

# Wine Spectator

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## Golden State Values under \$25

**Klassen, The Big Mouth Red,  
Calaveras County, 2010 (\$16)**

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While high production costs make low-priced versions from the marquee Napa Valley appellation rare, values from other major regions are plentiful if you know where to look. We combed through recent tastings and found more than 100 California wines, with the bold, fruit forward flavors that California is known for, that offer quality at a fair price. Each of the wines scored 85 points or higher on the *Wine Spectator* 100-point scale, and not one costs more than \$25 a bottle.

### Sierra Foothills

The rugged terrain of the Sierra Foothills offers diverse terroirs. Vineyards range from 1,000 to 3,000 feet in elevation, and the soils are generally shallow and rocky. Rhone varieties thrive in the region's hot summer days and cool evenings. The top bottlings are loaded with loamy flavors that show crisp acidity and an intensity driven by their mountain-grown fruit.

Its days as a regional secret are numbered. However, as quality continues to improve, major players realize the region's potential.

For sales opportunities please contact:

Brian Klassen  
Klassen Wines & Craft Beer  
193 Fieldstone Dr. Murphys, CA 95247  
[brian@klassenwines.com](mailto:brian@klassenwines.com)  
[www.klassenwines.com](http://www.klassenwines.com)  
209 607 5073