

# THE RESTAURANT TOP 50

Guests at America's top restaurants value these brands for their consistency and staying power.

WINE BUYERS TODAY FACE AN EVER-WIDENING SPECTRUM OF BOTTLINGS. Jura, anyone? Hungarian furmint? A glass of English bubbles? Yet guests at American's top restaurants speak with their loyalty as much as their willingness to experiment.

To compile the Restaurant Top 50, we asked restaurants to list the ten wines that sold best during the final quarter of 2013. Wineries are ranked by mentions per 100 responses. To break ties, we consider each brand's total points (see p. 66). The average price includes all bottlings that restaurants listed, at the prices they reported.

Cakebread took the top spot this year, followed by Jordan, Duckhorn, Sonoma-Cutrer and Silver Oak. All five of those brands appeared in the Top 50 list in April of 1990, when we released our first Annual Restaurant Wine Report. Twenty-five years later, those same Napa and Sonoma stalwarts continue to connect with diners from Atlanta to Chicago to Seattle.

The Top 50 list also provides a clue to contemporary trends. Four of the top five brands have a significant stake in cabernet, and the sommeliers we talked to indicated that cabernet's popularity surged this year. Veuve

Clicquot breaking into the top 20? Somms reported that bubbles were more popular than ever. Meanwhile La Rioja Alta, number 27 on our list, led an ascent of Spanish wines in restaurants around the country.

Whether they're great values, standard-bearers for far-flung terroirs or splurge-worthy luxuries, these are the brands that diners return to again and again.



Rank	Winery	Mentions per 100 responses											Average Price	
		'13	'12	'11	'10	'09	'08	'07	'06	'05	'04	'03	'13	'12
1	<b>Cakebread Cellars</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	12.9	11.9	15.7	10.9	13.9	12.5	13.3	15.4	17.3	13.9	17.6	<b>\$86.48</b>	\$100.17
2	<b>Jordan Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> HEALDSBURG, SONOMA CTY., CA	10.0	7.4	10.6	8.4	4.8	9.6	11.5	16.1	10.8	10.5	12.1	<b>\$101.57</b>	\$102.73
3	<b>Duckhorn Vineyards</b> ST. HELENA, NAPA VLY., CA	8.1	9.9	10.6	9.9	7.2	4.4	4.3	10.1	8.5	7.5	10.6	<b>\$90.29</b>	\$79.30
4	<b>Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards</b> WINDSOR, SONOMA CTY., CA	7.1	5.4	10.6	11.4	13.4	14.3	14.3	14.4	15.0	19.3	17.3	<b>\$49.20</b>	\$46.00
5	<b>Silver Oak Wine Cellars</b> OAKVILLE, NAPA VLY., CA	6.7	4.0	5.1	4.5	4.3	8.1	10.0	11.4	11.1	10.8	7.0	<b>\$134.93</b>	\$125.63
6	<b>Frank Family</b> CALISTOGA, NAPA VLY., CA	6.7	3.5	–	2.5	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$80.79</b>	\$75.14
7	<b>La Crema</b> WINDSOR, SONOMA CTY., CA	5.7	5.4	4.5	8.4	6.2	3.7	5.7	4.4	2.3	2.7	4.5	<b>\$48.67</b>	\$45.27
8	<b>Stag's Leap Wine Cellars</b> NAPA, NAPA VLY., CA	5.2	7.9	6.1	8.4	5.3	5.9	5.4	5.0	7.8	6.4	5.8	<b>\$94.00</b>	\$87.63
9	<b>Decoy</b> ST. HELENA, NAPA VLY., CA	5.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$60.00</b>	–
10	<b>Franciscan Oakville Estate</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	4.8	–	3.5	5.4	3.8	2.6	3.2	6.4	3.3	8.8	6.4	<b>\$67.10</b>	–
11	<b>The Prisoner</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	4.8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$83.30</b>	–
12	<b>Caymus Vineyards</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	4.8	3.5	4.5	6.4	2.4	5.5	8.2	8.1	7.8	7.1	4.5	<b>\$137.00</b>	\$122.14
13	<b>Justin</b> PASO ROBLES, CA	4.8	4.5	–	–	4.3	2.6	2.2	–	2.9	2.4	–	<b>\$80.00</b>	\$74.22
14	<b>Kistler Vineyards</b> GLEN ELLEN, SONOMA CTY., CA	4.3	2.5	2.5	–	–	–	3.6	3.7	4.6	–	2.1	<b>\$120.33</b>	\$146.00
15	<b>Cristom</b> SALEM, OR	4.3	2.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	2.3	–	–	<b>\$80.33</b>	\$76.00
16	<b>Belle Glos</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	4.3	4.5	4.5	2.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$72.56</b>	\$58.67
17	<b>Flowers Winery</b> CAZADERO, SONOMA CTY., CA	4.3	4.0	4.0	3.0	–	4.4	5.7	4.0	–	–	3.0	<b>\$92.89</b>	\$94.25
18	<b>Simi Winery</b> HEALDSBURG, SONOMA CTY., CA	3.8	3.0	5.1	4.5	3.3	2.6	2.5	5.0	2.9	4.7	5.5	<b>\$50.00</b>	\$50.00

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		'13	'12	'11	'10	'09	'08	'07	'06	'05	'04	'03	'13	'12
19	<b>Veve Clicquot</b> REIMS, FRANCE	3.8	2.5	4.0	5.0	3.8	7.0	6.5	5.0	6.9	7.5	6.1	<b>\$123.50</b>	\$114.00
20	<b>Chateau Ste. Michelle</b> WOODINVILLE, WA	3.8	4.5	3.0	5.9	4.8	6.6	4.3	5.4	5.2	7.8	7.9	<b>\$40.88</b>	\$36.78
21	<b>Robert Mondavi Winery</b> OAKVILLE, NAPA VLY., CA	3.8	2.5	–	–	2.4	7.0	3.2	7.4	4.6	9.2	9.1	<b>\$62.63</b>	\$59.20
22	<b>Honig Cellars</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	3.8	–	3.5	3.5	2.4	2.2	4.3	2.3	2.6	–	2.4	<b>\$60.13</b>	–
23	<b>Domaine Serene</b> DAYTON, OR	3.8	–	2.5	–	3.8	2.2	–	–	2.3	–	–	<b>\$112.75</b>	–
24	<b>Emeritus</b> SEBASTOPOL, SONOMA CTY., CA	3.8	5.4	4.0	3.5	3.8	2.2	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$76.63</b>	\$78.64
25	<b>Marchesi Antinori</b> FIRENZE, ITALY	3.8	6.4	4.5	5.4	2.4	4.0	4.3	6.0	6.2	3.4	6.1	<b>\$108.50</b>	\$113.00
26	<b>Catena</b> MENDOZA, ARGENTINA	3.3	5.0	3.0	5.4	3.8	2.2	3.9	–	–	–	2.1	<b>\$44.29</b>	\$47.90
27	<b>Frog's Leap Winery</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	3.3	–	4.5	4.5	3.8	2.2	4.3	5.4	4.6	6.1	5.5	<b>\$67.86</b>	–
28	<b>La Rioja Alta</b> HARO, LA RIOJA, SPAIN	3.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$81.71</b>	–
29	<b>Dariouh</b> NAPA, NAPA VLY., CA	3.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$174.57</b>	–
29	<b>Ferrari-Carano Winery</b> HEALDSBURG, SONOMA CTY., CA	3.3	3.0	5.6	4.5	7.7	7.7	10.0	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.7	<b>\$51.14</b>	\$45.83
31	<b>Ramey</b> HEALDSBURG, SONOMA CTY., CA	3.3	5.0	4.5	4.5	–	2.6	–	2.3	–	–	–	<b>\$92.00</b>	\$78.10
31	<b>Turley Wine Cellars</b> TEMPLETON, PASO ROBLES, CA	3.3	–	–	–	–	2.6	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$60.29</b>	–
33	<b>Ladera Vineyards</b> ANGWIN, NAPA VLY., CA	3.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$72.43</b>	–
34	<b>Kendall-Jackson Vineyards</b> SANTA ROSA, SONOMA CTY., CA	3.3	3.5	–	3.0	6.2	6.3	5.7	7.7	12.1	11.2	12.7	<b>\$35.86</b>	\$41.29
35	<b>Coppola</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	2.9	3.0	2.5	4.5	2.4	3.3	4.3	4.4	–	5.8	4.8	<b>\$51.67</b>	\$35.17
36	<b>Domaine Drouhin</b> DAYTON, OR	2.9	3.5	–	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.2	–	2.3	2.4	2.4	<b>\$90.33</b>	\$91.43
37	<b>Billecart Salmon</b> MAREUIL-SUR-AY, CHAMPAGNE, FRANCE	2.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$154.00</b>	–
38	<b>Au Bon Climat</b> SANTA YNEZ, SANTA BARBARA CTY., CA	2.9	2.5	3.0	4.0	–	3.3	2.9	4.7	2.9	2.7	–	<b>\$64.00</b>	\$48.60
39	<b>Heitz Wine Cellars</b> ST. HELENA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.9	5.0	4.0	3.5	–	3.3	3.2	4.0	2.3	2.4	–	<b>\$100.50</b>	\$92.60
40	<b>Rombauer Vineyards</b> ST. HELENA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.9	2.5	7.1	7.4	7.2	6.3	7.5	7.0	6.9	5.4	3.3	<b>\$66.50</b>	\$75.60
41	<b>Robert Sinskey Vineyards</b> NAPA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.9	–	–	–	3.3	–	–	–	2.3	2.4	–	<b>\$82.33</b>	–
42	<b>Grgich Hills Cellar</b> RUTHERFORD, NAPA VLY., CA	2.9	–	3.0	–	–	–	2.9	–	2.3	4.1	4.5	<b>\$86.50</b>	–
43	<b>Banfi</b> MONTALCINO, ITALY	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$48.20</b>	–
44	<b>Ruffino/Tuscan Estates of</b> PONTASSIEVE, ITALY	2.4	3.0	4.0	3.0	2.4	4.4	6.5	6.4	4.9	5.4	5.8	<b>\$60.60</b>	\$69.83
45	<b>Gaia Estate</b> MAROUSSI, GREECE	2.4	–	–	3.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$53.40</b>	–
46	<b>Sigalas</b> OIA, SANTORINI, GREECE	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$64.60</b>	–
47	<b>Hess Collection</b> NAPA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.4	–	–	–	2.9	2.2	5.0	4.7	4.2	5.8	7.3	<b>\$46.20</b>	–
48	<b>Chimney Rock</b> NAPA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$120.60</b>	–
49	<b>Zenato</b> PESCHIERA DEL GARDA, LUGANA ITALY	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$55.60</b>	–
50	<b>Santa Margherita</b> ALTO ADIGE, ITALY	2.4	4.5	5.1	5.4	4.8	5.5	6.8	7.7	7.8	10.2	10.0	<b>\$57.60</b>	\$53.22
50	<b>Schramsberg Vineyards</b> CALISTOGA, NAPA VLY., CA	2.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<b>\$68.40</b>	–