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My Favorite Affordable Wines of 2012

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In mid-December, I detailed my ten most memorable *splurge* wines of 2012 for [Snooth.com](#). Around the same time, I put together a similar list detailing my favorite *affordable* wines of the year — those costing less than \$35/bottle. Like the [Snooth.com](#) list, I limited it to wines I purchased myself.

At year's end, this was left on the blogging room floor. So, without further ado, here are the sub-\$35 wines that surprised, impressed, and delighted me the most in 2012. They're in no particular order.

2011 Matthiasson White Wine

\$35, [Matthiasson.com](#).

In December 2011, while dining at Frances — a fantastic restaurant in San Francisco's Mission District — I was excited to see some wines from Matthiasson on the list. I'd been reading about these wines for years, and I was particularly excited to order the inspired-by-northeastern-Italy blend of Sauvignon Blanc, Ribolla Gialla, Semillon, and Friulano.

I was floored. The wine beautifully marries all four of its grapes — showing the citrus notes of the Sauvignon Blanc; the seashells and brightness of Ribolla Gialla; the beautiful weight of Semillon; and the spiciness of Friulano. While I enjoyed the 2010 bottling at Frances, the 2011 is just as delicious.

