

JANUARY 2009

# Bargain Bubbles

**Tough times dont mean** that you need to skip the bubbly on New Year's Eve. We've listed six very good choices: four sparkling wines for \$20 or less and two Champagnes that are a bit pricier. (Strictly speaking, Champagne must be made in the region of France, using that area's grapes and according to local regulations.)

Our most recent tests were in 2007, but sparkling wines and Champagnes rarely bear vintage years, and producers aim for consistency. Whatever your choice, buy from a high-volume store with quick turnover to better your chances of getting a fresh bottle.



## Segura Viudas Brut Reserva Cava (Spain) \$10

Appealing, but light flavors;  
very crisp



## Gloria Ferrer Sonoma Brut (California) \$20

Classic fruity, yeasty aromas;  
red berry notes