

Importer Highlight: Fran Kysela

by JEB DUNNUCK | MARCH 27, 2019



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I continue to spend a large portion of my time tasting with who I consider to be the top importers in the United States as I feel this is a great way for readers to find high-quality wines, as well as up and coming producers.

This report focuses on new releases from Fran Kysela, who is unquestionably one of the top specialty importers in the US as well as an incredible taster. Originally from Cleveland OH, Fran cut his teeth working as the national sales manager for Kermit Lynch, followed by a stint at Weygandt-Metzler in Pennsylvania. He received the Master Sommelier award from the British Court of Master Sommeliers in 1989.

Founding his own import company in 1994, Kysela has an incredibly diverse portfolio spanning the gamut from high quality yet inexpensive German Rieslings, chuggable Picpoul de Pinet from the Languedoc, classic Rioja, to a bevy of both value and benchmark producers from the Rhône Valley. I've tasted with Fran for almost a decade now and his wines are always impeccably made, with an emphasis on fruit and texture, yet always with classic, balanced characters. In addition to wine, Fran also brings in Beer, Spirits, Sake, and Cider.

There are over 170 wines in this report, including a number of brilliant value whites and reds that will be perfect for the coming summer months.

As always, happy hunting and thanks for reading,

Jeb

SEARCH RESULTS FOR:

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171 Wines Found

Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2016	Johann Michel Cornas Cuvee Jana	○	98	\$80
2014	Pago de Carraovejas Cuesta de las Liebres	○	98	\$242
2014	Pago de Carraovejas Reserva	○	97	\$85
2012	Pago de Carraovejas El Anejon	○	97	\$136
2010	Pago de Carraovejas El Anejon	○	96+	\$136
2011	Bodegas Luis Canas Rioja Gran Reserva	○	95	\$47
2015	Jean-Claude et Nicolas Fayolle Hermitage Dionnieres	○	95	\$60
2016	Johann Michel Cornas	○	95	\$52
2015	Ossian Vides y Vinos Verdejo Capitel	○	95	\$90
2014	Pago de Carraovejas El Anejon	○	95+	\$136
2011	Pago de Carraovejas El Anejon	○	95	\$136
2009	Pago de Carraovejas El Anejon	○	95	\$136
2015	Remi Niero Cote Rotie Eminence	○	95	\$88
2015	Weingut St. Nikolaus Hospital Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spatlese	○	95	\$25
2016	Alain Jaume Cotes du Rhone Les Champauvins	○	94	\$20

Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2016	Domaine Champet Cote-Rotie La Vialliere	○	94	\$80
2015	Domaine de La Begude Bandol Brulade	○	94	\$73
2017	Palacio de Fefinanes Albarino	○	94	\$28
2017	Vilerma Ribeiro Blanco	○	94	\$18
2016	Weingut Bastgen Bastgen Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling Spatlese	○	94	\$23
2015	Weingut St. Nikolaus Hospital Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	○	94	\$34
2015	Bodegas Escudero Vinsacro Dioro Rioja	○	93	\$57
2015	Chateau des Landes Grand Heritage	○	93	\$50
2016	Domaine Le Clos des Cazaux Gigondas Tour Sarrasine	○	93	NA
2015	Jean-Claude et Nicolas Fayolle Crozes-Hermitage La Rochette	○	93	\$27

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Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2015	Pago de Carraovejas Ribera del Duero	○	93	\$52
2017	Palacio de Fefinanes Albarino 1583	○	93	\$46
2016	Weingut Bastgen Bastgen Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling Kabinett	○	93	\$19
2015	Weingut St. Nikolaus Hospital Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spatlese	○	93	\$25
2016	Alain Jaume Lirac Roquedon	○	92	\$23
2012	Bodegas Finca Sobreno Reserva Toro	○	92	\$35
2015	Bodegas Luis Canas Rioja Crianza	○	92	\$27
2013	Bodegas Luis Canas Rioja Reserva	○	92	\$33
2012	Bodegas Luis Canas Reserva Seleccion Familia	○	92	\$40
2015	Chateau de Segries Cotes du Rhone Clos Jean Alesi	○	92+	\$34
2015	Chateau des Landes Cuvee Prestige	○	92	\$33
2014	Convento Oreja Crianza	○	92	\$30
2015	Domaine de La Begude Bandol Begude	○	92	\$32
2016	Domaine Mas des Capitelles Faugeres Vieilles Vignes	○	92	\$19

Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2015	Domaine Mas des Capitelles Faugeres Vintage	○	92	\$26
2017	Johann Michel Saint-Peray Blanc	○	92	\$33
2015	Weingut Dr. Leimbrock - C. Schmidt Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Auslese	○	92	\$33
2015	Weingut Gessinger Gessinger Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Alte Reben Caldo Infernale	○	92	\$37
2016	Alain Jaume Ventoux Les Gelinottes	○	91	\$15
2016	Alain Jaume Cotes du Rhone Reserve	○	91	\$15
2017	Alexandre Monmousseau Vouvray Clos Le Vigneau	○	91	\$23
2017	Anne Delaroche Sainte Victoire Cotes de Provence Rose	○	91	\$17
2014	Bodegas Finca Sobreno Ildefonso Toro	○	91	\$50
2015	Cambon la Pelouse	○	91	\$56
2017	Chateau de Segries Tavel	○	91	\$22

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2016	Chateau de Segries Cotes du Rhone	○	91	\$15
2016	Chateau de Segries Lirac Cuvee Reservee	○	91	\$23
2016	Chateau des Landes Cuvee Prestige	○	91+	\$33
2015	Chateau Ponzac Cahors Patiemment	○	91	\$26
2016	Domaine de la Mordoree Lirac La Dame Rousse	○	91	\$23
2017	Domaine de Salette Cotes de Gascogne Blanc	○	91	\$10
2017	Domaine Grand Veneur Châteauneuf-du-Pape Le Miocene Blanc	○	91	\$47
2017	Domaine Jean Reverdy Sancerre Blanc	○	91	\$24
2016	Domaine Mas des Capitelles Faugeres La Catiede	○	91	\$16
2017	Domaine Michel Thomas Sancerre Blanc	○	91	\$27
2017	Joseph Mellot Quincy Blanc	○	91	\$23
2017	Palacio de Bornos Sauvignon Blanc Rueda	○	91	\$18
2014	Palacio del Burgo Reserva	○	91	\$23
2017	Vignobles Rodet Recapet Blanc de Brule Secaille Grande Reserve Blanc	○	91	\$20
2015	Weingut Dr. Leimbrock - C. Schmidt Estate Riesling	○	91	\$17

Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2015	Weingut Dr. Leimbrock - C. Schmidt Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Spatlese	○	91	\$27
2017	Alain Jaume Cotes du Rhone Reserve Blanc	○	90	\$15
2017	Alain Jaume Tavel Le Cretace	○	90	\$22
2016	Alain Jaume Rasteau Les Valats	○	90	NA
2016	Bodega Nino Jesus Figaro Tinto Calatayud	○	90	\$10
2016	Bodegas Amaren Rioja Barrel Fermented Blanco	○	90	\$33
2017	Bodegas Burgo Viejo Blanco Organic	○	90	\$15
2016	Bodegas Burgo Viejo Old Vine Garnacha	○	90	\$15
2014	Bodegas Burgo Viejo Reserva	○	90	\$23
2014	Bodegas Finca Sobreno Crianza Toro	○	90	\$19

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2015	Chateau Bellevue Chateau Bellevue Ce Ma Cuvee	○	90	\$27
2015	Chateau des Landes Cuvee Tradition	○	90	\$19
2016	Chateau des Landes Grand Heritage	○	90+	\$50
2016	Chateau Maltus	○	90	\$37
2015	Domaine Corne Loup Lirac	○	90	\$20
2017	Domaine de La Begude Bandol Rose	○	90	\$37
2017	Domaine de La Begude Bandol L'Irreductible Rose	○	90	\$40
2017	Domaine de La Begude Bandol Cadet de la Begude	○	90	\$25
2016	Domaine de la Mordoree Cotes du Rhone La Dame Rousse	○	90	\$19
2017	Domaine de Mus Roussanne-Vermentino	○	90	\$13
2017	Domaine du Gaec des Brangers Menetou Salon Blanc	○	90	\$26
2017	Joseph Mellot Reuilly Blanc	○	90	\$21
2017	Les Costieres de Pomerols Picpoul De Pinet H.B. Languedoc	○	90	\$12
2017	Les Costieres de Pomerols Le Jade Picpoul De Pinet	○	90	\$10
2017	Minius Godello Monterrei	○	90	\$15

Vintage	Wine	Color	Rating	Price
2015	Palacio del Burgo Crianza (Metal Label)	○	90	\$15
2015	Rubus Project Shiraz Barossa	○	90	\$23
2015	Vignobles Lapeyronie Eden de Lapeyronie Cotes de Francs	○	90+	\$25
2015	Vignobles Lapeyronie Font du Jeu Cotes de Castillon	○	90	\$20
2015	Vignobles Rodet Recapet Chateau La Graviere Les Terrasses Cotes de Bourg	○	90	\$17
2015	Vignobles Rodet Recapet Chateau Brule Secaille Grande Reserve Cotes de Bourg	○	90	\$20
2015	Weingut Hansen Lauer Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Spatlese	○	90	\$24
2015	Winzer von Erbach Riesling Rheingau Honigberg Spatlese	○	90	\$19
2017	Adegas Valminor Albarino Rias Baixas	○	89	\$19
NV	Alexandre Monmousseau Vouvray Sparkling Brut	○	89	\$19