



June/July, 2015  
Circulation: 262,500 bi-monthly print

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wines: ROSÉS

# 7 ROSÉS TO ENJOY NOW

Any red grape can give you a rosé wine.

But certain grapes – especially when different varieties are blended together – seem to form the right combination of fruit, spice, acidity and minerality which, when grown in the right climate on the right soils, result in pretty pinks that are as pleasing to the palate as they are to the eye.

That is what seems to draw many wine lovers to choose rosés from the south of France when they are looking for spring and summer refreshment to accompany the lighter foods of warm weather.

Just as cabernet sauvignon, merlot and pinot noir produce the world's best table wines, the red grapes that are common to the south of France – led by grenache and syrah and joined by cinsault, mourvèdre and carignan – seem to blend to yield the most refreshing rosés.

Each region of southern France has its own blend of soil and climate, starting with Provence in the east on the border with Italy, to the Rhone Valley with its rolling hills and wide delta in the middle, to the vast Languedoc, which gradually gives to Roussillon as we approach Spain and the Pyrenees.

There are so many choices, but we selected seven from different regions and different price ranges. Each has something unique to offer when you twist the cap or pull the cork.

—ROGER MORRIS



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