



# 12

Excellent Affordable  
California Wines to  
Buy Right Now

Up and down the state, there are  
great values everywhere.

BY RAY ISLE | April 02, 2020

Amazing values from California tend to hover around the \$15 mark these days, thanks to the state's labor and land costs. There are certainly plenty of less expensive California wines, but they tend toward the mass-produced and innocuous. ("Amazing," unfortunately, drops off.) The good news is that for your \$15 or so, you can still score some extraordinarily good bottles. Here are 12 to seek out right now.

**2019 FERRARI-CARANO  
FUMÉ BLANC  
NORTH COAST (\$15)**

Need a lively dinner party wine for the spring? Ripe lemon, lemon-grass, and honey notes mingle here, and unlike some Sauvignons, it feels rounded rather than sharp thanks to partial aging in older French oak barrels.