THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ON WINE

Avoid a Wine Faux-Pas: The Bottles Hosts Actually Want Their Guests to Bring

There's an art to gifting wine—and an art to receiving it, too. Our wine columnist tracked down five no-fail gift bottles and even consulted a butler on the etiquette of opening them.

Neil Loomis, wine director of Bin 22 in Jackson Hole, Wyo., is also a fan of Piedmontese wines as gifts. He recommends Rosato and Gavi—in particular, the La Scolca Gavi dei Gavi Black Label. He's also keen on Bourgogne Aligoté. Aligoté has long been planted in Burgundy, though Chardonnay is the much better-known and more widely planted white grape of that region. Loomis likes Aligoté's "fresh, light and mineral" character, perfect for summer. I couldn't find his pick, the Aligoté of Michel Sarrazin, where I live, but I did find a few other Aligotés, including the brilliant and rather rich 2020 Anne Boisson Bourgogne Aligoté (\$35), from an old-vine vineyard in the village of Meursault.