

We have scoured the length and breadth of the wine world in putting this list together and are very pleased to present a comprehensive collection of some of the very best on offer today.

The criteria for inclusion was stringent - the wines had to be from small or at most medium sized producers, family owned where-ever possible (in keeping with how things are done at The Grove), and had to be 'hand made' - no large volume, high yield examples here! We also went to great lengths to ensure that, with as many examples as possible; these were produced without the use of noxious substances. Those that are actually organic or biodynamic have symbols next to them but you can rest assured that none of these come from grapes farmed in bulk with the aid of extensive chemical intervention.

You will also notice that we have a permanent special offer on the more expensive wines. This is because we believe that these should be enjoyed by you as often as possible, not just for the most special occasions and so we have given them new, improved everyday prices. Please do take full advantage of this as you certainly won't find them on any other Restaurants lists of this calibre at these prices.

Expert help is at hand if you need any assistance in choosing and we very much hope you enjoy making your selection (and then drinking it!) as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

Colette's



## Colette's bin end list

### White

Meursault 'Les Gruyaches', Jean-Philippe Fichet, Burgundy, France, 2005	£68.00
Meursault 'Les Gruyaches', Jean-Philippe Fichet, Burgundy, France, 2006	£68.00

### Red

Viu Menet, Colchagua, Chile 2006	£65.00
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### Champagne

Taittinger Nocturne sec, NV	£92.00
Taittinger Prelude, NV	£92.00
Pol Roger Pure, NV	£92.00
Pol Roger Rich, NV	£92.00
Pol Roger, 1999	£92.00

All prices are inclusive of VAT at the current rate

Wines by the Glass

Champagne! (and Sparkling)

Louis Roederer Brut Premier, NV

175ml  
£16.00

Taittinger Brut Réserve, NV	£18.00
Ayala Rosé, NV	£18.00

### White

	175ml
Domaine Berthoumieu Pacherenc du Vic-Bihl Sec, France, 2008	£9.00
Deltetto Langhe Arneis 'San Michele', Piedmont, Italy, 2009	£10.00
Mount Horrocks Semillon, Clare Valley, Australia, 2008	£11.00
Isabel Estate Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand, 2010	£11.50
Muscadet de Sèvre et Maine 'Le Clos de Noëllès', France, 2005	£12.50

### Red

	175ml
Rocky Gully Shiraz/Viognier, Frankland River Region, Australia, 2007	£9.50
Palacios Remondo Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2007	£12.00
Fontodi Chianti Classico, Tuscany, Italy, 2007	£12.50
Domaine Parize Givry Rouge 'Champ Nalot', Burgundy, France, 2008	£13.00

### Dessert

	100ml
Clos Lapeyre "La Magendia de Lapeyre", Jurançon, France, 2006	£9.00
Helmut Lang Samling BA, Burgenland, Austria, 2004	£10.50
Domaine Rotier Gaillac Doux 'Renaissance', Gaillac, France, 2007	£10.50
Domaine Poudoux Maury, Rousillon, France, 2007	£11.00



## Champagne

We are very proud of the fact that all our champagnes are made by family owned or run businesses who are completely committed to quality and craftsmanship. We have a selection of delicious vintages, the pick of the recent bunch for those of you with something very important to celebrate!

<b>Louis Roederer Brut Premier NV</b> Rich, complex and full bodied	<b>£62.00</b>
<b>Taittinger Brut Réserve NV</b> Light bodied, fine and beautifully restrained.	<b>£64.00</b>
<b>Louis Roederer Carte Blanche demi sec</b> This champagne offers intense floral tones and ripe sweet fruits. Rich, creamy and full, balanced with fine acidity.	<b>£64.00</b>
<b>Pol Roger White Foil Brut NV</b> Medium bodied, classically austere and refined.	<b>£72.00</b>
<b>Bollinger Special Cuvée NV</b> Powerful, richly fruity and full bodied.	<b>£82.00</b>
<b>Taittinger Brut Vintage 2003</b> Ripe, round vintage in an elegant style.	<b>£95.00</b>
<b>Laurent Perrier Ultra Brut NV</b> Medium bodied, deliciously bone dry and elegant (with fewer calories than any other champagne!).	<b>£100.00</b>
<b>Louis Roederer Brut Vintage 2002</b> Opulent fruit and toasted, spicy brioche	<b>£110.00</b>
<b>Bollinger “La Grande Année” 2000</b> Medium bodied, robust fruit and rich toast flavours.	<b>£130.00</b>
<b>Taittinger Comtes de Champagne Blanc de Blancs 1998</b> Light bodied, exquisitely fine and delicate with great complexity none the less..	<b>£225.00</b>
<b>Dom Pérignon 2000</b> Soft, refined, amazingly elegant citrus and fresh bread flavours	<b>£275.00</b>
<b>Louis Roederer Cristal 2002</b> Full bodied, opulent fruit and rich biscuit flavours - perfectly, beautifully balanced.	<b>£300.00</b>

## Rosé

<b>Ayala Rosé NV</b> Medium bodied, fine strawberry aromas.	£67.00
<b>Taittinger Brut Prestige Rosé NV</b> Medium bodied, fine red fruit aromas with a subtle velvet texture.	£82.00
<b>Louis Roederer Rosé 2005</b> Full bodied with seductive strawberry hints.	£110.00
<b>Louis Roederer Cristal Rosé 2002</b> Full yet incredibly fine with flavours of wild raspberries and strawberries -silky and elegant.	£500.00

## Champagne Half Bottle

<b>Louis Roederer Brut Premier, France NV</b>	£29.00
<b>Taittinger Brut Réserve, France NV</b>	£32.00

## Champagne Magnum

<b>Louis Roederer Brut Premier NV</b>	£113.00
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## And Sparkling!

### Nyetimber Vineyards, Sussex, England

So impressive, it deserves its own heading! Founded by a charmingly eccentric American couple who spent years looking for exactly the right spot in which to make their English version of Champagne. They were the first to seriously consider that given the similarities between the climates in southern England and the region of Champagne, there was no reason why England could not produce the very best quality sparkling. They have more than proved their point. This wins awards on a yearly basis, is routinely picked as a top Champagne by experts in blind tasting and is served by the Queen at official functions. We were delighted to be offered the last of the older stock, which exists and are listing an unparalleled selection of wines from this brilliantly quirky house.

<b>Nyetimber Chardonnay 2001</b>	£70.00
<b>Nyetimber Chardonnay 1998</b>	£70.00



## White wines from Bordeaux and the South West

Better known for their eminent and powerful reds, both of the above regions make whites, which are well worth pausing on this page for. Most of them are exponents of great elegance and restraint - with the exception of the wine made from late harvested fruit (see below). Some of the South West examples in particular are made to cut through richer food so expects clean, crisp flavours.

### **Domaine Alain Brumont Gros Manseng/Sauvignon Blanc, CÔtes de Gascogne, 2009**

**£27.00**

Mon Brumont is famous for resurrecting the fortunes of the Madiran region and for his muscular, structured reds which come from here. This blend of very local and more international varieties is equally delicious, with a nutty, cream mid palate balancing the fresh, citrus fruit.

### **Domaine Berthoumieu Pacherenc du Vic-Bilh Sec, 2008**

**£35.00**

Didier Barre makes the structured, finely grained and powerful red Madiran on our list but is also responsible for this crisp, complex, delicious white - the blend is typically south western, gros manseng, petit manseng and courbu, some from vines over 50 years old and the wine spends 8 months in contact with the lees which softens the edge slightly.

### **Caves de Saint Etienne de Baigorry Xuri d'Ansa, Irouleguy, 2008**

**£36.00**

From the heart of the Basque country - hence the arcane name - this is a blend of electrifying local varieties and has been likened to the taste equivalent of letting your tongue roller skate down a glacier with flavours of citrus, wild flowers, flint and crystallised lemons.

### **Château Moutin Graves, Bordeaux, 2008**

**£40.00**

An astonishingly good version of white Bordeaux from a small producer. Mainly Sauvignon Blanc, this has fresh, grassy citrus flavours with an aromatic edge of fresh herbs

### **Domaine Cauhape Jurancon Sec "Chant des Vignes", Jurançon, 2005**

**£46.00**

Henri Ramonteu makes both lusciously sweet and beautifully restrained dry wines and was one of the producers who helped to put this tiny region back on the map. His dry wines show richer, fuller fruit than many from here, with the typically tangy grapefruit edge both the dry and sweet are famous for.

### **Château la Tour des Gendres "Moulin des Dames Blanc", Bergerac, 2007**

**£58.00**

Utterly individual and thrilling, this is a truly memorable wine. Made from fruit which is late harvested in order to ensure maximum rich, ripe flavour; this is then barrel fermented for added spice. A mouthful of buttered, spiced, roast peaches and apricots with ginger – delicious

## White wines from Burgundy

Once a region ravaged by the excessive use of artificial fertilizers and pesticides, Burgundy is now notable for the experimentation with organic and biodynamic growing among many of its top producers. Always a tricky region to buy from, with 'Grand Cru' not necessarily giving any guarantee of quality, our criteria, as always, has been the quality of what is in the glass, not on the label.

### **Domaine Ghislaine & Jean-Hugues Goisot Bourgogne-Aligoté, 2008**

**£37.00**

The 'other' white Burgundy grape, Aligote is not just for Kir, especially not in the hands of a grower like Goisot. Characteristic tart green apple flavours balanced by a wonderfully rich viscous texture.

### **Domaine Thibert Macon-Fuisse 'Bois de la Croix', 2008**

**£42.00**

The Thibert family use only natural remedies in the vineyard, growing their grapes completely organically. The good work continues in the winery with fermentation in large, old oak barrels giving wines which are classically Burgundian at a very reasonable price.

### **Domaine Bouzereau Bourgogne Blanc, 2006**

**£52.00**

Michel Bouzereau comes from a large winemaking family and has held the post of President of the Burgundy Growers Union. Michel's son Jean-Baptiste is now in charge of making. Their Bourgogne Blanc comes from vineyards which are within the boundaries of Meursault but just outside the appellation. Such generic Burgundies are excellent choices for good value, especially as this wine is treated with the same care, attention and barrel ageing as its more senior brethren.

### **Domaine Parize Givry 1er Cru Blanc 'Grandes Vignes', 2007**

**£54.00**

Another wine from brothers Gérard and Laurent (see their fabulous red Givry as well), this is the top white. Like all their carefully made wines, this shows pure, elegant, mineral flavours but the richer underlying oak is in evidence as well – albeit subtly.

### **Jean-Marc Boillot Montagny 1er Cru, 2008**

**£56.00**

Jean-Marc was lucky enough to inherit some prime vineyard land through both his paternal and maternal grandparents. On his mother's side, this was a chunk of the renowned Sauzet holdings, which they were none too pleased to lose to him. He is known for using rich oak but it is always completely balanced with premium fruit.

### **Château de Beru Chablis 'Clos Beru', 2006**

**£65.00**

The aristocratic Beru family used to sell all their fruit until Athenias, daughter to the Contesse, decided very recently that wine making was to be her calling. They are now making one of the most superb Chablis we have ever tasted from the vineyard which lies inside the Château grounds. From completely organically grown fruit, this is a fabulous example of a fine wine from here.

### **Domaine de la Soufrandière Pouilly-Vinzelles 'Les Quarts', 2006**

**£80.00**

It was not that long ago that brothers Jean-Guillaume and Jean-Phillipe decided that they were no longer going to sell their carefully grown grapes to the local cooperative, but were going to make wine themselves. Most of their vineyards are on east facing slopes giving maximum ripeness and rich succulent wines, which they are becoming famous for.

### **François D'Allaines Puligny-Montrachet 'tête de cuvée', 2008**

**£95.00**

Mon. D'Allaines is a relative new-comer in Burgundy, founding his Domaine in 1996 after a career in Hotels! He has caught up fast – his wines are classic and elegant with fantastic layers of complexity. We feel his Puligny is one of his best, with the restrained, mineral quality the best from this commune show.

**Domaine de la Vougeraie Clos Blanc de Vougeot 1er Cru,  
'Monopole', 2006**

**£140.00**

Although many of the vineyards which now produce the wines of Vougeraie had been in the Boisset family since the 1960's, it was not till 1999 that the first Domaine Vougeraie wines were bottled. From organically grown grapes, the work of wine maker Pascal Marchand quickly became legendary. This wine is extra special as there is not much white produced in Clos Vougeot. Powerful, Structured but beautifully balanced white Burgundy.

**Ramonet Le Montrachet Grand Cru, 1994**

**£800.00**

Brothers Noël and Jean-Claude run this legendary estate, famous for the great power and concentration of its wines. Their whites are generally finer than the reds and they are known for their instinctive wine-making, which leads to utterly entrancing bottles. Only minute quantities of Le Montrachet are made – a glorious marriage of intense fruit and oak.

## White Wines from the Rhône Valley and Southern France

And for something completely different, the white wines from this part of France are unlike anything else. Showing lower acidity, they tend to be rounder, richer, and more viscous with floral flavours which are either subtle and beguiling or the full bouquet of aromatic perfume. As an added bonus, most of these wines are made with the utmost respect for the environment.

### **Domaine Colombu Vin de Corse Blanc, Corsica, 2008**

**£34.00**

Not much wine makes it out of Corsica so get it while you can! From the Vermentino grape, grown with very minimal chemical intervention on clay terraces, this has a fantastically fresh lemon verbena edge with richer peach and honey flavours in the middle.

### **Domaine Rougie Viognier, Languedoc, 2009**

**£35.00**

Viognier can be tricky to grow in warmer places, like the Southern most part of France, as it loses its freshness with alarming ease. This is an excellent example of one which manages to avoid that, retaining a good edge while still being full of spiced honey and peach notes.

### **Domaine de L'Hortus "Grande Cuvée", VDP du Val de Montferrand, 2008**

**£50.00**

Now quite a cult wine, this is a blend of Viognier and Chardonnay - a synthesis of Condrieu and Meursault - from renowned producer Jean Orliac.

### **Mas de Daumas Gassac Blanc, Vin de Pays de L'Herault, Languedoc, 2008**

**£68.00**

This wine is truly a thing of exquisite beauty. The Guibert family are passionate devotees of both organic viticulture and obscure varieties - this has over 11.

### **Christophe Pichon Condrieu, Rhône Valley, 2007**

**£78.00**

The Pichon family farm a mere 4 hectares without any nasty chemicals and how that Christophe has taken over, the good wines seem to become greater every year. This is Viognier with all the rich, floral, peachy flavours you would expect as well as a fresh, crisp edge – delicious.

### **Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe Chateauneuf du Pape Blanc, 2007**

**£95.00**

Brothers Daniel and Frédéric are now in charge at this family domaine which has been owned by the Bruniers since 1898. Their vines are an average of 50 years old and this delicious white is a classic and one of the best of its kind – gently perfumed, rich and round in the mouth.

## Whites Wines from the Loire Valley

Gloriously complex, crisp and vivid, white wines from the Loire are endlessly alluring although, in the case of some of the Chenin, certainly not always easily approachable. Decant, give them time to breath and then enjoy their amazing versatility with food. Our white from Jura is not of the new school but is a fascinating amalgamation of wine and sherry.

**Pierre Luneau Papin Muscadet de Sevre et Maine 'Le Clos de Noëllés', 2005** **£50.00**

Pierre Papin is the master of Muscadet and this is his 'Grand Cru' wine. Made only from his very best grapes from his top vineyard, it spends 24 months on the lees and is not at all unlike a very excellent Chablis.

**Domaine des Roches Neuves, Saumur Blanc, 'Insolite', Loire, 2008** **£50.00**

Theirry Germain comes from a long line of Bordeaux wine makers and did not arrive in the Loire till 1991. Everything at his Loire domaine is done by hand with organic farming in the vineyards. From fruit from 75 year old vines, this has both freshness and richness and it deeply delicious. Don't drink too cold!

**Domaine Richard Leroy, 'Clos des Rouliers', Anjou, Loire, 2006** **£62.00**

On a mere 2.7 hectares of land on schist and volcanic soils, Richard Leroy grows his grapes biodynamically, keeps yields amazingly low and insists on only perfect fruit for his dry wines. The result is Incredibly herbal, mineral aromas flavours with characteristic honey and a box fresh edge. Don't drink this too cold.

**Gérard Bouley Sancerre 'Mont Damnes', 2008** **£70.00**

Gérard Bouley, whose family have owned vines in Sancerre since 1380, does everything by hand on his 9 hectares of land and keeps things as natural as possible. He also has the good fortune to own vines right in the centre of the south facing hillside on the Mont Damnés, the perfect spot in what is widely acknowledged to be the perfect Sancerre vineyard.

**Clos de la Coulée de Serrant Savennières, 1973** **£257.00**

Truly one of the great white wines of the world, this comes from one of only 3 single estate appellations in France. Nicolas Joly is one of the most vocal and passionate devotees of biodynamic viticulture in the world and a single sip of this wine is enough to convince the most sceptical.

## White Wines from Alsace and Jura

Glorious white wines of fruit, spice and flowers with flavours completely unfettered by new oak. For a list which set out to find wines made by family owned producers, Alsace is a pleasure, being not only chock full of small, family owned houses but with the houses having been in these families for centuries. A small but perfectly formed place.

### **Frédéric Mochel Muscat Sec, Alsace, 2005**

**£50.00**

Frédéric Mochel makes his wines in the family Domaine established in 1692, so they know a thing or two about wine making. He farms his vineyards entirely traditionally, still harvesting by hand, ploughing the soil and following the lutte raisonnée theories; basically only using anything chemical or artificial if absolutely necessary. This is one of the most delicious Muscats we have ever encountered with elegant, balanced acidity and wonderfully complex, aromatic fruit.

### **Frederic Mochel Pinot Gris, Alsace, 2007**

**£50.00**

This is a delicious amalgamation of banana, peach, spicy paw-paw and honey.

### **Domaine Daniel Dugois Vin Jaune, Arbois, Jura (62cl), 1998**

**£52.00**

Vin Jaune from the region of Jura is a wine made in a very similar style to dry sherry. From the Savagnin variety, this is aged for 6 years in barrel and a thin veil of yeast, which grows on the surface, imparts bready, creamy notes. Excellent with a variety of food including chicken, trout and various cheeses.

### **Domaine Ostertag 'Heissenberg' Riesling, Alsace, 2005**

**£65.00**

Andre Ostertag is a free thinking devotee of biodynamism and this is one of his Vins de Pierre, or wines which perfectly expresses their terroir. His thrilling rich (but not sweet) Rieslings are the sort of white wines which can often substitute for reds if the food matching situation demands it.

### **Domaine Schlumberger Gewürtztraminer Grand Cru 'Kitterle', Alsace, 2003**

**£72.00**

The locals call this vineyard 'calf breaker', so steep is the slope on which the vines grow. This, and the poor sandy soils mean that not much fruit is grown but that which ripens is hugely concentrated. Rich, dense wine which still retains elegance.

## White Wines from Germany and Austria

While we love classic German wine for its incomparable elegance and zesty complexity, many of our examples are of the new school. These wines are drier, more full bodied and less delicate but no less complex or delicious to drink. Austria of course has never been in the business of making ethereal wines, with its utterly wonderful examples being about breadth and power and exuberant fruit flavours.

### **Marc Pohl Franconia, Franken, 2008**

**£32.00**

An incredibly delicate and delicious blend of 3 German varieties, including Sylvaner which is one of our favourites. This gives a delicate white spice edge to the fruit. Only 11.5% abv as well.

### **Stadt Krems Gruner Veltliner Weinzierlberg, Kremstal, Austria, 2006**

**£43.00**

Fritz Miesbauer is a very experienced wine maker who worked in the neighbouring Wachau region before joining Stadt Krems and has a good track record with Gruner-Veltliner – Austria's very own variety. This has classic honeyed fruit white pepper and dill flavours but is more elegant than many.

### **Polz Sauvignon Blanc Steirische Klassik, Southern Styria, Austria, 2008**

**£45.00**

Maria Polz and her two brothers are emerging as very influential Sauvignon Blanc makers. In this small corner of Austria which has quite a reputation for wines from this variety, the hilly landscape and lime and chalk soils are ideally suited and the style shows hints of tropical fruit with vibrant acidity and the famous minerality which the best of Austria is famous for.

### **Heymann-Löwenstein Schieferterrassen Riesling, Mosel, Germany, 2007**

**£50.00**

Reinhard Löwenstein started this estate with his wife in 1980 and has since become something of a Riesling guru. He is firmly non-interventionist, leaving them to ferment for months "if that is what they want to do" and does not fine them, believing this removes aroma. Extraordinarily powerful, complex and persistent.

### **Dr Heger Grand Cru Pinot Blanc, Baden, Germany, 2001**

**£54.50**

Dr Max Heger was a country doctor who decided to dabble in wine in 1935. Thank goodness he did, passing the estate on to his son who is now making wines like this honeyed, liquorice and sweet spice example.

### **Franz Hirtzberger Riesling Smaragd Setzberg, Wachau, Austria, 2003**

**£75.00**

Acknowledged as one of the great estates of the Wachau region, this Riesling is powerful, elegant and complex. Cast aside all thoughts of German Riesling when enjoying an example from Austria - they are bigger, very different beasts.

## White Wines from Italy

These wines are very seductive. Whether packed with aromatics or just classic smoky, bitter almond flavours, there is unmistakable Italian elegance to some of them and alluring texture and subtle weight. Higher acidities and more restrained fruit flavours also mean that they are versatile with food. Those from the South are nothing like the elegant, faintly aromatic examples from the North. These are altogether broader and oilier, with smoky ripe fruit and white spice flavours. Good for those who are partial to oaked whites as they often have the same weight and power, if not the cream and butter flavours.

### **Donnafugata 'Polena', Sicily, 2008**

**£35.00**

Involvement with wine goes back 150 years in the Rallo family who were one of the first to make the switch from Marsala to quality table wine from their two estates in Sicily. This is a blend of Cataratto (very traditional) and Viognier (not very traditional) and has rich, honeyed spice perfectly balanced by a fresh edge.

### **Antonio Deltetto Roero Arneis 'San Michele', Piedmont, 2009**

**£40.00**

From vineyards in Roero where the sandier soils give a lighter, more elegant quality to the wines, this is an exceptionally good version of Arneis. Antonio puts these in a cold room over night before pressing in order to retain the freshness (often lacking) and a small amount of oak is used as well for underlying creamy texture.

### **Franz Haas Pinot Grigio, Alto Adige, 2009**

**£40.00**

Splendidly, subtly spicy honey with poached pear fruit flavours. Amazingly versatile food wine.

### **Guido Marsella Fiano di Avellino, Campania, 2008**

**£45.00**

The province of Avellino is where arguably the finest wines in Campania originate and wines have been made here since Roman times. The Fiano variety used to be called Vitis Apiana by the Romans – its extra sweet grapes being hugely popular with bees. This richness is evident in this wonderfully viscous wine with white peach and toasted almond flavours. Guida Marsella only makes this wine on his tiny estate, so all his focus is on producing this. We think it shows.

### **Benito Ferrara, Greco di Tufo, Campania, 2007**

**£45.00**

Gabriella Ferrara runs this small family estate which only makes Greco di Tufo grown on the volcanic soils typical of the region. These are wines of great power and texture and this delicious example has pronounced minerality as well as almond and hazelnut flavours with peach and golden delicious apple.

### **Franz Haas Traminer Aromatico, Alto Adige, 2007**

**£48.00**

Franz Haas is a complete perfectionist and notoriously difficult to please when it comes to his wine. This endless quest for perfection means wine of amazing purity, complexity and balance. This example is an explosion of spice and flowers and is indeed very 'aromatico'.

### **Bressan Verduzzo Friulano, Friuli, 2004**

**£50.00**

This winery dates from the 16th century and current incumbent Fulvio Bressan is devoted to making great, elegant wines from obscure local varieties. Verduzzo Friulano is one of the most intriguing of these, with notes of stone fruits, almond and acacia. Don't drink it too cold or you will miss these.



**La Giustiniana Just, Piedmont, 2001**

**£50.00**

One of the leading estates in Gavi, this wine is quite stunning. Made solely from Cortese, some of these grapes are picked over-ripe, some at normal ripeness and some were dried before being fermented in small new and large old oak barrels.

**Inama Soave Classico Superiore Vigneti di Foscario, Veneto, 2007**

**£55.00**

It's Soave, but probably not as you know it. Stefano Inama picks his fruit later and acerates on the skin longer before fermentation, which means a denser, riper, fuller wine than is normally associated with this region. The Foscario vineyard is on volcanic soils, giving a rich smoky edge.

**Isole e Olena Toscana Chardonnay, Tuscany, 2007**

**£75.00**

From one of our all time favourite Chianti producers, this Chardonnay gives top Burgundy a real run for its money. Paolo de Marchi is a superb viticulturist and the sheer quality of his fruit shines through his lovely wines.

## White Wines from Spain

A country which is not renowned for their white wines, never the less makes some noteworthy examples, many with hints of aromatics underpinning the fresh fruit. We have listed the lighter styles of wine here as we are of the opinion that these are completely fabulous with certain dishes and can certainly be enjoyed beyond the apéritif stage. Sophisticated wine drinking reaches its zenith with proper quality wine and we hope that you enjoy these as much as we do.

### **Bodegas Terras Gauda O Rosal, Rías Baixas, 2009**

**£45.00**

The Galician vineyards are dominated by the influence of the Atlantic and the resulting wines are like nothing else in Spain - floral and lemony with superb acidity and a bristling minerality that is not too far removed from really good Riesling.

### **Palacios Remondo “Placet” Rioja Blanco, 2007**

**£60.00**

Forget all thoughts of incredibly rich, creamy, vanilla drenched white Rioja, this is beautifully refined, balanced and ever so lightly perfumed. Alvaro Palacios has taken over the family firm and is revolutionizing the wine making, in this case not using any new oak and carefully growing the fruit to maximise the complexity and aromas.

## White Wines from the Americas

A small, but very carefully chosen list. While they are making amazingly delicious white wines in North America, the relative newness of the region means that there is still not a huge diversity of styles and we have tried, in all cases on this list, not to repeat ourselves ad nauseum.

### **Sokol Blosser Evolution Number 12, Oregon, NV**

**£35.00**

Bill and Susan Sokol Blosser first planted vines in 1971 in the Dundee Hills – now an epicentre for the thriving wine industry in Oregon. They make a very serious white Pinot Gris but we love this, their more frivolous fruit medley which is a blend of different vintages as well. From organically grown grapes, this is full of soft tropical fruit flavours with a delicately floral edge.

### **Au Bon Climat Chardonnay, Santa Barbara County, California, 2008**

**£60.00**

Jim Clendenen is known as the 'wild boy' of Californian winemaking but his wines are anything but. Sleek and well balanced, they may be full of ripe fruit and buttery oak but they are by no means overwhelming.

### **Ramey Hudson Vineyard Chardonnay, Carneros, California, 2007**

**£77.00**

David Ramey only makes Chardonnay and he gives it the full oak Monty, with 21 months in barrel. The Hudson vineyard is his much textured, weighty example and is here for fans of the massive Californian style.

## White Wines from Australia and New Zealand

Another very succinct list which will hopefully illustrate, deliciously, that there is much beyond Chardonnay from Australia and Sauvignon Blanc from Marlborough, New Zealand (sensational as those styles can be) which is worth investigating.

### **Yealands Pinot Gris, Marlborough, New Zealand, 2009** **£33.00**

From a new estate which has been specially built to be completely carbon neutral, this is a delicious example of this rather tricky variety. It has lush, almost tropical honeyed fruit enlivened with a citrus edge, so it does not get too gloopy.

### **Frankland Estate Isolation Ridge Riesling, Western Australia, 2009** **£42.00**

Barrie Smith and Judi Cullum were the first wine pioneers in the Frankland district of the Great Southern region of Western Australia in 1988. In a relatively short time, they are making some of Australia's top whites and reds at incredibly decent prices, given the quality. This shows the influence of the cooler subclimate and has great freshness and balance.

### **Mount Horrocks Semillon, Clare Valley, Australia, 2008** **£45.00**

Stephanie Toole is very famous for her Riesling, both the dry and sweet versions, but we love her Semillon. Made in tiny quantities from a patch of vines in the Watervale vineyard in the relatively cool climate of Clare Valley, this is 100% barrel fermented in French oak and is rich and luxurious.

### **Isabel Estate Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, New Zealand, 2010** **£45.00**

Former airline pilot Michael Tiller and his wife Robyn established Isabel in 1982 in order to supply wine makers with premium Marlborough fruit. The sheer quality of their produce however soon inspired them to start making wine themselves and they now produce what is arguably the benchmark for all Sauvignon from this part of the world, showing minerality and elegance as well as classic tropical notes.

### **Clonakilla Viognier, Canberra, Australia, 2008** **£75.00**

The Kirk family were the first to establish vineyards in the Canberra region of Australia and went on to produce one of the new world's most iconic reds – their Shiraz / Viognier blend. They now have some old (by Australian standards) Viognier vineyards (25 years) and produce this wonderful wine. Rich spiced apricot with orange blossom flavours and a fresh edge.

### **Giaconda 'Aeolia', Victoria, Australia, 2006** **£130.00**

Rick Kinsbrunner makes wine in minute quantities from a mere 6 hectares of land and from the first release, the reputation has been such that these too are incredibly difficult to get hold of. A beautifully balanced Roussane, drink this before it runs out!

## White Wines from South Africa

After years in the wilderness (for all sorts of reasons including, sadly, the quality of the wine often), South Africa has truly come in from the cold. Or rather the intense heat. This gives wines of fabulous ripeness which somehow, almost magically, always manage to retain something of the 'old world' of wine - i.e., they never become quite as exuberant or opulent as they might from other new world regions.

### **Vinum Chenin Blanc, Stellenbosch, 2008**

**£29.00**

A particularly delicious version of South African Chenin from one of our favourite producers – The Winery of Good Hope. They are a small outfit who are particularly good at identifying excellent vineyard sites with older vines. This examples has more layers of complexity and richness than most and is highly recommended.

### **Cape Point Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, Cape Point, 2008**

**£41.00**

A very wealthy investment banker bought this farm a few years ago and although no one else at the time was making wine here, he immediately saw the possibilities. The raw materials were all there-poor soils, a good slope and great gusts of cool air from the Atlantic. Sauvignon has undoubtedly been their most successful varieties and this is one of South Africa's very finest with a grace and elegance that is both impressive and delicious.

### **Radford Dale Chardonnay, Stellenbosch, South Africa, 2008**

**£42.00**

From a very well respected South African winery who source and grow their fruit with immense care, this is one of the best examples of this variety in this country that we know. Deliciously fresh citrus fruit with just a lick of spiced butter underneath, this has perfect balance and complexity.

## Rosé Wines

### **Amano, Puglia, Italy, 2009**

**£29.00**

Mark Shannon is actually American but is now making some of the very best wines from this region. This shows the fresh edge, which is his characteristic style but has the traditional earthy, spicy, muscular notes as well, from a blend of Malvasia Nero and Negroamaro.

### **Domaine Suffrène Bandol Rosé, Provence, France, 2009**

**£36.00**

In a relatively short space of time, Cédric Gravier has already established himself as quite a superstar in this region. He does things very traditionally and looks for maximum concentration in the grapes. This is classic Southern Rosé with more weight and spice than delicate examples from the North.

## Red wines from South West France

We do urge you to venture into the less chartered territory of the South West as well though, to miss an opportunity to drink one of these powerful and inimitable wines would be a great pity.

### **Domaine du Cros 'Lo Sang del Pais', Marcillac, 2008**

**£29.00**

Marcillac is a tiny, very obscure region in South West France, producing toothsome and delicious reds from the Fer Servadou variety. This has soft tannins and crisp acidity, encasing bright, sappy red fruit flavours.

### **Domaine Berthoumieu "Charles de Batz", Madiran, 2005**

**£44.00**

Charles de Batz is oak aged, made from 90% Tannat, purple-black in colour and could probably age forever, a veritable vin de garde. Such is the fruit quality, however, that it will be drinking beautifully soon. The wine is named after Charles de Batz Castelmore d'Artagnan, a French soldier under Louis XIV and the inspiration for Alexandre Dumas.

### **Château Plaisance "Tot So Que Cal", Côtes du Frontonnais, 2005**

**£52.00**

Fronton is a tiny, almost completely forgotten corner of France where the Negrette variety reigns supreme. Mainly used to make juicy, every day wines, wine makers like Marc Penavayre are making more serious examples as well. Blended here with Cabernet and Syrah, all from very low yieldings vines, this has explosive dark fruit and spice flavours with buttered new oak on the edges.

### **Château du Cèdre "Le Cèdre", Cahors, 2006**

**£70.00**

This Wine is made from the oldest vines on the estate. 100% Malbec from 30-40 year old vines and miserly yields of 30hl/ha, this has fabulous colour, almost impenetrably dark with glossy purple tints. With its thick cassis aromas and wild raspberry fruit this is a meal in itself and should be eaten with great reverence and a long spoon.

### **Château La Tour des Gendres "Anthologia", Bergerac, 2000**

**£98.00**

Bordeaux varieties from right next door, the difference being that these grapes are cultivated biodynamically and the wine is neither fined nor filtered. It's pretty massive; stand your spoon up in it stuff.

## Red wines from Bordeaux

Red wines from Bordeaux need absolutely no introduction and we are very pleased with the succinct selection we have here. Many of these bottles come from the cellar of none other than Edmund Penning-Rowell and so the provenance could not be more impeccable. Sadly we can not say that about the labels, which may not be in very good condition at all.

**Château Haut-Segottes, Saint Emilion Grand Cru, 2005** **£65.00**

Madame Andre is devoted to the vines which produce the fruit for this exceptional wine. These grow on the plateau of Figeac and Cheval Blanc and their pedigree is obviously in the great depth of fruit and complexity here. This is 60% Merlot, 35% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon.

**Chateau de Pez, St Estephe Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnels, 2005** **£90.00**

Since 1995, this legendary estate has been owned by the Louis Roederer Champagne house. Situated in northern St Estephe, this is mainly Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, showing the powerful structure this commune is famous for, balanced by rich, ripe fruit.

**Château Beaugard, Pomerol, 1999** **£91.00**

Wines have been made at this 17.5 hectare property since 1793 and today, they are known for being rather less opulent than some from Pomerol. This is thanks to especially gravelly soils and a higher proportion of Cabernet Franc, so expect smoky spice balancing out the fruit.

**Château Cantemerle 5ème Cru Classé, Haut-Médoc, 2001** **£115.00**

The wines of Cantemerle are unusual for left bank claret in that they contain 40% Merlot a much higher proportion than is usual. This gives the wines a much richer, fruitier, dark chocolate edge than many with the crisp acidity of the '95 vintage balancing this. 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Petit Verdot and 5% Cabernet Franc make up the rest.

**Chateau Lagrange, Pomerol, 2000** **£150.00**

Another Chateau belonging to the mighty Jean-Pierre Moueix (owner of Petrus, among others), this is a full bodied wine with great depth of fruit and richness. An excellent example of more moderately priced Pomerol.

**Chateau Margaux Pavillon Rouge, Margaux, 2000** **£185.00**

The second wine of the legendary Chateau Margaux, a property which dates back to the 12th century. This shows the rich, ripe fruit of the vintage which is of course perfectly balanced and elegant. A steal!

**Château Palmer 3ème Cru Classé, Margaux, 2001** **£205.00**

Château Palmer dates back to 1814 although wine has been made on this property from at least a hundred years before that. Consistently among the very best châteaux from this commune, Château Palmer always displays the elegant, feminine qualities great Margaux is famous for. Great wine from a great vintage.

**Chateau Montrose, St Estephe 2nd cru classe, Bordeaux, France, 1995** **£209.50**

Montrose is a 'super second'; one of the great wines of the St Estephe appellation. Here they are built for the long haul with plenty of fruit intensity and a muscular structure which can take a few years to come round. This has had 15 in bottle and is starting to drink particularly well.

**Chateau Clinet, Bordeaux, 1988** **£230.00**

Rather unusually for a Pomerol, this wine has 15% Cabernet Sauvignon in it and it shows; the structure being sturdier than with many. Towards the end of the 80's, the style became more international but this vintage is still classic and drinking very well now.

**Chateau L'Evangile, Pomerol, 1983**

**£250.00**

One of the oldest Chateau in the area, L'Evangile is now owned by Domaines Barons de Rothschild of Chateau Lafite, among others. The style is generally chunky, opulent and well structured and the '83 is drinking very well now.

**Château Lynch Bages 5ème Cru Classé, Pauillac, 1990**

**£360.00**

A fifth growth that consistently delivers more than many much higher up the scale, Lynch Bages has been owned by the Caze family since 1934 and is currently run by the charismatic Jean-Michel. A blend of 75% Cabernet, 15% Merlot and 10% Cabernet Franc, this has rich, smoky cassis fruit and a black coffee, restrained spice edge.

**Château Latour, 1er Cru Classé, Pauillac, 1990**

**£1,200.00**

Latour is often seen as quintessential Pauillac – it is a wine of immense muscle and vigour, always retaining finesse. Only grapes from older vines go into the first wine, a mixture of 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, for extra complexity. This vintage took a while to come round but is ranking beautifully now.

**Château Margaux 1er Cru Classé, Margaux, 1961**

**£1,300.00**

The wines of Margaux are incredibly elegant, with perfumed cedarwood aromas overlying rich, dense fruit. This is obviously at a very advanced age now but will still show the pedigree of this estate.

**Magnum**

**Chateau La Gaffelière Grand Cru St Emilion, 1999**

**£350.00**



The Malet-Rouquefort family have owned this property since the 16th century and of late, the wines have been consistently improving. The house style is classic – elegant and subtle instead of full blown and showy – and the '99 is drinking well now.

**Chateau Petrus, Pomerol, 1980**

**£1,100.00**

The 1980 is currently drinking beautifully particularly from Magnum. This is showing great development with flashes of still youthful fruit, a real treat!

## Red Wines from Burgundy and Beaujolais

While we are very pleased with our Burgundy selection here, don't overlook the Beaujolais. This region is tainted with the curse of the bubblegum, 'nouveau' styles but our selection represents growers who are devoted to getting the best out of Gamay for drinkers of aromatic, soft and velvety reds.

### **Château Pierreux Brouilly, Beaujolais, 2008**

**£40.00**

Not for Château Pierreux the modern, opulent and oaked style of Brouilly, this is good, old fashioned wine. It has fabulously fresh, crisp red fruit but most importantly, good mineral grip and a flinty, smoky finish which the best wines from here should have. Light but not insubstantial.

### **Domaine Jean Foillard Morgon Classique, Beaujolais, 2008**

**£46.00**

Jean Foillard is a devotee of the natural wine movement which means that not only does he grow his grapes organically, but in the winery he is strictly non-interventionist. This means no fining, no filtration and even, no added sulphur dioxide! This is a delicious cherry scented, velvet textured wine, bursting with complexity.

### **Raymond Bouland Morgon 'Vielles Vignes', Beaujolais, 2005**

**£47.00**

The Bouland family farm a mere 8 hectares and do absolutely everything by hand. The result is a wine with much greater intensity and complexity than is often seen from this region with lovely red and black cherry fruit and a smoky, earthy edge.

### **Domaine Parize Père et Fils Givry Rouge 'Champ Nalot', 2008**

**£50.00**

Gérard and Laurent Parize are fanatical about how they treat their vines and farm with minimal chemical intervention and only when strictly necessary. Their red wines are beautifully delicate and aromatic with raspberry, bilberry and strawberry flavours with a hint of lavender and a seductive, silky texture. Lovely served very slightly chilled what ever the weather.

### **Domaine Pierre Overnoy Arbois Rouge, Jura, 2008**

**£65.00**

This wine, from a tiny and very obscure region in North East France, comes from grapes made in a vineyard which has never seen artificial chemicals. Things are similarly natural in the winery with no fining, filtration or added sulphur dioxide. The Plousard variety is rare but delicious, we think – scented red fruit and mineral flavours.

### **Domaine Lorenzon Mercurey 'Cuvée Carline', 2004**

**£80.00**

Bruno Lorenzon has transformed things at this Domaine since taking over from his father. All grape growing is now done organically and he manages to get a wonderful sheen on the aromatic fruit which is typical of this appellation. This cuvée is from his very best grapes from the premier cru Champs-Martin vineyard.

### **Domaine Henri Gouges Nuit St Georges 'Les Pruliers', 2003**

**£85.00**

Pierre and Christian, the grandsons of Henri are in charge at this family domaine now, where all their vineyard holdings are within the Nuit-St-George commune. Wine making is along more traditional lines, with only 20% new oak meaning that the sinew and structure this commune is famous for shows through.

### **Dujac Fils et Père Chambolle-Musigny, 2006**

**£90.00**

Jacques and Jeremy Seysses are hugely respected Burgundian pioneers and consistently make beautiful, perfumed, silky and elegant wines - not for fans of the chunky, four-square varieties!

<b>Jean-Marc Boillot Pommard 1er Cru 'Jarollieres', 2000</b>	<b>£95.00</b>
A really lovely mix of ripe red and black fruit aromas nuanced with hints of violets and earth complement the rich, full and generous medium full flavors that are supple yet offer good concentration and a real sense of volume in the mouth. The finish is complex, punch and mouth coating and there is more evident ripeness to the underlying structure.	
<b>Hubert de Montille Volnay 'Les Mitans', 2000</b>	<b>£110.00</b>
Hubert's son Etienne took over in 1998 and has begun to make a style which is slightly less structured and extracted. All of their fruit is now biodynamically grown as well. These are wines for the long haul and often don't really come into their own until around 10 years old, so this is drinking beautifully now.	
<b>Patrice Rion Chambolle-Musigny, 2005</b>	<b>£120.00</b>
At the time of this successful vintage, Patrice was not only running the family firm, but also making wines under this, his own label. His insistence on only the best fruit means very high quality wine showing classic Chambolle silky elegance.	
<b>Domaine René Engel Clos Vougeot Grand Cru, 2004</b>	<b>£154.00</b>
Philippe is the grandson of founder René and is consistently producing wines of great richness and elegance. The vines from their holding here are at least 55 years old.	
<b>Mugneret Echezeaux Grand Cru, 1995</b>	<b>£250.00</b>
Respectful of the tradition, Vincent Mongeard practices the vinification at the Domaine with the greatest care. The great complexity of the bouquet makes this a wine which is both rich and feminine; it is silky, fat and mellow, with fine, delicate and fairly supple tannins. In the mouth the attack is spirited, the balance pleasant and there is a succulent fullness with aromas of red fruits.	
<b>Domaine Comte Georges de Vogüe Musigny 'Vieilles Vignes', 2000</b>	<b>£308.00</b>
This particular wine from this domaine is generally accepted to be one of the finest examples of Musigny available. The daughter of the Comte has run things since her father died in 1986, ably assisted by wine-maker Francois Millet. Powerful but silky with fabulous aromatics and opulent fruit.	
<b>Domaine de la Romanée-Conti Richebourg Grand Cru, 1991</b>	<b>£1,538.00</b>
A wine which needs no introduction - richly complex and long lasting.	

## Red Wines from the Rhone Valley and Southern France

As with the whites, these wines are made with very minimal chemical intervention and as far as character goes, this is the spice route. Wonderfully peppery, warming spicy reds which come in all shapes and sizes, from the medium bodied to the full, weighty versions. With all of them though, you really can taste the Southern sunshine and garrigue.

### **Domaine Armand, Cairanne, Rhone, 2008**

**£35.00**

A blend of mainly Grenache with some Syrah and Mourvedre, this deliciously spiced, intensely fruity wine comes from a small domaine where yields are low and everything in the vineyard is done by hand. A really good example of old fashioned viticulture teamed with modern wine making – sensational.

### **Roc des Anges 'Segna de Cor', Côtes du Roussillon Villages, 2008**

**£40.00**

Majorie Gallet is one of the most talented wine makers in Roussillon today, working her 22 hectares of vines alongside her husband and producing delicious wines like this rustic and intense but not without great elegance at the same time.

### **Domaine Albert Belle 'Les Pierrelles', Crozes-Hermitage, 2007**

**£45.00**

Albert Belle makes Crozes which belies its origins. Much more like a Hermitage, this has incredibly attractive rich, round fruit with the characteristic black pepper edge and not a hint of the Ribena fruit which is the hallmark of much from Crozes.

### **Oliver Pithon 'Cuvée Lais', Côtes du Roussillon, 2008**

**£50.00**

Oliver Pithon looks like Che Guevara and grows all his grapes organically. This is a blend of Carignan and Grenache and is beautifully ripe with notes of clove and juniper as well as red and black berry fruit.

### **Domaine du Grapillon d'or, Gigondas, Rhone, 2006**

**£55.00**

The Chauvet family have farmed this land since 1860, with Bernard having been in charge for the last 30 years. He now works with daughter Celine, making meaty, intense, traditional Southern Rhone wines – better than much Chateauneuf-du-Pape at twice the price!

### **Domaine La Terrasse d'Elise 'Le Pradel', Languedoc, 2004**

**£55.00**

This tiny, very new domaine has been in existence since 1998. Xavier Braujou is another young and very talented wine maker who did an apprenticeship at Mas de Daumas Gassac and who is now also firmly committed to organic viticulture as well as minimal intervention in the winery. This unusual and delicious wine is 100% Cinsault and is full of peppery, perfumed red fruit, prune and fig flavours.

### **Domaine Bernard Grippa St Joseph, Northern Rhône, 2006**

**£75.00**

Father Bernard and son Fabrice are making some of the most accomplished and delicious wines in St Joseph at the moment. Fabrice, who made wine in Australia and the Languedoc before working with his father, has introduced many modern methods, without losing the essence of the wines.

### **Mas de Daumas Gassac Vin de Pays de L'Hérault, Languedoc, 2006**

**£75.00**

The Guibert family are now legendary as much for their fanatical devotion to organic principles and respect for their environment as for their wonderful wines. This is often called the 'Latour of the South' and is 80% Cabernet Sauvignon with a host of others, including Malbec, Nebbiolo, Tempranillo and Kontorni. Powerful and complex.

<b>Château de Pibarnon Bandol, Provence, 2003</b>	<b>£77.00</b>
When Count Henri de Saint Victor tasted this wine in a restaurant in the late 1970's, he decided that he simply had to have it and promptly bought the vineyards. Now even better this is predominantly Mouvedre from very old vines grown on very poor soils, resulting in a wine of exceptionally dense concentration.	
<b>Clos Saint Michel Châteauneuf-du-Pape Cuvée Réserve, Rhône, 2000</b>	<b>£95.00</b>
Brothers Guy and Franck Mousset make this dense, chewy Châteauneuf, packed full of flavours of roast meats, black cherry, pepper and herbs. Their style is fairly modern – the fruit is obvious and there is noticeable buttery oak – but is still perfectly balanced.	
<b>Robert Michel Cornas La Geynale, Rhone, 2004</b>	<b>£105.00</b>
Robert is the fourth generation of his family to make wine in Cornas, having taken over in 1975. He has extended the vineyard holdings somewhat since then and now works a whole 7 hectares of vines! This wine comes from vines planted in 1910 and is broodingly intense- just as Cornas should be.	
<b>Domaine Rostaing Cote-Rotie,Rhone, 2001</b>	<b>£120.00</b>
Rene Rostaing is now wide widely acknowledged to be one of the foremost producers of Cote-Rotie, making wines of great complexity and power. This is due both to his skill as a wine maker and to the fact that he owns some of the finest vineyards of the appellation. 2001 was a very good vintage that is starting to show very well now.	
<b>Chave Hermitage, Rhône, 1989</b>	<b>£475.00</b>
The Chave family own plots of land all over the hill of Hermitage, which means layers of complexity in their wines which many don't achieve. These, like most from here, are built to age, particularly in an excellent year like 1989 – complex and rich.	

## Reds Wines from the Loire Valley

Much more renowned for its whites, the red wines from the Loire valley should not be overlooked. When one is in the mood for something slightly lighter, silkier and crammed with cranberry and black pepper flavours, one of the following will not disappoint.

### **Domaine Le Petit Saint-Vincent Saumur-Champigny, 2006**

**£40.00**

Dominique Thomas is considered one of the star wine makers of this region and he makes wines which have classic light body as well as lots of powerful black pepper spice, giving an edge to the blackcurrant fruit.

### **Henri Marionnet Gamay “Vinifera”, Touraine, 2008**

**£43.00**

Henri Marrionet has long been a cult figure thanks mainly to his crunchy, fresh Sauvignon Blancs from this region. This wine however, has added to the myth and is something of a holy grail for Gamay devotees. This variety is of course far better known in the wines from Beaujolais and it is difficult to believe that they are one and the same on tasting this. Dense, velvety strawberry and cherries here with decent spicy grip - abandon all thoughts of Fleurie and thoroughly enjoy.

### **Domaine Ogereau Anjou-villages ‘Côtes de la Houssaye’, 2000**

**£44.00**

Hugely extracted wine which is neither fined nor filtered from the cellar of Vincent Ogereau. Flavours of gungy damson fruit and cool, earthy spice; this is a million miles away from the weak, weedy Cabernet Franc which sometimes comes from here. Not surprisingly really, as this is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon.

## Red Wines from Austria

Austria has no such delicacy in its reds; these are spicy, rustic and delicious - made for a meal of meat and dumplings.

### **Prieler Reid Goldberg Blaufrankisch, Burgenland, 2003**

**£100.00**

Another example from the Prieler family, this is an absolute must for fans of chunky, velvet textured plum, black cherry, black pepper and liquorice flavoured red wine. Perfect for colder weather and heavier dishes.

## Red Wines from Italy

Truly aristocratic wines, these Northern Italian reds have structure, breeding and refined, polished fruit. Not for those who like their reds very soft and plump, perfect for fans of handsome muscular structure and graceful, polished fruit. Those from the South have instead a thrillingly rustic, spicy edge and are warm and generous, without the heaviness which is often associated with those attributes in the new world. They are full of relatively unknown red grape varieties which deserve much more exposure and, even better, thanks to their relative obscurity, they are still incredibly good value for money.

### **Poggio Argentiera Morellino di Scansano, Tuscany, 2008** **£32.00**

Scansano tends to produce a slightly softer, fruitier – although still deliciously rustic – version of Sangiovese than elsewhere in Tuscany. This is a particularly good version, full of complexity and concentration with a fantastically zesty freshness, made from organically grown grapes.

### **Monte del Fra Valpolicella, Veneto, 2009** **£35.00**

Brothers Eligio and Claudio Bonomo run this estate, making very clean, very modern versions of regional classics. This is a fantastic Valpolicella - bright, clean bitter cherry flavours with a slightly spicy edge.

### **Cos 'Cerasuolo di Vittoria', Sicily, 2008** **£48.00**

This now very prestigious winery was started by 3 school friends in 1979. Arguably the first to establish a reputation for 'new Sicily' they are making, in our opinion, the best reds on the island. This is based on very traditional varieties and is full of delicious red and black berry flavours with tobacco, vanilla and violets. From organically grown grapes.

### **Foradori Teroldego Rotaliano, Trentino, 2007** **£50.00**

Elisabetta Foradori is generally considered to be the leading producer of Teroldego – a very obscure (but wonderful) northern Italian variety, growing in popularity thanks to her efforts. It is all she makes on the family estate and she is quite an expert. She believes passionately in growing organically and the results are fabulous - elegant but not insubstantial with red fruit and subtle spice.

### **Fontodi Chianti Classico, Tuscany, 2007** **£50.00**

The Manetti family and their winemaker Franco Bernabei have the good fortune to work exclusively with fruit from the 'conca d'oro' (golden shell) area of Panzano. The fruit from here is said to give incredibly silky evidence and great longevity.

### **Li Veli Pezzo Morgana Salice Salentino, Puglia, 2007** **£50.00**

One of the new stars of the Italian wine scene, this has only been owned by the current proprietors since 1999, although some of the Negroamaro vines date back to 1918. While expensive for a Negroamaro, the incredible intensity and beautiful ripe, smoky, plum flavours are worth every penny.

### **Enzo Lonardo Contrade di Taurasi, Avellino, Campania, 2001** **£75.00**

This is a very small estate which has been in Lonardo family for generations but it was Alessandro who really started the quality revolution. His daughter Enzo is now in charge and makes a traditional style packed with spicy black fruit, coffee, vanilla, leather, tobacco and game flavours.



<p><b>Santadi Terre Brune Carignano del Sulcis, Sardinia, 2004</b></p> <p>Another wine from this highly impressive co-op, this is a blend of Carignano and a very obscure variety called Bovaleddu. Completely unfiltered, this is opulent, spicy and full of sweet black berry fruit.</p>	<b>£77.00</b>
<p><b>Isole e Olena Cepparello, Tuscany, 2005</b></p> <p>Paolo de Marche is one of Italy's greatest wine makers and this is arguably his greatest wine. Made from 100% Sangiovese, which he is a world authority on, this has power and elegance in equal measure.</p>	<b>£100.00</b>
<p><b>Cigliuti Barbaresco Serraboella, Piedmont, 2003</b></p> <p>The Cigliuti family have made wine for 4 generations but it was not until Renato (now ably assisted by daughters Claudia and Silvia) took over that their reputation for incredible quality was established. From organically grown fruit, this is as fine, elegant, silky and complex as wine ever gets.</p>	<b>£103.00</b>
<p><b>Il Paradiso di Manfredi Brunello di Montalcino, 2000</b></p> <p>From a tiny estate of only 2.5 hectares in the heart of this region, Florio (Manfredi's son in law) makes one of our favourite wines in the world. All the fruit is farmed bio dynamically and the resulting wines are the epitome of fresh, lively elegance with great underlying power.</p>	<b>£130.00</b>
<p><b>Corte Sant'Alda Amarone della Valpolicella, Veneto, 2006</b></p> <p>Marinella Camerani and her daughters are completely committed to making authentic wines in the traditional style. Manipulation and intervention are reduced to a minimum and they are constantly researching abandoned practises in order to improve the wines. And it shows - velvet dark cherry and bitter chocolate flavours with delicious complexity.</p>	<b>£150.00</b>

## Red Wines from Spain

Wine making has come on leaps and bounds in the past decade and if you know where to look, there are superb examples emerging from lesser known regions. We have tried to get a good balance between the best of the traditional and the more opulent glossier modern styles and if you are a lover of powerful reds with a touch of charming rusticity, this page is for you.

### **Palacios Remondo Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2007**

**£48.00**

Another fine offering from the Palacios family. Their son spent time making wine in Bordeaux and while this is in some ways quite a traditional Rioja, it spends time in French (instead of the more usual American) oak, giving it more of liquorice than coconut and vanilla edge.

### **Bodega Mustiguillo Finca Terrerazo, Utiel Requena, Spain, 2006**

**£62.00**

The goal of Antonio Sarrion has been to make his wines among the top in Spain. This is only his second vintage, but he is already well on his way. He is a champion of the local grape variety Bobal, which he grows on very labour intensive bush vines and blends with Cabernet Sauvignon and Tempranillo. Dense, spicy and delicious.

### **Mas la Mola, Priorat, Spain, 2006**

**£75.00**

Wines from Priorat are famously dense and concentrated and this example, a blend of Garnacha and Carignena with a small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot is no exception.

### **Bodegas Pitticum 'Aurea', Bierzo, Spain, 2006**

**£77.00**

Bierzo is a small and still relatively unknown red region in Spain's north-west. The local grape is called Mencia and many believe it has great potential. From old vines and organically grown grapes, this has vibrant red cherry and raspberry flavours with liquorice, mineral and spicy notes as well as a hint of chocolate.

### **Finca Allende Calvario, Rioja, Spain, 2004**

**£140.00**

Finca Allende make wines which are a very different expression of Rioja. Based in the Rioja Alta, the temperatures are extreme and contribute to the intensity of the fruit which attracted huge attention from the very first release 10 years ago. The Calvario is from a single site and is 90% Tempranillo with only tiny amounts of Garnacha and Graciano. This is very dense wine with great dollops of fruit, spice and French oak.

### **Vega Sicilia Valbuena, Ribera del Duero, Spain, 2002**

**£200.00**

This, the second wine of the world famous Vega Sicilia estate, has a softer, more obviously fruity character than that of its big brother Unico, thanks partly to the inclusion of Merlot in the blend with Tinto Fino. This is glorious wine -rich red fruit with spice and a fantastic earthy character

### **Vega Sicilia "Unico", Ribera Del Duero, Spain, 1989**

**£308.00**

Fantastic wine Aged for 10 years before being released. Deep, high acidity and long aftertaste. Superb

### **Vega Sicilia "Unico", Ribera Del Duero, Spain, 1991**

**£308.00**

There is much less Cabernet in the 1991 vintage, giving the wine even more silky elegance than usual.

## Red Wines from the Americas

As far as the reds from this part of the world go, there are very distinct and different styles emerging - all delectable in their own ways. There are no entry level North American reds here but in their defence, the production values in California and beyond are amazingly high, and that does not come cheap.

### **Lyeth Sonoma County Merlot, Sonoma, California, 2007**

**£38.00**

Lyeth is now owned by the Boisset Family, famous for the delicious range of wines the produce in Burgundy, France and increasingly in California too. This is classic and delicious, full of rich, ripe plum and chocolate flavours with an earthy edge.

### **Sokol Blosser Meditrina, Oregon, NV**

**£40.00**

Bill and Susan Sokol Blosser first planted vines in 1971 in the Dundee Hills – now an epicentre for the thriving wine industry in Oregon. They make a renowned Pinot Noir but this is their more frivolous blend of Pinot, Zinfandel and Syrah. From organically grown grapes, this is full of ripe, soft red and black berries and sweet spice.

### **Au Bon Climat Pinot Noir 'La Bauge Au-dessus', Santa Maria, 2007**

**£78.00**

We have to confess to not being a huge fan of much Pinot from California but Jim Clendenen's wines are always an exception. He is a great Burgundophile, and spends as much time as possible in the region, something which shows in the cool, silky, aromatic fruit he achieves in his Pinot.

### **Bonny Doon 'Le Cigare Volant', Santa Cruz, California, 2004**

**£80.00**

Randal Grahm was one of the original 'Rhône Rangers', a select group of Californian winemakers who sensibly deduced that as their climate was so much closer to that of the Rhône than Bordeaux, perhaps they should be cultivating these varieties. This fantastic wine is his tribute to Châteauneuf-du-Pape.

### **Seghesio Old Vine Zinfandel, Sonoma, California, 2007**

**£95.00**

The Seghesio winery is very much a family run operation with second and third generation descendants of Eduardo, who emigrated from Piedmont, making some of the best Zinfandel from California. This wine comes from vines which are at least 60 years old and is remarkably balanced and fine, despite having ripe bramble berry and earthy spice flavours.

### **Pahlmeyer Merlot, Napa Valley, California, 2000**

**£134.00**

Erin Green is now the wine maker at Jayson Pahlmeyer's property where a host of premium wines are produced. His merlot comes from 3 cooler climate vineyards – so important for this variety in the new world – giving wines which have lots of glossy ripe fruit with a fresh edge.

### **Araujo Altagracia, Napa Valley, California, 1999**

**£200.00**

This wine is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Petit Verdot and Merlot. Bart Araujo has owned the land since 1990 and has spared no expense in his quest to make rich, round, concentrated wines, including farming organically.

**Ridge 'Monte Bello', Vineyard Santa Cruz Mountains, 1999**

**£300.00**

A classic blend of 72% Cabernet Sauvignon; 25% Merlot; 2% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot, a Californian cult wine which trounced a line up of 1st growth Claret in a tasting last year. Medium-full in body and well balanced, with rich and enticing aromas of currant and black cherries and complex notes of sweet spice and toast.

**Harlan Estate, Napa Valley, California, 1993**

**£500.00**

Bill Harlan's intention has always been to produce a luxury, world class Cabernet and to this end he has employed the services of famous Bordeaux oenologist and Napa winemaker Bob Levy, as well as keeping his yields exceptionally low. His efforts have more than paid off.

## Red Wines from Australia and New Zealand

New Zealand is rapidly establishing its dominance in the New World Pinot Noir arena and is making superlative wines in a range of styles - from delicate and aromatic to chunky and velvety. Australia's reds continue to be just the ticket for fans of rich, sweet fruit although we do tend to favour producers who retain elegance despite the opulence.

### **Rocky Gully Shiraz/Viognier, Frankland River Region, Western Australia, 2007** £40.00

Barrie Smith and Judy Cullum have been making wines since the early 1990's, from organically grown, un-irrigated fruit – which means extra complexity and intensity. This is an especially good example of a very fashionable blend at the moment, slightly perfumed, spiced berry flavours which are rich but not overwhelming.

### **Frankland Estate Olmo's Reward, Western Australia, 2004** £55.00

Western Australia is now famous for red Bordeaux blends (mostly Merlot and Cabernet Franc in this case but we think that this particular example has a complexity and minerality which is exceptional. The Smith family were the original pioneers of the Frankland district (although others have since followed) and the slightly cooler microclimate is evident in the incredible elegance.

### **Cullen Mangan, Margaret River, Western Australia, 2007** £58.00

Di Cullen, who sadly died recently, was one of the original pioneers in the Margaret River region and was instrumental in establishing its reputation for incredibly good Bordeaux look-a-like wines. Her daughter Vanya now runs things and wines like this - an intriguing blend of Merlot, Malbec and Petit Verdot, is as irresistible as it ever was.

### **Balnaves Cabernet Sauvignon, Coonawarra, South Australia, 2005** £60.00

The Balnaves family have been growing grapes in Coonawarra since 1970 and have been bottling their own wine since 1990. They have kept their operation small, all the better to control the impressive quality they produce year after year.

### **Plantagenet Mount Barker Shiraz, Western Australia, 2007** £62.00

Like most of the illustrious gathering on this page, wine maker Gavin Berry regularly garners accolades for his efforts. His Shiraz is regularly rated as one of the best in Australia by those who prefer elegant spice over blockbusting power.

### **Nine Popes, Barossa Valley, Australia, 2007** £76.00

Charles Melton is a legendary Australian winemaker ever since his Shiraz beat Grange and Hill of Grace to win a Wine Magazine tasting in 2001. This wine is his fabled Rhone blend and is carefully and skilfully crafted to show the brilliant, complex fruit.

### **Ata Rangi Pinot Noir, Martinborough, New Zealand, 2008** £85.00

Very much a family affair, Ata Rangi is run by Clive and Phyl Paton, with Clive's sister Alison and her husband Oliver Masters who is the winemaker. All four are united in their passion for Pinot and this is consistently one of the best from New Zealand with wonderfully pure fruit and the silky, seductive quality this variety is so famous for.

## Red Wines from South Africa

Much red wine from South Africa used to often be associated with green, quite hard, faintly unripe flavours, which was odd, given the climate. Thanks to huge leaps forward in vineyard technology, the problems of the past have been overcome and finally, the immense potential which this country is capable of is becoming clear. Many of the wine makers are very young, passionate men and women and the great hope and potential for the future is now showing in these wines.

**Meerlust Red, Stellenbosch, 2007**

**£32.00**

A more everyday, junior wine from the Myburgh family at Meerlust estate – one of South Africa's most historic and iconic. This has perfectly ripe red and black fruit flavours with a pleasantly rustic edge.

**Meerlust Estate Pinot Noir Reserve, Stellenbosch, 2008**

**£47.00**

The Myburgh family have made wine at Meerlust since 1756 and this is one of the last vintages from internationally renowned wine maker Giorgio dalla Cia, who was with them for decades before his assistant took over in 2004. This has delicious animal/vegetal flavours alongside ripe red fruit.

**Nabygelegen Seventeen Twelve, Wellington, 2004**

**£47.00**

From a tiny cellar in the shadow of the Limietberg, this is made by a South African doctor who, after working for years in London decided to go home and make wine. This is undoubtedly one of the most impressive debuts we have ever tasted with amazing sophistication balancing a delicious earthy quality.

<b>Clos Lapeyre 'La Magendia de Lapeyre', Jurançon, France, 2006 (375ml)</b>	<b>£9.00</b>	<b>£29.00</b>
From super-sweet grapes harvested as late as December this is perfectly balanced and is a classic match with Foie Gras as well as desserts.		
<b>Helmut Lang Samling BA, Burgenland, Austria, 2004 (375ml)</b>	<b>£10.50</b>	<b>£33.00</b>
Helmut Lang (not the same person as the fashion designer!) is known for his meticulous attention to detail. He favours the Samling grape variety for its richly fruit notes, perfectly balanced by grapefruit acidity so while this is incredibly unctuous, it is not at all cloying.		
<b>Marco de Bartoli Moscato, Pantelleria, Sicily, Italy, 2007 (500ml)</b>		<b>£35.00</b>
Marco de Bartoli is a legendary wine maker in Sicily, credited with reviving the very traditional Marsala-style wines of the region. This is from the tiny volcanic island of Pantelleria and is delicious – orange and lemon blossom with honey and toasted nuts.		
<b>Domaine Rotier Gaillac Doux 'Renaissance', Gaillac, France, 2007 (500ml)</b>	<b>£10.50</b>	<b>£46.00</b>
Probably the best known wine from this small, family owned estate, this is made from the ancient grape variety, Len de L'el and is packed with mango, orange peel and candied pineapple flavours with a fresh grapefruit edge.		
<b>Domaine Poudoux Maury, Roussillon, France, 2007 (750ml)</b>	<b>£11.00</b>	<b>£47.00</b>
Catherine and Robert Poudoux own a vineyard split between Maury and Latour-de-France, where most of the vines has been planted in 1901. this dark red sweet starts with red berries aromas to finish with a delicate touch of chocolate.		
<b>Capezzano Vin Santo Riserva, Tuscany, Italy, 2003 (375ml)</b>		<b>£60.00</b>
A deliciously traditional Vin Santo that is sweet, but not overbearingly so, with characteristic roasted nut and dried fruit aromas.		
<b>Oremus Tokaji Aszu 5 Puttonyos, Tokaj, Hungary, 2000 (500ml)</b>		<b>£75.00</b>
Classically opulent, hugely sweet and complex Tokaji, which has mellowed beautifully with age and is now smooth as satin.		
<b>Château Rieussac Sauternes, Bordeaux, France, 1988 (750ml)</b>		<b>£134.00</b>
This was a truly splendid vintage for Bordeaux sweet wine and this Château is often considered to be second only to Yquem in power and longevity. A lot of new oak is used, giving great, rich, weight and structure balanced by lush, opulent fruit.		
<b>Château D'Yquem, 1st growth Sauternes, Bordeaux, France, 1983 (750ml)</b>		<b>£667.00</b>
The most renowned sweet wine in the world, from an outstanding vintage.		

## Little and Large

### White Half Bottles

Domaine du Verger Muscadet Sèvre et Maine sur lie, Loire, France, 2009	£15.00
Bodegas Terras Gauda Albarino, Rias Biexas, Spain, 2009	£20.00
Denis Race Chablis 'Montmains' 1er Cru, Burgundy, France, 2008	£26.00
Mas de Daumas Gassac Blanc, Languedoc, France, 2009	£33.00
Patrick Javillier Meursault 'Les Tillets', Burgundy, France, 2007	£50.00
Bassermann-Jordan Riesling Auslese, Pfalz, Germany, 2002	£47.00

### Red Half Bottles

Chateau du Cedre "Le Prestige", Cahors, France, 2006	£21.00
Isole e Olena Chianti Classico, Tuscany, Italy, 2006	£25.00
Bonny Doon "Le Cigare Volant", Santa Cruz, California, USA, 2004	£40.00
Mas de Daumas Gassac Vin de Pays de L'Herault, Languedoc, France, 2007	£36.00

### Champagne Half Bottle

Louis Roederer Brut Premier, France NV	£29.00
Taittinger Brut Réserve, France NV	£32.00

### Magnums and Beyond

<b>Chateau La Gaffeliere Grand Cru St Emilion, 1999</b>	<b>£350.00</b>
The Malet-Rouquefort family have owned this property since the 16th century and of late, the wines have been consistently improving. The house style is classic – elegant and subtle instead of full blown and showy – and the '99 is drinking well now.	
<b>Chateau Petrus, Pomerol, 1980</b>	<b>£1,100.00</b>
The 1980 is currently drinking beautifully particularly from Magnum. This is showing great development with flashes of still youthful fruit, a real treat!	





## Port & Sherry

While the merits of our Port selection are - hopefully - obvious, we would be delighted if you had a good look at our Sherries as well. Much misunderstood, these are incredibly sophisticated, intensely complex wines which are incredibly versatile - they work beautifully as classy aperitifs, as a foil to some desserts for those who don't like sweet wines (the darker styles) or as a fabulous and different accompaniment to hard cheese (again, the darker styles). We are very pleased with our house Ports which come, naturally, from small, family run Quinta's. We hope you agree that these offer superb quality at incredibly reasonable prices.

### Sherry

	100ml	Bottle
Lustau Almacenista Manzanilla Pasada, Jerez, Spain, NV (375 ml)	£8.00	£26.00
Florida Amontillado de Jerez Spain, NV (375ml)	£7.50	£26.00
Lustau Moscatel, Jerez, Spain, NV (375ml)	£8.00	£26.00
La Sacristia de Romate Oloroso Viejisimo, NV (500ml)	£10.00	£47.00

### Port and Madeira

	100ml	Bottle
Ramos Pinto 10 year old Tawny NV	£9.50	£36.00
Quinta do Infantado Vintage Port 1997	£11.00	£70.00
Ramos Pinto Vintage Port 1985	£17.50	£123.00
Taylor's Vintage 1977		£164.00
Ferreira Vintage 1945		£308.00
Croft Vintage Port 1945		£615.00
Blandys Bual Madeira 1911		£293.00