

RED BLENDS

In any beverage competition the red blend category is usually one of the largest by number of entries, and certainly the most diverse in terms of aromatics and flavours. It's tough competition with the likes of historic blending regions from France, Spain, Portugal, and Italy, all usually strutting their prowess for the mélange. This year, however, the crown sees a tie with two home grown entries taking the prize. The gore filled 2018 Dead End Game Over from Similkameen/Okanagan fruit splatters alongside the more subdued 2018 Moraine Meritage. British Columbian red blends have never been stronger. *Brad Royale*

BEST IN CLASS (TIE)



TOP VALUE



Swartland, South Africa **\$14-16 CSPC 800634**



Mi Terruno 2014 Reserve Malbec Cabernet Sauvignon



Mendoza, Argentina \$28-30 CSPC 781111



Xavier Vignon 2017 Cotes du Rhone Old Vines Rhone, France \$20-24 CSPC 839101



Santos Da Casa 2016 Reserva

Douro, Portugal \$28-30 CSPC 784723



Monte Creek 2019 Hands Up Red

Thompson Valley, British Columbia **\$19-22 CSPC 782540**



Gray Monk 2019 Monk's Blend

Okanagan Valley, British Columbia **\$25-28 CSPC 836955**



Parras Wines 2019 Castelo do Sulco Reserva



Lisbon, Portugal \$15-17 CSPC 734151