

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Your guide to holiday shopping and fun

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By Apryl Chapman Thomas

Whether you know of a wine enthusiast or are perhaps passionate about the grape yourself, there is a perfect holiday gift out there for all levels of wine aficionados. Here are a few suggestions that would be a perfect addition for any wine collector.

Stemware

Spiegleau Stemware's "Vino Grande" wine glasses (\$9.99/stem) make a nice addition to your collection and are available at retail stores throughout the United States. Spiegleau also makes the "Napoli" decanter (\$59.99, Wine Enthusiast 800-356-8466). Also, consider Spiegleau Solution Hand Blown Stemware (302-326-4301). Geared toward the more serious taster, its cut and design is said to bring out the scents and flavors of the accompanying wine. Reidel "O" Wine Glasses (\$9.95 – \$12.45), stemless and baseless, come in six different sizes for six different varieties.

For casual sippers, the Colin Cowie for JCPenney Home Collection (\$29.99 for four goblets, [www.jcpenneys.com](#)) offers glassware in amethyst, amber, citrine and ruby.



Totes, carriers and coolers

Travelon's Rolling Wine Carrier (\$100), insulated with dividers, can fit a full case of wine, while the Wine Backpack/Shoulder Bag (\$50) holds two bottles of wine, four glasses, and a cutting board. For transporting two bottles, try either the Insulated Wine Carriers (\$18-20), or the Pack-Flat Wine Insulated Carriers (\$20). The Insulated Wine Cooler (\$59, 302-326-4801) from Rösle fits into any lifestyle because of its stainless steel design. The cooler is double walled to maintain the correct temperature. Couzon's popular pattern, Silhouette, also offers a simple yet elegant wine cooler (\$75, 800-242-2774, [www.luntsilver.com](#)).

Whimsical items

Bagged Wine ([www.baggedwine.com](#)) allows you to host your own blind wine tasting event. The Starter Kit (\$19.95 – 21.95) includes five bags, and score sheets. The Collectors Kit (\$69.95) comes with 20 bags and score sheets.

If you're looking for something to do that breaks the ordinary wine-tasting pattern, check out Winerd (\$36, [www.winerdgame.com](#)), a wine-themed game, pairs wine trivia questions with a fun spin on blind tasting.

Stocking stuffers

Screwpull's ([www.screwpull.com](#)) corkscrews can be basic table or travel corkscrews, starting at \$12.95, or more advanced tools that come complete with foilcutters and bonus stoppers, priced at \$79.95. Grapes Grabs (\$3.49, [www.igourmet.com](#)) helps with uncorking and re-corking bottles. A package includes seven grabbers.

— Apryl Chapman Thomas is an Athens, Ga.-based freelance writer.

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