

Wines by the glass

White

2. Piesporter Michelsberg 2016 Mosel
Typically light and unassuming wine from this well-known village, crisp, but with typically grapey character.
125ml £4.90 / 175ml £6.00
15. Chateau Septy 2014 A.C.F.B. (Cave de Monbazillac)
Less cloying than some of the heavier dessert wines from Sauternes. Pale buttercup gold; light barley sugar nose with floral notes; intense sweet fruit on the palate, with excellent length and pleasant fruity acidity on the finish.
125ml £6.00 / 175ml £7.50
18. Château Boudigand 2017. C.B. (Comte de Bosredon)
I have rarely been impressed by the white wines of the Appellation, but this wine is a knock out. Fine gold colour; plenty of semillon on the nose; wonderfully focussed and sprightly fruit on the palate. Balanced, delicious and great value.
125ml £5.50 / 175ml £6.50
70. Pinot Grigio delle Venezie 2015. I.G.T. (Cecilia Beretta)
A grape variety which can often appear a bit dull and one dimensional; but this is a most pleasing example at a very good price. Medium gold colour; appealing grapey, almost Muscat-y nose; fine concentrated zippy fruit on the palate.
125ml £5.30 / 175ml £6.50

House White

Apaltagua Gran Verano Chardonnay 2015. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50

Apaltagua Gran Verano Sauvignon Blanc 2016. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50

Prosecco Piccolo Extra Dry
200ml bottle £6.50

Rosé

57. Rosé Les Oliviers 2016 Domaine de Montaubéron. Vin de Pays Côtes de Thongue. D.B. (de Berlier)
Provence is in many ways the spiritual home of rosé, and this is a distinctly classy example, made from 100% Syrah, and exhibiting none of the dispiriting flabbiness so often encountered. Deep salmon pink in colour; ripe floral fruit on the nose; good assertive fruit on the palate, wonderfully clean-limbed, and with great balance and length.
125ml £5.10 / 175ml £6.30

Red

59. Merlot Domaine St Estève 2017. Vin de Pays d'Oc.
Typically robust and gutsy merlot from provence. Big, purple-tinged colour, ripe and concentrated fruit on the nose and palate. Uncomplicated, but with enough acidity and soft tannin to avoid jamminess.
125ml £5.00 / 175ml £6.10
75. Rioja Belezos 2015 D.O.C. Estate Bottled (Bodegas Zugober)
Nice and juicy uncomplicated Rioja. Good deep scarlet just maturing at the rim; healthy plum-and-cassis fruit on the nose; good gutsy Tempranillo character on the palate, with nice oaky notes.
125ml £5.40 / 175ml £6.70
81. Pinot Noir Reserva Vina Mar 2017. Casablanca Valley
Great value authentic Pinot Noir from Chile.
125ml £5.30 / 175ml £6.50
86. Heywood Estate Shiraz 2016 S. E. Australia
I have not in general been a great admirer of Australian Shiraz, which seems all too often to want to bludgeon the drinker into submission. This example thus came as a pleasant surprise. Bright cherry colour; plum and spice on the nose, with a hint of plum kernels; uncomplicated juicy fruit on the palate, soft, appealing, well-balanced. It is also refreshingly light on alcohol at 12.5%. Really great value.
125ml £4.80 / 175ml £5.90

House Red

- Apaltagua Gran Verano Cabernet Sauvignon 2018. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50

Half Bottles

6. Oestrich Lenchen Riesling Auslese 2003. Rheingau Q.m.P. (Peter Jakob Kühn)
The dramatically hot summer of 2003 produced many atypical wines. The Rieslings of northern Europe tended to be sweeter and lusher than usual. This Auslese has easily the weight and sweetness to qualify as a Beerenauslese in more normal vintages. Extraordinary deep old gold – almost tawny – colour; barley sugar, orange blossom, and acacia on the nose; intense palate of honey, candied peel, highlighted with delicate acidity throughout the impressively long palate.
½ bottle £36.00
15. Château Septy 2013. A.C.F.B. (Cave de Monbazillac)
Less cloying than some of the heavier dessert wines from Sauternes. Pale buttercup gold; light barley sugar nose with floral notes; intense sweet fruit on the palate, with excellent length and pleasant fruity acidity on the finish.
½ Bottle £15.50
16. Château Rieussec 2003. C.B. 1ier Grand Cru. Sauternes
The super-hot summer of 2003 tended to produce lush, forward wines, and this is no exception. Deep gold colour; huge ripe fruit on nose and palate, with great intensity and length. This celebrated property has – again – produced a stunning wine.
½ bottle £32.00
19. Les Allées de Cantemerle 2009 C.B. Haut Médoc
This is the second wine of the ever-dependable Château Cantemerle, which we have listed for many vintages. In that context this is an impressive wine from an impressive vintage. Deep opaque crimson colour, solid at the centre; healthy Cabernet fruit on the nose; fine gutsy fruit on the palate, with a great balance and concentration.
½ bottle £18.00
25. Château de Fieuzal 2000 C.B Pessac
This old favourite produces classic silky Graves. From the wonderful 2000 vintage is fully mature; fine deep colour with tawny rim; exuberant Cabernet-dominant fruit on the nose, with cedary well-developed secondary characteristics; lovely ripe round palate, long and balanced.
½ bottle £36.00
32. Chablis Fourchaume 1ier Cru 2016 A.C. F.B. (Durup, Château de Maligny)
Characteristically clean-limbed Chablis from this ever reliable producer. A great vintage in Chablis; fine bright mid-gold colour; healthy zippy Chardonnay nose; good-hearted light-textured fruit on the palate, with citrus and honeyed notes; ripe but not an ounce of superfluous fat.
½ bottle £24.00
38. Macon-Lugny Les Genièvres 2016 A.C.F.B. (Louis Latour)
Characteristically deftly-made Macon from this-ever reliable negociant. Pale lemon yellow in colour; elegant young Chardonnay nose with floral and citric notes; delicious delicate Chardonnay palate.
½ Bottle £14.00

39. Meursault Vieilles Vignes 2014 D.B. (Vincent Girardin)
This fine producer has produced a lovely wine in what was a classic year for White Burgundy. Fine pale gold, with great clarity; healthy young Chardonnay on the nose; delicious cleanly made Chardonnay palate, lean and racy; the antithesis of the blousy over-oaked Meursaults so often encountered traditionally.
½ Bottle £36.00
61. Champagne Guy de Chasse Brut Grand Cru N.V.
Unusual among the cheaper champagnes in that the grapes come from 100% rated vineyards, and the wines are given plenty of bottle age. Truly excellent wines at the price.
½ Bottle £27.00
62. Champagne Delamotte Brut N.V.
Not the best-known Champagne house, but this is the sister company of the great Salon le Mesnil, and uses some of their grapes in years not thought quite up to vintage standard. This explains the wonderfully aristocratic quality of this wine; pale lemony gold, with a fine sustained mousse; nose and palate showing the elegance stemming from the 50% Chardonnay content, and with the lacy texture so characteristic of this house.
½ Bottle £30.00

Magnums and Large Formats

*109 Château Gruard Larose 1990. C.B. St Julien. 2ième Cru

This wine was recently re-assessed by the ubiquitous Robert Parker as being of First Growth quality in this vintage; indeed it out-scored some of them. My own all-too-brief acquaintance with it suggests that he is right. Amazing youth and vigour considering its age, with power, subtlety, harmony and length all in spectacular proportions. These bottles were stored at the Château itself until a couple of years ago and thus have had the minimum of disturbance in their twenty years.

Magnum £260.00

*124 Château Pichon-Lalande 1983. C.B. Pauillac

Magnum £250.00

We also have available Château Mouton Rothschild 1989 in Imperials, and Château Gruard Larose 1990 in Double Magnums.. These are stored at cool cellar temperature, and are only available if ordered a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Prices on application.

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

Germany

2. Piesporter Michelsberg 2016 Mosel

Typically light and unassuming wine from this well-known village, crisp, but with typically grapey character.

Bottle £22.00
125ml £4.70 / 175ml £5.80

3. Riesling Trocken 2015 Pfalz Qualitätswin (A. Christmann)

I have not in general found it easy to like the 'Trocken' style of Rieslings, feeling that in the search for a drier wine the main glories of the Riesling grape are often submerged. This is a remarkable example, however, and quite enough to prompt a re-think. Fine buttercup gold; lovely apple-and-honey nose; the palate echoing the nose with just a hint of spritz. Really good gutsy fruit, and finishing bone dry despite a touch of honey mid-palate. Really impressive wine.

Bottle £25.00

5. Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinet 2015. Mosel Prädikatswein (Max Ferd Richter)

The wines of the Rhine, Mosel, and the surrounding valleys have become unfashionable, and therefore difficult to sell. This is a shame, as they offer wonderful value. This example is a classic Mosel, with the ripe grapiness balanced by sustained elegant acidity. Pale youthful colour; delicious honey-and-apple Riesling nose, with just a whiff of diesel; fine burst of Riesling fruit on the palate with honey and apricot notes, and delicate acidity leading to a development of 30+ seconds.

Bottle £31.50

6. Oestrich Lenchen Riesling Auslese 2003. Rheingau Q.m.P. (Peter Jakob Kühn)

The dramatically hot summer of 2003 produced many atypical wines. The Rieslings of northern Europe tended to be sweeter and lusher than usual. This Auslese has easily the weight and sweetness to qualify as a Beerenauslese in more normal vintages. Extraordinary deep old gold – almost tawny – colour; barley sugar, orange blossom, and acacia on the nose; intense palate of honey, candied peel, highlighted with delicate acidity throughout the impressively long palate.

Half bottle £36.00

Alsace

8. Gewürztraminer Cleebourg Cuvée Prestige 2017. D.B. (Cave Vinicole)
Alsatian wines are hard to sell in restaurants, but they are individual, delicious, and represent such good value. This is a totally authentic example of the Gewürztraminer grape; aromatic nose with hints of lychee and lemon; lots of ripe fruit on the palate, with hints of spice and a pleasing underlying austerity.
- Bottle £26.50

Red Loire

10. Saumur Champigny Lieu-dit Les Villaises 2016. D.B. (Cave de Saumur)
The red wines of the Loire are less well-known than they deserve; they are charming, distinctive and good value. This is a typical example, with vibrant deep cherry colour; lively Cabernet Franc fruit on the nose; and succulent red fruits on the palate.
SERVED AT CELLAR TEMPERATURE TO EMPHASISE ITS FRESH AND JUICY QUALITIES.
- Bottle £25.00

White Loire

12. Pouilly Fumé 'Les Charmes' 2015. D.B. (J-C Chatelain)
Delicious grassy Sauvignon (in the French style, I'm glad to say, rather than in the over-emphatic New World style). Pale gold colour, made with a touch of oak which broadens the fruit on the palate. A single vineyard wine which is strikingly delicious.
- Bottle £26.50
13. Sancerre 2017. D.B. (J-C Chatelain)
The great popularity of Sancerre has brought with it the usual surge in prices and uncertain quality. This is a beautifully made example however, with a delectable combination of freshness and fruit.
- Bottle £27.30

Dessert Loire

14. Côteaux du Layon Domaine des Hautes Brosses Vieilles Vignes 2009. D.B. (Vignoble Pin)

The dessert wines from the Loire, made from the Chenin Blanc grape, are very different in character from those of Bordeaux or the Rhine; lighter in texture, but capable of achieving great stature. This example is a rich buttery gold; fragrant floral nose with honeyed notes; assertive barley sugar palate with good balancing acidity.

Bottle £25.00

Monbazillac

15. Château Septy 2014. A.C.F.B. (Cave de Monbazillac)

Less cloying than some of the heavier dessert wines from Sauternes. Pale buttercup gold; light barley sugar nose with floral notes; intense sweet fruit on the palate, with excellent length and pleasant fruity acidity on the finish.

Bottle £27.00

Half Bottle (2013) £15.50

125ml £6.00 / 175ml £7.50

Sauternes

16. Château Rieussec 2003. C.B. 1ier Grand Cru.

The super-hot summer of 2003 tended to produce lush, forward wines, and this is no exception. Deep gold colour; huge ripe fruit on nose and palate, with great intensity and length. This celebrated property has – again – produced a stunning wine.

Half bottle £32.00

Bergerac Sec

18. Château Boudigand 2017. C.B. (Comte de Bosredon)

I have rarely been impressed by the white wines of the Appellation, but this wine is a knock out. Fine gold colour; plenty of semillon on the nose; wonderfully focussed and sprightly fruit on the palate. Balanced, delicious, and great value.

Bottle £24.00

125ml £5.00 / 175ml £6.00

Red Bordeaux

19. Les Allées de Cantemerle 2009 C.B. Haut Médoc
This is the second wine of the ever-dependable Château Cantemerle, which we have listed for many vintages. In that context this is an impressive wine from an impressive vintage. Deep opaque crimson colour, solid at the centre; healthy Cabernet fruit on the nose; fine gutsy fruit on the palate, with a great balance and concentration.
½ bottle £18.00
20. Chateau Patache D'Aux 2009 Cru Bourgeois Supérieure C.B.
A vintage which seemed so generous in infancy but which has surprised me by how long it has taken to mature fully. However, many wines are now starting to drink very well. We have been listing the better vintages of this property for nearly 40 years, and as the vines age the quality has improved hugely. Fine deep garnet colour, semi mature; lovely harmonious cabernet fruit on the nose, with cassis, pepper and sweet spice notes; balanced, seamless fruit on the palate, forceful, seamless, delicious.
Bottle £35.00
23. Chateau Marsau 2010 Côtes de Francs C.B.
A stellar vintage which produced wines of notable generosity. Fine, deep, mature garnet colour; highly aromatic as it is poured, with intense, succulent, ripe Merlot on the nose; similar palate, with juicy round fruit, but with plenty of soft residual tannin and acid to balance. Long and structured.
Bottle £33.00
25. Château de Fieuzal 2000 C.B Pessac
This old favourite produces classic silky Graves. From the wonderful 2000 vintage is fully mature; fine deep colour with tawny rim; exuberant Cabernet-dominant fruit on the nose, with cedary well-developed secondary characteristics; lovely ripe round palate, long and balanced.
½ bottle £36.00
26. Chateau Caronne Ste Gemme 2005 C.B. Haut Médoc Cru Bourgeois
This old favourite has produced wonderful wine in this great vintage. Fine deep garnet colour, opaque at centre with narrow maturing rim; über healthy Merlot dominated nose, soft and seductive; delightful seamless palate with masses of ripe fruit with more of the predominant Cabernet showing through, excellent balance. Velvet on the tongue.
Bottle £45.00

*100 Clos du Marquis 2000 St Julien C.B. (Société Civil du Château Léoville-las-Cases)
This is the splendid second wine of Léoville-las-Cases. So rigorous is the selection of grapes at this 'super-second' property that the Clos du Marquis regularly out-performs its peers, and indeed many classed growths. In the stellar 2000 vintage it has really shone. Big dense garnet colour, still with hints of purple; huge mature cassis-y nose, very fragrant, super healthy; intense Cabernet fruit on the palate, showing everything one wants in mature claret; power and elegance, seamless, and with the underlying structure clothed in ripe concentrated fruit. Huge length, with a finish developing for well over 30 seconds.

Bottle £65.00

101. Langoa Barton 2003 C.B. St Julien Troisieme Cru

A property which, after a period of underachievement, is definitely on the up. A typically supple 2001, one of my favourite vintages for current drinking; bright, super-healthy crimson, mature at rim and with a good solid centre; mature, fine boned fruit on the nose, with spicy secondary aromas dominant; classically elegant St. Julian palate, but with a sustained core of structured Cabernet fruit throughout.

Bottle £65.00

*102 Château Cantemerle 2000. C.B. Macau 5ième Cru

This popular property has been producing better and better wines in the past decade or so, thanks to huge investment in the '80's. Fully mature garnet colour, but with a wonderfully healthy solid centre; spicy Cabernet fruit on the nose, with cedary hints; classic claret palate, with a touch of austerity on entry, but a marvellously suave and complete middle palate, leading to a long and balanced finish.

Bottle £40.00

*105 Château Talbot 1996 C.B. St Julien 4ieme Cru

This property has long been admired in England for its elegant, cabernet –dominated wines. The 1996 vintage has taken forever to come round, but it is now delicious. Dense, opaque garnet colour, narrow tawny rim; delicate floral-spicy cabernet nose; wonderfully poised and elegant fruit on the palate; long and stylish. Typical St Julien, typical Talbot.

Half bottle £43.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

- *109 Château Gruard Larose 1990. C.B. St Julien. 2ième Cru
 This wine was recently re-assessed by the ubiquitous Robert Parker as being of First Growth quality in this vintage; indeed it out-scored some of them. My own all-too-brief acquaintance with it suggests that he is right. Amazing youth and vigour considering its age, with power, subtlety, harmony and length all in spectacular proportions. These bottles were stored at the Château itself until a few years ago and thus have had the minimum of disturbance in their twenty years.
 Magnum £260.00
- *110 Château Léoville Barton 1996. C.B. St Julien 2ième Cru
 This famous Château has been producing wines of ‘Super Second’ quality at a much more reasonable price than some of its more illustrious competitors for decades. This was a monster of a vintage in terms of concentration and tannin, and the top wines will clearly last for decades. This has a fine deep mature garnet centre with a narrow tawny rim; classic ‘old claret’ nose with spice and cigar box notes, but smelling super-healthy and lively still; huge punch of concentrated Cabernet Sauvignon fruit on the palate, plenty of acidity and soft tannin, giving great balance and length. A wonder, and an intriguing contrast to the more delicate 1995 (No. 101).
 Bottle £110.00
- *111. Château Pape Clement 1998 C. B. Grand Cru Classé Pessac-Léogna
 Probably the finest vineyard in the Graves area after Haut Brion and La Mission, this has predictably shone in the great 1998 vintage. Fully mature deep garnet colour, with an evolved tawny rim; deep, super-healthy Merlot fruit on the nose, with sweet spices and cedary notes; dramatic concentrated fruit in the mouth, sumptuous; classic silky Graves, complete and seamless, with great complexity. For those, like Robert Parker, who like to time the development of the finish, this lasts at least 30 seconds.
 Bottle £140.00
- *116. Chateau Madgdelaine 2001 C. B. Grand Cru St Emilion
 Despite its relatively small production, this well-know St Emilion produces , year after year, wines that rival or outshine all but its greatest competitors, Ausone and Cheval Blanc. Dense opaque crimson still, with just a touch of tawny a t the rim; Concentrated ripe Merlot on the nose with soft tannins behind the roundness of fruit; charming juicy Merlot on the palate, with a lovely gentle acidity and integrated tannin to support the fruit. Typical 2001, seamless and totally satisfying.
 Bottle £120.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

The remaining Clarets listed are too well-known to need elaborate tasting notes. No-one, after all, needs me to tell them that Latour 1982 is a spectacularly fine wine.

The past two years have seen an extraordinary rise in the prices of fine mature clarets. For example, Château Latour 1982, which was available (if you could find it) for around £4000.00 per case five years ago, has more than trebled its price to around £15,000 per case. It is therefore with the greatest reluctance that we have had to increase our prices of these wines at least somewhere closer to their replacement value.

What more can one say about the celebrated 1982 vintage? For once the trade's hyperbole was justified, and while too rich and voluptuous to be classic claret, fears by some that they would prove too pleasing to last have proved gloriously mistaken. Extraordinarily, the Mouton still needs time to show its best, in my view; while the Latour towers over the rest at present.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| *126 <u>Château La Mission Haut Brion 1982</u> C.B. Graves Cru Classé | Bottle £700.00 |
| *127 <u>Château Lafite Rothschild 1982</u> . C.B. Pauillac 1ier Cru | Bottle £1200.00 |
| *130 <u>Château Mouton Rothschild 1982</u> . C.B. Pauillac 1ier Cru | Bottle £1000.00 |
| *131 <u>Château Pichon-Lalande 1982</u> . C.B. Pauillac 2ième Cru | Bottle £400.00 |

We also have available Château Mouton Rothschild 1989 in Imperials, and Château Gruard Larose 1990 in Double Magnums. These are stored at cool cellar temperature, and are only available if ordered a minimum of 24 hours in advance. Prices on application.

- * Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

White Burgundy

30. Bourgogne Chardonnay 2013 D.B. (Michel Bouzereau)
Wonderfully elegant and classy basic White Burgundy from a grower with extensive holdings in Meursault. Made with the same care and attention to detail, this could almost be the *grand vin*. Clear pale gold; fine boned aromatic Chardonnay nose; zippy young Chardonnay fruit on palate. Really classy for the Appellation.
Bottle £32.00
31. Chablis 2016 D.B. (Domaine Roy)
Growers in Chablis for two centuries, the Roy family have only recently begun bottling most of their own wines. Classically made steely Chablis; pale gold colour showing some evolution; fairly closed, faintly floral Chardonnay nose; impressively balanced and integrated fruit on the palate, with a long crisp, structured finish. Impressive for a generic Chablis.
Bottle £30.00
32. Chablis Fourchaume 1ier Cru 2016 A.C. F.B. (Durup, Château de Maligny)
Characteristically clean-limbed Chablis from this ever reliable producer. A great vintage in Chablis; fine bright mid-gold colour; healthy zippy Chardonnay nose; good-hearted light-textured fruit on the palate, with citrus and honeyed notes; ripe but not an ounce of superfluous fat.
½ bottle £24.00
36. Meursault Narvaux 2010 A.C. F.B. (Vincent Girardin)
A world away from the old-style Meursaults which so often were weighty, buttery, oakey monsters. This is brilliantly made by an eminent grower, from a great vintage. Pale/mid gold in colour, just showing some evolution; light, elegant Chardonnay nose, with a citrus blossom core and hints of honey behind; incisive clean limbed Chardonnay palate with plenty of fruit behind. Excellent length and balance.
Bottle £55.00
37. St Aubin 1ier Cru Murgers des Dents de Chien 2010 D.B. (Gérard Thomas)
A St Aubin of unusual precision and elegance. Fine clear mid-gold, still pale at the rim; clean-limbed young Chardonnay nose, floral with hints of honey behind; fine zesty fruit on the palate, lingering aftertaste of citrus and peaches.
Bottle £40.00
38. Macon-Lugny Les Genièvres 2016 A.C.F.B. (Louis Latour)
Characteristically deftly-made Macon from this-ever reliable negociant. Pale lemon yellow in colour; elegant young Chardonnay nose with floral and citric notes; delicious delicate Chardonnay palate.
½ Bottle £14.00
39. Meursault Vieilles Vignes 2014 D.B. (Vincent Girardin)
This fine producer has produced a lovely wine in what was a classic year for White Burgundy. Fine pale gold, with great clarity; healthy young Chardonnay on the nose; delicious cleanly made Chardonnay palate, lean and racy; the antithesis of the blousy over-oaked Meursaults so often encountered traditionally.
½ Bottle £36.00

Red Burgundy

41. Volnay Vieilles Vignes 2010 A.C. F.B. (Jean-Jacques Girard)
Lovely vibrant Volnay from a fine producer in a great vintage. Bright crimson colour; nose of red cherries and a hint of almond; wonderfully lively fruit on the palate, with that characteristic silkiness of texture that marks fine Volnay.
Bottle £37.00
43. Bourgogne Rouge 'Aries' Pinot Noir 2010 A.C. F.B. (Ambroise)
Sadly a one off. In this vintage Ambroise included in the basic Bourgogne Rouge some parcels of much better village Appellations which were deemed too small to be worth vinifying separately. The result is a very classy Pinot, with healthy mature colour; gutsy Pinot nose with some farmyard/rotty notes; good seamless meaty Pinot on the palate, with excellent weight and acidity.
Bottle £30.00
44. Savigny-les-Beaune 1ier Cru Les Narbantons 2015 A.C. F.B. (Girard)
Gorgeous southern red Burgundy from one of the finest vintages of the past ten years. Medium ruby/garnet colour; good Pinot character on the nose, with good depth and complexity, and hints of spice developing; fine concentration of Pinot fruit on entry; seamless, elegant and long.
Bottle £48.00

*142. Clos de la Roche Vieilles Vignes 1996. Grand Cru D.B. (Ponsot)

This domaine was one of the first to start running their vineyards according to biodynamic principles. Whatever one may feel about the value of some aspects of this, such as the conducting of vineyard operations with reference to the lunar cycle, the wines are absolutely stunning, and can only have been made with almost supernaturally healthy fruit. Colour just beginning to show some maturity; intense highly perfumed Pinot nose, with great focus and concentration; and a huge, classically Côtes de Nuits palate; just entering its maturity, with fine acidity and soft tannins; spectacular 'attack' in the mouth, fine balance and an impressively long finish. Super burgundy with a long future.

Bottle £125.00

*144. Nuis St Georges 1ier Cru Clos de Forêts St. Georges 2002 D.B. (Domaine de l'Arlot)

As usual with this property, a wine for those 'who wish to be seduced... rather than seek hand to hand combat' in Clive Coates' ringing phrase. From one of the great vintages of the past 20 years. Good healthy colour, supremely limpid; lovely graceful evolved Pinot Nose, poised and proper, with lots of spice and farmyard notes; sweet ripe Pinot fruit on the palate, more forceful on entry than perhaps expected, lingering finish. Polished.

Bottle £80.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

Beaujolais

46. Brouilly Pisse-Vieille 2016 D.B. (Lathuidière Gravillon)

I am not a great lover of the Gamay grape, but this wine shows just how good the village wines of Beaujolais can be. Impeccably made, and from a fine vintage, this has a healthy, mature, deep colour; classic immediate Gamay fruit on the nose; and a suave and poised palate, with much more weight, breadth and balance than most Beaujolais.

Bottle £32.00

SERVED AT CELLAR TEMPERATURE TO EMPHASISE ITS FRESH AND JUICY QUALITIES.

White Rhone

50. Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc Domaine Grand Veneur 2015 D.B. (Alain Jaume)
White Rhônes are under-appreciated in Britain, which is a shame, as they are distinctive, and are frequently both well-made and excellent value. This is a delicious example; water-pale in colour; fine elegant floral-lemony nose; full and ripe on the palate, with peach and honey notes balanced by excellent acidity, and a long nutty finish. Really fine wine.

Bottle £47.50

Red Rhone

51. Côtes du Rhône Réserve Grand Veneur 2016 A.C. F.B. (Alain Jaune)
From the makers of one of the most succulent Châteauneuf du Papes, this might almost be the *grand vin* itself. Deep crimson colour; rich spicy fruit on the nose; wonderfully ripe and healthy fruit on the palate, with lots of Grenache; acid and soft tannin to balance. Fantastic wine at the price

Bottle £24.00

52. Chateauneuf-du-Pape Grand Veneur 2010 D.B.
The 'big brother' of this wine, the Vieilles Vignes 2010, was awarded 100 points by the ubiquitous Robert Parker. The snags are that it costs about £150 per bottle retail and won't really be at its best for years. This is almost as impressive a wine at a much more accessible price. Huge dense semi-opaque crimson; rich ripe fruit on the nose, with hints of spice; colossal rich fruit on the palate, almost fruit-cakey, but with tannin and background acidity lending elegance and length.

Bottle £55.00

53. Crozes-Hermitage 2016 D.B. (Cave de Clairmont)
Approachable Crozes from a fine year. Deep purple/crimson colour; peppery Syrah on the nose, suave, and with plenty of fruit; juicy Syrah fruit on the palate, plenty of soft tannin, but easy-going and with good balance.

Bottle £25.00

54. Gigondas Domaine des Capes 2015 D.B. (Laure Daniel)
Fine mature southern Rhone, made from the classic varieties Grenache / Syrah / Mourvèdre. Deep plum/ crimson colour, showing a little evolution at the rim; ripe classy fruit on the nose, with deep, almost prune-like notes; terrific seamless fruit on palate, with plenty of soft tannins to balance. Classy for the Appellation.

Bottle £28.00

Red Rhone

*150. Côte Rôtie 2005. D.B. (Rostaing)

The syrah-based wines of the Côte Rôtie age into the most gloriously gracious and complex wines. This is surprisingly youthful in colour, still semi-opaque, just softening at the rim; ripe, round, slightly toasted Syrah fruit on the nose, very restrained and suave; fantastic mouthful of concentrated plum and cherry flavours, seamless, and with a fine thread of acidity throughout the palate. Almost endless development in the mouth.

Bottle £60.00

*152. Château de Beaucastel 1999 Châteauneuf-du-Pape D.B. (Perrin)

The Perrin family make a point of using all thirteen of the permitted grape varieties in their celebrated Châteauneuf, varying the proportions according to the nature of the vintage. Typically a wine of great longevity, this is just coming to maturity. Deep ruby colour with a narrow tawny rim; initially a little reticent on the nose, but opening out into an opulent bouquet of spices, herbs and (amazingly) treacle; palate of great presence, with juicy Grenache on the surface, with serious weight and complexity behind. Classic Beaucastel with richness and restraint, charm and seriousness.

Bottle £75.00

*154. Château de Beaucastel 1995 Châteauneuf-du-Pape D.B. (Perrin)

One of the finer vintages from the first half of the '90's, and now fully mature. All the Beaucastel hallmarks of density, complexity, power and finesse.

Magnum £130.00

*155. Hermitage Marquise de la Tourette 2005 A.C. F.B (Delas)

Lovely northern Rhone, Syrah-based, now entering early maturity. Bright dark cherry/crimson colour, softening at the rim; huge nose of dark fruits and spices, bursting with health; colossal palette of rich ripe Syrah fruit, with great concentration and length, with sustained delicate acidity on the back plate. Delicious.

Bottle £60.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

French Country Wines

White

55. Terre de Lumière Viognier 2017 Pays d'Oc

The problematic and intriguing Viognier grape used to be virtually confined to a small area of the northern Rhône, where it was made into the fine but exorbitant white wines of Condrieu. Now it is fashionable, and grown widely, not only in Southern France, but in the New World. It is usually at its best relatively young, to preserve its freshness. This is a terrific example; lemony gold in colour; peach fruit aromas reaching out of the glass; deep but focussed fruit flavours on the palate, given a lovely life by a lemony acidity on the finish. Terrific wine at the price.

Bottle £20.00

Pink

57. Rosé Les Oliviers 2017 Domaine de Montaubéron. Vin de Pays Côtes de Thongue. 3 D.B. (de Berlier)

Provence is in many ways the spiritual home of rosé, and this is a distinctly classy example, made from 100% Syrah, and exhibiting none of the dispiriting flabbiness so often encountered. Deep salmon pink in colour; ripe floral fruit on the nose; good assertive fruit on the palate, wonderfully clean-limbed, and with great balance and length.

Bottle £21.00

125ml £4.90 / 175ml £6.10

Red

58. Chateau de Saint-Sériès Vieilles Vignes 2015. Côteaux du Languedoc. A.C. F.B. (Roux)
A fantastic Côteaux du Languedoc from one of the biggest producers in the Côte d'Or. A blend of Syrah and Granache, this has a fine deep colour, harmonious fruit on the nose, and a really suave and gracious palate, much classier than many wines from the Appellation.

Bottle £26.00

59. Merlot Domaine St Estève 2017 Vin de Pays d'Oc.

Typically robust and gutsy merlot from provence. Big, purple-tinged colour, ripe and concentrated fruit on the nose and palate. Uncomplicated, but with enough acidity and soft tannin to avoid jamminess.

Bottle £20.00

125ml £5.00 / 175ml £6.10

Sparkling Wines

60. Corney & Barrow Blanc de Blancs Méthode Champenoise. F.B. (Varichon et Clerc)
A beautifully made wine, which shows how much better some of the regionally made sparkling wines can be than some of the cruder examples from the sacred Appellation of Champagne. Pale gold, fine even mousse; good fruit on the nose; clean, light, and crisp in the mouth, but with plenty of ripe fruit. Excellent all-round wine.
Bottle £27.50
69. Adnams Selection Prosecco D.O.C. Treviso
Made from the Glera grape by the Ceschin family in the Veneto region of Italy. A cheerful everyday fizz with fresh, crisp flavours.
Bottle £25.00
61. Champagne Guy de Chassey Brut Grand Cru N.V.
Unusual among the cheaper champagnes in that the grapes come from 100% rated vineyards, and the wines are given plenty of bottle age. Truly excellent wines at the price.
Bottle £50.00
Half Bottle £27.00
62. Champagne Delamotte Brut N.V.
Not the best-known Champagne house, but this is the sister company of the great Salon le Mesnil, and uses some of their grapes in years not thought quite up to vintage standard. This explains the wonderfully aristocratic quality of this wine; pale lemony gold, with a fine sustained mousse; nose and palate showing the elegance stemming from the 50% Chardonnay content, and with the lacy texture so characteristic of this house.
Bottle £54.00
Half Bottle £30.00
63. Champagne Pol Roger Réserve Brut N.V. White Capside
Pol Roger was reputedly the favourite of that heroic drinker of champagne, Sir Winston Churchill; and the wine itself is built on an heroic scale. Explosion of *brioche* nose as it is opened; fine even *mousse*; and a huge ripe Pinot-dominated palate. The recent collapse of the pound against the euro has played havoc with the price, sadly; but *que faire?*
Bottle £65.00
66. Tattinger Brut 2002
This makes a wonderfully interesting contrast to the Delamotte Blanc de Blancs listed next. From the same stellar vintage, this is an object lesson in successful blending of the Pinots (Noir and Meunier) with Chardonnay. The result is a much broader, more structured wine than the pure Chardonnay; pronounced brioche nose; more ostensibly ripe in the mouth; with effortless balance and presence and with ample staying power to accompany quite emphatic food flavours. Made with the restraint and elegance so typical of this renowned Champagne House, and with only 12% alcohol, it treads lightly.
Bottle £75.00

Champagnes continued on next page.

67. Delamotte Blanc de Blancs 2002

One of the greatest vintages for Champagne, the 2002 is certainly at least the equal of the legendary 1996, 1982 and 1969 vintages. Delamotte, not the best known Champagne name, is the sister house to the celebrated Salon le Mesnil, and benefits from the same Grand Cru grapes and obsessive search for the highest standards of wine making. Very pale gold, just beginning to acquire a richer hue; very fine persistent mousse; delicate floral Chardonnay nose, a little shy still, with good autolytic 'brioche' character; bone dry on the palate, elegant, but with a profound steely core. Graceful and delicious, with that unmistakable lacy texture of top Blanc de Blancs. Colossally long finish.

Bottle £75.00

Sparkling Rosé

64. Drappier Val des Demoiselles Rosé Brut N.V.

A distinguished rosé with plenty of bottle age, classy palate, and the classic *oeil de perdrix* colour.

Bottle £55.00

Italy

70. Pinot Grigio delle Venezie 2017. I.G.T. (Cecilia Beretta)
A grape variety which can often appear a bit dull and one dimensional; but this is a most pleasing example at a very good price. Medium gold colour; appealing grapey, almost Muscat-y nose; fine concentrated zippy fruit on the palate.
Bottle £25.00
125ml £5.10 / 175ml £6.20
71. Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore 2015 D.O.C. (Cecilia Beretta)
Made by the '*ripasso*' method, which involves a secondary fermentation on the lees of the famous *amarone* wines of the Veneto. This, and extra barrel maturation give a wine with much more depth and complexity than most red wines of the region. Deep velvety crimson colour; spicy, many-layered fruit on the nose, ripe, bold fruit on the palate, good acidity throughout the sustained palate
Bottle £31.50
72. Chianti Classico Riecine 2015 D.O.C.G.
From a great vintage in northern Italy, this wine received top mark in a comparative tasting run by *Decanter Magazine* some years ago. Cherry-garnet colour, with a narrow tawny rim, good legs and great clarity. Highly aromatic as it is poured, it develops a wonderfully succulent plummy nose in the glass; great concentration of typical Sangiovese fruit in the mouth, ripe and rich with plenty of tannin and acid to balance. Seriously good Chianti.
Bottle £35.00
73. Barolo 2013 D.O. C.G. (Manfredi)
It is such a shame that Barolo has become so expensive, as it can produce wines of wonderful subtlety, complexity and stature. This has a clear, healthy medium deep garnet colour; deep, austere Nebbiolo on the nose with just a touch of toffee; and great intensity of Nebbiolo on the palate, ripe but with lots of soft tannin and acidity to balance. Very long, very delicious.
Bottle £42.00

*171. Passopisciario 2007 I.G.T. E.B. (Tenuta di Passopisciario)

If anyone had told me ten years ago that I would be listing a Sicilian wine, let alone one as expensive as this, I would have been extremely sceptical. This just goes to show how much things have changed (and how ignorant I was). This wine is a serious knockout. Made from the indigenous Nerello variety on the slopes of Mount Etna, a wine with real personality. Fine mature crimson in colour; an explosion of aromatic fruit as the cork is pulled, with huge, dense, almost porty nose; sweet and ripe on the palate, tempered by sustained acidity; soft, but very long and concentrated, with a hint of black cherries in mid-palate and an attractive touch of bitterness on the finish.

Bottle £50.00

*172. Brunello di Montalcino Abbadia Ardenza 2008 D.O.C.G. D.B.

This famous wine has suffered a slightly clouded reputation recently, with dark hints of adulteration, particularly in America. There is nothing wrong with this deeply impressive wine, recommended in a recent comparative tasting, run by Decanter Magazine. Deep ruby colour, opaque at centre; lively juicy fruit on the nose with hints of fruit cake and pepper; huge chewy fruit on the palate, with great concentration and ripeness, balanced with good acidity and background tannin.

Bottle £55.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

Spain

75. Rioja Belezos 2015 D.O.C. Estate Bottled (Bodegas Zugober)

Nice and juicy uncomplicated Rioja. Good deep scarlet just maturing at the rim; healthy plum-and-cassis fruit on the nose; good gutsy Tempranillo character on the palate, with nice oaky notes.

Bottle £27.00
125ml £5.40 / 175ml £6.70

76. Rioja Faustino I Gran Reserva 2005 D.O.C.G.

Gran Reservas represent the pinnacle of quality in Rioja. With the extra aging requirements (two years in cask and three in bottle) they are only made in the very best vintages. This example is just entering maturity; dense garnet colour, narrow tawny rim, lovely rich Tempranillo nose with hints of leather, toffee, spice; intense berry fruit on the palate, very juicy and more youthful than expected, long and balanced in the mouth.

Bottle £35.00

77. Prado Rey Origin Roble 2017 Ribera del Duero D.O.

Sadly we have run out of the magnificent Ribera de Duero Hacienda Monasterio. It was a one-off and there will be no more. This is a delicious successor, however, albeit a less 'serious' wine. 95% Tempranillo; dense deep plum/black cherry in colour; fine zesty fruit on the nose; big taut fruit on the palate, with excellent balance, soft tannins and good acidity. The 3% Cabernet Sauvignon seems to me surprisingly evident.

Bottle £23.00

PLEASE ASK IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT DECANTED

Argentina

*181. Achaval Ferrer Quimera Malbec-Cabernet-Merlot 2014. Mendoza. D.B.

(Florida del Tupungato)

This spectacular wine is made from high altitude old vines – up to 90 years; giving a wine of extraordinary concentration. Approximately equal proportions of the three different varieties, yielding a huge dense purple-crimson colour; a distinctively inky Malbec nose; with the deepest, ripest fruit on a palate which starts with Malbec and then broadens out. Hugely ripe and concentrated, with a long intense finish.

Bottle £58.00

Chile

80. Apaltagua Chardonnay Reserva 2017. Casablanca Valley

The New World in general, and South America in particular, is producing better and better wines. This, despite its formidable alcoholic content, is lightly textured and elegant; clean and balanced chardonnay, with fine-boned structure and peachy notes on the finish.

Bottle £26.00

81. Pinot Noir Reserva Vina Mar 2017. Casablanca Valley, Chile

As understanding of this problematic grape grows in the New World, better and better Pinots are coming out of South America. Good ruby colour; deep authentically Pinot nose, quite aromatic and elegant; muscular fruit on the palate with good Pinot character and plenty of length. Great value.

Bottle £26.00

125ml £5.30 / 175ml £6.50

USA

82. Cuvaision Estate Grown Chardonnay 2014. Carneros, Napa Valley

I have not in general been a great admirer of Californian wines. While of course there are many splendid examples, the best tend to be stratospherically priced, while those at more accessible prices have seemed to me rather one-dimensional, with a superabundance of fruit, alcohol and oak. This wine is a delightful - to me – surprise. Fine pale lemon-gold in colour, with great limpidity; delicate floral Chardonnay on the nose, with subdued buttery notes behind; very complete classic Chardonnay palate, ripe and rich but supremely elegant and balanced, with delicate acidity, peaches and apricot kernels in the make up. A lovely long suave mouthful.

Bottle £48.00

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

New Zealand

83. Ana Sauvignon Blanc 2017 Malborough

This wine, while avoiding the cliché 'Tropical fruit salad' style of many (rather overstated in my view) Malborough Sauvignon has delicious crisp gooseberry / grapefruit notes on nose and plate. Elegant and clearly made.

Bottle £26.00

84. Kumeu River Chardonnay 2014. Estate bottled.

This Estate produces (*pace* the Australians and Californians) the best New World Chardonnay I have yet tasted, or at least the one I personally most enjoy. Clear buttercup gold; restrained but complex Chardonnay nose, rich and peach-kernelly, with hints of something more exotic; and a wonderful mouthful of fruit, sweet and ripe, but with a faintly citric backbone providing real elegance. Excellent length and balance; wonderful wine. It is not cheap, but is more than good value.

Bottle £33.50

Australia

86. Heywood Estate Shiraz 2016 S. E. Australia

I have not in general been a great admirer of Australian Shiraz, which seems all too often to want to bludgeon the drinker into submission. This example thus came as a pleasant surprise. Bright cherry colour; plum and spice on the nose, with a hint of plum kernels; uncomplicated juicy fruit on the palate, soft, appealing, well-balanced. It is also refreshingly light on alcohol at 12.5%. Really great value.

Bottle £24.00

125ml £4.80 / 175ml £5.90

* Please note that all wines marked with an asterisk are stored in temperature controlled conditions at 14°C.

Port

10 Year Old Tawny Port, Quinta de Val da Figueira

This is simply the most delicious Tawny Port I have ever encountered. Fantastic nose, with notes of oak, spice, walnuts and dried apricots; wonderfully long on the palate.

Bottle £50.00

Glass £6.50

Malt Whisky

Laphroaig

Glass £5.00

Glenlivet

Glass £5.00

Brandy

Hine Fine Champagne Vintage Cognac.

Selection Denis Hine.

I have always admired Hine's cognacs, which are supremely elegant, and rely on quality of fruit and great technical skill rather than the over-sweet caramely productions one so frequently encounters. This particular cognac is not available commercially, being made especially for the late lamented Denis Hine, and made available to me by the courtesy and generosity of his widow, Baba Hine, of the Corse Lawn Hotel in Gloucestershire.

Glass £8.50

Armagnac

Château du Tariquet XO Bas Armagnac

Sumptuous stuff

Glass £7.00

Calvados

Calvados Pays d'Auge Dupont VSOP

Glass £7.00

Liquers

Green Chartreuse V.E.P.

Extra ageing in small oak casks makes this stronger and more aromatic than the usual version. Bottled at 54%.

Glass £5.50

House Wines

White

Dry Apaltagua Gran Verano Chardonnay 2015. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50
Bottle (75cl) £18.00

Apaltagua Gran Verano Sauvignon Blanc 2016. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50
Bottle (75cl) £18.00

Sweet Chateau Septy 2014. (Monbazillac) 125ml £5.50 / 175ml £6.50
Bottle (75cl) £27.50

Sparkling Prosecco Piccolo Extra Dry 200ml bottle £6.50
Adnams Selection Prosecco D.O.C Treviso Bottle (75cl) £25.00

Pink

Rosé Les Oliviers 2017 Domaine de Montaubéron. Vin de Pays Côtes de Thongue.
Bottle £21.00
125ml £4.90 / 175ml £6.10

Red

Dry Apaltagua Gran Verano Cabernet Sauvignon 2018. E.B. Central Valley, Chile
125ml £4.50 / 175ml £5.50
Bottle (75cl) £18.00

Bar Drinks

Beers

Adnams Bitter 3.7% Pint £4.60
½ pint £2.30
Bitter Shandy Pint £4.40
½ Pint £2.20
Guinness £4.00
Peroni bottle £4.00
Peroni and lime £4.00
Adnams dry hopped lager £4.00
Aspall Suffolk Cyder £4.00 per bottle

Spirits 25ml

Whisky

Bells etc £3.60
Laphroaige, Glenlivet £5.50
Bushmills £3.60

Gin

Gordons £3.60
Ely Gin £4.00
Adnams Copperhouse £4.00
Gin & Fevertree Tonic £6.90

Vodka £3.60
Bacardi / Dark Rum £3.60
Pernod £4.00
Standard Spirit and Mixer £5.50

Brandy

Courvoisier Three Star £4.00
Remy Martin V.S.O.P. £6.00

Aperitifs (50ml)

Sherries £4.00
Tio Pepe £4.00
Vermouths £4.00
Cinzano £4.00
Dubonnet £4.00
Campari (25ml) £3.60
Liqueurs £4.00

Port

Cockburns Ruby £4.00
Croft Vintage port £5.50

Pimms £7.00
Ginger Wine £3.60

Minerals £1.90
Fevertree Tonic £2.90

Mineral Water

Glass Still/Sparkling £2.20
with Elderflower cordial £3.00
Still / Sparkling Bottle
750ml £4.00

Fruit Juice

Apple Juice £3.00
Orange Juice £3.00
Coca Cola £2.50
Lemonade £2.50

