



DFJ VINHOS

15 BEST BUY

AT



2009

100 WINES UNDER \$15 BEST BUYS

20TH BEST BUY

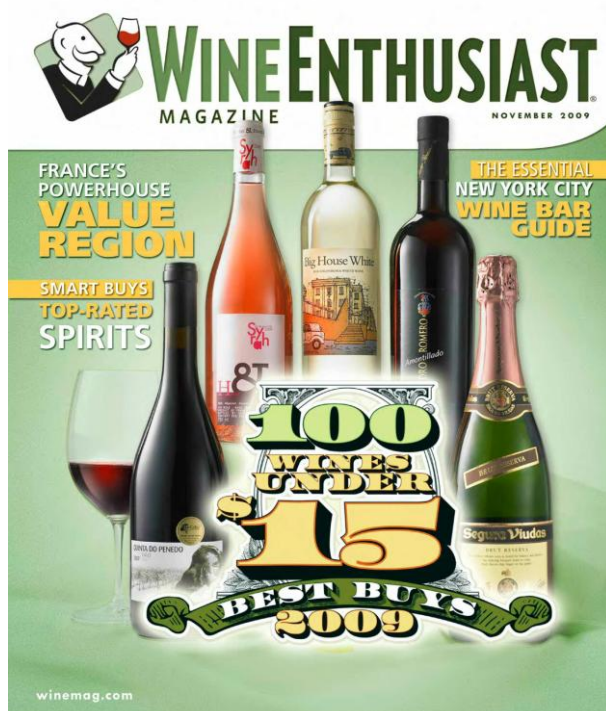
BEST BUY

90



GRAND'ARTE SHIRAZ RED 2007

Its dark color promises power, and this wine delivers a broad, chunky Shiraz, with perfumed fruit, dark tannins and a spicy wood structure. Solid concentration gives a wine that somehow manages to assimilate a Franco/Australian variety into a dry Portuguese structure. — R.V. (8/1/2009); \$11



DFJ VINHOS

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BEST BUY

89



POINT WEST

TOURIGA NACIONAL RED 2005

It is called Point West because Estremadura's vineyards are the furthest west in Europe. The wine itself is soft and fruity initially, but then there is a tight tannic texture, followed by black currant fruits. The wine is finely made, elegant, just on the warm side of cool. — [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

89



CASA DO LAGO

TOURIGA NACIONAL & CASTELÃO & CABERNET SAUVIGNON RED 2006

With its blend of Touriga Nacional, Castelão and Cabernet Sauvignon, this wine successfully blends Portugal and France. There is already some maturity here, the wine soft, with red berries and a leather tannin character. Ready to drink now, with a final fresh acidity. — [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

88



CASA DO LAGO

GRANDE RESERVA

CABERNET SAUVIGNON RED 2005

A very Portuguese version of Cabernet Sauvignon, with sweet, jammy red berries and only light tannins. The fruit has freshness, but the dominant character is sweetness, ripeness, a wine full of final juicy acidity. — [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

88



VEGA

VINHO REGIONAL ALENTEJANO RED 2007

A superripe, fruity wine that has obviously benefited from the sunny Alentejo, but without losing structure. The fruits are firm, with tight, spicy tannins as well as rich plum and berry juiciness. Worth aging for another year, with its fresh acidity, but very drinkable now. - [R.V.](#) (11/1/2009)

BEST BUY

88



GRAND'ARTE

ARINTO WHITE 2008

Crisp, structured wine, showing the fruit skin and bite that makes Arinto such an interesting variety. There is an orange zest edge, emphasizing lightness, freshness, finishing a delicious wine. — [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

87



PATAMAR

RESERVA

DOURO RED 2007

With some good, firm, dry tannins over fresh berry fruits, this is a structured, mineral and steel Douro wine. As the wine opens, its fruit comes to dominate, giving a fresh, elegant wine, touched with soft wood. - [R.V.](#) (11/1/2009)

BEST BUY

86



VEGA

DOURO RED 2007

Soft, only just mineral, with fruit that floats over wood. There are dry tannins, but they are hardly obtrusive, the main flavors being of fresh berry fruits, with leather and sweetness at the end. - [R.V.](#) (11/1/2009)

BEST BUY

86



CASA DO LAGO

TOURIGA NACIONAL ROSE 2008

Delicious, almost dry rosé, with spice, sweet strawberries and a texture of bright berry skins. There is some depth here, flavors that go right through the wine, finishing with vivid acidity. — [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

86



CASA DO LAGO

FERNÃO PIRES & ARINTO & CHARDONNAY WHITE 2008

Full, soft wine, with fruit that is rich and gentle. The acidity is what keeps this broad wine together. The green apple and white berry fruits add texture, with just a touch of spice. — [R.V. \(8/1/2009\)](#)

BEST BUY

85



PAXIS

DOURO RED 2007

A classic Douro blend of Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca and Tinta Roriz, this is a surprisingly soft, easygoing red wine. The tannins are light, easy, certainly ripe and fitting well into the juicy red fruits and sweet acidity. - [R.V. \(11/1/2009\)](#)

BEST BUY

85



SEGADA

TINTA RORIZ & CASTELÃO & CABERNET SAUVIGNON RED 2006

Soft, ripe wine, with easy flavors of juicy black berries, fresh acidity and sweet tannins. A wine with only a hint of dryness, which is ready to drink. — [R.V. \(8/1/2009\)](#)

BEST BUY

84



CORETO

VINHO REGIONAL LISBOA RED 2007

This is a featherlight red, full of berries and bright acidity, but with a texture that just coats the palate. This is one of those rare reds that works as an apéritif, fresh, clean and fruity. Screwcap. - [R.V. \(8/1/2009\)](#)

BEST BUY

84



PORTADA

VINHO REGIONAL LISBOA WHITE 2008

It takes a while for the taste of this light, fresh white to come through. Then, it is soft, creamy textured, flavored with pear juice and lemon zest. It is simple, easy, cleanly made. - [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)

BEST BUY

84



PORTADA

VINHO REGIONAL LISBOA ROSE 2008

A fresh, slightly sweet rosé, that keeps crispness through its bright, breezy strawberry flavors. The wine is soft, crisp, clean, a summer rosé. - [R.V.](#) (8/1/2009)