

BEST OF YEAR 2015

CHATEAU OLLIEUX ROMANIS

The Wayfarer Vineyard in the Fort Ross-Seaview appellation on California's Pacific Coast.

IN THIS MONTH'S GUIDE

96 LANGUEDOC

86 **Château Ollieux Romanis 2013 Cuvée Classique (Corbières).** Ripe aromas of peach, melon, apple and pineapple unfold on the nose of this wine, with additional hints of hay and flint that add an earthy streak. The light-weight palate shows a soft prickle of acidity that then fades quickly on the finish, feeling a touch flat. Drink now. Langdon Shiverick. —L.B.

abv: 13.5%

Price: \$18

89 **Château Ollieux Romanis 2013 Cuvée Or (Corbières-Boutenac).** The bouquet of this wine is currently a bit closed, with tight though present scents of blackberry sauce, espresso powder, leather and pressed purple flower. The creamy palate is round and full, with a crushed-velvet texture and rich flavors of black berry and plum. Hints of black pepper and char develop on the finish. Langdon Shiverick. —L.B.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$43

87 **Château Ollieux Romanis 2013 Cuvée Prestige (Corbières-Boutenac).** Boysenberry, raspberry and mulberry fruit characteristics are partnered with herbal notes of bay leaf, lavender and crushed violet. Well balanced, there's good lift to the medium-weight palate, with approachable tannins and juicy red-berry flavors that carry through to the finish. Drink now. Langdon Shiverick. —L.B.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$27

90 **Château Ollieux Romanis 2013 Atal Sia (Corbières-Boutenac).** A blend of 45% Carignan, 30% Grenache, 20% Mourvèdre and 5% Syrah, this is a beautifully expressive, well-balanced Corbières-Boutenac red. Initial aromas of dense red plum, raspberry, and strawberry give way to secondary scents of rose, lavender and thyme. The medium-weight palate shows more fresh fruit character, with fine yet structured tannins lending grip through the close. Langdon Shiverick. —L.B.

abv: 14.5%

Price: \$40