of richness and depth; firm and long.
- 92** Duckhorn 2012 Merlot, Napa Valley (\$54)  
Bright and tangy with elegant, lush style; juicy, fresh and supple; silky and rich, smooth and balanced with a long, intense finish.
- 92** Eighty Four 2012 Malbec, Napa Valley (\$48)  
Juicy plum and blackberry; rich, dense and elegant; long and balanced; from the winemaking team at Shafer Vineyards.
- 92** EnRoute 2013 Pinot Noir, Les Pommiers, Russian River Valley (\$65)  
Lush, spicy nose; juicy and bright with lush texture and ripe cherry; crisp and elegant with lovely structure and spice; expressive and long.
- 94** Far Niente 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Oakville (\$145)  
Dark, smooth and lush with lovely velvety texture; plum, spice and elegant fruit with fine structure and a long, mellow finish. NICKEL AND NICKEL
- 92** Flora Springs 2012 Merlot, Windfall Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$85)  
Smooth and dense with rich, earthy plum and blackberry; dense, ripe and balanced.
- 91** Ghost Hill Cellars 2012 Pinot Noir, Prospector's Reserve, Yamhill-Carlton (\$55)  
Silky and lush with bright cherry and plum fruit; juicy and dense with depth, style and finesse; lush, elegant and long.
- 90** Ghost Hill Cellars 2012 Pinot Noir, Bayliss-Bower Vineyard, Yamhill-Carlton (\$42)  
Silky and elegant with delicate cherry and pure bright berry fruit and notes of spice; fresh, long and lovely.
- 90** Head High 2013 North Coast (\$30)  
Loaded with plum, blackberry and cassis; velvety and seamless with lovely texture and depth. 36% Malbec, 20% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Zinfandel, 11% Grenache.
- 90** J. Lohr 2013 Pinot Noir, Fog's Reach, Arroyo Seco, Monterey (\$35)  
Silky and toasty with savory style and juicy cherry fruit; smooth, mellow and bright with balance and good length.
- 88** J. Lohr 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon, Seven Oaks, Paso Robles (\$17)  
Dark and juicy with fresh blackberry, blueberry and plum; soft, smooth and showing toasty oak and good balance. 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Petite Sirah, 7% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 3% Syrah, 1% Cabernet Franc, 3% other red varietals.
- 90** La Crema 2013 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley (\$40)  
Juicy and crisp with bright cherry and spice; tangy and silky with spice and elegant style; long, bright and balanced. JACKSON FAMILY WINES
- 92** Lasseter Family Winery 2013 Zinfandel, L'Ame du Sage, Sonoma Valley (\$48)  
Dark and lush with intense flavors of blackberry, cassis and plum; earthy, rich and deep with pepper and spice; long and balanced.
- 90** Long Meadow Ranch 2013 Merlot, Napa Valley (\$47)  
Spice, ripe plum and bright berry fruit; dense and rich with ripe fruit and balanced; long and seamless.
- 92** Long Meadow Ranch 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley (\$47)  
Smooth and ripe with plum, blackberry and rich vanilla oak; lush, supple and juicy; seamless, deep and balanced; bright and supple, long and classic.
- 90** Lucienne/Hahn SLH 2013 Pinot Noir, Santa Lucia Highlands (\$35)  
Black cherry and rich plum; juicy and lush with spice and velvety texture; clean, long and balanced. HAHN FAMILY WINES
- 90** Marqués de Cáceres 2008 Rioja Gran Reserva, Spain (\$35)  
Luscious with mellow style and rich, mature, complex and dense with juicy notes and hints of earth and depth; balanced and deep. Tempranillo, Garnacha, Graciano VINEYARD BRANDS
- 95** Mathew Bruno 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley (\$100)  
Smooth and juicy with dark color, deep plum and blackberry fruit; rich, beautifully structured and complex with rich texture and lovely depth; long and balanced.
- 94** Nickel & Nickel 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, John C. Sullenger Vineyard, Oakville (\$105)  
Elegant, complex nose; smooth, spicy and intense with generous blackberry and fine structure; deep, complex, supple and balanced; long and rich. FAR NIENTE
- 94** Pahlmeyer 2013 Pinot Noir, Jayson, Sonoma Coast (\$60)  
Juicy raspberry and cherry; fresh, clean and polished, rich and tangy; long and balanced with exquisite style, elegant and lifted.
- 92** Pali Wine Co 2013 Pinot Noir, Cargasacchi Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$58)  
Juicy and ripe with spice and tangy cherry; round, savory and complex; long and lovely.
- 92** Pali Wine Co 2013 Pinot Noir, Fiddlestix Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$58)  
Juicy with bright cherry fruit and nice density; savory, balanced and long; tangy, deep and rich; long and lovely.
- 91** Pali Wine Co 2013 Pinot Noir, Durell Vineyard, Sonoma Coast (\$58)  
Ripe and lush with spice, juicy cherry and smooth savory notes; deep, elegant and long.
- 90** Pali Wine Co 2013 Pinot Noir, Rancho La Viña Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$58)  
Silky and smooth with earth, spice and savory notes; wild cherry, raspberry and tangy acidity; juicy and long.
- 91** Pali Wine Co 2013 Pinot Noir, Huber Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$58)  
Round and juicy with silky texture and spice; elegant with cherry and tangy acidity; long and elegant.
- 90** Panther Creek Cellars 2013 Pinot Noir, Eola Amity Hills, Schindler Vineyard, Willamette Valley (\$50)  
Smooth and silky with lush texture and rich cherry; juicy, fresh and long; bright and balanced.
- 93** Panther Creek Cellars 2013 Pinot Noir, Eola Amity Hills, Carter Vineyard, Willamette Valley (\$65)  
Smooth and juicy with bright cherry and tangy style; snappy and lifted with lively style and good balance.
- 92** Pellet Estate 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Pellet Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$95)  
Deep, dark and juicy with firm structure and bright blackberry; rich, balanced and supple with spice and finesse. KRILL FAMILLY
- 90** Renwood Winery 2012 Clarion, Amador County (\$20)  
Smooth, lush and juicy with dense, aromatic, intense wild berries, bright spice; balanced and rich; seamless and long. 25% Zinfandel, 25% Petite Sirah, 25% Syrah, 25% Marsanne
- 90** Silvio Nardi 2013 Rosso di Montalcino, Italy (\$26)  
Smooth and lush with juicy berry fruit and lively acidity; snappy and crisp with bright fruit; clean and tangy, long and fresh. Sangiovese . KOBRAND
- 90** Stonestreet 2011 Cabernet Sauvignon, Alexander Valley (\$45)  
Dark and dense with blackberry, cassis and plum; rich and spicy with herbs and deep, intense flavors; long and balanced. JACKSON FAMILY WINES

**90** Tascante 2010 Terza Vendemmia, Sicilia, Italy (\$34)  
Juicy and bright with silky texture and ripe, dense plum fruit; tangy and long, balanced and deep. Nerello Mascalese . DALLA TERRA

**92** Tenuta Sette Cieli 2011 Indaco, Toscana IGT, Italy (\$50)  
Smooth and lush with ripe plum and juicy style; rich, deep and tangy; long and intense. 30% Malbec, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc . WILSON DANIELS

**95** Tenuta Sette Cieli 2010 Scipio, Toscana IGT, Italy (\$112)  
Smooth, lush and rich with deep plum and spice; intense and balanced with depth and considerable charm; complex and layered, long and lovely. Cabernet Franc. WILSON DANIELS

**90** Tenuta Sette Cieli 2012 noi 4, Bolgheri, Italy (\$42)  
Smooth and lush with spice, rich plum, soft herbs; rich and tannic, juicy and ripe; long, dense and deep; long and balanced. 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot, 10% Petit Verdot, 5% Cabernet Franc. WILSON DANIELS

**93** Trefethen 2012 Dragon's Tooth, Napa Valley (\$60)  
Smooth and lush with deep blackberry, plum and sweet spice; supple and rich with dense, elegant style; long, toasty, a bit tannic and meant to age. 66% Malbec, 20% Petit Verdot, 14% Cabernet Sauvignon

**92** Trione Vineyards and Winery 2011 Henry's Blend, Alexander Valley (\$54)  
Dark and smooth with spice, plum and sweet vanilla oak; lush, deep and juicy with lovely texture and a long, dense finish. 35% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot, 13% Petit Verdot, 13% Cabernet Franc, 5% Malbec

**90** Vino Noceto 2011 Sangiovese, Amador County (\$18)  
Smooth, bright and juicy with fresh, racy acidity and good balance; lively, balanced and long.

**92** Vino Noceto 2012 Sangiovese, Amador County (\$18)  
Smooth, dense and ripe with crisp, racy acidity and bright, fresh style; balanced, long and tangy.

**93** VinRoc 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Atlas Peak Vineyard, Napa Valley (\$98)  
Smooth and luscious with deep, rich plum, black raspberry and cassis; velvety, intense and long, ripe and lovely.

**90** Waitsburg Cellars 2012 Three, Columbia Valley (\$26)  
Lush and juicy, smooth and ripe with plum, blackberry and cassis; rich, balanced and showing clean oak; long and dense. 65% Merlot, 25% Malbec, 10% Mourvèdre. PRECEPT WINE

**90** White Oak Vineyards 2012 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley (\$35)  
Dark, bright and lush with dense black plum, cassis and spice; rich and supple with juicy, intense style; long and ripe. 79% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Malbec, 7% Petit Verdot, 2% Merlot, 2% Cabernet Franc.

**93** White Oak Vineyards 2008 Napa Reserve, Napa Valley (\$50)  
Smooth, bright and lush with velvety texture and lovely blackberry, cassis and rich texture; generous and balanced with elegance and a long, deep finish. 89% Cabernet Sauvignon, 11% Merlot.

**90** White Oak Vineyards 2013 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley (\$35)  
Dark and smooth with spice and black cherry; savory, ripe and juicy, long and lively.

**92** Wild Ridge 2012 Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast (\$45)  
Smooth and juicy with bright cherry and crisp acidity; tangy, fresh and pure; lively, classic and nicely structured; long and lifted.

**92** Schramsberg Vineyards 2011 North Coast (\$40)  
Fresh and crisp with deep, juicy fruit and rounded style; racy, generous and long with balance and elegant style. 89% Pinot Noir, 11% Chardonnay. WILSON DANIELS

**90** Schramsberg Vineyards 2012 North Coast (\$38)  
Crisp, clean and racy with tangy citrus, good balance and a long, lively finish. 100% Chardonnay . WILSON DANIELS

## DESSERT

**91** Merry Edwards 2012 Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc, Russian River Valley (\$45)  
Deep gold color; rich mushroom, spice and honey nose; lush, creamy and long with balance and depth; intense and ripe.

**90** Miles Madeira Wine Company NV 5 Year Old Rich, Madeira (\$23)  
Dark amber and silky with rancio and spice and lovely, creamy style; toasty and rich, long and dense. Tinta Negra. VINEYARD BRANDS

**91** Miles Madeira Wine Company NV 10 Year Old Rich, Madeira (\$41)  
Dark amber color; silky and juicy with spice, rancio and toasty notes; sweet and dense, balanced with length and style. Malmsey. VINEYARD BRANDS

**92** Royal Tokaji Wine Company 2008 5 Puttonyos Aszú, Tokaji (\$50)  
Bright amber color; tangy and juicy with sweetness and intense acidity; silky and long with racy style. WILSON DANIELS