

RIPEN ON THE VINE

HOW TO MAINTAIN A LUCRATIVE WINE COLLECTION

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CHEERS TO THESE 5 WINES WORTH INVESTING IN



DRC

The 2009 vintage already has a few years under its belt, meaning you won't have to wait as long for the wine to reach its peak. DRC is also one of the most sought-after Burgundy producers.

INVESTMENT
\$2,700 per bottle



Leroy

This wine will last at least another 10 years, but you could choose to drink it now as well. Vosne-Romanée is one of Leroy's most popular labels, and its 2000 vintage was of very high quality.

INVESTMENT
\$600 per bottle



Moët & Chandon

No collection would be complete without it! It's important to have at least one age-worthy Champagne in your collection, since they are usually inexpensive in their youth and increase in value the longer you keep them. This wine could be worth hundreds of dollars more in the next 10 years.

INVESTMENT
\$200 per bottle



Harlan Estate

With high critics ratings and consistent increase in value over the past 10 years, Harlan's wines could move away from cult status into blue chip territory in the future.

INVESTMENT
\$600 per bottle



Screaming Eagle

This producer frequently receives perfect scores from critics, and the wines are supremely rare. It is one of the best examples of New World Cabernet Sauvignon from California.

INVESTMENT
\$3,000 per bottle

The secret is in the wine... cellar that is. Often overlooked, a wine collection with a carefully curated range of wines can be a smart investment. While learning about some of the finest, rarest, and cult favorite wines from across the globe, a collector can build a collection that will pay off in dividends if the need or want ever arose to part with some or all of the selections. Sometimes it helps to have a little nudge towards some winners. As a certified sommelier, I often suggest new collectors begin to build their collection with a dozen or so wines that are primed for drinking now, with five or so blue chip wines and a range of cult wines that are hot. Most wine collections can be split into three categories: age-worthy wines, aged wines, and drinkable young wines.

- **60% Age-worthy** wines still have more than five years left to cellar before they reach their peak. When they're stored properly, these wines should taste better and be worth more in the future. This is why the majority of a collection should consist of these types of wines—they'll give you the most back on your investment.
- **20% Aged** wines have fewer than five years left to cellar before reaching their peak, and you can drink them right now. These are wines that have already spent a handful of years, or even decades, in storage. These are great wines to have if you want to enjoy drinking or selling your wine while you wait for your age-worthy bottles to mature.
- **20% Drinkable** young wines won't improve in taste or value with age, but they're useful to have in a starter collection because they allow you to enjoy your collection now, while you wait for your other bottles to mature. Make sure to leave some room in your cellar for drinkable wines, or you won't be able to enjoy your collection right away.