

# COSMOPOLITAN

Put  
**Issa  
Rae** in  
charge of  
everything

WE DIDN'T  
MEAN FOR  
OUR FIRST-  
EVER

**Wine  
Awards**

TO BE SO  
PERFECTLY  
TIMED BUT  
HERE  
WE  
ARE

ASTROLOGY  
HAS SOME  
("AIR HORN")

GOOD  
NEWS  
FOR

The  
**Distraction  
Issue**

**once**

BC YOUR  
PLANTS  
ARE BUSY  
TONIGHT

**5  
VERY  
GOOD  
DOGS™**

YOU COULD  
USE RIGHT  
NOW P. 54



*TPW your head and your heart  
say the exact same thing.*

THE  
FIRST ANNUAL  
COSMO

W I  
N E

AWARDS

Giving the base of your 2020 food pyramid  
the credit she deserves.

Words by  
THE EDITORS

Illustrations by  
NATALIA VOLGINA

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COSMOPOLITAN  
JUNE 2020

# general excellence

We drank 90 bottles of wine to find the best wines of all the wines and it was so, so hard.



1. **BEST girls'-night-size situation**

"It's got cute packaging and a handle for dragging it to my BFF's on Bachelor Mondays, and my judgy aunt loves the rich taste."  
—SAM FEHER, editorial assistant  
**House Wine Cabernet Sauvignon, \$22**

2. **BEST how-is-this-not-champagne? prosecco**

"Down a glass of this appley goodness and you're dripping in diamonds you borrowed from Riri. At least I was."  
—ROSA HEYMAN, deputy editor  
**Nobilissima Prosecco DOC, \$15**

3. **MOST chuggable**

"It smells like a really clean gray rock spritzed with pear juice and tastes like a splash of effervescent spa water to the face."  
—MIA LARDIERE, Snapchat editor  
**Txamin Etzaniz Txakoli, \$22**

4. **BEST natural wine**

"This sparkling rosé is so natural you're basically doing yoga when you drink it. Plus it has expensive-feeling bubbles and hints of pomegranate."  
—KATIE BUCKLEITNER, associate digital

5. **BEST expensive-looking budget wine**

"I'm a Libra who loves aesthetically pleasing things. Enter: easily one of the prettiest bottles I've ever laid my eyes on. It's refreshing, fruity, and affordable."  
—STARR BOWENBANK, editorial assistant  
**JNSQ Rosé Cru, \$29**

6. **BEST actually expensive wine**

"She smells like stewed cherries, rose petals, and a good portion of your paycheck. Intense, beautiful, and fully worth it."  
—ML  
**The Hill Pinot Noir, \$45**

7. **MOST giftable wine**

"This Cali-made cab sauv is chic enough for the swirly-glass crowd and still crushable for your Two Buck Chuck-lovin' friends."  
—JESSICA GOODMAN, op-ed editor  
**Tenzhen Cabernet Sauvignon, \$24**

8. **BEST red wine gives you a headache**

"It's made with less-lamnic grapes (??) and aged in clay (I), but TL;DR I finished most of a bottle after dinner without my head feeling like a smoothie."  
—JEN ORTIZ, deputy editor  
**Castador 100% Tropol, "Molamorphika Amphora," \$34**



## HOW TO CURE LE WINE HANG-OVER

To each her own road to recovery.

"Matzo ball soup is the best cure of all time, and I have tried literally everything."  
—RUBY BUDDEMEYER

"I'll guzzle a Pedialyte before a big night of drinking, but fair warning that it's, like... salty!"  
—JESSICA PELS

"For serious ones: Tums, Gatorade, and chicken broth."  
—PATTY CAMEROTA

"An entire bag of kettle chips and a Gatorade before noon. Before noon is key."  
—ASHLEY OERMAN

"Kombucha, a banana, and calling your mom."  
—ROSA HEYMAN

"A marathon binge-watch of *The Vet Life* on Animal Planet—and also nachos."  
—JEN ORTIZ

Words to make you sound winery

**PALATE**  
The overall description of a wine's flavor.

**NOTES**  
Specific qualities of a wine that you can taste or smell.

**TEXTURE**  
How wine feels as you drink (e.g., "smooth" or "prickly").

**TANNINS**  
The stuff in grape skins and barrels that leaves your tongue feeling dry.



9



10



11



12



13



14

**10. PRETTIEST label**

"I once got some horrible advice: 'Don't judge a book by its cover.' Naturally, I completely ignored it and have had a much prettier life as a result. That's what led me to this gorgeousness, which actually does taste as good as it looks.

But that isn't why we buy it, now, is it?"  
—JESSICA PELS, editor-in-chief

Summer in a Bottle White, \$26

**11. BEST twist-off**

"Its cheap price tag and refreshingly sweet flavor got me through college, and the bright, sunny bottle has gotten me to, well, my mid-20s."

—SARAH WELDON, associate Snapchat editor

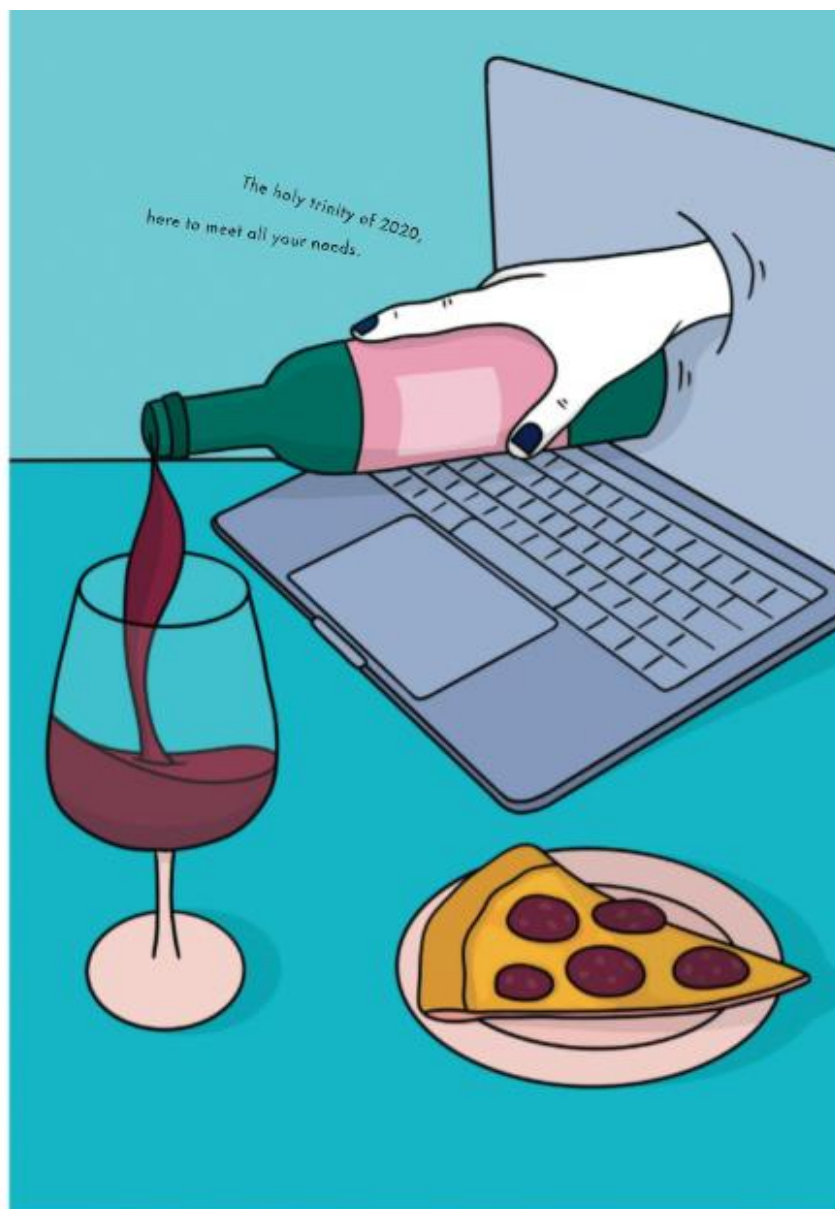
Barefoot Pinot Grigio, \$6

**9. BEST white wine if white wine gives you a headache**

"Sauvy B. is my girl, and this one in particular has been my BFF for years. The acidic, citrusy notes make me drool (in a good way), and I've polished off many bottles sans brain pain."

—ASHLEY OERMAN, deputy lifestyle director

Bonterra Sauvignon Blanc, \$14



**12. BEST celeb-owned wine**

"Brangelina is no more, but they're still churning out an A+ rosé. Also, their bottle has serious fancy French-lady vibes. Just add queso." —SW

Miraval Rosé, \$22

**13. BEST mimosa bubbles**

"This guy is dry enough if you're all 'champagne over everything' and 'just' fruity enough for me and everyone else. You might question your OJ-to-prosecco ratio forever."

—ALEXANDRA WHITTAKER, senior news editor

Martini & Rossi Prosecco DOC, \$15

**14. BEST gas-station wine**

"Surprise! This blend of zinfandel, merlot, and cabernet sauvignon is found at 7-Eleven and tastes like finding \$20 in your pocket (rich, I'm saying it's rich)." —AO

Ménage à Trois California Red Wine, \$12

**MOUTHFEEL**  
Basically, the way wine feels...in your mouth.

**FERMENTATION**  
The process of converting a grape's sugar into alcohol.

**DRY**  
When a wine leaves your mouth watering.

**OAKY**  
As wine ages in an oak barrel, it can gain tastes or smells like cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla, allspice, or coconut.

**AGED**  
Letting a wine get older in a bottle or barrel. This can make it taste more "balanced".

**FULL-BODIED**  
A wine with a more intense taste.

# situational drinking

Oh, you don't have a specific wine for Bravo binges? Right this way....



**1.**  
**BEST**  
**pairs-well-with-**  
**takeout wine**

"Once I cracked open this intense, lip-smacking bottle, I forgot all about the excruciating estimated delivery wait time I still had to endure."  
—PC  
**Underwood Pinot Noir**, \$14

**2.**  
**BEST**  
**get-drunk-with-**  
**your-roomies wine**

"I'm done wasting valuable TV time debating my roommate who swears she hates red. This delicious one has literally made us dance on our coffee table before."  
—SHANNON BARBOUR, news writer  
**Jam Jar Sweet Shiraz**, \$12

**3.**  
**BEST**  
**sex pre-game**  
**wine**

"Since pretty much everyone likes sex but not everyone likes red, this intense and perfumy rosé is the winner. Bonus: no purple teeth."  
—ML  
**Tormenosa Calafuria Rosé**, \$15

**4.**  
**BEST**  
**wine for**  
**shit-talking**

"With notes of sweet cherry and a cinnamon kick, this is my new go-to for sipping while spilling tea. Also, the name is, like...too perfect."  
—PC  
**19 Crimes The Warden**, \$25

## SCREW THE CORK-SCREW

Four semi-successful ways we've popped bottles in desperate times.

"I took a drawer out of a hotel dresser and used the handle to push the cork into the bottle. I'm basically James Bond."  
—ASHLEY GERMAN

"I couldn't get a cork more than a third of the way out, so I pulled it the rest of the way with my teeth."  
—JESSICA PELS

"I used a key once, but it was not super helpful. I ended up cracking the cork in half."  
—RACHEL TORGERSON

"My cousin used an actual screw: He power-drilled it into the cork and then pulled it out with the back of a hammer."  
—MARY FAMA

**5.**  
**BEST**  
**bathtub wine**  
"Yes! Chardonnay! It is equal parts dry and fruity (hi, apple, pear, and lemon), tastes great with ico, and makes me feel civilized as fuck."  
—RUBY BUDDMEYER, beauty editor  
**Napa Cellars Chardonnay**, \$22

**6.**  
**BEST**  
**hump day wine**  
"When I'm like, 'WOW, how is it NOT the weekend yet?' this fruit-forward citrus blend of flavors is extra light, so I never miss my alarm in the morning."  
—MARIAH SCHLOSSMANN, editorial business assistant  
**Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio**, \$25

**7.**  
**BEST**  
**for crying**  
"This bubbly drink of my youth tastes like Rich Girl Juice and is a step up from my usual sad liquor-store pinot gris. Pop the bottle open and let it spray away your tears."  
—SW  
**La Marca Prosecco DOC**, \$18

**8.**  
**BEST**  
**wine to drink by**  
**yourself while**  
**watching**  
**reality TV**  
"Obvious Wines was on Shark Tank and got \$160,000 from Lori Greiner! What better brand is there to chug while yelling obscenities at Peter Weber!"  
—AW  
**Obvious Wines Light & Lively**, \$18

### EARTHY

Gravelly, flinty, or mineral-y flavors that occur in grapes when vines soak up water from the soil.

### FRUITY

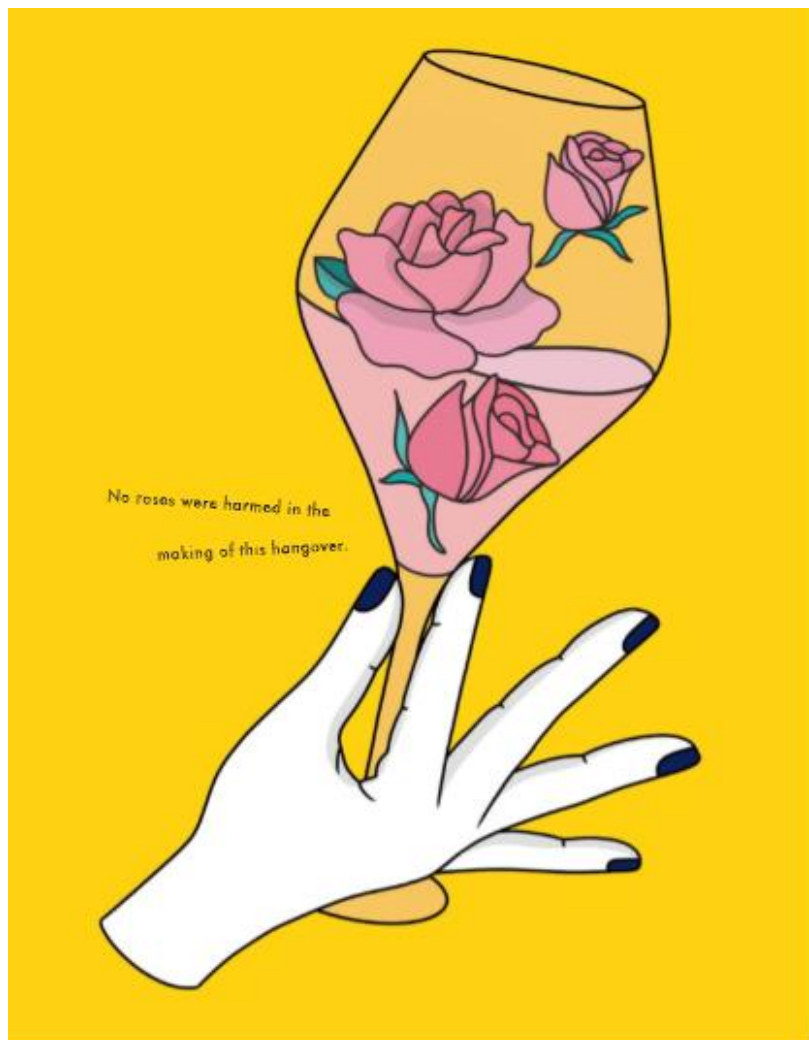
Flavors and aromas in wine like grapefruit or blackberry.

### STONE FRUIT

Some but with peaches, plums, or any fruit with a pit.

### ACID

The stuff in a grape's pulp that makes wine taste tangy.



# rosé awards

Rosé all day, every day, forever and always, amen.



1.  
**BEST  
for spring**  
"It's affordable and corkless and it pairs well with cheese and bread on a sunny day. Imagine a slightly fizzy Kool-Aid. This is her." —ML

**Broadbent Vinho Verde Rosé, \$10**

2.  
**BEST  
for summer**  
"When it's drippy, I need a fresh wine that makes hauling a cooler to the pool worth it. This gorge bottle has fruity flavors and finishes with notes of candy. CANDY!" —AO

**Cote des Roses Rosé, \$15**



3.  
**BEST  
for fall**  
"Meet the perfect in-betweener rosé. The strawberry sniffs are summery, while savory notes give it weight for cold-weather festivities." —KB

**Charles & Charles Rosé, \$15**

4.  
**BEST  
for winter**  
"Nothing will restore your will to live during the bleakest months like a chilled glass of this. It legit tastes like the beach: mineraly, light, and a teeny bit fruity." —JO

**Minuty Prestige, \$30**

5.  
**BEST  
actual rosé candy**  
"It's been haunting your Instagram feed for years for a good fucking reason: It tastes gooooood. You won't get drunk, but you will be the best party guest if you bring these." —SW

**Sugarfina, Rosé All Day gummies, \$9**

6.  
**BEST  
rosé to make  
frosé with**  
"This bright, acidic, spicy wine was basically born to be poured into a blender." —SB

**Kità Grenache Rosé, \$20**



**BRIGHT**  
When grape acid leaves your mouth feeling zesty.

**BLEND**  
When there's more than one type of grape in a wine.

**VARIETAL**  
The kind of grape used to make a wine.

**VINTAGE**  
The original year the wine's grapes were grown, aka the year on the bottle.

SOURCE: LESLIE B. WILTE, OWNER OF THE INTERNATIONAL WINE CONSULTING FIRM AMUSE + NATIONAL WINE CLUB SIP BETTER

THE  
**COSMOPOLITAN**  
**Wine Awards**

2020

**Did you know?** Champagne is typically a blend of chardonnay, pinot noir, and pinot meunier grapes.