



6 Celebrity Wineries You Should Actually Try

It's only natural celebrities wanted in on the wine world, but don't write off all these wines as merely pet projects.

Being a celebrity in 2016 rarely means just filming movies and TV shows or dropping albums. It seems everybody has their own line of something—including things to drink. Danny DeVito launched his own Limoncello. 50 Cent made his own flavor of Vitamin Water.

When it comes to making quality wine, some of our brightest stars have proven themselves dedicated to the craft. Here are six top producers to try:

Francis Ford Coppola

Francis Ford Coppola's wine empire is so vast, you may wonder if he's a director who makes wine or a vintner who makes films. The man behind *The Godfather* Trilogy, Coppola used the proceeds from the films to purchase Napa's historic Inglenook property in 1975.

Over three decades later, he launched his eponymous Sonoma winery in 2006. The label's newest bottling "1 Mille" offers a succulent and gratifying expression of Cabernet Franc—truly a wine you can't refuse.

- Francis Ford Coppola **"Director's Cut" Zinfandel 2012** (Dry Creek Valley, Sonoma County, California)
- Francis Ford Coppola **"1 Mille" Cabernet Franc 2012** (Knights Valley, Sonoma County, California)

Château Miraval

When Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie released their first vintage of Miraval in 2013, they surprised much of the wine world with the tremendous quality of their rosé. People shouldn't have been so shocked though; the power couple did everything right from the start.

Brangelina partnered with Famille Perrin, the French family behind the iconic Château de Beaucastel in Châteauneuf-du-Pape, to craft a rosé from their pedigreed Provence estate. The Champagne-style bottle has red carpet-ready sleekness, but its contents prove Miraval to be a serious player in the world of summer sippers.

Fun fact, Miraval's former owners operated a recording studio on the property, where the likes of Pink Floyd once laid down tracks. Until recently, Miraval's rosé actually had Pink Floyd's name on the label.

- Miraval **Rosé 2015** (Côtes de Provence, France)

Ferguson Crest

Many of the world's most cherished wine estates are a family affair. It's no different for Black Eyed Peas Superstar Fergie; she teamed up with her father Pat Ferguson to launch Ferguson Crest in 2006.

Sitting high in Santa Barbara County's Santa Ynez Valley, the six-acre estate takes its inspiration from France's Rhône Valley, focusing in Syrah and Viognier (as well as Cabernet Sauvignon at Fergie's request.) Does their flagship red blend "Fergalicious" truly "make the boys go loco"? Well, it's pretty hard not to find it tasty.

- Ferguson Crest **"Fergalicious" 2012** (Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara)

La Mozza

No dinner table in Italy is complete without a bottle of wine, so it's natural Italian-American chef Mario Batali has a winery in Tuscany with restaurateur Joe Bastianich. Batali's Maremma estate La Mozza captures the essence of the Tuscan coast.

It produces two wines: a delicious, easy-drinking Morellino di Scansano, made primarily of Sangiovese, and their "Super-Tuscan" called "Aragone." The latter provides the more serious fodder for collectors, but remains a bargain in my book.

- La Mozza **"Aragone" Maremma Toscana IGT 2010** (Maremma, Tuscany, Italy)

Lasseter Family Winery



The director behind *Toy Story*, *A Bug's Life*, and *Cars*, John Lasseter and his wife Nancy discovered an interest in the art of winemaking when they moved to Sonoma in 1993. The estate's only a short hour-or-so drive from Pixar Studios, where John serves as Chief Creative Officer both there and for Walt Disney Animation.

The Lasseters' love for illustration even shows on their labels; each bottle features the work of local Sonoma artist Dennis Zieminski. With a portfolio exploring many of California's most celebrated grapes, Lasseter's Merlot and Malbec-driven blends are two not to miss.

- Lasseter **"Paysage" 2012** (Sonoma Valley, California)
- Lasseter **"Amoureux" 2012** (Sonoma Valley, California)

Alain Paret "Lys de Volan" Condrieu

Alain Paret pulled in two mega stars in their fields to help restore his historic Lys de Volan vineyard: distinguished Rhône house E. Guigal and prolific, Oscar-nominated French actor Gérard Depardieu.

The resulting wine from these three forces is a real winner. Heralding from Condrieu, a small but mighty appellation in the Northern Rhône Valley (perhaps Viognier's most famous home), Lys de Volan's ownership can be traced back to 1486. The wine it produces today is profoundly seductive, transfixing tasters with suave notes of acacia blossoms, jasmine and peach skin.

- Alain Paret **"Lys de Volan" Condrieu 2013** (Condrieu, Rhône Valley, France)