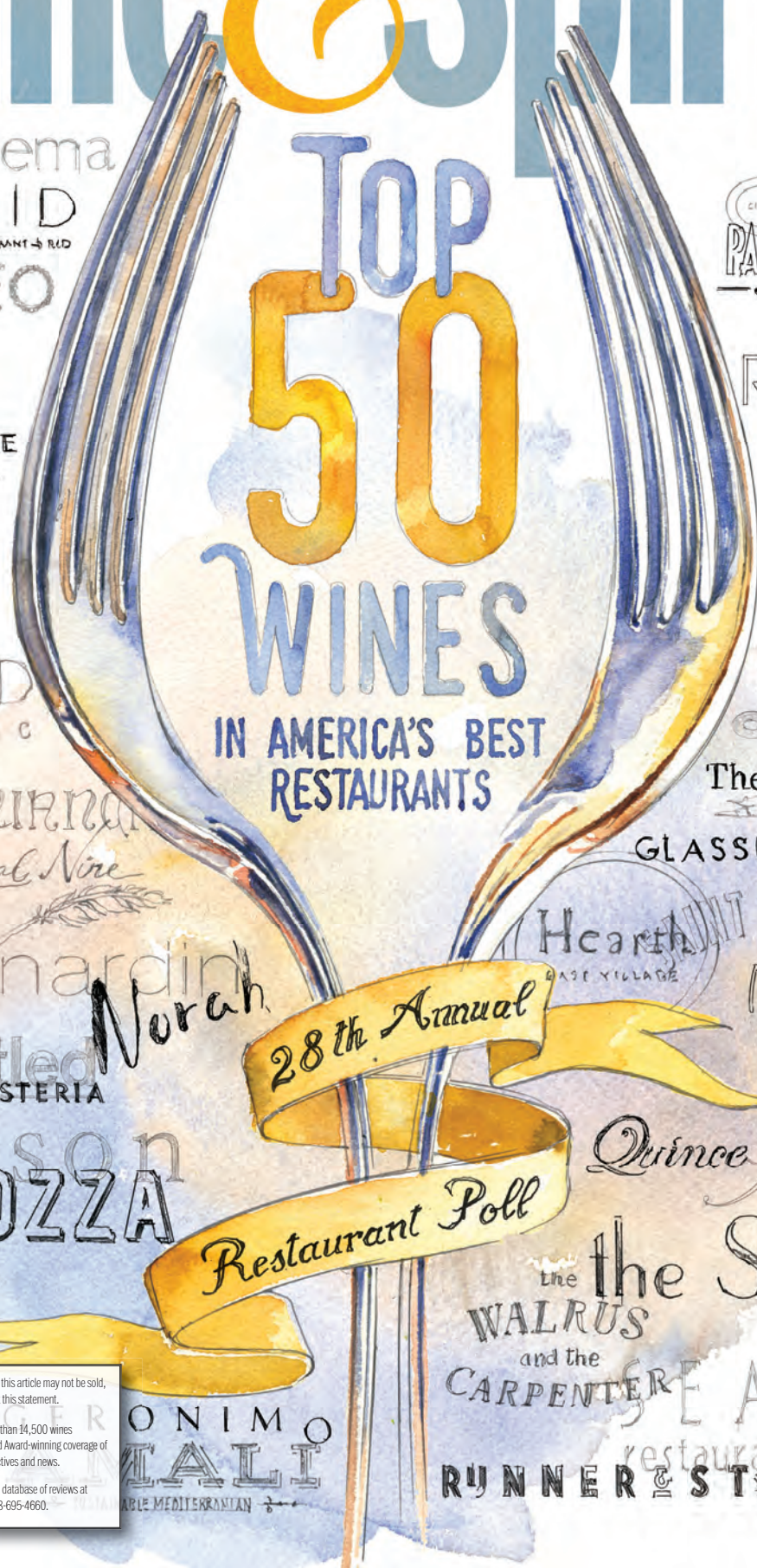


Wine & Spirits



TOP 50 WINES

IN AMERICA'S BEST
RESTAURANTS

28th Annual

Restaurant Poll

foreigncinema

PYRAMID

RESTAURANT & BAR

SEPIA

Spago
THE LITTLE NELL
KENSINGTON
1310
QUARTERS
FRANKFORD AVE

BATARD
nyc

NO JOURNAL
PA
DELFINA

RÉPUBLIQUE

PRESS

ST. HELENA

MOZZA

OSTERIA

Norah

RONIMO
ITALI

HUSK
PAPPAS BROS.
Seaside

PATINA
Redbird

Oya

RISTORANTE

Bartolotta

LENOIR

The Herbfarm

CARNEVOR

The Fearington House

GLASSERIE

GENEVIÈVE
Hearth

MANRESA

DEL POSTO

TWIST

BY PIERRE GAGNAIRE

Quince

Absinthe

BRASSERIE & BAR

the the Simone

WALRUS
and the
CARPENTER

Spiaggia

SEASTAR

restaurant and raw bar

RUNNER & STONE

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RUNNER & STONE
The Farrington House

CA
Spiaggia
F

PRESS

ST. HELENA

Redbird

LENOIR

Hear

BASE VILL

Vorac

MANRESA

R Jurncho

DEL
POSTO

CO. CALIFORNIA
1950

FINA

GERONIMO

THE
LITTLE
NELL

THE RESTAURANT

TOP 50

“Do you want something bold and ripe, or something lean and savory?”

Sommeliers around the country ask their guests some version of this question every night, then tally up their answers at inventory time, and once a year for our Annual Restaurant Poll.

We asked wine directors to list the ten wines that sold best during the last quarter of 2016, and then we ranked the number of mentions each brand received, presenting the 50 brands with the most mentions and the highest positions on respondents' lists. The average price includes all bottlings our respondents listed, using the prices they reported.

Taken together, these responses give perspective on how thousands of decisions made at individual tables translate into broader trends. Twenty years ago, most tables were requesting something ripe, oaky, and above all, chardonnay. Lately, the answers have been more diverse.

Our Top 50 provides plenty of evidence that cabernet carries the day. Longstanding Napa and Sonoma cabernet specialists continue to dominate the Top 10, with Caymus taking the

number one spot this year. Pinot noir, meanwhile, continues to ride a wave of popularity, and Merry Edwards—a Russian River pinot noir producer—is nipping at Caymus's heels.

One of the most noticeable trends this year was the continued rise of Spain, which has taken off in popularity over the past two years. For the first time in the history of the poll, Spanish wines accounted for more than ten percent of the most popular wines in US restaurants. In particular, restaurants couldn't seem to get enough of the traditional cellar-aged Riojas from R. López de Heredia, the only imported wine in the Top 10.

Greece, too, had its strongest showing in the history of the poll, with Alpha Estate, Skouras, Gaia Estate and Sigalas all earning a place in our Top 50.

“So do you want a bold and ripe wine, or something more lean and savory?”

These days, it seems, sommeliers are finding that their guests are open to a bit of everything: “For the steak, of course, we'll have a Napa cab—do you have Caymus? And for our first course... What can you tell me about these white wines from Greece?”

W&S Restaurant Top 50

The Most Popular Wines in America's Top Restaurants

1	Caymus Vineyards	\$162	26	Muga	\$63
2	Merry Edwards	\$100	27	Decoy	\$85
3	Cakebread Cellars	\$96	28	Failla	\$90
4	R. López de Heredia	\$83	29	Domaine Vacheron	\$80
5	Jordan Vineyard & Winery	\$105	30	Au Bon Climat	\$66
6	Heitz Wine Cellars	\$135	31	Pascal Jolivet	\$54
7	Silver Oak Wine Cellars	\$166	32	Lucien Crochet	\$82
8	Stag's Leap Wine Cellars	\$127	33	La Crema	\$45
9	Faust	\$106	34	Sandhi	\$79
9	Justin	\$69	35	Robert Sinskey Vineyards	\$92
9	The Prisoner Wine Company	\$95	36	Champagne Krug	\$265
12	Duckhorn Vineyards	\$100	37	Kistler	\$151
13	Frank Family Vineyards	\$93	38	La Spinetta	\$67
14	Billecart-Salmon	\$168	39	Littorai	\$112
15	La Rioja Alta	\$76	40	Ameztoi	\$51
16	Alpha Estate	\$62	41	Cristom Vineyards	\$81
17	Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards	\$51	42	Paraduxx	\$94
18	Ridge Vineyards	\$120	43	Beringer Vineyards	\$57
19	Emeritus	\$82	44	Hall	\$98
20	Flowers	\$113	45	Sigalas	\$53
21	Skouras	\$50	46	Meiomi	\$48
22	Rombauer Vineyards	\$68	47	Shafer Vineyards	\$137
23	Ontañón	\$60	48	Dariouh	\$172
24	Belle Glos	\$71	48	G.D. Vajra	\$88
25	Gaia Estate	\$60	50	Beaulieu Vineyard	\$107