structure of previous vintages. Short black-fruit flavors pick up complexity and depth with airing, but a quiet, jammy finish confirms that this is up to par but not one of Artadi’s standout wines. Drink through 2022. False Fine Wine Partners. —M.S.  

Fecha de Rivera Uria 2009 Silver Label Reserva (Rioja). Garnet aromas of root beer, lemon, licorice, wood smoke, blackberry and prune set this off on a good course. The palate is silky and chewy, with baked, minty blackberry flavors that are supple and tasty as well as savory, nutty and slightly stewed on the finish. Drink through 2019. Vinuous imports. Best Buy. —M.S.  

Price: $16.99

89 Bodegas Franco-Españolas 2009 Rioja Reserva (Rioja). Ruby, ripe and red-fruit aromas are classic Rioja. This feels round and good, with dry tannins and high acidity. Toasty brown-sugar and chocolate notes grace solid, highish flavors on this textbook wine. Drink through 2003. Vision Wines & Spirits. —M.S.  

Price: $15

88 Bodegas Bilbainas 2012 Viña Zanco (Rioja). Woody, briery aromas of leather, sagebrush and black cherry set up a firm, clumpy palate. Flavors of vanilla, dark fruits and brown sugar are honest and traditional for Rioja, while light oak and vanilla flavors along with sweetness drive a crisp finish to conclusion. Avenue Brands, Inc. —M.S.  

Price: $14.99

88 Carrasca Vejo 2003 Reserva (Rioja). Stewed cherry, spice and leather aromas set up a dense palate with developed tannins. Earthy, fruity flavors of meaty black plum and spice finish ripe and chewy. This gets better the longer it is served. Drink through 2008. Perennial Wines. —M.S.  

Price: $16

88 Pagos del Rey 2012 Arregui Crianza (Rioja). For full review see page 123. —M.S.  

Price: $15

88 Bodegas Classica 2009 Maciel Lopez de Haro Reserva (Rioja). Blueberry cherry and plum aromas come with a side note of inner tube. This is a lot wavy and spicy on the palate, with an oily, earthy, stewed berry, plum and mint flavors and fruit is big and finished with oak spice and mint flavors. Mounier Touts Selection Ltd. —M.S.  

Price: $15

87 Pagos del Rey 2012 El Circuito Crianza (Rioja). Dark fruit aromas of plum and berry fruits come with a touch of fever. This feels crisp, snappy and on edge. Lean, high intensity of red currant and plum finish fresh, light and the slightest bit hazy. Falco Sells Aran C.S., Inc. —M.S.  

Price: $14.99

87 Vivanco 2012 Colección Vivanco & Varietals Tempranillo-Gamato-Garnacha-Mazuelo (Rioja). A woody, minty, smoky nose is wild, floral and herbal as a whole. This blend of Tempranillo and other Rioja varieties in tannic along with wood. Tannic, spicy, salty flavors are powerful, while the finish is tannic, voluminous and once again grassy like the nose and palate. Ovid Wines. —M.S.  

Price: $16.99

87 Bodegas Gutiérrez de la Vega 2013 Bécquer d’Arrendolas Dulce Monastrell (Spain). Muscular, stout Monastrell sweet wine is all aromas. Blackberry, cassis and fine nut aromas provide a sensationally smooth palate that’s full of toffe, chocolate, coffee, pepper, blackberry and cassis flavors. A long, warm, impeccably balanced finish is pure and delicious. Drink through 2025. Classical Wines. Editors’ Choice. —M.S.  

Price: $19.95

87 Bodegas Gutiérrez de la Vega 2013 Casta Día Cosecha Maxima Dulce Monastrell (Spain). Orange peel, nutmeg and burnt brown-sugar aromas set this sweet Monastrell apart from the others. Round and creamy but still elegant on the palate, this blends flavors of honey, cinnamon, orange and apricot into a fine whole. A long, integrated finish with honey and caramel flavors is ideal. Drink through 2023. Classical Wines. Editors’ Choice. —M.S.  

Price: $19.95

87 Casa de la Cremita 2013 Dulce Tinto Monastrell (tintilla). Aromas de pino, dried hazelnuts and crème de cassis introduce a deep, balanced palate with grip and proper weight. Cassis, black cherry and coffee flavors finish with rich notes of caramel and chocolate. Overall, this is hearty and juicy but not sugary. Drink through 2020. The Spanish Acquisition. —M.S.  

Price: $19.95

87 Masia Puigmolins NV Espanya Doç Muscat (Pedres). Floral aromas of peach and orange blossoms are offset by an oily note of citrus extract. This feels good, albeit soft, with mild acidity and chunky weight. Flavors of honey, exotic spices, burnt balsam and candied orange zest seem on a friendly, soft finish. Drink through 2018. European Wine Imports. —M.S.  

Price: $20

ITALY

SPARKLING WINES

CONCEGLIANO VALDOBBIADENE PROSECCO SUPERIORE

89 Veuve NV Brut (Conceliglano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore). Fragrant and refined, this sparkly, orange-tinged Prosecco has a powdery, almost chalky texture to it, which sets up a crisp finish. Drink through 2020. Taylor Wine Co. —M.S.  

Price: $10.99

89 Baudelaire NV Brut (Conceliglano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore). A creamy, evolving, too-fruity Prosecco with a hint of oak. Fresh and young, it’s fun to drink. Drink through 2019. Taylor Wine Co. —M.S.  

Price: $10.99

89 Veuve NV Extra Dry (Conceliglano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore). Fine and refreshing, this Prosecco is a great aperitif choice. Drink through 2020. Taylor Wine Co. —M.S.  

Price: $10.99