

Decanter's Top 50 US wines: Part three – the top 10

North American Editor Clive Pursehouse concludes his top 50 US wines of 2024 with the final 10 – the very best of the more than 3,000 wines tasted and reviewed by Decanter's cadre of US based writers this year.



Clive Pursehouse
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8: Matthiasson, Phoenix Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley, California 2021

Steve Matthiasson is a living winegrowing legend in Napa Valley. He and his wife Jill's approach to winemaking takes a similar philosophy. His single vineyard, Phoenix Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon, is a crystalline interpretation of his farming philosophy in bottle. Pure, precision and unbelievably pretty. This was one of our Napa correspondent Jonathan Cristaldi's top selections of the 2021 vintage. 'This is super light and floral-driven,' Cristaldi claimed, 'and more like a Nebbiolo. It's aged in foudre to preserve the fresh fruit quality. Multiple picks ensure ripeness and some are whole cluster pressed. It's so pretty and pure it's almost like mineral water that's been flavoured. The wine has a natural grip and is laser-focused and linear. It is the epitome of elegance.'