



girl with a glass
perfect pairings, every time

Alana's Wine Picks

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Alana's Holiday Sparkling Wine Picks

Nov 17th, 2011 by Alana



It's my tradition to open a bottle of sparkling wine for the cooks at family events. I am picky about my bubbly so when I find sparkling wine that is dry yet zesty and flavorful with tiny bubbles, I'm a happy girl.

The ultimate is [No. 21](#) from Jean Charles Boisset. This is a winery label to get to know and follow like a cult. I spent a few hours with JC and he leaves an [indelible impression](#); even better, his wines rock. Everything you need to know about his wines and why they are radiant (a word he loves to use) can be gleaned by watching the über-enthusiasm in his [video](#). Serve this wine and the story behind it for a real conversation starter. (Tip: JCB wines can be tasted in Healdsburg or in his [private lounge](#) in Napa. This sparkler is only \$20. Buy his wines [online](#).)

Dry sparkling rosé of Pinot Noir is a must have for the holidays. [2008 Schramsberg Brut Rosé](#). Schramsberg makes hand crafted, fine wines. This one is made from Sonoma and Marin Coastal Pinot Noir, and juiced up with warmer Carneros and Alexander Valley Pinot. (Tip: At \$41 it's worth it in my opinion and it's still less expensive than the [2004 J Shram](#) that I opened last New Year's. Here's an article I wrote about [Schramsberg](#).)

For Gloria Ferrer's many fans, there's a new limited edition wine, [Gloria Ferrer 2005 Anniversary Cuvée](#). I attended a 2 day media tour and tasting recently and was struck by the lovely presentation of this wine. It was harvested in their 25th year (2005) and released 40 months later. (Tip: It's only available in the tasting room (good excuse to visit) or [online](#).)

For easy drinking, [Chandon Brut Classic](#). There are plenty of "grocery store" sparklers and everyone has their favorite. For me, the Chandon Brut Classic doesn't disappoint. It's under \$25. (Tip: If you want to try something new, Chandon has many other styles and flavors or you can use their recipes to make [sparkling cocktails](#).)

More holiday picks [White Wine](#) & [Red](#).



Tags: bubbly, Champagne, Christmas, Holiday, New Years, Thanksgiving, wine, wine tasting

ABOUT THE GIRL



Picks & tips for people who love wine, food, travel & a pleasurable life. I hope you are enjoying a glass of wine as you peek into my world of global travel & fine living. Cheers~

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