WINE ENTHUSIAST

The Best Chardonnays for Every Budget and How We Rated Them

"I'll have a glass of <u>Chardonnay</u>, please." Of course you will. Easy to find and to love, millions of people drink Chardonnay frequently. The big question is, what type of Chardonnay do you want in your glass, and how much do you want to spend on it?

Chardonnays are dynamic and diverse. Modern iterations hail from the variety's viticultural birthplace in <u>Burgundy</u>, <u>France</u> to the <u>United States</u>, <u>Australia</u> and beyond, with stylistic interpretations that range from crisp and steely to bold and voluptuous. It can be a value-minded, easy-drinking pour, or a pricier selection of great structure, depth and pedigree capable of long-term cellaring.

Like Goldilocks, from a profile and price perspective, everyone has their own "just right" when it comes to Chardonnay.

To help discover new selections to try that align with your personal preferences, we combed through recent Chardonnay reviews from around the globe to find outstanding wines diverse enough in flavors, textures and price points to please anyone.

\$25-50

Within the mid-tier price range, Chardonnay bottlings can display the sophistication, depth and complexity not found in many lower-priced offerings. Use of expensive oak, prized vineyards and smaller yields can lead to an increase in price. Many regions offer stunning examples in this price range, including Burgundy, California, New Zealand, Oregon, South Africa and beyond.

Gary Farrell 2019 Russian River Selection Chardonnay (Russian River Valley); \$35. This outstanding wine offers a full range of complex flavors, texture and depth, the grapes sourced from a who's who...