

# REVIEWS

# TOP-10 LATE-SUMMER SIPPERS



**Carmenet Reserve Chardonnay 2009** – Rich and creamy. Lots of oak. Classic California style all the way through. A well-balanced finish with a little acidity. **89**

**Allure Pink Moscato** – Slightly sweet with flavors that come alive in your mouth. Perfect little sipper for the dog days of summer. **89**



**Murphy-Good Pinot Grigio 2008** – This is a fun, easy-drinking wine. Proof that Pinot Grigio can taste good. Good as an aperitif or with cheese. **88**



**Caiu A Noite Vinho Verde** – Great fun sipper from Portugal. We like to call it v-Squared. Crisp and refreshing. **88**





**10,000 Apricot Blossoms Sake** – Looking for something a little different? Try this sake. Its name describes its flavors. But for someone who not accustomed to sake, you really have to try it to appreciate it. Fun to try with friends after dinner, though don't mistake it for a dessert wine. **88**

**Forest Glen White Merlot Forest Fire 2009** – A rosé with a lot of kick. Simultaneously spicy and slight fruity. Good by itself but much better with food, especially Asian cuisine. **88**



**Augey White Bordeaux 2009** – Haven't tasted this one for a few years. Even better than before. Fairly light and crisp, but stands up with foods like fish and chicken. A great value. **87**



**White Truck Moscato 2010** – Brand new to the shelves and worth checking out. Sweet in a traditional Moscato style with hints of peaches. Long finish, too. Especially good with bread and cheese. **87**



**Cycles Gladiator 2009** – Another Pinot Grigio worth trying. Slightly floral and slightly fruity with a simple finish that hangs briefly on the tongue. **87**



**St. Gabriel Gewürtztraminer 2009** – Wines from Germany's Pfalz region continue to be some of the best German values but don't get much attention. This one is pretty sweet with orange and peach flavors. A very versatile wine. **87**



## REVIEWS

TOP-7  
RED WINES

**J. Lohr Fog's Reach Pinot Noir 2009** — Incredible. The best Pinot we've tasted this year. A huge nose and supple cherry flavors. Great with salmon. **93**



**Robert Hall Cabernet Sauvignon 2008** — From Paso Robles, this wine displays intense flavors, a slightly earthy character and spicy finish. Full-bodied and well-rounded. Excellent. **92**



**Massimo Malbec 2010** — Packed with dark berry fruit flavors in the nose and rich tannins that cover the palate. Full-bodied and a little dirty. **89**



**Carmenet Zinfandel 2009** — Bold and spicy. Savor the end of summer with a big steak off the grill and a bottle of this Zin. **89**



**Astoria Pinot Noir 2009** — Pinot Noir from Italy? Sure. This is a medium-bodied wine that pairs perfectly with red sauce pasta dishes or pizza. On a very hot day, it can be fun to add an ice cube to your glass. **88**



**Augey Bordeaux 2009** — Not as fruity as previous offerings of this wine. This is better. Medium-bodied with a noticeable taste of *terroir*. A great value. **87**



**Mandolin Cabernet Sauvignon 2009** — An easy-drinking, medium-bodied Cab from California's Central Coast. **87**

