



Wine List

All our wines are from small growers of exceptional merit

You will not find here any of the big names that are turning wine into an industrial product

Nor will you find the names of négociants, who buy up huge quantities of wine, blend the wines, bottle them and label them, often indiscriminately.

Instead, each wine on this list is the individual expression of the expertise, the intuition and the integrity of each very carefully chosen grower

In achieving these objectives, we have restricted the list to the wines of the old world

House White Wine, House Red Wine, House Rosé Wine

Bottle

2011 Claude Val, Pays d'Oc, Pézenas, Aude Valley, South of France
From a rising star grower - skilfully crafted and very highly praised wines

Glass
175ml £4.30 £14.90

Champagne

Gruet, Cuvée Tradition, Brut, N.V.

Unknown in England, but much respected in France. The vineyards, producing this excellent blanc de noirs, have been in the same family since 1670 - presently led by Claude Gruet

Half
Bottle £19.70 £37.30

Veuve Clicquot, Brut, NV, Yellow Label.

The success of this prestigious Grand Marque dates back to 1805 when, on her husband's sudden death, the widow Clicquot took over his family vineyards, when she was still only 27 years old

£49.50

Sparkling Wine

Prosecco Quartese Brut. Ruggeri Vineyard, Valdobbiadene, Veneto, N.E. Italy

Fresh, bouncy, quality Italian fizz - the chosen aperitif in so many bars in Venice

Glass
125ml £4.90 £27.70

White Wines

1. France/Loire. 2011 Touraine Sauvignon, Domaine Le Boulay, Jean-Marie Perret

From a small vineyard on the Oisly plateau, above Touraine, this is a very traditional sauvignon blanc of the area, crisp, fresh and at the same time aromatic and herbaceous. Very versatile with food

£18.70

2. France/Languedoc. 2011 Picpoul de Pinet, Domaine de Roquemolière, Marc Cabrol

This small appellation is halfway between Beziers and Montpellier, five miles inland from the Mediterranean. "Picpoul" means "lip stinger" in the local dialect - but it is not as dry as that! Fresh and crisp, bright and zesty, hints of tamarind and just the right amount of acidity

£19.10

3. England/Devon. 2010/11 Sharpham Estate Selection, Duncan Schwab

The Madeleine Angevine grape grows very well in sunny Devon. Distinctly dry, nose of lime blossom, taste of citrus and grapefruit. The most highly regarded of all English wines and winner of many international awards. Made in small quantities and therefore not widely available. In our opinion, superior to many well-regarded New Zealand wines

£21.30

4. Italy/Marche. 2011 Verdicchio dei Castelli dei Jesi, Classico, Le Vele, Guiliano d'Ignazi.

Grown in the hills near the Adriatic coast. White fruit, with a hint of honeyed almonds - reminds you of long, hot, lazy, Italian summer days

£22.60

5. France/Burgundy. 2010 Macon-Chardonnay, Mallory and Benjamin Talmard.

Its called Macon-Chardonnay because the vineyard is on the edge of the village called Chardonnay! This is everything a good Macon should be - subtle, intense and complex, hints of golden fruits and honeysuckle, a long, fresh, dry finish. A worthy, though humbler, cousin of the most expensive white wines in the world - just 20 miles up the road!

£24.30

6. France/Burgundy. 2010 Macon-Chardonnay, Mallory and Benjamin Talmard.

Half Bottle £13.10

7. Italy/Sicily. 2011 Grillo Kebrilla, Bruno Fina

The Grillo grape is indigenous to Sicily and grows best in Sicily's amazing, almost perpendicular, mountain vineyards. The wine is mouth-filling, positively bursting with sun-baked fruits, excellent structure, long finish. Bruno Fina is almost a legend in his own time!

£24.80

8. France/Alsace. 2009 Riesling Grand Cru Kaefferkopf, Henri Ehrhart

Superb Grand Cru Riesling, fragrant, mineral edge, elegant, generous depth of fruit. Henri Ehrhart is the top grower in Ammerschwahr

£27.30

9. Greece/The Island of Santorini. 2009 Assyrtiko, Haridimos Hatzidakis

The Assyrtiko grape grows on the pure volcanic soils of the island of Santorini. This is a very distinctly individual "vin de terroir" with a rich and remarkable palate of quince, white pepper and apricots

£28.60

10. Spain/Galicia 2011 Albarino, Igrexario de Sair, Benito Santos

From the Atlantic climate of Spain's far northwest coast, this renowned wine is almost dry, aromatic, fresh, intriguing and Spain's finest white wine. You can almost taste the sea breezes off the Atlantic, mingling with white flowers, peach stones and mountain herbs. Ideal with seafood.

£29.10

11. France/Loire. 2011 Sancerre. Dennis and Jean-Louis Vacheron

The Vacheron vineyard is farmed biodynamically, yields are restrained and grapes hand-picked. Nose of asparagus and nettles, taste of gunflint - the sparks that fly when flint strikes metal. Very intense, very expressive. As the great master of wine Christopher Tatham (who introduced us to Vacheron) used to say - "if you haven't tasted the Vacheron wine you really don't yet know how good Sancerre can be."

£36.70

12. France/Burgundy. 2002 Chablis 1er Cru Vaillons, Daniel-Etienne Defaix

Daniel-Etienne Defaix has some of the oldest and finest vineyards in Chablis. He is also exceptional because he believes that, nowadays, good Chablis is sold and drunk far too young. He therefore refuses to give in to the temptation to sell too soon and, on his best wines, only releases them when he decides they have reached their proper maturity. Hence this wonderful 2002, displaying remarkable purity and elegance.

£47.30

Rosé

13. France/Provence. 2011 Esprit de Buganay, The Gilardi Family

In our opinion the best rosé wines are produced in Cotes de Provence - also the birthplace of rosé wines - centred around the wonderful city of Aix-en-Provence. This wine is a very attractive pale pink, with bright fruit flavours, on an elegant and charming frame.

£21.60

Red Wines

14. Italy/Molise. 2007 Biferno Rosso Riserva, Camillo de Lellis

We first tasted Camillo's wine in a little restaurant in Gargano, thirty miles from his vineyard close to the Adriatic sea. It's a warm, supple, amiable, soft, country wine, made with great love by a man who simply lives for his vines

£18.30

15. France/Languedoc. 2010 Pinot Noir, Domaine de Coussergues, Arnould de Bertier

Vivacious, ripe, fresh and fruity, taste of cherries, raspberries and mulberry, hints of nearby pine forests. Pinot Noir is particularly successful here because de Bertier's south-facing hillside vineyard is cooled by breezes off the Mediterranean

£21.10

16. France/Bordeaux. 2009 Chateau Grand Rousseau, The Lumeau Family

This little-known chateau, just twelve miles south of many great and famous names, is one of hundreds of Bordeaux's "petits chateaux" - small, family vineyards producing good clarets but only sold to the French and in France. The wine is round, smooth, has good length, integrated tannins, notes of blueberries, cigars and vanilla

£21.30

17. Portugal/Upper Douro. 2010 Quinta do Crasto. The Roquette Family

From one of the oldest and finest vineyard sites in the Upper Douro, this wine has real depth of fruit, with complex flavours of raspberry, plum, cinnamon, coffee and wood smoke

£23.90

18. Portugal/Upper Douro. 2010 Quinta do Crasto. The Roquette Family

Half Bottle £12.90

19. France/Languedoc. 2009 L'Indigene, Mas des Agrunelles, Stephanie Ponson

A deep, rich, perfectly balanced wine of great character and finesse, with hints of the "garrigue", herb bushes and olive groves, made with amazing care and passion by Stephanie Ponson, on her small, organic and very personal vineyard in the foothills of the Cevennes. This is the favourite wine of Alison - chef and owner of this restaurant.

£25.70

20. Lebanon/Bekaa Valley. 2009 Massaya, Sami and Ramzi Ghosn

The Romans chose the Bekaa Valley as the site to build The Temple of Bacchus - in homage to their god of wine. The wine from this ancient estate has great character, is mouth filling, smooth and spicy and altogether delightful.

£27.20

21. Greece/Thessalonika. 2010 Naoussa, Apostolis Thymiopoulos

Made, surprisingly, from very young Xynomavro vines in Northern Greece, unoaked, bright, pure, full of flavour and fragrance. Apostolis sells over half of his small production each year to just seven restaurants in Paris - where we discovered it!

£27.80

22. France/Beaujolais. 2009 Fleurie. Clos de la Chapelle des Bois. Fernand Verpoix

Fragrant, medium-bodied and feisty, with the tell tale iris and chocolate nose. This is classic Fleurie, made by one of Fleurie's most highly respected growers

£29.30

23. France/Beaujolais. 2009 Fleurie. Clos de la Chapelle des Bois. Fernand Verpoix

Half Bottle £15.90

24. Spain/Rioja. 2005 Marques de Caceres, Reserva, Cristina Forner

Many riojas today are too jammy and lush and lack structure. This, instead, is a traditional, old fashioned rioja, velvety, rich, mellow, spicy. And, at the same time also retaining the backbone and grip which is so essential to any aged rioja - giving it intensity and complexity

£31.10

25. France/Bordeaux. 2004 Chateau Plaisance, Saint Emilion Grand Cru, Michel Rolland

The Plaisance estate is situated in the heart of St Emilion appellation and has changed little since the chateau was built in 1866. This is quintessential St Emilion, accessible, generous, gratifying and sensuous. In 2004 they hand-picked a little later than their neighbours, in order to achieve perfection in the ripeness of the fruit

£34.60

26. France/Rhone. 2009 Gigondas, Domaine Raspail-Ay, Dominique Ay

There is probably no better exponent today of the traditional style of Gigondas. Big, rich, long, with an impeccable structure, complex and rewarding, multi-layered with hints of black cherries, violets, plums and liquorice. Very highly praised by the wine media in France.

£37.40

27. France/Burgundy. 2009 Beaune 1er Cru Les Theurons, Regis Rossignol-Changarnier

Diminutive but energetic and hospitable Regis and his adopted son, Francois, have a vineyard in nearby Volnay and also this very small vineyard in Beaune, which produces only approx. 2000 bottles each year. The wine is delicate, soft, silky, smooth and supple, with light tannins but good length

£41.70

Dessert Wines

28. Greece/The Island of Samos. 2010 Samos Grand Cru. Manolis Tsakalakis

Made from grapes called Muscat Blanc a Petit Grains - by far the most characterful of the Muscat tribe - very small bunches of very small, sun-sweetened grapes. Long palate of oranges, peaches, roses and walnuts, ending with a hint of spice.

Glass	Bottle
125ml £6.60	375ml £17.40

29. France/Roussillon. 1928 Solera. Les Vignerons de Maury

An 82 year old delight! The solera for this remarkable oak-aged, mahogany coloured, sweet, complex, rich red wine was laid down in 1928 - the year Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin, Bruce Forsyth was born, King Zog was crowned King of Albania, René Lacoste won Wimbledon and the Soviet Union exiled Trotsky!

Glass	Bottle
125ml £10.30	500ml £39.20

