

Make any day a celebration with this \$16 sparkling wine

Columnist, Food

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FROM LEFT: Bodega Norton 101 Bubbles Grüner Veltliner; Sebastien Brunet Vouvray Brut La Rocherie; Scharffenberger Brut Excellence. (Scott Suchman/for The Washington Post)

If you're looking for some quirky bubbles to enjoy alongside your favorite champagne this holiday season, here are three tasty and moderately priced alternatives.

GREAT VALUE

Scharffenberger Brut Excellence

(3 stars)

Mendocino County, Calif., \$28

This delicious blend of chardonnay and pinot noir spends two years aging on the lees and additional time in bottle before release. This patience gives the wine complexity and depth, with flavors of roast hazelnut, toasted bread and lemon curd. ABV: 12.5 percent.

Distributed locally by Republic National Distributing Co.

Prices are approximate. For availability, check Wine.com, Wine-searcher.com and the websites and social media feeds of the wineries, importers, distributors, and your favorite local wine store. You can also ask your local retailer to order wines from the distributors listed.

Have wine questions for Dave McIntyre? Send them to Food@washpost.com.