

VINEPAIR

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25 of the Best Pinot Noirs for 2020

Ever since Paul Giamatti [waxed poetic](#) about the “thin-skinned, temperamental” [Pinot Noir](#) in the 2004 film “Sideways,” the [noble grape](#) has seen its [popularity with wine drinkers skyrocket](#). Pop culture stardom aside, there’s a lot to know and love about Pinot Noir: The fickle and terroir-driven grape is admired for such qualities as its deep red color, notes of luscious berries and smoke — and, sometimes, prohibitive prices.

Yes, because Pinot Noir is [difficult to grow](#), the cost of a good bottle will often reflect that — but that doesn’t mean finding a quality, affordable Pinot is impossible. In the past six months, VinePair has tasted and reviewed a range of exceptional Pinots, many of which are surprisingly affordable (even the worthy splurges come in under \$100).

Below are 25 of the best Pinots Noirs you can buy right now, arranged by [review](#) grade and price. All reviews were written by VinePair tastings director Keith Beavers.

[GARY FARRELL HALLBERG VINEYARD PINOT NOIR 2016 \(A+\) \(\\$55\)](#)

What are you doing reading what I am typing? You should be out trying to find this wine instead, because it is one of the most beautiful Pinot Noir wines from America currently on the market. And once you buy it, get ready to not share. Inside this bottle there are aromas of cherries and cinnamon with some mushrooms, but that’s not important. What is important is that this wine will physically affect you. It’s chewy, soft, supple, and just soaks into your palate. Your endorphins will fire off, and you’ll swoon. Buy it now.

[GARY FARRELL RUSSIAN RIVER SELECTION PINOT NOIR 2017 \(A\) \(\\$45\)](#)

This is how it’s done! This wine is such a great example of why Russian River Pinot Noir fans lose their minds sipping bottles like this one. The balance is impeccable. The fruit is elegant yet powerful, filling your palate and brain with broad, harmonious aromas of cherries and cinnamon, with a whiff of white pepper and autumn leaves. And all those descriptors I just mentioned are cool and all, but what really matters is how this wine makes you feel. It’s a goddamn pleasure to drink.