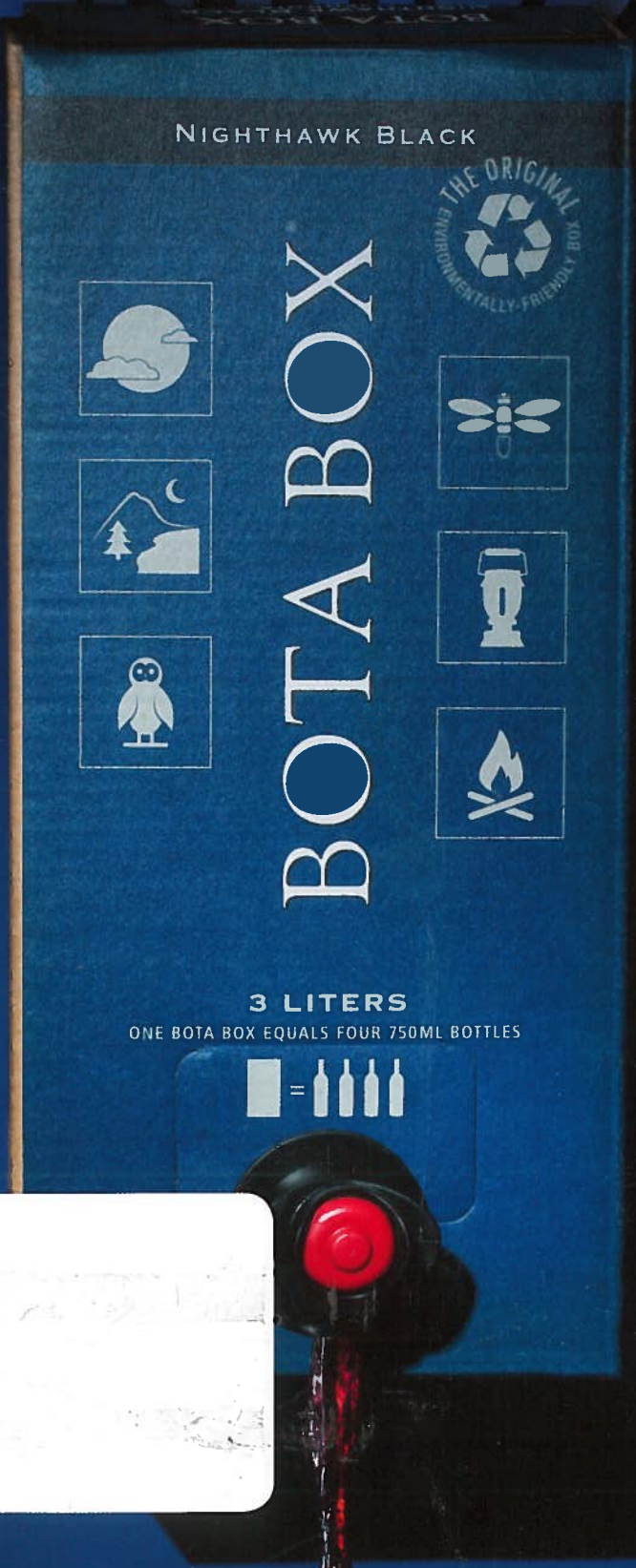


WINE ENTHUSIAST

NOVEMBER 2016

TOP
100
BEST
BUYs
OF 2016
THE DEFINITIVE
EDITORS' LIST



NIGHTHAWK BLACK



BOTA BOX

3 LITERS

ONE BOTA BOX EQUALS FOUR 750ML BOTTLES



Winemag.com



< OUR
HIGHEST
RANKED
RED

2012

WARM AND GENEROUS

The 2012 vintage was the result of the hottest year in Chile since 2009. Central Valley regions from Aconcagua down to Maule produced very ripe, fleshy wines. Coastal wines, which are normally higher in acidity and can struggle to smell and taste ripe, were more generous than usual.

"I prefer 2010 and 2011, but our best ratings for our Terroir Hunter Cabernet were for the 2012," says Urrejola. "With the recent experience of 2009, we knew what a warm vintage could result in. We picked three weeks earlier than in 2011 and still got that fleshy palate many people expect from Chile."

Even coastal wines from places like Casablanca, Leyda, Limarí, San Antonio and Casablanca display more girth and fruit character than normal.

"Broader palates, more generous, but beautifully balanced if you picked at the right time," is how Urrejola describes Chile's best 2012 coastal wines, noting that Syrah was excellent.

RECOMMENDED WINES

93 **Montes 2012 Alpha M (Colchagua Valley).** Aromas of earth, cola, dry leaves, black cherry and cassia announce this saturated Cabernet blend. Dark, toasty flavors of blackberry come with vanilla, herb and tobacco accents. Drink through 2024. Guarachi Wine Partners. *Cellar Selection.*

abv: 14.5% Price: \$90

93 **Luis Felipe Edwards 2012 LFE900 Single Vineyard Blend (Colchagua Valley).** This Syrah-Carmenère blend has bullish black-fruit aromas. Blackberry, black cherry and blackened toast flavors finish in smoky darkness. Drink through 2025. Domaine Select Wine & Spirits. *Editors' Choice.*

abv: 14.5% Price: \$35

