

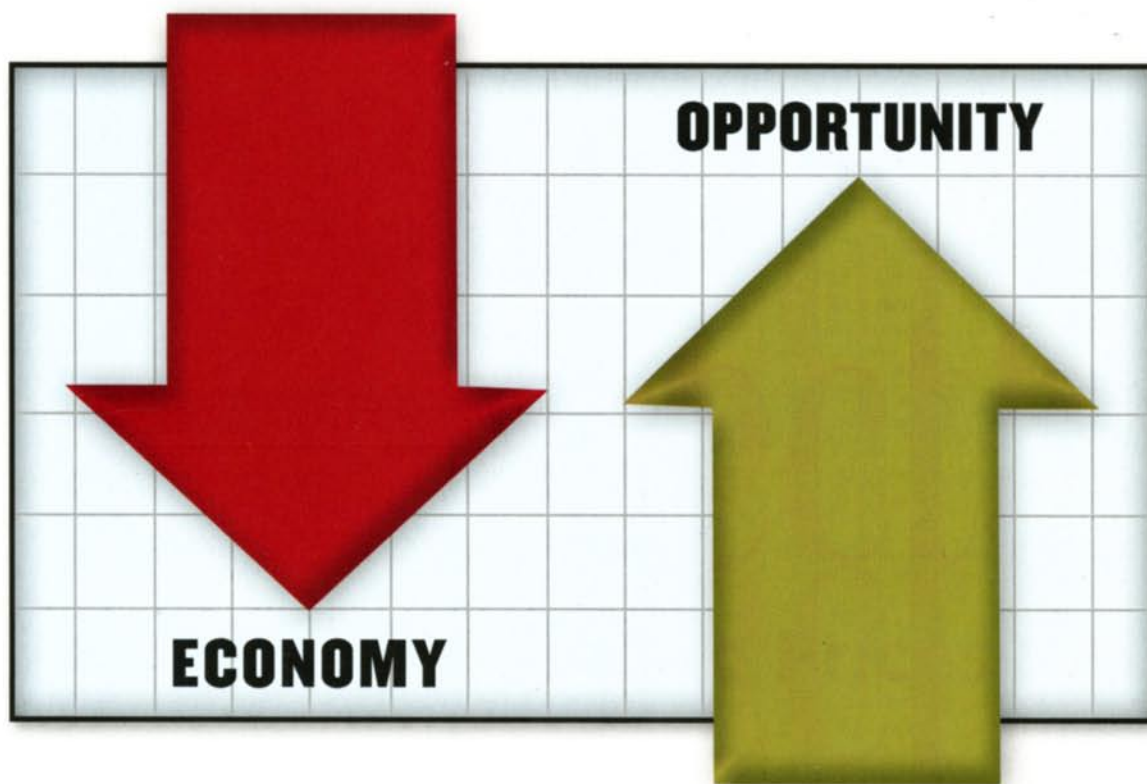
OUR EDITORS PICK THEIR FAVORITE VALUES

# Wine Spectator

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## AT LAST, A BUYER'S MARKET!

Recession Drives Wine Prices Lower



Oregon's Top Pinot Noirs

How Good Are  
Newspaper Wine Clubs?

A Primer On Port

JAN. 31 - FEB. 28, 2010  
\$5.95 US



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## United States

### CALIFORNIA

#### Cabernet Sauvignon & Blends

**94 Lewis Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Hillstone Vineyard 2007 \$125** Firm and full-bodied, intense yet supple, with rich mocha, currant, herb, sage and mineral flavors that are complex, balanced and focused, slow to unfold but offering a little more nuance with each sip. Ends with fine-grained tannins. Drink now through 2018. 240 cases made.—J.L.

**94 Rodney Strong Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley Rockaway 2006 \$75** This well-proportioned red is intense, concentrated and richly flavored, with layers of loamy currant, anise, blackberry, mineral and sage that are full-blown and powerful, yet not without a measure of finesse and elegance. Best from 2011 through 2017. 2,101 cases made.—J.L.

**93 Lewis Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007 \$85** Offers wonderful complexity, richness, depth and finesse. Full-bodied, with creamy, mocha-laced oak, currant, mineral, tobacco and plum flavors that are bold yet elegant, focused and polished, ending with a long, lingering finish. Drink now through 2018. 2,000 cases made.—J.L.

**93 Rodney Strong Cabernet Sauvignon Alexander Valley Brothers Ridge 2006 \$75** Firm, intense and concentrated, rich and layered, this full-blown red shows dense, chewy currant, anise, mineral, sage and cedary tobacco flavors that gain weight, depth and dimension. Best from 2011 through 2015. 1,504 cases made.—J.L.

**92 Bialla Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley 2007 \$93** Intense and well-structured, if a bit rustic, this offers a mix of rich currant, mineral, iodine, cedar and tobacco. Once this gets some air, it keeps getting better. Full-bodied, ending with firm tannins, yet the flavors flow through. Best from 2011 through 2019. 260 cases made.—J.L.

**92 Buoncristiani Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley The Core 2006 \$125** Bold, rich and concentrated, with plush black currant, blackberry, herb, dill and sage flavors that are full-bodied and expansive, turning fleshy as this unfolds. Firms up nicely on the finish. Best from 2011 through 2017. 274 cases made.—J.L.

**92 Robert Foley Claret Napa Valley 2007 \$110** Offers a wonderful sense of harmony, balance and finesse. Ripe and rich without being heavy, this is marked by complex currant, black cherry, anise, spice and sage, gaining depth and complexity on the long, lingering finish. Drink now through 2017. 1,000 cases made.—J.L.

**92 Lindstrom Cabernet Sauvignon Stags Leap District 2006 \$95** An understated style that wows you with finesse, offering complex aromas of herb, loam, currant, cedar, black olive and sage. Full-bodied, supple, elegant and delicate. Drink now through 2018. 626 cases made.—J.L.

**91 Cornerstone Cabernet Sauvignon Howell Mountain 2006 \$100** A subtle, delicate style, especially for Howell Mountain, showcasing the loamy earth, mineral, dried currant, tobacco and herbal sage notes. Full-bodied and well-balanced, ending with firmer tannins and a dash of anise. Drink now through 2018. 600 cases made.—J.L.

**88 Roots Run Deep Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley Educated Guess 2007 \$20** This is intense and firm, with a wild edge to the berry, herb, sage and cedar notes, but it works. Full-bodied, at times elegant, balanced and complex. Drink now through 2015. 25,000 cases made.—J.L.