



ALMA *de* CATTLEYA
SONOMA COUNTY

Wine Spectator

14 ENTICING CALIFORNIA ROSÉS

New reviews of refreshing 2016s
from the Golden State

Augustus Weed Posted: March 27, 2017

Tasting Highlights bring the best wines from our editors' most recent tastings to WineSpectator.com members.

Spring is here, and that means it's time to start thinking pink.

Rosé's popularity has surged over the past decade, and wine lovers can't seem to get enough of these crisp, easygoing and food-friendly wines. The good news is that vintners are taking rosé more seriously, with a wider range of styles and varieties to choose from.

Here is a selection from California to celebrate the warmer weather ahead. These wines showcase rosé's diversity, from delicate, salmon-hued quaffs made in Provençal styles to bold, dark-pink versions that are decidedly New World.

Bedrock's Morgan Twain-Peterson picks the grapes for his rosé at lower sugar levels to retain freshness. The approach shows in the Ode to Lulu, a blend of Mataro and Grenache. Other producers employ a palette of techniques in the cellar, such as Randall Grahm at Bonny Doon, who uses lees-stirring to impart additional texture in his Vin Gris de Cigare.

Beyond Rhône grapes, Pinot Noir's natural acidity and modest tannins make for crisp rosés, such as Cattleya's delicate expression. Balletto's lively version from the Russian River Valley tops our selection, at 89 points. On the value side, consider Ferrari-Carano's zesty Sangiovese from Sonoma County.

CATTLEYA Pinot Noir Sonoma County Rosé Alma de Cattleya 2016 Score: 89 | \$20

A delicate and pretty rosé, with strawberry and raspberry flavors accented by spice and cinnamon hints. Drink now. 350 cases made.—T.F.



89 POINTS