

FOOD & DRINK / WINE

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The 13 Best New Merlots to Buy Right Now

We're not even going to mention that one movie.

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Abeja 2018 Merlot Columbia Valley, Washington



Photo: Courtesy of Abeja

This lush Merlot from [Abeja](#) offers huge rewards. Damp earth and warm spice on the nose are joined by licorice and mocha. Plush and silky dark cherry fruit push the palate toward sweetness, with ripe tannins aiding the effort. But savory hints of black pepper and umami come into play to balance the sweetness through a long, rich finish.