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Lifestyle

Sparkling Wines For New Year's Eve

Bubbles have come a long way since 1940

Lana Bortolot | Dec 30, 2019

Many can't imagine ringing in the new year without Champagne, but with so much good sparkling wine produced, the French standard isn't the only way to go. Indeed, you can't go wrong on New Year's Eve with any of these bubbly—produced in old and new worlds, for hipsters and old-schoolers, at prices for everyone who wants to indulge. Here are a few to pop while you watch the ball drop.



DOMAINE CARNEROS.



DOMAINE CARNEROS BY TAITTINGER "ULTRA BRUT" 2014, NAPA

Light on its feet, thanks to the high acidity and a chalky/mineral aspect. Apples and nut aromas along with some autolytic characters to remind you it's made in the traditional method. The acidity is well integrated in this overall beautifully balanced, well-made wine that's bright with pops of lemon and hints of almond. \$45



DOMAINE CARNEROS "LE RÊVE" BLANC DE BLANC 2012, NAPA

Offering a buttery biscuit nose and more obvious lemon, this wine (100% Chardonnay) is good with food or on its own. The acidity doesn't pop as much, and it doesn't as many moving parts as its Ultra Brut sister, but overall Le Rêve ("the dream") is more substantial, creamier and calmer with more autolytic character and riper fruits: round, warm and filling. This wine is the refined adult to Ultra Brut, the cheeky teenager. \$100-\$109



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