

Wine Spectator

ENDLESS SUMMER

CALIFORNIA SAUVIGNON BLANC IS GAINING POPULARITY WITH REFINED BOTTLINGS THAT PLEASE ALL YEAR LONG

BY MARYANN WOROBIEC

The clearest sign yet that Sauvignon Blancs from the Golden State can compete with the world's best comes courtesy of Sonoma vintner Merry Edwards. For the second year in a row, Edwards made the highest-rated California Sauvignon Blanc. Last year's top-scorer, her Russian River Valley 2007, was the best-scoring Sauvignon Blanc yet from California, rating 96 points on the *Wine Spectator* 100-point scale and earning a spot on our list of the Top 10 wines of 2009. This year, it's the 2008 Russian River Valley (93 points, \$30) that takes top honors.

MaryAnn Worobiec's Recommended California Sauvignon Blancs

CLIFF LEDE Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley 2008 **92** \$22

This vibrant white bursts with fresh mandarin orange juice and tropical whiffs of mango and passion fruit.