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FOOD & WINE

# Top White Wine Picks

Need some wine help? Here's 5 recommended California white wines, plus a bonus selection from the Columbia Valley.



CLINTON STARK

12.20.2012 | 1 Comment

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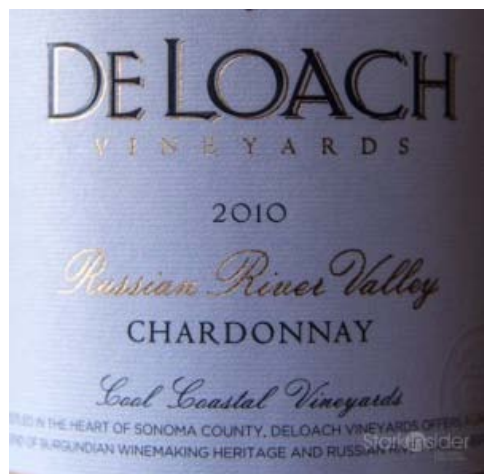
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## DeLoach Vineyards 2010 Chardonnay – Russian River Valley, Sonoma



**Why I like it:** Crisp, but more oak than the Franciscan – the DeLoach is a reliable Chard that is a wonderful, easy-drinking wine suited for casual hors d'oeuvres, or a whimsical cheese plate. Yes, it's made by a large production producer. But don't let that turn you away. Sonoma is known for their Chards, and this DeLoach is a great example.

\$10

## La Rochelle 2010 Chardonnay Dutton Ranch



**Why I like it:** Livermore is a gem of a wine destination. Not many realize it was actually the first place wine was planted in California. While Pinot is my favorite varietal by La Rochelle, since we're talking about whites, I'm going with this 2010 Chardonnay, part of the wineries new "Grand Cru Collection." It's a small-lot wine (only 120 cases were produced) so you might find it harder to source, but this is the one to pop open when you're looking for complex layers, balanced acidity/fruit

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