

bringing wine down to earth

by Catherine Fallis, February 2015



## 2012 SYRAH LE POUSSEUR 90 POINTS

Vineyards: Alamo Creek, Bien Nacido, Spanish Springs, Ventana Central Coast, California, USA 13.4%, 750 ml

Seductive notes of red rose, lilac, raspberry and cherry mingle with earthy notes of game, bacon and underbrush. Smooth and silky. Decant to let oxygen do its thing.



## 2013 VINFERNO 92 POINTS

Grenache Blanc Arroyo Seco, Monterey, California, USA 11.2%, 375 ml

This intensely sweet but very well-balanced Grenache Blanc has notes of coconut, papaya, peach skin, and caramelized sugar. Delicious on its own, or with dessert or cheese.



## 2012 CONTRA Rhone Blend 90 POINTS

Vineyards: Gonsalves, Alamo, Bien Nacido Contra Costa County, California, USA 14.1%, 750 ml

This Rhone blend is deeply fruity with notes of mulberry, cherry cobbler, white pepper, celery and bacon. Delicious and well-priced!



## 2013 VIN GRIS DE CIGARE 92 POINTS

Grenache, Mourvedre, Roussanne, Carignane, Grenache Blanc, Cinsault Vineyards: McDowell Valley, Mesa Verde, Rancho Solo, Ventana Central Coast, California, USA 13%, 750 ml

Pale, delicate and bone dry like a Provencal rose, this subtle beauty has notes of raspberry, dried peach, browning pork and veal, and cured meats. While austerely dry it has a fleshy, round middle.