

Ratings, Drinkability & Cellaring

RATINGS

- Qualitative ratings are out of a maximum of three stars *** (Outstanding) and go down to a double minus sign -- (Poor)

-- Poor

- Below Average

* Average

*+ Good

** Very Good

**+ Excellent

*** Outstanding

- Price/quality considerations are reflected in designations: **RELEASE HIGHLIGHT**, **RECOMMENDED** and **BEST BUY**. Best Buys are worth seeking out immediately.
- **EXPLORER'S SELECTION** suggests the wine is worth trying but that flavour, style and/or price are such that it may not appeal to everyone. Try a bottle first.

DRINKABILITY

This code will hopefully help you determine when a wine is best consumed. It depends upon a number of factors, including storage conditions and personal stylistic preferences.

N Drink Now **Today** to **6** months

S Short **7** to **12** months

SM Short-Medium **13** to **18** months

M Medium **19** to **24** months

ML Medium-Long **25** to **36** months

L Long **37** to **48** months

XL Extra Long **49 +** months

This system shows when you can start enjoying a wine, when its at its peak and how long it might keep.

A wine is **BEST** when the letters are **CAPITALS**, underlined and in **bold**. Consider { **N** } which means that it should be drunk now (up to 6 months). Or { **n S SM m** }. The **n** means you can start drinking this wine today. It will be at its peak in 7-12 months **S**, which will continue through 13-18 months **SM**. Beyond that, it will still hold 19-24 months **m**, albeit showing some maturity. After that it will likely be too old.