

# Wine Bin's Top Holiday Reds

## 2011

**2005 Smith-Madrone Cabernet Sauvignon, Spring Mountain - Napa Valley \$35 (reg \$45)**

Red berry and bramble aromas fill the nose. The palate is deep and layered with a bevy of flavors, dark cherry, bits of herb & cocoa. The sticker may say \$45 but the quality says \$75.

**2009 El Arte de Vivir, Ribera del Duero – Spain \$17**

“The art of living” is a tremendously voluptuous wine, with the texture of chocolate at the melting point. The flavors are reminiscent of ripe blackberries and sweet spices, all with an incisive depth.

**2010 Familia Mayol Bonarda, Mendoza –Argentina \$14**

Blue hints with violet hues, characteristic of a complex Bonarda. Fresh & quite fragrant floral aromas. Light on the palate but rather spicy with juicy mint flavors and fresh blackberries. Mild tannins.

**2009 Decero Malbec, Mendoza – Argentina \$18 (reg \$20)**

Big and fleshy with a bold nose of black fruits. The palate is chunky and full with blackberry, baked plum, fig and herbal flavors. A saturated, lusty style Malbec with a velvety fruit finish.

**2007 Maquis lein, Colchagua – Chile \$20**

This medium-bodied wine is a blend of Syrah, Carmenere, Cab Franc, Petite Verdot and Malbec, aged in French oak for one year. Flavors of ripe berries, cassis, plum, black pepper and dark chocolate.

**2008 Steltzner Claret, Napa Valley – California \$18**

This Cabernet, Merlot & Cab Franc blend has aromas of black cherries, clove, vanilla & currants. Medium-bodied & elegant with flavors of sweet dried cherries, vanilla & cedar. Smooth & velvety finish.

**2008 Castle Rock Syrah, Columbia Valley, Washington \$14**

Well balanced, ripe & spicy. Offers complex concentrated flavors of dark ripe fruits, smoke & black pepper. The finish is long-lasting and harmonious with lingering spice nuances.

**2009 Salvando “Fosco” Dolcetto, Diano D’Alba – Italy \$20**

Sweet bubblegum, black cherry & marzipan nose. Blueberry muffin with a touch of chocolate on the exuberantly fruity and pure palate. Light and easy right through the finish.

**2009 Chateau de Vaugelas Corbieres, Languedoc – France \$13**

The Wine Bin's #1 selling French red. A delightfully aromatic wine with hints of violet, thyme and smooth dark fruits. Your guests will rave when you pop this at your holiday party.

**2008 Mettler Family Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Lodi – California \$19 (reg \$22)**

The nose is pungent with plum, black cherry & currant with whiffs of licorice. The taste is full, fleshy & velvety. At the core, it's a manly sort of wine, with a gentle sweet side – like the stubbled hunk who cooks you breakfast in the morning. Sit back and enjoy!

**2005 Chateau Croix Esperance, Lussac Saint Emillion – France \$20**

This 100% Merlot is dense ruby in color, seriously structured with concentrated flavors of black fruits, roasted herbs, forest floor and licorice. Grill a nice tenderloin, pop this bottle and relax!