



WINEENTHUSIAST
MAGAZINE

BUYING GUIDE

BEST OF YEAR/2012

95 Amici 2009 Morisoli Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Rutherford). Another successful Cabernet from Amici, who turns to this esteemed vineyard for sourcing. It shows real pedigree and finesse, and it's instantly appealing for its soft tannins and complex cherry, red currant, cocoa and spice flavors. Yes, it's expensive, but it's Amici's best Cabernet of the vintage, and this is as upscale as Napa Cabernet gets. —S.H.

94 Amici 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon (Spring Mountain). This 100% Cabernet is soft, rich, fruity and almost sweet in ripe, jammy blackberry and cherry flavors, and that impression of sweetness is heightened by caramelized oak. Without structure, this would be a candy bar, but structure it has, and plenty of it. The acidity is firm and mouthwatering, and the tannins are wonderful. You'd think they'd be tough as nails, given the Spring Mountain origin, but they're easily negotiable. Drink now–2015. —S.H.

87 Amici 2011 Sauvignon Blanc (Napa Valley). Tart, clean and juicy, this has ripe flavors of apricot, citrus, tropical fruit and spice. With zesty acidity, it feels basically dry, despite the honeyed finish. A touch of oak lends vanilla and smoke notes. —S.H.