

Champagne & Sparkling Wine

We've never really needed an excuse or specific calendar date to justifying popping some corks but if ever there was one then the winter festive period is it! We have several options this year at a variety of price points to suit all needs and budgets. Champagne remains the global benchmark in terms of quality and we are delighted to offer our personal favourite, Louis Roederer. Irroy (Owned by Taittinger) is rapidly gaining a fine reputation throughout Scotland's leading restaurants for its price to quality ratio. It's a top fizz option at a smart price. Prosecco needs no introduction as the default non – Champagne fizz option but do look out for the recently introduced Zardetto DOC which is amazing. Lastly we welcome our first English fizz to our list. The Camel Valley Rose is fantastic and tasted blind would easily pass as Champagne.

Louis Roederer – Champagne

The house of Louis Roederer has been producing consistently excellent champagne for decades. A blend of 40% Pinot Noir, 40% Chardonnay, and 20% Pinot Meunier, Brut Premier comprises wine that originates from more than fifty different crus. It is aged for 3 years in Louis Roederer's cellars and left for 6 months after dégorgement (disgorging). It is one of the best on the market and our personal favourite. Cristal, Vintage and Vintage Rose are also available.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Brut Premier	NV	£36.99	£29.99
Vintage	2008/09	£59.99	£53.99
Cristal	2009	£175.00	£149.99
<u>Rose</u>			
Vintage Rose	2010/11	£59.99	£53.99

Champagne Irroy

Champagne Irroy was purchased by Taittinger in 1955. Under Taittinger, the house flourished and produces a NV of outstanding quality. It is a light aperitif style but has complexity, balance and great elegance. It has become a favourite of some of Scotland's top sommeliers.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Irroy Brut	NV	£24.99	£22.49
Irroy Brut MAGNUM	NV	£49.99	£45.99
<u>Rose</u>			
Irroy Brut Rose	NV	£34.99	£31.49

Zardetto – Conegliano Valdobbiadene

Top quality Prosecco of both DOC & DOCG quality from the vineyards around the area of Conegliano Valdobbiadene. The wine is fresh, vibrant and has beautiful balance between fresh fruit and delicate bubbles. The Zardettos have been making wines in this region for over 100 years and today it is Fabio Zardetto who continues to push the quality of the family's sparkling wines.



<u>Sparkling</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Prosecco DOC	NV	£11.99	£9.99
Prosecco Superiore DOCG 'Refosso'	2015	£14.49	£11.99
Prosecco Superiore DOCG 'Refosso' MAGNUM	2015	£28.99	£25.99

Mionetto - Treviso

The Mionetto winery was established back in 1887 and has a wonderful combination of history and modernity. Soft pear, rich white stone fruit combine with super creamy bubbles. A winning combination in our eyes.



White

Prosecco 'Pergola' La Pieve

Vintage

NV

Was

£10.79

Offer

£9.49

Camel Valley – Cornwall

Camel Valley is owned by ex RAF pilot Bob Lindo along with his wife Annie. They started in 1989 with eight thousand vines and have scooped several awards during their 27 years of production. The Pinot Noir Rose was the stand out wine for us and in comparison to Rose Champagne prices is a bargain.



Fizzy

Pinot Noir Brut Vintage Rose

Vintage

2014

Was

£29.99

Offer

£27.49

The de Burgh 'Everyday Favourites'

The de Burgh team will leave the office armed with one or a few of these wines on a regular basis. They are fuss free, delicious wines which are perfect for any occasion. All offer generous amounts of fruit, lovely balance and are made by producers who still want to deliver quality at affordable prices. It's always a good idea to have a few bottles of these tucked away at this time of year just in case an importuned party should erupt!

Paarl Heights– Western Cape

No fuss, no complication, they just make an excellent array of wines for everyday drinking. They offer superb value and boast clean, fresh fruit flavours and an easy going style. No pretence, just lovely wine.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chenin Blanc, Paarl Heights	2016	£6.99	£5.99
<u>Red</u>			
Shiraz, Paarl Heights	2015/16	£6.99	£5.99
Shiraz/Mourvedre, Meerestein	2016	£6.99	£5.99

Bodegas Esteban Martin - Carinena

Carinena lies just south-west of Zaragoza in north-east Spain. It is a warm region in the summer and the grapes have plenty of sunlight to get fully ripe. The result is a warm, spicy red with plenty of medium-bodied fruit. The Caprichos is quite simply a great everyday drinking wine and perfect with so many dishes. It has been carefully produced to not taste too hot or alcoholic. The white is as fresh as a daisy with soft tropical fruit flavours.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Old Vines Garnacha 'Caprichos'	2015	£7.99	£6.49
<u>White</u>			
Chardonnay/Macabeo 'Caprichos'	2016	£7.99	£6.49

Quinta do Portal - Douro

Quinta do Portal started life as a Port producer in the late 1800's. In the early 1990's the estate expanded to produce a diverse range of DOC Douro wines. Portal d'Ouro is a soft blend of 40% Tinta Roriz, 30% Touriga Franca and 30% Tinta Barroca. 25% of the wine is aged for 9 months in French oak barrels. It is a full and spicy wine that offers tremendous value for money.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Portal d'Ouro	2014	£8.99	£7.99

Chateau Condamine-Bertand - Languedoc

This beautiful estate in the heart of the Languedoc is about 8km away from the village of Pezenas in the foothills of the Cevennes. Both the white and red retain a rustic, French country feel to them but are made in a clean, modern, forward thinking manner which makes them extremely appealing. They are a great advert for modern Languedoc wines.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sauvignon/Roussanne 'Tendem'	2016	£8.99	£7.49
<u>Red</u>			
Merlot/Syrah 'Tendem'	2016	£8.99	£7.49
<u>Rose</u>			
Merlot/Syrah Rose	2016	£8.99	£7.49

Terra Firma – Sicily

The Terra Firma wines are a lovely introduction to Italy. They are blended by our good friend Michael Palij MW and are designed to be every day drinking wines with a touch of character. Nero d'Avola from its original home near Pachino can often be a little soupy so we've enlivened it with about 40% fruit sourced high in the mountains near Palermo; the wine is ripe and full-bodied but it still has a lively lick of acidity. It's enticing, plummy but elevated above the ranks of the bland and merely wet by genuine character. The Catarratto is a bright, zesty white with delicate, citrusy fruit. It does everything that Pinot Grigio can do but with considerably more charisma.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Catarratto	2015	£8.99	£7.99
<u>Red</u>			
Nero d'Avola	2015	£8.99	£7.99

Rio del Mar– Colchagua

Rio del Mar could be confused with a nightclub in Ibiza. What is clear however, is the quality of these wines. They are made by Casa Silva and offer a clean, fresh, fruit forward style for every day drinking.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sauvignon Blanc	2016	£7.99	£6.99
<u>Red</u>			
Merlot	2016	£7.99	£6.99

The de Burgh Festive Period Selection

The selection below features the wines that we bring out when guests are round. They have become the favourites and best sellers at de Burgh's over the past few year. There is a lovely selection of styles and price points to suit all occasions. They embody everything we believe in - tremendous value & drinkability - and won't leave your guests questioning your wine choices!

Bodegas Aldonia– Rioja

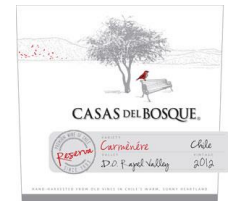
Will had been aware of Bodegas Aldonia for a few years before he bit the bullet and bought some. The quality of the wines had always impressed him and brothers Ivan & Mario Santos were hell bent on producing a modern style of Rioja with minimal intervention that expressed the grape and terroir. Part of our reticence was that they did not use the age categories which are so famous in Rioja. They believe that the grape is more important than ageing a wine for a set period of time when it might not need it! For this reason their wines contain high proportions of Garnacha and to not have Crianza or Reserva on the labels. We were worried that they would not sell without the age classifications – We were wrong! Turns out, as long as the wine is tasty and the price is right then it's a winner after all.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Aldonia Vendimia	2016	£9.49	£7.99
Aldonia Rioja	2015	£13.99	£11.99
Aldonia 100	2015	£18.49	£15.99

Casas del Bosque – Casablanca Valley

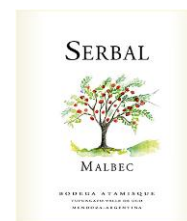
Casas del Bosque was founded in 1993 by Juan Cuneo Solari and was one of the first wineries in the Casablanca Valley. Today it is still family-owned and managed. The Solaris have 245 hectares of vines in Santa Rosa on the west side of the Casablanca Valley. Their Cabernet Sauvignon is produced from their own 35 year old vines growing in Quinta Tilcoco in the more southerly Rapel Valley. For us, the wines had the perfect balance of ripe fruit and subtle elegance making them refined rather than sweet fruit bombs.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sauvignon Blanc Reserva <i>Casablanca</i>	2016	£9.99	£8.49
Chardonnay Reserva <i>Casablanca</i>	2015	£9.99	£8.49
<u>Red</u>			
Cabernet Sauvignon Reserva <i>Rapel Valley</i>	2015	£9.99	£8.99
Carmenere Reserva <i>Rapel Valley</i>	2015	£9.99	£8.99
<u>Sweet</u>			
Riesling Late Harvest <i>Casablanca</i> 37.5cl	2014	£11.99	£10.49

Atamisque – Uco Valley

Made from grapes planted high up in Mendoza's Uco Valley this embodies everything that is excellent about Argentinean Malbec. Atamisque is now owned by a Frenchman John Du Monceau and his wife Chantal, whose grandfather was a winemaker in Burgundy. Their French elegance shines through in the wines which have all the fruit, tobacco and chocolate notes you need but are fresh and restrained on the palate. The Chardonnay is un-oaked, full of tropical fruit and lovely balancing minerality.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chardonnay 'Serbal'	2015	£13.99	£9.75
<u>Red</u>			
Malbec 'Serbal'	2016	£14.99	£12.99
Cabernet Franc 'Serbal'	2015	£15.99	£13.99

Domaine l'Ancienne Ecole - Vinsobres

We spent all last year searching for a Côte du Rhône we liked and had almost given up when out of the blue Tarquin met a chap called Bill Thorburn in Edinburgh. It turns out Bill's son, Wilson, and his wife, Anna own a little estate called Domaine l'Ancienne Ecole just outside Vinsobres. "I'll get you samples", insists Bill. Now caution has to be taken here as it's not uncommon for one of us to meet someone who knows someone who makes wine. It normally ends with a polite email including the words, "they were not right for us" (ie they were substandard). Thankfully Wilson & Anna's wines were tremendous and we are proud to have them on our list. They are now certified organic from the 2014 vintage and their vineyards are in prime sites on the plateau above Vinsobres. Grenache dominated the wines have excellent structure and above all are a pleasure to drink.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Côte du Rhône	2014	£10.99	£9.99
Vinsobres AOC	2011	£12.50	£10.99
Vinsobres 'Cuvee La Dame Anglaise'	2012	£13.99	£12.99
<u>Rose</u>			
Côte du Rhône Rose Organic	2016	£8.99	£7.99

Saladini Pilastrini - Marche

This beautiful estate dating back to the 1400's really impressed us. The estate is located in the south of the visually stunning Marche region, which sits on the east coast of central Italy. The climate here is Mediterranean with hot, dry summers tempered by the maritime influence of the Adriatic Sea only 8km away from the vineyards. All the farming is organic.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Falerio dei Colli Ascolani Organic	2016	£9.49	£8.49
<u>Red</u>			
Rosso Piceno Organic	2015	£10.49	£9.49

La Guardiense – Campania

La Guardiense was founded in 1960 by 33 farmers and now has around 1,000 members who cultivate 1,500 hectares on hilly soils at an average height of 350 metres. Production is centred on the local varieties of Aglianico, Fiano, Falanghina & Greco. The range we have bought is called Janare and it focuses on grapes from the sub region of Sannio DOP. The wines are expressive and characterful and have the right blend of modern juicy fruit and rustic charm.

la **g**uardiense

<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Fiano, Janare Sannio DOP	2015	£9.99	£8.99
<u>Red</u>			
Aglianico, Janare Sannio Beneventano DOP	2015	£9.99	£8.99

Château Rival Bellevue – Bordeaux Superieur

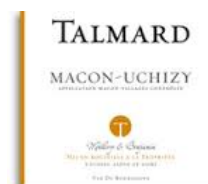
Owner and winemaker Alain Bessette is the fourth generation of his family to make wine at Chateau Rival Bellevue. He's a talented man and his name is always on the short list for the 'Talents de Bordeaux Superieur' every year. The wine is a Merlot dominated blend with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc. It is soft, ripe, well-structured and dominated by luscious wild berry fruit and has the perfect balance of toasty, liquorice and spicy oak. It's a delicious glass of wine at a modest price. The magnums have a cult following and we run out every year so don't delay!



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chateau Rival Bellevue	2014	£10.49	£9.49
Chateau Rival Bellevue MAGNUM	2015	£23.99	£18.99

Domaine Mallory & Benjamin Talmard - Maconnaise

Mallory and Benjamin Talmard produce superb wines from their 22 hectare estate. It's a consistently lovely example of Burgundian Chardonnay with ripe soft fruit and a warming touch of oak. It is one of those magical wines that is perfect for everyday drinking, but also shows well on special occasions. A joy with turkey!



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Mâcon Uchizy	2016	£12.99	£10.99
Mâcon Uchizy MAGNUM	2016	£28.99	£25.99

Madai – Bierzo

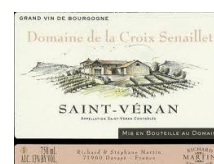
I first met Gonzalo and Daniel Amigo at Fenavin in May 2015. They are the brothers behind Bodegas Madai. Finding a good Mencia was high on my list at Fenavin. I found a few excellent examples that came with lofty price tags and plenty that I felt were ‘overworked’ or reductive. It was a great relief to find Bodegas Madai whose Mencia was bright, fresh, attractive and packed with crunchy, juicy red fruit. Mencia is a relatively unknown red grape variety which is widely planted in north-west Spain through the regions of Bierzo, Ribeira Sacra and Valdeorras. There are still a lot of low yielding old vines around which can produce wines of great complexity. The style has similar characteristics to Cabernet Franc and in the best examples Pinot Noir. Lots of crunchy red fruit, lovely freshness and fragrant berry fruit.



<i>Red</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Madai Mencia	2015	£11.99	£9.49

Domaine de La Croix Senaillet – Saint-Veran

Brothers Richard and Stéphane Martin have been running this estate since the early 1990's. They have grown their holdings from 6 to 25 hectares in that time with the majority in the Davaye commune. Their wines offer tremendous value from a region that is seeing prices escalate.



<i>White</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Saint-Véran, Domaine de La Croix Senaillet	2015	£15.99	£14.99

Domaine Sebastien Treuillet – Pouilly-Fume

The majority of Sebastien's 12 hectares are in the Pouilly Fumé appellation. It's here that Sebastien produces a wonderful example of the classic dry, flinty Sauvignon Blanc based wine. His Pouilly Fumé has great depth and a tangy mineral complexity. Perfect with Scottish seafood.



<i>White</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Pouilly- Fume Domaine Sebastien Treuillet	2016	£14.60	£12.99

Nunzio Ghiraldi – Lombardia

The white wines of Lugana are produced to the south and south-west of Lake Garda in the Lombardia region of northern Italy. Rather confusingly, the grape variety used is called Trebbiano di Lugana which is in fact Verdicchio and not the light workhorse of Italian white wine that is Trebbiano. Nunzio Ghiraldi has taken full advantage of this grape, along with the area's flat glacial plain and warm climate, moderated by the cooling breezes of Lake Garda, to produce wines of richness and real intensity.



<i>White</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Lugana 'Il Gruccione' DOC	2016	£13.99	£11.99

Chateau La Graula – Bordeaux Supérieur

A great example of one of the many modern and superbly well-made wines out of Bordeaux which do not require any re-mortgaging in order to buy. Owned and run by Jean-Paul and Alice Bessette since 1971, along with their son Mathieu, they produce a Merlot-dominated blend that is soft, supple and packed with cassis fruit and nice oak flavours.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chateau La Graula	2014	£10.49	£9.49

San Valentino – Emilia Romagna

Emilia Romagna is one of Italy's wealthiest regions. It is a food lover's paradise being home to Parmigiano Reggiano, Modena balsamic vinegar, Parma ham and numerous pasta dishes including tortellini and lasagne. The region's wines are less well known but quality is high. San Valentino owner and winemaker Roberto Mascarin can afford to pick his Sangiovese later than his Tuscan counterparts due to the constant sea breeze which prevents rot. The chilly nights help retain acidity in the wine. The result is a fairly high alcohol wine which is perfectly balanced with fresh acidity. Soft juicy red fruit and lovely spicy notes make this wine the perfect alternative to Chianti.



SAN VALENTINO
AZIENDA AGRICOLA

<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sangiovese Superiore 'Bacaia' Biodynamic	2016	£11.99	£10.99

Terra de Asorei – Rias Baixas

I stumbled across these wines by accident when hanging out at Hotel Aiguaclara in Begur. The label, quality and price made the hair on the back of my neck stand up! The winery is located in the Salnes Valley and is a joint venture between eight small growers who own 70 ha of Albarino between them. Both wines are equally excellent in their own right with classic fresh, lemony, minerally fruit. The Nai e Senora is the fresher style whilst the Terra de Asorei is aged on its lees for three months to add weight and richer fruit. We couldn't decide which was better so we bought both!



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Albarino Nai e Senora	2016	£11.99	£9.99
Albarino Terra de Asorei	2016	£11.99	£9.99

Grupo Yllera – Rueda

We had been looking to add a Verdejo to our list for a while now. After tasting multiple Verdejos, this one got a collective cheer from the team. Harvesting is done at night to preserve the freshness of the grapes and the result shows. This wine is crisp, fresh and vibrant on the palate with green apples, grapefruit lemon zest and lychees along with a lovely texture.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Verdejo 'Vendimia Noctura'	2016	£11.49	£8.49

Bodegas Bohedal - Rioja

I met Leire at Fenavin (Spain's biggest wine show) in May 2015. It would be fair to say that we were both exhausted! It was day three, sweltering hot, I'd tasted so much wine my teeth were starting to hurt and Leire was equally tired and desperately looking for a chair. We both wanted to go home and I nearly walked straight past her but my luck I stopped. The labels caught my eye first. They all feature patch work patterns that Leire's grandmother had designed through her love of 'Almazuelas' (Patchwork quilt making). Even through my pallet fatigue the wines stood out. The barrel aged white has delicious oak integration and is super fresh and a world away from traditional oxidised styles. The Crianza is full bodied, concentrated and complex whilst the Reserva is a nice step up and great value.



<i>Red</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Rioja Crianza	2014	£11.99	£9.99
Rioja Reserva	2011	£15.99	£12.99
<i>White</i>			
Rioja Blanco Barrel Fermented	2016	£11.99	£9.99

Manos Negras – Mendoza

Manos Negras was started by Jeff Mausbach and Alejandro Sejanovich who worked together at Bodegas Catena Zapata. There, they pioneered high altitude plantings and the development of Malbec clones. They understand the Malbec grape and how to get the best out of it. The Triuno is there entry level offering and the perfect introduction to the full, dark, brooding, yet delicately elegant Malbec style.



<i>Red</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Triuno Malbec	2015	£9.99	£8.99

Casa Silva – Colchagua

In 1997, Mario Pablo Silva made a proposal to his father: he wanted to transform his bulk business into a prestige bottling company for export, bearing the family's own brand. Mario Silva accepted his son's challenge and Casa Silva was created. In a short space of time, Viña Casa Silva has become one of the most significant and awarded producers of premium Chilean wine. They have a pioneering spirit and own enviable vineyard sites which they match up to individual grape varieties.



<i>White</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Sauvignon/Semillion Coleccion	2015	£9.49	£8.25
Viognier Reserva	2016	£10.49	£9.49
<i>Red</i>			
Carmenere Coleccion	2015	£9.49	£8.25
Pinot Noir Reserva	2015	£10.99	£9.49
Merlot Reserva	2015	£10.99	£9.49
Shiraz Reserva	2011	£10.99	£9.49
'Los Lingues' Single Estate Carmenere	2015	£12.99	£11.99
<i>Sweet</i>			
Late Harvest Semillon/Gewurztraminer HALF	2016	£8.99	£7.49

Taringi - Marlborough

The popularity of Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc has never been stronger and we were quite impressed by this one. Fresh, dry, crisp and tangy tropical fruit are nicely balanced with gooseberry and kiwi fruit. Most importantly for us the flavours were vibrant and fresh and do not veer towards vegetal pea notes.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sauvignon Blanc	2017	£9.99	£8.49

Rapaura Springs - Marlborough

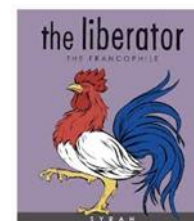
I'd be the first to admit that I have taken eye off New Zealand recently. Maybe I'm just bored of the identikit Marlborough style, maybe I've just drunk too much of it. It became a bit of a race to the bottom and price became more important than quality. Then along came Rapaura Springs and it slapped me in my face. The style is fresh and packed with expressive fruit – pink grapefruit, nectarine, passionfruit – along with lifted herbal notes and lovely mineral notes. It's a beautiful style and when you look at the price of Sancerre it's a real bargain!



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Sauvignon Blanc	2017	£11.99	£10.99

The Liberator – Rias Baixas

The Liberator is a project run by Master of Wine Rick Kelley. Tired of seeing so many parcels of old vine grapes being thrown into industrial-sized blends he decided to 'liberate' these grapes into separate bottlings. Each year he produces special one-off releases from his finds but he now has access to regular parcels of Chenin Blanc and Syrah, which he bottles each year as the Francophile.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chenin Blanc 'The Francophile'	2015	£10.99	£8.99
<u>Red</u>			
Syrah 'The Francophile'	2015	£10.99	£8.99

Capel Vale – Western Australia

Capel Vale is a family-owned winery that started planting vineyards in western Australia in 1974. The coastal regions of western Australia have a cooler, Mediterranean climate that brings elegance and finesse to the wines. They are immediately appealing with rich, ripe, jammy fruit – typically Australian - and are restrained and mellow on the palate without being cloying or overblown. We love the Capel Vale wines!



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chardonnay Margaret River	2014	£16.99	£15.99
<u>Red</u>			
Cabernet Sauvignon Margaret River	2014	£16.99	£15.99

Meerlust Estate– Stellenbosch

Meerlust Estate is widely recognised as one of South Africa’s leading wine producers. It has been owned by the Myburgh family since 1756 and makes the country’s iconic Rubicon, which, by modern global wine prices, remains a relative bargain. The entry-level red is as good as a New World Bordeaux blend gets – in our humble opinion.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Red (52% Merlot, 33% Cab Sauv, 10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot)	2014	£12.99	£10.99
Merlot	2014	£20.99	£18.99
Rubicon (Cab Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot)	2013	£24.99	£22.99

Domaine Sainte Croix- Fraissé des Corbières

Driving into the village of reminded me of the start of an old Western movie where the lone stranger on horseback slowly trots into a sleepy outpost and everyone comes to a silent standstill to run their eyes over the newcomer. The scene and silence was rudely interrupted however by the clunk of another failed gear change in the truly awful Vauxhall Meriva we were driving! I’d driven straight past Jon’s shed (Winery) and was waiting for an angry local to tell me to park somewhere else. A bearded vagabond was standing at the entrance to the shed (Winery) and it did look like pistols at high noon with the sparse, rugged Corbieres landscape in the background and early Spring heat beating down on us. “What are you doing here? Nobody comes to visits us?” said the vagabond. As Ennio Morricone played in my head the vagabond extended his hand and introduced himself as Jon. The relief was palpable.



Domaine Sainte Croix is owned and run by the English husband and wife team of Jon and Elizabeth Bowen. These are truly artisan wines crafted in an unfashionable area of France that has long been dominated by co-operative production. The gnarled vines are over 100 years old, production is organic and they even have a Natural wine (No sulphur) that is delicious. It’s hard to describe them, you have to taste them!

<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Magneric (48% Carignan Noir, 32% Grenache Noir & 20% Syrah)	2014	£18.49	£16.49
Pourboire Nature (100 % Old Vine Carignan)	2014	£14.99	£13.49
<u>White</u>			
Le Serre Blanc (60% Grenache Blanc & 40% Grenache Gris)	2016	£16.75	£14.99
<u>Sweet</u>			
La Part des Anges 50cl (80% Carignan & 20% Syrah)	2011	£22.99	£19.99

Chateau Fonreaud – Haut-Medoc

The beautifully elegant Chateau Fonreaud is a Cru Bourgeois Chateau based in Llistrac. This is the 2nd wine that is classed as Haut-Medoc, and is made from a blend of 52% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon and 3% Petit Verdot. It is a lovely forward wine with ripe cassis, spicy notes and soft, juicy tannins. Top wine from a top vintage.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
La Legende de Fonreaud	2010	£16.99	£13.99

Domaine Sylvain Bzikot – Puligny Montrachet

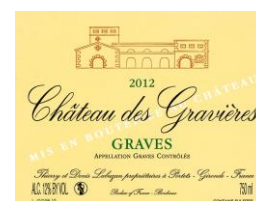
Sylvain Bzikot's grandfather was a Polish emigré who arrived in Puligny just before the War with nothing but the clothes he stood up in. From those very humble beginnings this family domaine has managed to acquire an impressive 4 hectares of some of the most valuable agricultural land in the world, namely Puligny-Montrachet and Puligny 1er Cru. They own a further 9 hectares of "regional appellation", producing Bourgogne Blanc, Aligoté and the like. Sylvain, a keen rugby player, as his very solid frame and cauliflower ears will attest, has an unusual approach to his winemaking. He vinifies half in stainless steel cuve and half in barrels, of which 90% are new, so that means that roughly 45% of the finished cuvée is vinified and aged in new wood. This sounds rather heavy for a village Puligny, but the stainless steel element of the cuvée brings such freshness and minerality that the oak is all but unnoticeable.



<u>White</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Puligny Montrachet ORGANIC	2015	£35.99	£32.50
Meursault 'Les Grandes Charron ORGANIC	2014	£29.99	£26.99

Chateau des Gravieres– Graves

For me, this is where the real value lies in Bordeaux. The Graves region named after its gravelly soil produces wines with great freshness and rich fruit flavours. Chateau des Gravieres is a charming wine made by brothers Thierry and Denis Labuzan. The vines are on average 25 years old, the soil is full of pebbles, and the wine is 50% aged in barriques. It's a lovely drop!



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chateau des Gravieres	2012	£13.99	£11.99

Chateau Charmail – Haut- Medoc

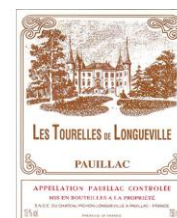
Olivier Sèze is certainly well respected amongst cru bourgeois producers having bought Charmail in 1982 and establishing the Chateaux's reputation for well-priced, superbly crafted wines. The Chateau is now owned by Bernard d'Halluin with Olivier still on hand as consultant. Year in, year out, the pair produce an honest Bordeaux that is full of personality, ripe fruit and well integrated tannins. We are lucky to have access to some older stock, ready for drinking at competitive prices.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Chateau Charmail	2004	£23.99	£19.99

Tourelles de Longueville – Pauillac

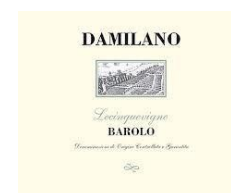
Packed full of black fruits, blueberries, cassis and blackcurrants with hints of spice, integrated tannins and good freshness. This is the second wine of Pichon Baron and the 2010 is an outstanding vintage. An offer not to be missed.



<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Tourelles de Longueville	2010	£42.99	£37.99

Damilano – Piedmont

Damilano is one of Barolo's oldest wineries dating back to 1890 when Giuseppe Borgogno, the great grandfather of the wineries current owner, began to vinify his own estate wines. They produce several Barolo's but we have chosen the 'Lecinquevigne' which is a blend of Nebbiolo from five different vineyards located in the calcareous-clay soils of Barolo, Grinzane Cavour, Monforte and Novello. It drinks well young and has an expressive palate of leather, tobacco and rose petals.



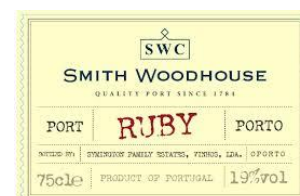
<u>Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Barolo 'Lecinquevigne' Damilano	2011	£38.99	£33.49

Port

The quintessential British gentlemen's after-dinner treat may have declined in popularity recently but it remains one of life's great pleasures. Port is made by adding brandy to the fermenting full-bodied dark wine of the Douro Valley. The brandy stops the fermentation process, leaving a sweet, high alcohol wine. It comes in several styles. The young ruby is a blend of several vintages. It is aged for 2-3 years before release and is deep in colour, strong in flavour and fiery. The Late Bottled Vintage (LBV) is from a single vintage and bottled after 4-6 years in barrel – some are unfiltered. The Tawny is aged in wood before release (age specified on the bottle) and blended from several vintages. They turn amber-brown and pick up oxidised notes along with nutty, dried fruit aromas. Then there is Vintage Port, released in the best years, this is the flagship wine from each house and the easiest to make. Aged for 2-3 years in barrel then released in bottle. They are very long-lived and take at least 30 years to start to drink.

Smith Woodhouse - Port

Christopher Smith, a one-time member of the Westminster Parliament, started Smith Woodhouse in 1784. There was an unconfirmed rumour in 2011 that he was claiming a second home allowance against the estate and had the wood panelling in the drawing room run through on expenses but it was never proven. On his death in 1835, his son was joined by the Woodhouse brothers and the house was fully born. The firm was taken over in the early years of the 20th Century by Graham's and now falls under the control of the Symington family, who purchased Graham's in 1970.



The house has long enjoyed a reputation for quality - especially for its vintage releases - which are consistently well-received and up there amongst the uber-estates. It might be fair to say that the house has been neglected a bit in terms of marketing by the Symington family as they have focused their attention on the bigger brands of Warres, Grahams, Dow's and Cockburn's. They do now offer wonderful value especially with the rich and intense ruby, which is packed with red fruits, plum flavours and warming spice.

Quinta Madelena is an excellent 7 hectare property owned by Smith Woodhouse and is located in the Rio Tinto Valley, one of the Douro's best areas. It is bottled as a single Quinta wine in exceptional years.

<u>Fortified Red</u>	<u>Vintage</u>	<u>Was</u>	<u>Offer</u>
Smith Woodhouse Ruby Port	NV	£11.99	£9.99
Smith Woodhouse 10Yr Old Tawny	NV	£19.99	£16.99
Smith Woodhouse Quinta Madelena	1996	£26.99	£21.99

Fonseca – Douro Valley

Fonseca is one of the greatest and most consistent Port producers. Their vintage offerings are always well-received and pose a hypnotic blend of youthfulness along with rich, powerful, complex and seductive aromas that can be aged for decades in bottle. The excellent LBV is unfiltered, which does mean a bit of sediment in the bottle, but it delivers more complex and rich flavours. In the early 1950's, the rising demand for vintage ports led Fonseca to create a second vintage port under the 'Guimaraens' label in 'non-classic', or undeclared years. Guimaraens vintage port is produced from the same three Fonseca quintas in the Cima Corgo which provide the backbone of Fonseca's vintage ports in declared years.



<i>Fortified Red</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Fonseca Unfiltered LBV	2009	£16.49	£13.99
Fonseca 'Guimaraens'	1998	£29.99	£24.99

Sherry

Sherry is a very cool tippie – no argument about it. The classic fortified wine of Andalucía comes in a variety of styles to suit a variety of needs. Ice cold, dry, fresh Manzanilla and Fino as an aperitif or with olives, cold meats & cheese is one of life's simplest pleasures. Dry, yet nutty Amontillado is the best way to start Sunday afternoon and the super sweet Pedro Ximenez is lovely with chocolate or as a nightcap.

Bodegas Rey Fernando de Castilla - Jerez

It has pained Will for many years that he has not worked for a company that has listed Jan Pettersen's superb Sherries. He was lucky enough to visit many years ago and can still smell the orange blossom in the courtyard that feeds its way into his Brandy casks. Pound for pound the best Sherries available.



<i>Dry</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Manzanilla Classic	NV	£12.49	£10.99
Fino Classic	NV	£11.99	£10.99
Amontillado Classic	NV	£13.99	£12.99
Palo Cortado 50cl	NV	£29.99	£26.99
<i>Medium Sweet</i>			
Cream Sherry	NV	£13.99	£12.99
<i>Sweet</i>			
Pedro Ximenez	NV	£18.99	£17.99

Sticky/Sweet

There is always room for a small glass of something sticky and sweet and let's be honest, any cakes and desserts lying around will need something to help lubricate their passage. Below is a small selection of the more unusual sweet wines we have, most with a fair bit of age.

The Rivesaltes Ambre is a golden coloured wine with nuts, dry apricots and candied orange peel scents is exclusively made from White Grenache. It can be savoured as much as an aperitif or an accompaniment for foie gras, ewe cheese or desserts. It will also be really enjoyable with apricot salads or with a crème brûlée.

The Part des Anges is a late-harvest Carignan. Essence of black mulberry and fig. Pure and luscious, fig, prune, sweet spice, black chocolate and Turkish coffee on the palate. A sweet red wine whose sweetness is balanced by freshness and lightness.

Lions de Suduiraut is one of the greatest producers of the sweet, amber nectar know as Sauternes. The vineyards border those of d'Yquem's and are planted with predominately Semillon and 20% Sauvignon Blanc. This is an ideal introduction to the style and is blended to be velvety, fresh and ready for immediate consumption.

Kalian Bernasse is a lighter styled sweet wine from Monbazillac near Bordeaux. Honey, lemon and tropical fruits dominate. This is fresh and better suited to cheese and lighter desserts.

<i>Sweet</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Rivesaltes Ambre Domaine Fontanel 50cl Southern France	2007	£19.99	£16.99
Part des Anges 50cl (80% Carignan & 20% Syrah) Southern France	2011	£22.99	£19.99
Lions de Suduiraut 37.5cl Sauternes	2013	£13.99	£11.99
Chateau Kalian Bernasse Monbazillac HALF France	2014	£9.99	£7.99

Spirits

The global production of spirits is now dominated by a handful of companies who, let's be honest, put advertising, brand promotion and cheap discounting ahead of quality – it's a numbers game and not one we want to or could play! Our focus is on quality, small production spirits for pure drinking pleasure.

Tarquin's Gin, Southwestern Distillery – Cornwall, England

Gin production appears to be booming these days from marketing lead, huge production offerings with global aspirations through to tiny small batch offerings made by passionate people who possibly have a screw loose and have no other agenda other than to make Gin that tastes good. Tarquin's Gin is made, surprisingly by Tarquin Leadbetter. A super chap, more posh even than our version, who on a whim decided to bin his London city job to take on the challenge of making his very own small batch, hand-crafted gin in Cornwall. Tamara (his copper pot still) fires just under 300 bottles each batch and each bottle is hand-filled, labelled and then signed by Tarquin, whose hand-writing is much nicer than our Tarquin's. The botanicals are all chosen by hand from various parts of the world. Juniper berries from Kosovo, Orris root from Morocco, Violets from Tarquin's Devon garden along with fresh orange, grapefruit and lemon zest too. Quirkily packaged, and brilliantly, he named it after Tarquin too.



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Was</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Tarquin's Dry Gin 70cl	42% abv	NV	£33.99	£30.99
Tarquin's Cornish Pastis 70cl	42% abv	NV	£32.99	£29.99
Tarquin's 'Tonquin' Tonka Bean Dry Gin 70cl	42% abv	NV	£32.99	£29.99
Tarquin's 'The Sea Dog' Navy Strength Dry Gin 70cl	57% abv	NV	£42.99	£40.99

Bodegas Rey Fernando de Castilla - Jerez

A fine example of Spanish Brandy, which is richer, softer and sweeter than Cognac. The base grapes of Airen and Palomino produce a wine high in alcohol and low in acidity which is the opposite too Cognac. This along with the use of the solera system for maturation helps to produce a unique style of Brandy.



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Bottle</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Brandy de Jerez Solera Reserva 70cl	35% abv	NV	£27.00	£25.99

Maxime Trijol – Cognac

The Trijol history is one of measured achievement. The family originally settled as growers and distillers in St Martial Sur Né, in the heart of the Cognac region. Their first still was installed in November 1859, and since then they have built on their expertise as growers and distillers, becoming professional distillers in 1962. An independent family firm, Maxime Trijol has twenty 2,500 litre charentais pot stills and is now one of the largest distillers of cognac. The current head of the company, Jean-Jacques Trijol, is an artist, wielding his skilful palate through the process of distillation and blending, adapting — sometimes minutely — the spirit he collects from each still and varying his technique slightly depending on the harvest and the wine.



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Bottle</i>	<i>Offer</i>
VSOP Grande Champagne Cognac 70cl	40%	NV	£47.99	£43.99

Clos Martin– Armagnac

The traditional stills used by Clos Martin's domaines are very small and allow a lot of the heavy, congener and fusel-rich vapours to pass over with the heart of the distillate. This results in a spirit significantly lower in alcohol than other regions; as low as 52%, although the average is between 55–63%. It is important to note that at 52% there are twice as many congeners (the elements in alcohol that give a spirit its aromas and flavours) than at 60%. Therefore, the Clos Martin Armagnacs always have a rich, earthy character. Producing a fine, flavoursome, well-balanced spirit at such low strength is not easy and takes years of experience and a lot of skill.



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Bottle</i>	<i>Offer</i>
X.O. 15 ans Folle Blanche Armagnac 70cl	40%	NV	£45.00	£40.99

Thompson Brothers– Dornoch Distillery

Phil and Simon Thompson, are well known for running the family owned Dornoch Castle Hotel, in the North of Scotland. The brothers run the respected whisky bar which specialises in old discontinued bottles at fair prices. After many years of discussing starting a distillery which would produce in an 'old-style', the brothers finally decided to pursue the dream. This Japanese Edition has been blended from a special botanical blend- raspberry, pepper, elderflower and pine needles. Using 10% organic floor malted odyssey barley and 90% organic grain neutral spirit, re-distilled in their Pot Column. The grain spirit gives a lighter smooth canvas upon which they balance all the botanical influences.



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Bottle</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Thompson Brothers Highland Gin 50cl ORGANIC	45.7%	NV	£32.95	£29.99

Berneroy– Calvados

The Calvados Berneroy Master Blender employs time-honoured methods and finely honed expertise to create a range of distinctively fruity calvados, capturing the very essence of the local orchards. Over 180 named apple varieties are authorized for use in the making of calvados Berneroy. These traditional cider apples are grown in the lush green fields of Normandy and harvested at the peak of ripeness, from mid September to the end of November. The precious fruit are then washed, crushed, and pressed in order to produce an aromatic fresh apple must



<i>Spirit</i>	<i>Info</i>	<i>Vintage</i>	<i>Bottle</i>	<i>Offer</i>
Berneroy Calvados VSOP	42%	VSOP	£32.95	£29.99
