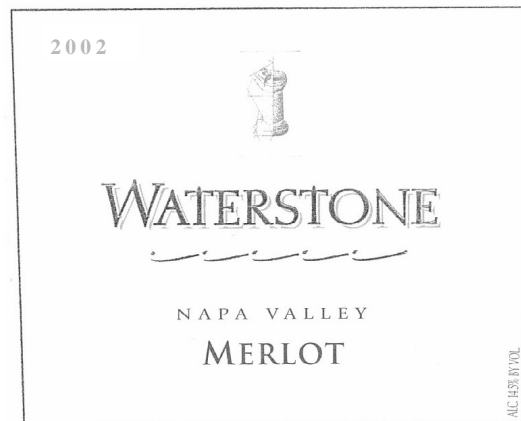


20 WINES UNDER \$20

WITH SUMMER KNOCKING ON THE DOOR, it's time to think about wines for entertaining—the kinds of bottles that go well with warm afternoons and early evening barbecues. And the kind often served to a group, several bottles at a time. With a little effort, you can find bottles of high quality and low price—reasonable enough that you can pick up a mixed case without breaking the bank.

That's good news for wine drinkers hoping to find enjoyable and inexpensive wines for everyday drinking. I can't recommend those ultra-cheap wines, which sell for under \$3 and are made from juice bought on the bulk market and blended into something inoffensive at best, but I know from personal experience that delicious wines can be found for \$15, \$10, even \$5.



Merlot may have taken a beating in the movie *Sideways*, but that wouldn't have been the case if Miles had wrapped his lips around a bottle of the **2002 Waterstone Napa Valley Merlot** (\$18). You won't find a bigger, more complex Merlot for less than 20 bucks, and don't overlook Waterstone's equally fine Carneros Chardonnay.