



Wines for  
**CHRISTMAS**

STONE, VINE & SUN

WINE MERCHANTS

Welcome to our 2017 Christmas list: the fruit of agonised soul searching as the team debate the relative merits of Burgundy versus New World Pinot Noir or whether some obscure white from the Campania should really be in the Christmas selection. We try to spare your time to bring you a wide range of wines which are all drinking well this Christmas - including grapes literally from A (Aglianico) to Z (Zéta, bet you didn't know that one, nor did we, but see page 30).

At a busy time of year this may be too many wines to consider. However, that's where we come in. There are five of us here in the office, ready on the phone to chat about your needs and help you assemble the cases of wine you need for the holidays.

Over the next few pages there's also a broad selection of pre-selected gifts. Do use us to send presents to family, friends and clients - we specialise in this, being small enough to give really personal attention to the task. The mixed cases are understandably popular. A really generous present to last all year might be a subscription to our highly rated Doorstep Dozen Wine Club - see p.7 for details.

A Happy Christmas from all of us here at SVS, Simon Taylor

November 2017

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## HOW TO ORDER

To order either call us on 01962 712351 or email [sales@stonevine.co.uk](mailto:sales@stonevine.co.uk).

Please ensure you give us the recipient's details, including a contact telephone number, and any message you wish to send with the wine.

Delivery charges\* to one address are as follows:

1-5 bottles: £10.00, 6-11 bottles: £8.50,  
1 case of 12 bottles: £5.95, 12-24 bottles: £8.50

Please note:

- Free delivery for orders of £150 or more (to one address), or over £75 in the Winchester area.
- The prices for the bottles, pairs, magnums and sixes on pages 3-5 include delivery.
- \*Delivery prices vary for delivery to the highlands, islands and Northern Ireland - please ask us for a quote.

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING HOURS

Saturday 23rd December:  
9.30am-6.00pm - note extended opening

Sunday 24th-Tuesday 26th December:  
CLOSED

Wednesday 27th-Friday 29th:  
9.00am-6.00pm

Saturday 30th December:  
9.30am-4.00pm

Sunday 31st and Monday 1st:  
CLOSED

### Just a brief reminder

## Big Festive Tasting

Friday 1st December, 6.00pm-8.30pm

**Venue: The Courtyard, The Guildhall,  
Broadway, Winchester, SO23 9GH**

We welcome you to the cosy, ground-floor dungeon at The Guildhall for our largest and best attended tasting of the year. Here are all the wines you need for the Christmas period, from sparkling wine and Champagne, whites and reds to sweeties. Wines for winter will be the theme: aromatic and oaked whites, including Burgundy; reds from classic Bordeaux and Burgundy to robust styles from the Rhône, Languedoc-Roussillon, southern Italy, Spain and the New World; plus, of course, those delectable sweet and fortified wines which are such a part of the festivities.

We will be charging £10.00 a head for the tasting, but we do offer 10% off any bottle price for any wine in the tasting, for all orders placed on the evening.

Please let us know if you plan to attend.

## Gifts for Christmas

Here is a selection of our favourite wines for gifts. However, if you can't find quite what you seek, please call us to discuss your specific needs and preferences. We are happy to pack up any choice of wines from our stock in units of 2, 6 or 12 as gifts - so if you have favourites you want to share, you want to work to a particular budget, or you know the recipient likes wines from a particular place, or in a particular style, just tell us and we can suggest wines to suit.

We charge £1.25 for a single bottle gift box (or £4.75 for a wooden box); and £2.75 for a two bottle pack (£6.50 in wood). Our quoted delivery charges would apply in addition.

We can also offer vouchers to any value in multiples of £10.00 which can be redeemed against the purchase of wine with Stone, Vine & Sun, either by phone or on our website. Just give us the recipient's name and address, how much you want to spend, and we will send out some lists with our voucher and your message.

Please contact us for a quote if you plan a large or complicated order. We can recommend wines to suit your budget; and obviously delivery costs will be lower if multiple orders are despatched to the same address. For deliveries to multiple addresses it is best to email us details of the recipients, messages to accompany the gifts, and delivery instructions.

**All prices quoted for orders of less than a dozen on pages 4-6 include UK delivery (excepting Highlands and Islands - please ask for a quote)**

### LAST ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS: NOON WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER

(We undertake to send the order out that day for delivery on or before Christmas Eve - but we can't absolutely guarantee delivery as the couriers very occasionally lose or drop cases....)

## Two bottle packs

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Here are a couple of ideas, but as stated overleaf we can quote on packing any two bottles from this list. These are presented in red fluted gift boxes with a card enclosed - please be sure to give us your message. The prices quoted below include the red gift box and delivery. Simply add £3.75 if you would like any pair packed in a wooden box.

### **TB17 £42.20** **Burgundy Duo**

Domaine d'Elise, Chablis, 2015 (p.19)

Lequin-Colin, Bourgogne Pinot Noir, 2014 (p.27)

### **TB27 £67.75** **Champagne and Claret**

Serge Mathieu, Champagne Prestige, NV (p.13)

Lacroix-Martillac, Pessac-Léognan, 2009 (p.29)

## Magnums

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Magnums look spectacular, can ornament a room, and exude generosity when plonked on to a table. Add £7.50 to the prices quoted if you would like the magnums to be sent in a wooden box. All prices quoted include delivery.

### **M117 £37.50**

Segares, Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2011 (p.26)

### **M217 £39.95**

Château Barréjat, Madiran, Vieux Céps, France, 2015 (p.28)

### **M317 £51.00**

Vieux Pourret, St Emilion Grand Cru, 2012

(Impressive right bank Bordeaux)

### **M417 £52.50**

Michele Taliano, Roche dra Bossora, Roero Riserva, Italy, 2012 (p.29)

### **M517 £75.00**

Serge Mathieu, Champagne Prestige, NV (p.13)



## Even bigger bottles....

### **DM17 £102.50**

**Domaine Le Couroulu, Vacqueyras, Cuvée Vieilles Vignes, France, 2013**

A double magnum, three litres, so four bottles of this wonderfully hearty southern Rhône

### **DM27 £110.50**

**Michele Taliano, Roche dra Bossora, Roero Riserva, Italy, 2011 (p.29)**

A double magnum in a smart wooden box

### **J16 £93.50**

**Château Barrejat, Madiran, Tradition, France, 2015**

A spectacular five litre jeroboam (equivalent to 6 2/3 bottles) of unoaked Madiran



# Sixes

All prices include delivery

## **S17 £70.60** **Six Nations**

Six different bottles, three white and three red, from six wine producing countries

**La Combe Saint-Paul, Chardonnay, IGP Pays d'Oc, France, 2016** (p.15)

**Cape Atlantic, Sauvignon Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2016** (p.15)

**Di Filippo, Grechetto, IGT Umbria, Italy, 2016** (p.16)

**Valle Frio, Pinot Noir, Maule, Chile, 2016** (p.23)

**Carinae, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina, 2016** (p.25)

**Segares, Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2011** (p.26)

## **S27 £103.95** **Super Six**

Six different bottles: Champagne, two whites and three reds - our favourites

**Thomas-Hatté, Champagne, Brut, NV** (p.13)

**Secateurs White, Chenin Blanc, Swartland, South Africa, 2016** (p.16)

**Lequin-Colin, Bourgogne Chardonnay, France, 2015** (p.19)

**Clos des Moiselles, Côtes de Bourg, France, 2012** (p.26)

**Pandolfi Price, Larkün Syrah, Valle del Itata, Chile, 2015** (p.28)

**Begali, Valpolicella Ripasso, La Cengia, Italy, 2015** (p.28)



# The Doorstep Dozen

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If you are feeling particularly generous, a present of a subscription to our wine club may be an excellent present - a gift which keeps on giving throughout the year! Running for over twelve years now, this is our programme of offering the delivery of mixed dozens at regular intervals. It gains praise from both our loyal regulars - "never had a bad wine" etc. - and the press; this May it was listed amongst the "9 best wine clubs" in the UK in The Independent.

There are four levels; all cases include two bottles of three whites and three reds of still, dry wine. We send out our best wines, try to be seasonal with our selection, introduce new discoveries, and include tasting notes on all the wines.

A year's subscription - which can be for cases delivered monthly or every two months - gains all wines discounted by 10%, free delivery and free entry to all our tastings.

## Stone Case £90

A fresh, fruity, uncomplicated wine selection - for great everyday wines

## Vine Case £110

Balanced, varied and intriguing wines: uncover different regions and styles

## Sun Case £130

Premium wines from all over the globe: both from classic regions of the old world and emerging regions of the new.

## Celestial Case £150

A case reflecting our philosophy of sourcing great wines truly expressive of their origins



# Christmas Dozens

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All cases except the last four contain two bottles of each of the six wines listed. **Normal delivery charges apply to all cases of twelve.**

**CC17 £92.20**

## **Christmas Decorations**

Two bottles of each of three whites, three reds, offering bright and fruity drinking

**Cape Heights, Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2017** (p.14)

**Los Seduras, Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central, Chile, 2016** (p.14)

**La Combe Saint-Paul, Chardonnay, IGP Pays d'Oc, France, 2016** (p.15)

**Araldica, Barbera, Piemonte, Italy, 2015** (p.22)

**Les Pradelles, IGP d'Hérault, France, 2016** (p.22)

**Valle Frio, Pinot Noir, Maule, Chile, 2016** (p.23)

**CC27 £109.30**

## **Winter Reds**

Two bottles of six reds, warming and food-friendly

**Murphy Vineyards, Big Rivers Shiraz, Murray Darling, Australia, 2016** (p.22)

**Les Pradelles, IGP d'Hérault, France, 2016** (p.22)

**Vignerons d'Estézargues, Côtes du Rhône, Cuvée des Galets, France, 2016** (p.23)

**La Rocca, Negroamaro, Salento, Italy, 2016** (p.23)

**Herència Altés, Garnatxa Negra, Terra Alta, Spain, 2015** (p.24)

**Carinae, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina, 2016** (p.25)



# Cases including twelve different bottles

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Our customers buy more and more of these twelve different bottle boxes each year: so the elves will just have to get used to running around the warehouse picking them, despite their grumbles.... Each of these four cases includes twelve different bottles, and a very diverse selection of styles and grape varieties from all over the world.

## **C17DOZ £93.45** **Christmas Stocking**

Six whites and six reds

- Ca' di Ponti, Grillo, IGT Terre Siciliane, Italy, 2016** (p.14)
- Cape Heights, Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2017** (p.14)
- Los Seduras, Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central, Chile, 2016** (p.14)
- Les Chapelières, Comté Tolosan, France, 2016** (p.14)
- La Combe Saint-Paul, Chardonnay, IGP Pays d'Oc, France, 2016** (p.15)
- Chauvinière, Muscadet Sèvre et Maine sur lie, France, 2016** (p.15)
- Araldica, Barbera, Piemonte, Italy, 2015** (p.22)
- Murphy Vineyards, Big Rivers Shiraz, Murray Darling, Australia, 2016** (p.22)
- Les Pradelles, IGP d'Hérault, France, 2016** (p.22)
- Gran Verano Cabernet Sauvignon, Valle Central, Chile, 2016** (p.23)
- Vignerons d'Estézargues, Côtes du Rhône, Cuvée des Galets, France, 2016** (p.23)
- Valle Frio, Pinot Noir, Maule, Chile, 2016** (p.23)

## **C27DOZ £120.65** **The Twelve Days of Christmas**

Six whites and six reds

- Cape Atlantic, Sauvignon Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2016** (p.15)
- Tariquet, Chenin-Chardonnay, Côtes de Gascogne, France, 2016** (p.15)
- Di Filippo, Grechetto, Colli Martani, Italy, 2016** (p.16)
- Les Quatre Tours, Coteaux d'Aix en Provence Blanc, Classique, France, 2016** (p.16)
- Secateurs White, Chenin Blanc, Swartland, South Africa, 2016** (p.16)
- Olivier Fichet, Mâcon-Burgy, Les Trois Terroirs, France, 2016** (p.17)
- Los Seduras, Merlot, Valle Central, Chile, 2016** (p.22)
- La Rocca, Negroamaro, Salento, Italy, 2016** (p.23)
- Goedverwacht, Great Expectations Shiraz, Robertson, South Africa, 2016** (p.24)
- Château Piconat, Bordeaux, France, 2015** (p.24)
- Willow Bridge, Dragonfly Cabernet Merlot, Geographe, Australia, 2013** (p.24)
- Carinae, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina, 2016** (p.25)

## Cases including twelve different bottles

**C37DOZ £156.00**

### **Xmas Delights**

*One sparkler, five whites, five reds and a bottle of sherry*

**Domaine J. Laurens, Blanquette de Limoux Brut, Le Moulin, France, NV (p.12)**

**Château Barréjat, Pacherenc du Vic-Bilh Sec, France, 2016 (p.16)**

**Michele Taliano Serni, Roero Arneis, Italy, 2016 (p.17)**

**Domaine du Météore, Les Léonides, Faugères, France, 2016 (p.18)**

**Fryer's Cove, Sauvignon Blanc, Bamboes Bay, South Africa, 2016 (p.18)**

**Lequin-Colin, Bourgogne Chardonnay, France, 2015 (p.19)**

**Apaltagua, Envero, Gran Reserva Carmenère, Colchagua, Chile, 2015 (p.25)**

**Il Palagione, Caelum, Chianti Colli Senesi, Italy, 2015 (p.25)**

**Clos des Moiselles, Côtes de Bourg, France, 2012 (p.26)**

**Segares, Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2011 (p.26)**

**Domaine des Espiers, Côtes du Rhône Villages, Sablet, France, 2014 (p.27)**

**Lustau, Los Arcos, Dry Amontillado Sherry, Spain, NV (p.31)**



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## **C47DOZ £201.00** **Christmas Crackers**

A bottle of Champagne, five whites, five reds, and a fine bottle of sweet Loire

**Thomas-Hatté, Champagne, Brut, NV** (p.13)

**Filadoro, Beneventano Falanghina IGT, Italy, 2016** (p.17)

**Francis Blanchet, Pouilly-Fumé, Les Pernet, France, 2016** (p.19)

**Domaine Des Dieux, Chardonnay, Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge, South Africa, 2013** (p.19)

**Domaine d'Elise, Chablis, France, 2015** (p.19)

**Blankbottle, Moment of Silence, Wellington, South Africa, 2016** (p.20)

**Domaine du Granit Doré, Juliéna, Beauvernavy, France, 2015** (p.27)

**Pandolfi Price, Larkün Syrah, Valle del Itata, Chile, 2015** (p.28)

**Begali, Valpolicella Ripasso, La Cengia, Italy, 2015** (p.28)

**El Lagar de Isilla, Ribera del Duero, Crianza, Spain, 2012** (p.28)

**Lacroix-Martillac, Pessac-Léognan, France, 2009** (p.29)

**Domaine des Forges, Coteaux du Layon St Aubin, France, 2015** (p.30)



# Sparkling Wine

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Cool-climate sparklers from northern Italy, Limoux, and just down the road in the Test Valley in Hampshire!

## Floriano Cinti, Pignoletto Frizzante, Colli Bolognesi, Italy, NV, 13%

**Bottle £11.95 Case £136.23 Code CIN1NV**

Pignoletto is the name of the delicious sparkling wine made in the foothills of the Apennines south and south-west of Bologna. From the Grechetto Gentile grape, with the fizz produced in the same way as Prosecco, i.e. in a closed tank, it's delightfully sparkly.

*Pull the cork with a corkscrew and away you go...foamy, perfectly dry and citrusy, with accents of pears and green apple. Creamy, rounded and with a crisp appley finish, this makes a perfect party fizz. Now-2018*

## Domaine J. Laurens, Blanquette de Limoux Brut, Le Moulin, France, NV, 12%

**Bottle £12.95 Case £147.63 Code LAU1NV**

Elegantly made, using Champagne techniques, from 90% Mauzac, the traditional variety of Limoux, with 10% Chardonnay, grown in the foothills of the Pyrenees.

*Pale lemon with a fine mousse. Aromas of ripe pear and white flowers with the notes of warm nuts and cinnamon characteristic of Mauzac. Crisp and elegant citrus and stone fruit flavours meld seamlessly and lead to a finely focused finish. A perfectly refreshing aperitif. Now-2019*

## Drusian, Rose Mari, Spumante Rosato, Extra Dry, Italy, NV, 12%

**Bottle £15.50 Case £176.70 Code DRU5NV**

Of course we still have pallets here of your favourite Drusian Extra Dry Prosecco (£14.50, code DRU1NV), but this is the first year we have shipped their brilliant pink sparkler, from Pinot Noir grown in the cool hills of Alto Adige and made in the same way as Prosecco (i.e. in a closed tank).

*A gently fizzy, very pale pink glass of red fruit - wild strawberries. Very lightly savoury, this makes a perfect aperitif, and a bottle vanishes very quickly indeed. Now-2018*

## Cottonworth, Classic Cuvée, English Sparkling Wine, Brut, England, NV, 12%

**Bottle £26.95 Case £307.23 Code COT1NV**

From the Champagne varieties of Chardonnay (60%), Pinot Noir (27%) and Pinot Meunier (13%), grown in the Liddell family's well-sited south facing vineyards near Stockbridge in the Test Valley.

*Bready and floral notes, very Champagne-like, but, as it says on the label, "English Effervescence"! Now-2019*



# Champagne

Varied examples from each of our four Champagne partners: Franck Thomas, the Mathieu and Perrot clans and the grand house of Pol Roger.

## Thomas-Hatté, Champagne, Tradition, Brut, NV, 12%

**Bottle £26.50 Case £302.10 Code HAT1NV**

**Half bottle £13.95 Case [12 x 37.5 cl.]£159.03 Code HAT2NV**

**Magnum £55.00 Case [6 x 150cl.] £313.50 Code HAT9NV**

Our “house” Champagne, crafted by fifth generation champagne grower Franck Thomas from his family’s historic holdings of just 3 hectares of vines around Fleury la Rivière, about 10 kilometres north-west of Epernay. 70% Pinot Meunier, 20% Chardonnay and 10% Pinot Noir, and that unusually high proportion of Pinot Meunier lends an early maturing charm, and some of the character of a well-aged vintage Champagne.

*Splendidly rounded, creamy and mature, with some brioche and nutty nuances. Now-2018*

## Serge Mathieu, Champagne, Cuvée Prestige, Brut, NV, 12%

**Bottle £30.50 Case £347.70 Code MAT4NV**

**Magnum £65.00 Case [6 x 150cl.] £370.50 Code MAT9NV**

Ever since we founded SVS fifteen years ago we have listed the Champagnes of the Mathieu family from Avirey-Lingey, right down the south-west end of the Bar-sur-Aube. Here it’s considerably warmer than around Reims, and this offers perfect conditions for the Pinot Noir grape.

*The Prestige is 70% Pinot Noir and 30% Chardonnay, given a minimum of three years ageing. That Chardonnay element shows in a splendid creaminess and freshness in the Prestige. Graceful. Now-2019*

## Perrot-Batteux, Champagne Blanc de Blancs, Premier Cru, Millésime 2007, 12%

**Bottle £33.50 Case £381.90 Code PBA407**

The Perrot sisters’ vintage, 100% Chardonnay, comes from their five hectares of vines all on chalky 1er Cru land, largely facing south and south east, near Bergères-lès-Vertus, in the heart of the Côte des Blancs, south of Epernay.

*Aged for seven years before release. Rich and developed Chardonnay aromas. Plenty of vigorous mousse. Complex doughy and nutty flavours, yet counterbalanced by a flintiness. Very long. Now-2018*

## Pol Roger, Champagne, Brut, NV, 12%

**Bottle £37.95 Case £432.63 Code POL1NV**

The classic, white foil cuvée, a blend of roughly equal thirds of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier, given about four years ageing before release.

*Biscuity, generous fruit, dry, yet plenty of weight and a nutty finish. Now-2020*



# Whites for Daily Drinking & Parties

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Sauvignon Blanc from Chile and South Africa; Chenin from the Cape and France, cool Atlantic wines from the Loire and the south-west; plus Grillo from Sicily and an unoaked Chardonnay from the Languedoc.

## **Ca' di Ponti, Grillo, IGT Terre Siciliane, Italy, 2016, 13% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £6.50 Case £74.10 Code PON116**

The obscurity of the Grillo grape has not stopped this from becoming surprisingly popular amongst our customers. Widely planted in Sicily - this comes from the far west near Trapani - it has the advantage of retaining freshness, lowish alcohol and character even in the Mediterranean heat.

*Gently floral aroma. Not an overtly fruity style - understated melons and pears - but subtly almondy, quite weighty, but with refreshing bite too. Now-2018*

## **Cape Heights, Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2017, 12.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £6.50 Case £74.10 Code CAH116**

Decent grapes - some from dry-farmed bush vines - are given careful winemaking by Marinda Kruger-Van Eck's, including the wine being for some months on the lees and an element barrel-fermented, both to give more fat and volume.

*Bright, citrus and green fruit, with attractive concentration for a wine at this level. Now-2018*

## **Los Seduras, Sauvignon Blanc, Valle Central, Chile, 2017, 12.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £7.25 Case £82.65 Code SED117**

A new wine this year - and we really approved its typicity to the grape variety.

*Bright, crisp and fruity with a lightly tropical perfume and then a cheerful mouthful of grassy and pineapple flavours, with a refreshing finish. Now-2018*

## **Les Chapelières, Comté Tolosan, France, 2016, 11.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £7.50 Case £85.50 Code AGW316**

From south-west France, and like many examples from the Côtes de Gascogne, this is a fresh, lowish alcohol blend of Ugni Blanc and Colombard, very easy drinking.

*Clean and lemony, with a pleasing pear accent and a flinty freshness. Not bone dry and as such perfect for parties. Now-2018*



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## La Combe Saint-Paul, Chardonnay, IGP Pays d'Oc, France, 2016, 13% [Screwcap]

**Bottle £8.95 Case £102.03 Code CSP116**

Paul and Line Maury, a young couple with well-sited vineyards around the limestone bulk of La Clape on the Med., are making a range of splendid, great value wines.

*Everything one could want from simple, unoaked Chardonnay: fresh, ripe and rounded, with notes of pear and tangerine. Now-2018*

## Cape Atlantic Sauvignon Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa, 2016, 13.5% [Screwcap]

**Bottle £9.50 Case £108.30 Code CED616**

Although there is no mention on the label, this wine is from the young Sauvignon parcels, 3,000 feet up at Cederberg, plus some fruit from the Ghost Corner vineyards at cool and windy Elim, near the southernmost point of Africa. It's a real Kiwi challenger in its intensity.

(Note: we will move to the 2017 vintage at the same price shortly).

*Crisp and precise, showing gooseberry Sauvignon fruit and grassiness with a mineral bite. Now-2018*

## Tariquet, Chenin-Chardonnay, Côtes de Gascogne, France, 2016, 11.5% [Screwcap]

**Bottle £9.50 Case £108.30 Code TRR316**

From the Grassa family, a successful blend: 25% of Chardonnay brings some creamy weight to the lighter Chenin Blanc.

*Fresh, very melony, with accents of white flowers and pear. Now-2018*

## Chauvinière, Muscadet Sèvre et Maine sur lie, France, 2016, 12%

**Bottle £9.50 Case £108.30 Code HUC116**

Muscadet is the traditional French accompaniment to Atlantic oysters and other seafood. So much of it used to be over-cropped, mean and acidic that it has become desperately unfashionable. However from low yielding vines on classic granite soils it's a subtle pleasure.

*Leaving the wine on the dead yeast cells (the lees) for a few months gives correct sur lie character - a texture and hint of spritz. Textbook zest and balance. Now-2018*



## Informal Whites

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Three Italians - from Campania in the south to Piedmont in the north via Umbria - plus Gros Manseng from south-west France, a Provençale blend, Grüner Veltliner from Limoux, Cape Chenin Blanc and a benchmark Mâcon Chardonnay.

### **Di Filippo, Grechetto, IGT Umbria, Italy, 2016, 13.5%**

**Bottle £9.95 Case £113.43 Code FIL716**

The white Grechetto grape is a speciality of Umbria: it's not an easy grape to grow or vinify (often over-coloured and even tannic), but it has a lot more personality and finesse than most Italian white varieties.

*Here it makes an open, generous white, showing stone fruit with fennel and rosemary accents. Weighty and rounded with a hint of tannin, this is characterful, herby wine to accompany a wide range of food, from salads to pork and veal. Now-2018*

### **Château Barréjat, Pacherenc du Vic-Bilh Sec, France, 2016, 13%**

**Bottle £10.25 Case £116.85 Code BAJ616**

We sell a lot of Denis Capmartin's terrific red Madirans (see p.28) from Barréjat, but Pacherenc, the Gros Manseng based white from exactly the same area of south-west France north of Pau, is undeservedly less known.

*Pale gold. Bright and tangy palate of ripe apricot and crisp pineapple. Open and exuberant, delightfully fruity yet correctly dry, this makes a lovely aperitif or an accompaniment to chicken. Now-2018*

### **Les Quatre Tours, Coteaux d'Aix en Provence Blanc, Classique, France, 2016, 13%**

**Bottle £10.50 Case £119.70 Code QUA616**

We sell pallets of the Quatre Tours rosé - in stock the whole year round - but this tasty unoaked blend of Rolle and Grenache Blanc with some Ugni Blanc and Sauvignon tends to be a bridesmaid in the warehouse. It would be lovely with any white fish.

*Pretty scent of lavender and thyme - and a lovely perfume balances the juicy, tangerine fruit. Now-2018*

### **Secateurs White, Chenin Blanc, Swartland, South Africa, 2016, 12.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £11.50 Case £131.10 Code BAD116**

Made by master winemaker Adi Badenhorst, and now recognized as a great value Cape white. 10% goes into old oak barrels, giving volume rather than any oak flavour, and the wine gains weight from about seven months on its lees.

*Sunnily exotic fruit - tangerines and lime - with a hint of marzipan. Appealingly rounded and balanced. Now-2018*



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### **Michele Taliano Serni, Roero Arneis, Italy, 2016, 13.5%**

**Bottle £11.95 Case £136.23 Code TAN616**

Arneis is an ancient white grape in Piedmont, a speciality of the Roero region. It tends to have excellent weight, so is a useful winter white.

*A punchy, honeyed white, with excellent body and flavours of oranges and green fruit. Now-2018*

### **Domaine Begude, Exotique GV, IGP Haute Vallée de l'Aude, France, 2016, 13% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £11.95 Case £136.23 Code BEG316**

Exotic indeed - an interloper (and illegal in the region) grape, artfully indicated by discreet GV lettering, for the Austrian Grüner Veltliner, although the back label refers to "cépages rares". Sometimes I think English owner James Kinglake wants to get caught for publicity purposes: the back label also indicates that this "may remind you of Austrian Grüner Veltliner".

*This has all the pear and lentil flavours and dense texture of the grape. Dry, lightly savoury, and offers very good value against comparable quality from Austria! Now-2019*

### **Olivier Fichet, Mâcon-Burgundy, Les Trois Terroirs, France, 2016, 13.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £12.50 Case £142.50 Code FIC516**

This is the twelfth vintage we have shipped of this benchmark unoaked Chardonnay from the northern Mâconnais near Viré.

*Bright and refreshing French Chardonnay, nicely weighted, with hints of grapefruit and almonds. Now-2019*

### **Filadoro, Beneventano Falanghina IGT, Italy, 2016, 12.5%**

**Bottle £12.75 Case £145.35 Code FIM116**

Benevento is one of the sub-regions of Irpinia, with vineyards at around 500 metres of altitude about 50 kms inland from Naples: the altitude and proximity to mountains mean that breezes and rainfall are generous, allowing the production of white wines of great finesse from the ancient grape varieties of the region such as Falanghina.

*A full flavoured, well-textured mouthful of pure fresh apricots. Fresh, perfumed with a hint of jasmine, but with excellent substance and a bright finish. A nice aperitif or to accompany grilled fish or prawns. Now-2018*



## Festive Whites

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More French dominant, with examples from the Languedoc, Alsace, Burgundy and the Loire; plus exemplary Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay from the Cape

### **Domaine du Météore, Les Léonides, Faugères, France, 2016, 14%**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code MET716**

Absolutely superb this vintage: over the years the blend has changed, to the benefit of the wine. Now it's from 50% Roussanne with 40% Rolle (Vermentino) and 10% Clairette added to give a little fresh lift.

*A scent of exotic fruit (glacé pineapple?) anticipates a wonderful cocktail of tropical flavours - pineapple, kumquat and peach. Concentrated, fresh and complete, a stunner. Now-2019*

### **Jean-Luc Meyer, Pinot Gris, Alsace, France, 2016, 13%**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code MEY216**

Sometimes it's difficult to believe that full-flavoured, richly textured (and organically farmed) Alsace Pinot Gris like this comes from the same grape as watery Italian Pinot Grigio!

*With 19 grams of residual sugar per litre this is richer than usual in this sunny vintage: sandalwood aroma prefaces a lightly savoury, textured palate. Off-dry, this is a perfect partner to south-east Asian cuisine or a Moroccan tagine. Now-2019*

### **Fryer's Cove, Sauvignon Blanc, Bamboes Bay, South Africa, 2016, 13.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code FRY116**

This superb Sauvignon Blanc comes from the older vines of Jan "Ponk" Van Zyl's calcareous vineyard, planted just a few hundred metres from the cold Atlantic 250 kms. north of Cape Town. (Some tasters detect salinity in this wine). The grapes are taken to the estate's nearby sea-water cooled winery on the harbourfront on Doring Bay.

*A Cape Pouilly-Fumé - smoke on the nose; and then an intense mouthful of gooseberry and passion-fruit, checked by crisp minerality. Zesty and dynamic. Now-2018*

### **Belles Pierres, Les Clauzes de Jo, Languedoc, France, 2015, 14%**

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code BEL615**

From 60% Roussanne with equal proportions of Viognier and Grenache, in old barrels, this wine has been purchased for the cellars of the Elysée Palace in Paris - drink like a President without breaking the bank! Exotically fruited, it accompanies Mediterranean dishes based on tomatoes, onion and garlic perfectly.

*This is a rare example of a white influenced by the garrigue. One can often detect bay leaf amongst the white peach and exotic fruit perfume. Very concentrated and textured, almost voluptuous, this shows flavours of stone fruit, Seville oranges, honey and almonds. Now-2018*



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## Lequin-Colin, Bourgogne Chardonnay, France, 2015, 12.5% [Screwcap]

**Bottle £14.50 Case £164.30 Code LEQ815**

White Burgundies from 2015 are so generous and open. From vineyards close to the village of Santenay, this is fermented 50% in tank and 50% in barrel, with 10% new oak - it's our go-to white Burgundy.

*Subtly oaked. Attractive and well rounded, riper than usual, with even a hint of tropical fruit. Could be served with any fowl, including turkey. Now-2019*

## Francis Blanchet, Pouilly-Fumé, Les Pernetts, France, 2016, 13%

**Bottle £14.95 Case £170.43 Code BLA116**

The Blanchet's wine is so authentic, with real bite and stony character, and always at a very fair price. It keeps well too, though as it's a brilliant accompaniment to smoked salmon I suspect it will be drunk over the holidays.

*Very pale lemon with green tints. Exuberant youthful citrus and flint nose. Decently weighted primary fruit; fresh lemon over a mineral acid thread. Fresh and bone dry on the finish. Now-2020*

## Domaine Des Dieux, Chardonnay, Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge, South Africa, 2013, 13.5%

**Bottle £15.50 Case £176.70 Code DDD113**

From a small and relatively new estate with vineyards just above Ataraxia at the top of the valley in the Hemel-en-Aarde Ridge zone, this is a full-flavoured, perfectly-ready-to-drink, barrel-fermented and aged (about 30% new oak) Chardonnay of concentration and length.

*Lots of cream and butter, toast, lime and a hint of chalkiness. So complete. Now-2018*  
"Surprisingly developed already, this has smoky gunflint aromas which lead tantalisingly onto sweet honey, truffle oil and mushrooms. There is enormous complexity here - a joint venture between sweet lemon acidity and savoury limestone. 92/100. Highly Recommended",  
*Decanter magazine, April 2017*

## Domaine d'Elise, Chablis, France, 2015, 12.5%

**Bottle £15.50 Case £176.70 Code ELS215**

Given the shortage of wine in Chablis after two tiny crops, Frédéric Prain could sell his wine for much more than we pay but respects our long-term custom: we have shipped every vintage since 2001! His vines are on the slopes above the hamlet of Milly.

*Always enticingly creamy but with oyster shell Chablis characteristics too. Ripe citrus, a satisfying weight in the mouth, and a long, cool finish. The 2016 follows at £15.95. Now-2021*



## Top Whites

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Fine unoaked, lightly oaked and full-on, barrel-fermented Chardonnay from Burgundy, plus rare barrel-aged Chenin Blanc from the Loire and Vernaccia from Tuscany, two superb white blends from the Cape and a classy northern Rhône Viognier.

### **Domaine Sainte Barbe, Mâcon-Villages, Les Tilles, France, 2015, 13%**

**Bottle £15.95 Case £181.83 Code SAB115**

Yes this is moderately expensive for a wine from the Mâconnais, but it's from 40+ year old vines near Montbellet, tended bio-dynamically (certified organic) by young Jean-Marie Chaland, given plenty of time on the lees to develop flavour and weight - and we find smart London sommeliers love it!

*A splendidly satiny and classy unoaked Chardonnay with fruit, texture and energy. The 2016 follows at £16.50. Now-2020*

### **Il Palagione, Ori, Vernaccia di San Gimignano Riserva, Italy, 2015, 13.5%**

**Bottle £16.50 Case £188.10 Code PAL815**

Vernaccia Riserva is an unusual creation: it has to be made from grapes from declared vineyards and it has to be aged in wood. This splendid example from organic grower Giorgio Commotti keeps well too.

*Powerful marriage of creamy oak with greengages and more exotic fruit. Intense and impressive. Now-2019*

### **Blankbottle, Moment of Silence, Wellington, South Africa, 2016, 14%**

**Bottle £16.95 Case £193.23 Code BBO116**

The latest vintage of this highly popular wine, a blend of Chenin Blanc from four different sites, plus Grenache Blanc and Viognier (so Chardonnay has been dropped from the mix), barrel-fermented and aged on the lees for a year.

*Quite deep colour. Whilst this is as bold, full-flavoured and concentrated as ever, the flavour profile seems to have changed: without the Chardonnay it's more intensely stone-fruited. But it's complex too, creamy and nutty. Now-2018*

### **Château Pierre-Bise, Savennières, Clos de Coulaine, France, 2014, 14%**

**Bottle £17.95 Case £204.63 Code CPB614**

Savennières is a tiny appellation for Chenin Blanc grown in south facing vineyards above the Loire. Crafted in a deliberately very lightly oxydised style and raised in a mix of old barrels and stainless steel tanks, this is a bone-dry, powerful and complex Chenin: perfect with veal or chicken in a mushroom sauce.

*Mid gold. Light aromas of lanolin and nuts little prepare one for the rich and honeyed flavours, displaying Seville oranges, dried apricots and a savoury note. Splendidly weighty - a way-out alternative to old-fashioned Meursault! Now-2018*



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## Domaine Faiveley, Mercurey, Clos Rochette, France, 2013, 13%

**Bottle £19.50 Case £222.30 Code FAJ113**

Clos Rochette is a *monopole*, a solely owned vineyard, held by the dynamic Faiveley clan, who have both splendid vineyard holdings and their own cellar in the Côte Chalonnaise.

*Chardonnay, 20% fermented in new barrels and 80% in stainless steel: showing gentle oak accents and lively freshness. Ripe, juicy citrus, fresh and moreish. Now-2019*

## Chamonix, Reserve White, Franschhoek, South Africa, 2015, 14%

**Bottle £19.95 Case £227.43 Code CHX615**

Is this actually Chamonix's best wine? It's a top Bordeaux-style blend, 79% Sauvignon Blanc and 21% Sémillon, given assured winemaking: all barrel fermented (about 10% of the Sauvignon whole bunch fermented); then into French barrels, 20% new, and about a third of the wine goes through malolactic fermentation.

*Lime, passion-fruit and cream. The barrel ageing is discernible, but this is ready and enjoyable, displaying great volume and bite. This has the depth of flavour to accompany prawns or other seafood with Asian spice. Now-2021*

## Domaine Pichat, Viognier, Côtes de Verenay, IGP Collines Rhodaniennes, France, 2016, 13%

**Bottle £20.95 Case £238.83 Code PID816**

Superb, lightly oaked and beautifully textured northern Rhône Viognier from a top Condrieu grower: drink this as a fine aperitif or, even better, with hot prawn or crab dishes.

*Creamy, pure apricot and peach with a hint of vanilla and satisfying depth. Now-2018*

## Françoise & Denis Clair, St. Aubin 1er Cru, Les Champlots, France, 2014, 13%

**Bottle £26.50 Case £302.10 Code CLB314**

Much as we loved the late Denis Clair, there is no doubt son Jean-Baptiste has taken the wines here to a new level. Champlots lies on a south west facing slope above the hamlet of Gamay with calcareous soils that imbue its wines with a definite mineral edge.

*Citrus and green fruit. A little toasty oak, tense and concentrated. Now-2023*



## Reds for Daily Drinking & Parties

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A selection bracketed by Italians from north and south but also showcasing some classic styles - Côtes du Rhône and Aussie Shiraz - plus a new Languedoc blend and Chilean Merlot, Cab. and tasty Pinot Noir.

### **Araldica, Barbera, Piemonte, Italy, 2015 12.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £6.95 Case £79.23 Code ALA115**

A wine we have shipped before, but this is exceptionally good in the wonderful 2015 vintage in northern Italy, over-delivering in terms of ripeness and flesh. Every household needs a juicy wine for pasta over the holidays.

*Easy-drinking, cherry and berry flavours. The merest hint of tannin gives some substance. Now-2018*

### **Murphy Vineyards, Big Rivers Shiraz, Murray Darling, Australia, 2016, 14.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £6.95 Case £79.23 Code MUR116**

We have to applaud the stable pricing we are enjoying for the latest vintage of this ripe and cheerful Aussie Shiraz - it's the same price with us as four years ago!

*Supple, brambly, and warming. Good with any hearty winter dish. Now-2018*

### **Los Seduras, Merlot, Valle Central, Chile, 2016, 13% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £7.25 Case £82.65 Code SED616**

Merlot is the grape which made Chile's name for red wine, and the Chileans still do it so well. It's perfect for parties.

*Supple, pretty and very easy-drinking Chilean Merlot. What's not to like? Now-2018*

### **Les Pradelles, IGP d'Hérault, France, 2016, 12% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £7.50 Case £85.50 Code PRD116**

Just arrived, here's a super-soft and easy-drinking red blend from the plains of the Languedoc - Carignan and Grenache.

*Red fruited with a surprisingly good texture, no rough edges, light and juicily berried. Very winning. Now-2018*



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## **Gran Verano Cabernet Sauvignon, Valle Central, Chile, 2016, 13.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £7.95 Case £90.63 Code APA316**

Gran Verano is the second label of Colchagua estate Apaltagua, using only estate-grown grapes.

*True varietal character and balance, showing crisp red and blackcurrants, just a little minty, with an appealing unforced ease. Now-2019*

## **Vignerons d'Estézargues, Côtes du Rhône, Cuvée des Galets, France, 2016, 14.5%**

**Bottle £8.95 Case £102.03 Code ESZ116**

This is the 14th vintage we have shipped of this deliciously fruity Côtes du Rhône, from this unfailingly reliable co-operative of just ten growers between Avignon and Nîmes. All wines here are from sustainably or organically farmed grapes, made naturally (i.e. without any additives bar the merest bit of sulphur to ensure stability) and bottled unfiltered. This is a long-term favourite at SVS.

*Juicy, unfiltered blend of Grenache, Cinsault and Syrah: raspberryish mouthful, mildly spicy and very moreish. Now-2019*

## **Valle Frio, Pinot Noir, Maule, Chile, 2016, 13.5% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £8.95 Case £102.03 Code FRI316**

This wine was one of our best discoveries of the year. From vines with some age planted in higher sites in the Maule Valley, it's surprisingly concentrated for a Pinot at this price, with a pretty lick of oak from barrel-ageing.

*Toasty notes to the overtly fruited aroma. Generous red and black fruit, very Pinot, with an appealing savouriness. Plenty of stuffing and flavour, so perfect to drink with game. Now-2018*

## **La Rocca, Negroamaro, Salento, Italy, 2016, 13%**

**Bottle £9.50 Case £108.30 Code ROD216**

Negroamaro is widely planted in the far south of Italy but rarely elsewhere. It tends to produce deeply coloured, masculine wines, but it has the advantage to retaining a good acid balance even in the summer heat there.

*Well-made example of this, hearty with some structure but also ready to drink. Lively black cherry core, perfumed and lively. Could cope with Puttanesca sauce! Now-2019*



## Informal Reds

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Lots of variety: reds from seven different countries; two Bordeaux blends plus wines based on Shiraz, Grenache, Malbec, Carmenère, Sangiovese and Carignan.

### **Goedverwacht, Great Expectations Shiraz, Robertson, South Africa, 2016, 14% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £9.50 Case £108.30 Code GDV616**

This Shiraz from the Du Toit family at Robertson continues to gain friends. It's not complicated and would be a good all-rounder for a lot of red meat dishes.

*Hugely winning: gush of cherry and raspberry, nicely perfumed, ripe, spicy and youthful but also supple. Very winning, this would cost a lot more from Oz. Now-2018*

### **Château Piconat, Bordeaux, France, 2015, 13%**

**Bottle £9.75 Case £111.15 Code PIC115**

From vines near Soussac in Entre-deux-Mers, this doesn't just offer a pretty (pinkish) traditional label but a very decent drop of claret in this lovely, ripe Bordeaux vintage.

*Appealing red fruit, fresh and balanced, some body and finishes with a flourish. Very successful and complete blend of 80% Merlot, 15% Cab. Sauv. and 5% Cab. Franc. Now-2019*

### **Willow Bridge, Dragonfly Cabernet Merlot, Geographe, Western Australia, 2013, 13.3% [Screwcap]**

**Bottle £9.95 Case £113.43 Code DRA113**

Geographe is a newly minted region of western Australia, near Margaret River. Here the vines are just 20kms. from the cool ocean, so it's an excellent area for Bordeaux varieties.

*Ripe and friendly brambly aromas. Ripe, blackcurranty and smooth, but appealingly lively and refreshing too. Merest hint of mint on rather elegant aromatics. Now-2018*

### **Herència Altés, Garnatxa Negra, Terra Alta, Spain, 2015, 14.5%**

**Bottle £10.50 Case £119.70 Code HER115**

Terra Alta is the DO for wines grown on high ground in the west of the province of Tarragona in Catalonia. Here it's 100% Grenache Noir.

*Bright cherry aromas - and a generous red and black cherry mouthful, a little wild, with bright acid and some grip. Perfect for cool-weather food - sausages or casseroles. Now-2019*



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### **Carinae, Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina, 2016, 13.5%**

**Bottle £11.25 Case £128.25 Code CAE116**

Carinae has plots of ancient Malbec vines in Cruz de Piedra, on the south side of Mendoza.

*Old vines deliver impressive concentration to this summer-puddingy, unoaked Malbec. Balanced, and with a fresh finish, this leaves one wanting more. Now-2020*

### **Apaltagua, Envero, Gran Reserva Carmenère, Apalta Vineyard Selection, Colchagua, Chile, 2015, 14%**

**Bottle £11.95 Case £136.23 Code APA415**

With plantings beginning in 1950, Apaltagua was one of the pioneers in Apalta, a terroir which has become famous in part through the wines of illustrious neighbours Casa Lapostolle and Montes. From vines averaging 50 years old, this lightly oaked Carmenère - with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon - delivers spectacular value for its concentration, quality and smart presentation.

*Gorgeous bittersweet red and blackcurrant fruit with liquorice and tobacco hints over subtle tannins. Now-2022*

### **Il Palagione, Caelum, Chianti Colli Senesi, Italy, 2015, 13%**

**Bottle £12.50 Case £142.50 Code PAL115**

100% organically farmed Sangiovese, barrel aged in old oak; and stunning in this super vintage.

*Luscious black fruits, not sweet but with cut and energy, tinged with toasty oak. Honest and substantial Sangiovese, with proper acid and tannin; great with pork dishes. Now-2020*

### **Michele Taliano, A Bon Rendre, Barbera d'Alba, Italy, 2015, 13.5%**

**Bottle £12.50 Case £142.50 Code TAN115**

The Taliano brothers make delicious, good value wines from their modest cellars in Monti. About 1/3 of the wine is aged in old vats. This is light and supple enough to drink on its own but would pair some simply cooked chicken or veal escalopes.

*Pure perfume of fresh fruit - consistent with a silky and juicy glass, redolent of blackberries, raspberries and red cherries. This pleasure-giving wine oozes freshness and energy. Now-2019*



## Festive Reds

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An old world focus here: Italians from Piedmont and Campania, a classic Rioja Crianza and a range of reds from the regions of France.

### **Domaine du Grand Arc, Cuvée des Quarante, Corbières, France, 2014, 14%**

**Bottle £12.95 Case £147.63 Code DGA314**

Most of our customers will already appreciate the concentrated, age-worthy and all-round excellent reds of the Schenk family from the rugged mountains of the Hautes Corbières. *Cuvée des Quarante* is based on 45% Carignan with 35% Grenache and 20% Syrah, all in barrel, about 20% new.

*Deep purple. Strong aromas of raspberry coulis. Dense, old-viney feel. Vibrant red fruit, elegant and intense. Coffee notes from the oak. Drinking well and will keep. Now-2020*

### **Filadoro, Aglianico, Irpinia DOC, Italy, 2012, 13%**

**Bottle £13.25 Case £151.05 Code FIM612**

100% Aglianico, and unoaked. Aglianico is grown mainly in Campania and Basilicata in southern Italy: it makes gutsy, somewhat tannic wines, which benefit from a few years in bottle - hence us offering the 2012 vintage now.

*Garnet hue. Aromas show some maturity: both cooked and dried brambly autumnal fruit. A gutsy wine, textured and evincing plenty of ripe tannins, with savoury notes of leather and game around a blackcurrant and blackberry core. Very aromatic. Perfect for jugged hare or a pheasant casserole. Now-2020*

### **Clos des Moisses, Côtes de Bourg, France, 2012, 14%**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code CDM112**

We have been holding back on pushing this big and bold right bank Bordeaux, based on 45% each of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon with a little Malbec, but it's now really coming into its own.

*Fleshy and luscious but not over-ripe, and the Cabernet element shows in the strong black fruit flavour. Dense, with a proper structure. Rich enough for roast beef or lamb. Now-2021*

### **Segares, Rioja Crianza, Spain, 2011, 13.5%**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code NES311**

**Magnum £27.50 Case (6 x 150cl.) £156.75 Code NES911**

This Rioja Crianza, from 100% Tempranillo, offers excellent development: here they hold it back before release and that really benefits the wine. Situated in Rioja Media, the vineyards lie on a plateau at 520-650 metres between the Ocón and Jubera valleys.

*Classic Rioja aromas: oak supporting ripe black fruit with tobacco box, menthol, and balsamic vinegar. Lovely berry, black cherry and crunchy blackcurrant flavours. Appealingly textured, and some incipient meatiness indicates how this will develop. A cracking example. Now-2019*



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## Domaine des Belles Pierres, Les Clauzes de Jo, Languedoc, France, 2014, 14%

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code BEL314**

From pockets of vines on classic *argilo-calcaire* soils set amongst the *garrigue*, the herby scrub, near St. Georges d'Orques west of Montpellier: a blend of about half Syrah, a third Grenache with Mourvèdre, all in old barrel.

*Good youthful tone. Ripe and brambly fruit, crunchy, and slightly wild and spicy. Splendid blackberry liqueur finish. As with its white pair, this wine has been purchased for the presidential cellars of the Elysée Palace in Paris. Now-2021*

## Domaine du Granit Doré, Juliéna, Beauvernavy, France, 2015, 14.5%

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code GDO115**

Many locals believe 2015 was the greatest vintage in Beaujolais since the 1940s. Certainly it was one of the warmest, and the wines reached unusual alcohol levels, making them perfect for winter drinking, not just for cold turkey on Boxing Day.

*Beauvernavy is the sector of Juliéna where the cellar is located. Ripe black cherry perfume. Dense black fruit - cherries and blackberries - but with crunchy blackcurrant acidity too. Plenty of substance but also supple, fleshy and balanced; and finishes with a streak of cassis. Now-2021*

## Domaine des Espiers, Côtes du Rhône Villages, Sablet, France, 2014, 14.5%

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code ESP414**

This Sablet comes from well-sited vineyards on the slopes above the village towards Seguret. It's largely Grenache but with about 30% Syrah, all raised in stainless steel tanks. While delicious now, it's got plenty of life ahead too.

*This wine has a grace which belies the alcohol level: raspberries, strawberries, black olive and a touches of leather and pepper. Silky and textured with soft tannins. Now-2019*

## Lequin-Colin, Bourgogne Pinot Noir, France, 2014, 12.5% [Screwcap]

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code LEQ614**

From François Lequin's two parcels of vines, farmed organically, in Santenay; and all the wine goes into barrel, 10% new.

*Inviting red fruit scents, and a generous, well-textured palate of cherries and fraises des bois: this remains good value. Now-2019*



# Grand Reds

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Three French, to be sure, from the south-west, Bordeaux and the northern Rhône; but also two stunners from northern Italy, two punchy reds from Chile and a powerful Tempranillo from Ribera del Duero.

## **Pandolfi Price, Larkün Syrah, Valle del Itata, Chile, 2015, 14%**

**Bottle £14.50 Case £165.30 Code PAP615**

This is the first vintage we have shipped of this exciting coolish climate Syrah from coastal Itata in the rainy south of Chile. Chilean Syrah sits perfectly between Northern Rhône and Australian styles, with an identity of its own.

*Deeply hued. Showing bright blackcurrants, bittersweet and crunchy. Excellent keeping potential too. Now-2022*

## **Château Barréjat, Madiran, Vieux Céps, France, 2015, 13.5%**

**Bottle £14.50 Case £165.30 Code BAJ315**

**Magnums £29.95 Case (6 x 150cl.) £170.71 Code BAJ415**

This is certainly the best vintage we have shipped of this remarkable wine from ancient vines: most over 80 years old and some pre-phyloxera. From 80% Tannat plus the Cabernets, this is a splendid, traditionally framed and ageworthy example.

*Inky purple. Dense blackcurrant heart with grainy tannins. Plenty of oak to keep it going - a really well-structured wine which can be enjoyed now with hearty food (a cassoulet or confit duck would be perfect) or kept for years. Now-2025*

## **Begali, Valpolicella Ripasso, La Cengia, Italy, 2015, 14%**

**Bottle £14.95 Case £170.43 Code BEF215**

2/3 Corvina and 1/3 Rondinella, crafted in the *Ripasso* style by which the wine is left on the skins of the desiccated grapes used after the production of Amarone for about 10-12 days to promote a second fermentation, giving enhanced texture and alcohol. This is superb this vintage, not raisiny but enticingly bittersweet.

*Super-active palate, dancing with black cherry and brambly flavours: this is ripe and juicy but with a crunchy and refreshing bite. It would make a perfect foil to rich and fatty dishes, osso bucco or roast ham for example. Now-2023*

## **El Lagar de Isilla, Ribera del Duero, Crianza, Spain, 2012, 14.5%**

**Bottle £17.50 Case £199.50 Code LAH412**

From 100% Tempranillo from 40-70 year old vines, given fourteen months in French and American oak, this is rich and powerful.

*A Spanish classic, showing melting red fruit, vanilla and spice, with backing tannin. Now-2020*



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## Tutunjian, Entre Valles, Chile, 2013, 14.5%

**Bottle £18.50 Case £210.90 Code TUT113**

The newly introduced “Entre Valles” name is for wines blended from different Chilean wine regions. Here it’s a concentrated and muscular blend of grape varieties matched to the best sites for the individual grape varieties in different valleys: 54% Carmenère from 60+ year old vines in Apalta, 19% Syrah and 15% Malbec from Maule and 12% Cabernet Sauvignon from Puente Alto in Maipo.

*Currently very young indeed, showing lots of vanilla-spiced oak and intense primary black fruit. Extrovert and showy but retains a certain old world balance and food friendliness. Now-2023*

## Yann Chave, Crozes-Hermitage, France, 2014, 13%

**Bottle £18.95 Case £216.03 Code CHA114**

Yann’s unoaked Syrah - from organically farmed vines, largely on pebble-strewn vineyards east of the Rhône - of splendid colour, ripeness and concentration.

*Blackberry and blueberry with a touch of blackcurrant, very supple and fragrant and a fresh finish. Perfect to drink with plain roast beef. Now-2020*

## Michele Taliano, Roche dra Bossora, Roero Riserva, Italy, 2012, 14.5%

**Bottle £19.95 Case £227.43 Code TAN212**

**Magnum £42.50 Case (6 x 150cl.) £233.70 Code TAN212M**

**Double Magnum (2011 vintage, in a wooden case) £102.00 Code TAN211DM *Limited stock***

This is named after the large ravines which score the Roero hills. Roero Riserva must be aged for a total of 32 months before release, including a minimum of six months in barrel (here about 30% new, 70% old). This wine was lauded by both the 2017 Gambero Rosso **Vini d’Italia** -“davvero brillante il vino roerino di punta dell’azienda”, and the 2017 **slow wine** guide - “vivo e vibrante al palato, con tannino reattivo e contrasto succoso”.

*Soft, mature tone. Lifted strawberry perfume. Red fruit with blackcurrant notes over a classic Nebbiolo tannic structure, giving a fine grained texture. Very aromatic - lending dramatic length - with hints of leather, pepper and liquorice. This has great keeping potential. Now-2025*

## Lacroix-Martillac, Pessac-Léognan, France, 2009, 13.5%

**Bottle £24.50 Case £279.30 Code LAC109**

From the vineyards of the well-known property of Château Latour-Martillac, owned by the Kressman family, this wine shows all the splendid ripeness and approachability of the great 2009 vintage in Bordeaux.

*Splendid claret aromas of black fruit and cigar-box. Immediately blackcurranty, pure with notes of cream and liquorice too. Delicious, drinking beautifully, perfect with roast lamb. Now-2021*



# Sweet Wines

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What a choice - late-picked Chenin Blanc from the Loire or Garganega from Soave; top Sauternes and truly amazing Tokay.

## **Domaine des Forges, Coteaux du Layon St Aubin, France, 2015, 12%**

**Bottle £13.50 Case £153.90 Code FOR615**

This late harvest Chenin Blanc from the Loire offers absurdly good value for a wine of such richness and weight; and from vines with an average age of forty years too.

*Pale gold. Promisingly honeyed nose. Showing peach and apricot enveloped in honey, this is fat but finishes with thirst quenching acidity. Much richer than usual for this cuvée but not fully sweet so ideal to drink on its own or to accompany foie gras or cheese. Now-2020*

## **Corte Mainenti, Luna Nova, Recioto di Soave, Italy, 2015, 14% [37.5 cl.]**

**Half Bottle £13.50 Case [12 x 37.5cl.] £153.90 Code MAI615**

Sweet Recioto di Soave - made from bunches of Garganega dried on racks in the autumn - has an ancient pedigree. Davide Mainenti makes this lustrous example from a selection of his first picked grapes (for the best condition and good levels of acidity).

*Perfume of orange peel - and that bitter marmalade orange flavour permeates this opulent sweet wine. There's more than a hint of botrytis, noble rot, too. In the Veneto this style is drunk with cake, but it's delicious with cheese or on its own. Now-2021*

## **Broustet, Barsac-Sauternes, France, 2013, 13.5%**

**Bottle £29.50 Case £336.30 Code BRO113**

This *Deuxième Grand Cru Classé* estate in Barsac is on the up, having enjoyed major investment since it was sold in 2010.

*Seville oranges, dried apricots and barley sugar. "Sweet, creamy tropical fruit aromas. A tiny bit of leafiness, but it works, and there is plenty of waxy Sémillon character too. Well made - gets all the botrytis complexity, and retains essential balance. 17/20", Richard Hemming, MW, [jancisrobinson.com](http://jancisrobinson.com), 18th April 2014. Now-2023*

## **Balassa, Tokaj, Mézes-Mály, Zeta Late Harvest, Hungary, 2013, 9% [37.5 cl.]**

**Half bottle £28.95 Case [12 x 37.5 cl.] £330.03 Code BAM313**

We couldn't resist buying a pile of this amazing sweet Tokay. From a star producer, just 1040 bottles were made from the Zeta grape, picked very late for extreme ripeness. With that lowish alcohol and with an intense purity of flavour it tastes more like a grand *eiswein* than a conventional Tokay.

*Pale gold. Amazingly luscious attack (it has an extraordinary 223 grams of residual sugar per litre) but cut by a razor-kiss of acidity. Delectable gush of crystallised pineapple. Truly sensational sweet wine. Now-2030*



# Fortified Wines

Sherry, Vin Doux Naturel from Roussillon, single Quinta port and Madeira - all traditional Christmas styles. Bring on cake, cheese, nuts and raisins!

## Lustau, Los Arcos, Dry Amontillado Sherry, Spain, NV, 18.5%

**Bottle £13.95 Case £159.03 Code LUS6NV**

Lustau sherries offer wonderful quality at the price.

*Aroma of cedar, nuts and raisins; followed by a dry, not over-weighty palate, again nutty with hints of dried fruit. Tang of acidity. Spicy and lengthy finish. Now-2018*

## Domaine Fontanel, Maury, France, 2014, 16%

**Bottle £18.95 Case £216.03 Code FON614**

Maury is a lightly fortified wine, based on one plot of 60 year old vines of Grenache Noir. This style of *Vin Doux Naturel* (literally naturally sweet wine, as all the sweetness comes from late-picked grapes) is well-known for matching chocolate, but it's equally good with cheese, especially blue cheese, in a manner akin to a very fruity and forward port.

*Deep ruby colour. Really inviting nose of rich cherry fruits, cedar and sweet spices. Very pure, cherryish Grenache flavours (a little reminiscent of Bon Maman cherry jam), woven with notes of mocha, spice and cream. Really superb; and perfect with chocolate desserts (Black Forest gâteau??). Now-2022*

## Krohn, Quinta do Retiro Novo, Vintage Port, Portugal, 2005, 20%

**Bottle £19.95 Case £227.43 Code KRO605**

Since 2013 Krohn has been part of the Fladgate Partnership - alongside Taylor's, Fonseca and Croft. From the hot summer of 2005, this is a single Quinta port from the Quinta do Retiro Novo estate in Sarzedinho, in the Rio Torto valley. (If this port is a little expensive for your needs, we also stock the Krohn Rio Torto Reserva at £12.50 or their excellent 2011 LBV at £13.95)

*Deep and opaque. Roasted, figgy aroma. Compôte of black fruit with milk chocolate accents. Unfurls depths of cooked plums, black cherries and Christmas cake spice. Now-2021*

## D'Oliveira, 10 year Sweet, Madeira, Portugal, 19%

**Bottle £36.50 Code DOL10YS**

**50cl bottle £26.50 Code DOL10YS50**

Just mentioning "a bottle of madeira" makes one think of Dickens, the Navy - and Christmas, of course. Whilst the dry styles can be impressively austere, we prefer the richness of the old-fashioned, perfectly oxydised sweeter examples like this.

*From Tinta Negra, a dark, luscious, toffee-flavoured nectar, which finishes with a flourish. Bring on some fruit-cake. Now-2020*



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- Free delivery for orders of £150 or more (to one address), or over £75 in the Winchester area.
- The prices for the bottles, pairs, magnums and sixes on pages 3-5 include delivery.
- \*Delivery prices vary for delivery to the highlands, islands and Northern Ireland - please ask us for a quote.

