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Nine wines under \$10

May 31 2007

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The hardest thing—but perhaps more sought after than a Latte—is a lot of good, interesting and affordable wines, for parties or for dinner Sunday to Thursday or even all week long. Here's my latest list, arranged not by preference, but by style, from lightest to heaviest in white and red.

Why is it only a list of nine wines under \$10 instead of the usual ten under \$10? Because I'm grumpy. It's increasingly difficult to find good wines with character under ten dollars. Blame part of it on the weak dollar (though my list here is heavy on eurozone wines), blame it on producer greed—they're all just excuses! Good wines, easy on the palate and on the wallet are what consumers want. Sure, there are lots of great wines for \$12-\$15 and many more from \$15–20, but these are out of reach for a lot of people to have with



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Creta Olympias, **Vilana**, Crete 2006, \$10. ([find this wine](#))
 Vilana is usually a ho-hum wine that is churned out from the most recent vintage. However, in a recent tasting of this off-the beaten-path variety, I found a few that were recommendable with this being the most affordable. With delicate white flower aromas, the wine had a certain lush mouthfeel, with pleasant minerally verve. This wine + Greek salad + outside under umbrella on a sunny day = life is good.

verdejo. Fresh citrus notes, blanc, notes of honeysuckle. a warm-up (with light ... a great one as ... (poolside)

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