THE OENO FILES by Robb Report



Our 10 Favorite Wines of the Year

If tasting wine and writing about it sounds like a great job, believe us, it really is, and we have no complaints. Week after week we get to enjoy some of the finest wines in the world, but please remember, we're doing it all for you. In a normal day we're tasting through around 20 wines, adding up to 120 a week and somewhere north of 6,000 per year from more than 30 countries and 200-plus regions around the world. And we're also trying wine whenever we're out to dinner or meeting with friends, pushing that total even higher. So it was really hard to narrow our choices down to just 10, but we've gone through our notes and have come up with a list that represents bottles that we didn't just sip, spit, and take notes on but bottles we truly enjoyed.



Champagne Bollinger R.D. 2008

This "recently disgorged" Champagne was served at a lunch in Paris featuring the same vintage from a regular sized bottle alongside the same wine from magnum and double magnum, which is a total baller move. Disgorged in October 2022, it has incredible complexity and freshness.



Ornellaia 2013 Bolgheri Superiore

Sometimes at tastings or lunches we don't finish a single glass, and other times we drain one quickly and ask for more. At an early spring tasting featuring Ornellaia from five different decades, with vintages from 1988 through 2020, the standout pour for both of us was 2013. Where other bottlings showcased power, the accent here was on austerity and finesse. Winemaker Axel Heinz pointed out that this was a difficult vintage, which just goes to show that sometimes adversity brings out the best.