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# Sunset

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## Western Wine Awards: Best Values

Ranging from \$15 to \$30, these wines promise the best quality for your dollar



### Best Value Wines: Bordeaux

**Fidélitas 2008 "Optu"** A classic Bordeaux blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon, with stone fruit, lemon verbena, and minerality. (*Columbia Valley*; \$30)

Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider

## Best Value Wines: Viognier

**Jorian Hill 2008 Viognier** A lively, textural Rhône white, full of honeyed apricot, quince, and lemon on a long, clean finish. (*Santa Ynez Valley*; \$30)



Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider

## Best Value Wines: Pinot Noir

**Tantara 2008 "T. Solomon Wellborn" Pinot Noir** A tangy root-beer edge turns flashy red fruit—strawberry, rhubarb—into a crowd pleaser. (*Santa Barbara County*; \$20)



Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider



## Best Value Wines: Chardonnay

### **Landmark 2008 "Overlook"**

**Chardonnay** Toasty apple and bright melon come together with unusual balance in a ripe, concentrated Chard. *(Sonoma and Santa Barbara Counties; \$28)*

Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider



## Best Value Wines: Cabernet Sauvignon

### **Bella Vetta 2006 Ami's Vineyard**

**Cabernet Sauvignon** An elegant Cab with dark berry, cherry, and chocolate flavors along with cassis and supple tannins. *(Howell Mountain; \$29)*

Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider

## Best Value Wines: Pinot Noir

**La Crema 2008 Pinot Noir** This consistent deal delivers complex layers of wild strawberries, dried flowers, spices, herbs, mushrooms, and earth. (*Sonoma Coast*; \$24)



Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider

## Best Value Wines: Chardonnay

**Truchard 2008 Chardonnay** A rich white—think butter on popcorn—with zesty lemon, pineapple, pear, and crisp apple. (*Carneros Napa Valley*; \$30)



Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider



## Best Value Wines: Cabernet Sauvignon

### **Clos du Bois 2007 Sonoma Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon**

Elegant (floral) to earthy (mushroom) aromatics against a black currant and cherry backdrop. (*Alexander Valley*; \$22)

Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider



## Best Value Wines: Pinot Noir

### **Ponzi 2008 "Tavola" Pinot Noir**

Light-bodied and lively, with cherry and berry flavors spiced with coriander and cloves, followed by an earthy finish. (*Willamette Valley*; \$25)

Photo by Jeffery Cross written by Sara Schneider

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