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American bargain bottles

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In honor of Independence Day, it seems only natural to recommend American wines that outperform for the price. These range from \$9 to \$18, including an exceptional California cabernet sauvignon, rivaled by a red blend from New York, a zesty rosé from Virginia and a delightful Riesling from Idaho. Cue the orchestra for “America the Beautiful.”

Boxwood Estate Rosé 2011

★★

Virginia, \$15

Boxwood is known for its red Bordeaux-style blends and has made a rosé of cabernet franc “bled” off the grapes during fermentation. In 2011, wine maker Adam McTaggart made what I call an “intentional” rosé, picking his malbec grapes early with high acidity and treating them like a white wine, and then blending in some juice siphoned off the other red varieties. The result is the best Boxwood rosé yet and one of the best produced locally.

Distributed by Country Vintner: Available in the District at Calvert Woodley, MacArthur Beverages, Potomac Wines & Spirits, Schneider’s of Capitol Hill. Available in Maryland at Bin 201 Wine Sellers in Annapolis, the Tasting Room Wine Bar & Shop in Chevy Chase and National Harbor. Available in Virginia at Butcher’s Block in Alexandria; Grapevine in Warrenton; Home Farm Store in Middleburg; Leesburg Vintner; Locke Modern Country Store in Millwood; Olde Dominion Wine Shoppe in Occoquan.

Sawtooth Winery Riesling 2010

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