

Bloomberg

Cabernet Who? The Hot New Wines Out of Napa Valley Are White

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A new wave of sauvignon blancs and other white blends are coming out from the valley's cult producers.

When a collector friend offered me a glass of Screaming Eagle recently, I automatically pictured the cult winery's polished, pricy red. Instead, I got my first taste of its sophisticated, wildly expensive, almost entirely unattainable white.

Chances are, when you think of Napa Valley, you think of red wine. Well, get ready to be surprised. In this classic cabernet territory, dozens of top-end wineries are focusing the same kind of every-detail-matters approach to whites that they've long lavished on their more prestigious reds.

Fortunately, to try any of them you don't have to splash out as much as you do for Screaming Eagle's 300-bottle-a-year sauvignon blanc that I tried. (The 2010 vintage is selling for \$4,650 (!) a bottle at Cultwine.com.)

Wines to Try



2013 Lail Vineyards Georgia Sauvignon Blanc (\$150)

Fermented and aged in new French oak, this wine from a single vineyard is powerful yet vibrant, with tropical fruit richness.