

# FOOD & WINE

## Our 15 Best Wines of 2024, From a \$20 Alvarinho to a Priceless Port

After tasting over a thousand wines this past year, these were the bottles that stood out most.

Looking back at 2024, I'm struck by how many good wines I tasted. There's so much available in the U.S. market for wine lovers that the abundance is truly mind-bending, and even doing my best to taste every single bottle that came my way, I undoubtedly only tried a fraction of them.

Even so, here are my top wine memories from the past year. Some of these were from tastings for my regular column, some were wines I tasted at the Food & Wine tasting room with visiting winemakers, some I poured at events for seminars, and some I found while traveling. Not all of them are still available (1945 vintage port isn't exactly on store shelves right now), but in cases where they aren't, or are simply hard to find, I've tried to suggest more easily findable or contemporary alternatives.

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### 2021 Le Macchiole Bolgheri Rosso (\$40)



This is really a nod to the [Le Macchiole's](#) remarkably inspiring owner, Cinzia Merli, who I portrayed in [a story](#) from our April issue. She came through tremendous personal hardship a few years into Le Macchiole's existence when her husband Eugenio Campolmi died unexpectedly, and though at the time everyone expected her to sell the estate the two of them had founded, she persevered. Today she makes some of the greatest wines of Tuscany's Bolgheri region.

Her Paleo Rosso (\$125) is benchmark Italian red for me – when I was researching my story we drank a bottle of the 2005 together over bistecca alla Fiorentina at the wonderful local restaurant Osteria Magona – but her basic estate red is, in the terrific 2021 vintage, a remarkable wine, batting way above its somewhat humble “rosso” designation. It's both elegant and powerful, and has a long life ahead of it. I bought several bottles for my own cellar, just to see how it ages.