

WINE LIST 2024

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| SYMBOLS | | |
| NEW New | Drink now | White wine |
| V g Vegan | ✓ Drink or ke | ep Rosé wine |
| Vegetarian | → Keep | Red wine |
| Ø Organic | † Half bottles | available Sweet wine |

Magnums available

Port



Dear Customer

I regularly get asked "what's your favourite wine?", which is a difficult question for someone who loves all sorts of wine. I usually answer that it depends on the time of the year, the time of day, what we're eating and what kind of mood I am in.

This might seem unhelpfully evasive to someone expecting a certain grape variety from a particular region but there it is! So, in these pages you will find wines from a cornucopia of regions and grape varieties. We are not aiming to have an encyclopaedic coverage of every region in the world, just very good drinking wines which we would be proud to serve ourselves, and if that takes us on an enjoyable vinous journey – either mentally or physically – all the better.

Price is always in our minds too. For a very long time we have been ensconced in the Welsh Marches where value for money is important, so we try to ensure that for every extra pound you spend, you get a commensurately better wine.

I hope you enjoy our wines over the coming year.



PRODUCTION

The photos in this wine list were principally taken by James Tanner, Robert Boutflower, Stephen Crosland, Graham Mason and Simon Jones who always travel with notebook and camera in hand. Other photos are courtesy of Uta Heath and our producers. Cover design by Natasha Ward.

Ordering from Tanners

Q 01743 234455

Ordering from Tanners

- www.tanners-wines.co.uk
- Tanners Wines Ltd, FREEPOST, 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1XD
- @ sales@tanners-wines.co.uk
- We accept Visa, Maestro & Mastercard credit & debit cards.
- FREE express delivery on orders of £150 or more to a single address in Mainland UK (£9.95 delivery on orders under £150). In addition you are welcome to collect from any branch of Tanners.

TASTING NOTES

Full tasting notes are available on our website, www.tanners-wines.co.uk

PRICING

AOC

All prices are inclusive of VAT. All wines are 75cl bottle size and spirits are 70cl unless otherwise indicated. Prices may be subject to alteration to reflect changes to exchange rates, customs or excise duty, tariffs, VAT or other fiscal changes outside the Company's control.

ABBREVIATIONS

| | Tippemation a office controller |
|------|--|
| AOP | Appellation d'Origine Protégée |
| DOC | Denominazione di Origine Controllata |
| DOCG | Denominazione di Origine Controllata e Garantita |
| IGP | Indication Géographique Protégée or Indicazione Geografica Protetta |
| IGT | Indicazione Geografica Tipica |
| VdT | Vino da Tavola or Vino de la Tierra |
| DO | Denominación de Origen |

Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée



Tanners Labels

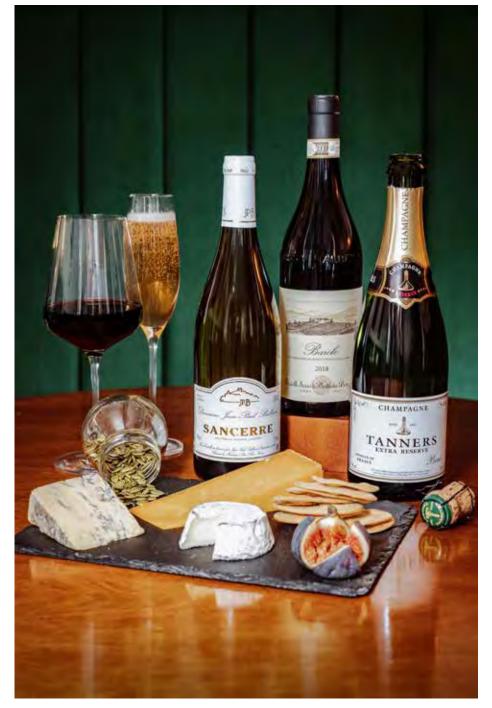
There's nothing like having your name above the shop and on a bottle to focus the mind. Enormous effort goes into the quality of these wines, after all, they should each be an exemplar of their particular grape or region. It is therefore very pleasing that Tanners ownlabels are always among the company's best sellers. Tanners doesn't own any vineyards, instead we go to producers who are at the top of their game in their given region, and then blend a wine in partnership with them to a style that we believe our customers will like. Often this will be with long-term, trusted suppliers, for example Maison Sichel, from whom we have bought Bordeaux wines since the 1890s. None is selected on price alone, each must bring the identity of the region to your table and be a wine you can rely on – after all, they are made by some of the best winemakers in the world!

France still dominates the range, but we are expanding our New World own labels, most recently with the arrival of Tanners New Zealand Pinot Noir. Consistency between vintages is key, however where the character of the vintage is more dominant, we have taken to spot-buying very special parcels to go under the 'Super' label, namely Super Claret, but when they run out, they run out! These, and the Tanners labels in general, tend to get some great reviews from the national press.

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING

| CHARACTE & CHARACTER C | | |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Tanners Cava Brut, Traditional Method, 12% Vg | FI0001B | 11.60 |
| Tanners Prosecco Brut, Treviso, 11% | FI0048B | 12.30 |
| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne, 12.5% Vg | FC0001B | 28.50 |
| Tanners Extra Réserve Spécial, Brut Champagne, 12.5% Vg | FC0002B | 32.50 |
| Tanners Extra Réserve Rosé, Brut Champagne, 12% Vg | FC0035B | 36.00 |
| WHITE | | |
| Tanners Chardonnay, Pays d'Oc 2023, 13% Vg | MW0024B23 | 9.95 |
| Tanners Gascony Dry White, Côtes de Gascogne 2023, 10.5% Vg | MW0029B23 | 9.95 |
| Tanners Chilean Chardonnay, Colchagua Valley 2023, 14% Vg | QW0098B23 | 10.50 |
| Tanners Sauvignon, Pays d'Oc 2022, 12% Vg | MW0019B22 | 11.50 |
| Tanners New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, 12.5% | NW0051B22 | 13.50 |
| Tanners White Burgundy, Bourgogne Chardonnay 2022, I 2.5% Vg | BW0001B22 | 14.90 |
| ROSÉ | | |
| Tanners French Rosé, Côtes de Gascogne 2023, 10.5% Vg | MP0001B23 | 10.50 |
| RED | | |
| Tanners Merlot, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13.5% | MR0008B22 | 9.95 |
| Tanners Chilean Cabernet Sauvignon, Colchagua Valley 2022, I 3.5% Vg | QR0088B22 | 10.50 |
| Tanners Argentinian Malbec, Mendoza 2023, 14% Vg | TR0052B23 | 10.50 |
| | | |

| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux, 13% Vg Tanners Spanish Reserva, La Mancha 2018, 13.5% Vg Tanners Douro Red 2020, 13.5% Tanners Australian Shiraz, South Eastern Australia 2022, 14.5% Tanners Rhône Valley Red, Côtes du Rhône 2021, 13.5% Vg Tanners Super Claret, Moulis-en-Médoc 2018, 13.5% Tanners New Zealand Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2022, 13% NEW Tanners Red Burgundy, Bourgogne Pinot Noir 2020, 13% | CR0001B SR0100B18 PR0005B20 AR0127B22 RR0001B21 CR0005B18 NR0055B22 BR0205B20 | | 10.90 10.90 10.95 11.50 13.50 17.50 18.90 19.95 |
|---|--|---|--|
| SWEET | | | |
| Tanners Sauternes - Half, 13% Vg | CS0001H | i | 14.90 |
| HALVES | | | |
| Tanners Douro Red 2020 - Half, 13.5% | PR0005H20 | | 6.30 |
| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux - Half, 13% Vg | CR0001H | | 6.80 |
| Tanners Rhône Valley Red, Côtes du Rhône 2022 - Half, 14.5% Vg 🚭 | RR0920H22 | | 7.80 |
| Tanners White Burgundy, Bourgogne Chardonnay 2020 - Half, I 2.5% Vg | BW0001H20 | | 9.60 |
| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne - Half, 12.5% Vg | FC0001H | | 18.90 |
| LARGE BOTTLES | | | |
| Tanners Douro Red 2021 - Magnum, 14% | PR0005M21 | | 22.50 |
| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux - Magnum, 13.5% Vg | CR0001M | | 23.50 |
| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne - Magnum, 12.5% Vg | FC0001M | | 68.00 |
| FORTIFIED | | | |
| Tanners Late Bottled Vintage Port 2017 - Half, 19.5% Vg | VP0002H17 | | 11.60 |
| Tanners Mariscal Manzanilla Sherry, I 5% Vg | VS0002B | | 13.90 |
| Tanners Fino Sherry, I5% Vg | VS0001B | | 13.90 |
| Tanners Patrono Fine Ruby Port, 20% | VP0109B | | 15.30 |
| Tanners Cream Sherry, 17% | VS0004B | | 15.50 |
| Tanners A Blend of Amontillado, Medium Dry Sherry, 17% Vg | VS0003B | | 15.50 |
| Tanners Late Bottled Vintage Port 2017, 19.5% Vg | VP0002B17 | | 21.50 |
| Tanners Crusted Port, bottled 2012, 19.5% Vg | VP0006B12 | 1 | 27.50 |
| SPIRITS | | | |
| Hereford Finest Dry Gin, Tanners, 40% vol | WG0001B | | 17.95 |
| Tanners Peaty Creag, 8 Year Old Blended Scotch Whisky, 40% vol | WH0001B | | 22.00 |
| Tanners 14 Year Old Glenfarclas Highland Single Malt, 46% vol | WH0460B | | 62.00 |
| | | | |



Champagne

The last two years of record sales of Champagne seem finally to have peaked, demand has slowed at the same time the 2023 harvest was generous, so prices, at least from some, should start to stabilise. At Tanners we try to offer you a range of the well-known brands such as Pol Roger, Bollinger and Louis Roederer, all very good houses, but also a small, carefully selected range of growers' champagnes. These are the farmers, if you like, that have decided to go one step beyond growing grapes and supplying the big Champagne houses. Instead, they bottle and market the wines themselves. With no big marketing budgets, they must rely on the quality of the wines they produce to speak for themselves.

BRUT NON-VINTAGE CHAMPAGNE

Non-vintage (NV) champagne is blended from dozens of individual cuvées and vintages, so that the 'house style' is consistent. It must have spent a minimum of 12 months on the lees. They are usually a blend of grape varieties: Chardonnay for fruit and body; Pinot Noir for elegance and structure; and Pinot Meunier for softness and fruit. All three Tanners Champagnes – our house, spécial and rosé – are supplied by **Beaumont des Crayères**, based in Mardeuil, a village west of Epernay. A highly impressive small co-operative of about 250 growers, with 90 Ha under the control of Matthieu Château and, President of Board of Growers, Jean-Noël Plançon. The vineyards are mostly located around the village in the Marne Valley. We also offer **Joseph Perrier** – the Perrier family has been producing Champagne since 1825. We can also provide a wide range of different champagne bottle sizes, including quarters, half bottles, magnums, jeroboams and methuselahs.

| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne, 12.5% Vg | FC0001B | 28.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Tanners Extra Réserve Spécial, Brut, 12.5% Vg | FC0002B | 32.50 |
| Baron de Beaupré, Brut, 12% 🛡 | FC0003B | 29.50 |
| Ayala Brut Majeur, 12% | FC0043B | 33.00 |
| Joseph Perrier Cuvée Royale, Brut, 12% Vg | FC0008B | 39.95 |
| Laurent-Perrier La Cuvée, Brut, 12% Vg | FC0074B | 45.00 |
| Pol Roger Réserve, Brut, 12.5% | FC0011B | 47.00 |
| Billecart-Salmon Brut Réserve, 12% | FC0835B | 49.50 |
| Veuve Clicquot 'Yellow Label', Brut, 12.5% Vg | FC0010B | 52.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée, Brut, 12% | FC0014B | 54.00 |
| Louis Roederer Collection 244, Brut, 12.5% Vg | FC0244B | 53.00 |
| Billecart-Salmon Brut Blanc de Blancs, Grand Cru, 12% | FC0109B | 77.00 |

GROWERS' CHAMPAGNE

Traditionally these small, family-run operations, such as André Clouet and Michel Arnould, used to supply the big houses with grapes or wines. More recently some have decided to go it alone. Often this means you have a wine as good as, or even better than the well-known houses, punching well above their relatively modest price tag.

| Michel Arnould & Fils Réserve, Brut, Grand Cru Verzenay, 12% 🛭 | FC0016B | 33.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| André Clouet Grande Réserve, Brut, Grand Cru à Bouzy, 12% | FC0017B | 37.00 |
| André Clouet Silver, Brut Nature, Grand Cru à Bouzy, 12% | FC0018B | 39.50 |

VINTAGE CHAMPAGNE

Vintage champagnes are only produced in the best years. They have undergone a longer maturation than their non-vintage counterparts and consequently have more depth and complexity along with more bready flavours and aromas. For champagne to be specified as 'vintage', 100% of the grapes must have been grown in the year on the label. Vintage champagnes spend a minimum of three years on their lees whilst some of the top champagne houses keep their wines on the lees in excess of five, or even ten years, in some cases. There is still good value to be had here in the likes of the Fleur Noire from Beaumont des Crayères.

| Beaumont des Crayères Fleur de Prestige, Brut 2014, 12% Vg | FC0020B14 | 39.95 |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Beaumont des Crayères Fleur Noire, Blanc de Noirs 2014, 12% Vg | FC0080B14 | 45.00 |
| Joseph Perrier Vintage, Brut 2013, 12% Vg | FC0047B13 | 67.00 |
| Louis Roederer Vintage, Brut 2015, 12.5% | FC0026B15 | 69.00 |
| Veuve Clicquot Vintage, Brut Champagne 2015, 12.5% ♥ | FC0023B15 | 75.00 |
| Pol Roger Vintage, Brut 2016, 12.5% | FC0024B16 | 95.00 |
| Pol Roger Vintage, Brut 2016 - Magnum, 12.5% | FC0024M16 | 230.00 |
| Bollinger La Grande Année, Brut 2014, 12% | FC0025B14 | 150.00 |

PRESTIGE CUVÉE CHAMPAGNE

A *prestige cuvée* is a wine produced by a champagne house to represent the pinnacle of their range – therefore it is not hard to see why they have a price tag to match! Louis Roederer's **Cristal**, Moët & Chandon's **Dom Pérignon**, Pol Roger's **Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill** and Bollinger's RD lead the roll call in the who's who of Champagne. Krug bucks the trend slightly by only producing prestige cuvée wines. These are becoming increasingly soughtafter so may not be available all year round.

| André Clouet "Un Jour de 1911", Brut, Grand Cru Classé, 12% | FC0027B | 65.00 |
|--|------------|---------------|
| Bollinger RD, Extra Brut Champagne 2008 - Gift Box, 12.5% | FC0028B08G | 350.00 |
| Dom Pérignon, Brut, Vintage 2013, 12.5% Vg | FC0029B13 | / 195.00 |
| Pol Roger Champagne, Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill, Vintage 2015, 12.5% | FC0030B15 | 230.00 |
| Krug Grande Cuvée 171ème Edition, Brut Champagne, 12.5% | FC0091B | 240.00 |
| Louis Roederer Cristal, Brut, Vintage 2015, 12% | FC0033B15 | 280.00 |

DEMI-SEC CHAMPAGNE

Often overlooked, these wines are a great, decadent match to desserts. They are usually a better match than their drier counterparts when served as a toast with cake! Pol Roger's Rich has an excellent balance ensuring it is not too sweet but just sweet enough.

Pol Roger Rich, Demi-Sec, 12.5% FC0831B 48.00

ROSÉ/PINK CHAMPAGNE

Rosé or 'pink' champagne can be produced in two ways: either by the *saignée* method whereby the clear juice of black grapes is left in contact with its skins for a short time, or, more commonly, by adding a small amount of still Pinot Noir red wine to the sparkling wine blend. Rosé champagne is one of the few exceptions in the wine world where it is permissible to create rosé by adding red wine during blending. This method produces a colour that can be replicated, so each year the champagne looks the same, as you will see with the excellent **Billecart Salmon Rosé**. As the *saignée* method is comparatively expensive and more difficult for the winemaker, there are very few producers that continue to use it: **Laurent Perrier** and **Louis Roederer** are two that do.

| Tanners Extra Réserve Rosé, Brut, 12% Vg | FC0035B | 36.00 |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Michel Arnould & Fils Rosé, Brut, Grand Cru Verzenay, 12% Vg | FC0036B | 35.00 |
| Ayala Rosé Majeur, Brut, 12% | FC0053B | 39.95 |
| Joseph Perrier Cuvée Royale Rosé, Brut, 12% Vg | FC0044B | 53.00 |
| Bollinger Rosé, Brut, 12% | FC0039B | 63.00 |
| Laurent-Perrier Cuvée Rosé, Brut, 12% Vg | FC0038B | 68.00 |
| Billecart-Salmon Brut Rosé, 12% | FC0824B | 75.00 |
| Bollinger La Grande Année Rosé, Brut 2014, 12.5% | FC0040B14 | 180.00 |

HALVES & QUARTERS CHAMPAGNE

Ideal for occasions when a full bottle is too much, though we are struggling to think of one!

| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut - Half, 12.5% Vg | FC0001H | 18.90 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Ayala Brut Majeur - Half, 12% | FC0043H | 19.50 |
| Joseph Perrier Cuvée Royale, Brut - Half, 12% Vg | FC0201H | 23.00 |
| Louis Roederer Collection 244, - Half, I 2.5% Vg | FC0244H | 27.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée, Brut - Half, 12% | FC0014H | 29.00 |

LARGE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLES

As Winston Churchill famously said, "a magnum is the ideal size for two to share provided one of them isn't drinking!" For those who do want to share we have larger sizes too. A Jeroboam equates to four bottles; a Rehoboam is six; a Methuselah is eight; a Salmanazar is 12; a Balthazar is 16 and a Nebuchadnezzar is 20.

| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut - Magnum, 12.5% Vg | FC0001M | 68.00 |
|--|---------|---------|
| Ayala Brut Majeur - Magnum, I2% | FC0043M | 72.00 |
| Louis Roederer Collection - Magnum, 12.5% | FC0242M | 120.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée, Brut - Magnum, 12% | FC0014M | 120.00 |
| Beaumont des Crayères Grande Réserve, Brut - Jeroboam, 12% | FC0106J | 190.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée Brut - Jeroboam, 12% | FC0014J | 320.00 |
| Pol Roger Réserve, Brut - Methuselah, 12.5% | FC0011U | 780.00 |
| Pol Roger Réserve, Brut - Salmanazar, 12.5% | FC0011S | 1100.00 |

Sparkling Wine

It looks like we might have hit peak Prosecco with global sales slowing. Cava still looks great value to us and is in a good position to benefit. The other major success story of recent years is English Sparkling which continues to go from strength to strength so we are delighted to have added the Ridgeview Brut to our offering this year. With lovely peachy fruit character, Tanners Prosecco continues to be a hit with our customers. Tanners Cava still commands its place with its weightier style. For those looking for a real champagne alternative Nyetimber's English fizz is second to none, while the Blanquette de Limoux region predates Champagne in making sparkling wine. The Crémants from France's other regions, such as Jura, Alsace and Burgundy (Bourgogne) amongst others, are rapidly, and justifiably, gaining popularity. For those wanting something a little more frivolous for the summer months, try the brilliant dry rosé 'Malbec Bubbles' from master craftsman Patricio Gouguenheim's stable. Anyone eschewing alcohol should look at the So Jennie Alcohol Free from France as a good example.

PROSECCO

A charming sparkler made from the Glera grape variety, sourced from the regions of Veneto and Friuli-Venezia Giulia in Italy. This light, dry, sparkling wine is perfectly suited to parties, summer evenings and/or serving as an apéritif. Prosecco is also the key ingredient for the classy Bellini cocktail: simply pour a measure of white peach purée into a flute glass and top up with well-chilled Prosecco to whet the appetite of your guests. The more recently created Prosecco Rosé DOC, with up to 15% Pinot Noir allowed, is proving a hit.

| Tanners Prosecco Brut, Treviso, 11% | FI0048B / 12 | 2.30 |
|---|--------------|------|
| Amori Prosecco, Spumante Extra Dry, 11% Vg | FI0053B | .95 |
| Fabio Ceschin Prosecco, Frizzante, Treviso, 10.5% | FI0036B | .95 |
| Prosecco Superiore DOCG, Conegliano Valdobbiadene | FI0192B 14 | 1.50 |
| Vigna Del Sole, 11% NEW | | |

CAVA

Cava, one of the world's finest sparkling wines, is made by the bottle-fermenting 'traditional method'. Cava differs fundamentally from champagne only in the grapes used for the blend: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier of France are replaced by Parellada, Macabeo and Xarel.lo from the Catalan region. Although Cava can be made from other grapes and other regions across Spain, its heartland is San Sadurni d'Anoia, south of Barcelona, where some 250 companies produce over 50 million bottles annually. The autolytic ageing of the wine in bottle, on the lees, is for a minimum of nine months, or 15 months for Reservas and 30 months for the top wines, though in practice this can be even longer. This extended ageing brings depth and a biscuity flavour, while the whole effect of good quality Cava is less piercing acidity and more smoothness with a creamy fizz in the mouth.

| Tanners Cava Brut, Traditional Method, 12% Vg | FI0001B | 11.60 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Can Xa Cava Brut, 11.5% Vg | FI0187B | 13.20 |

Sparkling Wine

FRENCH SPARKLING

Whilst dominated by Champagne, most wine producing regions of France also produce their own style of fizz, some of which are very good indeed. The best is produced in the same way as champagne, the traditional method, with a secondary fermentation taking place in bottle followed by prolonged ageing on the lees (the yeast cells, left after the fermentation has finished). First among equals must surely be **Blanquette de Limoux**. Documentary evidence suggests this sparkling wine, from the south-west of France, predates the 'invention' of champagne. Made from the Mauzac grape with the addition of Chenin Blanc and Chardonnay, the results are stunning and **Rives Blanques** produce one of the best. Sitting alongside this 'band' are the Crémants from across France such as: Crémant d'Alsace; Crémant de Loire; Crémant de Bourgogne and Crémant de Jura. All made from the local grapes of each region, they offer refinement and elegance at a fraction of the price of champagne. From the next tier, still made using the traditional method, are the likes of Saumur Brut from the Loire; less ageing on lees means a less complex wine, but sometimes we don't want too much complexity, just a decent glass of wine with bubbles!

| La Grande Marque Saumur Brut, 12.5% | FI0806B | 14.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Vérizet, Crémant de Bourgogne Brut, Cave de Viré, 12.5% 🛡 | FI0156B | 18.50 |
| Crémant d'Alsace, Blanc de Blancs Brut, Dopff & Irion, 12% | FI0125B | 18.95 |
| Blanquette de Limoux Brut, Château Rives-Blanques 2019, 12.5% | FI0010B19 | 19.70 |
| Crémant du Jura, Brut Zéro Dosage, Champ Divin 2020, 13% S | FI0046B20 | 24.00 |

ENGLISH SPARKLING

The belt of chalky soil, so prized by the Champenois in northern France, runs on northwest emerging in the southern English counties of Kent, Sussex and Hampshire (where Nyetimber straddles the county borders). The grape varieties from Champagne, namely Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier, therefore find themselves quite at home. In recent years English sparklers, which need, like all sparkling wines, a little acidity to maintain their balance, have been propelled to the top of the quality pile. With the improvements in technology, and a warmer climate, the future looks very bright for English sparkling wine producers. Our range continues to grow alongside the industry with Ashling Park Estate which is on the chalky South Downs and Ridgeview from East Sussex, home to the Roberts family who put great emphasis on sustainable and ethical practices while making super fizz. Away from the South-East, improvements are also bearing fruit with some fine sparkling wine produced in the South-West and closer to home, with Hencote, in Shropshire.

| Hencote Evolution, English Sparkling Wine 2021, 11% | FI0170B21 | 16.00 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Hencote LXX, English Sparkling Wine 2018, 11.5% NEW | FI0172B18 | 29.00 |
| Ridgeview Cavendish, English Sparkling Wine, 12% Vg NEW | FI0108B | 33.00 |
| Ashling Park Estate, Brut English Quality Sparkling Wine, 12% Vg | FI0161B | 35.00 |
| Nyetimber Classic Cuvée, English Sparkling Wine, 12% † ♦ | FI0016B | 38.00 |
| Ridgeview Blanc de Blancs, English Sparkling Wine 2018, 12% NEW | FI0183B18 | 59.00 |

OTHER BRUT SPARKLING

In all parts of the vinous globe there are sparkling wines produced, maybe not on the scale of champagne or Prosecco, but nevertheless where people make wine, they also like to put bubbles in it. Many follow in the footsteps of champagne using the same production methods and even grape varieties. There are some excellent examples: try the superb Pelorus from the Cloudy Bay stable in New Zealand; or closer to home the fizz of Ancre Hill Vineyards in Wales, where production is biodynamic, the potential of which is ably demonstrated by Richard Morris. From down-under the Grounded Cru Sparkling is fresh and characterful from the cooler Adelaide Hills region.

| Vino Frizzante, Vigna Del Sole, 11% NEW | FI0191B | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| McPherson Three Vineyards Sparkling Chardonnay/Pinot Noir Brut 2022, 12% ♥ | FI0059B22 | 11.80 |
| Grounded Cru Sparkling Pinot Noir/Chardonnay Brut, Adelaide Hills, 12.5% ♥ | FI0060B | 15.50 |
| Journey's End MCC Brut Reserve NV, 11.5% Vg | FI0173B | 15.60 |
| Pelorus Brut, Cloudy Bay, 12.5% | FI0014B | 29.00 |
| Ancre Hill Estates Blanc de Noirs, Welsh Sparkling Wine, 11% 🛭 🕻 | FI0113B | 42.00 |

ROSÉ/PINK SPARKLING

There is something irrepressibly romantic about pink fizz making it perfect for weddings and other events. These wines do, however, have a more serious side; beautiful and stylish, they are great with food, often being more full-bodied than their white counterparts and demonstrating great versatility.

| Fabio Ceschin Rosé Vino Frizzante, Veneto, 11% | FI0037B | 11.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Ita Prosecco Rosé, Extra Dry 2022, 11% Vg | FI0055B22 | 12.30 |
| Can Xa Rosé Cava Brut, 11.5% NEW | FI0174B | 13.70 |
| Gouguenheim Malbec Bubbles, Sparkling Rosé Brut, Mendoza, 12% Vg | FI0119B | 14.40 |
| Hencote Isadora Rosé, English Sparkling Wine 2019, 11.5% NEW | FI0171B19 | 28.00 |

SWEETER SPARKLING

The ideal accompaniment to desserts, the sweeter styles of sparkling wines deserve to be more popular than they are. Elegant, light, fruity and often lower in alcohol, they are perfect to sip on their own and often suited to a toast taking place at the end of a meal.

Vigna Senza Nome, Moscato d'Asti, "Braida" 2022, 5.5% Vg Fl0026B22 I 5.95

RED SPARKLING

A very small amount of red wine is turned into fizz. In the case of Australian Sparkling Shiraz, it is given a little sweetness to counteract the tannins in the wine, the effect of which would be heightened by the bubbles. These rich, chocolaty reds are great with smoky barbecue foods.

Brachetto d'Acqui, "Braida" 2022, 5.5%

IR0088B22 | 15.20

South of France

A title that covers a vast geographical region, as well as a vast variety of styles, but also includes some of the most innovative and exciting wines in the country which continue to be hugely undervalued, alongside reliable varietal wines from producers large and small.

The number of organic producers is also on the increase, particularly on the drier Mediterranean side, as well as those using different and less interventionist fermentation techniques.

Crisp **dry white wines** are abundant in **Gascony** and the **South-West**, some using grapes once destined for Armagnac. The whites of **Languedoc-Roussillon**, in contrast, tend to be bigger and gentler with Mediterranean and Rhône white



grapes vying with Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay for space. Within the Languedoc, **Picpoul de Pinet** is *de rigueur* for delivering pure summer pleasure whilst the whites from the cooler climate of Limoux are more serious, Burgundian even, while those from **Collioure** on the Roussillon coast and further inland have great minerality. The pale rosé wines of **Provence** have caught the imagination in the last few years, but there are rivals – often better value – from the Languedoc and these lookalikes can be excellent. Gascony rosés, made from Bordeaux and south-western grapes, tend to be more blackcurranty in flavour.

Overall, **red wines** are the most important style in the South which has a diversity of climates and terroirs that allows it to produce a vast number of very different wines. **Languedoc-Roussillon** is arguably the area of the most wine innovation in France making both varietal wines alongside a roster of AOCs such as Minervois, Corbières and (Coteaux du) Languedoc. Provence's most famous red is from beside the sea at Bandol whereas Gascony and the South-West fields Bergerac, Pécharmant and Madiran as its star players.

DRY WHITE

Pay d'Oc & Vin de France

These classifications give French producers a lot more freedom than they used to have and are increasingly popular, particularly the Vin de France name which gives them flexibility to blend wines from across IGP areas. It's also used by individual estates to make wines that don't conform, notably because their chosen grape variety is not authorised for their region and therefore you should look at the producer rather than the classification.

Pays d'Oc covers a big area from the Rhône to the Pyrenees foothills and, along with Vin de France, allows producers to compete with varietals from the rest of the world. Sauvignon and Chardonnay are very successful here as are Rhône varieties such as Viognier and Marsanne. IGP – 'Indication Géographique Protégée' is one down from 'AC' and covers many smaller, less well-known areas although producers often decide that it's best to use Pays d'Oc or Vin de France rather than the name of an obscure area

| Tanners Chardonnay, Pays d'Oc 2023, 13% Vg | MW0024B23 | 9.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Tanners Sauvignon, Pays d'Oc 2022, 12% Vg | MW0019B22 | 11.50 |
| Le Sautarel Dry White, Vin de France 2022, 11.5% Vg | MW0001B22 | 9.90 |
| Le Sautarel Medium White, Vin de France 2022, 11% Vg | MW0003B22 | 9.90 |
| La Cabane Reserve Marsanne/Viognier, Pays d'Oc 2022, 12.5% | MW0009B22 | 10.50 |
| Rémi & Jérôme Sauvignon, Pays d'Oc 2022, 12% Vg | MW0018B22 | 10.50 |
| Domaine Grauzan Viognier, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13.5% Vg | MW0088B22 | 11.70 |
| Domaine Rives-Blanques Chardonnay/Chenin, Haute Vallée de l'Aude 2022, 13.5% Vg | MW0026B22 | 13.80 |
| Ardèche Chardonnay, Louis Latour 2021, 12.5% | MW0027B21 | 14.95 |

GASCONY & SW FRANCE

Dry whites from the hinterland of Bordeaux – Bergerac in particular – are made from Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon, sometimes adding Muscadelle too. Travelling south into Gascony, lesser-known grapes come into play such as Petit Manseng, Gros Manseng, Petit Courbu and Arrufiac. Formerly used for Armagnac production, Colombard and Ugni Blanc are responsible for many simple dry whites often labelled IGP Côtes de Gascogne, Comté Tolosan or Gers. The Plaimont co-operative dominates the Saint-Mont appellation and has long been at the forefront of this crisp, fresh, white wine revolution.

| Tanners Gascony Dry White, Côtes de Gascogne 2023, 10.5% Vg | MW0029B23 | 9.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Colombard, Côtes de Gascogne, Vignerons de Plaimont 2021, 11% Vg | MW0031B21 | 9.95 |
| Château Le Fagé Sauvignon Blanc, Bergerac 2022, 14% Vg | MW0020B22 | 11.50 |
| Château de Tiregand Sauvignon, Bergerac, | MW0012B22 | 14.40 |
| Comtesse Saint-Exupéry 2022, 12.5% Vg | | |

Languedoc-Roussillon

Collioure is a picturesque fishing village loved by painters, that produces wines of great minerality on steep slopes above and around the village. Up in the foothills of the Pyrenees are many dynamic producers making hugely complex, interesting wines of which **Le Soula** is one of the best.

| Picpoul de Pinet, Domaine des Lauriers 2023, 13% | MW0013B23 | 12.90 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Picpoul de Pinet, Terre d'Eole 2022, I 2.5% Vg | MW0085B22 | 13.20 |
| Abbé Rous Chardonnay, Côtes Catalanes 2022, 13% | MW0087B22 | 14.50 |
| La Cendrillon, Nuance, Vin de France 2022, 13.5% Vg 🚭 | MW0080B22 | 15.90 |
| Château Rives-Blanques Occitania, Mauzac Blanc, Limoux 2021, 13% & | MW0057B21 | 19.50 |

| Château Rives-Blanques Odyssée, Chardonnay, Limoux 2022, 13% Vg € | MW0028B22 | 19.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Collioure Blanc, Cornet & Cie, Abbé Rous 2019, 13.5% | MW0086B19 | 18.95 |
| Trigone Blanc by Le Soula, Terroir d'Altitude, Lot 22, 13% 🥩 | MW0084B22 | 27.60 |
| Le Soula Blanc, Terroir d'Altitude, Côtes Catalanes 2017, 13.5% Vg $lacktriangle$ | MW0074B17 | 36.00 |
| Provence | | |
| Domaine Pey Blanc 'Pluriel' White, Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence 2022, I 2.5% | MW0083B22 | 15.20 |

SWEET

Gascony & SW France

The sweet wines of the South-West are tangier and less grapey than the Muscats of Languedoc-Roussillon. Gascony's Pacherenc du Vic-Bilh relies on semi-dried grapes from the same local varieties that are used for the dry whites. Monbazillac is more akin to Barsac, being the product of botrytised Sauvignon Blanc and Sémillon grapes. Along the slope from the landmark Château de Monbazillac and with tremendous views over the Dordogne Valley, the Gérardin family's Château Le Fagé makes inspiring Monbazillac as well as fine dry white, red and rosé.

| Monbazillac, Château Le Fagé 2021 - Half, 12% Vg | MS0003H21 | 9.20 |
|--|---------------|------|
| r ionbazinac, Chaccad Ec rage Zozi - rian, 12/0 vg | 1 1500051 121 | 7.20 |

Languedoc-Roussillon

The sweet white wines of Languedoc-Roussillon are generally made from Muscat and are usually lightly fortified to make vin doux naturel. **Muscat de St-Jean-de-Minervois** and Muscat de Frontignan are both smaller appellations than Muscat de Rivesaltes which covers much of the Roussillon region. The **Saint-Jean-de-Minervois** appellation is dominated by a small co-operative hidden in the foothills of the Montagne Noire. **Domaine Boudau** run by brother and sister, Pierre and Véronique Boudau, is based at Rivesaltes and makes lovely, sweet Muscat and Grenache wines, 'Grenat' being a fresh ruby style.

| Muscat de St-Jean-de-Minervois, Tailhades - Half, 15% | MS0002H | 9.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Muscat de Rivesaltes, Domaine Boudau 2022, 15.5% | MS0019B22 | 18.95 |
| Rivesaltes Grenat, Sur Grains, Domaine Boudau 2021 - Half, 15.5% | MS0018H21 | 12.70 |

ROSÉ

Pays d'Oc & Vin de France

These can be very attractive without the price tag of wines from Provence. The Cinsault grape performs particularly well in rosé and is the backbone of our Sautarel and Nuit d'Arbres blends. The Piquepoul Rosé is from the rare Piquepoul Noir grape variety.

| Le Sautarel Rosé, Vin de France 2023, 12% Vg | MP0052B23 | 9.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Nuit d'Arbres Rosé, Pays d'Oc 2022, I 2% Vg | MP0060B22 | 10.90 |

| Piquepoul Rosé, Coteaux d'Ensérune, Foncalieu 2022, 13% Vg | MP0059B22 | 12.40 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Domaine de la Cendrillon Minuit Rosé, Corbières 2022, 12% Vg S | MP0054B22 | 15.30 |

Gascony & SW France

Rosé wines from the South-West generally use Bordeaux varieties and tend to be a bit deeper in colour than those from further east but have excellent fruit flavours. Domaine de Pellehaut, a family-owned estate in Gascony that originally started in cattle farming, supplies us with both Tanners Rosé and Tanners Gascony Dry White.

| Tanners French Rosé, Côtes de Gascogne 2023, 10.5% Vg | MP0001B23 | 10.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Château Le Fagé Rosé, Bergerac 2021, 12% Vg | MP0050B21 | 12.30 |

Provence

France - South of France

East of the River Rhône, Provence is a large area and generally now best known for its rosé wines, consumed in large quantities by holiday makers in villas and restaurants, as well as on the yachts moored in the picturesque harbours along the coast! This has led to some of the best-known examples being able to sell for a lot of money and generally prices are high here. With a little effort, however, decent value can be found such as at **Château Pey Blanc**, just outside Aix-en-Provence where Gabriel Giusiano produces a lovely range of wines and is a true enthusiast. His No 1 rosé has a pale, classic, Provençal style and his Cyprès, sourced from outside the AOC area, and so is a Vin de Pays, has much of the Provence style without the price tag.

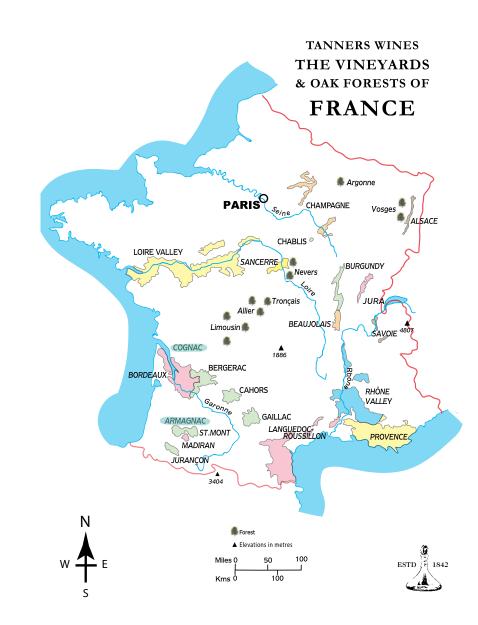
| Les Cyprès Rosé, Méditerranée, Pey Blanc 2022, 12.5% 🐠 | MP0046B22 | | 12.90 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| No I Rosé, Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence, | MP0045B23 | | 17.20 |
| Domaine Pey Blanc 2023, 12.5% 🛡 | | | |
| No 1 Rosé, Coteaux d'Aix-en-Provence, Domaine Pey Blanc 2021 - 3ltr, 13% | MP0045J21 | | 97.00 |
| , | | 1 | |
| Bandol Rosé, Le Galantin 2021, 13% | MP0013B23 | | 18.20 |

RED

Pays d'Oc & Vin de France

Merlot and Syrah lead the way in the Pays d'Oc with Malbec coming on board, whilst there are also all those wonderful old Carignan vines. Le Sautarel represents a range of easy- drinking, appealing wines, the sort that you would expect to see in a good bistro in France. Xavier Roger's Martinfort wines are generally from older vines and lower yields. We are most proud, however, of the Tanners labels where we work with specialists in each grape variety to bring you the very best of the region.

| Tanners Merlot, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13.5% | MR0008B22 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Le Sautarel Red, Vin de France 2022, 12.5% Vg | MR0001B22 | 9.90 |
| Rémi & Jérôme Merlot, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13.5% | MR0009B22 | 9.90 |
| La Cabane Reserve Grenache/Syrah, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13.5% | MR0004B22 | 10.20 |



| Martinfort Carignan, Sélection Vieilles Vignes, Vin de France 2022, 12.5% Vg | MR0091B22 | 10.60 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Martinfort Malbec, Sélection Belles Vignes, Pays d'Oc 2022, 13% Vg | MR0097B22 | 10.70 |
| Domaine Grauzan Merlot, Pays d'Oc 2021, 14.5% Vg | MR0117B21 | 11.20 |
| L&F Loron Pinot Noir, Vin de France 2022, 13% | MR0076B22 | 12.80 |
| Domaine de Valmoissine Pinot Noir, Louis Latour, Var 2022, 12.5% | MR0907B22 | 16.95 |

Gascony & SW France

Pécharmant, a favoured sub-appellation of Bergerac which has iron-rich slopes above the River Dordogne, produces another structured red wine. Here, **Château de Tiregand**, with vines now under the ownership of the Piat family, is making characterful, claret-like reds. Perhaps the leading red wine from the region is **Madiran**, based on the robust Tannat grape variety.

| Château Le Fagé Merlot, Bergerac 2020, 15% Vg | MR0043B20 | 12.90 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Château de Tiregand, Pécharmant, | MR0048B20 | 17.90 |
| Comtesse de Saint-Exupèry 2020, 15% Vg ♦ | | |

Languedoc-Roussillon

Superb reds are produced throughout the Languedoc in an arc following the Mediterranean from Montpellier in the Hérault past Sète and Béziers, and down past Narbonne in the Aude department. The best wines tend to come from the slopes, often from vineyards which are stony and difficult to work, while the valley floors produce more everyday wines. Organic viticulture is on the increase as growers decide that the warm, dry climate allows them to forgo conventional treatments. Arguably the best wines are blends based on Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre where the three complement each other admirably. Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, both interlopers, perform well as does indigenous old-vine Carignan as a single varietal wine. Please also see our Pays d'Oc & Vin de France section.

In the East, Pierre Clavel makes some of the region's best wines from vines in favoured sub-districts of Languedoc AOC (until recently called Coteaux du Languedoc) namely Pic St-Loup and La Méjanelle. Frédéric Albaret has expanded Domaine Saint Antonin from nothing to 30 Ha on the schist soil that is typical of the Faugères appellation, making various cuvées, all certified organic.

Minervois occupies the southern slopes of the Montagne Noire overlooking the Aude Valley. We have bought from pretty Château Sainte-Eulalie, close to La Livinière, for many years dealing with Isabelle and Laurent Coustal and their predecessors. Down the valley and close to Narbonne is Domaine de La Cendrillon. Owned by the Joyeux family for centuries, their aim is to be the top property in Corbières, something they are well on their way to achieving! Also in Corbières, but up the Pyrenees foothills, is the quality driven Castelmaure co-operative making superb fruit driven wines. This area of Corbières is sandwiched between Fitou vineyards on both sides.

Roussillon is the southernmost part of Languedoc-Roussillon and comprises many of the Pyrenean foothills north of the Spanish border as well as the picturesque coastline of the Côte Vermeille. The scenery here is spectacular with valleys running down from the Pyrenees, vineyards clinging to the sides and castles on top. Herby dry reds, evocative of the local, scented garrigue undergrowth, come under various epithets: Côtes du Roussillon, Côtes du Roussillon-Villages, Collioure, Côtes Catalanes and Pyrénées-Orientales included. Domaine Boudau, formerly specialising in sweet wines, now principally produces full and satisfying Roussillon reds. High up, near the village of Saint-Martin-de-Fenouillet – where the wild boar abound in the local garrigue – characterful reds are produced under the Le Soula and (earlier drinking) Trigone labels. Abbé Rous make a full flavoured Collioure red from steeply terraced vineyards above the sea.

| Le Rouge Vigneron, Castelmaure, Corbières 2020, 14.5% | MR0106B20 | 13.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Château Sainte Eulalie, Buona Pulcella Rouge, Minervois 2021, 14% | MR0035B21 | 14.40 |
| Faugères, Les Jardins, Domaine Saint Antonin 2020, 14% Vg 🥩 | MR0101B20 | 14.40 |
| Domaine Boudau, Le Clos, Côtes du Roussillon 2021, 14% 🚭 | MR0080B21 | 15.40 |
| Domaine de la Cendrillon 'Essentielle', Corbières 2020, 14.5% Vg ${\it s}'$ | MR0104B20 | 15.90 |
| Le Mas, Coteaux du Languedoc, Domaine Clavel 2022, 13.5% Vg 🥩 | MR0083B22 | 15.95 |
| Collioure, Réserve des Peintres, Abbé Rous 2019, 14.5% | MR0116B19 | 16.60 |
| Faugères, Cazalet, Domaine Saint Antonin 2020, 14.5% Vg 🚭 | MR0102B20 | 16.70 |
| Domaine de la Cendrillon Inédite, Corbières 2017, 15% Vg 💅 | MR0105B17 | 22.00 |
| Domaine Peter Sichel, Vallée de Cucugnan 2019, 14% NEW | MR0119B19 | 24.00 |
| Trigone Rouge by Le Soula, Terroir d'Altitude, No 22, 12.5% | MR0115B22 | 25.50 |
| Le Soula Rouge, Terroir d'Altitude, Côtes Catalanes 2015, 13% 🚭 | MR0099B15 | 36.00 |

Provence

Bandol is one of the best-known areas for red wines and makes big, long-lived wines based on the Mourvèdre grape. Céline and Jérôme Pascal's **Domaine Le Galantin** Bandol has great depth of flavour while their rosé wine has wonderful intensity, again mainly from the Mourvèdre grape.

| | naine Le Galantin 2019, 15% MR0042B | 9 🥖 | 21.00 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|
|--|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|

Loire Valley

This region continues to be an undervalued source of some excellent wines. Some recent small harvests have held them back but the 2023 was more generous. These days the reds are superb, and many will knock the spots off similarly priced reds from Bordeaux! The Loire is a tremendous region offering the wine lover great diversity. There are all the styles of wine one could wish for: dry, medium, sweet, white, red, rosé, still or sparkling. A vinous journey along the Loire Valley takes in crisp Muscadets around Nantes, the gorgeously sweet 'moëlleux' Chenin Blancs of the Coteaux du Layon and the superbly complex dry Savennières from around Angers, then the more immediately appealing whites and sparkling wines of Saumur. Cabernet Franc makes the luscious reds of Anjou and the autumnal reds of Chinon and Bourgueil. Continuing upstream leads you to the famous whites of Vouvray and finally on to Touraine, Sancerre, Pouilly-Fumé and Menetou-Salon where Sauvignon Blanc reigns supreme.

DRY WHITE

Muscadet

Possibly the best value wine region in France, Muscadet is home to growers such as the very talented Jérémie Huchet at Domaine de la Chauvinière; and brothers Rémi and Jean-Jacques Bonnet at Bonnet-Huteau where they farm biodynamically. The region is undergoing a renaissance on the back of the creation of its new Crus Communaux, a classification system for the region's top vineyards which includes: Le Pallet, Clisson, Gorges, Mouzillon-Tillières, Monnières-Saint-Fiacre, Goulaine, Château-Thébaud, La Haye Fouassière, Vallet and Champtoceaux. Muscadet is the superlative seafood match, designed for drinking with langoustines and oysters in nearby Brittany. Get them now before everyone wakes up to the wines of this region!

| Muscadet, Drouet Frères 2022, I 2% Vg | LW0001B22 | 11.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine Sur Lie, Domaine de la Chauvinière 2022, 12% Vg | LW0027B22 | 12.60 |
| Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine Sur Lie, Domaine Le Fief de la Brie 2022, 12% Vg † | LW0002B22 | 13.20 |
| Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine Sur Lie, Les Gautronnières, Bonnet-Huteau 2021, 12.5% Vg € | LW0025B21 | 16.20 |
| Château-Thébaud Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine, Huchet & Mourat 2018, 12.5% Vg | LW0028B18 | 21.00 |
| Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine Goulaine, Bonnet-Huteau 2019, 12.5% Vg | LW0026B19 | 22.00 |

Sancerre & Upper Loire

Terrific, world-renowned wines come from **Sancerre** and Pouilly-Fumé in the Upper Loire, or Central Vineyards of France. The names here are as famous as any: Sancerre, the herbaceous, crisp, dry, white produced by the likes of **Jean-Max Roger** in Bué and the **Dezat**

families in nearby Verdigny. The old Dezat estate is now split between cousins, Firmin on one side producing an ultra-fine mineral style and Stephanie and Arnaud on the other whose wines are slightly fuller. They both also produce wines in neighbouring Pouilly-Fumé, home to those textbook gunflint aromas and steely, refreshing wines. On this eastern bank of the River Loire, Alain and Jérome Pabiot produce whites from the celebrated flint/silex soil. A little upstream at Château de Tracy, a family that has been incumbent since 1396 produces a particularly intense and defined example. Slightly less well known but equally as interesting is the AOC of Menetou-Salon, where the Rogers create super wines. Twenty miles away at Quincy, grower Pierre Ragon at Domaine Trotereau produces rounder, softer wines from sandier soil.

| Quincy, Domaine de Trotereau 2021, 14% | LW0004B21 | 18.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Menetou-Salon, Morogues, Le Petit Clos, Jean-Max Roger 2021, 12.5% Vg | LW0008B21 | 21.00 |
| Pouilly-Fumé, Domaine des Fines Caillottes, Jean Pabiot 2022, 13.5% ♥ † | LW0012B22 | 21.00 |
| Pouilly-Fumé, Domaine Thibault, Firmin Dezat 2022, 13% † | LW0013B22 | 21.50 |
| Sancerre, Firmin Dezat 2022, 12.5% Vg † | LW0010B22 | 23.00 |
| Sancerre, Domaine Arnaud et Stéphanie Dezat 2022, 13% Vg † | LW0033B22 | 23.00 |
| Sancerre, Cuvée Marnes & Caillottes, Jean-Max Roger 2022, 12.5% Vg | LW0009B22 | 23.00 |
| Sancerre, Domaine Balland 2022, 13% | LW0035B22 | 23.50 |
| Pouilly-Fumé, Château de Tracy 2022, 13% | LW0022B22 | 29.00 |

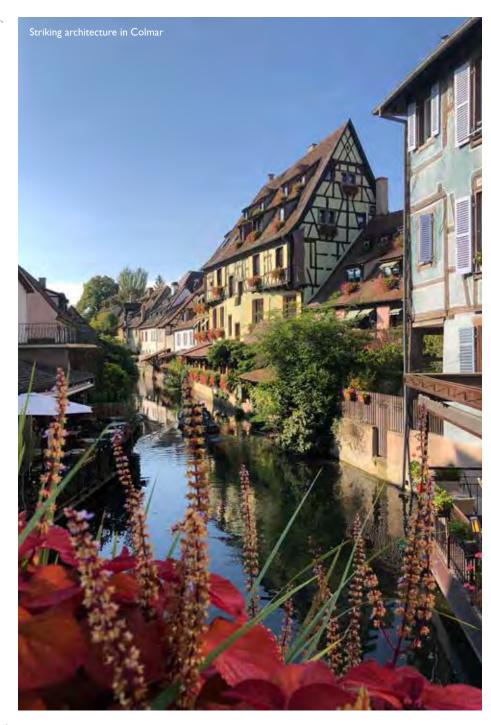
Saumur & Middle Loire

The 'Garden of France', between Angers and Tours, produces all styles of wines making it one of the most versatile regions of France. The food-friendly, steely wines of Savennières from the excellent **Domaines des Forges**, contrast with affable, appley Chenin Blancs from Anjou and Saumur. **Château de la Roulerie**'s P'tit Chenin is perfect quaffing for a summer's day. Further east along the Loire Valley at Vouvray, Alex Monmousseau of **Château Gaudrelle** produces his superb Clos Le Vigneau white which is a lesson in Chenin Blanc. Along the Cher tributary at Montrichard, in arguably the best sector of Touraine, the Lechat brothers, Arnaud and Albéric, at **Domaine Beauséjour** make a superb Sauvignon Blanc, an alternative to Sancerre with just a nod to the elevated fruit of Marlborough.

| Touraine Sauvignon Blanc, Les Silex, Domaine Beauséjour 2023, 12.5% Vg | LW0030B23 | 13.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Le P'tit Chenin, Anjou Blanc, Château de la Roulerie 2022, 12% Vg | LW0032B22 | 16.95 |
| Vouvray, Clos le Vigneau, Château Gaudrelle 2022, 13.5% | LW0020B22 | 19.50 |
| Savennières, Le Clos du Papillon, Domaine des Forges 2022, 13% | LW0023B22 | 22.50 |

SWEET

The Coteaux du Layon and Bonnezeaux appellations produce the epitome of lightly sweet 'moëlleux' wines from late harvested Chenin Blanc grapes. Here Stéphane & Séverine



Branchereau show what can be done with dedication, skill and tiny yields in the Coteaux du Layon, Chaume and Quarts de Chaume vineyards of their **Domaine des Forges**.

| Coteaux du Layon, Saint-Aubin, Domaine des Forges 2022, 12% Vg | LS0001B22 | / | 16.30 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Coteaux du Layon 1er cru Chaume, Les Onnis, | LS0005B19 | | 25.50 |
| Domaine des Forges 2019, 12% Vg | | | |
| Quarts de Chaume grand cru, Domaine des Forges 2020, 12.5% | LS0006B20 | | 43.00 |
| | | | |

ROSÉ

Brother and sister team **Arnaud and Stéphanie Dezat** offer wonderfully grapefuity Sancerre rosé while their cousin **Firmin Dezat** produces a light and delicate rosé, both from the Pinot Noir grape. Pale, subtle and gorgeous, it is the ideal match for shellfish or light summer salads. The Rosés from Anjou are mainly from the Grolleau grape and are charmingly off dry.

| Rosé d'Anjou, Les Roseraies, Drouet Frères 2022, 11% | LP0002B22 | 11.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Sancerre Rosé, Domaine Arnaud et Stéphanie Dezat 2022, 13% | LP0003B22 | 22.50 |
| Sancerre Rosé, Firmin Dezat 2022, 12.5% | LP0001B22 | 22.50 |

RED

The reds of the Middle Loire are dominated by Cabernet Franc making voluptuous wines in Saumur and Saumur-Champigny, where Philippe Vatan produces serious, world-class red wines at **Château du Hureau**. Then head towards Chinon where the wines of Domaine Charles **Joguet** can compete with fine Bordeaux for class. Those wanting something a little lighter in style should seriously consider the Anjou Rouge from **Château de la Roulerie**. Sancerre's reds are made from Pinot Noir and are therefore more akin to lighter Burgundies. The Dezat's red is juicy and lighter in alcohol, making it ideal for light dishes or lunch!

| Saumur-Champigny, Tuffe, Château du Hureau 2021 13.5% 🚭 | LR0009B21 | 17.70 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Anjou Rouge, Château de la Roulerie 2022 13% Vg 🕏 | LR0014B22 | 19.95 |
| Chinon, Les Silènes, Charles Joguet 2018 14% 🚭 | LR0004B18 | 21.00 |
| Sancerre Rouge, Domaine Arnaud et Stéphanie Dezat 2021, 13% | LR0016B21 | 22.00 |
| Saumur-Champigny, Lisagathe, Château du Hureau 2019 13.5% 🚭 | LR0010B19 | 33.00 |
| Chinon, Les Varennes du Grand Clos, Charles Joguet 2016 13.5% | LR0006B16 | 42.00 |
| | | |

Alsace

Alsace is an area full of individuality in everything it does – food, buildings, scenery and, of course, wines, which are very different to any other region of France. As in many places, the flat ground produces good, standard, everyday wines while the 'grand cru' vineyards are on the slopes, although the process of deciding what is and isn't a grand cru has been beset by politics and vested interests. Perhaps the producers should move away from the German style 'flutes' for some styles, but don't let this bottle shape dissuade you from trying

DRY WHITE

France - Alsace

Various Grape Varieties

Famille Hugel's wines are always an excellent introduction to Alsace, from a company that still manages to operate out of its original cramped cellars in the middle of the tourist town that is Riquewihr. Kaefferkopf is one of the top Riesling sites in the region and that from Cyrille Ehrhart has great style and complexity.

| Henri Ehrhart Muscat, Réserve Particulière 2022, 12.5% | JW0002B22 | 12.90 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Gentil "Hugel" 2021, 12.5% Vg | JW0030B21 | 15.20 |
| Henri Ehrhart Riesling, grand cru Kaefferkopf 2021, 13.5% | JW0009B21 | 17.20 |

Pinot Gris & Pinot Blanc

Dopff & Irion is based at the Château de Riquewihr and is once again in private hands, the Schoepfer family having bought back all the shares from the Pfaffenheim co-operative. We look forward to the continued development of these textbook varietal wines. Meanwhile, François Sorg has quietly been purchasing top sites from which he makes full and rich styles of wine.

| Dopff & Irion Pinot Blanc, Cuvée René Dopff 2021, 12% Vg | JW0007B21 | 14.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Dopff & Irion Pinot Gris, Cuvée René Dopff 2022, 13% Vg | JW0011B22 | 15.70 |
| Famille Hugel Classic Pinot Blanc 2022, 13% | JW0031B22 | 16.40 |
| Domaine Bruno Sorg Pinot Gris 2019, 13.4% | JW0004B19 | 21.00 |
| Domaines Schlumberger Pinot Gris, Les Princes Abbés 2020, 13.5% | JW0906B20 | 21.00 |

Gewurztraminer

Gewurztraminers are signature Alsace wines – all rose petals and lychees, silky and rich. **Schlumberger**, in the South, make wonderful examples from their grand cru sites.

| Dopff & Irion Gewurztraminer, Cuvée René Dopff 2021, 13.5% Vg † | JW0006B21 | 15.70 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Domaine Bruno Sorg Gewurztraminer 2019, 13.5% | JW0010B19 | 21.00 |
| Domaines Schlumberger Gewurztraminer, grand cru Kessler 2019, 12.5% | JW0908B19 | 28.50 |
| Domaine Bruno Sorg Gewurztraminer grand cru Eichberg 2020, 13.5% | JW0020B20 | 33.00 |

Jura

With rolling green slopes and valleys, Jura lies to the east of Burgundy but is not an easy region to locate; ask a confirmed wine buff to place Jura on the map and they would probably struggle! Somewhat bucolic in character, you'll find it halfway between the Côte d'Or and the Swiss border, in an area that is also famous for Mont d'Or cheese. Its intriguing range of unique wine styles combined with a great number of artisan, often organic and 'natural', wine producers has made Jura a darling of sommeliers worldwide.



Chardonnay and Savagnin are used for the whites, Pinot Noir, Poulsard and Trousseau for the reds. The AOC districts of Arbois, Château-Chalon and L'Etoile sit within the Côtes du Jura appellation. In the South of the region near Lons-le-Saunier, Fabrice and Valérie Closset at **Champ Divin** make superbly individual wines using biodynamic cultivation from their five hectares of vines, as well as some rather good honey! White wine styles generally fall into two distinct camps. *Ouillé* wines are 'normal' whereas *sous voile* wines, including **Vin Jaune**, sit under a layer of yeast in the same fashion as Fino or Manzanilla sherry. We sometimes have Vin Jaune on our oddments list.

DRY WHITE

| Champ Divin, Cuvée Pollux Chardonnay/Savagnin, | JW0034B18 | 34.00 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Côtes du Jura 2018, 13.5% 🚭 | | |

Savoie

Savoie is most recognisable as the wine consumed 'après-ski' but write it off at your peril! With this region's higher altitude vineyards providing a cool, fresh edge to the whites you'll find a round, balanced flavour in the Marestel, while the red Mondeuse is soft and juicy, and naturally lighter in alcohol. We often have the well-known Roussette white too from the excellent Chevallier-Bernard family.

DRY WHITE

| Marestel, Savoie, Chevallier-Bernard 2020, 13.5% NEW | JW0049B20 | 23.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| RED | | |
| Jongieux Mondeuse, Savoie, Chevallier-Bernard 2020, 12% NEW | JR0047B20 | 17.20 |

Bordeaux

A run of very good to excellent vintages, coupled with ever improving techniques means that quality has never been higher. While there is still plenty of tradition, there is also plenty of innovation with the use of amphorae and concrete eggs becoming virtually a requirement as well as increasing numbers of growers looking to organic and more environmentally friendly practices. There has also been a noticeable change in winemaking styles over the past few years as many of the very late-harvested, heavily extracted and oaked wines are giving way to what we see as more balanced, fresher styles with a more restrained use of oak.

Dry white Bordeaux — made predominantly from Sémillon and Sauvignon Blanc — is somewhat overlooked but in Pessac-Léognan and Graves, there are oak-aged wines of great complexity. The glorious, sweet wines of Sauternes and Barsac are the result of tiny yields, a lot of work in the vineyard and a reliance on nature so it can be very difficult for producers with the declining market for sweet wines. Many are looking at producing increasing amounts of dry whites.

CLARET

Bordeaux & Côtes

Tanners Claret, which, incidentally, has been on our shelves for over 50 years, is sourced from the Entre-Deux-Mers region and blended to make a good, early-drinking wine but in a 'classic' claret style. Tour de Luchey, Malbat and Moulin de Mallet are great for drinking young to enjoy the supple fruit while the Sichel family's Argadens is a more serious wine. The right bank 'Côtes' areas of Fronsac, Francs and Castillon all produce superbly concentrated and supple wines. François Thienpont's organically produced Sarmentine is sourced from vineyards in these areas.

| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux, 13% Vg | CR0001B | 10.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux - Half, 13% Vg | CR0001H | 6.80 |
| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux - Magnum, 13.5% Vg | CR0001M | 23.50 |
| Château Tour de Luchey, Bordeaux 2020, 14% | CR0023B20 | 11.30 |
| Château Malbat, Bordeaux 2021, 13% | CR0054B21 | 11.50 |
| Château Moulin de Mallet, Bordeaux 2021, 13% | CR0030B21 | 11.90 |
| Château Argadens, Bordeaux Supérieur 2019, 14.5% † ♦ | CR0064B19 | 14.40 |
| Sarmentine, Bordeaux, F Thienpont 2021, 12% € | CR0057B21 | 14.60 |
| Château Laclaverie, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux 2015, 14.5% | CR0025B15 | 17.40 |
| Château Brisson, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux 2016, 14.5% | CR0058B16 | 18.50 |
| Château L'Isle Fort, Bordeaux Supérieur 2018, 14.5% | CR0062B18 | 18.50 |
| La Violette du Manoir, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux 2017, 14.5% | CR0061B17 | 19.50 |
| Château Puygueraud, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux 2014, 14% | CR0040B14 | 21.00 |
| Château La Prade, Francs - Côtes de Bordeaux 2019, 14.5% | CR0039B19 | 21.50 |

Claret Vintage Guide

The 2023 vintage looks good but the yields are down, some warm damp weather in summer means the Cabernets have out performed the more delicate Merlot. The wines of 2022 are excellent showing a lovely balance of ripeness and juiciness that give them great balance. The 2021 vintage has made wines that are medium bodied with good freshness, in a similar style to 2017. The 2020 vintage yielded wines that are aromatic and concentrated, quite big in structure with freshness and balance. The wines of 2019 are very concentrated, fresh, ripe and plentiful, all in all a very well-regarded vintage. 2018 was a very good vintage in the end but mildew, hail, and a heatwave all served to reduce yields. The harvest across the region took place in near ideal conditions. 2017 is good in terms of quality but short on quantity, following frosts in the Spring that decimated certain properties. 2016 is a worthy successor to 2015, on a par qualitatively and looking very promising across all wine types. A hot summer but with cool nights has produced wines with fruit and freshness. 2015 is exceptionally good across the region for reds, especially the Right Bank, Pessac-Léognan, dry whites (better for Sauvignon than Sémillon) and sweeties: it is certainly the best vintage since 2010. 2014 is a very good Cabernet vintage, particularly in the Médoc where the wines are fresh with fine tannins. Overall, ripeness levels are good and so are quantities.

Médoc & Left Bank

The classic area of Bordeaux, this is home to the first growths and the majority of well-known properties that make the defining style of the area. When we find a suitable parcel, we release a wine under the 'Super Claret' label, usually in a traditional Médoc style. Château Semonlon is situated near Margaux and makes a supple and fruity wine with minimal oak. The Barton family have built a magnificent new winery at Mauvesin which is now turning out some wines with real elegance and depth; while close to Saint-Julien, Lanessan is making wines with style and balance. Further north, our old friends at Cissac and La Tour de By are making wines which are perhaps more fruit-forward than in the past.

Haut-Médoc is the area running alongside the Gironde Estuary north of Bordeaux, covering all the vineyards until north of Saint-Estèphe where the Médoc appellation takes over. Most of the classed growth properties are within the individual communal appellations but some of our favourites, such as Cantemerle, are under Haut-Médoc which also covers many excellent lesser-known properties. Margaux is the first communal appellation on the way north from Bordeaux on the 'Wine Route'. Its wines, characterised by elegance and pretty fruit, are generally lighter than the other communes. Our favourites include Angludet and Palmer, with Château Margaux as the epitome of the style. Claire and Gonzague Lurton make wonderful wines at Ferrière, La Gurgue and Durfort Vivens that are now certified organic, as well as experimenting with environmental protection and low sulphur winemaking.

In Saint-Julien, Ducru-Beaucaillou and the three Léoville estates are the leading properties but there are many others clustered around the village of St-Julien-Beychevelle. The Barton family at Léoville and Langoa-Barton have always made wonderful wines, very popular in this market, but others such as Gruaud-Larose, Talbot and Branaire-Ducru are also well worth following from this very consistent commune. Pauillac is perhaps the most famous of the Médoc communes containing three first growths and a host of other wellknown names. The style here virtually defines Bordeaux with plenty of blackcurrant fruit and firm tannic structure. Apart from the firsts, Grand-Puy-Lacoste and Pontet Canet always produce superb quality, with Pédesclaux, Batailley and Haut-Bages-Libéral well worth looking out for.

Saint-Estèphe is the most northerly of the communes and the one which generally produces the most structured and powerful wines. Cos d'Estournel, Montrose and Calon-Ségur are the best-known properties here but others such as Lafon-Rochet and Lilian Ladouys are making excellent wines. The Pessac-Léognan appellation, created in 1987, covers the top properties in the communes of Pessac and Léognan just to the south of Bordeaux, including many properties within the city boundaries. Haut-Brion and Pape-Clément are foremost amongst these, while Léognan has properties such as Domaine de Chevalier and Olivier.

| Tanners Super Claret, Moulis-en-Médoc 2018, 13.5% 🛡 | CR0005B18 | | 17.50 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Château Semonlon, Haut-Médoc 2020, 14% | CR0468B20 | | 15.40 |
| Les Calèches de Lanessan, Haut-Médoc 2015, 13.5% | CR0495B15 | | 19.20 |
| Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc 2020, 13% † | CR0450B20 | | 21.00 |
| Château du Retout, Haut-Médoc 2018, 14% | CR0507B18 | | 21.00 |
| Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc 2017, 13% ♦ | CR0450B17 | | 21.00 |
| L'Impression de Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc 2015, 13% | CR0403B15 | | 22.50 |
| Château Lafont Menaut Rouge, Pessac-Léognan 2019, 14% | CR0565B19 | | 24.00 |
| Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc 2021, 13% † | CR0490B21 | | 24.50 |
| Château Lafont Menaut Rouge, Pessac-Léognan 2020, 13.5% | CR0565B20 | | 24.50 |
| Les Allées de Cantemerle, Haut-Médoc 2018, 13% | CR0394B18 | | 25.00 |
| La Réserve de Sociando-Mallet, Haut-Médoc 2014, 13% | CR0508B14 | | 25.00 |
| Château Cambon La Pelouse, Haut-Médoc 2015, 14% | CR0506B15 | | 26.00 |
| Château Mauvesin-Barton, Moulis-en-Médoc 2019, 13% | CR0490B19 | | 26.50 |
| Château La Tour de By, Médoc 2019, 13.5% † | CR0453B19 | - | 26.50 |
| Château Lespault-Martillac Rouge, Pessac-Léognan 2019, 13.5% | CR0569B19 | | 33.50 |
| La Réserve d'Angludet, Margaux 2016, 13% | CR0308B16 | | 34.00 |
| Château Potensac, Médoc 2020, 13.5% | CR0466B20 | | 36.00 |
| La Dame d'Angludet, Margaux 2019, 13% | CR0308B19 | | 36.00 |
| Sarget de Gruaud Larose, Saint-Julien 2017, 13% | CR0375B17 | | 37.00 |
| Château Cantemerle, 5e cru classé Haut-Médoc 2020, 13.5% | CR0271B20 | | 38.00 |
| Duluc de Branaire-Ducru, Saint-Julien 2018, 14% | CR0388B18 | | 38.00 |
| Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac 2018, 14.5% | CR0380B18 | | 39.00 |

| Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac 2017, 13.5% | CR0380B17 | | 39.50 |
|--|-----------|---|--------|
| Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2020, 14.5% | CR0276B20 | _ | 39.95 |
| Château Lafon-Rochet, 4e cru classé Saint-Estèphe 2020, 13.5% | CR0265B20 | _ | 39.95 |
| Château Olivier, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan 2011, 13% | CR0586B11 | | 42.00 |
| Château Cantemerle, 5e cru classé Haut-Médoc 2019, 13% | CR0271B19 | _ | 43.00 |
| Château Tronquoy-Lalande, Saint-Estèphe 2018, 15% | CR0352B18 | | 43.00 |
| Château Olivier, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan 2017, 13.5% | CR0586B17 | | 43.00 |
| Château Angludet, Margaux 2020, 13.5% † | CR0300B20 | _ | 45.00 |
| Château Durfort-Vivens, 2e cru classé Margaux 2021, 13.5% € | CR0211B21 | | 60.00 |
| Château Haut-Bages Libéral, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2019, 14.5% | CR0273B19 | - | 64.00 |
| Château Phélan Ségur, Saint-Estèphe 2018, 14% | CR0347B18 | | 64.00 |
| Château Angludet, Margaux 2012, 13% | CR0300B12 | | 67.00 |
| Château Langoa Barton, 3e cru classé Saint-Julien 2010, 12.5% | CR0241B10 | | 73.00 |
| Château Léoville Barton, 2e cru classé Saint-Julien 2021, 13% | CR0210B21 | - | 75.00 |
| Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2020, 13.5% | CR0270B20 | - | 75.00 |
| Château Batailley, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2016, 13% | CR0280B16 | | 76.00 |
| Château Langoa Barton, 3e cru classé Saint-Julien 2019, 14% | CR0241B19 | | 78.00 |
| Château Branaire-Ducru, 4e cru classé Saint-Julien 2012, 12.5% | CR0261B12 | | 79.50 |
| Château Grand-Puy-Lacoste, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2017, 13.5% | CR0270B17 | | 89.00 |
| Château Durfort-Vivens, 2e cru classé Margaux 2015, 13.5% | CR0211B15 | | 90.00 |
| Château Branaire-Ducru, 4e cru classé Saint-Julien 2015, 13.5% | CR0261B15 | | 95.00 |
| Château Pontet-Canet, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2020, 13.5% 🚭 | CR0277B20 | - | 99.00 |
| Château Pontet-Canet, 5e cru classé Pauillac 2019, 13.5% | CR0277B19 | - | 99.00 |
| Château Léoville Barton, 2e cru classé Saint-Julien 2018, 14% † | CR0210B18 | | 130.00 |
| Château Haut-Bailly, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan 2020, 13.5% | CR0572B20 | - | 149.00 |

Saint-Emilion & Right Bank

The dominant grape variety here is Merlot, and the wines generally have a softer and fleshier feel than on the Left Bank. The firm of J-P Moueix is perhaps the best known in the region and their generic Pomerol and Saint-Emilion blends continue to be benchmarks. We generally buy Saint-Emilion grand cru, from the Mestreguilhem family at Château Pipeau, an excellent, well-structured wine. Château Montaiguillon makes stylish and elegant wine in Montagne St-Emilion. In another of the so-called 'satellite' communities, Lalande de Pomerol's Les Hauts-Conseillants has excellent depth and concentration. Pavie-Macquin and Vieux-Château-Certan continue to be two of the top names in Saint-Emilion and Pomerol respectively.

Pomerol has become possibly the most sought-after area in Bordeaux in recent years especially from those properties on the clay plateau around the church and village of Pomerol. Here, wines of great concentration and power are produced, on the sandier soils closer to Libourne the wines are lighter whilst still having plenty of soft Merlot fruit.

Château Bonalgue is a fine example. Saint-Emilion is a large appellation producing wines of differing styles, from the powerful 'extracted' style epitomised by Château Pavie, to the elegance of Cheval Blanc. Limestone abounds on the plateau and the Côtes around the town where most of the top properties are The Moueix family have spent a lot of time and money renovating Château Belair-Monange, including pouring enough concrete to fill Notre Dame, to stop it collapsing into the quarries and caves dug beneath the property but the results are impressive, both in terms of the structure and the wine. The large flat area running from the bottom of the town to the river produces many excellent wines with fruit and structure.

| Château du Courlat, Lussac-St-Emilion 2021, 13.5% | CR0649B21 | | 16.70 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Château La Pervenche, Lalande-de-Pomerol 2021, 13% | CR0653B21 | | 17.70 |
| Château Montaiguillon, Montagne Saint-Emilion 2019, 14.5% † ♦ | CR0730B19 | | 18.95 |
| Saint-Emilion, Jean-Pierre Moueix 2018, 14% Vg | CR0003B18 | | 19.40 |
| Château Les Hauts Conseillants, Lalande-de-Pomerol 2021, 13.5% | CR0652B21 | | 19.95 |
| Château du Courlat, Cuvée Jean Baptiste, Lussac-St-Emilion 2014, 13.5% | CR0654B14 | i | 21.50 |
| Château du Courlat, Cuvée Jean Baptiste, Lussac-St-Emilion 2021, 13.5% | CR0654B21 | ı | 22.00 |
| La Raison d'Hêtre, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux 2020, 14.5% 🚭 | CR0037B20 | | 24.00 |
| Château Les Hauts-Conseillants, Lalande-de-Pomerol 2014, 13.5% | CR0652B14 | | 24.00 |
| Château Haut Lariveau, Fronsac 2019, 13.5% & | CR0080B19 | | 24.50 |
| Les Tours de Laroque, Saint-Emilion grand cru 2018, 14.5% | CR0724B18 | i | 24.50 |
| Château Puy-Blanquet, Saint-Emilion grand cru 2015, 13.5% | CR0740B15 | | 24.50 |
| Château Canon, Canon-Fronsac 2019, 14.5% | CR0022B19 | | 25.00 |
| Château Puy-Blanquet, Saint-Emilion grand cru 2016, 13.5% | CR0740B16 | | 25.00 |
| Pomerol, Jean-Pierre Moueix 2020, 15% Vg | CR0004B20 | | 29.50 |
| Château Haut Lariveau, Fronsac 2014, 13.5% 🚭 | CR0080B14 | | 29.50 |
| Château Pipeau, Saint-Emilion grand cru 2020, 14% | CR0744B20 | | 32.00 |
| Château Ferrand, Pomerol 2020, 14% | CR0663B20 | | 33.00 |
| Château Chantalouette, Pomerol 2017, 13.5% NEW | CR0662B17 | | 33.00 |
| Château Bonalgue, Pomerol 2021, 14.5% | CR0685B21 | | 37.00 |
| L'Hêtre, Castillon - Côtes de Bordeaux 2020, 14.5% 🚭 | CR0060B20 | | 39.00 |
| Château Laroque, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion 2020, 14.5% | CR0774B20 | | 39.00 |
| Château Bonalgue, Pomerol 2014, 13.5% | CR0685B14 | | 46.00 |
| Château Lafleur-Gazin, Pomerol 2014, 14% | CR0677B14 | | 52.00 |
| Château Laroque, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion 2018, 14.5% | CR0774B18 | | 57.00 |
| Château Laroque, grand cru classé Saint-Emilion 2019, 14.5% | CR0774B19 | | 58.00 |
| Clos du Clocher, Pomerol 2017, 14% | CR0687B17 | | 65.00 |
| Château Trottevieille, I er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion 2021, 13.5% | CR0817B21 | - | 93.00 |

| La Gravette de Certan, Pomerol 2020, 14.5% | CR0690B20 | 9 3.00 |
|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Château La Gaffelière I er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion 2015, 14.5% | CR0781B15 | / 110.00 |
| Château Canon, 1 er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion 2020, 14.5% | CR0808B20 | / 160.00 |
| Château Bélair Monange, I er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion 2020, 14.5% | CR0770B20 | 180.00 |
| Château Canon, 1er grand cru classé 'B' Saint-Emilion 2016, 14% | CR0808B16 | 230.00 |

ROSÉ

Château Tour de Mirambeau, Reserve Rosé, Bordeaux 2022, 12.5% Vg CP0007B22

DRY WHITE

Graves is the area that extends south-east from Bordeaux down to Langon along the River Garonne. Pessac-Léognan has its own appellation, but there are still many excellent dry white wines made under the Graves name, Graves Supérieures is for sweeter whites. Château Lespault-Martillac, managed by Olivier Bernard of Domaine de Chevalier produces very small amounts of complex and elegant white wine as well as excellent red. Literally 'between two seas', in this case the tidal rivers Garonne and Dordogne, Entre-Deux-Mers is the most picturesque part of Bordeaux with rolling hills, hidden villages and with mixed agriculture rather than the monoculture of the Médoc for example. White, red and rosé is produced in this area but the appellation is for dry white wines, the reds and rosés going under Bordeaux or Bordeaux Supérieur labels.

| Château Argadens Blanc, Bordeaux 2022, 12.5% | CW0033B22 | 14.40 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Château Tour de Mirambeau, Reserve Blanc, Bordeaux 2022, I 2.5% Vg | CW0023B22 | 15.20 |
| Château Lafont Menaut Blanc, Pessac-Léognan 2018, 13% Vg | CW0009B18 | 22.00 |
| Château Lespault-Martillac Blanc, Pessac-Léognan 2020, 13.5% | CW0028B20 | 26.50 |
| Château Doisy-Daëne, Bordeaux Grand Vin Sec, Dubourdieu 2019, 12.5% | CW0012B19 | 29.95 |
| Château Olivier Blanc, grand cru classé Pessac-Léognan 2019, 13.5% | CW0025B19 | 47.00 |

SWEET

Sauternes & Barsac

The mist that forms along the Ciron River creates perfect conditions for producing exceptionally fine, botrytis-affected sweet wines. Barsacs are generally lighter and fresher; Sauternes are fuller in flavour, although much depends on the vintage. Properties such as Coutet, Climens and Doisy-Daëne produce some of the most delicious, complex wines you can find in Barsac, while in Sauternes, Rieussec, Guiraud, Suduiraut and d'Yquem are the top names. Tanners Sauternes is always sourced from a top property and is wonderful value.

| Tanners Sauternes - Half, 13% Vg | CS0001H | 14.90 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Château Liot, Sauternes 2021 - Half, 13.5% Vg | CS0004H21 | 16.80 |

| Petit Guiraud, Sauternes 2020 - Half, 13% | CS0420H20 | 17.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Les Cyprès de Climens, Barsac 2016 - Half, 13.5% | CS0002H16 | 23.50 |
| Château Guiraud, I er cru classé Sauternes 2006 - Half, I 3.5% | CS0024H06 | 32.00 |
| Château Suduiraut, 1er cru classé Sauternes 2017 - Half, 14% | CS0008H17 | 45.00 |
| Clos Haut-Peyraguey, 1er cru classé Sauternes 2016, 13.5% | CS0029B16 | 49.95 |
| Château Coutet, 1er cru classé Barsac 2016, 13.5% | CS0009B16 | 53.00 |
| Château Doisy Daëne, 2e cru classé Sauternes 2017, 13.5% | CS0005B17 | 56.00 |

Rhône Valley

France - Rhône Valley

Consistency and quality are the keywords here, with a run of good vintages giving a wide variety of top quality wines, both red and white. The Rhône Valley is very much two areas in one: if you drive down the motorway from Lyon, quite often it can be cool and cloudy until you reach Montélimar, when the skies clear and the temperature moves up a notch. The North also uses more Burgundian-style winemaking techniques in terms of its use of deminuids oak barrels rather than the large foudres of further south. There are unifying factors though and the main one is the use of Syrah grapes. Syrah contributes much character as the single variety in the North for Côte-Rôtie, Saint-Joseph, Crozes-Hermitage, Hermitage and Cornas, or as a blending partner in the South. Blending in order to achieve complexity reaches its apotheosis in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. If Châteauneuf looks a bit pricey these days, try Gigondas, Vacqueyras, Lirac, Cairanne or Rasteau. Ripe, silky Grenache plays an important role in these wines, as it does in most Côtes du Rhône. Gentle whites made from Marsanne and Roussanne, and orange blossom Viogniers, particularly Condrieu, are impressive. Then there's Tavel for rosé and Muscat de Beaumes de Venise for vin doux naturel.

RED

Ventoux & IGP

The Southern Rhône has its Grenache-dominated blends, warmer climate and winemaking in larger vats or *foudres*, as in much of Languedoc-Roussillon. **Pigeoulet** is mainly sourced from the Ventoux, formerly just a source of cheaper, easy drinking wines but now home to many innovative producers.

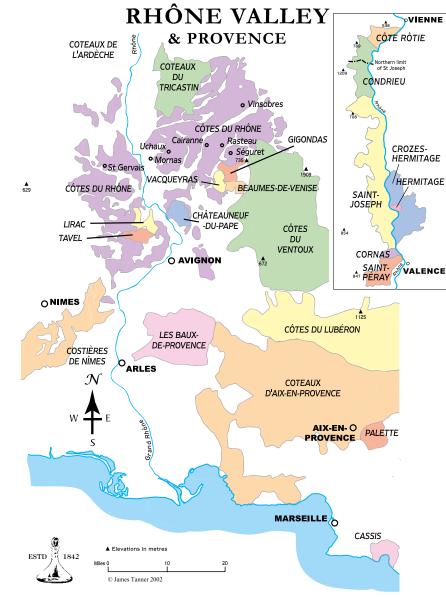
| Ventoux, Le Vin de Léonard, Famille Gonnet 2022, 14.5% | RR0107B22 | 13.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Le Pigeoulet, Vaucluse, Frédéric & Daniel Brunier 2022, 14.5% | RR0002B22 | 18.90 |
| Mégaphone, Ventoux, Frédéric & Daniel Brunier 2022, 14.5% | RR0018B22 | 21.50 |

Côtes du Rhône & Villages

The appellation system in the South can be complicated, as the difference between a stand-alone village and a named Côtes du Rhône village can be a fine one. It's often more important to the grower than the market. However, the quality, be it Lirac or Côtes du Rhône Signargues, is what is important. A good example of Côtes du Rhône, Tanners

TANNERS WINES

THE VINEYARDS OF THE





Rhône Vintage Guide

The 2023 vintage is promising, with the southern Rhône having an easier time of things but the results from both are showing potential. The 2022 vintage is very good for the North and South of the region which both excelled in the hot from the 2020 vintage look to be a little fresher and more approachable in their youth than those of 2019 which is a high-quality vintage with yields on a par with 2018. Another good result along the valley in 2018, though the South had more disease problems to contend with, as mildew affected the thinner-skinned Grenache more than other varieties. Quality was high but the yields were down. An early harvest produced some intense wines in 2017 for both the North and the South of the region, though uneven flowering in both reduced yields considerably. 2016 in both Northern and Southern Rhône has produced excellent results, and nights and just enough rainfall to prevent problems in the vineyards. Both whites and reds are excellent. 2014 is not an easy vintage to generalise about but whites are super, reds are very pure with lovely aromatics, and, in the South, as in 2013,

Rhône Valley Red is made for us by the Gonnets at La Font du Vent in Châteauneufdu-Pape and is full of smooth, ripe fruit. From close to Orange, the Arbouse has been a tremendous success with its spicy style. As an alternative to Gigondas, try the powerful reds of Rasteau and the smooth wines of Séguret and Cairanne, then across to the west bank of the Rhône around Lirac too.

| Tanners Rhône Valley Red, Côtes du Rhône 2021, 13.5% Vg † Côtes du Rhône, Vieilles Vignes, Cave Coteaux du Rhône 2022, 14% Arbouse, Massif d'Uchaux, Côtes du Rhône-Villages 2020, 14% Domaine de l'Amandine Rouge, Côtes du Rhône 2022, 14% Château Courac, Laudun Côtes du Rhône-Villages 2021, 14.5% Séguret, Côtes du Rhône-Villages, Domaine de l'Amandine 2021, 14% ↑ ◆ | RR0001B21 RR0134B22 RR0122B20 RR0142B22 RR0011B21 RR0135B21 | | 13.50 10.95 12.30 13.30 14.50 14.90 |
|---|--|---|--|
| Côtes du Rhône Les Bergeronnettes, Domaine La Collière 2021, 13.5% | RR0129B21 | / | 15.20 |
| Rasteau, Touillères, Domaine La Collière 2020, 15% | RR0147B20 | 1 | 18.30 |
| Rasteau, Domaine la Soumade, Frédéric Roméro 2021, 14.5% | RR0022B21 | | 19.20 |
| Lirac, Moon Apogé, Domaine des Carabiniers 2020, 13% | RR0143B20 | | 19.40 |
| Rasteau, Esprit d'Argiles, Domaine La Collière 2021, 15% | RR0131B21 | | 21.00 |
| Rasteau, Esprit d'Argiles, Domaine La Collière 2020, 15% | RR0131B20 | | 21.00 |
| Lirac Vieilles Vignes, Les Sables d'Arène, Domaine Giraud 2021, 14.5% | RR0136B21 | | 23.50 |
| Rasteau, Cuvée Confiance, Domaine la Soumade, Frédéric Roméro 2020, 14.5% 0 | RR0095B20 | ı | 26.50 |
| Vinsobres, Les Hauts de Julien, Famille Perrin 2021 | RR0104B21 | | 36.00 |
| Domaine de l'Amandine Rouge, Côtes du Rhône 3 Litre BIB, 13.5% | RR0142X | | 49.00 |
| | | | |

Gigondas & Vacqueyras

Châteauneuf-du-Pape may be the jewel of the South, but there are many other fantastic reds to try such as those from Châteauneuf's closest relative, Gigondas. The next village, Vacqueyras, is home to the Vache brothers at Clos des Cazaux who make stylish and characterful wine both in their home village and in Gigondas. Also in Gigondas, the Brunier's Domaine Les Pallières is now showing all its potential with full and intense wines. Unfortunately, demand is such that we usually sell out on our En Primeur offer. The Faraud sisters' Domaine du Cayron always has exuberant fruit and great concentration.

| Vacqueyras, Cuvée des Templiers, Domaine Le Clos des Cazaux 2021, 14.5% | RR0034B21 | 1 | 22.50 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Gigondas, Cuvée de la Tour Sarrasine, Domaine Le Clos des Cazaux 2021, 14.5% | RR0035B21 | | 25.50 |
| Gigondas, Le Vin du Léonard, Famille Gonnet 2021, 14.5% | RR0118B21 | | 26.00 |
| Gigondas, Domaine du Cayron 2020, 14.5% | RR0037B20 | | 33.00 |
| Gigondas, Les Racines, Domaine Les Pallières 2021, 15% | RR0036B21 | | 38.00 |

vineyards are run organically and the wines have wonderful style and substance.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape

France - Rhône Valley

Châteauneuf-du-Pape dominates in the South and here the Bruniers at Vieux Télégraphe are right at the top of their game, although many of the villages in the South produce wines in a similar style that can be better than much of the cheap Châteauneuf on the market. We have been impressed with the wines from Marie and François Giraud which have wonderful intensity and balance in a big and silky style. Two other superb estates we follow are the Perrin family's Château de Beaucastel and the Gonnet family's Domaine La Font du Vent.

| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Les Galets de la Berthaude, Roger Perrin 2021, 15% † | RR0132B21 | ı | 28.50 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Télégramme, Famille Brunier 2020, 15% | RR0039B20 | | 38.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Cuvée Tradition, Domaine Font du Vent 2020, 14.5% | RR0041B20 | | 35.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine Giraud 2020 (organic), 15.5% & | RR0110B20 | | 46.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe, Famille Brunier 2021, 14.5% | RR0043B21 | - | 68.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Château de Beaucastel, Famille Perrin 2020, 14.5% € † | RR0045B20 | - | 83.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Les Gallimardes, Domaine Giraud 2020, 15.5% | RR0111B20 | | 87.00 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Les Grenaches de Pierre, Domaine Giraud 2019, 15.5% S | RR0116B19 | - | 92.00 |

Northern Rhône

The North produces only a very small proportion of the total amount made in the Rhône Valley, but what it lacks in quantity it certainly makes up for in quality and big names. Saint-Joseph is the biggest appellation, running all the way from Condrieu down to Valence and covering many different terroirs and styles on its way. The classic area is mostly around Tournon and Mauves and the issue of whether to introduce a grand cru system to distinguish the top vineyards is very topical. Crozes-Hermitage is another big appellation with a great variety of soils which can lead to a variety of styles. Galets (large pebbles), as in Châteauneuf, cover some of the southern parts giving full-bodied wines, but the sandy soil of the North is more suited to whites.

The dominant Syrah grape in the North is generally cut with a bit of Viognier in Côte-Rôtie, producing wines with wonderful perfume and elegance. Pierre Gaillard's Saint-Joseph demonstrates precision and purity. Jean-Pierre and Hélène Mucyn's Crozes-Hermitage and small parcel of Cornas are producing consistently fine wines. Cornas is where the Syrah grape reaches perhaps its greatest intensity and minerality on the steep, granite-based slopes but it is an area expanding beyond its classic core and some wines can lack this intensity. Near Tain l'Hermitage, Florent Viale and his son Axel of Domaine du Colombier make full, rich wines with wonderful black fruits. Jaboulet is one of the classic names of the Northern Rhone now run by Caroline Frey, whose family also owns runs Château La Lagune in Bordeaux, their

| Crozes-Hermitage, Coeur de Clairmont 2022, 13% † | RR0050B22 | | 18.70 |
|---|-----------|---|--------|
| Crozes-Hermitage, Les Entrecoeurs, Domaine Mucyn 2021, 13% Vg | RR0051B21 | | 24.00 |
| Crozes-Hermitage Rouge, Pierre Gaillard 2020, 13.5% | RR0157B20 | | 25.00 |
| Saint-Joseph Rouge, Les Salamandres, Domaine Mucyn 2021, 13% | RR0124B21 | | 26.50 |
| Saint-Joseph, Les Traverses, Catherine & Pascal Jamet 2019, 14.7% | RR0140B19 | | 27.50 |
| Crozes-Hermitage, Domaine de Thalabert, Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 14% € | RR0055B20 | 1 | 32.00 |
| Crozes-Hermitage, Cuvée Gaby, Domaine du Colombier 2021, 13% | RR0054B21 | | 36.00 |
| Saint-Joseph, Les Pierres, Pierre Gaillard 2020, 14.5% | RR0156B20 | | 39.00 |
| Cornas, Hypsos, Domaine Mucyn 2020, 13% | RR0128B20 | | 42.00 |
| Cornas, Pierre Gaillard 2021, 13.5% | RR0148B21 | _ | 42.00 |
| Côte-Rôtie, Pierre Gaillard 2021, 13% | RR0149B21 | | 52.00 |
| Cornas, Domaine de Saint Pierre, Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 15% & | RR0162B20 | | 57.00 |
| Hermitage, La Maison Bleue, Domaine Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 15.5% & | RR0159B20 | 1 | 62.00 |
| Hermitage, Domaine du Colombier 2021, 13% | RR0067B21 | _ | 65.00 |
| Côte-Rôtie, Les Pierrelles, Domaine Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 14% & | RR0163B20 | | 67.00 |
| Hermitage, La Chapelle, Domaine Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 15.5% 🔮 🍯 | RR0070B20 | 1 | 195.00 |
| Hermitage, La Chapelle, Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2016, 14.5% S | RR0070B16 | 1 | 199.00 |
| | | | |

ROSÉ

Tavel is perhaps the most famous rosé of the Rhône and makes full-flavoured wines across the river on the west bank, mainly from Grenache.

DRY WHITE

Southern Rhône

Complex, nutty white Châteauneuf-du-Pape is great, but the **Amandine** white also achieves much of this character. Single varietal Roussanne, Marsanne and Viognier can also be full of interest.

| Domaine de l'Amandine Blanc, Côtes du Rhône 2023, 13% | RW0072B23 | 13.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Côtes du Rhône Blanc, Les Bergeronnettes, Domaine La Collière 2022, 14% | RW0066B22 | 16.30 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc, Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe, Famille Brunier 2021, 14% Vg | RW0008B21 | 59.00 |

Northern Rhône

André Perret is the master of Viognier and played a huge role in restoring the reputation

and vineyard area of **Condrieu**. His wines are aromatic and intense and can be found on our Oddments List. Mucyn's Crozes-Hermitage, made in tiny quantities, is full of peachy character.

| Crozes-Hermitage Blanc, Les Charmeuses, Domaine Mucyn 2020, 13% | RW0013B20 | 23.50 |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Crozes-Hermitage Blanc Cuvée Gaby, Domaine Colombier 2020, 13% | RW0057B20 | 36.00 |
| Hermitage Blanc, Domaine Colombier 2021, 13% | RW0016B21 | 66.00 |
| Hermitage Blanc, La Chapelle, Paul Jaboulet Aîné 2020, 14% 🚭 | RW0032B20 | 160.00 |

SWEET

Classic raisiny, grapey Beaumes-de-Venise is a *vin doux naturel*, lightly fortified to give a bit more density. The Castaud family of **Domaine des Bernardins** achieved the appellation for the village and the estate continues to produce pure, delicious wines.

| Muscat de Beaumes-de-Venise, | RS0001H22 | 14.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Domaine des Bernardins 2022 - Half 15% | | |

Beaujolais

Finding infamy perhaps, and certainly an abiding memory for many with Beaujolais Nouveau ('celebrated' on a chilly Thursday in November), if you prefer a lighter-bodied red of invariably excellent quality, this is the region to explore. Beaujolais across the board is a much better wine than those encountered in the 1980s, and the region is definitely on a roll.



The outstanding 2009 vintage set everything off and pretty much every vintage since has delivered magnificent wines. What is exciting is the subtle differences you will find between the wines, yet the quality of the soft, gorgeous flavours of well-made Gamay has never been better. From humble AOC Beaujolais through **Beaujolais-Villages** to the firmer, almost Burgundian feel of some of the Beaujolais 'cru' wines, there are many very classy, approachable, fruity, wines to be sampled. Some keep well too, with Chénas, Juliénas and Fleurie all drinking well into their third year while Moulin-à-Vent and Morgon often need time to even start to show their full potential. Saint-Amour, Brouilly, Côte de Brouilly and Regnié produce delicious, earlier drinking wines and high-up Chiroubles some of the finest.

RED

Beaujolais & Villages

Humble perhaps, well priced certainly, these are the 'starting point' wines from the outlying vineyards stretching back up the hillsides. There are a couple of useful points to remember with these lovely wines. Gamay, the only black grape used in the region, is inherently soft, juicy and fruity. It should be top of the list if you dislike the firm or furry structure of



more tannic grapes. Beaujolais Nouveau may take this to an extreme! Top négociant **Jean Loron** of Pontanevaux covers the Mâconnais and Beaujolais, bottling some wines under the **Jacques Charlet** label. **Rémi Benon's** Beaujolais-Villages is fuller, an excellent example of the style.

| Beaujolais, Jacques Charlet 2020, 13% Vg † | JR0001B20 | 13.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Beaujolais-Villages, Rémi Benon 2022, 13.5% Vg † | JR0038B22 | 15.20 |

Fleurie & The Crus

The best ground and by extension the best villages in Beaujolais are named on the label and referred to as 'cru'. There are ten villages, each individual cru surrounds its identifying village, yet all are bound together by soft and supple, juicy-fruited, easy-drinking flavours. Most of the cru wines are made with juicy softness as their goal. Saint-Amour in the northern part is the simplest, while Michel Tête in Juliénas and Rémi Benon in Chénas make wines with more depth. Fleurie has perhaps the best 'name' and has a charming, pretty edge although Mathieu Mélinand at Domaine des Marrans makes a bigger style on a par with his friend Laurent Guillet who produces fabulous Morgons. For the most ageworthy, choose Moulin-à-Vent; Louis Boillot's wine is quite 'Burgundian' in style.

| Chénas, Rémi Benon 2022, 13.5% Vg | JR0019B22 | 16.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Côte de Brouilly, Les Volcaniques, Jacques Charlet 2021, 13% | JR0004B21 | 16.70 |
| Fleurie, Domaine André Colonge et Fils 2022, 13.5% † | JR0015B22 | 17.50 |
| Morgon, Côte du Py, Laurent Guillet, Domaine de la Chaponne 2021, 13.5% | JR0012B21 | 18.30 |
| Juliénas, Michel & Sylvain Tête, Domaine du Clos du Fief 2022, 13% | JR0020B22 | 18.70 |
| Fleurie 'La Roche 'Champagne', Domaine des Marrans 2022, 13% | JR0040B22 | 24.00 |
| Moulin-à-Vent, vieilles vignes, Louis Boillot 2021, 13% | JR0028B21 | 24.50 |
| Moulin-à-Vent, Les Rouchaux, Louis Boillot 2021, 13% | JR0043B21 | 27.00 |
| Fleurie, Grille-Midi, Louis Boillot 2021, 13% | JR0046B21 | 34.00 |
| Moulin-à-Vent, Aux Caves, Louis Boillot 2021, 13% | JR0045B21 | 36.00 |

Burgundy

With production limited by geography – well exposed slopes with limestone-clay soils are key – and burgeoning worldwide demand, the price of burgundy continues ever upwards. Its mosaic of tiny vineyards and enormous roster of producers make it all the more fascinating. The region stretches 140 miles from Chablis in the North to Pouilly-Fuissé in the South. In between is the Côte d'Or, an escarpment which neatly divides into the Côte de Nuits and Côte de Beaune. The former includes villages such as Gevrey-Chambertin, Nuits-St- Georges, Vosne-Romanée and Chambolle-Musigny; the latter, Beaune, Volnay, Pommard, Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet. Travelling south, and before reaching the Mâconnais, lies the Côte Chalonnaise with less-discovered red and white burgundies made from Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Aligoté grapes.

WHITE BURGUNDY

The heart of white burgundy is the Côte de Beaune whose wines can sometimes drive their fans into a frenzy of buying, and sometimes its growers to nervous exhaustion! Put simply, the pinnacle of the world's Chardonnay production is here and whole books have been written on single villages and their vineyards. The pressure to excel is enormous whilst the threat of cataclysmic frost, hail and disease is omnipresent. This part of the Côte d'Or is broader and lumpier than its neighbour, the Côte de Nuits. At its northern end is the hill of Corton - the villages of Ladoix, Aloxe-Corton and Pernand-Vergelesses at its foot - and grand cru Corton-Charlemagne sunning itself on its southern slopes. Chorey-lès-Beaune and Savigny-lès-Beaune are just by the picturesque town of Beaune, where you enter more serious red wine territory, running into Pommard and Volnay. Then there is a 'useful' valley containing Monthélie, Auxey-Duresses and Saint-Romain - 'useful' in that prices ease off a little - before the world's most famous Chardonnay vineyards start. An illustrious line of top premier then grand crus follows from the village of Meursault through Puligny and Chassagne-Montrachet, Le Montrachet being the culmination. Saint-Aubin and Santenay aren't far on - what a difference a kilometre or two can make to price! Whilst the Côte de Beaune is revered, much white burgundy action is outside it in Chablis, the Mâconnais and the Côte Chalonnaise.

Bourgogne Chardonnay

There are 14 variants of straight 'Bourgogne', but Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune, Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits and Bourgogne Côte Chalonnaise are the ones most likely to be seen on labels. Bourgogne Côte d'Or is the most recent and exciting addition as many of our growers, such as **Etienne Sauzet** in Puligny-Montrachet, have respectable vineyards on the 'wrong side of the tracks', being just beyond the commune limits. Look out for them on our list and En Primeur offers, as they regularly deliver similar magic of their grander cousins.

| Tanners White Burgundy, Bourgogne Chardonnay 2022, 12.5% Vg † Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Blanc, | BW0001B22 BW0283B18 | | 14.90 24.50 |
|---|------------------------|---|----------------|
| Maison Roche de Bellene 2018, 13% Bourgogne Chardonnay, Clos de la Carbonade, Monopole, P & L Borgeot, 13% | BW0214B21 | i | 26.00 |
| Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Blanc, Roche de Bellene 2021, 12% | BW0283B21 | | 28.50 |
| Bourgogne Côte d'Or, Bachelet-Monnot 2021, 13% | BW0193B21 | | 34.00 |
| Bourgogne Blanc, Méo-Camuzet Frère et Soeurs 2020, 13.5% | BW0277B20 | | 34.00 |

Bourgogne Aligoté

Aligoté plays second fiddle to Chardonnay by a very long margin, not in terms of quality but in terms of quantity. It produces a white which is more appley than Chardonnay, but Aligoté can have superb creamy texture. At its most neutral it can be improved with a dose of cassis to make a traditional Kir. Our example, however, from top Côte Chalonnaise producer, **Domaine Jacqueson** is far too good for that, and to use their Bouzeron – an

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Chablis

France - Burgundy

The small town of Chablis sits in rolling, open countryside south of Paris, straddling the River Serein, its extensive slopes of grand cru vineyards protecting it from the north-east winds. It's worth the short detour off the A6 autoroute in summer, but those winds bite in winter. The key to Chablis' resounding success is soil – Kimmeridgian limestone in particular – which is instrumental in the production of crisp, minerally Chardonnays which are unmatched anywhere else in the world. It is fossil country too and the ammonite and oyster fossils that often decorate the tasting rooms auto-suggest a classic food match: Chablis with shellfish.

The most intense and surprisingly long-lived wines come from the grand cru slopes, Les Clos being the best, but Vaudésir, Valmur and Les Preuses are not far behind. The individual premier crus of Chablis are so numerous that they are often lumped together under the umbrella names of Fourchaume, Montée de Tonnerre and Mont de Milieu – all on the arguably better northern slopes – and then Vau de Vey, Côte de Léchet, Vaillons (including Les Lys) and Montmains (including Les Forêts) on the southern spurs. These vineyards produce more interesting and flavoursome wines than straight Chablis which covers a larger and somewhat argued-over area, with much Portlandian limestone. Petit Chablis covers a patchwork of further flung slopes. In the right hands, however, both are delicious.

Such is our requirement for Chablis that we deal with two of the largest vineyard owners: **Domaine Jean Durup** in Maligny (Les Valery is our exclusive label) and the **Brocards** in Préhy with their Domaine des Manants. Both are excellent and both are in the 'no oak' camp. At **Moreau-Naudet**, Virginie Moreau continues the work of her husband Stéphane Moreau making precise, citrussy Chablis with a very controlled use of oak. **Domaine Christian Moreau** is a perfectly formed vestige of the large and famous Moreau domaine, with son Fabien crafting brilliant wines from top sites. Another famous surname in these parts is Fèvre. Nathalie et Gilles Fèvre, a wife and husband team, produce super-mineral wines from a 48 Ha estate and the cleanest ever small winery in Fontenay-près-Chablis. We have shipped the wines of **Domaine Vincent Dauvissat** (and his father René before him) for almost 40 years, and the following for his wines means they rarely reach our main list these days.

| Petit Chablis, Les Manants, Famille Brocard 2022, 12.5% Vg | BW0016B22 | 19.40 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Chablis, Jean de Chaudenay 2022, 12.5% 🐠 | BW0924B22 | 21.50 |
| Chablis, Les Valéry, Jean Durup 2022, 12.5% Vg † | BW0017B22 | 23.50 |
| Chablis, Nathalie et Gilles Fèvre 2022, 12.5% 🛡 🍯 | BW0238B22 | 23.00 |
| Chablis, Vieilles Vignes, Daniel-Etienne Defaix 2020, 12.5% Vg | BW0022B20 | 29.50 |
| Chablis 1er cru Vau de Vey, Les Valéry, Jean Durup 2022, 12.5% Vg | BW0023B22 | 35.00 |
| Chablis 1er cru Fourchaume, Les Valéry, | BW0024B22 | 35.00 |
| Jean Durup Père et Fils 2022, 12.5% Vg | | |
| Chablis 1er cru Fourchaume, Nathalie et Gilles Fèvre 2022, 13% | BW0239B22 | 37.00 |
| Chablis 1er cru Mont de Milieu, Nathalie et Gilles Fèvre 2022, 13% | BW0251B22 | 43.00 |

| Chablis 1er cru Côte de Léchet, | BW0031B10 | 44.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Daniel-Etienne Defaix 2010, 13% Vg † | | |
| Chablis grand cru Les Preuses, Nathalie et Gilles Fèvre 2021, 13% | BW0253B21 | 75.00 |

Mâcon & Viré-Clessé

From the far south of Burgundy, the wines of the warm Mâconnais – the hinterland of the large town of Mâcon – tend to be softer, more ready to drink and less expensive than whites from elsewhere in Burgundy. This is a hilly landscape of vines, woods and mixed agriculture. Many villages can make Mâcon-Villages such as the great value Mâcon-Chardonnay from wife and husband Mallory and Benjamin Talmard. Dominique Lafon of Domaine des Comtes Lafon in Meursault has carefully selected plots around a base in Milly-Lamartine which are sold under the Héritiers du Comte Lafon label. Domaine des Chenevières is situated not far from Mâcon and Cluny and has been in the same family for six generations with cousins Sylvain, Benoît and Aurélien Lenoir currently carrying the torch.

| Mâcon-Chardonnay, Mallory & Benjamin Talmard 2022, I 2.5% Vg | BW0038B22 | 15.60 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Mâcon-Villages, Vieilles Vignes, | BW0286B22 | 16.20 |
| Domaine des Chenevières 2022, I 3% Vg | | |
| Mâcon-Vergisson, Domaine Guerrin & Fils 2022, 13.5% | BW0036B22 | 16.50 |
| Mâcon La Roche Vineuse, Sur Le Fil, Deux Roches 2020, 13% | BW0940B20 | 17.50 |
| Mâcon-Villages, La Crochette, Jean Loron 2022, 12.5% Vg † | BW0207B22 | 18.20 |
| Mâcon-Lugny, Les Genièvres, Maison Louis Latour 2022, 13% † | BW0037B22 | 19.90 |

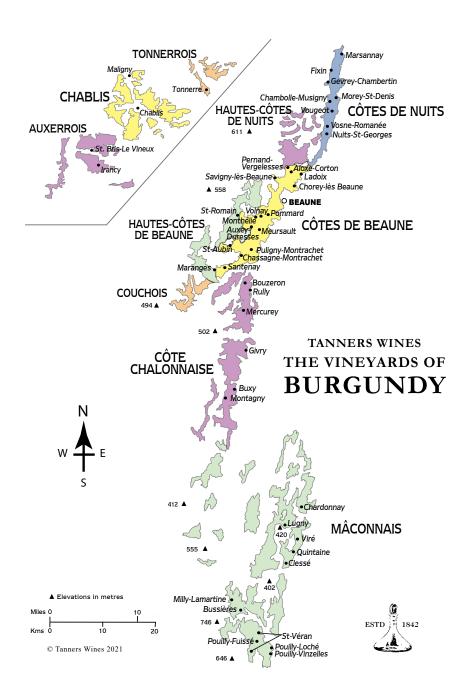
Pouilly-Fuissé & Saint-Véran

The southernmost part of the Mâconnais is dominated by the spectacular limestone rocks of Solutré and Vergisson. The latter is where Bastien Guerrin makes an almost Chablis-like Mâcon-Vergisson. Nearby are Davayé and AOC Saint-Véran where brothers-in-law, Christian Collovray and Jean-Luc Terrier, produce very flavoursome wines by stirring up the lees into their wines. Then there is the huge bowl of Pouilly-Fuissé, fully planted with Chardonnay vines, and Château-Fuissé where Antoine Vincent continues the careful vineyard and oak regime of his father. A good Pouilly-Fuissé should be full and buttery, but mineral too.

| Saint-Véran, Réserve, Christian Collovray et Jean-Luc Terrier 2022, 13% Vg | BW0047B22 | | 21.00 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Pouilly-Fuissé, Cuvée Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Guerrin & Fils 2022, 13.5% | BW0049B22 | / | 26.00 |
| Pouilly-Fuissé, Vieilles Vignes, Deux Roches, Colloyray et Terrier 2021, 13% Vg | BW0051B21 | 1 | 31.00 |

Côte de Nuits

Nuits-St-Georges, Vougeot, Morey-St-Denis, Fixin and Marsannay wines can be white, but the other villages can only be red. There is Côte de Nuits-Villages Blanc but no white Côte



de Beaune-Villages Blanc. Logical, maybe not?! The Côte de Nuits also has tiny pockets of Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris and 'Pinot Gouges' a singular white mutation of Pinot Noir.

Marsannay Blanc, Le Clos, Monopole, René Bouvier 2021, 13% € BW0212B21 ✓ 43.00

Côte Chalonnaise

It's only really the Canal du Centre and some marshy meadows that divide the Côte Chalonnaise from its illustrious neighbour, the Côte de Beaune. For many years those in the know have savoured the Chardonnays of Rully and Montagny which can be treated as equals to the lesser villages of the Côte d'Or, and that's not to mention the Aligotés of Bouzeron. Marie and Pierre **Jacqueson**, sister and brother, are often rated as the best producers in Rully, fashioning wines which are admired by peers in all parts of Burgundy.

| Montagny, Maison Roche de Bellene 2020, 13.5% | BW0278B20 | 23.00 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Rully Blanc, La Chaponnière, P & L Borgeot 2021, 13% | BW0256B21 | 34.00 |
| Rully Blanc Ter cru Grésigny. Vincent Girardin 2021, 13.5% | BW0307B21 | 49.95 |

Southern Côte de Beaune

Good growers in the outlying, lesser-known villages of the Côte de Beaune can produce wines with many of the characteristics of Chassagne-Montrachet or Meursault, especially in warmer years. Many also have vineyard holdings in the greater villages, one such being Bachelet-Monnot in the red wine village of Dezize-lès-Maranges, where the Côte de Beaune escarpment peters out. Brothers Marc and Alex Bachelet are making wines of real precision. The village of Saint-Aubin is tucked behind the main côte but its vines occupy the rear slopes of the hill of Montrachet, as well as stretching down to Chassagne-Montrachet opposite Criots-Bâtard-Montrachet. We have followed the red Les Frionnes from Henri Prudhon et Fils since about 1990, but their whites have been getting better and better and Saint-Aubin is predominantly Chardonnay. The tranquil hilltop hamlet of Saint-Romain-Le-Haut is home to Alain Gras, whose Saint-Romain Blanc is listed by most of the Michelin 3-star restaurants in France.

| Saint-Aubin Blanc 1er cru, Cuvée Frisson d'Avril, | BW0303B21 | 34.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Henri Prudhon et Fils 2021, 13% Vg | | |
| Auxey-Duresses Blanc, Michel Prunier et Fille 2021, 13% | BW0199B21 | 37.00 |

Northern Côte de Beaune

Moving to the northern end of the Côte de Beaune, Corton-Charlemagne occupies a curving, stony hillside and produces wines of great concentration and longevity, with its own exotic richness which is somewhat different to the grand crus of the Montrachets. At **Domaine Rollin**, father and son, Rémi and Simon Rollin, make long-lived Corton-Charlemagne as well as superb Pernand-Vergelesses in immaculate cellars. The fortunes of some of the large merchant houses of Beaune have waxed and waned over the years, but one who has built upon a fine reputation for reliable whites is Louis Latour whose showcase cellars are at Château Corton-Grancey in nearby Aloxe-Corton.

Meursault

France - Burgundy

Meursault doesn't have the grands crus of Puligny and Chassagne but at premier cru level it competes ably, turning out opulent, almondy wines which go well with lobster. On the road to Puligny you pass by a line of premier crus: Les Gouttes d'Or, Les Bouchères, Le Porusot, Les Genevrières, Les Charmes (the largest) with Les Perrières above. Jean-François Germain at **Domaine Henri Germain** has particularly cool damp cellars where he quietly goes about fashioning some of the best wines in the village. His brother Eric is winemaker at Vincent Girardin where he makes superb wines in a larger, more modern facility. Back in the heart of the village at **Domaine Buisson-Charles**, winemaker and ex-teacher, Patrick Essa tends to harvest later than his peers to make very intense wines. Last but not least are two of the great domaines which supply us: **Domaine des Comtes Lafon** and **Domaine Coche-Dury**, run by cousins, Léa and Pierre Lafon, and Raphaël Coche respectively. Both estates are masters in the perfect match of Chardonnay to oak. Red Meursault exists but more often appears as Volnay, its neighbouring village.

| Meursault, Maison Roche de Bellene 2021, 13% | BW0270B21 | 75.00 |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Meursault, Louis Latour 2021 - Half, 13.5% | BW0237H21 | 39.50 |
| Meursault, Vieilles Vignes, Vincent Girardin 2021, 13% 🐠 | BW0218B21 | 86.00 |
| Meursault Les Charmes 1er cru, | BW0304B21 | 130.00 |
| Maison Roche de Bellene 2021, 13.5% | | |

Puligny & Chassagne-Montrachet

The wines of Puligny-Montrachet have more of a mineral backbone than those of Meursault and Chassagne-Montrachet, and simplistically one might say the aromas are more honeysuckle than the lemony notes of Chassagne. The authorities were reasonably fair in dividing Le Montrachet almost equally between Puligny and Chassagne, and Bâtard-Montrachet isn't far off either if one includes the sub-sections of Bienvenues-Bâtard and Criots-Bâtard which belong to Puligny and Chassagne respectively. Then Puligny trumps it with 7.5 ha of the wonderful high vineyard of Chevalier-Montrachet as well as a fine roster of premier crus led by Pucelles, Cailleret, Folatières and Combettes. The premier crus of Chassagne are numerous, but Morgeot is one of the best known, being a larger agglomeration of others. In Puligny-Montrachet the terroirs of the wonderful holdings of Etienne Sauzet are each expressed brilliantly in bottle by Benoît Riffault, son-in-law of the great Gérard Boudot. At Domaine Leflaive, Brice de La Morandière and Pierre Vincent have taken on the mantle of the late Anne-Claude Leflaive, continuing the biodynamic methods in the production of very pure wines in a newly built cuverie. In Chassagne-Montrachet, the wines of Paul Pillot continue to impress us, now in the hands of the next generation, Thierry and Chrystelle Pillot who have worked extensively in the New World.

| Puligny-Montrachet, Louis Latour 2021, 13% | BW0105B21 | 94.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Chassagne-Montrachet, Vieilles Vignes, Vincent Girardin 2021, 13% | BW0254B21 | 96.00 |
| Puligny-Montrachet, Vieilles Vignes, Vincent Girardin 2021, 13% | BW0175B21 | 96.00 |

RED BURGUNDY

Stretching 14 miles southwards from the outskirts of Dijon to the marble quarries of Comblanchien, the Côte de Nuits is one long vineyard. Many of the villages are household names to conjure with. If it were a Game of Thrones, then Gevrey-Chambertin would be a sturdy king, Vosne-Romanée a clever queen, Vougeot an expansive great-aunt and Chambolle-Musigny a pretty princess. Nuits-St-Georges and Morey-Saint-Denis would be princes, the first steadier and the second colder and more scheming, with Fixin and Marsannay mere princelings. This is pre-eminent Pinot Noir territory with its grand cru wines often achieving stratospheric prices, but good value is often to be found in 'village' wines (e.g. Gevrey-Chambertin), Fixin, Marsannay and Côte de Nuits-Villages. The Côte de Beaune is also an important area for Pinot Noir, alongside its world class Chardonnays; Volnay, Pommard, Beaune and Corton particularly stand out. Further south in the Côte Chalonnaise, Givry and Mercurey produce good reds.

Bourgogne Pinot Noir

For many years, the powers-that-be in Burgundy argued over whether to allow Bourgogne Côte d'Or to run alongside appellations such as Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits and Bourgogne Côte Chalonnaise. Finally this has happened, giving more legitimacy to the 'little' burgundies of famous growers whose vines sit below the route nationale. Other growers, such as Michel Gros, have important holdings in the elevated, later ripening Hautes-Côtes. Aside from Passe-Tout-Grains which includes Gamay, for 'Bourgogne Rouge' you can read 'Pinot Noir'.

| Tanners Red Burgundy, Bourgogne Pinot Noir 2020, 13% | BR0205B20 | I. | 19.95 |
|--|-----------|----|-------|
| | | 1 | |
| Bourgogne Rouge, Henri Prudhon et Fils 2021, 12% Vg | BR0326B21 | | 16.95 |
| Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune Rouge, Maison Roche de Bellene, 13% | BR0319B17 | | 28.00 |
| Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Bachelet-Monnot 2021, 13.5% | BR0224B21 | | 33.00 |
| Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Nuits, Fontaine Saint Martin, Michel Gros 2021, 13% | BR0279B21 | | 33.00 |
| Bourgogne Pinot Noir, Hautes-Coutures, Buisson-Charles 2021, 13.5% | BR0324B21 | | 45.00 |

Côte Chalonnaise

The Côte Chalonnaise is a somewhat bucolic area of vines and Charolais cattle, and its reds can be very good too: Mercurey sturdier, occasionally too robust, and Givry softer and prettier. Poncey, a hamlet, just south of Givry, is home to **Domaine Mouton** where Laurent Mouton is upping the game from the lighter style of reds he inherited from his father Gérard.

| | | | 1 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Givry Ter cru Clos | Jus, Domaine Mouton 2021, 13.5% | BR0010B21 | 36.00 |

Southern Côte de Beaune

Maranges, an agglomeration of three villages on the southern shoulder of the Côte de Beaune, and then the lower vineyards of Santenay and Chassagne-Montrachet, are important areas for Pinot Noir production. Once rustic, the wines are now smoother and

softer due to better techniques in the winery such as de-stemming and softer pressing. At Remigny, just across the Canal du Centre from Santenay, **Domaine Borgeot** is run by whirlwind Laurent Borgeot and his quieter bother Pascal. In Auxey-Duresses, the valley uphill from Meursault and Monthélie, Domaine **Michel Prunier** is the best of a clutch of Pruniers and is run by Michel Prunier, the archetypal Burgundian vigneron, with his daughter Estelle. Lovely wines, both red and white! In Chassagne-Montrachet, Pinot Noir is diminishing in favour of Chardonnay, but Jean-François **Germain** of Meursault produces a good red, the vines coming from his mother's side (she is a Pillot from Chassagne). For notes on Saint-Aubin and Saint-Romain, see the White Burgundy section.

| Bourgogne Hautes-Côtes de Beaune, Michel Prunier et Fille 2021, 139 | 6 BR0013B21 | | 26.00 |
|---|-------------|---|-------|
| Saint-Aubin 1er cru Les Frionnes, Henri Prudhon et Fils 2021, 13% Vg | BR0019B21 | | 28.50 |
| Saint-Aubin 1er cru, Cuvée Les Rouges-Gorges, Henri Prudhon et Fils 2021, 13% Vg | BR0829B21 | 1 | 28.50 |
| Santenay, Vieilles Vignes, P & L Borgeot 2021, 13% Vg | BR0250B21 | | 34.00 |
| Santenay 1er cru Les Beauregards, P & L Borgeot 2020, 13.5% Vg | BR0018B20 | | 36.00 |
| Maranges 1er cru Clos de la Boutière, Bachelet-Monnot 2021, 13% | BR0242B21 | | 39.00 |
| Saint-Romain Rouge, Alain Gras 2021, 12.5% | BR0020B21 | | 39.95 |
| Santenay 1er cru Les Gravières, P & L Borgeot 2021, 13.5% Vg | BR0260B21 | | 42.00 |
| Auxey-Duresses 1er cru, Michel Prunier et Fille 2021, 13.5% | BR0023B21 | | 42.00 |
| Auxey-Duresses Ier cru Clos du Val, Michel Prunier et Fille 2021, 13.5% ♦ | BR0024B21 | | 43.00 |
| Santenay 1er cru Les Gravières, Vincent Girardin 2021, 13.5% | BR0017B21 | | 55.00 |

Beaune, Pommard & Volnay

Beaune's warm vineyards can produce rich and spicy wines whilst Pommard is famous for structure and Volnay for its Côte de Nuits-like finesse. One of Volnay's best premier crus, Les Santenots, actually lies within Meursault! In the town of Beaune, Nicolas Potel operates under the labels Domaine de Bellene and, for his merchant wines, Maison Roche de Bellene. Confusingly the wines marketed under his own name are not made by him... a long story! Nicolas is highly talented and has great connections when it comes to buying grapes and wine. Chanson Père et Fils is a grand old Beaune house now owned by Bollinger with an enviable holding of Beaune vineyards including Clos des Mouches and Clos des Fèves. Pommard's structure often needs taming by people with a deep understanding of its vineyards, such as Louis Boillot.

| Beaune 1er cru Clos des Marconnets, Domaine Chanson 2020, 15% | BR0291B20 | - | 42.00 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Beaune 1er cru Clos du Roi, Domaine Chanson 2020, 14.5% | BR0336B20 | | 42.00 |
| Volnay, Vieilles Vignes, Maison Roche de Bellene 2020, 13% Vg | BR0040B20 | | 43.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru, Bastion, Domaine Chanson 2017, 13% | BR0027B17 | | 44.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru Teurons, Domaine Chanson 2020, 14.5% | BR0034B20 | | 44.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru Clos des Marconnets, Domaine Chanson 2016, 13.5% | BR0291B16 | | 47.00 |

| Beaune 1er cru Grèves, Domaine Chanson 2020, 14.5% | BR0035B20 | | 49.00 |
|---|-----------|---|--------|
| Beaune 1er cru, Hommage à Françoise Potel, Domaine de Bellene 2020, 13.5% Vg | BR0312B20 | | 64.00 |
| Volnay 1er cru Les Caillerets, Michel Prunier et Fille 2021, 13.5% | BR0264B21 | - | 65.00 |
| Pommard, Vieilles Vignes, Vincent Girardin 2021, 13% | BR0334B21 | | 67.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru, Hommage à Françoise Potel, Domaine de Bellene 2021, 12.5% Vg | BR0312B21 | | 68.00 |
| Beaune Ier cru Clos des Fèves, Monopole, Domaine Chanson 2020, 14.5% | BR0037B20 | | 73.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru Bressandes, Henri Germain et Fils 2021, 13.5% | BR0038B21 | | 73.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru Les Teurons, Buisson-Charles 2021, 13.5% | BR0332B21 | | 75.00 |
| Volnay 1 er cru Clos des Chênes, Maison Roche de Bellene 2020, 13% Vg | BR0283B20 | | 77.00 |
| Volnay 1er cru Clos des Chênes, Maison Roche de Bellene 2021, 13.5% Vg | BR0283B21 | | 78.00 |
| Beaune 1er cru Clos des Fèves, Monopole, Domaine Chanson 2021, 13% | BR0037B21 | | 89.00 |
| Volnay 1er cru Santenots, Buisson-Charles 2021, 14% | BR0325B21 | | 150.00 |

White Burgundy Vintage Guide

The most recent vintage, 2023 shows excellent potential and a good quantity, stylistically similar to its predecessor. A warm season but with cooler nights, 2022 has brought both excellent quality and, importantly, a decent quantity. The 2021 vintage was heavily affected by frost meaning quantities are well down though the quality is very good. 2020 was historically early and regarded as a great vintage. 2019 is a worthy successor to the excellent '18s, where low yields have given very concentrated wines. A seriously good vintage here in 2018 as the region escaped the frosts which have plagued recent years. They have a good crop of rich, aromatic whites across the region as a result. Despite a familiar and now all-too-frequent late frost in 2017 the growers in the Côte d'Or were better prepared and the vintage has delivered excellent results, with many domaines back to 'normal' yields. In the Mâconnais and Chablis growers were not quite so lucky with yields down for the second year but wines of excellent quality. What there is in 2016 is very good but sadly frost and hail had a bigger than usual impact this year, particularly in Chablis and the Mâconnais, but almost no-one escaped unscathed. 2015 produced round, full whites with good, ripe fruit. 2014 started well enough with an early spring but a cooler than average summer, and hailstorms in the south, reduced yields. The resultant wines, however, have elegance and beautiful balance.

Northern Côte de Beaune

Côte de Beaune-Villages is usually a blend from multiple villages, but a proportion often comes from the flattish vineyards around Chorey-lès-Beaune. Here **Domaine Tollot-Beaut** also has vines in Savigny-lès-Beaune, Aloxe-Corton and Beaune. Cousins Nathalie, Jean-Paul and Olivier Tollot are setting a good pace at this old estate. At 160 Ha, Corton is a massive grand cru which curls around the hill from Corton-Charlemagne with Les Bressandes and Clos du Roi being favourite vineyards within it. Pernand-Vergelesses, on the reverse of the hill, is a good source of pretty Pinot Noirs.

| Côte de Beaune-Villages, Chanson Père et Fils 2017, 13% Bourgogne Côte d'Or Rouge, Tollot-Beaut 2021, 13% Vg Pernand-Vergelesses Rouge, Rollin Père et Fils 2021, 13.5% Savigny-lès-Beaune, Maison Chanson 2017, 13.5% | BR0014B17 BR0321B21 BR0259B21 BR0335B17 | | 28.50 29.00 29.95 33.00 |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Chorey-lès-Beaune, Pièce du Chapitre, Monopole, Tollot-Beaut 2021, 13% Vg | BR0051B21 | | 36.00 |
| Savigny-lès-Beaune, Vieilles Vignes, Domaine de Bellene 2021, 12.5% Savigny-lès-Beaune, Louis Latour 2018, 13.5% Vg | BR0267B21 BR0052B18 | | 38.00 38.00 |
| Pernand-Vergelesses Rouge 1er cru Fichots, Rollin Père et Fils 2021, 13.5% | BR0058B21 | 1 | 43.00 |
| Savigny-Dominode 1er cru, Domaine Chanson 2021, 13% | BR0290B21 | | 48.00 |



A hot growing season in 2023, meant sorting was required when the grapes came in to avoid any raisined fruit, but the results are looking promising and in good quantity. The region basked under the summer sun in 2022, and thanks to cool nights the wines have avoided excess alcohol while retaining elegance, it all looks more than promising! The 2021 vintage was severely affected by frost in the spring which means yields are historically low, the wines are fresh and juicy. 2020 was one of the earliest vintages on record following a warm summer but the wines have an appealing freshness too, like a combination of the previous two vintages. There was an absence of frost in 2019 but yields were still restricted, this time by drought, the resulting wines have great richness and concentration. A very good vintage in 2018 with no frosts in the early part of the season though rain in the first half of summer caused some disease pressure. Hail affected Nuits St-Georges and the Hautes-Côtes reducing yields. The resulting wines are rich and concentrated. Quantities in 2017 will be better than 2016 with equally good results. They are more red fruited than black, showing great elegance. 2016 proved a rollercoaster of a season with everything thrown at the growers in the early season but what fruit survived through to harvest is very good. Quantities, however, are small. 2015 is a memorable vintage for red Burgundy, certainly on the rich side.





Southern Côte de Nuits

The small town of Nuits-Saint-Georges has no grand crus but some superb premier crus which make age-worthy wines. Aux Boudots and Aux Murgers wines are more silky and Vosne-like in character. To the south of the village, Pruliers, Porets and Les Saint-Georges, with Vaucrains above, produce a full-bodied robust style of Nuits-St-Georges. The new generation at Domaine Gouges, namely Grégory and Antoine Gouges, have instituted changes for the better, making wines which are much more charming when young. The villages south of Nuits-St-Georges - Corgoloin and Comblanchien, along with Fixin in the North – go to make Côte de Nuits-Villages.

| Côte de Nuits Villages, Vieilles Vignes, Domaine de Bellene 2021, 13% | BR0269B21 | 38.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Nuits-Saint-Georges, Chanson Père et Fils 2017, 13% | BR0164B17 | 53.00 |
| Nuits-Saint-Georges, Vieilles Vignes, Domaine de Bellene 2020, 13.5% | BR0071B20 | 53.00 |

Central Côte de Nuits

Arguably the pinnacle of world Pinot Noir production, this small section of the Côte d'Or from Vosne-Romanée to Morey-Saint-Denis, via Flagey-Echézeaux, Vougeot and Chambolle-Musigny, is littered with grand crus. Vosne and Flagey between them have eight, half of which are monopoles including Romanée-Conti. The other grand crus are Echézeaux, Romanée-St-Vivant, Grands Echézeaux and Richebourg in descending order of size. Next is Clos de Vougeot which at 50 Ha occupies pretty much the whole slope, its landmark château towards the top. Many call for the re-classification of parts into premier cru. Chambolle-Musigny has Le Musigny and most of Bonnes-Mares, and Les Amoureuses as a grand cru 'near-miss'. Then Morey-Saint-Denis has Clos de Tart and Clos des Lambrays on one side, Clos St-Denis and Clos de la Roche on the other. Premier crus and lieux-dits are too numerous to mention and village wines, particularly vieilles vignes, are worthy of your attention.

In Vosne-Romanée, Michel Gros has a monopole, Clos des Réas, which is a star turn in a range of silky, classic Pinot wines. His son Pierre has recently taken over the winemaking. Domaine Méo-Camuzet produces extremely sought-after, satin-textured wines in a range which is now supplemented with wines from bought-in grapes under the 'Frère et Soeurs' label. Chambolle-Musigny is famous for its elegant, raspberry-scented wines and none more so than those of Ghislaine Barthod who also shares a cellar with her husband Louis Boillot. He also owns vines in Volnay, Gevrey-Chambertin and Pommard. The wines of both domaines are now made by their son Clément. At the top of the village is long-time Tanners supplier, Domaine G Roumier, where Christophe Roumier is one of the most respected Burgundy winemakers of his generation. In Morey-Saint-Denis, Sébastien Odoul of Domaine Odoul Coquard is a master of preserving gorgeous, fresh Pinot fruit in his wines

| Clos de Vougeot grand cru, Odoul-Coquard 2019, 15.5% | BR0297B19 | — 130.00 |
|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Clos de Vougeot grand cru, Drouhin-Laroze 2019, 13% | BR0265B19 | 160.00 |
| Bonnes Mares grand cru, Drouhin-Laroze 2018, 13.5% | BR0102B18 | 170.00 |

| Bonnes Mares grand cru, Drouhin-Laroze 2020, 13.5% | BR0102B20 | 220.00 |
|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Clos de Vougeot grand cru, Drouhin-Laroze 2021, 13% | BR0265B21 | 220.00 |
| Echézeaux grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2016, 13.5% | BR0173B16 | 240.00 |
| Bonnes Mares grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2015, 13.5% | BR0228B15 | 270.00 |
| Bonnes Mares grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2016, 13.5% | BR0228B16 | 320.00 |
| Grands Echézeaux grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2019, 13.5% | BR0284B19 | 330.00 |
| Grands Echézeaux grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2016, 13.5% | BR0284B16 | 330.00 |
| Chambolle-Musigny 1 er cru Les Amoureuses, Maison Roche de Bellene, 13% | BR0289B16 | ✓ 330.00 |
| Richebourg grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2014, 13% | BR0244B14 | ✓ 660.00 |
| Richebourg grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2019, 13.5% | BR0244B19 | 850.00 |

Northern Côte de Nuits

This section runs from the mighty Gevrey-Chambertin through Brochon and Fixin to Marsannay. Gevrey-Chambertin has a sizeable surface of vines and nine grand crus, led by Chambertin and Clos de Bèze equally. The price of Mazis (Mazy) and Charmes is often exceeded by Clos Saint-Jacques, a grand cru in all but name, to the north of the village. There are also multiple premier crus and a good supply of village wines too. Brochon's better vineyards fall under Gevrey-Chambertin, then you come to Fixin whose wines are bought by those in the know as 'mini Gevreys'. Marsannay, just short of Dijon and once famous only for its rosé wines, produces Chablis-like white and reds which, while not robust, are generous in nature. Domaine Drouhin-Laroze occupies a leafy enclave in Gevrey itself, where Philippe, Christine, Caroline and Nicolas Drouhin are custodians of a fine range of vineyards including a chunk of Clos de Bèze. Along the road is the grand old domaine of Armand Rousseau with its unrivalled constellation of grand crus. One of the first estates to bottle its own wines, it is now run by Eric Rousseau with his daughter Cyrielle. Their wines sometimes appear on our 'Oddments' List.

| Marsannay, Le Finage, René Bouvier 2021, 13% € | BR0333B21 | | 44.00 |
|--|-----------|---|--------|
| Gevrey-Chambertin, Chanson Père et Fils 2017, 13% | BR0109B17 | | 56.00 |
| Gevrey-Chambertin, Louis Boillot et Fils 2021, 13% | BR0180B21 | | 59.00 |
| Gevrey-Chambertin, René Bouvier 2021, 13% € | BR0115B21 | | 69.50 |
| Gevrey-Chambertin 1er cru Aux Combottes, Odoul-Coquard 2021, 13.5% | BR0295B21 | - | 105.00 |
| Chapelle-Chambertin grand cru, Drouhin-Laroze 2018, 13% | BR0187B18 | | 140.00 |
| Charmes-Chambertin grand cru, Odoul-Coquard 2019, 14.5% | BR0296B19 | - | 140.00 |
| Gevrey-Chambertin, Vieilles Vignes, Dugat-Py 2020, 13.5% | BR0124B20 | - | 150.00 |
| Gevrey-Chambertin, Coeur du Roy, Très VV, Dugat-Py 2017, 13% | BR0126B17 | | 150.00 |
| Charmes-Chambertin grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2020, 14.5% | BR0252B20 | - | 230.00 |
| Chapelle-Chambertin grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2020, 14% | BR0262B20 | - | 230.00 |
| Chapelle-Chambertin grand cru, Maison Roche de Bellene 2021, 14.5% | BR0262B21 | - | 280.00 |
| | | | |

Spain

Spain has a lot more to offer in wine than simply Rioja. For a generally hot country the wines you encounter can be very diverse, and we have recently sourced several from Galicia in North-West Spain. Invariably generous in nature and easy to drink, such diversity is all the more remarkable if you consider that so many rely on the famous Tempranillo grape at their core. You will also notice our range has been expanded recently with additions from Ribera del Duero and Navarra; the former producing full-bodied, deliciously dense wines (using the Tempranillo clone indigenous to the region) while for an alternative option try the Navarran wines that have a lighter feel, featuring a mix of French and Spanish grapes. From further south come a couple of outstanding reds from Andalucía featuring the Bordeaux export Petit Verdot which does surprisingly well down here. Historically the use of oak has been very important: barrel ageing for one, two and three years is often the key to making Crianzas, Reservas and Gran Reservas respectively across the whole of Spain. Blending with other grapes like Garnacha, Mazuelo and Cabernet also helps, bringing a complexity that has driven Rioja in particular, to the fore. In the main, the Spanish winemaker wants to produce a warm, mellow glass of red wine with a rich slug of oak and a spicy finish. And don't forget the whites! Some of the best are made from Verdejo in Rueda, Godello in Bierzo and glorious, peachy Albariño, the star of Rías Baixas in Galicia.

RED

Central & Southern

Excellent value 'Rioja look-alikes', typically mellow and easy drinking, are the prizes in Spain's South. The likes of Jumilla and Almansa can be bakingly hot in summer but produce generous reds, while we've turned to La Mancha to source **Tanners Spanish Reserva**, made very much in the soft, traditional style that cemented Spain's popularity many years ago. The high plains of La Mancha, the land of windmills and Don Quixote, have an enclave in its southern section called Valdepeñas which enjoys an enhanced reputation for almost 'old-fashioned', oaky Reservas and Gran Reservas made from Tempranillo which is called Cencibel in those parts. High in the hills to the east of Jerez, way down south in Andalucía sits the delightful boutique bodega of **Cortijo Los Aguilares**. We love their impressive red that uses the Petit Verdot grape blended with Syrah and Tempranillo to great effec.

| Tanners Spanish Reserva, La Mancha 2018, 13.5% Vg | SR0100B18 | 10.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Tallis Joven, Jumilla 2021, 13.5% Vg | SR0308B21 | 9.50 |
| Cortijo Los Aguilares Tinto, Ronda 2022, 14% NEW | SR0319B22 | |
| Pago El Espino, Ronda, Cortijo Los Aguilares 2020, 14% NEW | SR0309B20 | 23.50 |
| Tadeo Petit Verdot, Ronda, Cortijo Los Aguilares 2020, 14% | SR0310B20 | 42.00 |

Rioja

Rioja is famous for its oak-matured Crianza, Reserva and Gran Reserva red wines. This renowned wine region however offers a whole host of wine styles with many more 'modern' black-fruited reds aged in French oak and sourced from individual vineyards coming to the fore. These are complementing the American-oaked, vanilla-flavoured wines favoured in the past. If you are looking for a lighter red to accompany mixed tapas, vino joven (literally 'young wine') is a fresh, juicy unoaked version of the Tempranillo grape. There's plenty going on in the region, as a recent visit underlined, although the 'modern Rioja' producers are kicking over the traces somewhat, and steering away from the historic Crianza, Reserva and Gran Reserva classifications – yet another move towards more fruit character and less dusty old oak. We think there's a place for both, hence the old favourites like venerable Reservas from Marques de Murrieta and La Rioja Alta sitting side by side with 'new wave' additions.

The Aldonia wines, in the new wave camp, concentrate on the Garnacha grape rather than sticking mainly to Tempranillo, with intensity of flavour and a touch more oak being applied as you move up the range. On the other hand, the Alto del Obre Reserva is a traditional, comfortable Rioja at a great price and stuffed with spicy, mature flavours. Then take a look at the three different sub-regions: Rioja Alta, Rioja Alavesa and Rioja Oriental. Bodegas Bagordi is based in the warm Rioja Oriental while at the other end of Rioja you'll find the Tobelos wines in Rioja Alta. Rioja Vega sits between them in style, using grapes from both areas; try them all against each other at Crianza level to see the diversity of character on offer right across the region. An exciting new venture by renowned winemaker, Jesús Madrazo, who made Imperial Riojas CVNE for many years, has allowed us to list some more premium wines which are beautifully crafted and will age magnificently too.

| Rioja Vega Tinto, Rioja 2022, 13.5% Vg | SR0066B22 | 10.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Bagordi Tinto Cosecha, Rioja 2021 (organic), 14% 🗳 🕇 | SR0292B21 | 11.20 |
| Aldonia Vendimia, Rioja 2021, 14.5% | SR0097B21 | 11.60 |
| Vaza Crianza, Rioja 2019, 14% | SR0295B19 | 12.50 |
| Rioja Vega Crianza, Rioja 2020, 14% Vg ♦ | SR0031B20 | 12.50 |
| Aldonia, Rioja 2021, 14.5% | SR0099B21 | 15.50 |
| Alto del Obre Reserva, Rioja 2016, 13.5% | SR0294B16 | 17.50 |
| Tobelos Crianza, Rioja 2019, 14% | SR0036B19 | 17.50 |
| Aldonia 100, Rioja 2021, 14.5% | SR0098B21 | 19.50 |
| Viña Real Reserva, Rioja, CVNE 2016, 14% | SR0040B16 | 22.00 |





Spain Vintage Guide

The wines of 2023 show great promise but will be in short supply, while those of 2022 a hot, dry year are excellent and concentrated. The 2021 vintage is very good after a warm dry season with wines showing good concentration and aromatics. A wet first half of the 2020 vintage meant a lot of work in the vineyard was needed but a better, more consistent second half resulted in some juicy young wines with those ageing in barrel looking very promising. A very good year, 2019 had warm dry conditions but yields were limited by a tricky flowering period. A cooler and wetter year than other recent vintages has endowed the wines of 2018 with greater freshness and lower alcohols. Across the country the wines are showing good year in 2017 having to contend with frost, hail and drought. Yields are down as a result, but the picture overall is of good quality particularly in Galicia and the South, Penedès also performed well. The 2016 vintage was pretty good on the whole with Ribera del Duero, Rioja and Rueda having excellent results. 2015 was north. 2014 saw some good wines made with a little rain in the second half of harvest and low yields. This came after the potentially great 2013 vintage which has given fresh, vibrant, robust wines.

Marques de Murrieta Tinto Reserva, Rioja, Finca Ygay 2018, 14%SR0905B18✓ 26.50Jesús Madrazo Num IV, Rioja 2019, 14.5%SR0307B19✓ 29.00Imperial Gran Reserva, Rioja, CVNE 2015, 14%SR0041B15▲ 57.00

Catalonia & NE Spain

This is Cava country but there are excellent table wines too. Somontano, in the foothills of the Pyrenees is a favourite area for us; the vineyards for Paso Primero are at 700+ metres which ensures real freshness and vivacity in their red berry flavours, whilst the fame of Penedès has been carried worldwide by one particular producer, Torres. Often the bridesmaid to Rioja's bride, Navarra is a great area for bright, fruity flavours in both red and white wines with just enough oak to reassure you that you're drinking super Spanish wines. Castillo de Monjardin is making very pure, modern wines from a mix of mainly French grapes to great effect. South of Barcelona, Priorat was rediscovered in the late 1980s, with the soil, known as 'llicorella' being a slatey, mica-schist blend that is very free-draining. Their concentrated reds are outstanding, showing a particularly fine, classy line.

| Pleno Tempranillo, Navarra 2022, 14% Vg | SR0064B22 | 8.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Príncipe de Viana Garnacha, Roble, Navarra 2020, 14% Vg | SR0079B20 | 10.50 |
| Paso-Primero Tinto, Somontano 2022, 13.5% Vg | SR0289B22 | 11.95 |
| Castillo Monjardin Pinot Noir, El Cerezo, Navarra 2019, 14% 🐠 | SR0109B19 | 12.50 |

| Castillo Monjardin Crianza, Origen, Navarra 2020, 14% V | SR0108B20 | 13.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Torres Gran Coronas, Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Penedès 2019, 14.5% | SR0074B19 | 15.90 |
| Priorat, Celler Cal Pla 2021, 14.5% Vg | SR0152B21 | 18.80 |
| Pasotismo, Somontano 2021, 13% Vg | SR0154B21 | 21.50 |
| Torres Mas la Plana, Cabernet Sauvignon, Penedès 2019, 13% | SR0083B19 | 58.00 |

Galicia & NW Spain

Ribera del Duero, north of Madrid, produces the finest Tempranillos when it's on song. Here a clone of Tempranillo – called Tinto Fino locally – has smaller, darker grapes and makes a deeper coloured, more intensely fruity red which ages well in bottle after, typically, 18 months in oak. World-beating bodega **Vega Sicilia** sets a very high standard, but there is a chasing pack. **Dominio de Basconcillos** is a genuinely exciting find for us, a stand-out winery with superb wines, and **Abadía de Acón** is only just behind – both are producing big, rich reds with loads of class. To the north-west, El Bierzo is where the red grape Mencía comes into its own, making a characterful, herby wine with plenty of freshness.

| Gancedo Mencía, Vino de Altura, Bierzo 2022, 13.5% Vg 🚭 NEW | SR0317B22 | 14.40 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Tardencuba Roble, Toro 2020, 15% Vg | SR0318B20 | 14.95 |
| Acón Roble Tempranillo, Ribera del Duero 2020, 14.5% | SR0304B20 | 14.95 |
| Acón Crianza Tempranillo, Ribera del Duero 2019, 14.5% | SR0305B19 | 21.00 |
| Viña Magna Tempranillo, Ribera del Duero, Dominio Basconcillos 2021, 15.5% ♥ ☞ | SR0301B21 | 21.50 |
| Viña Magna Crianza, Ribera del Duero, Dominio Basconcillos 2019, 15.5% | SR0302B19 | 29.00 |
| Acón Reserva Tempranillo, Ribera del Duero 2018, 15% | SR0306B18 | 32.00 |
| Viña Magna Reserva, Ribera del Duero, Dominio Basconcillos 2018, 15.5% | SR0303B18 | 52.00 |
| Alion, Ribera del Duero 2019, 15% | SR0026B19 | 86.00 |

ROSÉ

Spain, and particularly Navarra, has a long reputation for producing cracking 'rosados'. This slightly cooler region (when compared to Rioja or La Mancha) has a great grape-growing climate and producers such as **Príncipe de Viana** who make the Pleno wines can get bags of flavour from Garnacha and Cabernet Sauvignon, yet preserve the fresh, pure feel in their wines.

| Pleno Rosado, Navarra 2022, 12.5% Vg | SP0903B22 | 8.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Bagordi Rosado, Rioja 2022, 13.5% 🚭 | SP0005B22 | 11.60 |
| Paso-Primero Rosé, Somontano 2023, 13% 🐠 | SP0007B23 | 11.95 |

DRY WHITE

Increasing today, across Spain, and particularly in Galicia, you'll find delicious, fresh,

aromatic whites, miles apart from the tired old whites made in days of yore. In the far North-West in Rias Baixas, **Bodegas Aquitania** coaxes a spritzy, lemony freshness into their Albariño from vineyards practically at the seaside. Bodegas Gancedo in Bierzo, a little further inland, makes a superb Godello that is an excellent counterpoint to the more recognisable Albariño. Turn southwards towards Madrid and you'll find Rueda where Telmo Rodriguez, maker of **Basa**, cut his teeth in Rioja but has hit great form here with his whites from the Verdejo grape. Across in Navarra, Castillo de Monjardin's very pure and clean Chardonnay has a feel of the Mâconnais about it, while if you prefer some oak influence in your wine, CVNE's barrel-fermented Riojan white must be your choice. In the foothills of the Pyrenees, you'll find more fine, dry white blends from Paso-Primero in Somontano.

| Pleno Blanco, Navarra 2022, I 2% Vg | SW0906B22 | 8.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Rioja Vega Blanco, Rioja 2022, 13% Vg | SW0910B22 | 10.90 |
| Bagordi Blanco, Rioja 2022, 13% 🗳 🕇 | SW0101B22 | 11.60 |
| Viña Esmeralda, Cataluña, Torres 2022, 11.5% Vg | SW0088B22 | 11.90 |
| Paso-Primero Blanco, Somontano 2021, 13% 🐠 | SW0096B21 | 11.95 |
| Castillo Monjardin Chardonnay, El Cerezo, Navarra 2022, 13% 🛡 | SW0105B22 | 12.30 |
| CVNE Blanco Barrel Fermented, Rioja 2021, 13% Vg | SW0011B21 | 12.80 |
| Basa Blanco, Rueda, Telmo Rodríguez 2022, 13% | SW0108B22 | 14.90 |
| Rioja Vega Tempranillo Blanco, Rioja 2022, 13.5% Vg | SW0109B22 | 14.95 |
| Gancedo Godello, Vino de Altura, Bierzo 2022, 13.5% Vg 🕏 NEW | SW0113B22 | 15.50 |
| Bernon Albariño, Rias Baixas, Bodegas Aquitania 2022, 12.5% Vg | SW0097B22 | 16.50 |
| Lagar de Cervera Albariño, Rias Baixas 2022, 13.5% | SW0008B22 | 19.95 |
| Pasotismo Blanco, Somontano 2021, 11.5% 🛡 | SW0110B21 | 21.00 |
| Fransola, Sauvignon Blanc, Penedès, Familia Torres 2021, 13.5% | SW0089B21 | 25.50 |

SWEET

Spanish sweet whites, mostly made from Muscat or Moscatel, are usually fortified to 15% in the same style as you'll find in the South of France. Occasionally, and particularly in Navarra, you may find a sweet Chardonnay, not usually fortified but made in a late-harvest style.

| Príncipe de Viana Vendimia Tardia, | SS0005C19 | 15.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Late Harvest Chardonnay, Navarra 2019 - 50cl, 14% | | |

Portugal

Portugal is a bit of a 'vinous paradise' these days. If you're looking for a new angle to your enjoyment of wine, it must be one of the best countries to explore, mixing a long winemaking history with a willingness to embrace modern technology. It is such a fascinating country, stuffed with interesting, deep-coloured reds and exhilarating, well-crafted whites. We champion **Douro Valley** reds, certainly a 'must taste' for claret enthusiasts, as these wines

are full of silky, dark fruit with great ageing potential. The southern **Alentejo** region has been performing superbly, garnering plenty of followers. They are such good value in the scheme of things! Crisp white **Vinho Verde** is making a well-deserved come back and you should also try the wines from Lisbon and its surrounding areas, now labelled as Vinhos de Lisboa. We've also found a great producer in the Algarve, proving it's not just a holiday destination!

RED

Mid & South

From Dão to the Alentejo, this section of Portugal is home to many interesting, well-priced wines. Winemaking technology here has improved in leaps and bounds, and winemakers such as J P Ramos and the Symington family, with their new installation in sub-region Portalegre, have taken to blending high-quality indigenous varieties like Touriga Nacional, Alfrocheiro and Baga with Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah to excellent effect. The Algarve also has some good pockets of winemaking and we've unearthed a bit of a gem in Quinta do Francês near the Odelouca River whose wines you may encounter in the top restaurants of the region.

| Terra de Lobos Castelão/Cabernet Sauvignon, Tejo, Casal Branco 2021, 13.5% ♥ | PR0037B21 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Gandarada Tinto, Dão 2019, 13% Vg | PR0071B19 | 11.40 |
| Smart Dog Syrah/Trincadeira, Alentejo, J P Ramos 2022, 13.5% Vg | PR0072B22 | 11.40 |
| Odelouca, Black Label, Quinta do Francês, Algarve 2021, 13.5% | PR0096B21 | 14.40 |
| Quinta do Francês, Odelouca River Valley, Algarve 2019, 13.5% ♦ | PR0097B19 | 21.50 |
| Quinta do Francês Syrah, Terraços, Algarve 2021, 14% | PR0098B21 | 34.00 |

Douro

The Douro Valley has emerged as one of the most exciting quality wine regions of the world of recent times. The area is capable of producing great, age-worthy red wines on a par with Bordeaux, Barolo and Australian reds of high repute. In good hands, all the class of fine Port grapes is, with judicious handling, transferred into fabulous bottles of red wine. Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca and Tinta Roriz (aka Tempranillo) are the leading grapes. Wines made for us, including Tanners Douro, at the **Duorum Project** in Douro Superior are dynamic and simply delicious. Not far, away we have recently picked up the excellent range from **Carvalho Martins**, full of freshness and life, while the **Symington** family of Dow's, Warre's, Graham's fame, have invested in very ecologically sustainable table wine production. Husband and wife, Jorge Borges and Sandra Tavares, at **Wine + Soul** make super reds while Dirk Niepoort nowadays concentrates more on his bewitching reds than his Ports.

| Tanners Douro Red 2020, 13.5% † ♦ | PR0005B20 | 10.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Tons de Duorum, Douro Tinto 2021, 14% | PR0044B21 | 11.50 |
| Altano Douro Red, Symington 2021, 13.5% | PR0900B21 | 12.30 |



Douro Vintage Guide

The most recent vintage, 2023, saw more balance and freshness as the climate was not as hot as its predecessor when 2022 saw temperatures hitting 47°C giving great concentration and power. In contrast 2021 was a gentler season without excessive heat that has delivered aromatic wines with freshness and elegance as well as depth. Plenty of rainfall in the first part of 2020 set up the vineyards perfectly to weather the heatwave in the summer giving small yields of deeply concentrated wines. In 2019 Portugal escaped the heatwave of the rest of Europe meaning the wines are wonderfully aromatic and elegant. Tiny yields for the second year in a row in 2018, after the previous year's drought finally broke in spectacular fashion. Heavy rain caused soil erosion and hail was also a problem. A hot summer saved what was left in terms of quality but could not make up for the yields already lost. 2017 proved to be a hot, dry year with one of the earliest harvests on record and yields down about 35% but the quality is very good for table wine. 2016 was a complex but ultimately satisfying year with a wet winter followed by a summer that was drier and warmer than usual; the resulting wines show great balance and concentration in both red and white. 2015 was excellent and reds and whites have depth and concentration. Cooler conditions in 2014 produced some of the best whites yet. After a slow start, 2013 gave high quality wines in the end, drinking well now.

| Pacto Palhete, Douro Tinto, Carvalho Martins 2022, 12.5% NEW | PR0099B22 | 13.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Altano Naturalmente, Organic Douro Tinto, | PR0038B21 | 13.40 |
| Symington 2021, 13.5% V g S ∕ | | |
| Churchill's Estates Grafite Tinto, Douro 2020, 13.5% | PR0002B20 | 17.90 |
| Manoella, Douro Tinto, Wine & Soul 2021, 13.5% † | PR0067B21 | 18.50 |
| Golpe Reserva, Douro Tinto, Carvalho Martins 2019, 14% | PR0100B19 | 21.00 |
| VZ, Douro Red, Van Zellers & Co 2019, 14% | PR0106B19 | 24.50 |
| Redoma, Douro Tinto, Niepoort 2020, 12% Vg | PR0015B20 | 42.00 |
| | | |

ROSÉ

The Portuguese climate makes for very appealing dry rosés which are easy foils for the straightforward lunches enjoyed all over Portugal, often on the veranda in the heat of the afternoon.

DRY WHITE

Fresh, spritzy, dry Vinho Verde is making a comeback. Although this is a style of wine, made red or white but referring to their tart, slightly 'green' crispness, it is white wines that you are more likely to encounter. Steely, 'sour-plum' flavoured white grapes like Loureiro are a joy to drink and partner perfectly with the rustic, often fish-based cuisine of this coastal region. The Douro *whites* from Churchill's, Carvalho Martins and Duorum are from the even less familiar varieties such as Gouveio, Roupeiro, Rabigato and Viosinho, but the results are fresh and full of character. The whites of Mid & South Portugal show a delicious, full-flavoured style with Encruzado and Arinto as the main components of some world-beating white wines.

| Vidigal, Vinho Verde 2022, 9.5% | PW0029B22 | 9.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Terra de Lobos Fernão Pires/Sauvignon Blanc, Tejo, Casal Branco 2022, 12% | PW0003B22 | 9.95 |
| Vinho Verde, Loureiro, João Portugal Ramos 2022, 12.5% | PW0046B22 | 10.95 |
| Tons de Duorum, Douro Branco 2023, 12.5% † | PW0028B23 | 11.50 |
| Altano, Douro Branco 2022, 12.5% Vg | PW0035B22 | 12.50 |
| Golpe, Douro Branco, Carvalho Martins 2022, 12.5% NEW | PW0062B22 | 14.90 |
| Duorum Colheita, Douro Branco 2021, 12.5% | PW0038B21 | 16.20 |
| Churchill's Estates Grafite Branco, Douro 2021, 12% | PW0032B21 | 17.50 |
| Manoella, Douro Branco, Wine & Soul 2020, 12.5% | PW0050B20 | 18.50 |
| Golpe Reserva, Douro Branco, Carvalho Martins 2022, 13% | PW0054B22 | 18.90 |
| lanthis Chardonnay, Quinta do Francês, Algarve 2020, 13.5% NEW | PW0053B20 | 21.50 |
| VZ, Douro White, Van Zellers & Co 2022, 12% | PW0061B22 | 24.50 |
| Redoma, Douro Branco, Niepoort 2021, 11.5% Vg | PW0030B21 | 25.00 |
| Familia Carvalho Martins Branco, Douro Meda 2019, 13% | PW0056B19 | 59.50 |

Italy

Italy is a lanky country with its northernmost vineyards being on the same latitude as Cognac and southernmost level with Malaga in Spain. It's a complex country wine-wise so here is a whistle stop tour. As far as great reds go, the star players in Piedmont are Barolo and Barbaresco made from Nebbiolo grapes. Tuscany fields players such as Chianti Classico, Brunello di Montalcino, Vino Nobile di Montepulciano – all made from Sangiovese – to add to its line-up of Supertuscans from French varieties. Primitivo, Negroamaro, Nero d'Avola and Nerello Mascalese feature in the South. Exploring the whites, there is so much more to discover than budget Pinot Grigio! Gavi, Friuli and Soave should be remembered in the North, but the South is an equally good source of richer, silkier wines made from grapes such as Fiano and Greco. From the middle are the old favourites, but much-improved Vernaccia di San Gimignano and Verdicchio.

DRY WHITE

Northern Italy

Most of Italy's finest whites come from the North of the country, particularly the states of Veneto, Alto-Adige and Friuli-Venezia Giulia from where we have introduced the fragrant wines of Fernanda Cappello; her vines grow on the poor alluvial soils of Grave del Friuli against a spectacular backdrop of the Dolomites. They are better value than those of nearby Colli Orientali and Collio. The Soave and Lugana regions are situated near Verona, and just to the north of the city on Lake Garda, the Zeni family make super examples. Just by Venice is Luca Botter who makes the excellent value Amanti range for us. We are delighted to have wines of Tiefenbrunner in the South Tirol back in the list. Now run by 5th generation Christof and Sabine Tiefenbrunner, the estate remains dedicated to making wines of the highest quality from Alpine vineyards at altitudes from 250 metres up to 1000. The two Tibaldi sisters make beautiful, modern style whites from family vineyards in the Roero district of Piedmont. Cortese is one of the best white grapes of Piedmont and reaches its zenith in Gavi di Gavi. We've tasted many but few come close to the greengage fruit of the small La Chiara estate.

| Amori Pinot Grigio, delle Venezie 2022, 11% Vg | IW0063B22 | 9.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Amanti del Vino Trebbiano, Rubicone IGT 2022, I 2% 🐠 | IW0046B22 | 9.50 |
| II Palù Pinot Grigio, Friuli Grave 2022, 12.5% | IW0065B22 | 10.95 |
| Soave Classico, Zeni 2022, 12.5% | IW0009B22 | 12.30 |
| Fernanda Cappello Friulano, Friuli Grave 2021, 12.5% | IW0060B21 | 12.40 |
| Fernanda Cappello Sauvignon, Friuli Grave 2021, 12.5% | IW0062B21 | 12.90 |
| Fernanda Cappello Traminer Aromatico, Friuli Grave 2022, 13.5% | IW0061B22 | 13.40 |
| Tiefenbrunner Merus Pinot Grigio, Alto Adige 2022, 13.5% | IW0177B22 | 17.20 |
| Tiefenbrunner Merus Müller-Thurgau, Alto Adige 2022, 13% | IW0178B22 | 17.20 |
| Lugana, Vigne Alte, Zeni 2022, 13.5% | IW0015B22 | 17.20 |
| Gavi del Comune di Gavi, La Chiara 2022, 13% Vg | IW0020B22 | 17.20 |



| Tiefenbrunner Merus Gewürztraminer, Alto Adige 2022, 14% | IW0179B22 | 19.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Roero Arneis, Tibaldi 2022, 13.5% Vg | IW0172B22 | 19.30 |
| Il Fiore, Langhe Bianco DOC, Serra dei Fiori 2022, 13% | IW0021B22 | 19.50 |
| Favorita Langhe, Tibaldi 2022, 13.5% Vg | IW0171B22 | 21.00 |

Umbria & Mid Italy

Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi is the classic fish wine of the Marche on the Adriatic coast whereas Orvieto is a more nutty white from Umbria where Marchesi Antinori own the Castello della Sala estate; Santa Cristina is a sub-brand. Tenuta del Priore is situated in the hills inland from Pescara and is now run by Fabrizio Mazzocchetti, son of one of the founders. His emphasis is on indigenous grapes grown at higher altitudes with the Campotino label being used for earlier drinking, fruit-driven wines and Col del Mondo label employed for his more concentrated, structured wines.

| Amanti del Vino Pinot Grigio 2023, 11% Vg | IW0010B23 | 9.30 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico, Pontemagno 2022, 13% | IW0051B22 | 10.30 |
| Campotino, Abruzzo Bianco, Tenuta del Priore 2023, 13.5% | IW0165B23 | 12.30 |
| Campotino Pecorino, Colline Pescaresi, Tenuta del Priore 2022, 14% | IW0168B22 | 12.40 |
| Col del Mondo 'Sunnae', Abruzzo Bianco 2022, 13.5% | IW0166B22 | 14.40 |
| Orvieto Classico, Campogrande, Santa Cristina 2022, 12% | IW0025B22 | 15.50 |

Southern Italy

Some of Italy's fullest and most interesting whites come from the steep, volcanic slopes of the Apennines: Fiano at Avellino and Greco at Tufo in Campania. The Mastroberardino family's Terredora vineyards excel at these, along with fine Lacryma Christi from Mt. Vesuvius. A long hunt for a Falanghina has turned up a great example from La Guardiense, a go-ahead co-operative north-east of Naples. Please see the red section for a note about the wines of Alovini across the border in Basilicata.

| Falanghina del Sannio, Fremondo 2022, 12.5% | IW0169B22 | 10.90 |
|---|-------------|-------|
| Carlomagno Fiano, Puglia 2022, 12.5% | IW0163B22 | 11.40 |
| Le Ralle Greco, Basilicata, Alovini 2022, 13% | IW0029B22 | 13.80 |
| Lacryma Christi del Vesuvio Bianco, Terredora Di Paolo 2022, 13% | 6 IW0030B22 | 19.80 |
| Greco di Tufo, Loggia della Serra, Terredora Di Paolo 2022, 12.5% | IW003 I B22 | 21.00 |
| Fiano di Avellino, Terre Dora, Terredora Di Paolo 2021, 13% | IW0032B21 | 23.00 |

Sicily

The massive island of Sicily was the breadbasket of the ancient world and has plenty of space for wines. Stefano Girelli has useful contacts here for the production of the good value Preciso wines from the Vittoria area of southern Sicily. Bruno Fina's house and winery are spectacularly situated above Marsala with views over Mozia and the Egadi islands. Having worked on viticultural research for many years, he knows the right spots for international

grapes and is aided by his children Marco, Sergio and Federica.

| Preciso Pinot Grigio, Terre Siciliane 2022, 12% Vg | IW0056B22 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Preciso Grillo, Terre Siciliane 2022, 12.5% Vg | IW0057B22 | 9.95 |
| Fina 'Kebrilla' Grillo, Sicilia 2022 (organic), 13.5% 🚭 | IW0034B22 | 13.50 |
| Fina 'Vola Vola' Viognier, Sicilia 2022, 13% | IW0035B22 | 15.20 |

Sardinia

Europe - Italy

Vermentino is the grape of the shores of the Tyrrhenian Sea including Sardinia where, in the south-west corner, family-owned **Melis** makes a great example.

Vermentino di Sardegna, Melis 2021, 13.5% IW0059B21 14.40

SWEET

Italian Vendemmia Tardiva Wine

As far as late-harvest and *muffia nobile* (botrytis) wines goes, Italy has some rare gems as well as wines from grapes dried on mats and 'cooked' in barrels in lofts such as Tuscan Vin Santo. Please see the 'Other Fortifieds' section for the Marsalas from the Lombardo family.

| Vin Santo del Chianti, Geografico 2014, 16% ISO005B1 | 4 | 23 | 3.50 |
|---|---|----|------|
| El Aziz, Vendemmia Tardiva, Sicilia, Fina - 50cl, 14% ISO0010 | 2 | 18 | 3.20 |

ROSÉ

Pinot Grigio is a pinkish-hued grape so if you leave the juice on the skins for a while you can achieve a pretty pink colour.

| Amanti del Vino Pinot Grigio Rosato, Terre Siciliane 2023, 11% Vg | IP0004B23 | 9.30 |
|---|-----------|------|
| Amori Pinot Grigio Blush, Venezie 2022, 11% Vg | IP0005B22 | 9.70 |

RED

68

Veneto & NE Italy

In Verona, Bologna, Venice and Trieste there are plenty of people in need of red wine, so vineyards abound, making some of the country's most elegant reds. Next door in Veneto you will find extremely drinkable reds: Valpolicella and Bardolino from the Zeni family who also have a charming wine museum above the shores of Lake Garda. Refosco dal Peduncolo Rosso is a typical grape of the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia region. To the northeast of Milan close to the Swiss border, Valtellina is part of Lombardy and is another outlier for Nebbiolo, known here as Chiavennasca.

| Amanti del Vino Sangiovese, Rubicone 2022, 12% 🛡 | IR0095B22 | 9.60 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Bardolino Classico, Zeni 2022, 12.5% | IR0005B22 | |
| Fernanda Cappello, Refosco dal Peduncolo Rosso, Friuli Grave 2022, 13% | IR0161B22 | |
| Valpolicella, Zeni 2022, 12.5% | IR0008B22 | 13.70 |



Piedmont & NW Italy

The great red wine-producing area of Piedmont (Piemonte) is centred on Alba, the truffle capital of Italy and also the home of some of Italy's best cooking, therefore providing many an interesting wine and food match. Creamy pastas are often the order of the day here, cut through by the tannins and acidity of wines such as Barbera, Dolcetto, Barolo and Barbaresco. The **Barolo** region is extremely hilly in the southern part near Monforte d'Alba and here you will find the **Paolo Conterno** estate. Run by energetic Giorgio Conterno, they cultivate just 7 Ha of vines including in nearby Ginestra, one of the most famous 'cru' vineyards of Barolo. Artisan and family-owned, **Crissante Alessandria** makes pretty, almost ethereal Barolos from top 'cru' vineyards in the shadow of La Morra. Fratelli Serio & Battista **Borgogno** is a family operation whose winery crowns the hill of Cannubi, one of the most famous 'crus' of Barolo. **Eugenio Bocchino** makes a super range of wines from seven vineyards in the district, some with dachshund-adorned labels! Aldo **Manfredi** runs a larger, family estate with stunning views of the Alps from their hilltop winery above in Dogliani. Our most recent addition is **Fratelli Alessandria**, an estate that has quietly

Italy Vintage Guide

Last year's vintage, 2023, proved complicated, good in the north but in central and southern regions, more tricky resulting in one of the smallest vintages of recent years. A dry winter followed by a hot summer has certainly affected yields in 2022, but the quality looks excellent across the country. Small but perfectly formed seems to sum up the 2021 vintage here. Across most of the country the 2020 vintage is looking very good indeed with ripe fruit and lovely aromatics. A classic if not straight forward vintage 2019 has delivered some excellent wines but in smaller quantity. Overall, the results are very good in 2018, though a warm wet early summer led to disease pressures in many parts of the country. The Northeast, home to Prosecco amongst others did particularly well; so too did Tuscany and Piedmont but yields were a little down in some estates. 2017 saw a small crop of excellent wines; spring frosts and a later heatwave nicknamed 'Lucifer' reduced yields, but you'll find good results on the whole with excellent results in Piedmont. Yields were down in 2016 but quality is high, Piedmont and Tuscany at least as good as 2015. 2015 is generally an excellent vintage across Italy, perhaps reds having the edge over whites.

transformed itself over the past twenty years to now rival some of the great names in Piedmont. The 12 Ha estate based in Verduno is run by Vittore Battista, alongside his uncle Alessandro and parents Flavia & Gian. Moving to Barbaresco, whose wines can be prettier and more immediate than Barolo, and none more so than those of Renato Fenocchio. Coming from 11 tiny, steep vineyards, they are very pure expressions of his vines. Roagna at Barbaresco is a traditional family estate with a modern touch making superlative Barbaresco and Barolo (find them on our Oddments List). Daniela and Monica Tibaldi make fruit-filled reds from family vineyards in the Roero district which is just across the Tanaro river from Barolo. Roero deserves to stand alongside Barolo and Barbaresco in stature.

| Dolcetto d'Alba, Fratelli Serio e Battista Borgogno 2022, I 3% Vg | IR0177B22 | | 17.20 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Dolcetto d'Alba, Crissante 2022, 13% Vg | IR0174B22 | | 17.80 |
| Dolcetto d'Alba, Renato Fenocchio 2021, 13% | IR0019B21 | | 18.70 |
| Langhe Nebbiolo, Fratelli Serio e Battista Borgogno 2022, 14.5% Vg | IR0178B22 | | 21.50 |
| Langhe Nebbiolo, Tibaldi 2020, 14% Vg | IR0172B20 | | 21.50 |
| Barbera d'Alba, Tibaldi 2021, 14.5% Vg | IR0171B21 | | 22.00 |
| Barolo, Manfredi 2019, 14% Vg | IR0025B19 | | 26.50 |
| Barbera d'Alba, La Ginestra, Paolo Conterno 2018, 15% | IR0194B18 | | 27.50 |
| Nebbiolo Langhe DOC, Roccabella, Eugenio Bocchino 2019, 13.5% | IR0106B19 | | 28.00 |
| Langhe Nebbiolo, Crissante 2020, 14.5% Vg | IR0175B20 | | 28.50 |
| Il Bacialé, Monferrato DOC, | IR0018B18 | | 29.00 |
| Rosso "Braida" di Giacomo Bologna 2018, 15.5% Vg | | | |
| Roero Roccapalea, Tibaldi 2019, 14% Vg | IR0173B19 | | 29.00 |
| Langhe Nebbiolo, Crissante 2021, 14.5% Vg | IR0175B21 | | 29.00 |
| Nebbiolo Langhe, Renato Fenocchio 2021, 14% Vg | IR0182B21 | | 29.95 |
| Barbera d'Alba Superiore, Priora, Fratelli Alessandria 2020, 15% | IR0222B20 | | 29.95 |
| Sixtus, Valtellina Superiore, Franzina 2019, 13.5% | IR0207B19 | | 33.00 |
| Barolo, Fratelli Serio e Battista Borgogno 2020, 14% Vg | IR0189B20 | | 37.00 |
| Barbaresco, Rombone, Renato Fenocchio 2019, 14% Vg | IR0022B19 | | 44.00 |
| Barolo del Comune di La Morra, Crissante 2019, 14.5% Vg | IR0176B19 | | 44.00 |
| Barolo del Comune di Verduno, Fratelli Alessandria 2018, 14.5% | IR0191B18 | | 52.00 |
| Barolo, Cannubi, Fratelli Serio e Battista Borgogno 2019, 14% Vg | IR0179B19 | | 52.00 |
| Barbaresco, Starderi, Renato Fenocchio 2019, 14.5% Vg | IR0183B19 | | 53.00 |
| Barolo, Riva del Bric, Paolo Conterno 2018, 15% | IR0028B18 | | 53.00 |
| Barolo, Lu, Eugenio Bocchino 2017, 14.5% | IR0026B17 | | 57.00 |
| Barolo, Galina, Crissante 2018, 14.5% Vg | IR0211B18 | | 63.00 |
| Barolo, Capalot, Crissante 2018, 14.5% Vg | IR0210B18 | | 63.00 |
| Bricco della Bigotta, Barbera d'Asti, "Braida" 2019, 16% | IR0032B19 | - | 64.00 |
| Barolo, Gramolere, Fratelli Alessandria 2018, 14.5% | IR0192B18 | | 72.00 |
| Barolo, Ginestra, Paolo Conterno 2016, 15.5% Vg | IR0029B16 | | 84.00 |
| | | | |

Umbria & Mid Italy

Abruzzo and Umbria are important states for red wine production. Over an earthquake prone part of the Apennines from Umbria, Abruzzo is home to the Montepulciano grape. The 700 grower-strong Roxan co-operative stands guard over the Pescara river valley. Please see the white section for a note on the super Col del Mondo and Campotino wines.

Tenuta dell' Ornellaia, La Proporzione, Bolgheri Superiore 2020, 14.5% IR0051B20 - 220.00

Tuscany is principally known for its aristocratic red wines. They run from the humblest Chianti – brimming with bright cherry fruit – to the rich, dense wines of Brunello di Montalcino. At the heart of Tuscany is hilly Chianti Classico and at its centre is an area known as the Conca d'Oro, shell-shaped due to its spurs of land. Giampaolo Motta's La Massa estate occupies one of these with densely planted Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet vines. Higher up in the forested hills above Gaiole-in-Chianti, Riecine makes very fine, svelte wines which have a great sense of place. Delicious Chianti from the Geografico cooperative and wines from Florentine dynasty, Marchesi Antinori, further add to our range. Skipping south of Siena to Montalcino, you will find the brilliant wines of astrology expert Giugi Sesti and his daughter Elisa at picturesque Castello di Argiano which have a great following among our customers. Vino Nobile di Montepulciano comes from about 20 miles east, and the Barbanera family are a good source of this and Chianti too under the Duca di Saragnano label.

| Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Voluntè 2022, 13.5% Vg | IR0115B22 | 10.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Noi Cento, Roxan 2022, 13.5% | IR0808B22 | 11.70 |
| Campotino, Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Tenuta del Priore 2022, 14% | IR0167B22 | 12.30 |
| Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Terre dei Vestini, Col del Mondo 2020, 14.5% | IR0168B20 | 19.40 |

Chianti Colli Senesi, Borgo Alla Terra, Geografico 2022, 13% † IR0195B22 11.90 Chianti, Duca di Saragnano 2022, 13% IR0104B22 12.30 Rosso di Montepulciano, Duca di Saragnano 2021, 13% IR0109B21 12.40 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, Duca di Saragnano 2019, 13.5% IR0110B19 18.20 Sesti 'Grangiovese', Toscana, Castello di Argiano 2021, 14.5% Vg IR0035B21 19.50 Villa Antinori Rosso, Toscana 2020, 13.5% † IR0036B20 22.50 Chianti Classico, Pèppoli, Antinori 2021, 13.5% IR0107B21 24.50 Chianti Classico, Riecine 2022, 14% S IR0037B22 27.00 Rosso di Montalcino, Sesti, Castello di Argiano 2021, 14.5% Vg IR0039B21 27.50 Le Difese, Toscana, Tenuta San Guido 2021, 14% IR0165B21 28.50 Maremma Toscana, Val di Toro 2016, 14% Vg 🚭 IR0162B16 29.00 La Massa, Toscana 2020, 14% Vg IR0038B20 29.00 Chianti Classico Riserva, Riecine 2020, 14% IR0042B20 36.00 Guidalberto, Toscana, Tenuta San Guido 2021, 13.5% IR0041B21 53.00 Le Serre Nuove dell' Ornellaia, Bolgheri Rosso 2020, 14.5% IR0090B20 64.00 Brunello di Montalcino, Sesti, Castello di Argiano 2017, 14.5% Vg IR0047B17 🗸 72.00 79.00 Testamatta, Toscana, Bibi Graetz 2019, 14% IR0184B19 Guado Al Tasso, Bolgheri Superiore, Marchesi Antinori 2020, 14.5% IR0053B20 / 130.00

Southern Italy

Gloriously generous reds are the hallmarks of the warm South or 'Mezzogiorno' with its winemaking history going back to the time of the Ancient Greeks. The vineyard area of Puglia, the heel of Italy, is large, making it a significant producer on a world scale of both international varieties and, more interestingly, Negroamaro and Primitivo aka Zinfandel. Four Cantele family cousins now run the eponymous winery whose roots go back to 1907. In Basilicata, the seven-peaked, extinct volcano of Monte Vulture is the focal point for the Aglianico grape from which frenetic winemaker, Oronzo Alò of Alovini, coaxes brilliantly silky wines. Taurasi is the most famous red of Campania.

| Amanti del Vino Primitivo, Salento 2022, 13% 🐠 | IR0103B22 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Carlomagno Primitivo Appassimento, Puglia 2022, 14% Vg | IR0920B22 | 11.90 |
| Terra degli Eventi, Basilicata, Alovini 2021, 12.5% | IR0059B21 | 12.30 |
| Cantele Negroamaro, Salento 2021, 13% | IR0118B21 | 13.70 |
| Cantele Primitivo, Salento 2022, 14% | IR0119B22 | 13.90 |
| Aglianico del Vulture, Le Ralle, Alovini 2019, 13% | IR0063B19 | 14.40 |
| Salice Salentino Riserva, Cantele 2019, 13.5% | IR0117B19 | 14.40 |
| Cabánico, Basilicata, Alovini 2021, 14% | IR0065B21 | 18.20 |
| Taurasi, Fatica Contadina, Terredora Di Paolo 2015, 13.5% | IR0067B15 | 37.00 |
| | | |

Supertuscans

Big silky Supertuscans rely on varying proportions of Bordeaux grapes - Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot – for their star appeal. **Bolgheri** is a newish DOC near the Tuscan coast and is famous for Tenuta San Guido (Sassicaia), Ornellaia and Masseto but there are Supertuscans now from all over Tuscany which are labelled as IGT Toscana, usually because they don't conform to the correct levels of Sangiovese.

Sicily

The slopes of volcanically active Mount Etna lend themselves to the fashionable reds made at Romeo del Castello from Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio grapes grown in between the lava flows, the last of which engulfed half of Chiara Vigo's estate when she was a child! Nero d'Avola is the most famous red grape of the island, in the right hands producing generous, fruity reds.

| Fina Nero d'Avola, Sicilia 2022, 13.5% 💅 | IR0070B22 | 13.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Allegracore, Etna Rosso, Fattorie Romeo del Castello 2019, 13.5% | IR0127B19 | 29.00 |

Giorgio Primo, Toscana, La Massa 2018, 15.5%

IR0049B18 🗸 92.00

Sardinia

The Mediterranean's second largest island is a significant producer of wine. Many of these are made from local clones of western Mediterranean grape varieties also found in Tuscany, Spain, South of France and Corsica. Flavio Melis and French winemaker, Lucien Andrei, work principally with these regional varieties which have interesting synonyms such as Bovale Sardo (the books say it is Graciano, they say it is Mourvèdre), Bovale Grande (Carignan) and Cannonau (Grenache). We are bringing over small quantities of richly fruited wines from **Enrico Esu**, also in the south-west of the island. Originally shepherds, the Esu family have 10 Ha of ungrafted Carignano vines planted by Enrico's father Silvio in 1958.

Melis Bovale, Isola dei Nuraghi 2021, 13.5%IR0130B21I 4.95Seruci, Carignano del Sulcis Riserva, Enrico Esu 2018, 15%IR0202B18✓ 32.00

Germany

The changes to the UK duty system coming into effect this August will benefit Germany, with their generally lower alcohol wines, more than any other major wine producing country and hopefully will encourage you to experience the great range of wines produced there.



The classic light, off dry, low alcohol, refreshing style epitomised by Mosel Riesling Kabinett is still very much there but there are also large numbers of crisp, dry, mineral Rieslings and fuller bodied wines from further south, particularly in areas such as Baden where there is very little Riesling and an increasing number of top-quality reds such as Pinot Noir. Full sweet wines are still made, although in smaller quantities and Eiswein has become particularly rare due to winter temperatures not being cold enough.

The **Mosel** is the classic area for elegant, balanced, off-dry Rieslings from its steep, slatey slopes. Appellation-wise it now includes the tributaries of the Saar and Ruwer. Try a floral Wehlener Kabinett for a great introduction to this style and then contrast it with a Kabinett from the deeper soils of Piesport's Goldtröpfchen to appreciate the difference a few miles make. Brilliant wines – full of white pear fruit – are produced in the Saar Valley from lesser-known vineyards in Wiltingen and Oberemmel. Back on the **Middle Mosel**, Braunebergers are full and slatey then one goes down the river through Bernkastel to the very fine wines of Graach. Finally, the vertiginous slopes of Erden and Urzig – Prälat, Treppchen and Würzgarten – produce some tremendous wines, both dry and sweet.

Along the Rhine, the **Rheingau** is where the importance of late harvesting Riesling was first discovered. The story goes that the proclamation announcing the start of the harvest was delayed. For many years production was dominated by a small number of underperforming larger producers, but things are now looking up again. Round, full-flavoured wines are made on mostly gentle slopes going down to the Rhine. The River **Nahe** actually rises in the Hunsrück hills and flows northwards, away from France, through rocky escarpments before flowing into the Rhine at Bingen.

MOSEL WHITE Mosel Dry/Trocken

To our mind the Mosel is more suited to off-dry wines which give better balance, but many producers make excellent dry wines, particularly from 'grand cru' sites which have the benefit of extra degrees of ripeness.

| Goldschild Riesling Trocken, Moselland, Saar 2022, 12.5% | GW0167B22 | 13.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Piesporter Riesling Trocken, Hain, Mosel 2022, 11.5% | GW0185B22 | 14.40 |
| Blauschiefer Riesling Trocken, Kerpen, Mosel 2022, 11.5% | GW0168B22 | 14.95 |
| Devon-Schiefer Riesling Trocken, Meulenhof, Mosel 2021, 12% | GW0143B21 | 15.20 |

Mosel Off-Dry/Halbtrocken

'Feinherb' is the new word for Halbtrocken, as being 'half something' was not thought to be positive! Generally it is a term for a drier Kabinett.

| Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, Richter, | GW0068B21 | 19.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Mosel 2021, 9.5% | | |
| Graacher Riesling Feinherb, Willi Schaefer, Mosel 2022, 11% | GW0182B22 | 24.00 |

Mosel Fruity/Fruchtig

Classically fruity Kabinett styles are becoming less popular in Germany, but a peachy Piesporter such as that produced by Gernot Hain, a slatey Wehlener from Martin Kerpen, a limey Saar or an elegant Ruwer wine still take some beating. Christoph Schaefer has taken over from his father Willi and continues to make wonderful wines in the tiny cellars under their house which are on allocation the world over.

| Piesporter Michelsberg, Moselland 2022, 8.5% | GW0057B22 | 9.20 |
|--|-------------|-------|
| Moselland Riesling Kabinett, Mosel 2022, 8% | GW0001B22 | 9.90 |
| Moselland Riesling Spätlese, Mosel 2022, 8.5% | GW0076B22 | 10.80 |
| Dr Loosen Fruity Riesling, Mosel 2022, 8.5% † | GW0140B22 | 12.95 |
| Goldschild Riesling Spätlese, Müdener Funkenberg, | GW0163B22 | 13.60 |
| Moselland 2022, 7.5% Vg | | |
| Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett, Meulenhof, Mosel 2021, 9.5% | GW0064B21 | 14.40 |
| Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett, Kerpen, Mosel 2021, 8% | GW0066B2I 🗸 | 14.90 |
| Piesporter Goldtropfchen Kabinett, Hain, Mosel 2022, 8% | GW0067B22 | 14.95 |
| Riesling Classic, Max Ferd. Richter, Mosel 2022, 11.5% | GW0188B22 | 17.20 |
| Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese, Meulenhof, Mosel 2021, 8% | GW0078B2I 🗸 | 18.50 |
| Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett, Max Ferd. Richter, | GW0069B22 🗸 | 19.50 |
| Mosel 2022, 7.5% Vg | | |
| Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese, Hain, Mosel 2022, 8% | GW0085B22 / | 19.50 |
| Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese, M F Richter, | GW0082B22 / | 24.00 |
| Mosel 2022, 7.5% Vg | | |

Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett, Willi Schaefer, Mosel 2022, 7.5%

Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese #05, Willi Schaefer, Mosel 2022, 7.5% Vg

GW0071B22 / 32.0

GW0088B22 /

46.00

Mosel Sweet/Edel

You will also find a full range of sweeter styles from Spätlese through Auslese right up to Eiswein and Trockenbeerenauslese (TBA) produced in tiny quantities by dedicated growers although warmer winters are making the production of Eiswein more difficult, even for such practised producers such as Weingut Max Ferd. Richter. Stefan Justen of Weingut Meulenhof uses the great vineyards of Erden to maximum effect with sublime late-picked Rieslings.

| Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese*, Kerpen, Mosel 2021, 7.5% | GS0023B21 | | 23.50 |
|---|-----------|---|--------|
| Brauneberger Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese, Max Ferd Richter, Mosel 2022, 7% | GS0027B22 | | 33.00 |
| Urziger Würzgarten Beerenauslese, Dr Loosen, Mosel 2005 - Half, 6% | GS0055H05 | 1 | 120.00 |

Germany Vintage Guide

A tricky 2023 vintage where the dedication of the grower had a big impact, the resultant wines are very good for those that did the graft. The warmest year on record, 2022 has produced some super results. The wines of 2021 are lighter in style and more aromatic with evident acidity compared with the previous two vintages. 2020 saw a warm summer, giving ripeness, while a prolonged harvest has given freshness and perfect quality fruit. The 2019s show wonderful rapier-like style, good weight and depth, yields are lower than the generous 2018 vintage. "A glorious vintage" said one grower, amongst many superlatives bandied about for 2018. For the first time in 10 years growers were truly happy with the quantity and the quality. The resulting wines are pure, rich, aromatic, and show a fine acidity. An early harvest following frost earlier in the season meant 2017 produced excellent light, fruity wines with great finesse. Weather conditions were tricky in 2016 and growers had to earn their stripes; the early season was wet, which reduced yields, followed by a hot summer with cool nights bringing excellent aromatics but with wines a little lighter than 2015. The brilliant 2015 vintage took place in ideal conditions and produced wonderfully ripe wines in all styles. Kabinetts are a bit short in quantity, but the dry wines especially are very approachable. 2014 saw a good crop of light, well-balanced wines with well-integrated acidity.

RHINELAND WHITE

Rhineland Dry/Trocken

South of the Rheingau are the large areas of the Hessen and Pfalz where much of the bulk wine came from but is now increasingly given over to quality dry whites. The new kids on the block in the Pfalz are the Rings brothers, fast tracked to the prestigious VdP organisation, with their fine, dry Rieslings from vineyards around Freinsheim. Geographically the Nahe is in the middle between the Mosel and the Rheinhessen and its wines have elements of both. Dönnhoff is the leading grower with spicy and slatey wines from the complex terroirs around Schlossböckelheim, Kreuznach, Niederhausen and Oberhausen. The area of Baden is the southernmost in Germany with its best area being the Kaiserstuhl, an extinct volcano rising from the valley floor opposite Colmar in Alsace. There are more Pinot varieties than Riesling here and Konrad Salwey makes full-flavoured, dry wines from these.

| Niesteiner Riesling Trocken Dry, Rheinhessen 2022, 12% | GW0015B22 | 10.80 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Villa Wolf Pinot Gris, Ernst Loosen, Pfalz 2022, 12.5% | GW0904B22 | 14.40 |
| Salwey Pinot Blanc, Kaiserstuhl, Baden 2019, 12.5% Vg | GW0018B19 | 16.70 |
| Hochheimer Guts Riesling Trocken, Domdechant Werner, Rheingau 2021, 12.5% | GW0152B21 | 18.70 |
| Riesling Trocken, Rings, Pfalz 2022, 12% & | GW0156B22 | 18.80 |
| Jacobus Dry Riesling Trocken, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2022, 12% Vg 🌷 | GW0125B22 | 22.00 |
| Dönnhoff Riesling Dry, Nahe 2022, 11.5% | GW0132B22 | 22.00 |
| Dönnhoff Tonschiefer Riesling, Dry Slate, Nahe 2022, 12% | GW0126B22 | 25.50 |
| Nierstein Riesling Dry Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2022, 12.5% | GW0197B22 | 26.00 |
| Kallstadt Riesling Trocken, Rings, Pfalz 2022, 12% S | GW0186B22 | 28.00 |
| Hallgartener Hendelberg Erste Lage, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2021, I2% Vg ♣ | GW0187B21 | 33.00 |
| Roxheimer Höllenpfad Riesling Trocken, Dönnhoff, Nahe 2022, 12% | GW0155B22 | 34.00 |
| Oestricher Klosterberg Erste Lage, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2021, 12% Vg € | GW0148B21 | 36.00 |
| Ungsteiner Nussriegel Riesling Trocken, Rings, Pfalz 2022, 12.5% S | GW0158B22 | 37.00 |
| St Nikolaus Grosses Gewächs, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2021, 12% Vg 🕏 | GW0201B21 | 49.95 |
| Doosberg Grosse Lage, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2021, 12% Vg C | GW0190B21 | 53.00 |
| Rothenberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2021, 12% | GW0198B21 | 62.00 |
| Höllenpfad im Mühlberg, Grosses Gewächs, Dönnhoff, Nahe 2022, 13% | GW0196B22 | 62.00 |
| Rothenberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2022, 12% | GW0198B22 | 64.00 |

Rhineland Off-Dry/Halbtrocken

| Jean Baptiste Riesling Kabinett, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2021, 10% | GW0037B21 | 19.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Jean Baptiste Riesling Kabinett, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2022, 10.5% | GW0037B22 | 21.00 |
| Niederhäuser Klamm Riesling Kabinett, Dönnhoff, Nahe 2022, 8.5% | GW0195B22 | 25.50 |

Rhineland Fruity/Fruchtig

The warmer climate of the **Rheingau** gives fuller and richer wines but still with wonderful balance as Franz Michel of **Domdechant Werner** demonstrates at Hochheim. Further west, at Oestrich, the **Kühn** family make intense and full wines using biodynamic methods.

| Hochheimer Riesling Kabinett, Domdechant Werner, Rheingau 2021, 9.5% | GW0153B21 | 22.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Lenchen Riesling Kabinett, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2022, 8.5% Vg € | GW0036B22 | 24.00 |
| Lenchen Riesling Kabinett, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2021, 10% Vg € | GW0036B21 | 24.00 |
| Oberhäuser Leistenberg Riesling Kabinett, Dönnhoff, Nahe 2022, 8.5% | GW0038B22 | 25.50 |
| Hochheimer Hölle Riesling Spätlese, Domdechant Werner, Rheingau 2022, 8.5% | GW0181B22 | 27.50 |
| Nackenheimer Rothenberg Riesling Spätlese, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2021, 7.5% | GW0118B21 | 32.00 |
| Lenchen Riesling Spätlese, Peter Jakob Kühn, Rheingau 2022, 8% Vg 🕻 | GW0042B22 | 34.00 |
| Oberhäuser Brücke Riesling Spätlese, Dönnhoff, Nahe 2022, 7.5% | GW0200B22 | 44.00 |

Rhineland Sweet/Edel

These gloriously rich wines are made in tiny quantities on rare occasions these days.

| Kurfürst Karl Kaspar Auslese, Nahe 2022, 8.5% | GS0001B22 | | 10.30 |
|--|-----------|---|--------|
| Nackenheimer Rothenberg Riesling Auslese, Gunderloch, Rheinhessen 2021 - Half, 7.5% | GS0060H21 | / | 32.00 |
| Oestricher Lenchen Riesling Auslese, P J Kühn, Rheingau 2021 - Half, 7.5% € | GS0011H21 | 1 | 45.00 |
| Laumersheimer Kapellenberg Riesling TBA, Knipser, Pfalz 2003 - Half. 7% | GS0067H03 | | 150.00 |

RED

Growers such as Konrad Salwey in the Kaiserstuhl look to Burgundy for their inspiration for their Spätburgunders (Pinot Noirs) and the quality in recent years has improved dramatically. The deep-coloured Dornfelder grape can make easy, accessible wines such as that from the Rietburg co-operative.

| Rietburg Dornfelder, Pfalz 2022, 11.5% | GR0010B22 | 10.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Salwey Spätburgunder, Kaiserstuhl, Baden 2021, 13% Vg | GR0001B21 | 19.95 |

Austria

We're constantly amazed by the consistently excellent quality of Austrian wines across all the many styles that they produce. It helps that the signature grape variety, Grüner Veltliner makes a distinctive clean and fresh style with a peppery touch. This single-minded pursuit is further aided by a dynamic marketing body, sustainable viticulture and the avoidance of fruity, medium Germanic styles of white. The west of Austria is good for skiing but too mountainous for proper wine production whereas the east of the country around Vienna has rolling land and a dry climate, making it ideal for vines. About two thirds of the plantings are white grapes and one third black grapes which make red wines with softness and body. And don't overlook the brilliant, sweet wines which are world class!

DRY WHITE

One grape, Grüner Veltliner, is almost synonymous with Austria and, whilst a bit of a mouthful to say, the wines can rival good Chardonnays and Sauvignon Blancs. It is perhaps the world's most underappreciated white grape variety! The large Weinviertel region (literally the 'wine quarter') satisfies Vienna's thirst for large amounts of spritzy, peppery Grüner Veltliner. Close to the Czech border, Wieland Baumgartner and his daughter Katharina run Austria's largest winery producing very consistent and great value wines. South towards the River Danube is the Kamptal region, based along the River Kampt and centred on the town of Langenlois. It has a great variety of soils – with loess and schist being particularly favoured – and slopes, many of which are steep and terraced. Nearby the Kremstal region straddles the Danube valley and is based on the imposing riverside town of Krems. Just south of the river, Marlies Hanke (née Müller) and her husband Florian, make delicious, characterful white wines from their 10 Ha estate Weingut Müller-Grossman. Travelling east up the Danube, the valley becomes more gorge-like and Riesling and Grüner Veltliner vines cling to sometimes precipitous slopes. This is the Wachau, the source of Austria's (and some of the world's) most expensive whites.

Burgenland is an important wine producing state south-east of Vienna where the climate is dry and more associated with the Pannonian plain in nearby Hungary. Within Burgenland, **Leithaberg** is a broad ridge and an important area for weighty Chardonnays, Weissburgunder (Pinot Blanc), Grüner Veltliner and Neuburger. Down towards Slovenia, **Styria** (Steiermark in German) is arguably the world's most beautiful wine region and is home of the fresh, steely 'Styrian Classic' style, Sauvignon being its signature grape.

Niederösterreich

| Domäne Baumgartner Grüner Veltliner, Trocken, Weinviertel 2022, 13% | DW0056B22 | 11.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Müller-Grossmann Grüner Veltliner, Satz Viertel, Kremstal 2022, 12% | DW0058B22 | 15.70 |
| Schloss Gobelsburg Grüner Veltliner, Löss, Kamptal 2022, 12% | DW0064B22 | 17.70 |
| Müller-Grossmann Riesling, Furth, Kremstal 2021, 12.5% | DW0066B21 | 18.20 |
| Müller-Grossmann Grüner Veltliner, Silberbichl, Kremstal 2020, 13.5% | DW0059B20 | 27.00 |

Burgenland

| Estoras Chardonnay, Burgenland, Esterházy 2022, 12% | DW0044B22 | 16.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Feiler-Artinger Neuburger, Burgenland 2021, 13.5% € | DW0065B21 | 27.50 |

RED

Burgenland makes the best reds in Austria from its heavier, mineral-laden soils and warm climate, especially from the north-east end of the huge, shallow lake of Neusiedlersee near the villages of Gols and Mönchhof. Good reds also come from the Leithaberg area to the west of the lake, whilst the Weinviertel produces large amounts of fruity Zweigelt, a popular crossing of Blaufränkisch and St. Laurent. Blaufränkisch is a dark, fruity variety whereas St. Laurent is more in the mould of Pinot Noir, but a little more powerful. Pinot Noirs can be highly successful and are now being made in a more elegant style as at the Esterházy Winery just outside Eisenstadt in Leithaberg. The palace of the Esterházy princes, where Joseph Haydn spent much time composing music, dominates the town and the former estates, vineyards included, are now held in a national trust.

| Estoras Zweigelt, Bu | ırgenland, Esterházy 2019, 13% | DR0001B19 | 16.40 |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|-------|
| Estoras Pinot Noir, | Burgenland, Esterházy 2021, 13% | DR0002B21 | 17.20 |
| Feiler-Artinger Blauf | ränkisch, Umriss, Burgenland 2018, 13% 🕻 | DR0026B18 | 23.00 |

SWEET

The **sweet wines** produced in Burgenland around **Neusiedlersee** are some of the best in the world and are considerably cheaper than their German equivalents! This huge shallow lake – the town of Rust even has a large marina – gives ideal conditions for botrytis cinerea to work its magic. **Rust**, home to classic producer **Feiler-Artinger**, is on the west shore and has its own DAC (Districtus Austriae Controllatus!) whereas the east shore villages of Illmitz and Apetlon fall within Neusiedlersee DAC.

| Esterházy Beerenauslese, Burgenland 2018 - Half, 10% | DS0024H18 | 13.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| W Baumgartner Eiswein Grüner Veltliner, | DS0025H19 | 25.00 |
| Niederösterreich 2019 - Half, 9.5% | | |
| Feiler-Artinger Ruster Ausbruch, | DS0009H17 | 39.00 |
| Burgenland 2017 - Half 12.5% 4 | | |

Northern Europe

English and Welsh wines continue to go from strength to strength with not only the sparkling wines competing on equal terms with champagne but increasingly the still white wines making a case for international recognition and even a few top-quality reds appearing. The poor-quality wines of former communist Eastern Europe have now largely faded from the memory as wineries and vineyards have returned to private



hands, investment flowing into winemaking facilities has been crucial in improving quality. Romania is an example and is producing many excellent value varietal wines which can form a stepping stone to the top quality wines the country also makes. Hungary has a long wine tradition, not just from the famous Tokaj region, and to the north Slovakia produces a range of excellent wines with the Pinot Noir showing particular promise. Croatia makes a great range of wines, familiar to the many tourists in the region. The old Welschrizling of Yugoslav Riesling fame has been rebranded Graševina and makes a delightfully aromatic white.

England

Northern Europe - England

The success of English wines looks set to continue through finer autumns and interest in all things local. **Sparkling** wines are at the forefront of this success and vineyards, especially on the chalky **South Downs**, are expanding and attracting considerable investment. **Nyetimber** is one of the oldest established and produces top quality wines from their original vineyards in Sussex and new plantings in Hampshire. Locally to Shrewsbury, the Stevens family are making impressive wines at their **Hencote** vineyards overlooking the town. Madeleine Angevine is by far our favourite grape variety for still wines, making, to our minds, the fullest and most balanced **whites**. Seyval Blanc is the most widely planted, followed by a host of other grapes led by Huxelrebe, which are all crossings specifically bred for cooler, wetter climates. Even **reds** in England are improving as varieties such as Triomphe and Rondo are giving some good results.

WHITE

While generally the best wines in England are sparkling (see the sparkling region for our range), there are some very good still **whites**, especially those that contain some Madeleine Angevine which gives almost Sauvignon-like aromas and flavours. **Sharpham**, on the Dart Valley estuary in Devon, make a particularly good example while the big Chapel Down vineyard in Kent produces the best oaked English wine we have tasted.

| Three Choirs Estate Hand Harvested Willow Brook, English Regional Wine, 11% Vg | HW0075B22 | 12.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Sharpham Dart Valley Reserve, English Quality Wine 2022, 11% Vg | HW0043B22 | 17.20 |
| Rowton Solaris 2022, I 3.5% Vg | HW0080B22 | 18.50 |
| Hencote Vivienne White, English Regional Wine 2022, 12.5% NEW | HW0086B22 | 19.00 |
| Chapel Down Kit's Coty Chardonnay, North Downs 2020, 12.5% | HW0070B20 | 39.00 |
| ROSÉ | | |
| Hencote Suzanne Rosé, English Regional Wine 2022, 11.5% NEW | HP0006B22 | 16.00 |

Wales

Welsh vineyards are small in number and struggle with the slightly wet climate, but there are some great successes. Ancre Hill near Monmouth is in full biodynamic production

and expanding rapidly while **Glyndwr**, near Cowbridge, makes aromatic wines alongside keeping llamas!

WHITE

| Glyndwr Dry, Welsh Regional Wine 2022, 11.5% Vg | HW0033B22 | | 19.20 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Ancre Hill Estates Chardonnay, Welsh Regional Wine 2020, 10% 🛡 🕻 | HW0035B20 | I | 26.50 |

Slovenia

Remarkably clean and green (both in colour and outlook), Slovenia is a mecca for food and wine lovers, walkers, fishermen and cyclists. The vineyards' latitude is similar to that of Northern Italy and further over, the Mâconnais and the Northern Rhône in France. Summers are hot and winters are wet, with hills and mountains creating many microclimates. Vines are generally grown on slopes, some quite steep. According to the Oxford Companion to Wine there are over 20,000 ha of vines and 29,000 wine growers, with 70% of the production being white wine.

Going from west to east, there are three wine regions: **Primorska**, near the Adriatic, **Posavje** (around the Sava River), and **Podravje** (around the Drava River). The three regions are divided into wine districts, the best known of which, going from northwest to east are: Goriška Brda (Gorizia Hills), Vipavska Dolina (Vipava Valley), Slovenska Istra (Slovenian Istria), Dolenjska and Štajerska Slovenija (Slovenian Styria). Grape varieties are often seen in nearby Austria and Hungary, so Laski Riesling (Welschriesling), Sauvignon Blanc and Furmint (Šipon) are used for whites, with Modra Frankinja (Blaufränkisch) and Pinot Noir for reds.

Only 5 km from the Austrian border in Podravje wine region, is the family-owned **Doppler** Winery, now run by Mihaela Kopse whose grandfather, Ivan Doppler, bought it in 1938, though winemaking origins here go all the way back to 1816. They make hugely characterful reds and whites, and yes, one is called Efekt.

DRY WHITE

| Doppler Zeleni Silvanec (Sylvaner), Stajerska Slovenija 2022, I 0.5% Vg NEW | HW0097B22 | | 13.95 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Doppler Sipon - Furmint, Stajerska Slovenija 2021, 12.5% Vg NEW | HW0096B21 | | 18.95 |
| RED Doppler Efekt Rdece, Stajerska Slovenija 2018, 12% NEW | HR0066B18 | i | 18.70 |

Slovakia

The wines from here are little known in Britain, but the vineyards are generally in the south of the country parallel to the Hungarian border. Vineyards have returned to private ownership and a new generation of growers, such as **Martin Pomfy**, are energetic and experimental.



DRY WHITE

It's not often that you come across Cabernet Sauvignon made into a white, while Rizling Vlassky is what used to be called Welsch Riesling. Both make interesting and full wines. **Devin** is a variety which is similar to Gewürztraminer.

| Martin Pomfy Chardonnay, Nová Vieska 2022, 12.5% 🔮 | HW0088B22 | | 16.50 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Martin Pomfy Rizling Vlassky, Ruban 2020, 13% 🛡 | HW0054B20 | | 17.20 |
| Martin Pomfy Devín, Nova Vieska Juznoslovenská 2020, 13.5% V | HW0055B20 | I | 19.20 |

RED

Reds from classic varieties tend to do well, especially **Pinot Noir** which can be very elegant and full of flavour. Pomfy's vineyards in the Little Carpathian hills bear a striking resemblance to Burgundy.

| HR0034B19 | | 17.20 |
|-----------|-----------|----------------------------|
| HR0035B19 | | 26.50 |
| HR0021B18 | 1 | 29.50 |
| | HR0035B19 | HR0034B19 / HR0035B19 / |

Hungary

Hungary has a wide range of vineyards from the famous Tokaj region in the North-East of the country to vineyards producing a lot of sparkling wine around Budapest, Hungary's most famous red is Egri Bikavér or Bull's Blood, based on Kékfrankos (Blaufränkisch) grape.

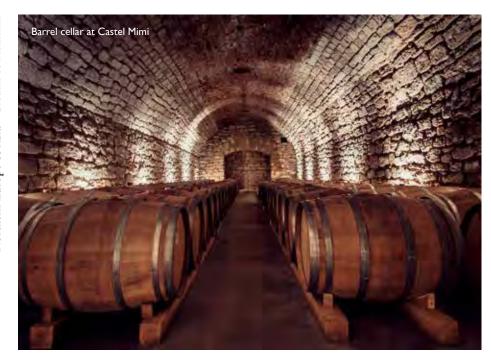
SWEET

The Tokaj area actually straddles the border with Slovakia, with a small number of wineries in the latter country, but the best known are from around the Hungarian town of Mád where the Tokaj Classic Winery makes a fine example. Here autumn mists allow botrytis-affected Tokaji Aszú to be produced with an extraordinary balance between tingling acidity and sweetness. The late harvesting of grapes, in this case Hárslevelű, Furmint and Muscat, was employed here before it was in Sauternes or Germany.

| Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos, Tokaj Classic Winery 2013 - 50cl, 11.5% | HS0022C13 | 48.00 |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Tokaji Aszú Essencia, Tokaj Classic Winery 2006 - 50cl, 8% | HS0023C06 | 160.00 |

Croatia

Wine production here is generally split between the more touristy coastal region, including the islands, where a lot of more experimental 'natural' and 'orange' wines are produced, and the flatter lands inland around Zagreb. Here the large **Kutjevo** winery produces excellent Grasevina under the **Croatica** label.





DRY WHITE

Croatica Grasevina, Kvalitetno Vino 2022, 12%

HW0069B22

1130

Romania

Sandwiched between Bulgaria and Ukraine, this large country is on the same latitude as Bordeaux and Burgundy. The resulting climate, combined with a culture that is Latin and therefore more conducive to wine than its Slavic neighbours, points immediately to fine wine production. Post-communism however, the transition from quantity to quality has been slow. One beacon of virtue is Cramele (Winery) Recaş which makes well-packaged, modern-style varietal wines at very reasonable prices under the Paparuda label. This winery was formerly owned by the state but was bought out by its management and is now as advanced as any in Western Europe. It is found near Timişoara which is in the furthest west of the country near Serbia, a mere seven hours' drive from the capital, Bucharest!

DRY WHITE

Single varietal wines from international grape varieties sit alongside local varieties such as the aromatic Feteasca Regala. Orange wine is made by leaving the skins on during fermentation to give texture and body, this is a great entry to the style.

| Paparuda Feteasca Regala, Estate Selection 2022, 12.5% Vg | HW0903B22 | 9.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Paparuda Pinot Grigio, Estate Selection 2023, 11% Vg | HW0038B23 | 9.50 |
| Paparuda Chardonnay, Estate Selection 2023, 12.5% | HW0074B23 | 9.50 |
| Paparuda Sauvignon Blanc, Estate Selection 2022, 12% Vg | HW0040B22 | 9.50 |
| Orange Natural Wine JP, Recas Estate 2022, 12.5% Vg | HW0905B22 | 12.70 |

ROSÉ

Pale, delicate rosés are found here in an easy drinking style with plenty of fruit.

Paparuda Rosé, Estate Selection 2023, 11% Vg HP0004B23 9.80

RED

Pinot Noir is perhaps the best-known variety in Romania and Recaş makes a fine example, full of bouncy red fruit.

| Paparuda Pinot Noir, Estate Selection 2022, 12.5% Vg | HR0009B22 | 9.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Paparuda Merlot, Estate Selection 2022, 13% Vg | HR0903B22 | 9.50 |
| Paparuda Cabernet Sauvignon, Estate Selection 2022, 13% | HR0013B22 | 9.50 |
| Selene Barrique Cabernet Sauvignon, Recas Estate 2019, 14% Vg | HR0037B19 | 19.20 |

Moldova

With gentle rolling hills and a continental climate, Moldova is well suited to vine growing. **Castel Mimi** was established in the late 19th century and during Soviet times was producing

upwards of eight million bottles a year, for consumption mainly in Russia. Now in private hands, it has been completely renovated and makes quality driven wines for the western market with very distinctive labelling.

DRY WHITE

Castel Mimi Animaliens Viorica/Feteasca Alba 2022, 12.5% Vg NEW HW0094B22 12.50

RED

SE Europe & Asia - North Macedonia & Greece

Castel Mimi Animaliens Pinot Noir/Saperavi/ HR0068B20 12.50
Rarã Neagrã 2020, 13.5% Vg NEW

SE Europe & Asia

Forget France, forget Italy and forget the Romans, the origins of wine production lie rather further east! **Lebanon** and **Israel** lay claim to be the cradles of viticulture, but a 'winery' dating back over 6,000 years has recently been found in **Georgia**. Then there's **Armenia**, Iran, Turkey and **Greece** in the frame so the counter-claims may go on until the aurochs come home! Even wine production in India dates back to several centuries BC. What doesn't change is the consumers' surprise that such countries even make wine.

North Macedonia

This landlocked Balkan country, due north of Greece, makes some very impressive wines. It isn't to be confused with the nearby Greek province of Macedonia so is correctly called the 'Republic of North Macedonia'. It's a large and ancient wine producer, particularly of red, and the local grape variety, **Vranec**, is rich and full-flavoured. Most wine production is in the middle of the country in the **Vardar River Valley**, also home to the capital Skopje. Production in the hilly west and mountainous east of the country is on a smaller scale.

RED

Stobi Wines has seen massive investment since it was set up in 2009 and is centrally placed near the Vardar River.

Stobi Vranec, Tikves Region 2020, 14.5% Vg ER0020B20 10.50

Greece

A recent voyage through Attica, the Peloponnese and down to Crete has kindled our enthusiasm for Greece's wines, many of which come from cool, elevated sites. Ancient Greece is regarded as the origin of much of the diffusion of winemaking into the far-flung regions of both its own, and subsequently the Roman Empire. Vines travelled with trade and, where they blossomed, inevitably a wine region was created. The Greek wine scene is now a far cry from simply resin-infused Retsina, and we just need a greater following for the wines so we can import more!

RED

The noble red grape Saint-George (Aghiorghitiko) is fashioned into a world-class wine at the state-of-the-art **Skouras** winery in the Peloponnese's Nemea region. Naoussa is made from the Xinomavro grape with the **Diamantakos** producing a great example from just 4 Ha of vines at 300 m above sea level. Panos **Samartzis** produces high quality, single vineyard wines from both local and international grape varieties, at his family estate on the slopes of Mount Helicon.

| Samartzis 'S', Single Origin Syrah, Central Greece 2021, 13.5% NEW | ER0036B21 | 1 | 14.95 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Samartzis 'M', Single Origin Merlot & Mouhtaro, Central Greece 2021, 13.5% NEW | ER0035B21 | | 16.90 |
| Skouras Saint George, Aghiorghitiko, Nemea 2021, 14% | ER0017B21 | | 17.20 |
| Naoussa, Diamantakos 2019, 13.5% | ER0028B19 | | 29.95 |
| Samartzis Mouhtaro, Grand Reserve, Thiva 2021, 14.5% NEW | ER0037B21 | 1 | 37.00 |

DRY WHITE

Intense and almost saline in character, **whites** from the volcanic island of Santorini, made from Assyrtiko grapes, are often praised by the press. Family-owned **Estate Argyros** has 42 Ha of vines and a state-of-the-art winery on the island.

| Samartzis 'Dío Potámia' Kontoura, Barrique, Thiva 2020, 12.5% NEW | EW0021B20 | 16.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Argyros Santorini Assyrtiko 2022, 14% Vg | EW0018B22 | 33.00 |

SWEET

The Samos *sweet* 'sticky' comes from a seaside co-operative on the large island of Samos in the eastern Aegean. The best grapes come from the mountains where they ripen more slowly retaining all that Muscat grapiness. **Vinsanto** is the sweet wine of Santorini. Made from sun-dried grapes and aged in barrel, it is spelt slightly differently and made in a different way to Vin Santo of Tuscany.

| Samos Grand Cru, Co-operatives Vinicoles de Samos 2022 - 50cl, 15% | ES0002C22 | 14.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Vinsanto First Release, Santorini, Estate Argyros 2015 - 50cl, 13% Vg | ES0003C15 | 52.00 |

Lebanon

Politics aside – and it hasn't been the easiest couple of years in Beirut – Lebanon is the most beautiful country and, on a visit, we criss-crossed the main mountain range four times passing through ski resorts and hillsides of cedar trees, their tresses flattened by countless snowfalls. Panoramic views stretched down towards Israel with Syria only blocked out by another range of mountains, neatly capped by snow. Lying in between is the **Bekaa Valley** – a massive expanse of fertile land with vines growing on its western slopes. The Lebanese argue that this is the 'cradle of winemaking', where the Romans built the Temple of Bacchus at Baalbek, and whence Phoenician traders took vines to Spain.

RED

& Israel

SE Europe & Asia - Lebanon

In the Bekaa Valley is a little corner of Tanners: a plaque on the wall of the Massaya winery, commemorating us as their first British importer! Brothers Sami and Ramzi Ghosn have now established a second Massaya outpost high in the mountains, both to grow high altitude grapes and to insure against trouble in the Bekaa. Château Musar is spectacularly situated above the Mediterranean in northern Beirut and its wines have a loyal following, its wines are becoming a little more fruit-driven than they have been in the past.

| Massaya 'Le Colombier', Bekaa Valley 2020, 14.5% Vg | ER0004B20 | 17.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Massaya 'Terrasses de Baalbeck', Bekaa Valley 2020, 14.5% | ER0005B20 | 28.00 |
| Massaya 'Cap Est', Bekaa Valley 2018, 14.5% | ER0023B18 | 42.00 |
| Château Musar Bekaa Valley Gaston Hochar 2017 14% Vg † | FR0009B17 | 49 50 |

ROSÉ

The old harbour of Byblos is picture-postcard pretty, more like the south of France than the Middle-East, begging for a large platter of gambas prawns and a bottle of **Massaya Rosé**.

| Massaya Rosé, Bekaa Valley 2021, 13.5% | EP0001B21 | 19.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
|--|-----------|-------|

DRY WHITE

| Massaya Classic White, Bekaa Valley 2021, 13% | E₩0009B21 | 21.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
|---|-----------|-------|

Israel

Israel has a sophisticated domestic market for its wines, and a large diaspora to follow them overseas. Dating back several thousand years, wine production in Israel has waxed and waned under Jewish, Muslim and Christian domination. The modern industry started in earnest in the 1880s with a massive injection of capital from the Rothschild family. There are now over 300 wineries with grape varieties and winemaking largely based on the French model. The Golan Heights, Shomron, Samson and the **Judean Hills** all have their fair share of wineries.

RED

Clos de Gat is situated in the foothills of the Judean Mountains, with the winery located on the site of an ancient, pre-Roman 'Gat', Hebrew for wine-press.

| Har'el Syrah, Judean Hills, Clos de Gat 2020, 14% | ER0011B20 | | 26.00 |
|---|-----------|--|-------|
|---|-----------|--|-------|

DRY WHITE

Clos de Gat's owner, Eyal Rotem, has planted 35 Ha of noble varieties and uses quality French oak barrels to make excellent reds and whites.

| Clos de Gat Chardonnay, Judean Hills 2020, 12% | EW0004B20 | 36.00 |
|--|-----------|--------------|
|--|-----------|--------------|

Georgia

Part-Europe and part-Asia, Georgia occupies the Caucasus with Russia to the north, Turkey and Armenia to the south. It's a country with a wine-growing heritage that goes back at least six thousand years and is chock-full of interesting, indigenous grape varieties. Formerly much of the wine was sweet and went to the Russian market, but recently its wine producers have sought closer links with the West and many of the wines are now made more to our tastes. There are however still plenty of traditional **Qvevri** wines produced in amphorae for home consumption. Winemakers in other countries are now re-discovering this method of making wine in amphorae and marketing it as something new, despite its long history!

RED

Khareba Winery was founded in 2004 by three brothers who now have over 1000 Ha of vineyards.

| Winery Khareba Saperavi Classic, Dry Red Wine 2019, 13.5% | ER0026B19 | 15.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Khareba Kindzmarauli, Medium-Sweet Red 2021, 12.5% | ER0021B21 | 15.40 |

DRY WHITE

A series of tunnels built into the Caucasus Mountains by the Russians for military purposes serve wine production well at Khareba Winery!

Armenia

Another country which, along with neighbouring Georgia, claims to be the oldest wine producer in the world with evidence of winemaking going back to 4200 BC. The Armenian Wine Company was founded in 2006 and uses more modern methods to make their Yerevan range from vineyards at over 1000 metres high, mainly from local grape varieties.

RED

This is a surprisingly light and fruity wine for a hot country, showing the benefit of growing at altitude.

| Yerevan Areni/Karmrahyut, Winemaker's Blend Red, | ER0032B22 | 11.90 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Armenia Wine Co. 2022, 13% Vg | | |

DRY WHITE

Rkatsiteli is a widely used grape variety in the Caucasus region, giving freshness and flavour.

| Yerevan Kangun/Rkatsiteli, Winemaker's Blend White, | EW0020B22 | 11.90 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Armenia Wine Co. 2022, 13% Vg | | |

90

Australia

New World - Australia

After being the new kid on the block in the 1990s, Australia's wine industry went too corporate and its wines too formulaic. It's time however to revisit Australian wines in all their varietal glory, so look out for minerally Chardonnays, Shirazes (Syrahs) with a white pepper sappiness and very fine Cabernets, and that's before getting into the Italian and Iberian varieties that are fleshing out the ranges. Putting



grape varieties aside for a moment, let Tanners take you on a vinous tour of Australia.

South Eastern Australia is a catch-all appellation, this sobriquet allowing producers to blend wines sourced from Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. You might think this means trucking grapes huge distances, but it isn't always so as these three states meet between the Murray Darling and Riverland areas which together with Riverina form the powerhouse of the Australian wine industry. Irrigation from the mighty Murray River keeps these vineyards alive, and an awful lot of fruit groves too. The heart of the Murray Darling at Mildura in Victoria is the excellent source of our Tanners Shiraz. The Murphy family's Trentham Estate, complete with riverside restaurant, is just north-east of Mildura in New South Wales.

The big-name line-up in **South Australia** makes this the undeniable home of the Australian wine industry. It includes almost all the country's most famous regions and the top winemaking school at Adelaide University. Just north of Adelaide you come to the **Barossa Valley** with plenty of old wine families of German origin... and very old vines too, including those of new producer The **Barossa Valley Wine Company** making rich, age worthy reds. Almost two hours north of Adelaide is **Clare Valley** famed for bone-dry Rieslings. The **Jim Barry** winery is just north of Clare itself, and they too have a new generation of the family in the shape of Tom and Sam to take the helm, with Shiraz and Riesling also featuring heavily.

Moving round to the south of Adelaide, temperatures in McLaren Vale are cooled by the nearby ocean, helping Peter and Duncan Lloyd, the third generation at Coriole Vineyards to make delicious wines which we have followed since the Australian bicentenary in 1988. Over the hills you come to Lake Alexandrina and Langhorne Creek where there are some super Shirazes and Cabernets to be found. New to the list is enthusiast Geoff 'Joffa' Thompson from Grounded Cru who sources his wines from all three areas, making him the master of "Vale, Hills and Creek"! It's then a long haul to Coonawarra towards the Victorian border, where fine Cabernets are made on a rather featureless strip of all-important Terra Rossa soil.

Melbourne is five hours from here going directly across western Victoria, but it takes much longer on a wine tour taking in the Pyrenees, Bendigo, Heathcote and the Goulburn Valley.

Cooler pockets for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay are found in Mornington Peninsula, Yarra Valley and Geelong, all easy drives out of the city. In the heart of the Yarra Valley, Mac





New World - Australia

Forbes (a person not a Scottish surname!) is regenerating old, neglected vineyard sites to produce wines with a real sense of terroir. Rutherglen is the production capital of Australia's 'stickies', where Natasha Killeen at Stanton & Killeen represents the seventh generation of a family making these superb, sweet wines. Michel Chapoutier, of Hermitage fame, chose trendy Heathcote in central Victoria, for his base to make his subtle Rhône-like Tournon wines from nearby vineyards and further afield in the Victorian Pyrenees. Not far away McPherson Wines' talented winemaker Jo Nash has been making superb reds in particular next to the Murray River for over twenty years. Her XV Pure Cabernet is a classic, red, full throttle Aussie red with bags of flavour.

New South Wales is the historic home of the Australian wine industry but has lost out rather as far as quality wine regions go. The Hunter Valley is still important though, not least with its winery-lined roads, pretty vineyards, winery restaurants and golf courses making it a wonderful destination to visit from Sydney. Margan is a family affair with Andrew Margan making the wines and wife Lisa running a superb winery restaurant. We are also big fans of his wines under the House of Certain Views label, a nod to Pomerol's Vieux Château Certan!

Western Australia is a massive state with only the south-western corner being climatically suitable for wine. Margaret River - 'Margs' to the locals - is three hours' drive from Perth, whilst Albany in the Great Southern area is five. Surrounded on three sides by ocean and therefore often cool and rainy, Margaret River is renowned for fine Cabernets, Merlots and elegant whites. McHenry Hohnen is one of the leading wineries and was founded by Perth wine retailer Murray McHenry along with his brother-in-law David Hohnen, the man who was behind Cloudy Bay. He has three well placed vineyards focussed on biodynamic viticulture. Plan B wines, based in Frankland River, were set up in 2003 by Terry Chellapah, a musician and self-appointed 'corporate-free wine man'. His Eureka Effect range, made since 2016 by Vanessa Carson, also known as 'the Wine Juggler', has great individuality and character – the vibe that emanates from this part of the Australian wine scene.

RED

Various Grape Varieties

The same principle applies as it does in the warm climate of the Southern Rhône: blending is good to achieve completeness. The indigenous grapes of Italy and Spain are also good news.

| Coriole 'Molly's Garden' Shiraz/Sangiovese, McLaren Vale 2022, 14.5% | AR0110B22 | 15.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Trentham Estate Pinot Noir, Murray Darling 2022, 13.5% Vg | AR0023B22 | 15.20 |
| Grounded Cru GSM, Grenache/Shiraz/Mourvedre, | AR0168B22 | 16.20 |
| McLaren Vale 2022, 14.5% Vg | | |
| Margan Ceres Hill Barbera, Hunter Valley 2019, 13.5% Vg | AR0151B19 | 21.00 |

Shiraz

Australia's most famous vinous product, Shiraz – the Syrah grape of the Rhône Valley – comes in a variety of styles from medium-bodied and peppery to deep and brooding.

| Tanners Australian Shiraz, South Eastern Australia 2022, 14.5% Lyrebird Shiraz, Victoria 2021, 14% Vg Barry & Sons Shiraz, Clare Valley, Jim Barry 2017, 14% Grounded Cru Shiraz, McLaren Vale 2021, 14.5% Vg House of Certain Views Shiraz, Hunter Valley, Margan Wines 2021, 13% | AR0127B22 AR0001B21 AR0153B17 AR0167B21 AR0030B21 | | 9.90 15.20 15.95 16.20 |
|--|---|-------|----------------------------------|
| Margan Shiraz, Hunter Valley 2021, 13% Vg Rocky Road Shiraz, Margaret River, McHenry Hohnen 2018, 14% Tournon 'Mathilda' Shiraz, Victoria, M Chapoutier 2020, 14.5% Barossa Valley Wine Co Stockyard Shiraz, Barossa Valley 2020, 14.5% Vg | AR0033B21 AR0932B18 AR0129B20 AR0165B20 | / / | 16.80 17.50 17.80 18.50 |
| Barossa Valley Wine Co The Farms Shiraz, Barossa Valley 2019, 14% Tournon 'Shays Flat Vineyard' Shiraz, Pyrenees, M Chapoutier 2016, 14.5% | AR0166B19 AR0130B16 | 1 | 23.50 24.00 |

Merlot & Cabernet

Cabernet Sauvignon ripens consistently well in Australia, with Merlot hitherto being generally used in Bordeaux-type blends.

| XV Pure Cabernet, Victoria 2021, 15% 🛡 | AR0169B21 | 11.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Barry & Sons Cabernet Sauvignon, Coonawarra, Jim Barry 2018, 14% ♥ | AR0154B18 | 15.20 |
| Rocky Road Cabernet Sauvignon, Margaret River, McHenry Hohnen 2021, 13.5% | AR0119B21 | 17.50 |

DRY WHITE

Various Grape Varieties

White varieties that retain acidity and aromatics in the face of 40-degree heat are most suited to Australia, so a shopping basket of grapes which originate around the Mediterranean often performs well.

| Margan Verdelho, Hunter Valley 2022, 12% Vg | AW0009B22 | 15.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Barry & Sons Riesling, Clare Valley, Jim Barry 2022, 12% | AW0094B22 | 15.20 |
| Grounded Cru Pinot Gris, Adelaide Hills 2021, 13% Vg NEW | AW0132B21 | 15.50 |
| Tournon 'Mathilda Chapoutier' White, Victoria, M Chapoutier 2021, 13.5% | AW0088B21 | 17.80 |
| Eureka Effect Riesling, Western Australia 2022, 12.1% Vg | AW0133B22 | 18.70 |
| Coriole Fiano, McLaren Vale 2021, 13% | AW0076B21 | 19.20 |
| Jim Barry Assyrtiko, Clare Valley 2021, 12% | AW0091B21 | 22.50 |
| | | |

Semillon & Sauvignon

Sauvignon's crisp acidity works deliciously well combined with the fatness of Semillon, but both succeed on their own too.

17.50

Chardonnay

New World - Australia

Once a byword for blousy and overblown, Australian Chardonnays are almost becoming too refined as producers swing too far the other way. When done well, they take their oak nicely or impress as unoaked versions.

| Lyrebird Chardonnay, Victoria 2022, 13% Vg | AW0001B22 | 10.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| House of Certain Views Unwooded Chardonnay, Hunter Valley, Margan, 12% Vg | AW0035B22 | 15.20 |
| Margan Chardonnay, Hunter Valley 2022, 12% Vg | AW0037B22 | 15.50 |
| Mac Forbes Chardonnay, Yarra Valley 2022, 11.5% | AW0130B22 | 35.00 |
| McHenry Hohnen Hazel's Vineyard Chardonnay, Margaret River 2018, 13.3% | AW0134B18 | 36.00 |
| McHenry Hohnen Calgardup Vineyard Chardonnay, Margaret River 2018, 13.3% | AW0135B18 | 36.00 |
| McHenry Hohnen Burnside Vineyard Chardonnay, Margaret River 2021, 13.3% | AW0136B21 | 36.00 |

SWEET

Late-harvested, super-ripe grapes deliver fabulous, sweet flavours balanced by clean acidity. Please see our 'Other Fortifieds' for a great Muscat from Rutherglen.

Mitchell Noble Semillon, Clare Valley 2018, 10.5% - Half AS0001H18 / 10.20



New Zealand

New Zealand's relatively pristine environment, large variation between night and day temperatures, and vineyards protected from rainfall by tall mountain ranges, give great conditions for making fruit-filled wines. In the southern hemisphere these cooler latitudes are only



shared by Tasmania and Patagonia. Following New Zealand's huge worldwide success with Sauvignon Blanc, now it is raising the stakes with Pinot Noir as well, particularly from Central Otago, Martinborough and Marlborough. We also rather like the Cabernet Sauvignons and Merlots from Hawke's Bay.

Starting with the South Island, Marlborough on the north-east coast has become, in not much more than 30 years, the world's pre-eminent region for Sauvignon Blanc. Blenheim is the main town and the Wairau is the braided river that drains into Cloudy Bay, having deposited large beds of gravelly soils along the way. These soils, along with low rainfall (this valley sits in a rain shadow) and cool nights, give the perfect growing conditions for Sauvignon. Most vineyards are on the valley floor but Sam and Mandy Weaver, with sons Jack and Ben, of Churton Wines (named after a village in Shropshire!) chose the southern slopes for their Sauvignon and Pinot Noir wines. Cloudy Bay is now a large operation owned by French conglomerate LVMH, but it still produces benchmark wines. We work with talented Ben Glover, based just outside Renwick in the heart of Marlborough, to produce Tanners New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir. Waverider is produced in Marlborough then shipped to the UK for bottling.

North-west of Marlborough, across the Mt Richmond Range, Nelson benefits from the maritime influence of Tasman Bay. Curiously, it is actually further north than the southernmost bit of the North Island. The perfectly formed organic estate, Greenhough, run by Drew and Jenny Greenhough, makes fruit-filled, elegant wines. Central Otago has several sub-districts occupying the valleys down from Queenstown and Wanaka, both in the South Island's Lake District. It competes with Patagonia to have the most southerly vineyards in the world, making it ideal Pinot Noir and light white wine territory. Domain Road Vineyard is near Bannockburn in the centre of the region; owners Graeme and Gillian Crosbie have 14 Ha of vines and old family links to the area going back to the gold mining days. Also making superb wines next door is Felton Road which is owned by Brits, Nigel Greening and his daughter Nicola, whose vineyards were amongst the earliest in the area; they are managed biodynamically.

Jumping up to the North Island, Wairarapa with its sub-district Martinborough, is not to be confused with Marlborough! From there it's a long drive through open sheep country up the east coast to Hawke's Bay and the towns of Napier and Hastings. Here the main secret of success is the wonderful free- draining alluvial soils including the Gimblett Gravels which are not dissimilar to those of the Haut-Médoc. They ripen both Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon beautifully. Pask Winery has new owners, the Benton Group, which is investing heavily in both the vineyards and the winery, including an on-site brewery. Kate Radburnd is now producing a small range of top-quality wines under her own Radburnd Cellars label made in a bijou winery using carefully sourced fruit from the Hawke's Bay area. Te Mata Estate at Havelock North is the oldest winemaking property in New Zealand, with the Buck family making a sophisticated range of wines. To the north-west of Auckland, the climate should, on paper, be warmer than vineyards further south but is sandwiched both sides by cool oceans. At Kumeu River Michael Brajkovich MW and family produce some of the most respected Chardonnays in the world from 30 Ha of vines, carefully subdivided into single vineyard sites. To this they have recently invested in a top site, inland from Hawke's Bay, called Ray's Road.

DRY WHITE

Various Grape Varieties

Generally cooler than its neighbour Australia, New Zealand lends itself well to the grape varieties of Alsace and southern Germany.

| Kumeu Village Hand Harvested Pinot Gris, Auckland 2023, 12% Vg | NW0093B23 | 14.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Greenhough 'Apple Valley' Riesling, Nelson 2022, 9.5% Vg 🚭 | NW0097B22 | 16.90 |
| Domain Road 'The Water Race' Dry Riesling, Central Otago 2019, 12.5% | NW0048B19 | 17.30 |
| Domain Road 'Defiance' Pinot Gris, Central Otago 2021, 13.5% | NW0091B21 | 18.50 |
| Natural State Field Blend, Marlborough, Churton 2021, 13.5% Vg 🥩 | NW0095B21 | 22.00 |
| Churton Viognier, Marlborough 2019, 15% Vg | NW0045B19 | 26.50 |

Sauvignon Blanc

We are advocates of a little restraint here: all that gooseberry, tinned asparagus and tomato leaves can be too much of a good thing! Marlborough is not the only place though to find good New Zealand Sauvignon.

| Tanners New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, I 2.5% Vg NWC |)051B22 | 13.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Pask 'Gimblett Gravels' Sauvignon Blanc, Hawke's Bay 2022, 13% † NWC | 0002B22 | 12.40 |
| Perfect Cut Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, 12.5% NWC | 0058B22 | 12.95 |
| Waverider Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, I2% Vg NWC | 0104B22 | 13.60 |
| Pask Instinct 'Bud Burst' Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, 13% NWC | 0034B22 | 13.80 |
| Greenhough 'River Garden' Sauvignon Blanc, NWC Nelson 2022, 12.5% Vg ✓ | 0098B22 | 15.90 |
| Domain Road Sauvignon Blanc, Central Otago 2022, 14% NWC | 0037B22 | 16.80 |
| Churton Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2022, 14% NWC | 0001B22 | 18.50 |
| Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough 2023, 13.5% NWC | 0019B23 | 29.00 |

Chardonnay

New Zealand is fielding some real competition for white burgundy with minerally Chardonnays carefully matured in French oak.

| Pask 'Gimblett Gravels' Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2020, 14% | NW0021B20 | 12.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Kumeu Village Chardonnay, Auckland 2023, 12.5% Vg | NW0040B23 | 15.20 |
| Greenhough 'Road Block' Chardonnay, Nelson 2019, 13.5% Vg | NW0096B19 | 18.90 |
| Te Mata Estate Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2023, 12.5% | NW0044B23 | 21.00 |
| Pask 'Declaration' Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2019, 13.5% | NW0035B19 | 21.00 |
| Kumeu River Ray's Road Chardonnay, Hawke's Bay 2021, 13.5% Vg | NW0094B21 | 26.50 |
| Cloudy Bay Chardonnay, Marlborough 2021, 13.5% | NW0030B21 | 35.00 |
| Felton Road Bannockburn Chardonnay, Central Otago 2022, 13.5% | NW0024B22 | 43.00 |

RED

Various Grape Varieties

Cabernet, Merlot and Bordeaux blends do well in the warm, dry climate of Hawke's Bay, as does Syrah whose white pepper character is more akin to the Northern Rhône than, say, Barossa.

| Pask 'Gimblett Gravels' CMMF (Cabernet/Merlot/Malbec/Franc), Hawke's, 13% Vg | NR0014B19 | 15.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Pask 'Gimblett Gravels' Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2019, 13% | NR0015B19 | 15.50 |
| Te Mata Estate Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2021, 13% 🛡 | NR0032B21 | 21.50 |
| Te Mata Estate 'Awatea' Cabernets/Merlot, Hawke's Bay 2020, 14% | NR0016B20 | 34.00 |
| Radburnd Merlot/Cabernet, Hawke's Bay 2018, 13.5%♥ | NR0050B18 | 44.00 |
| Radburnd Syrah, Hawke's Bay 2019, 13.5% 🐠 | NR0049B19 | 46.00 |

New World - New Zealand

Pinot Noir

As the vines get older and production methods are refined, Kiwi Pinot Noirs just get better and better, and not only from Central Otago.

| Tanners New Zealand Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2022, 13% NEW | NR0055B22 | | 18.90 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Pask Instinct Pinot Noir, Wairarapa 2021, 13.5% Vg | NR0025B21 | | 14.40 |
| Greenhough 'Stone's Throw' Pinot Noir, Nelson 2019, 13.5% Vg | NR0081B19 | | 21.00 |
| Natural State Pinot Noir, Marlborough, Churton 2022, 13% Vg | NR0048B22 | | 21.50 |
| Domain Road Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2019, 13.5% 🕔 | NR0027B19 | | 23.00 |
| Churton Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2020, 13.5% & | NR0001B20 | | 28.00 |
| Churton 'The Abyss', Pinot Noir, Marlborough 2017, 13% | NR0031B17 | | 49.00 |
| Felton Road Bannockburn Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2022, 14% | NR0009B22 | | 54.00 |
| Felton Road Cornish Point Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2022, 14% | NR0008B22 | | 67.00 |
| Felton Road Calvert Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2022, 14% | NR0011B22 | - | 67.00 |
| Felton Road MacMuir Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2022, 14.5% | NR0051B22 | | 74.00 |

South Africa

The Cape is blessed with some of the most spectacular scenery of any wine region, as well as extensive land to produce world class reds and whites.

Two oceans, two weather systems and two deep-sea currents meet at the Cape, leading to a diversity of weather between regions, even on a given day! This means that areas such as Stellenbosch, Paarl, Elgin and Constantia which are really not that far apart, all have a propensity to succeed with different grape varieties. The wine culture is almost the oldest in the New World, being brought by French Huguenots in the years after 1685 and with them cuttings of vines including Chenin and Sauvignon Blanc. Franschhoek even means 'French Corner'!

The Coastal Region is the most important region for quality wine, encompassing the districts of: Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, Paarl, Wellington, Swartland and Cape Town, Constantia being a 'ward' of the last. The ridges dividing these areas can be viewed from the top of Table Mountain. Chenin, Sauvignon, Pinotage, Syrah and Cabernet grapes all thrive. Stellenbosch starts around the bay from Cape Town with Journey's End. Here the Gabb family's sloping vineyards are cooled by strong sea breezes. Nearby the name of one of the oldest estates, Meerlust even refers to the sea; a producer of fine reds, it has been in the Myburgh family since 1756. Occupying the country between Stellenbosch town and Cape Town are the rolling Bottelary Hills where Danie and Yngvild Steytler of Kaapzicht make generous reds in a proper country winery. Clos Malverne is a 27 Ha property in the Devon Valley sub-section of Stellenbosch with a fantastic view of mountains which reminded a former owner of the Malvern Hills! Suzanne Coetzee has recently taken full ownership of wine production here, and has gained a reputation for 'handcrafted' wines, the reds being made using basket presses open top fermenters.





The Cape South Coast region stretches from the popular holiday resort of Hermanus on Walker Bay right round to Cape Agulhas, the most southerly point of Africa. It's the Cape's most maritime region so makes great Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and aromatic wines. In its inland section, Elgin is a centre for apple growing which wasn't enough for the Cluver family, so they started Paul Cluver Wines specialising in cooler climate varieties. Also in Elgin, Mark Dendy-Young, formerly of La Petite Ferme, is working with Pinot specialist Cathy Marshall to produce some special wines from high lying, cool vineyards for his Cape Elevation Vineyards label. If you follow the pretty Hemel-in-Aarde (Heaven on Earth) valley down towards the coast, you come to Bouchard Finlayson where Chris Albrecht does a very good job of making truly Burgundian style wines.

Due north and behind the Riviersonderend mountains is Robertson in the Breede River Valley region. Not only is Robertson a great source of flavoursome wines in serious quantities, it is well-known for breeding racehorses. The River Grandeur wines come from vineyards on the banks of the Breede River owned by Fred and Manie Viljoen of Viljoensdrift, not the easiest of our suppliers to pronounce! The Wide River wines from the excellent Robertson Winery represent super value for money. 'Western Cape' is a widely used designation which allows blending from all the well-known areas of the Cape.

DRY WHITE

Chenin Blanc & Blends

Chenin Blanc is the Cape's most important white grape producing some of the best value whites on the market today, and some deliciously concentrated versions from older vines.

| Wide River Chenin Blanc, Robertson 2022, 12.5% 🐠 | KW0002B22 | 8.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Freedom Cross Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, Franschhoek Cellar 2023, 12.5% | KW0001B23 | 9.50 |
| Running Duck Chenin/Sauvignon Blanc, | KW0041B23 | 9.95 |
| Stellar Organics 2023, 12.5% Vg 🛹 | | |
| Doran Vineyards 'Arya', Voor Paardeberg 2022, 14% Vg | KW0049B22 | 12.95 |

Various Grape Varieties

The inland areas of the Cape can be quite Rhône-like in climate so Viognier does well with lighter aromatic varieties excelling in the higher or more maritime sites.

| Wide River Viognier, Robertson 2023 | . 12.5% 🖤 | KW0004B23 | 9.95 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | | | |

| La Petite Ferme Viognier, Franschhoek 2021, 14% | KW0022B21 | 15.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Paul Cluver Village Riesling, Elgin 2022, 11.5% | KW0043B22 | 16.40 |

Sauvignon Blanc

Brought over by the Huguenots in the 18th century, Sauvignon has a long history here. Stylistically they tend to sit somewhere between Sancerre and Marlborough Sauvignons.

| Freedom Cross Sauvignon Blanc, Western Cape, Franschhoek Cellar 2022, 12.5% | KW0011B22 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Kingklip Bay Sauvignon Blanc, Cape Coast 2022, 13.5% 🐠 | KW0059B22 | 9.95 |
| River Grandeur Sauvignon Blanc, Viljoensdrift, Robertson 2023, 12.5% | KW0042B23 | 13.20 |
| La Petite Ferme Sauvignon Blanc, Franschhoek 2023, 13.5% 🐠 | KW0012B23 | 14.40 |
| Clos Malverne Sauvignon Blanc, Lightly Filtered, Stellenbosch 2021, 14% Vg | KW0058B21 | 14.70 |
| Catherine Marshall Sauvignon Blanc, Elgin 2023, 14% Vg | KW0026B23 | 14.90 |
| Cape Elevation Vineyards 'Contour Path' Sauvignon Blanc, Elgin 2022, I 3.5% Vg | KW0050B22 | 15.50 |

Chardonnay

There are some great Chardonnays from the Cape and those from the cooler sites have flavour profiles to match decent white burgundies. We avoid over-oaked examples!

| Kingklip Bay Chardonnay, Robertson 2022, 13% 🐠 NEW | KW0061B22 | 9.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Journey's End 'Haystack' Chardonnay, Stellenbosch 2022, 12.5% Vg | KW0032B22 | 13.90 |
| Baboon Rock Unwooded Chardonnay, Franschhoek, La Petite Ferme 2022, 13.5% | KW0036B22 | 14.40 |
| La Petite Ferme Barrel Fermented Chardonnay, Franschhoek 2020, 12.5% | KW0021B20 | 17.20 |
| Bouchard Finlayson 'Sans Barrique' Chardonnay, Overberg 2021, 13% Vg | KW0017B21 | 17.50 |
| Journey's End 'Destination' Chardonnay, Stellenbosch 2022, 14% Vg | KW0056B22 | 24.50 |
| Bouchard Finlayson 'Missionvale' Chardonnay, Walker Bay 2022 13% Vg | KW0039B22 | 27.50 |

SWEET

Some fascinating sweet wines come out of South Africa despite it being generally too dry for Noble Rot. There is also a long history of making 'Port' and 'Sherry' style wines.

Vin de Constance, Constantia, Klein Constantia 2019 - 50cl, 14% KS0001C19 / 64.00

RED

Various Grape Varieties

Pinot Noir does surprisingly well in the cooler spots of South Africa; it can be blazing hot

| in Stellenbosch whilst | blowing a | gale in Herman | us on the same day! |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---|------------------------|
| iii otelielioooeli ((lilio) | | 5000 000 000000000000000000000000000000 | do ou tire ourire day. |

| Freedom Cross Cinsault/Cabernet, Western Cape 2021, 13.5% Vg | KR0001B21 | 9.80 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Catherine Marshall Pinot Noir 'On Sandstone Soils', Elgin 2021 13% | KR0032B21 | 18.50 |
| Cape Elevation Vineyards 'Trig Beacon' Pinot Noir, Elgin 2021, 13% Vg | KR0058B21 | 21.50 |
| Bouchard Finlayson 'Galpin Peak' Pinot Noir, Walker Bay 2021, 13% | KR0026B21 | 34.00 |

Shiraz

The Shiraz (Syrah) from South Africa is very exciting due to its fine peppery character and juiciness. It enjoys the warmer inland sites best.

| Wide River Shiraz, Robertson 2022, 13.5% 🐠 | KR0003B22 | 9.95 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Running Duck Shiraz, Western Cape, Stellar Organics 2022, 13% Vg | KR0021B22 | 9.95 |
| Doran Vineyards Iosa Shiraz/Grenache Noir, Voor Paardeberg 2018, 14% Vg | KR0052B18 | 14.60 |
| River Grandeur Shiraz, Robertson, Viljoensdrift 2020, 14.5% | KR0050B20 | 14.70 |
| Journey's End Shiraz, Stellenbosch 2020, 14% Vg | KR0038B20 | 17.20 |
| Journey's End Shiraz, Stellenbosch 2018, 14% Vg | KR0038B18 | 17.20 |
| La Petite Ferme Shiraz, Franschhoek 2019, 14% | KR0024B19 | 17.40 |
| Kaapzicht 'Suidooster' Shiraz, Stellenbosch 2021, 14% Vg | KR0008B21 | 21.00 |

Pinotage

The Pinotage grape, a 1925 crossing between Cinsault and Pinot Noir, is unique to South Africa. In the right hands it makes lovely soft reds whilst avoiding the somewhat 'tarry' character it can have.

| Freedom Cross Pinotage, Western Cape 2021, 13.5% 🖤 | KR0010B21 | 9.80 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Doran Vineyards Pinotage, Voor Paardeberg 2019, 14% Vg | KR0053B19 | 14.40 |
| River Grandeur Pinotage, Robertson, Viljoensdrift 2022, 14.5% Vg | KR0051B22 | 16.50 |
| Kaapzicht 'Rooiland' Pinotage, Stellenbosch 2021, 14% Vg | KR0012B21 | 21.00 |

Merlot & Cabernet

Most South African estates aspire to making great Cabernet, Merlot or Bordeaux blends. A good number succeed in making truly world class wines. These grapes are reliable performers.

| Journey's End 'Pastor's Blend' Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot, Stellenbosch, 14% | KR0036B20 | | 13.90 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Clos Malverne Merlot, Traditionally Basket Pressed, Vg Stellenbosch 2019, 13.5% | KR0067B19 | | 15.50 |
| La Petite Ferme Cabernet Sauvignon, Franschhoek 2019, 13.5% | KR0023B19 | | 17.20 |
| Journey's End Cabernet Franc, Stellenbosch 2020, 14% Vg | KR0065B20 | 1 | 17.20 |
| Journey's End Cabernet Sauvignon, Stellenbosch 2017, 14.5% Vg | KR0037B17 | | 17.20 |

| La Petite Ferme Merlot, Franschhoek 2020, 14% | KR0022B20 | 17.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Clos Malverne Reserve 'Auret', Basket Pressed, Stellenbosch 2020, I4.5% Vg | KR0068B20 | 19.95 |
| Journey's End 'Cape Doctor - The Red', Stellenbosch 2018, 14.5% $\ensuremath{\text{Vg}}$ | KR0042B18 | 24.50 |
| Meerlust Merlot, Stellenbosch 2018, 14% | KR0019B18 | 24.50 |
| La Petite Ferme, Verdict, Franschhoek 2017, 14.5% | KR0044B17 | 24.50 |
| Meerlust 'Rubicon', Stellenbosch 2018, 14% 🖤 | KR0030B18 | 36.00 |
| Kaapzicht, Steytler 'Vision', Stellenbosch 2020, 14.5% | KR0031B20 | 52.00 |
| | | |

Chile

It is time to understand Chile a little better, for the quiet revolution that has been going on to establish much more the aspects of 'terroir' and vintage that have previously gone un-noticed. Determined young winemakers are pulling the wines away from the 'boring' tag, bringing more quality and variety to the table. It is a great wine producing nation with wonderfully bright sunshine tempered by cool seabreezes or sloping vineyards and higher altitudes. It is also a



relatively pristine environment that seems to bring real purity to the wines. There is such an interesting variety of flavoursome, mid-range wines to explore, as well as powerfully dense, top-end stars. It's Chile's lateral valleys that run down from the Andes, across the Central Valley and through the Coastal Range, that bring more breadth and style. Great, gluggable glasses of Merlot and Carmenère are here for the taking, but if you search further you will come across the more complex blends, with a curranty claret-like edge to the Cabernetdominant wines. The Maipo Valley which fans out from capital city, Santiago, is Chile's most established vineyard area and the first region of the fertile Valle Central or Central Valley. It is home to the original 'grandee' companies of Chilean wine and is the heartland for lovely Bordeaux-inspired reds. Pressure from real estate development here has steadily pushed Maipo's vineyards eastwards onto the slopes of the Andes, which has actually improved the finesse and elegance of many reds. This Alto Maipo sub-area probably has the best terroir and is now producing world-class reds. One grandee is Cousiño Macul – a family-owned operation with some 267 Ha of vines - which has jumped ship from the encroaching suburbs to Buin. Santa Ema is owned by the Pavone family, who originated in Piedmont, and is situated at El Peral in the Isla de Maipo sub-area, surrounded by 50 Ha of the company's own vines.

The next region south is the Cachapoal Valley around the town of Rancagua which is now the main wine-producing area for Santiago. Then you come to Colchagua which is fast developing as a prime production area with many new wineries springing up. It's the stronghold for Luis Felipe Edwards (LFE), an important family company which produces our Pacamaya wines, amongst others. Sutil Family Vineyards are also in Colchagua, but they source grapes from other top regions too, making the superb Cucao range as well as top

DRY WHITE

Various Grape Varieties

There are plenty of cooler spots in Chile's various valleys where aromatic grapes such as Gewurztraminer flourish, especially in the more southern regions, whilst **Viognier**, **Roussanne** and **Marsanne** thrive in certain spots too.

| Los Coches Pinot Grigio, Valle Central 2021, 12.5% Vg NEW | QW0101B21 | 9.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Los Coches Viognier, Valle Central 2023, 13% Vg | QW0092B23 | 9.50 |
| Alto Los Romeros Gewurztraminer, Reserva, Valle Central 2022, 13.5% Vg | QW0093B22 | 10.50 |
| Alto Los Romeros Roussanne/Marsanne, Gran Reserva, | QW0094B21 | 13.50 |

Sauvignon Blanc

Fresh and pin-bright, Chilean Sauvignons have lots of clean fruit that's not as full-on as those from New Zealand.

| Ladera Verde Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2023, 12.5% Vg † | QW0008B23 | 9.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Pacamaya Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2023, 12.5% Vg | QW0090B23 | 9.30 |
| Pato Torrente Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2023, 12.5% Vg | QW0035B23 | 9.50 |
| Cucao 'Reserva Especial' Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2021, 12.5% Valle Central 2021, 12.5% | QW0095B21 | 11.20 |



| Santa Digna Sauvignon Blanc Reserva, Valle Central, Miguel Torres 2022, 13.5% | QW0013B22 | 2.30 |
|--|----------------|------|
| Santa Ema 'Select Terroir' Sauvignon Blanc, Maipo 2022, 12.5% † | QW0045B22 | 2.30 |
| Cucao Gran Reserva Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2021, 13% 🐠 | QW0096B21 13 | 3.20 |
| Cucao 'SB Reserva' Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central 2020, 13% 🛡 | QW0096B20 13 | 3.20 |
| Humo Blanco Sauvignon Blanc, Valle de Lolol, Hacienda Araucano 2022, 13.5% Vg | QW0040B22 | 5.20 |

Chardonnay

New World - Chile

The most established vineyards are the Casablanca Valley, now justifiably famous for Chardonnay, as well as big new plantings in the coastal mountain range, near the sea in the Colchagua region. Our own-label is particularly juicy with a hint of oak – not as much as you find in Reserva and Gran Reserva styles which tend to be weightier and show a more oaky side to their flavour.

| Tanners Chilean Chardonnay, Colchagua Valley 2023, 14% Vg | QW0098B23 | 10.50 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Ladera Verde Chardonnay, Valle Central 2023, 13% Vg | QW0028B23 | 9.30 |
| Pato Torrente Chardonnay, Valle Central 2022, 13% Vg | QW0017B22 | 9.30 |
| Santa Ema 'Select Terroir Reserva' Chardonnay, Maipo 2023, 12.5% | QW0064B23 | 12.40 |
| Cousiño-Macul Chardonnay, Maipo 2022, 13.5% | QW0019B22 | 12.50 |
| Cucao Chardonnay, Winemaker's Collection, Valle de Itata 2021, 14% ♥ | QW0097B21 | 15.20 |
| Humo Blanco Chardonnay, Valle de Lolol, Hacienda Araucano 2022, 13.5% Vg | QW0041B22 | 15.20 |

ROSÉ

Made a little darker and fuller compared to a classic French rosé, the quality of Cabernet comes through well, and works with lighter, pasta style dishes.

| | | 9.30 |
|----|----|-------|
| 23 | | 11.90 |
| | 23 | 23 |

RED

Various Grape Varieties

Pinot Noir is making strides forward, but it's Chile's flagship grape, Carmenère, that really leads the line-up with highly drinkable, chocolatey wines. For the best expression of what Carmenère can do in a blend, try the top wines from Colchagua; they are beautifully tempered.

| Los Coches Pinot Noir, Valle Central 2021, 12.5% Vg | QR0081B21 | 9.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Los Coches Carmenère, Valle del Rapel 2022, 13% Vg | QR0079B22 | 9.50 |
| Cucao 'CA Reserva Especial' Carmenère, Valle Central 2022, 13% | QR0009B22 | 11.20 |

| Santa Ema Gran Reserva Carmenère, Cachapoal 2022, 14% | QR0073B22 | 16.40 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Acrux, Colchagua, Sutil 2019, 14% ♦ | QR0083B19 | 28.50 |

Merlot

The grape that put Chile on the map is still a dependable choice for easy, versatile red wines. There are important plantings all the way down from Maipo into the cooler parts of the Central Valley.

| Ladera Verde Merlot, Valle Central 2022, 13% Vg † | QR0019B22 | 9.30 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Pacamaya Merlot, Valle Central 2022, 13% Vg | QR0078B22 | 9.30 |
| Pato Torrente Merlot, Valle Central 2022, 12.5% Vg | QR0047B22 | 9.50 |
| Cucao Reserva Especial Merlot, Colchagua 2019, 13% 🛡 | QR0082B19 | 11.20 |
| Santa Ema 'Select Terroir' Merlot Reserva, Maipo 2022, 13% † | QR0071B22 | 12.40 |

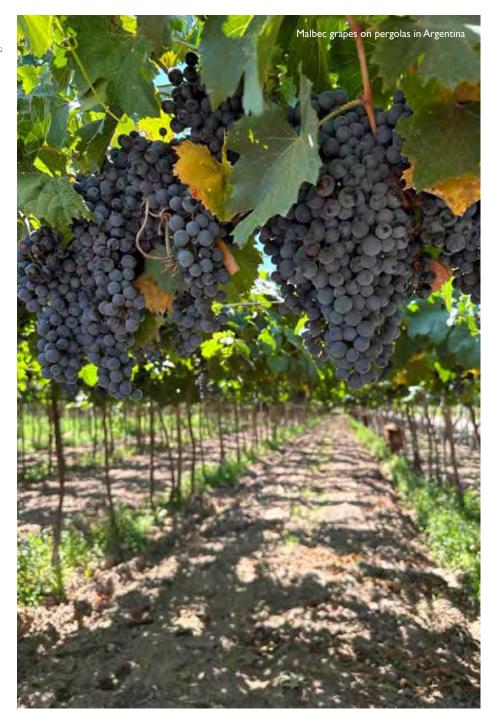
Cabernet Sauvignon

The quality of Cabernet Sauvignon in Chile is excellent, perfectly demonstrated by our 'own label' wine. If you want a softer, more generous style than claret whilst still keeping elegance and finesse, this is a good hunting ground. Blackcurrant and cigar box flavours are hallmarks.

| Tanners Chilean Cabernet Sauvignon, Colchagua Valley 2022, 13.5% Vg Ladera Verde Cabernet Sauvignon, Valle Central 2022, 13% Vg Pato Torrente Cabernet Sauvignon, Valle Central 2023, 13% Vg Santa Ema 'Select Terroir' Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo 2021, 13.5% | QR0088B22 QR0061B22 QR0025B23 QR0072B21 | | 9.30 9.40 12.40 |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|
| Cucao Gran Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon, Colchagua Valley 2022, 14% Vg | QR0026B22 | Ī | 12.90 |
| Cousiño-Macul 'Antiguas Reservas' Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo 2019, 14% | QR0029B19 | | 15.50 |
| Cousiño-Macul Lota, Valle de Maipo 2017, 14% | QR0036B17 | 1 | 78.00 |

Argentina

Although struggling on an economic front, Argentinian winemakers continue to produce great wines, above and beyond the nation's favourite, Malbec. There has been a massive explosion in popularity for this grape in recent years, and without doubt this has carried the perception of Argentina as a recognisable wine-producing country to the wine consumer. Rich and spicy reds are the order of the day often produced on the lower hillsides of the snowy Andes. It's the slopes in the Mendoza province, with their deep alluvial soils brought down by rivers from the Andes, that produce stunning wines including Malbec which is now recognised as a world-class variety. These smoky, beefy Malbecs are backed up by dense, juicy Merlots and Bonardas, to say nothing of the spicy, sherbety delights of Viognier and Torrontés in the whites. With all that Latin blood from the early settlers, it's not very



surprising that the Argentinians get a lot of flavour and passion into their wines, making this range one of the most exciting we have!

Mendoza city, Argentina's wine capital, is a mere 70-odd miles from the Chilean border and over the years we have regularly shipped wines out via Chile and the Pacific rather than take the long overland trip to the Atlantic. Mendoza predominantly produces red wines and includes the crucible of Malbec, the Luján de Cuyo area, just south of Mendoza city. Here Don Cristóbal 1842, a family bodega run by Eduardo Lapania, has vineyards, and produces Tanners Argentinian Malbec for us alongside their fabulous 'top' blended red, Triana. South-east of the city is Maipú where son and father, Sebastián and José Zuccardi, of Familia Zuccardi have their Santa Julia winery. They have recently built a state-of-theart winery further south in the Uco Valley (Valle de Uco), which is an important area of Mendoza that is burgeoning with foreign investment. François Lurton, a senior member of the Bordeaux dynasty, identified the Uco Valley's gravelly soils for making top reds and Pinot Gris when he set up Bodega Piedra Negra near Tunuyán. In contrast and despite his surname, Patricio Gouguenheim is Argentinian. His family winery in the Tupungato district of the Uco Valley makes the most of the area's propensity for international grapes. With grapes growing at an altitude of 1,000 metres or more, you'll find freshness and pure harmony in all these wines.

The other Argentinian wine regions are somewhat confusing until one realises that they are labelled simply according to their province. San Juan, one province up from Mendoza, is building a reputation for Syrah, then historic La Rioja has big areas producing large quantities of soft, easy-drinking wines. Wine-wise, Salta is the most important province in the North with its wineries clustered around Cafayate and it lays claim to the world's highest vineyard at 10,206 feet above sea level. Down in windy Patagonia, the main bodegas are situated along the Río Negro. With our Welsh heritage, we so want to like the wines of Patagonia and are pleased to have found a worthy, quite simple Malbec from near the Rio Negro. The Welsh settled further south in Chubut province which itself has vines but only 100 Ha, however one day it will doubtless beat New Zealand in having the world's most southerly vineyard.

RED

Various Grape Varieties

Settlers in Argentina were mainly of Latin origin, so it is no wonder that alongside Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah from France, you'll find Tempranillo from Spain and Bonarda from Italy. All benefit from the extra sunshine that they enjoy here, fleshing out the core of these wines and making them rich and ripe to drink.

| Las Pampas Shiraz/Malbec, Mendoza 2023, 12.5% | TR0051B23 | 10.20 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Cristóbal 1492 Bonarda, Mendoza 2021, 13.5% Vg | TR0019B21 | 12.40 |
| Gouguenheim Pinot Noir, Valle de Uco, Mendoza 2021, 13.5% | TR0063B21 | 12.50 |
| Gouguenheim Cabernet Sauvignon, Uco Valley, Tupungato 2020, 13.5% | TR0044B20 | 13.20 |

Malbec & Blends

Argentinian Malbec is now recognised around the world as a mostly rich, soft style of red wine that is as easy to drink on its own as it is to pair with the beef for which Argentina is justly famous. Grown at altitude in the Andean foothills, Malbec has good purity of flavour, yet plenty of concentration and power, which combines to make it a major world player today. Don't forget that the French still make Malbec, its origins being south of Bordeaux and around Cahors, and it is doing well in the Languedoc.

| Tanners Argentinian Malbec, Mendoza 2023, 14% Vg | TR0052B23 | 10.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Las Pampas Malbec, Mendoza 2023, 13.5% | TR0049B23 | 10.90 |
| Cristóbal 1492 Malbec, Mendoza 2022, 13.5% Vg | TR0018B22 | 12.30 |
| Ojos del Sur Malbec, Patagonia 2021, 13.5% Vg | TR0065B21 | 13.80 |
| Piedra Negra Malbec, Alta Coleccion, Mendoza, Lurton 2022, 14% & | TR0011B22 | 14.50 |
| Gouguenheim Malbec Reserve, Valle de Uco, Mendoza 2021, 13.5% | TR0064B21 | 15.20 |
| Bodega Piedra Negra Reserve Malbec, Mendoza 2022, 14% 🚭 | TR0013B22 | 18.20 |
| Zuccardi 'Apelación' Malbec, Vista Flores, Mendoza 2021, 14% Vg | TR0053B21 | 18.50 |
| Gouguenheim Blue Melosa (Malbec), Flores del Valle, Uco Valley, Mendoza, 14% | TR0047B19 | 18.95 |
| Chacayes, Valle de Uco, Bodega François Lurton 2008, 15.5% Vg | TR0031B08 | 68.00 |

DRY WHITE

Torrontés, originating in north-west Spain, is Argentina's flagship white grape. It is deliciously floral and grapey in flavour. Pinot Grigio/Gris performs well too, keeping lovely aromas when grown at altitude but also developing a richness and personality sometimes lacking in Italian examples. Chardonnay arguably shows the most quality; again, the cool micro-climates found on the higher slopes of the Uco Valley can produce precise flavours which combine well with oak to give great potential to age.

| Las Pampas Chenin/Torrontés, Mendoza 2022, 12% | TW0021B22 | 9.95 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Las Pampas White Malbec, Mendoza 2022, 12% NEW | TW0025B22 | 10.90 |
| Cristóbal 1492 Torrontés, Mendoza 2021, 13.5% 🐠 | TW0015B21 | 12.30 |
| Cristóbal 1492 Chardonnay, Mendoza 2021, 13.5% 🐠 | TW0014B21 | 12.30 |
| Gouguenheim Torrontés, Uco Valley, Tupungato, Mendoza 2021, 12.5% | TW0018B21 | 12.50 |
| Ojos del Sur Sauvignon Blanc, Patagonia 2022, 13% Vg | TW0024B22 | 13.80 |
| Piedra Negra Pinot Gris, Alta Colección, Valle de Uco, | TW0008B23 | 14.60 |

United States

The fine wines from the US are becoming increasingly interesting and as a result demand is growing too. Site selection and modern techniques in the winery mean they are so much more elegant than in the past and much more in tune with worldwide tastes. We have periodic allocations of these super wines so keep an eye on our Oddments List and our email offers.



California is by far the biggest wine-producing state in North America. Two of the bestknown regions, Napa and Sonoma, sit side-by-side to the north of San Francisco Bay. Carneros straddles the two and is the source of Doug Shafer's Chardonnays whilst the winery is in Stag's Leap, a district of Napa which is famed for its Cabernets and Merlots. Christian Moueix, the famous Right Bank Bordeaux producer, established Dominus Estate on the 43 Ha Napanook vineyard in 1983. Situated near Yountville in southern Napa, three wines are produced: Dominus, its flagship, Napanook and Othello. In Carneros, the Swiss-owned Cuvaison Winery has been perfecting superbly elegant Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays for nearly 50 years, while based in the north of Sonoma, Rodney Strong vineyards has holdings throughout the area and carefully matches grape varieties to the soil type and microclimates to produce excellent examples. East of Napa is the city of Sacramento and the Clarksburg and Lodi wine areas, both great sources of excellent value wines from some different grape varieties. The Bogle Vineyard holdings run to some 650 Ha but remain firmly in family hands. The grapes are grown in a sustainable manner taking full advantage of the warmer climate. Near Livermore to the east of San Francisco Bay, is Wente Vineyards with 5th generation Karl Wente at its head. Founded in 1883, it claims to be the longest continuously operated family winery in the USA. Proximity to the water provides cooling fogs which protect the vines from the intense summer heat giving more elegant wines. Just by San Jose in the Santa Cruz mountains is Ridge Vineyards which champions single-vineyard wine production from across California.

Heading south again, towards Los Angeles, takes you through Santa Cruz and Monterey but such is the scale of this country that LA is still over a five-hour drive away! This far south the climate is noticeably hotter. This region is home to the 'Rhône Rangers': rich blends of Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre/Mataro) which excel in the southern heat. The wines from the Pacific North-West comprise those of firstly Oregon and then Washington State as one travels north. Oregon is synonymous with world class Pinot Noirs made by small, family-run wineries. Its vineyards are concentrated in the state's west and we have added three new wineries from the north of Oregon in the last year as the quality and style of the wines has never been better. Look out for Divio which makes super wines from Willamette Valley and the sister wineries of Stoller and Chehalem excelling in the Dundee Hills region. On paper Washington State should be cooler than Oregon but the Columbia and Yakima Valleys are in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains giving a warm, dry, more continental climate that is ideal for grape production. The West Coast's success means that the wines of the East Coast are largely overlooked by British wine lovers and critics. New York State's

Finger Lakes and Long Island regions produce some super, edgy Rieslings, Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs. **Virginia** has a vibrant wine industry near the Blue Ridge Mountains and has a noticeably warmer and more humid climate where Chardonnay, Cabernet and Petit Verdot are doing very well.

DRY WHITE

Various Grape Varieties

The USA makes full-flavoured, elegant white wines from a wide variety of different grapes planted in selected sights to suit their individual needs such as Viognier and Chenin Blanc, both of which give pleasure to sip on their own or equally to accompany food.

Bogle Vineyards Chenin Blanc, Clarksburg, California 2021, 12.5% UW0001B21 21.50

Chardonnay

From the elegant Chardonnay of Carneros and Sonoma with their cooling influence of morning fogs to the bigger, richer examples from warmer areas further south and inland, one can find complex, world-class wines.

| Wente 'Morning Fog' Chardonnay, San Francisco Bay 2022, 13.5% Vg | UW0012B22 | 17.70 |
|---|------------|-------|
| Rodney Strong Chardonnay, California 2021, 13.5% | UW0021B21 | 25.00 |
| Chehalem Winery Inox Unoaked Chardonnay, Columbia Valley 2022, 13% № NEW | UW0040B22 | 29.50 |
| Stoller Family Estate Chardonnay, Dundee Hills 2021, 12.5% 🜒 NEW | UW0039B21 | 29.50 |
| Cuvaison 'Estate Grown' Chardonnay, Carneros, Napa Valley 2021, 14.5% | UW0016B21 | 32.00 |
| Domaine Divio Chardonnay, Willamette Valley 2020, 13% NEW | UW0041B20 | 35.00 |
| The Hilt Estate Chardonnay Sta Rita Hills Santa Barbara 2019 13% | LIW0029B19 | 63.00 |

SWEET

In the warm San Joaquin Valley, south-east of San Francisco, Quady Winery specialises in Muscat and fortified wines.

| Elysium California Black Muscat, Dessert Wine, Quady 2022 - Half, 15% | US0901H22 | 15.80 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Essensia California Orange Muscat, Dessert Wine, Quady 2021 - Half, 15% | US0900H21 | 16.20 |

ROSÉ

The demand for easy-drinking rosé wines grows each year, a testament to their friendly flavours and appeal. Rosé made from thick skinned black Zinfandel grapes hardly needs any skin contact to make a pale, off dry and, if well balanced, very drinkable White Zin or Blush Zinfandel.

Foxcover White Zinfandel, California, 10.5% UP0005B 9.90

RED

Various Grape Varieties

Rhône varieties, such as Syrah and Mourvèdre, often make for good value wines which benefit from the warm climate of California. Similarly, these climes also suit more esoteric varieties such as the characterful Petite Sirah grape which is mostly the obscure French Durif grape. These wines, with their warmth and flavour, are great for big-flavoured foods.

Bogle Vineyards Petite Sirah, California 2020, 14.5%

UR0003B20

Zinfandel

Zinfandel at its best is rich and tarry with bags of character. Fantastic with red meats, spicy or barbecued, America's 'own' variety makes serious wines. Careful handling in the vineyard and the winery ensures it has both class and structure.

| Wente 'Beyer Ranch' Zinfandel, California 2020, 14% | UR0002B20 | 18.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Bogle Vineyards Old Vine Zinfandel, California 2021, 14.5% | UR0017B21 | 23.00 |

Pinot Noir

Elegant and ethereal, Oregon's Pinot Noirs are very reminiscent of red burgundy while those of California tend to show darker fruit character but are appealing and complex with it.

| Stoller Family Estate Pinot Noir, Dundee Hills 2021, 13.5% 🐠 NEW | UR0103B21 | 1 | 29.95 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Chehalem Winery Pinot Noir, Chehalem Mountains 2021, 13.5% NEW | UR0105B21 | | 29.95 |
| Domaine Divio Pinot Noir Les Climats, Willamette Valley 2020, 13.5% NEW | UR0106B20 | | 35.00 |
| Cuvaison 'Estate Grown' Pinot Noir, Napa Valley, Los Carneros 2021, 14.5% | UR0022B21 | | 36.00 |
| Stoller Family Estate Reserve Pinot Noir, Dundee Hills 2018, 14% V NEW | UR0104B18 | | 49.95 |
| The Hilt Estate Pinot Noir, Sta Rita Hills, Santa Barbara 2019, 13% | UR0072B19 | | 63.00 |

Merlot & Cabernet

Merlot has, historically, always been strong from California with producers looking to copy topflight Bordeaux reds, often blending it with Cabernet Sauvignon. These top reds are elegant, structured wines that, though capable of ageing, give pleasure throughout their life.

| Bogle Vineyards Merlot, California 2020, 14.5% | UR0027B20 | | 22.00 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Wente 'Charles Wetmore' Cabernet Sauvignon, Livermore Valley 2020, 14.5% | UR0029B20 | | 24.50 |
| Rodney Strong Cabernet Sauvignon, Sonoma County 2019, 14.5% | UR0054B19 | | 26.50 |
| Othello, Napa Valley, Christian Moueix 2019, 14.5% 🐠 | UR0059B19 | | 47.00 |
| Napanook, Napa Valley, Christian Moueix 2018, 15% 🐠 | UR0058B18 | - | 79.95 |

Rest of Americas

The European explorers and subsequent settlers brought with them the culture of grape growing and wine-making the results are evident for all to see. Whilst the USA, Chile and Argentina are the most prolific producers in the Americas, Uruguay, Brazil and Peru all produce wines and we continue to be on the look-out for good bottles from these countries. Grape growing, and as a result wine production, has spread throughout the American continent but is generally concentrated on the more temperate regions. Brought by European pioneers, the grape varieties planted often reflect their geographic roots. There are some fantastic wines produced in Canada and Mexico, and we are eagerly watching developments as the other countries of South America start to make inroads into our market.

Mexico

Rest of Americas - Mexico & Canada

Those thirsty conquistadores weren't going to go without wine, so they kicked off wine production as early as 1521! This is the earliest of any country in the Americas. In truth however, Mexico's modern wine industry only dates from the last 30 years or so, much of it the result of considerable investment from Spain. Baja California, just south of the US border, has the greatest area under vine, with temperatures tempered a little by the proximity of the Pacific Ocean. The vine-covered Guadalupe Valley is only 1½ hours' drive south from the border town of Tijuana; there are other vineyards down towards Mexico City, but they need to be at higher, cooler elevations.

RED

The **LA Cetto** winery in the Guadalupe Valley produces characterful reds from international grape varieties such as Italy's Nebbiolo, as well as the lesser-known Petite Sirah.

| LA Cetto Petite Sirah, Baja California 2019, 14% | OR0016B19 | 11.20 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| LA Cetto Private Reserve Nebbiolo, Baja California 2017, 14% | OR0017B17 | 17.50 |

Canada

The modern Canadian wine industry is relatively young but has a great approach to producing quality wines, which are increasingly travelling outside the country. The industry is 200 years old, but it wasn't until a free trade agreement with the USA in 1988 that it started to expand externally. At first thought, it seems too cold, but the south of the country has a milder climate offering great scope for wine production. This is mainly in British Columbia in the West and, in the East, Ontario with smaller amounts of wine produced in Quebec and Nova Scotia. The Niagara Peninsula area is renowned for icewine. The Okanagan Valley in British Columbia is arguably the finest source in the country. It is home to the Wyse family of Burrowing Owl Estate Winery who make excellent Chardonnay and

Syrah from vineyards largely around Osoyoos Lake. Small owls burrow locally, and bears are 'discouraged from sharing the harvest but are never harmed'!

DRY WHITE

About 300 miles inland from Vancouver, British Columbia's Okanagan Valley has a mild climate, not unlike central France, making it suitable for the production of elegant white wines from French grape varieties, particularly Chardonnay.

RED

The Okanagan Valley's dry climate is also ideal for growing red grape varieties. Merlot and Syrah are doing extremely well, making wines with great character and personality.

| Burrowing Owl Merlot, Okanagan Valley 2018, 14% | OR0060B18 | 35.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Burrowing Owl Syrah, Okanagan Valley 2019, 14% | OR0063B19 | 37.00 |

Half Bottles

A half bottle is the perfect way to enjoy a small glass or two of your favourite wines, whether it's an easy drinking everyday favourite or something special for a treat. We also carry a wide selection of pudding and fortified wines in half bottles, these can be found in their sections through this list.

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING

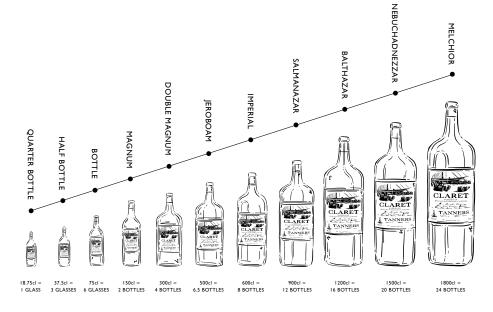
| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne - Half, 12.5% Vg | FC0001H | 18.90 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Ayala Brut Majeur, Champagne - Half, 12% | FC0043H | 19.50 |
| Nyetimber Classic Cuvée, English Sparkling Wine - Half, 12% | FI0016H | 22.00 |
| Joseph Perrier Cuvée Royale, Brut Champagne - Half, 12% Vg | FC0201H | 23.00 |
| Louis Roederer Collection 244, Champagne - Half, 12.5% Vg | FC0244H | 27.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée, Brut Champagne - Half, 12% | FC0014H | 29.00 |
| | | |

WHITES

Burgundy

| 0 , | | |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Tanners White Burgundy, | BW0001H20 | 9.60 |
| Bourgogne Chardonnay 2020 - Half, 12.5% Vg | | |
| Mâcon-Villages, La Crochette, Jean Loron 2022 - Half, 13% | BW0207H22 | 10.40 |
| Mâcon-Lugny, Les Genièvres, Maison Louis Latour 2022 - Half, 13% | BW0037H22 | 10.80 |
| Chablis, Les Valéry, Jean Durup 2022 - Half, 12.5% Vg | BW0017H22 | 12.80 |
| Chablis, Vieilles Vignes, Daniel-Etienne Defaix 2021 - Half, 12.5% | BW0022H21 | 15.50 |
| Meursault, Louis Latour 2021 - Half, 13.5% | BW0237H21 | 39.50 |

| LW0002H22 LW0013H22 LW0012H20 | | 7.90 11.20 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| | - | 11.20 |
| | - | 11.20 |
| LW0012H20 | 1 | |
| | | 11.80 |
| LW0010H22 | | 11.90 |
| LW0033H22 | | 11.90 |
| | | |
| CW0023H22 | | 8.50 |
| JW0006H22 | | 9.90 |
| CW0012H20 | | 13.80 |
| | | |
| SW0101H22 | | 6.50 |
| PW0028H23 | | 6.60 |
| GW0140H20 | | 7.50 |
| | | |
| QW0009H22 | | 5.50 |
| NW0002H2I | | 7.20 |
| 6 QW0045H20 | | 7.20 |
| | | |
| | | |
| CR0001H | | 6.80 |
| CR0054H20 | | 6.20 |
| CR0023H20 | | 6.60 |
| CR0030H21 | | 7.30 |
| CR0064H18 | | 8.50 |
| CR0730H20 | | 10.20 |
| CR0450H20 | | 12.50 |
| | 1 | 12.00 |
| CR0453H19 | | 13.80 |
| CR0453H19 CR0490H20 | / | 13.80 16.50 |
| | | |
| | LW0033H22 CW0023H22 JW0006H22 CW0012H20 SW0101H22 PW0028H23 GW0140H20 QW0009H22 NW0002H21 GQW0045H20 CR0001H CR0054H20 CR0023H20 CR0030H21 CR0064H18 CR0730H20 | LW0033H22 CW0023H22 JW0006H22 CW0012H20 SW0101H22 PW0028H23 GW0140H20 QW0009H22 NW0002H21 CR0001H CR0054H20 CR0023H20 CR0023H20 CR0030H21 CR0064H18 CR0730H20 |





| itest of france | Res | t of | Fran | ce |
|-----------------|-----|------|------|----|
|-----------------|-----|------|------|----|

| Tanners Rhône Valley Red, Côtes du Rhône 2020 - Half, 14.5% Vg 🥩 | RR0920H20 | | 7.80 |
|--|-----------|---|-------|
| Séguret, Côtes du Rhône-Villages, | RR0135H21 | | 8.60 |
| Domaine de l'Amandine 2021 - Half, 14% | | | |
| Beaujolais, Jacques Charlet 2021 - Half, 13% | JR0001H21 | | 9.20 |
| Fleurie, Domaine André Colonge et Fils 2022 - Half, 13.5% | JR0015H22 | | 9.95 |
| Crozes-Hermitage, Coeur de Clairmont 2022 - Half, 13% | RR0050H22 | | 10.20 |
| Beaujolais-Villages, Rémi Benon 2021 - Half, 13% Vg | JR0038H21 | | 10.20 |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Les Galets de la Berthaude, | RR0132H22 | | 16.50 |
| Perrin 2022 - Half, 15% | | | |
| Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Château de Beaucastel, | RR0045H21 | - | 43.00 |
| Famille Perrin 2021 - Half, 14.5% | | | |
| | | | |

Rest of Europe

| Tanners Douro Red 2020 - Half, 13.5% | PR0005H20 | 6.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Bagordi Tinto Cosecha, Rioja 2021 - Half, 14% 🚭 | SR0296H21 | 6.50 |
| Chianti Colli Senesi, Borgo Alla Terra, Geografico 2022 - Half, 13% | IR0195H22 | 6.90 |
| Manoella, Douro Tinto, Wine & Soul 2021 - Half, 13.5% | PR0067H21 | 9.95 |
| Villa Antinori Rosso, Toscana 2020 - Half, 13.5% | IR0036H20 | 15.50 |
| | | |

Rest of World

| Rest of world | | | |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Ladera Verde Merlot, Valle Central 2022 - Half, 12.5% Vg | QR0019H22 | | 5.50 |
| Santa Ema 'Select Terroir' Merlot Reserva, Maipo 2020 - Half, 13.5% | QR0071H20 | | 7.20 |
| Château Musar, Bekaa Valley, Gaston Hochar 2017 - Half, 14% | ER0009H17 | 1 | 24.00 |

Magnums

When sating a crowd, a magnum can be the ideal option. It not only provides eight or so glasses, it makes an impressive centrepiece too! Parcels of magnums can often be found on our Oddments List.

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING

| Tanners Extra Réserve, Brut Champagne - Magnum, 12.5% Vg | FC0001M | 68.00 |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| Ayala Brut Majeur, Champagne - Magnum, 12% | FC0043M | 72.00 |
| Nyetimber Classic Cuvée, English Sparkling Wine - Magnum, 12% | FI0016M | 79.00 |
| Louis Roederer Collection, Champagne - Magnum, 12.5% | FC0242M | 120.00 |
| Bollinger Special Cuvée, Brut Champagne - Magnum, 12% | FC0014M | 120.00 |
| Pol Roger Vintage, Brut Champagne 2016 - Magnum, 12.5% | FC0024M16 | 230.00 |

WHITE

Mâcon-Chardonnay, Mallory & Benjamin Talmard 2022 - Magnum, 13% BW0038M22 38.00

RED

Claret

| Claret | | | |
|---|-----------|---|--------|
| Tanners Claret, Bordeaux - Magnum, 13.5% Vg | CR0001M | | 23.50 |
| Château Argadens, Bordeaux Supérieur 2019 - Magnum, 14.5% | CR0064M19 | | 32.00 |
| Château Montaiguillon, Montagne Saint-Emilion 2020 - Magnum, 14.5% | CR0730M20 | | 39.00 |
| Château Cissac, Haut-Médoc 2017 - Magnum, 13% | CR0450M17 | | 49.00 |
| Pauillac Réserve Spéciale, | CR0295M19 | | 75.00 |
| Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) 2019 - Magnum, 13.5% | | | |
| Château du Domaine de l'Eglise, Pomerol 2020 - Magnum, 15% | CR0629M20 | - | 120.00 |
| Rest of France | | | |
| Séguret, Côtes du Rhône-Villages, Domaine de l'Amandine 2021 - Magnum, 14% | RR0135M21 | | 33.00 |
| Château de Tiregand, Pécharmant 2020 - Magnum, 15% Vg | MR0048M20 | | 38.00 |
| Auxey-Duresses 1er cru Clos du Val, | BR0024M21 | | 94.00 |
| Michel Prunier et Fille 2021 - Magnum, 13.5% | | | |
| Rest of Europe | | | |
| Tanners Douro Red 2021 - Magnum, 14% | PR0005M21 | | 22.50 |
| Rioja Vega Crianza, Rioja 2019 - Magnum, 14% Vg | SR0031M19 | | 29.95 |
| Quinta do Francês, Odelouca River Valley, Algarve 2019 - Magnum, 13.5% | PR0097M19 | | 44.00 |
| New World | | | |
| Cristóbal 1492 Malbec, Mendoza 2022 - Magnum, 13.5% Vg | TR0018M22 | | 24.50 |
| Acrux, Colchagua, Sutil 2019 - Magnum, 14% | QR0083M19 | 1 | 62.00 |
| | | | |

Bag-in-Box

Domaine de l'Amandine Rouge, Côtes du Rhône 3 Litre BIB, 13.5% RR0142X

Port

Steeped in history and dominating the fortified wine category, Port is a wonderful creation that has never been so approachable whether young or old. Following the rare back-toback vintage declarations of 2016 and 2017 and a succession of great wines since, now is a great time to buy Some shippers declared 2018 or 2019, many 2020 too, while there have been Single Quinta releases which we still rate very highly as well. All Ports come from the Douro region in northern Portugal with its spectacular main valley which has huge hillsides of cascading terraces of vines. Grape growing is organised into quintas, or farms, some of which are famous in their own right such as Quinta de Vargellas belonging to Taylor's

Port Vintage Guide

The weather pattern in 2023, fresher and less extreme than 2022 which was baking hot, suggests there could be an interesting comparison to come. In 2021 a small amount of top Single Quinta wines were produced but not a full declaration. There was plenty of beneficial rainfall early in 2020 but also plenty of heat which has given exceptionally low yields. What there is, is deeply concentrated and very like 2009 in style. 2019 was a very dry, but not hot, vintage which has given some characterful wines with great elegance, some excellent single quintas have been made. A rain affected start to the season, coupled with hail, reduced yields to very small levels in 2018. A hot summer reduced these further. What there is, looks very good, with some houses declaring a vintage year for the third successive year. The earliest harvest on record in 2017 followed a growing season of drought and high temperatures, the resultant wines being very concentrated with good structure resulting in the first back-to-back declaration with 2016 for many years. 2016 was a tricky vintage for the growers but ultimately, they have been rewarded with super wines with elegance and freshness, good enough for a general declaration. 2015 made some outstanding single quintas, the houses maybe overly swayed by those 2016s into not declaring but the wines are very good in their own right. 2014 and 2013 made good single quintas which are fresh with lively fruit character. 2012 is a great single quinta vintage which produced elegant wines with balance and poise. Looking back through declared vintages, 2011 produced fabulous wines with freshness and a fruity style which will make them great drinking throughout their evolution. 2009, by contrast, is about power, density and longevity. The 2007 vintage was more elegant with great concentration, length and purity. The hot summer of 2003 delivered super ripe, intense wines. The Millennium vintage of 2000 was wonderfully rich and ripe, approachable in style but worth keeping. 1997 was widely declared and rightly praised but still a little backward. Wines from the 1994 vintage remain backward due to their intensity. 1992 is also for the long-term, currently quite closed. The concentrated wines of 1991 are still for keeping, though Ports from the lighter houses are just beginning to emerge. The wines of the bountiful 1985 vintage have a great balance of power with sweetness and are drinking now. The appealing style of 1983 makes it perfect for current drinking. The wines of the 1980 vintage too are much under-rated and very pure. The 1977s, undoubtedly one of the great vintages, have matured well and are firmly in their drinking window, whilst the initially structured wines of 1970 have proved themselves worth the wait and are now at their peak. Lucky indeed are those still fortunate enough to have some 1966s, 1963s, 1960s and 1955s!

and Quinta dos Malvedos owned by Graham's. Much production still lies in the hands of independent grape growers.

The greatest development in quality in the last decade or so has been the change of attitude to viticulture, with the city-based Port shippers (based in Vila Nova de Gaia and Porto on the coast) taking a much greater interest in how the vines are managed, whether in their own vineyards or under contract. And quite a jigsaw it is with the **Touriga Nacional**, **Tinta Barroca**, **Touriga Franca**, **Tinta Roriz** (Tempranillo) and **Tinto Cão** grape varieties all having their own particularities – and those are just the main black ones. The second biggest change has been the replication of foot treading by similarly soft pressing techniques of colour, flavour and tannin extraction as opposed to the almost exclusive use of the autovinification tanks that largely replaced foot treading in the 1960s and 1970s. A further development has been the interest in using a better quality of spirit to fortify the young Port. These days it is quite normal to go to Bordeaux to select fine French spirit, whereas back in the eighties, by law, they had to use rough old stuff from down by Lisbon!

The different styles of Port can be confusing, but we attempt to explain them below with classic Vintage Port being at the pinnacle which, with Single Quinta Vintages, Crusted, LBV and Ruby, make up Ports on the darker, fruitier side whereas Tawny and Colheita Ports belong to the paler, more figgy flavoured camp. Each house, or shipper, has preferences for different styles, sometimes according to their origins be it Portuguese, Dutch or British. The British presence in these parts dates from the 17th century and greatly benefited from trade wars with the French and the signing of the 1703 Methuen Treaty which gave preferential treatment to Portuguese wines. Many of the British named brands persist though few remain in the hands of the original founding families.

FINE RUBY, LBV & CRUSTED

Ruby should be a good, honest and well-priced young Port and we are particularly pleased with Tanners Patrono Fine Ruby which we buy from the family owned Fladgate Partnership, producers of Taylor's, Fonseca and Croft. LBV (Late Bottled Vintage) Port is kept in barrel for up to six years, twice as long as a classic Vintage Port. This leads to a more complex style than Ruby Port and most, like Tanners LBV, are filtered making decanting unnecessary. Some, however, with the word 'Traditional' on the label are not filtered, which brings us on to a rarer British invention, Crusted Port. This type of Port is a blend of various vintages and, having spent less time in wood, will throw a sediment known formerly as a 'crust'. The year of bottling is normally shown on the label. Port decanting is easy, so we strongly recommend you try Tanners Crusted Port, which is created for us by Johnny Graham of Churchill's, the house he founded in 1981, his family having sold Graham's some years before.

| Tanners Patrono Fine Ruby Port, 20% | VP0109B | 15.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Tanners Late Bottled Vintage Port 2017, 19.5% Vg | VP0002B17 | 21.50 |
| Tanners Late Bottled Vintage Port 2017 - Half, 19.5% Vg | VP0002H17 | 11.60 |
| Tanners Crusted Port, bottled 2012, 19.5% Vg | VP0006B12 | 27.50 |
| Taylor's Late Bottled Vintage Port 2018, 20% | VP0014B18 | 18.30 |

TAWNY PORT

Aged in large barrels rather than bottle, Tawny Ports lose more colour, hence the name 'tawny'. It is an oft overlooked but versatile style. Usually bottled at 10, 20, 30 or 40 years old, they have increasing levels of complexity the older they are, with spice, dried fruit and nutty flavours abounding at all levels. This also makes them superb accompaniments to foods such as goat's cheese, fig or apple tart, pâtés and roasted almonds. Colheitas are tawnies from a single year and are worth seeking out, with Dirk Niepoort making very good examples. Wine & Soul is another good producer of these styles since Jorge Borges, who co-owns it with his wife Sandra Tavares, has great sources of older, wood-aged Ports.

| Noval 10 Year Old Tawny Port, 19.5% 🛮 | VP0003B | 28.50 |
|--|-----------|-------|
| Manoella 10 Year Old Tawny Port, Wine & Soul, 20% Vg | VP0501B | 34.00 |
| Niepoort Colheita Port 2004 - Half, 20% | VP0012H04 | |
| Noval 20 Year Old Tawny Port, 21% Vg | VP0005B | 68.00 |

WHITE PORT

Made from Gouveio (Godello), Malvasia Fina and Viosinho grapes this is a very popular apéritif in Portugal, to be savoured on its own or mixed in a deliciously refreshing Port & Tonic.

Churchill's White Port, Dry Aperitif, 19.5% VP0012B 26.50

SINGLE QUINTA VINTAGE

In years when a shipper doesn't declare a 'classic vintage', they will often release a Single Quinta Port which is the product of one farm. These grapes normally go into the blend of a 'classic vintage' in declared years, along with grapes from other *quintas* that are rarely or never seen on labels.

They can be considered as coming from the 'home farms' but it can be trial to remember which belongs to which! Taylor's releases Quinta de Vargellas and sometimes Quinta de Terra Feita; Graham's has Quinta dos Malvedos; Fonseca has Quinta do Panascal; Churchill's has Quinta da Gricha; Dow's has Quinta do Bomfim and Quinta de Senhora da Ribeira; Croft has Quinta da Roêda; Warre's has Quinta da Cavadinha and Cockburn's has Quinta dos Canais. The quality of these wines has never been higher and they tend to drink a little earlier than their classic vintage counterparts.

| Taylor's Quinta Terra Feita, Vintage Port 2005, 20.5% | VP0090B05 | 32.00 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Taylor's Quinta de Vargellas, Vintage Port 2015, 20% | VP0020B15 | 35.00 |
| Dow's Quinta do Bomfim, Vintage Port 2013, 20% | VP0046B13 | 38.00 |
| Graham's Quinta dos Malvedos, Vintage Port 2012, 20% | VP0019B12 | 39.00 |



| Churchill's Quinta da Gricha, Vintage Port 2021, 19.5% | VP0041B21 | - | 57.00 |
|---|-----------|---|-------|
| Churchill's Quinta da Gricha, Vintage Port 2020, 19.5% | VP0041B20 | _ | 57.00 |
| Dow's Quinta Senhora da Ribeira, Vintage Port 2019, 20% | VP0056B19 | | 68.00 |
| Quinta do Vesuvio Vintage Port 2019, 20% | VP0017B19 | _ | 68.00 |
| Quinta Vale D Maria Vintage Port 2017, 20% | VP0052B17 | | 72.00 |

CLASSIC VINTAGE PORT

Classic vintages are declared several times a decade, traditionally on St George's Day, when the quality is considered to be high enough. There isn't always consensus and the decision to declare is up to each individual house but normally the two main players, the Fladgate Partnership (Taylor's, Fonseca and Croft) and Symington Family Estates (Warre's, Dow's, Graham's and Cockburn's) will usually declare all or nothing. The latter also owns Quinta do Vesuvio, which together with French-owned Quinta do Noval, is normally considered a producer of Classic Vintages rather than Single Quinta Ports. To complicate things further, the houses are now producing tiny amounts of single vineyard Ports along the lines of Quinta do Noval Nacional. Graham's Stone Terraces, Taylor's Vinha Velha and Capela da Quinta do Vesuvio will no doubt be joined by more over the coming years. Traditionally Vintage Port was kept for 20 years or more before drinking, but there is no doubt that younger Port, when it is sweet, fruity and luscious, can also be delicious.

| Smith Woodhouse Vintage Port 2007 - Half, 20% | VP0043H07 | | 29.00 |
|---|-----------|---|--------|
| Croft Vintage Port 2000, 20% | VP0033B00 | | 66.00 |
| Churchill's Vintage Port 2020, 20% | VP0040B20 | - | 69.00 |
| Taylor's Vintage Port 2011 - Half, 20.5% | VP0025H11 | - | 35.00 |
| Croft Vintage Port 2016, 20.5% | VP0033B16 | - | 72.00 |
| Churchill's Vintage Port 2014 - Half, 20% | VP0040H14 | - | 37.50 |
| Quinta do Noval Vintage Port 2019, 19.5% | VP0034B19 | - | 77.00 |
| Dow's Vintage Port 2007, 20% | VP0030B07 | | 85.00 |
| Fonseca Vintage Port 2000, 20.5% | VP0024B00 | | 86.00 |
| Quinta do Noval Vintage Port 2017, 19.5% | VP0034B17 | - | 88.00 |
| Quinta do Noval Vintage Port 2016, 19.5% | VP0034B16 | - | 88.00 |
| Churchill's, vintage 2007, 20% | VP0040B07 | | 91.50 |
| Dow's Vintage Port 2017, 20% | VP0030B17 | - | 92.00 |
| Warre's Vintage Port 2000 - Half, 20% | VP0028H00 | | 48.00 |
| Taylor's Vintage Port 2018 - Half, 20% | VP0025H18 | - | 48.00 |
| Graham's Vintage Port 2017 - Half, 20% | VP0029H17 | - | 48.00 |
| Niepoort Vintage Port 2019 - Magnum, 19.5% | VP0063M19 | - | 195.00 |
| Dow's Vintage Port 2003, 20% | VP0030B03 | | 98.00 |
| Warre's Vintage Port 1980, 20% | VP0028B80 | | 110.00 |
| Smith Woodhouse Vintage Port 1980, 20% | VP0043B80 | | 120.00 |
| Dow's Vintage Port 1994, 20% | VP0030B94 | | 130.00 |

| Graham's Vintage Port 1994, 20% | VP0029B94 | / 130.00 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Fonseca Vintage Port 1983, 20.5% | VP0024B83 | 140.00 |
| Fonseca Vintage Port 1977, 20% | VP0024B77 | |
| Taylor's Vintage Port 1977, 21% | VP0025B77 | 190.00 |

Sherry

The word 'sherry' is derived from the name 'Jerez' or 'Xeres', the town at the heart of this iconic southern Spanish region. Very recognisable yet very poorly understood, Sherry only comes from Andalucia, in Southern Spain, and in particular from the vineyards around the three towns of Jerez de la Frontera, Sanlúcar de Barrameda and El Puerto de Santa Maria. It's baking hot here in summer, the buildings are mostly painted white, and the traditional Andaluz culture



persists which often involves ferias (fairs), horses and, of course, plenty of sherry. The first thing to note about styles of sherry is that well over half of the annual production, and nearly all drunk in Spain, is dry. Think of the bars that line the streets of Seville and Jerez, and you'll find bone-dry Manzanillas and Finos partnering all sorts of delicious tapas. Nutty Amontillados and Olorosos with wonderful depth and presence are equally impressive. Then there is the depth and complexity of wines aged for many years, and a more-ish quality that makes you want another glass! Keep an eye out for our 'special releases' during the year, including En Rama styles and other small parcels of rare sherry.

MANZANILLA & FINO

From the coastal town of Sanlúcar de Barrameda, light, dry and even a little salty, **Manzanilla** can be treated just like a white wine and drunk with or without food but is at its most appetising with a plate of fresh shellfish. There's often an almondy note to *Fino*, particularly on the palate, but it still has that fresh style if a bit weightier than Manzanilla. Long on flavour, it is very good with salted almonds and olives.

| Tanners Fino Sherry, I5% Vg | VS0001B | 13.90 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Tanners Mariscal Manzanilla Sherry, 15% Vg | VS0002B | 13.90 |
| Tio Pepe Fino Palomino Sherry, Gonzalez Byass, 15% Vg | VS0015B | 13.70 |
| La Gitana Manzanilla de Barrameda Sherry, | VS0009C | 10.70 |
| Bodegas Hidalgo - 50cl, 15% Vg | | |

AMONTILLADO

An **Amontillado** is a Fino sherry which starts to oxidise in the barrel as it loses the protective layer of *flor*, the protective covering of yeast that grows on most young sherries. The action of oxidation darkens the colour, and the character gets deeper and more hazelnut in flavour. Amontillados were traditionally sweetened a little into a medium style, such medium wines must now be labelled as 'blends' or 'selections' of Amontillado.

15.50

19.20



| Tanners A Blend of Amontillado, Medium Dry Sherry, 17% | VS0003B | |
|---|---------|--|
| Viña AB Amontillado Seco de Jerez Sherry, Gonzalez Byass, 16.5% | VS0044B | |

PALO CORTADO & DRY OLOROSO

Palo Cortado is rare style that occurs when the wine stops making *flor* and natural oxidation happens slowly with the colour remaining quite light. Always dry, a good Palo Cortado has brilliant finesse and elegance, yet has tremendous length. A cut stick (*palo cortado* in Spanish) is the symbol used to mark the casks. An aged, dry Oloroso has a similar intensity to Palo Cortado but the colour is darker and the wine more robust. The difference in ageing is that Olorosos never had the *flor* in the first place. Their generous deep walnut flavours make them warming winter drinks...and great accompaniments to soup.

| Alfonso Oloroso Seco de Jerez Sherry, Gonzalez Byass, 18% | VS0038B | 18.80 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Leonor Palo Cortado de Jerez 12 Años Sherry, Gonzalez Byass, 20% | VS0045B | 22.50 |
| Wellington Palo Cortado de Jerez Sherry, 20 years VOS, | VS0010C | 32.00 |
| Hidalgo - 50cl, 18% | | |

SWEETER SHERRIES

Cream sherry is a lovely balanced drink, much maligned as the tipple of grandmothers and reverends! A good cream sherry should have depth and plenty of dried fruit character to go well with a slice of cake. It deserves once again a much wider audience. Pale Cream is made by combining a dry Fino with sweet, grapey Moscatel. Sweet but fresh, it reflects the sherry blender's art! Made from Muscat of Alexandria, younger versions of Moscatel are wonderfully grapey in aroma and sweet on the palate while older ones go very dark with age, almost treacly in character with an intense sweetness. Pedro Ximénez originates in Montilla and is invariably best when part-fermented to allow natural sweetness to be retained. The dried fruit, fig and walnut flavours get more intense as the PX is barrel-aged in a solera. It a perfect partner for vanilla ice cream.

| Tanners Cream Sherry, 17% | VS0004B | 15.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Heredad de Hidalgo Pale Cream Sherry, Jerez, 17.5% Vg | VS0058B | 17.40 |
| Triana Pedro Ximénez Sherry, Ierez, Bodegas Hidalgo - 50cl, 15% | VS0063C | 17.40 |

Other Fortified Wine

Stickies are generally from hotter regions where grapes ripen to give plenty of sugar, sunshine allows the drying of grapes, and warmer warehouses accelerate the maturing of wines in barrel. The British, surprise, surprise, were instrumental in setting up a string of fortified wine producing areas conveniently placed for re-supply, such as **Madeira** on the way over to the Americas or **Marsala** where Nelson's fleet was victualed in 1798. By and large these wines are sweet with the spirit stopping the fermentation before the natural sugar has been used up. This makes their consumption more of a challenge in these days of drier tastes. Whenever we show them at tastings however, customers rave about them and

Other Fortified Wine - Madeira & Marsala

delight in suggesting food pairings or recipes that their addition would improve. We suggest just pouring glasses and handing them out, no questions asked!

Madeira means 'wood' in Portuguese after the predominant vegetation found by the early settlers in the 1420s. It is a 1 hr 45 mins flight from Lisbon and on the same latitude as Bermuda and Morocco. The island is extremely mountainous and the climate subtropical. Bananas and sugarcane grow alongside vines, though these are generally grown at slightly higher altitudes. Producers are encouraging growers to replant the good workhorse grape, Tinta Negra (Mole), with more noble grape varieties such as Sercial, Verdelho, Bual (Boal) and Malmsey (Malvasia). Moscatel is also grown as well as two rarities, Terrantez and Bastardo.

The 'Canteiro' production method is best whereby casks of Madeira are left for very extended periods in warehouses on stillages (canteiros) in multi-floored warehouses, heat and air being friends of the Madeira winemaker. The 'Estufa' method using heated steel tanks is fine and achieves good results, being the artificial recreation of the old practice of sending Madeira across the equator to the West Indies and back again! Flavours of roasted almonds feature in the younger, fresher Madeiras, with various degrees of ginger, cinnamon and mace through to molasses in the older wines. They have in common balancing citrus notes of lemon, orange and kumquat.

D'Oliveira's is a very traditional (in the best sense of the word) company with, by repute, the best stocks of very old vintage Madeiras. Henriques & Henriques produces a fine range of age-statement-carrying Madeiras as well as very fine old vintage ones. Blandy's is part of the Madeira Wine Company which is now back in the management of the British Blandy family. Barbeito occupies a zen-like winery, extremely high up above the sea in conditions conducive to making a fresher style.

| Barbeito Malvasia Reserva Madeira - 50cl, 19% | VM0803C | 17.30 |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Blandy's Duke of Sussex Dry Madeira, 19% | VM0027B | 18.80 |
| D'Oliveiras Sweet Madeira, 19% | VM0001B | 22.00 |
| Henriques & Henriques 10 Year Old Verdelho Madeira - 50cl, 20% Vg | VM0041C | 23.50 |
| Henriques & Henriques 10 Year Old Malvasia Madeira - 50cl, 20% Vg | VM0003C | 23.50 |
| Barbeito Single Harvest Madeira 2010 - 50cl, 19% | VM0074C10 | 33.00 |
| Barbeito Sercial 10 Years Reserva Velha Madeira, 19% | VM0042B | 47.00 |

Marsala

On the western tip of Sicily, the town of Marsala sits on a stunning coastline with thousands of acres of vines behind it. Its wines shouldn't be used just for cooking, lovely though it is in Tiramisu and Zabaglione! The Lombardo family make a fabulous range of Marsalas in a winery set back from the sea by a short avenue of palms.

| Marsala Fine IP, Cucina, Lombardo, 17% | VM0004B | 13.70 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Marsala Superiore Old, Secco, Lombardo, 18% | VM0022B | 16.50 |

Setúbal

The Setúbal region lies just south of Lisbon, across the Tagus estuary. It is famous for fortified sweet wines made from Muscat of Alexandria grapes, the barrel-aged versions from Bacalhôa are superb. The corniche road from here to Sesimbra is breath-taking.

Moscatel de Setúbal, Bacalhôa 2019, 17%

VM0021B19

14.40

Rutherglen

Home to Australia's fortified wine industry, Rutherglen in northern Victoria, sticks closely to its history of making fine fortified wines or 'stickies' in local parlance.

Stanton & Killeen Muscat, Rutherglen - Half, 17.5%

Brandy

Brandy's sales continue to grow both in the UK and more widely, managing to hold its own in the face of strong competition from Gin and Whisky, this is leading to more investment in the region and the drinks. The big brands continue to dominate but overall things are looking rosier here... The very finest examples come from France in the form of Armagnac from the South-West and Cognac from Charentes. These spirits are usually blended to offer consistency of style and quality. The age of the spirit indicates the quality level at which it appears, from the everyday VS level through to XO and beyond. The best of them offer a fantastically complex drink to round off any meal. The brandies of Spain tend to be fuller, a little sweeter and darker in colour, while those of Asbach from Germany's Rhine valley are a little lighter

ARMAGNAC

The famous brandy of Gascony and predating Cognac, Armagnac has been around since the 14th century. It is a little more fiery and earthy than Cognac but fantastic for it. In Bas-Armagnac near Eauze, brothers Armin and Rémy Grassa at Domaine Tariquet are now making the brandies, as well as large amounts of crisp white wine. We have shipped fine Tariquet Armagnacs for many years.

| Domaine Tariquet VS Classique, Bas Armagnac, Famille Grassa, 40% | WB0002B | 33.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Domaine Tariquet VSOP, Bas Armagnac, Famille Grassa, 40% | WB0003B | 36.00 |
| Domaine Tariquet XO, Bas Armagnac, Famille Grassa, 40% | WB0004B | 47.00 |
| Domaine Tariquet Pure Folle Blanche, 12 Year Old Bas Armagnac, 48.2% | WB0011B | 52.00 |

VS & VSOP COGNAC

The perfect end to dinner or great in a complex cocktail -whichever way you choose to drink France's most famous spirit, it remains one of the world's finest. Dominated by big brands, it is worth seeking out smaller producers such as the Vallet family at Château de Montifaud who have been able to offer more of a sense of place and provenance for their produce. It is well worth trying these beautiful artisan Cognacs and they are great value.

| Château de Montifaud VS Cognac, Fine Petite Champagne, 40% | WB0024B | 35.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Château de Montifaud VSOP Cognac, Petite Champagne, 40% | WB0012B | 42.00 |
| H by Hine VSOP Cognac, Fine Champagne, 40% | WB0031B | 42.00 |
| Hine Rare Cognac, Fine Champagne, 40% | WB0032B | 56.00 |

XO, DELUXE & VINTAGE COGNAC

Rich, complex, sublime digestifs with enormous depth and length, these are truly fine spirits. A rule change in April 2018 means that legally they must be at least 10 years old to carry the 'XO' designation.

| Château de Montifaud XO Cognac, Petite Champagne, 40% | WB0061B | 75.00 |
|---|---------|--------|
| Delamain XO Pale and Dry Cognac, Grande Champagne, 42% - 50cl | WB0073C | 86.00 |
| Hine Antique XO Cognac, Grande Champagne, 40% | WB0050B | 160.00 |
| Hennessy XO Extra Old Cognac, 40% | WB0036B | 180.00 |

WORLD BRANDIES

There are options beyond Cognac and Armagnac from the simple French Brandy – ideal for cooking and champagne cocktails – through the light and nutty Asbach from Germany to one of Spain's very best, Lepanto.

| Jules Clairon Oak Aged Napoleon Fine French Brandy, 36% | WB0067B | 15.70 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Asbach Uralt, German Brandy, 36% | WB0046B | 22.50 |

Whisky

Spirits - Whisky

There is seemingly no let-up in demand for whisky, forcing many brands to eschew age statements for brand names, certainly at the entry level. At the same time, releases of age statement whiskies are met with high demand and sell out quickly. Whisky is now produced all over the world with some of the best coming from Japan, Ireland, the USA and, more recently, England and Wales. Scotland's malt whiskies are fascinating and complex. From the light, ethereal Lowland to the elegant Speyside, through the rich Highland style and the peaty, smoky whiskies of the Islands, there is a whisky to suit all occasions, particularly with the raft of new 'expressions' released by the distilleries every year. The Irish style is generally softer, more approachable; look out for Teeling, one of the newer distilleries. Bourbon continues to grow rapidly in interest, the best now rivalling Scotch in terms of complexity, while the fledgling whiskies of England and Wales are beginning to show their quality. Japanese whiskies are very like Scotch, because that is where the Japanese distillers first learnt their craft and there are many superb examples. The subject of Scotch whisky can easily become a fascination: the source of the barley, the way it is malted, the water supply and the shape of the stills all influence the flavour of the spirit, and that is before the type

of oak and conditions in which it is matured are determined! There remains strong interest in limited edition bottlings which can come and go quickly so do enquire or keep an eye on our website and Oddments List.

BLENDED SCOTCH

Scotland is the home of whisky which spawned the nickname 'Scotch'. Blended whiskies continue to dominate the market in terms of volume. These are a mix of malt and grain whisky making them ideal for mixing. Try Tanners **Peaty Creag** for a little more depth and complexity.

| Tanners Peaty Creag, 8 Year Old Blended Scotch Whisky, 40% | WH0001B | 22.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
|--|---------|-------|

ISLAY MALT

The distilleries of this small island continue to fascinate, and the super-rich peaty/iodine character found here still finds favour with connoisseurs the world over. It is worth seeking out the malts from **Kilchoman** for a sense of place and great character.

| Bowmore 12 Year Old, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0050B | 43.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Ardbeg 'The Ultimate' 10 Year Old, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 46% | WH0061B | 49.95 |
| Bruichladdich 'The Classic Laddie', Scottish Barley, Islay Single Malt, 50% | WH0261B | 49.00 |
| Kilchoman Machir Bay, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 46% | WH0262B | 52.00 |
| Laphroaig 10 Year Old, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0052B | 49.95 |
| Port Charlotte 10 Year Old, Heavily Peated, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 50% | WH0420B | 57.00 |
| Bunnahabhain 12 Year Old, Islay Single Malt Whisky, 46.3% | WH0049B | 56.00 |

SPEYSIDE MALT

A sub-region of the Highland designation, Speyside is home to some of the most recognisable names. The elegant Speyside character is charming and worth seeking out. Try the whiskies of the family-owned **Glenfarclas** and **Benromach** distilleries which offer great value and complexity.

| Tanners 14 Year Old Glenfarclas Highland Single Malt, 46% | WH0460B | 62.00 |
|---|--|--|
| Glenfiddich 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0019B | 39.95 |
| Glenfarclas 10 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0024B | 44.00 |
| The Glenlivet Founder's Reserve, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0299B | 45.00 |
| Cragganmore 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0028B | 48.00 |
| Balvenie DoubleWood 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0029B | 55.00 |
| Glenfarclas 105, Cask Strength, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 60% | WH0036B | 73.00 |
| Glenfarclas 15 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 46% | WH0182B | 77.00 |
| | Glenfiddich 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% Glenfarclas 10 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% The Glenlivet Founder's Reserve, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% Cragganmore 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% Balvenie DoubleWood 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% Glenfarclas 105, Cask Strength, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 60% | Glenfiddich 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% WH0019B Glenfarclas 10 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% WH0024B The Glenlivet Founder's Reserve, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% WH0299B Cragganmore 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% WH0028B Balvenie DoubleWood 12 Year Old, Speyside Single Malt Whisky, 40% WH0029B Glenfarclas 105, Cask Strength, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 60% WH0036B |

HIGHLAND MALT

Classic whiskies, full of the rich Highland style with nutty, cereal aromas and hints of fudge,

Highland Malts come in a range of styles from the fresher **Glengoyne** to the richer, more fruity and spicy **Dalmore**.

| Tomatin Legacy, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 43% | WH0392B | 33.00 |
|---|---------|--------|
| Glenmorangie Original 10 year old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0005B | 39.00 |
| Tomatin 12 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 43% | WH0161B | 43.00 |
| Edradour 10 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0038B | 45.00 |
| Royal Lochnagar 12 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0124B | 49.50 |
| Dalwhinnie 15 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 43% | WH0007B | 49.95 |
| Glengoyne 12 year old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 43% | WH0801B | 52.00 |
| Dalmore 12 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0037B | 68.00 |
| Tomatin 14 Year Old Port Casks, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 46% | WH0545B | 75.00 |
| Dalmore 15 Year Old, Highland Single Malt Whisky, 40% | WH0353B | 120.00 |

MALT FROM THE ISLANDS

The islands are the home of some rich whiskies. Whilst not exclusively so, they tend towards a smoky style usually with a seaweed tang but with notable differences in style as one moves round the islands. The new distillery on the Isle of **Raasay**, just off Jura, is already proving an interesting dram and one to follow.

| Highland Park 12 Year Old 'Viking Honour', Single Malt Whisky, Orkney | WH0074B | 48.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Talisker 10 Year Old, Single Malt Whisky, Skye, 45.8% | WH0075B | 52.00 |
| Isle of Raasay Hebridean Single Malt Whisky, 46.4% NEW | WH0543B | 55.00 |

CAMPBELTOWN & LOWLAND MALT

Lowland Malts are increasingly sought-after and becoming more difficult to find. These are gentle whiskies, some triple-distilled to make them even smoother. **Lochlea** is from the childhood home of Robert Burns and makes great whisky from barley grown at the farms.

| Lochlea Our Barley, Lowland Single Malt Whisky, 46% | WH0512B | 44.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Glenkinchie 12 Year Old, Lowland Single Malt Whisky, 43% | WH0158B | 52.00 |

IRISH WHISKEY

The whiskeys of Ireland are softer and more honeyed in style than those of Scotland. Some, such as **Bushmills** from the North and **Jameson** from the South, are triple distilled to emphasise their smooth character. Others, such as **Teeling**, only distill twice like the Scots, giving a little more edge and complexity. Blessed with good reserves of older whiskeys, Teeling's malts and blends are superb, as are the **Waterford** whiskies, the latest project of Mark Reynier who, in a former life, resurrected the fortunes of Islay's Bruichladdich distillery.

| Bushmills Original White Label, Irish Whiskey, Antrim, 40% | WH0094B | 26.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Jameson Irish Whiskey, Dublin, 40% | WH0095B | 28.00 |

| Bushmills Black Bush, Irish Whiskey, Antrim, 40% | WH0100B | 32.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Bushmills Single Malt, 10 Year Old Irish Whiskey, Antrim, 40% | WH0102B | 42.00 |
| Teeling Small Batch, Blended Irish Whiskey, 46% | WH0360B | 39.95 |
| Teeling Single Malt Irish Whiskey, 46% | WH0276B | 55.00 |
| Waterford Cuvée Argot, Irish Single Malt Whisky, 47% NEW | WH0546B | 57.00 |
| Waterford Lakefield, Edition 1.1, Irish Single Malt Whisky, 50% NEW | WH0547B | 70.00 |

WELSH & ENGLISH WHISKY

The home-grown producers continue to impress each year as their spirits becomes older and more complex. **Penderyn** has been producing their whisky since 2004 and now has some excellent stocks with good age. The **English Distillery** followed close on their heels in 2006 while the **Cotswold Distillery** is proving to everyone that age isn't everything! More are coming to the market every year, as many familiar to you for producing gin have diversified into Whisky production.

| Penderyn Legend, Floral & Fruity, Single Malt Welsh Whisky, 40% | WH0553B | 34.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Penderyn Celt, Peaty & Citrusy, Single Malt Welsh Whisky, 40% | WH0555B | 34.00 |
| Penderyn Madeira Finish, Single Malt Welsh Whisky, 46% | WH0092B | 40.00 |
| The English Smokey, Single Malt English Whisky, 43% | WH0352B | 46.00 |
| Cotswolds Signature, Single Malt English Whisky, 46% | WH0350B | 48.00 |
| Henstone Single Malt English Whisky, 43.8% NEW | WH0571B | 55.00 |

US & CANADIAN WHISKIES

Canadian Club 1858 Original Canadian Whisky, 40% WH0107B 26.50



| Buffalo Trace, Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 40% | WH0823B | 28.50 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Maker's Mark, Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whisky, 45% | WH0110B | 32.00 |
| Four Roses Small Batch, Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 45% | WH0354B | 35.00 |
| Wild Turkey 101, Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, 50.5% | WH0140B | 38.00 |
| | | |

WORLD WHISKY

With a well-known whisky writer awarding a Japanese whisky the highest score in the 2015 edition of his book, one can no longer ignore the burgeoning whisky industry outside Scotland.

Nikka 'From the Barrel', Japanese Blended Whisky, 51.4% - 50cl WH0359C 45.00

Gin

The gin market has now passed its peak and is undergoing a period of justification which will see some disappear, but the best will endure. Gin is a very individual spirit. It is flavoured with juniper and a number of other 'botanicals', the proportions of which give each gin its individual characteristics and following. As with any flavourings, the job can be done well, and it can be done badly. We are very proud to have an extensive selection of quality gins available at Tanners to suit all tastes. The flavoured gins are finding great popularity, with rhubarb and lemon seemingly the favourites. Don't forget Sloe and Damson Gin which we classify under 'Liqueurs' because they are sweet.

ENGLISH DRY GIN

These range from our **Hereford Dry Gin** to artisanal examples from **Sipsmith** and **Forest** and an increasing number of others. The chaps at **Warner's** from Nottingham are now serious players. As increasingly are some of our more local distilleries.

| Hereford Finest Dry Gin, Tanners, 40% | WG0001B | 17.95 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Gordon's Premium Pink Distilled Gin, 37.5% | WG0935B | 18.95 |
| Tanqueray London Dry Gin, 41.3% | WG0030B | 25.00 |
| Bombay Sapphire London Dry Gin, 40% | WG0007B | 25.00 |
| Plymouth Gin, Coates & Co, 41.2% | WG0006B | 29.50 |
| Camino Gin, 40% - 50cl | WG0280C | 29.95 |
| Henstone Gin, 44.9% | WG0209B | 32.00 |
| Warner's Harrington Dry Gin, 44% | WG0119B | 34.00 |
| Penrhos Dry Gin, 40% | WG0254B | 34.00 |
| Brockman's Premium Gin, 40% | WG0117B | 35.00 |
| Tiger No I Gin, 40% | WG0146B | 35.00 |
| Cucumber Premium Dry Gin, The English Drinks Co, 40% | WG0181B | 36.00 |
| Cotswolds Dry Gin, 46% | WG0157B | 37.00 |
| Sly Gin London Dry, Premium Small Batch, Herefordshire, 43% | WG0179B | 38.00 |

| Chase GB Extra Dry Gin, Herefordshire, 40% | WG0113B | 38.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Warner's Rhubarb Gin, 40% | WG0135B | 38.00 |
| Sly Gin London Dry Pink Grapefruit, 43% | WG0918B | 38.00 |
| Penrhos Wonky Raspberry Gin, 40% | WG0299B | 38.00 |
| Penrhos Apple & Elderflower Gin, 40.5% | WG0257B | 38.00 |
| Penrhos Rhubarb Gin, 40% | WG0255B | 38.00 |
| Pinkster Raspberry Gin, 37.5% | WG0159B | 38.00 |
| Chase Pink Grapefruit & Pomelo Gin, 40% | WG0164B | 39.95 |
| The Shropshire Distillery Dry Gin, 40% | WG0250B | 40.00 |
| The Shropshire Distillery Aromatic Spiced Gin, 40% | WG0251B | 40.00 |
| Wardington's Original Ludlow Triple Citrus and Pomegranate No 2 Gin, 42% | WG0265B | 42.00 |
| Wardington's Original Ludlow Dry No 1 Gin, 42% | WG0264B | 42.00 |
| | | |

SCOTTISH & WELSH GIN

Gordon Castle Gin from Speyside is stunning with some of the botanicals coming from their own walled garden. Those from the Dyfi Distillery are worthy of consideration; these are genuinely small batch distillations using foraged botanicals to bring unique character and flavour.

| Brecon Botanicals Gin, 43% | WG0143B | 25.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Aber Falls Rhubarb & Ginger Gin, Rhaeadr Fawr, 41.3% | WG0933B | 28.00 |
| Aber Falls Orange Marmalade Gin, Rhaeadr Fawr, 41.3% | WG0934B | 28.00 |
| Aber Falls Dry Gin, Rhaeadr Fawr, 41.3% | WG0932B | 28.00 |
| Dyfi Original Gin, Dyfi Distillery, 45% - 50cl | WG0218C | 35.00 |
| Hendrick's Gin, 41.4% | WG0009B | 35.00 |
| Pollination Gin, Dyfi Distillery, 45% - 50cl | WG0178C | 38.00 |
| The Botanist, Islay Dry Gin, 46% | WG0108B | 39.00 |
| Tanqueray No Ten Dry Gin, 47.3% | WG0103B | 39.95 |
| Dà Mhìle Organic Seaweed Gin, 42% 🕏 | WG0161B | 40.00 |
| In the Welsh Wind Signature Style Gin, 43% NEW | WG0308B | 42.00 |
| Hibernation Gin, Dyfi Distillery, 45% - 50cl | WG0191C | 44.00 |
| In the Welsh Wind Palo Cortado Cask Aged Gin, 43% NEW | WG0309B | 45.00 |

WORLD GIN

The best gins from further afield are sublimely complex, even worth trying neat to savour their depth; Monkey 47, a German gin with 47 different botanicals, is one such.

| Monkey 47, Schwarzwald Dry Gin, Germany, 47% - 50cl | WG0122C 48. | .00 |
|---|-------------|-----|
|---|-------------|-----|

Vodka

This neutral spirit can be made from virtually anything with sucrose in it: barley, rye, potatoes, apples, milk and more besides. Then there is the all-important distillation these techniques will have as much effect on the flavour as the base liquid itself. Many are distilled numerous times to make them as 'clean' and pure as possible. Many charcoal-filter their vodka to increase its purity. Try Black Cow's fascinating, creamy vodka, made from whey, or Chase's amazingly clean and fresh potato vodka.

PURE VODKA

Traditionally a cocktail ingredient or mixed, pure vodka is being more and more appreciated on its own. Try it ice cold.

| Stoli Vodka, Latvia, 40% | WV0009B | 22.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Absolut Vodka, Sweden, 40% | WV0010B | 24.50 |
| Brecon Five Vodka, Wales, 43% | WV0028B | 26.50 |
| Black Cow Pure Milk Vodka, The Gold Top, England, 40% | WV0903B | 32.00 |
| Belvedere Vodka, Poland, 40% | WV0023B | 37.50 |
| In The Welsh Wind Three Grain Vodka, Wales, 43% NEW | WV0135B | 40.00 |
| Chase Potato Vodka, England, 40% | WV0015B | 35.95 |
| Grey Goose Vodka, France, 40% | WV0022B | 39.95 |

FLAVOURED VODKA

These flavoured vodkas make for particularly interesting drinking. Some, such as the Zubrówka Bison Grass vodka, just have a subtle roundness to their flavour, whilst for the likes of Chase with their marmalade and rhubarb vodkas, it is more about the flavourings.

| Absolut Citron Vodka, Sweden, 40% | WV0011B | 24.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Absolut Vanilla Vodka, Sweden, 38% | WV0029B | 24.50 |
| Zubrówka Bison Grass Vodka, Poland, 40% | WV0126B | 25.00 |
| Chase Rhubarb Vodka, England, 40% | WV0065B | 46.00 |

Rum

Rum is benefitting from the increased interest in fine spirits after the recent gin boom. This is bringing new players into the market, but it is starting with a much smaller base of drinkers. Some are curating excellent ranges source from the Caribbean such as Lost Years, while others are buying molasses and fermenting/distilling them and some even buying unrefined sugar and starting a new category. When it comes to after dinner drinks, the finest golden rums are more than a match for fine cognacs and malt whiskies. There is a tendency for these to come from the French West Indies, but nowadays there are plenty of 'boutique' producers around the rest of the Caribbean too. Many of these 'new

wave' rums have a much greater sense of place and are more individual in style than in days of yore, often coming from very small distilleries. Rum is closely associated with the Caribbean islands, but all rum needs is sugarcane which is grown in many tropical climates from Central America to Australia. The famous Demerara region is in Guyana in South America. Some production involves shipping molasses to be processed nearer their markets, and a recent trend has been the importation in bulk for local maturation in barrel. We have two large old wooden vats at Tanners which served just that purpose. Other styles are white and dark rums, as well as the newly popular spiced rums.

WHITE RUM

White rums are either very young un-aged rums, or older rums that have had some or all the colour removed by filtration. Rum's such as **Doorly's** falls into the latter category having spent three years ageing, meaning it is a much more characterful spirit than its more commercial rivals.

| Doorly's Fine Old White Barbados Rum, Aged 3 Years, 40% | WR0828B | 32.00 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Lost Years Silver Moon White Rum. 40% | WR0125B | 33.00 |

GOLDEN RUM

There are two distinct styles of golden rum. The first, Rhum Agricole, is made from distilling fresh cane juice and is more typical of the French islands. Rhum Depaz from Martinique is an excellent example. The alternative style of rum is made from molasses such as those from Doorly's and Mount Gay in Barbados or Mezan in Jamaica, which are a little richer and fuller in body. Both styles offer complexity and richness whilst retaining their unique identities. The Lost Years rums are blends but offer great character and a chance to offer something back to nature on the back of purchasing them.

| Mount Gay Eclipse, Barbados Rum, 40% | WR0012B | 24.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Mezan XO, Jamaica Rum, 40% | WR0106B | 42.00 |
| Doorly's XO, Fine Old Barbados Rum, 43% | WR0007B | 42.00 |
| Lost Years Four Island Rum, 40% | WR0127B | 42.00 |
| Lost Years Arribada Cask Aged Rum, 42% | WR0128B | 47.00 |
| Mount Gay XO, Triple Cask Blend, Barbados Rum, 43% | WR0807B | 59.00 |

DARK RUM

This style, made from molasses, is aged in heavily charred barrels or is often coloured with caramel to give a rich intense colour. Some such as **Wood's** Old Navy maintain their naval heritage and make great sipping drinks or cocktails.

| Lamb's Navy Rum, 40% | WR0003B | 19.30 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Woods Old Navy Demerara Rum, Guyana, 57% | WR0006B | 32.00 |

SPICED RUM

This style is rapidly growing in popularity with cinnamon, ginger, cloves and cardamom

regularly being used as well as a bit of honey or sugar. The better ones, such as **Wildjac**, are very drinkable.

| Sailor Jerry Spiced Rum, Guyana, 40% | WR0818B | 22.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| The Kraken Black Spiced Rum, 40% | WR0826B | 28.50 |
| Barti Spiced, Pembrokeshire Seaweed Spirit with Rum, 35% | WR0118B | 32.00 |
| Wildjac Honey Spiced Rum, 37.5% | WR0120B | 33.00 |

Eaux de Vie

Eau de Vie, like Aqua Vitae, means water of life, and should be a full strength, twice-distilled, dry spirit, which is normally colourless. All Eaux de Vie – Schnapps in German – start life as clear distillates but may take on colour if aged in wood. They can be made from any fruit ranging from apples, through pears (the Williams variety is favoured) to raspberries and other soft fruits. Eaux de Vie made from pomace (skins and pips) is called Marc in France and Grappa in Italy.

FRUIT EAUX DE VIE

Distilling fruit Eaux de Vie is an art form and there are some particularly fine producers in the Alsace region of France with family-owned, 150-year-old Massenez being one of the most highly regarded. Theirs are wonderful after-dinner drinks especially when served chilled.

| Kirsch, Liqueur de Cuisine, Luxardo, 25% - 50cl | WE0110C | 15.95 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Eau de Vie de Kirsch Vieux, Massenez, 40% | WE0136B | 36.00 |
| Eau de Vie de Framboise Tradition, G Miclo, 40% | WE0019B | 49.00 |
| Eau de Vie de Poire Williams Tradition, G Miclo, 40% | WE0021B | 49.00 |

CALVADOS & APPLE BRANDY

In France, Calvados is the most famous apple brandy and is treated with the same reverence as Cognac. It must come from the Calvados department of Normandy which is centred around Caen. Calvados from the Pays d'Auge commands a premium and has protected AOC status. England and Wales have a fine tradition of cider making with more people trying their hand at making Apple Brandy.

| Calvados Fine, Berneroy, 40% | WE0073B | 35.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Dà Mhìle Organic Apple Brandy, 40% | WE0121B | 45.00 |
| Calvados Pays d'Auge VSOP, Domaine L Dupont, 42% | WE0022B | 60.00 |

GRAPPA & MARC

Wherever there is red wine, there is Grappa or Marc which is made from the pomace (skins and pips) left after pressing the fermented grapes, after all alcohol shouldn't go to waste! Italy and France have strong traditions of making Grappa and Marc, and have skilful

distillers who achieve depth, elegance and fine aromas in their spirits.

| Gradda Artigiana | Ci Vidina, Bepi Tosolini, 40% | WE0013B | 35.00 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-------|
| | | | |

Non-Alcoholic Drinks

The popularity of gin in the UK has given rise to a number of non-alcoholic variants, which in turn has led to a broadening of the category. Some are distilled in the normal way, the alcohol is then removed, and flavouring added. Others have no alcohol at all in the process just a maceration of the flavourings in water. A variety of different base flavours are used, and they can, served with a good mixer, make an interesting alternative to soft drinks for those looking for something different.

NON-ALCOHOLIC SPIRITS

| Caleño Dark & Spicy Tropical Non-Alcoholic Rum Spirit, 0.0% - 50cl | WX0922C | 17.95 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Tanqueray Alcohol Free, 0.0% | WX0263B | 18.95 |
| Seedlip Garden 108 Herbal, Distilled Non-Alcoholic Spirit, 0.0% | WX0912B | 26.95 |

NON-ALCOHOLIC CORDIALS

lukes I Cordiality The White 3cl

Jukes is a collection of non-alcoholic cordials created by well-respected wine writer, Matthew Jukes. A blend of fruit, vegetables, herbs, spices and organic apple cider vinegar, designed to be mixed with still, sparkling, or tonic water. They are the perfect replacement for a great glass of wine, for those occasions when you choose not to drink alcohol.

WX0084

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| jukes i Cordianty, the villice, ser | ******** | L 1.23 |
|---|-----------|--------|
| Jukes 6 Cordiality, The Red, 3cl | WX0083 | £4.25 |
| NON-ALCOHOLIC WINE | | |
| Torres Natureo Alcohol Free Muscat, Penedès 2021, 0% | WX0014B21 | 8.60 |
| Torres Natureo Alcohol Free Rosé Syrah/Cabernet, Penedès 2020, 0% | WX0006B20 | 8.60 |
| Torres Natureo Alcohol Free Syrah, Penedès 2020, 0% | WX0102B20 | 8.60 |

So Jennie Alcohol Free Luxury Rosé Bubbles, Paris, France, 0% NEW

Liqueurs

Just about any fruit or herb you can think of, somebody, somewhere in the world is almost certainly macerating in sugar and alcohol. 'Liqueurs' covers a myriad of different styles and drinks but what they all have in common is that they are flavoured and sweetened spirits. We keep an eclectic range in addition to the usual suspects. Smaller producers make more interesting, better value liqueurs such as those from Massenez, based in Alsace. We include fruit gins in this category rather than mix them with dry gins. Complex and fruity liqueurs such as Tanners Sloe Gin and the other flavours from Foxdenton fit the mould perfectly.

HERB & SPICE-FLAVOURED

Almost medicinal and some still made by monks, these are often taken as a digestif after a meal. They are fascinating in their complexity so also make great cocktail ingredients.

| Crème de Menthe Verte, Massenez, 20% | WL0137B | 16.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Jägermeister, 35% | WO0030B | 22.00 |
| Mentzendorff Kummel, 38% - 50cl | WL0839C | 22.50 |
| Galliano L'Autentico, 42.3% - 50cl | WL0089C | 23.00 |
| Glayva Liqueur, 35% - 50cl | WL0025C | 24.00 |
| The King's Ginger Liqueur with a hint of Lemon Zest, 29.9% - 50cl | WL0151C | 24.95 |
| Chartreuse Green, 55% | WL0030B | 46.00 |

CITRUS-FLAVOURED

The basis for many cocktails and desserts, these classic citrus fruit liqueurs are intense, sweet and very moreish. Quality Limoncello is a classic liqueur which was traditionally homemade by the inhabitants of the Amalfi Coast.

| Liqueur de Curaçao Bleu, Massenez, 25% | WL0133B | 18.95 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Liqueur de Curação Triple Sec, Massenez, 35% | WL0163B | 22.30 |
| Limoncello Qualitá BT Superiore, 28% | WL0090B | 27.50 |
| Dà Mhìle Organic Orange 33, 25% | WL0120B | 30.00 |

FRUIT-FLAVOURED

British Cassis made in Herefordshire is the essence of fruit in a glass and could even count as one of your five a day! Serve as a winter warmer or add to sparkling wine.

| Tanners Sloe Gin, 25% | WL0115B | 26.50 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Crème de Banane, Massenez, 20% | WL0164B | 16.50 |
| Crème de Cassis de Dijon, Massenez, 20% | WL0131B | 16.50 |
| Crème à la Fraise des Bois, Massenez, 20% | WL0134B | 16.50 |
| Crème de Pêche, Massenez, 20% | WL0150B | 16.50 |
| Crème de Framboise, Massenez, 20% | WL0135B | 16.50 |
| Crème de Mûre, Massenez, 20% | WL0138B | 16.50 |
| Liqueur d'Abricot, Massenez, 25% | WL0130B | 18.95 |
| Crème de Violettes, Massenez, 25% | WL0140B | 18.95 |
| British Cassis, Blackcurrant Liqueur, White Heron, 15% - 50cl | WL0035C | 22.50 |
| Liqueur de Rhubarbe, Edmond Briottet, 18% | WL0941B | 22.50 |
| Heering, Cherry Liqueur, 24% | WL0048B | 26.50 |
| Foxdenton Damson Gin Liqueur, 18.5% | WL0099B | 27.50 |
| Foxdenton Winslow Plum Gin Liqueur, 17.5% | WL0101B | 27.50 |
| Chilton Damson Gin, Shropshire, 27% | WL0055B | 27.00 |

| Gordon's Sloe Gin, 26% | WL0003B | 28.00 |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Fragola, Bepi Tosolini, 24% | WL0945B | 35.00 |

NUT-FLAVOURED

Intensely flavoured, the earthy character of these liqueurs is perfect in cocktails or just sipped on their own. The Salizá Amaretto is pure almonds in a glass.

| Frangelico Liqueur, 20% | WL0056B | 19.95 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Salizá Amaretto Veneziano, Bepi Tosolini, 28% | WL0942B | 32.00 |

COFFEE & CHOCOLATE-FLAVOURED

Rich and deep, these liqueurs can be added to cocktails, coffee, cakes or just poured over ice cream for a speedy dessert. They are versatile and intense.

| Crème de Cacao, Massenez, 25% | WL0132B | 18.95 |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Kahlúa Coffee Liqueur, 16% | WL0060B | 19.95 |

CREAM LIQUEURS

A dessert in a glass, these are rich flavourful drinks. The Merlyn liqueur from Wales' Penderyn distillery is a heady blend of Welsh cream and their pure spirit; it is not as sweet as you might think.

| Merlyn Welsh Cream Liqueur, 17% | WL0064B | 17.00 |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Cotswold Cream Liqueur, 17% | WL0129B | 26.00 |

Apéritifs & Cocktail Shelf

Every country has its signature drinks, and many commonplace examples have been re-worked and re-thought out with greater care and passion in recent decades. Fine examples of spirits such as Tequila, once the reserve of the Sunrise or Slammer, are now drinks to sip and savour. Sake is another example that is no longer the reserve of the kitchen cupboard but a fine,



complex drink worthy of attention. Whatever your 'tipple' you are sure to find something here.

APÉRITIES

A little something to whet the appetite, most are drunk long. Aperol from Italy makes a great apéritif served with tonic or soda if you like it drier...and lemonade or Prosecco if not. The Pineau des Charentes from Cognac producers Château de Montifaud makes a great start before any meal. Another favourite from France is Pastis if you like aniseed. It is worth seeking out a more traditionally produced one such as that from Henri Bardouin which shows great depth and complexity, or a fascinating alternative is the Arak from the

Massaya winery in Lebanon.

| Aperol Aperitivo, Barbieri, 11% | WO0823B | 14.95 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Vieux Pineau des Charentes, Château de Montifaud, 17% | WO0017B | 23.00 |
| Ouzo 12 | WO0020B | 23.00 |
| Aalborg Taffel Akvavit, 45% | WO0037B | 29.95 |
| Henri Bardouin Pastis, 45% | WO0119B | 36.00 |
| El Massaya Authentic Arak, Lebanon, 53% - 50cl | WO0106C | 36.00 |

VERMOUTHS

To give them their other title, 'aromatised wines' are those infused with a blend of herbs, fruits and spices and traditionally matured in the sun. There is something of a resurgence of interest in this style of drink with Spanish producers leading the way with Vermú and they are great for sipping over ice or as a longer drink. The French too are in on the act, though they have never really been away, with the Lillet and Chambéry Dolin examples being excellent.

| Dubonnet, Apéritif à Base de Vin, 14.8% | WO0016B | 11.20 |
|---|---------|-------|
| Dolin Vermouth de Chambéry, Dry, 17.5% | WO0014B | 16.50 |
| Punt e Mes Vermouth, Carpano, 16% | WO0021B | 16.50 |
| Noilly Prat Original Dry Vermouth, 18% | WO0015B | 16.70 |
| Paso-Vermú Red Vermouth, 15% | WO0129B | 17.40 |
| Lillet Blanc, 17% - 75cl | WO0065B | 19.60 |

PIMM'S & FRUIT CUPS

Pimm's is a classic British cocktail ingredient: just add lemonade or ginger ale, lots of fresh fruit and a sprig of mint. This sector is expanding with more variations being introduced by Pimm's, some of which are sweeter alternatives, but what is really exciting are the 'cups' being produced by the likes of Sipsmith: drier, more complex drinks equally at home with lemonade or as a base for fruit cocktails.

Sipsmith London Cup, 29.5% WO0118B 22.00

BITTERS

Very popular in Southern Europe, bitters are often served both at the beginning and end of a meal. The amari of Italy are being joined by some home-grown examples from Britain which are perfect for adding to cocktails to show their herby, spicy depth.

Fernet-Branca, 39% WO0026B 33.00

TEQUILA & MEZCAL

The differences between Tequila, Mezcal and Sotol are subtle. Mezcal can be made from any plant in the Agave family while Tequila must be made from Blue Agave (meaning all

Tequila is Mezcal but not the other way round!) while Sotol is made from the Desert Spoon, a distant relative of asparagus. All are made in a similar fashion from the piñas or heart of the plant which is cooked and/or steamed, crushed, fermented, then distilled at least twice. Silver or white expressions are bottled young without age while the Gold, Reposado and Añejo are all aged for increasing amounts of time before bottling. There is a lot of interest developing in these wonderfully characterful spirits.

| José Cuervo Espécial, Tequila Reposado (Gold), 38% | WO0007B | 27.00 |
|--|---------|-------|
| Hacienda de Chihuahua, Sotol Reposado, 38% | WO0029B | 49.50 |

COCKTAIL SHELF

Stalwart ingredients for the cocktail cabinet, these are popular with mixers or in cocktails. Cachaça is the famous Brazilian spirit used to make the classic Caipirinha cocktail.

Cachaça 51, Brazil, 40% WO0090B 22.00

SAKE & RICE WINE

Sake is a Japanese word for alcoholic drinks in general, so more correctly it should be called Nihonshu! It is also not really a wine but more like beer in its production. The best Sake is produced using only the starch in the centre of the rice grain; to this end the grains are polished to remove all but this kernel of starch. Naturally it is brewed to 19 - 20% alcohol but many are cut with water to bring this down to around 15%. The best – such as Akashi-Tai – are rich and earthy. Sake is the national drink of Japan, but they are made in many Asian countries, being known as rice wines.

| Akashi-Tai, Shiraume Ginjo Umeshu, Plum Flavoured Sake, 14% - 50cl Akashi-Tai, Japanese Sake, Honjozo Genshu Tokubetsu, 19% - 72cl | WO0865C WO0872B | 23.00 29.00 |
|---|--------------------|----------------|
| FRUIT, GINGER & BRITISH WINE | | |
| Rubis Chocolate Wine, 15% | WO0110C | 13.50 |

Extra Virgin Olive Oil

The Sesti family have a wonderful estate: Castello di Argiano near Montalcino in Tuscany. When we ship their lovely Rosso and Brunello wines, we can never resist adding some cases of their intensely flavoured extra virgin olive oil to the orders.

Sesti Olio di Oliva, Extra Vergine Cold Press - 50cl ZF0008C 16.50

Buying from Tanners

ORDERING BY PHONE

Telephone: 01743 234455

Your call will be answered by a qualified wine adviser not a telesales operator! Please have either your customer reference or postcode to hand. Office hours are 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. Outside these hours you can place an order on our website or leave an order on our voicemail. Phone and Collect is now available from all of our branches.

ORDERING ONLINE

Website: www.tanners-wines.co.uk

Buying online is quick, easy and secure. All of our list wines plus a wide selection of oddments are available to buy online, accompanied by tasting notes and up-to-date background information.

ORDERING BY E-MAIL

Email: sales@tanners-wines.co.uk

Please email us your order and we will confirm receipt.

ORDERING BY POST

Address: Tanners Wines Ltd., FREEPOST, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1XD.

You can send your order or write to us.

ORDERING IN PERSON

You can place an order for delivery at any of our branches which are in Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Hereford, Llandudno Junction, Chester and Welshpool; or see one of our Private House & Corporate Sales Advisers in our Shrewsbury offices.

DELIVERY IN MAINLAND UK

Delivery is FREE on orders of £150 or more to a single address in mainland UK. Please add £9.95 post & packing per address for orders under £150.

Dozens, half dozens and 1, 2 & 3 bottle packs minimize packaging waste.

Unless advised otherwise, you will normally receive your delivery within five working days (in exceptional circumstances this may take longer), Monday to Friday, 8am to 7pm. Please contact us should this not be the case.

Next Working Day Delivery is available for £14.50, or £5 for orders over £140. Saturday Delivery is charged at a flat rate of £25. Next-day delivery orders must be received by 1pm.

We operate a signature service on all deliveries. Goods can be left unsigned for, but you must specify this when you order with instructions on where to leave the goods should you be out. You should allow longer for delivery to the Scottish Highlands.

DELIVERY TO OTHER AREAS

For delivery to Isle of Wight, Northern Ireland, Isles of Scilly, Isle of Man and Scottish Offshore Islands please contact us.

Please note: we do not export from the UK.

CLAIMS

Important: Goods must be examined and breakages, shortages and mispicks notified immediately, within two days of delivery at the latest. Please telephone on 01743 234455 or email us at sales@tanners-wines.co.uk.

PRICING AND AVAILABILITY

This wine list is subject to stock remaining on hand and prices are subject to continual change and revision due to duty, foreign exchange and market fluctuations. All previous lists are hereby cancelled. The prices shown are VAT inclusive per bottle unless otherwise indicated. If an item is out of stock, we will substitute a similar item of equivalent or higher value unless requested not to do so. Goods supplied remain Tanners' property until payment has been received. Please check prices at time of order. Alcohol levels are correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing, however they can vary according to each bottling, distillation or brewing.

PAYMENT

Payment is due at time of order. You can pay by debit card, credit card or by cheque made payable to Tanners Wines Ltd. If paying by cheque, please allow three working days for the cheque to clear. Payment is also welcomed by online banking to Tanners bank account number 02567732, sort code 30-97-62, but you must give your customer number and name as a reference. Payment via PayPal is accepted for online orders only. A credit account can be opened once the necessary credit references have been obtained – please speak to one of the team.

QUERIES OR COMPLAINTS

Should you have a query regarding delivery or faulty wines, please telephone on 01743 234455 or email us at sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. For queries regarding accounts, please ask for the accounts department on 01743 234500 or email us at accounts@tanners-wines.co.uk. Alternatively for any complaint, write to us at Tanners Wines Ltd, 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 1XD. Complaints will be attended to personally by the directors.

CANCELLATION OF ORDERS

You have a 14-working-day right of withdrawal from distance selling contracts. If you wish to cancel, please notify us in writing or by email to sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. Please note that a charge may be made to cover the cost of collecting goods in the event of a cancelled order that has already been delivered.



Wine in Time Club

Tanners' award-winning Wine in Time Club is designed to be the easiest way to buy great wine. Our experienced and well-respected buyers do the choosing for you, selecting their current favourites and wines suitable for the season from our huge range of wines. New dozens are created every other month comprising six wines with two bottles of each. You can receive cases as regularly as you choose, at a price to suit you. With full tasting notes accompanying the cases, there is no better way to explore the quality and breadth of the Tanners range, both the classic regions as well as lesser-known, 'off the beaten track' areas. You can choose between all red, all white (and occasional rosés) or mixed cases at the Platinum, Gold or Silver levels depending on your budget.

Delivery is free within mainland UK and each case is discounted. To make it as easy as possible, you can pay by Direct Debit. Please ring Wine in Time manager, Rachel Armstrong on 01743 234455 to discuss joining Tanners Wine in Time or apply online at www.tanners-wines.co.uk/WIT.

Tastings & Events

With award-winning wines from all around the world, knowledgeable staff and a focus on making the subject of wine fun, there are few better places than Tanners to taste and learn about wine. Join in our busy programme of tastings or host your own event, whatever the occasion. While Tanners' extensive premises on Shrewsbury's Wyle Cop is our main venue, there are the branches too, or a tasting can be held at your own venue, depending on distance.

OUR TASTINGS PROGRAMME

We hold many tastings of one form or another for customers throughout the year. Keep an eye on Tanners mailings, follow us on social media or take a look at the website www.tanners-wines.co.uk/tastings for details of forthcoming events. Tutored tastings by top producers or journalists, informal walk-round tastings such as our Christmas tastings, the Meet the Producers fair in the Spring and monthly Cellar Tours are always popular.

WINE COURSES

From time to time we offer evening wine masterclasses, introducing a variety of topics. These can be an elementary introduction to wine tasting, key grapes and regions, or more advanced courses possibly for those wanting to take Wine & Spirit Education Trust exams, for which we are an accredited examiner.

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YOUR OWN EVENT

We are always delighted to show groups around the historic Wyle Cop premises in Shrewsbury. The minimum group size is 15 and virtually any level of wine tasting along with catering (either buffet or sit-down) can be arranged. (Smaller groups can be accommodated but please bear in mind we will require a minimum spend). This can prove an ideal solution whether it's a family celebration, a group of like-minded friends or a work event – maybe team building or a product launch. These events can now be hosted virtually, via Zoom, and have proved a popular way of bringing groups around the country together. For further information or to tailor-make your own event please email our experienced Events Manager Alix Chidley-Uttley at events.manager@tanners-wines.co.uk.

Customer Services

INDIVIDUAL ADVICE

Whether over the telephone, on the shop floor or at tastings, it is crucial for us to give you friendly, down-to-earth advice at whatever level you require. We recruit people who already have an interest in wine, food and travel and then put them through our own training course as well as their Wine & Spirit Education Trust examinations. Here at Tanners, it is easy for staff to taste regularly, have regular contact with the buying team and travel to the vineyards on whatever trips are available. And if your questions cannot be answered immediately, our many long-serving staff provide a vast bank of wisdom to draw upon.

THE TEAM

Our sales & advice team is directed by Robert Boutflower, managed by Graham Mason and includes Rachel Armstrong, Robin Torrens, Richard Parsons-Jones and Aiden Schwarzer. The website team is made up of Rob McQuattie, Amy McCudden, Uta Heath and Emma Ward. They all enjoy wine, have travelled widely and are able to give down-to-earth advice at any level. You are also very welcome to visit in person and discuss orders for delivery including wines for a wedding or to lay down. If you want to see a particular member of the team, please ring ahead. They enjoy putting a face to a name.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

With new vintages being assessed and parcels of new wines being discovered all the time, keeping in touch is crucial. If you would like to receive Tanners Wine List, Tanners News & Offers, En Primeur Reports and other information please ring us on Shrewsbury 01743 234455 or email us at sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. Our mailing list is kept strictly confidential and we never divulge names and addresses to other companies. You can also receive regular e-mail offers and we ensure that we never overload your inbox! Please send an e-mail to sales@tanners-wines.co.uk or sign up at www.tanners-wines.co.uk. You can also follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook for updates.

WINES NOT ON OUR LIST

If possible, these will be obtained for you by the unsplit case. Rare old bottles, in particular of Madeira, Port and brandy are sometimes available singly. It is always worth checking our Oddments List first by downloading it from www.tanners-wines.co.uk/tanners-oddments-list or by contacting us on 01743 234455.

CORPORATE CUSTOMER SERVICES

Whether you require wines for corporate events, incentives or gifts for example, we can cater for your individual needs. For details of our services to businesses and institutions, please telephone Graham Mason on 01743 234455. Visits by our Area Sales Managers can be arranged if appropriate.

RESTAURANT, HOTEL & OTHER ON-TRADE CUSTOMERS

Tanners has great expertise in giving a full, composite service to on-trade accounts including regular deliveries, creation of wine lists and advice on gross profit. Likewise, our wines can add great interest to existing wine lists. Please telephone Trade Support on 01743 234400 who can send you our Trade List and arrange for the appropriate Area Sales Manager to contact you or visit www.tanners-wines.co.uk/trade.

ALLERGENS, VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN WINES

We are happy to provide allergen information on all our products to confirm whether they contain sulphites, wheat, barley, egg and milk products or other allergens. Please contact us listing the products you are interested in, see online for our selection.

Fine Wine Services

WHAT IS EN PRIMEUR?

Also known as 'Lying Abroad', the term 'En Primeur' refers to wines that are yet to be shipped into the UK. They may even still be in barrel. You buy these wines by the case and they are delivered at a later date. Tanners En Primeur offers provide a good way to secure some of the most sought-after wines at opening prices. In addition, we ensure that it is an advantageous way to buy favourite mid-priced wines from Bordeaux, Burgundy, the Rhône, Germany and the Douro Valley. En Primeur also allows you to secure fine wines in large formats or halves.

Timings of offers follow an established pattern starting with Bordeaux each May/June; Rhône in November; Burgundies in January; more Rhônes in March then Vintage Ports (if declared) in May. Growers being growers, there are always exceptions! We collate orders as best we can whilst avoiding shipping in the heat of summer and despatching during the busy Christmas period.

When ordering En Primeur wines, you pay for the wine itself when you place the order and then the duty and VAT at the prevailing rates on the whole at the time of shipment, which can be from a couple of months to a couple of years later. You may find this a great way to split the cost of your wines. If you're still unsure how it works, please call our Fine Wine

Team on 01743 234455 or email sales@tanners-wines.co.uk – they will be happy to explain in more detail. If you would like to defer further the cost of duty and VAT, you should consider storing your wines 'In Bond'. Your En Primeur purchases are covered under The Bunch Code of Practice which can be sent on request or viewed on the Tanners website www.tanners-wines.co.uk/pages/the-bunch-code-of-practice

WINE STORAGE

Fine Wine Services

If you designate your En Primeur wines to be put into 'In Bond' storage upon shipment, then you will pay neither duty nor VAT on the wines until you withdraw them. Indeed, if you choose to sell on your wines 'In Bond', you will never be charged duty or VAT. Our storage rates are highly competitive and you can store down to the single case. Annual stock certificates with suggested drinking windows are issued each March or on request.

The wine is stored and handled at our own premises under the watchful eyes of our fine wine specialists, Graham Mason and Erica Littley, so you can be certain of the best attention at all times. These facilities are fully temperature-controlled and storage rates are inclusive of insurance at full replacement value. All our wine storage terms are in accordance with The Bunch Code of Practice including clearly identified, separate storage of fully marked cases with separate stock records. There are no delivery charges for 'Duty Paid' despatches to mainland UK addresses when you withdraw stock.

To discuss storing your wines, please call Erica Littley or Graham Mason on 01743 234455 or email sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. We can also offer 'Duty Paid' storage.

INVESTING IN WINE

There is investing in wine to drink, investing purely to sell on and then a probably healthier, happy medium. As a rule of thumb you should buy wines that you would be comfortable drinking. At Tanners we have not used the term 'investment' to sell wine since the 1966 vintage!

People who make spectacular returns on odd cases will tell you about it, but they will keep quiet about the modest performance of the rest. Wine prices on the secondary market are very volatile. They are highly responsive to downturns in the economy and reputations are easily destroyed by the verdicts of one or two very influential journalists. You should think long term and take an overall view, keeping wine as part of a balanced portfolio of investments.

Many of our customers enjoy buying their wine early En Primeur when they have the pick of the harvest. Long term, over a number of vintages, customers should have paid less for their wine and they will have enough of the best to cover their future drinking. Some wines increase in value over their lifetime if they have a distinguished reputation, are produced in limited quantities and become rarer as they get older – the basic principles of supply and demand on the marketplace.

Wines for investment are best stored with us 'In Bond' which gives good provenance and importantly allows you to sell them 'In Bond' to other wine collectors.

SELLING YOUR WINE

We may be interested in purchasing wines you have for sale, especially if they are already stored with us. Please contact Simon Jones on 01743 234500 or email buying@tanners-wines.co.uk with your enquiry, ideally with a list of your wines in spreadsheet format. At Tanners we can also offer a broking service for wines already stored with us, acting as agents for the sale of your wine in return for a commission. Occasionally we undertake to sell other particularly large or valuable collections of wine for customers on a similar basis.

We also have excellent relationships with leading auction houses and a number of wine 'brokers' who may have customers looking for your wines. Some of the regional auctioneers now have good visibility on the internet and a professional approach to wine sales.

CELLAR PLANNING

Cellar Planning with Tanners is an easy way to build a fine wine collection or add to an existing one. The service is bespoke to you so you will relatively quickly be able to build up a 'cellar' for drinking, longer-term enjoyment or re-sale.

Through sound advice from our expert, well-travelled staff, you will have wines which are ready to drink, with seamless replacement by more wines reaching maturity. Cellar Planning with Tanners is easy, with us contacting you to discuss your requirements at regular intervals. You will save time in the planning and choosing of your wine as we will have done the research for you. All wine suggestions are made subject to the quality of each vintage and with reference to your past purchases.

Often the best way to buy is from Tanners En Primeur Offers, where you get first chance to purchase sought-after wines at advantageous prices, and then store your wine with Tanners. Some customers decide to combine Cellar Planning with an optional regular standing order or direct debit to help build up funds to spend on wine.

To discuss Cellar Planning further, please contact Aiden Schwarzer on 01743 234455 or email sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. We will need a reasonable idea of your preferences or you could supply us with an initial wish list.

THE ODDMENTS LIST

The Oddments List contains many small parcels of fine wines, rare wines and bin ends. Please contact us on 01743 234455 for a copy or download it at www.tanners-wines.co.uk/oddments-list. If you are looking for particular old vintages, we can often oblige.

For our Fine Wine Services Terms and Conditions, please visit our website <u>www.tanners-wines.co.uk/pages/en-primeur-terms-conditions</u>

Visiting Tanners

THE CELLARS SHOP, SHREWSBURY

26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1XD

01743 234459 | cellars.shop@tanners-wines.co.uk | @ tanners.wines For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/shrewsbury.

Round the back of our Shrewsbury headquarters, and with masses of parking, the Cellars Shop is the flagship of Tanners' retail operations. You will find the full Tanners range of wines and spirits superbly displayed, together with all the fine and rare 'Oddment' wines. In all, that makes well over 2,000 wines. But if you find the choice daunting, Erica Littley, Robert Crosland and the team including Marie-Claire Gillett, Howard Hutchins, Shania Cole, Tom Manley, Myles Grant and Millie Guest will give you honest, practical guidance. If you are coming from further afield and would like a look behind the scenes, please ring ahead on 01743 234455 and we will endeavour to organise a tour.

Directions: From the south side of Shrewsbury, follow signs to the town centre. Cross the English Bridge and take the second right entrance just before you start to go up Wyle Cop.

A TASTE OF TANNERS WINE & TAPAS, SHREWSBURY

27 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury SY1 1XD

Relax and unwind in A Taste of Tanners Wine & Tapas bar, conveniently located on Wyle Cop, within a five minute walk of Shrewsbury's bustling high street. With the option of sitting in our cosy indoor snug or charming, secluded courtyard, wines are available by the glass or by the bottle and can be accompanied by a selection of small plates, brimming with charcuterie, cheese and nibbles. We have a selection of wines from lesser-known, up-and-coming regions, alongside the classics, predominantly from small growers and winemakers with a sustainably focused outlook. These are available to enjoy on the premises by the glass or bottle, or to take away. To pair with our Spanish-style cuisine, the drinks menu also includes a selection of sherries by the glass, along with local craft beers and soft drinks, with daily and monthly specials. Serena Edwards and the team will be on hand, whether it's a weekday glass of wine after work or a Saturday afternoon gathering with friends you are enjoying.

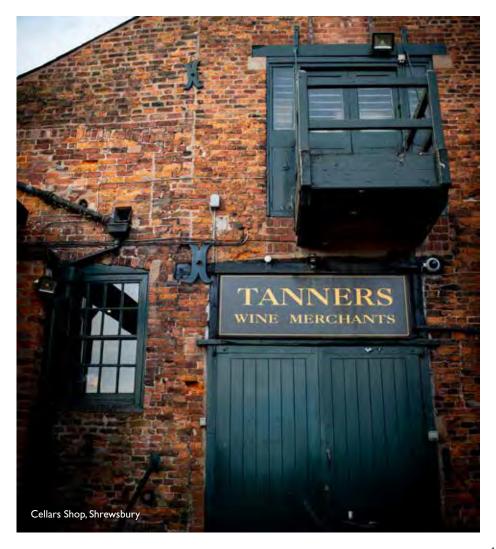
THE WAREHOUSE SHOP, WELSHPOOL

Severn Farm Enterprise Park, Welshpool SY21 7DF

01938 552542 | wpshop@tanners-wines.co.uk | @ tannerswineswelshpool For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/welshpool.

The Warehouse Shop is at the company's central distribution depot and is therefore backed up by massive stocks from both the packing and bonded warehouses. There are often some good bargain bin-ends to be had here too! Browse the shelves in relaxed surroundings or seek the help of shop manager Thomas Corbett and Tess Powell. Croeso i Tanners Trallwng!

Directions: You will find the Warehouse Shop conveniently situated just off the A483 Welshpool bypass/Newtown Road. From the roundabout by the Old Station, loop up over the bypass. Take the first right into Severn Farm Enterprise Park and then the first left. Customer parking is in front of the shop.



TANNERS LLANDUDNO JUNCTION

102/103 Tremarl Industrial Estate, Ffordd Maelgwyn, Llandudno Junction, Conwy LL31 9PN

01492 874099 | llandudno@tanners-wines.co.uk

For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/llandudno-junction.

Our warehouse shop can be found close to the seaside town of Llandudno. Although space limits us to offering a smaller range of 500 mid-range wines, with some notice Richard Stevens and Damian Roberts can transfer stock for your collection, and our position is great for stocking up on your way to the coast.

Directions: From Junction 19 on the A55 follow signs to Llandudno Junction. Take the first left onto Ffordd Maelgwyn, between the Toyota garage and Junction Auto Park. Follow this road for less than half a mile past the car showrooms and Tanners Wines is on the righthand side before the right-hand bend. Parking is available in front of the branch.

TANNERS HEREFORD

4 St Peter's Square, Hereford HR1 2PG

01432 272044 | hereford@tanners-wines.co.uk | @ tannershereford For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/hereford.

Tanners Hereford has a rich heritage running to over 200 years of trading in the city. Our house gin, Hereford Finest Dry Gin, is a reminder of its many years as gin distillers, cider and wine merchants, William Pulling & Co, and is one of the branch's best-selling lines. All Tanners inexpensive and mid-range wines are stocked together with a very large range of fine and rare wines, plus your other drinks requirements. Manager Neil Clarke, James Howells, Kim Hutchinson and Deanna Myers would be delighted to welcome you.

Directions: From the Blue School Street ring road, take the Union Street turn signed 'City Centre - East'. Go into Saint Peter's Square and you will see Tanners in front of you. You can pick up goods in the loading area outside or there is normally on-street parking along Saint Owen's Street. Gaol Street public car park is nearby.

TANNERS BRIDGNORTH

36 High Street, Bridgnorth WV16 4DB

01746 763148 | bridgnorth@tanners-wines.co.uk | @ tannersbridgnorth For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/bridgnorth.

In the heart of Bridgnorth's pretty High Town, the Bridgnorth branch is perhaps the most attractive of our shops, and importantly also has its own car park. Carrying almost the full range of our wines plus spirits and other drinks, Tanners Bridgnorth is well worth the trip from the Black Country, Worcestershire and further away. Extensive cellars and stores mean there is plenty of stock, with capacity for regular tastings to be held in the large upstairs tasting room. The branch dates from 1825 and has been part of Tanners since 1926. Manager Mark Carter, Helen Chaudron, Tim Darrall-Jones and Stephanie Wilson would love to see you there.

Directions: As you come uphill from Low Town on the old Much Wenlock road, turn right at the mini-roundabout into St Mary's Street. Our customer car park is on the right under an archway after a few hundred yards. A passageway leads you up to the High Street and the front of the shop.

TANNERS CHESTER

150 Christleton Road, Chester CH3 5TD

01244 343244 | chester@tanners-wines.co.uk | @ tanners_wines_chester For opening hours please see www.tanners-wines.co.uk/chester.

This magnificent branch sits splendidly in the old Art Deco cinema, on your left as you head along Christleton Road towards Chester city centre. Modern lighting of over 1,000 lines sets off the heritage of the building, while there is a dedicated tasting room where guests can enjoy our programme of wine tasting events. Manager Stephanie Pierce, Rachel Huber, Oriana Kelly, Laura Burke and Molly Gibbons look forward to showing you round and discussing the wide range of wines on tasting.

Directions: When approaching from the north or east, exit the M53 at junction 40 onto the A41 (signed for Whitchurch). Turn right at the roundabout signed for Chester A5115. Tanners is half a mile on the left. When approaching from the south or west, exit the A55 at junction 39 (signed for Chester A5115). Turn left at the roundabout onto A5115. Tanners is half a mile on the left. When approaching from the city centre, head west on Tarvin Road, then bear right onto A5115 (signed for Whitchurch). Tanners is a quarter of a mile on the right, with parking available in front of the branch.

TANNERS WEBSITE

All our list wines are available to buy online at www.tanners-wines.co.uk and are accompanied by tasting notes and up-to-date background information. Buying online from Tanners is quick, easy and secure. You will also find it simple to select wines according to your own criteria, for example: price, style, region or grape variety. For the quickest ordering, you can login and place your order based on previous orders. Tanners Oddments and current En Primeur offers can also be purchased from the site. As well as our usual payment methods, it is possible to pay for online orders via PayPal.

Wedding & Party Drinks

CHOOSING YOUR BOTTLES

Choosing the wines for a big event should be easy and fun. Tanners is here to help you find the very best bottles for your budget, whilst also taking any stress out of the planning. We can calculate how many bottles you will need, supply on a Sale or Return basis, deliver your order and loan all the glasses you require.

The Tanners team is hugely experienced in advising on wedding and party drinks. They have a fantastic knowledge of Tanners full product range, so can offer great advice on styles of wine to match food, occasion and budget as well as recommending the all-important quantity required!

At Tanners you will find:

- Very competitive prices, especially for large orders
- A huge range of around 1,200 wines
- A selection of over 60 top quality champagnes and sparkling wines
- Great prices on soft drinks, beers, ciders and spirits

You may wish to take advantage of some of our regular special offers on these bottles, and we are always very prepared to discuss special prices for large orders. Contact us now to arrange a chat and a free, no-obligation tasting.

GLASSES

You can use our high-quality wine glasses, champagne flutes, tumblers, beer glasses and jugs when you order the corresponding drinks from Tanners. There's no need to clean the glasses before returning them because our modest service charge includes washing.

SALE OR RETURN

All wines are available on Sale or Return for delivery and collection within the Tanners Own Van Delivery Area. Beers, soft drinks and spirits are available on Sale or Return for delivery and collection within this same area, but only in addition to wine orders. Cases of beer, cider and soft drinks must be returned by the unsplit case. If you wish to take advantage of this service, please telephone us on 01743 234455 to check whether your order is covered by Tanners Own Van Delivery. All goods must be returned in a fit state for resale. We reserve the right to take back a maximum of 50% of the total order. All goods can also be collected from and returned to your Tanners branch, although we advise you to ring ahead if you want particularly large quantities of certain lines.

DELIVERY

We will deliver wines and spirits for free in the mainland UK according to our normal delivery terms. Plus you can have glasses, soft drinks, beers and ciders delivered for free in

addition to your wines and spirits, if you are within the Tanners Own Van Delivery Area which includes all the Welsh Marches. Collection of any returns within this area is also free.

COLLECTING FROM TANNERS

All drinks and glasses - and usually ice - can also be collected from your local Tanners branch, although we advise you to ring ahead if you want large quantities of certain lines, or glasses during busy periods.

Wedding & Party Drinks

CONTACT US

To organise a tasting, receive a no-obligation quotation, discuss your requirements, or simply find out more, please contact our Private House Sales team on 01743 234455 or email sales@tanners-wines.co.uk. Alternatively, you may prefer to contact your local Tanners branch. For contact details and full terms & conditions, please see our website.

TANNERS TOP TIPS

- Bottles laid in any large container with a layer of ice over the top (don't add water) will chill down perfectly in 40 minutes. We hire out chiller bins.
- Wedding toasts are often served after pudding when palates are jaded so a good sparkling wine will do a fine job.
- · Choosing wines 'by committee' is always difficult and can make it hard to reach a happy consensus!
- Some venues offer reasonable corkage rates so you may still be able to serve your favourite wines from Tanners.





Tanners Today

Tanners is family-owned, family-run, resolutely independent, celebrates its 182nd anniversary in 2024 and won the Judges' Choice Award at the Decanter Magazine Retailer Awards 2023. It is run by James Tanner, Chairman and Managing Director, the fourth generation of the family to work in the company, who took over from his father, Richard Tanner. The firm employs over 100 people with the majority split between its distinctive, black & white headquarters in Shrewsbury



and its distribution depot in Welshpool. Approximately half Tanners' sales are to quality-minded hotels and restaurants and half to private clients and corporate customers such as universities, colleges and companies - not only locally but countrywide too. Good traditional service is what Tanners is about, but 'traditional' in the best sense of the word. We find it easier to deliver this with a core of long-serving staff and we are lucky in this respect, Tanners currently has more than a dozen members of staff who have completed 30 years with the firm.

The careful selection of wines is of paramount importance at Tanners. James Tanner and Stephen Crosland have done the buying together now for many years and are helped in their endeavours to travel and taste as widely as possible by Simon Jones and Robert Boutflower. We devote a lot of time to seeing our suppliers either in Shrewsbury or abroad since the best producers have to be convinced that their wine will end up with customers who will appreciate it. Quantities available are often limited and in this respect, a firm the size of Tanners has a distinct advantage over bigger enterprises.

To ensure quality and continuity it is essential to talk to a grower in his or her own cellars or winery. No two years are the same and an indolent farmer can make a good wine in a year that has favourable weather. Useful producers make good wines in the difficult years. It is only by seeing a grower's cellars and assessing his or her attitude during conversation that one can get a proper idea of what sort of wine will be produced on a continuing basis. It is also only by careful questioning that one can establish just how 'organic' a producer really is, finding out whether they are just paying lip service while continuing on with as many treatments as ever! Fortunately many of our suppliers are at the forefront of the organic and biodynamic movement.

We are sometimes asked how we can compete on price. The answer is severalfold. Firstly we are rigorous in going direct to the producer and cutting out layers of middlemen. In this vein we have always maintained that wine is an agricultural product and has no need of big cities. Secondly Tanners is large enough to ship wine from just about anywhere in the world, in complete container quantities if necessary. We save further costs by shipping to our own bonded warehouse at Welshpool in Mid-Wales. Thirdly Tanners is a member of a buying consortium through our part ownership of the Merchant Vintners Company. This 25-strong association of independent wine merchants was founded in 1965 and now has a combined annual turnover of over £400 million.

A Little History

William Tanner, born in Shropshire in 1839, went to sea and sailed the world, visiting places as far flung as Australia and Chile. Returning as a ship's captain in 1872, he took his brother Henry into partnership and founded the firm of W. & H. E. Tanner in Shrewsbury. Its cellars were those of the now demolished Victorian Market Hall, its offices were in Shoplatch.

The business later passed to Alfred Tanner of Shrawardine near Shrewsbury, a successful breeder and exporter of pedigree Shropshire Sheep and Hereford Cattle. He employed a manager until two of his sons were old enough: Frank, who died in 1960 and Clive who died in 1983. In 1912 they acquired the Old Brewery at Welshpool, founded 1860, which by then had ceased brewing beer and, in 1926, the wine merchants business of Thos. Whitefoot and Sons, Bridgnorth, dating from 1825. The ancient carved figures you can see on the Bridgnorth shop front are great curios of unknown origin. For many years prior to Thomas Whitefoot, when 36 High Street was a coaching inn, they decorated the balcony of the inn yard at the rear of the premises. Eldest brother, Craig Tanner, was a well-known Hereford Cattle breeder and point-to-point rider who farmed at Eyton-on-Severn, carrying on a family tradition of farming in the area going back over 400 years.

Before the wine boom of the 1960s, country wine merchants like Tanners also acted as beer wholesalers, bottled beer and manufactured mineral waters. W. & H. E. Tanner had, since the 1880s, acted as local agents for the excellent Burton-brewed beers of Worthington & Co.. Dumpy green beer bottles embossed 'W. & H. E. Tanner' and pale green mineral bottles with rounded bottoms and marbles in the neck are to be found in collections of old bottles.

Butts of sherry, pipes of Port, hogsheads of claret and burgundy were shipped via London, Bristol or Liverpool and on by rail for resting and bottling in Shrewsbury. The clarets, burgundies and vintage Ports, with full length corks and embossed wax seals, were binned in cellars to rest until mature. Rum arrived in puncheons via Liverpool from Jamaica and Guyana. More Irish whiskey was sold than Scotch, mainly in stone jars surrounded by basket work for protection. Many marked 'W. & H. E. Tanner, Shrewsbury' exist today. Those marked 'W. Tanner, Ludlow' were from Billy Tanner, one of the Clungunford/Ludlow branch of the family, who owned The Feathers Hotel in Ludlow, supplying it with fresh produce from his farm at Bromfield. The room on the right as you enter The Feathers is still called the Tanner Room or 'Tanners'.

Thomas Southam & Son, founded at Wyle Cop in 1842 and having an excellent reputation as wine merchants, was taken over by Tanners in 1936. For some years the two businesses were run separately but, when Tanners' cellars were requisitioned during the war as air raid shelters, both businesses were amalgamated at Wyle Cop. The firm traded as Tanner & Southam until 1960, when the name Southam was dropped to eliminate confusion with Southam's Brewery, then still trading.

In 1978 Tanners acquired the Hereford wine merchants, William Pulling & Co, together

with their bonded warehouse and the old Hereford Distillery. As wine merchants and distillers in Hereford, Pulling's dated from 1813 and has been in the present premises since 1917, but its origins date from 1760 when George Pulling, a Devon cider merchant, leased five 'cyderhouses' in Ledbury. At one point Pulling's had branches in Cardiff, Ross-on-Wye and Ludlow, the latter trading as Keysell & Co, founded in 1780.

In 2001 Tanners opened a new distribution depot at Welshpool, leaving the Old Brewery in Brook Street, Welshpool after almost 90 years. Transport and warehousing operations were moved out of Shrewsbury, thereby allowing us to refurbish our historic premises on Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, and to extend the Cellars Shop and offices. In 2005 Tanners purchased Terry Platt Wine Merchants in Llandudno, North Wales. Many times IWC Welsh Wine Merchant of the Year, Platts was founded in 1964. This brings the number of years trading for the six old companies that make up the present day Tanners 'group' to 1021 years in total! Of course, such experience is only of use if it translates into better services and better wines.

The Bunch

The Bunch is made up of the proprietors or managing directors of seven of Britain's leading independent wine merchants comprising Tanners, Yapp Brothers, Adnams, Lea & Sandeman, Corney & Barrow, Private Cellar and Haynes, Hanson & Clark. Its Code of Practice governs the way in which we sell En Primeur wines and look after customer reserves. The full code of practice can be viewed on our website: www.tanners-wines.co.uk/pages/the-bunch-code-of-practice





Some Recent Awards

| 2023 | Judge's Choice of the Year - Decanter Retailer Awards |
|------|---|
| | National Wine Retailer of the Year Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| | Best Independent Wine Retailer Finalist - People's Choice Awards |
| 2022 | Best Regional Multi-Store (Central England) Runner Up |
| 2022 | – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2021 | Best National Wine Retailer Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2020 | Best National Wine Shops Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2019 | Best National Wine Shops Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2018 | Best National Wine Shops – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| | Subscription Wine Club Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2017 | Large Independent of the Year – International Wine Challenge |
| 2016 | Outstanding Retailer of the Year – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| | Large Independent Wine Retailer of the Year – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2015 | Large Independent of the Year – International Wine Challenge |
| 2013 | Regional Wine Merchant of the Year Runner Up – Decanter Retailer Awards |
| 2012 | Top Merchant of the Year (over 3 stores) – Harpers Top Merchant Awards Telegraph |
| | Magazine Best Small Shops in Britain. Runner Up – 'Best for Wine' |
| | Portuguese Independent Wine Merchant – Wines of Portugal |
| 2011 | Regional Wine Merchant of the Year – Decanter World Wine Awards |
| 2010 | Wine List of the Year – International Wine Challenge |
| | Central Regional Merchant of the Year – International Wine Challenge |
| 2009 | Independent Merchant of the Year – Decanter World Wine Awards |
| | Central Regional Merchant of the Year – International Wine Challenge |
| | Austrian & German Specialists – International Wine Challenge |
| 2008 | Large Independent Merchant of the Year – International Wine Challenge |

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"It's unwise to pay too much, but it's worse to pay too little. When you pay too much, you lose a little money that is all. When you pay too little, you sometimes lose everything, because the thing you bought was incapable of doing the thing it was bought to do. The common law of business balance prohibits paying a little and getting a lot - it can't be done. If you deal with the lowest bidder, it is well to add something for the risk you run, and if you do that you will have enough to pay for something better."

John Ruskin, Writer & son of a Wine Merchant.



"Tanners is a great family business, a traditional merchant but with a modern twist – well worth discovering."

Judging Panel, Decanter Retailer Awards 2023

Tanners Wines Ltd, 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 1XD Also in Hereford | Welshpool | Bridgnorth | Llandudno Junction | Chester

www.tanners-wines.co.uk