



As winter blankets the world in a serene layer of snow (*hopefully over the Christmas season*), there's a magical transformation in the air that beckons warmth, joy, and celebration! Not sure about you, but I love winter and all of its beauty. In this season of festive gatherings and holiday cheer, I am bringing you not just expertise but an enchanting narrative that elevates the winter experience. Picture a crackling fireplace, a glass of robust red wine, and the culinary wisdom of a seasoned aficionado guiding you through the nuances of pairings and flavors. The intricate dance between winter's chill and the rich tapestry of wines and gastronomy becomes a delightful symphony for the senses, creating a perfect backdrop for indulging in the finer things in life. So, as the snowflakes gently descend outside, immerse yourself in the delightful prose of a wine and food expert – a literary journey that adds a touch of sophistication and warmth to your holiday season.

### **Top California Everyday and Luxury Picks**



*Figure 1- Cameron Hughes Wine Lot 947*

**2018 Cameron Hughes Lot 947 Pinot Noir-** This pinot is a steal at around \$20 per bottle when it should be way over that! If you're looking for a great pinot to have out for your guests but don't want to break the bank or sacrifice quality, then this pinot is for you. Full of raspberry and blackberry, some black tea and racy acidity this wine is great with all your big, heavier, holiday foods. This is an ideal wine to drink now and will win the hearts of your holiday guests whether you choose to hang in the kitchen or by the fire pit. I know for this Christmas season you'll see this wine by my fire pit after a big, big meal!