

## Gift or sip one of these sparkling wines this holiday season



### **Juve y Camps Reserva de la Familia Gran Reserva Cava Brut Nature, 2017 — Catalonia, Spain, \$17**

Walk into any tapas bar in Barcelona and you are likely to see wine glasses being filled for happy patrons with *Juve y Camps* cava. The *Gran Reserva Brut Nature*, the producer's best-selling and longest-aged cava (over 30 months), is crafted from traditional, estate-grown, white Spanish grapes using the champagne method, and without dosage.

This pale-gold wine gives repeated rise to an abundance of fine bubbles. Aromas of Comice pears and honeydew melons are pursued by nuanced notes of turrón, baking spices, and — after a breath — petrol. Subtle minerality mingles with prickly pear and lime zest on the delicately creamy palate, while toasty notes of warm croissants persevere on the enjoyable finish. Prolonged aging has given this wine a roundness and complexity not *típico* of less-aged cavas. If you thought you knew cava, think again.

**Pair it with:** salt cod fritters, prawns in garlic and oil, and braised oxtail with potatoes.