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WINE SCHOOL

Champagne-Style Sparklers, Made in America

By Eric Asimov Nov. 7, 2019

I'll drink sparkling wine almost anytime, wherever it comes from, however it's served. I'm an anomaly. The vast proportion of sparkling wine is consumed in the last quarter of the year, primarily at holiday parties and New Year's celebrations.

Often, that wine is Champagne. Sometimes it's a wine inspired by Champagne, made by the same method, using the same set of grapes or both. Nonetheless, this year I thought it would be fun to examine wines that rarely receive much attention: American sparkling wines made in the Champagne style. These wines tend to be less expensive than equivalent Champagnes, tariff or not.

These three should not be hard to find. But if you are having trouble, don't hesitate to try other cuvées from these producers, as well as bottles from Iron Horse, Gloria Ferrer, J, **Domaine Carneros**, Domaine Chandon or Mumm Napa. You might also find high-end sparklers from Under the Wire or Ultramarine. Go ahead, if you are game.

