

TheWineBuzz

Holiday Sparklers

by THEWINEBUZZ

California

Roederer Estate Brut, NV (Anderson Valley) – \$34.99 (sale at \$32.99)

Bright straw yellow. Aromas of lemon tart and graham cracker crust. Some yeasty notes. A lush richness on the palate. Great focused and concentrated flavors that linger through the finish. Nice core acidity.

Decoy California Brut Cuvée, NV (California) – \$24.99 (on sale at \$19.99)

Pale yellow with a light pinkish hue. Warm, savory bread notes. Mild pear and apple flavors with a touch of earthiness. A fine mousse with a dry, slightly tart finish with lively acidity.

France

Lucien Albrecht Le Crémant d'Alsace Rosé Brut, NV (Alsace) – \$19.99

Welcoming nose of fresh dough and ripe strawberries and cherries. Strawberries carry through the finish. Slightly round mouthfeel with clean acidity. Well-balanced and always a consistent performer

Sieur d'Arques Aimery 1531 Crémant de Limoux Brut, NV (Limoux) – \$14.99

Straw yellow. Aromas of lemony notes and pie crust. Hints of hazelnuts. A dry style with good dose of acidity and tartness on the finish.

Champagne Ayala Brut Majeur, NV – \$55.00

Lively tiny beads. This engaging sparkler has a clean aromatic nose of lemons, cream, and butter cookies. Apple notes on the palate and ends with a firm yet fresh, zesty finish. Excellent!

Champagne Ayala Rosé Majeur - \$72.00

Salmon color with great tiny beads. Macerated berries, strawberries on the nose; fresh cherries on the palate with some cranberries on the finish. Nice creamy texture with focused acidity.

New Mexico

Gruet Blanc de Noirs, NV (American) - \$22.99

Straw yellow with fine beads. Clean, with some crisp apple, citrus and toasty notes, Firm pear on the finish. Crisp acidity and well-balanced.

Italy

Ruffino Prosecco, NV (Prosecco) - \$15.99

Pale watery hue with nice beads. Clean, refreshing floral notes and peaches. Very fragrant, clean acidity with a slight sweetness on the finish. Flavorful, tasty and fun.

Latransa Prosecco Rosé DOC (Veneto) - \$12.66

Pale shell color with attractive bubbles. Expressive nose of strawberry creamy sweetness.

Bellino Prosecco DOC (Veneto) - \$12.66

Pale yellow hue with persistent fine bubbles. Subtle fruity aromas with frothy mouthfeel.

Bellino Prosecco Rosé DOC (Veneto) - \$12.66

Shell pink color with nice tiny beads. Soft aromas of rose petal and McIntosh apples. Finishes with hints of mandarin orange and lingering acidity.

Martini & Rossi Sparkling Rosé, NV (Italy) - \$14.99

Elegant pink color with fine beads. Soft nose of wild strawberries and red apple. Red fruits, raspberries and cherry skins brings some tangy acidity to the finish. Drier than expected but quite pleasant.

Martini & Rossi Prosecco DOC, NV (Veneto) - \$14.99

Straw yellow color. Floral notes followed by lemon drops and peach preserves. Undertones of fresh herbs. This extra dry sparkler has a lush body with hints of sweetness. A soft, approachable and fresh finish.

Spain

Campo Viejo Brut Reserva Cava, NV (Cava) - \$9.99

Bright lemon hue with tiny bubbles. Apples, pears and the tartness of a granny smith on the finish. Some lemony notes as well. Well-balanced, flavorful and dry finish. Excellent value.

Freixenet Cordon Negro Brut, NV (Cava) - \$13.99

Pale yellow. Effervescent. Very perfume-y, floral, minerality and pronounced citrus notes. Frothy mouthfeel. Lingering aromas of Lime zest past the finish. Pronounced "Fresh-eh-net," this famous black bottle of bubbles is found everywhere and is a solid value.

Freixenet Cordon Negro Brut, NV (Cava) - \$13.99

Pale yellow. Effervescent. Very perfume-y, floral, minerality and pronounced citrus notes. Frothy mouthfeel. Lingering aromas of Lime zest past the finish. Pronounced "Fresh-eh-net," this famous black bottle of bubbles is found everywhere and is a solid value.

Anna Cordoniu Brut Rose, NV (Cava) - \$10.99

Pale copper with persistent bubbles. A fruit bowl of ripe peaches, cherries, and watermelon notes. Well-balanced with a crisp refreshing finish.