

# Wine Spectator Insider

Marvin Shanken | December 27, 2017

SEMIANNUAL REPORT: JULY 12 – DEC. 20, 2017

The second half of 2017 ushered in a wealth of stunning, cellar-worthy new releases, compiled weekly in the Wine Spectator Insider. Since our last Semiannual Report in July, 950 such wines, scoring between 99 and 90 points, have been featured, demonstrating the remarkable diversity and far-ranging quality of the modern wine world. France led the pack, with 335 wines achieving classic or outstanding scores. Powerful, ageworthy versions from the Rhône Valley and Burgundy impressed, while sensational Champagnes provide plenty of options for holiday toasting. California, bolstered by superb vintages for Cabernet, Chardonnay and Rhône-style reds, came in second, with 178 wines. Just a step behind, Italy, with 159 wines, delivered a delectable stable of Barbarescos, Barolos and Tuscan reds. Beyond these leading regions, an additional nine countries and two states are represented here. Châteauneuf-du-Pape's Domaine St-Préfert achieved this report's highest score, 99 points, for its 2015 Collection Charles Giraud bottling. Burgundy's Olivier Bernstein charted three stunning reds at 98 points; also in that coveted company are red and white versions from France's Jean-Louis Chave, Clos des Papes, Ramonet, Armand Rousseau and Château de St.-Cosme, as well as a 1968 Tawny Port from Taylor Fladgate. Wines are arranged here in alphabetical order by producer within their regions. Those highlighted as Hot Wines when first published in the Insider are marked with a diamond (t). Each listing includes the wine's score and price; for complete tasting notes, please search our online database at [WineSpectator.com](http://WineSpectator.com).

## **Phifer Pavitt Date Night Cabernet Sauvignon 2014**

**92 points**

\$85 | 1,005 cases made | Red