

Looking for a great glass of wine? These RI restaurants top the list.

The annual [Wine Spectator awards](#) have been announced and 18 Rhode Island restaurants have been cited for their excellent wine lists.

Eight restaurants earned the Best of Award of Excellence ranking that reflects a list of extensive selections with significant vintage depth and excellent breadth across multiple regions. It is signified by two wine glasses.

Ten restaurants claimed the Award of Excellence for their well-chosen assortment of quality producers. It is signified by one wine glass.

New to the list this year is [Double Barrel Steak by David Burke](#). It opened at The Preserve Sporting Club & Residences in Richmond this March. There are familiar faces on the list, including The Capital Grille, which has owned a spot since 1997.

What are the Wine Spectator Awards?

Launched in 1981, the Restaurant Awards are managed and published by the wine industry magazine. They are assigned on three levels: the Award of Excellence, the Best of Award of Excellence and the Grand Award, with 2,001; 1,411; and 93 winners this year in each respective category.

Rhode Island had no Grand Award restaurants, signified by three wine glasses, for extraordinary wine lists. In fact, New England boasts only two. They are Boston's Grill 23, a steakhouse, and Topper's at The Wauwinet, a Victorian inn on Nantucket.

This year's awards named 3,505 dining destinations from all 50 states and more than 70 countries. Restaurants apply for the awards, submitting information about their wine lists.

Restaurants offer the human experience diners are hungry for, said Marvin R. Shanken, editor and publisher of Wine Spectator. "This annual issue celebrates the places where wine is at the top of that conversation."

The Restaurant Awards issue, which features chef and restaurateur Thomas Keller on the cover, is on newsstands where magazines are sold.

Cara

[Cara](#), The Chanler at Cliff Walk, 117 Memorial Blvd., Newport, with 570 selections. They were acknowledged for wines from California and France and rated expensive.