

**CHAMPAGNE, FORTIFIED WINES and ARMAGNAC****CHAMPAGNE**

**FR2460S Champagne Montaudon Premier Cru Blanc de Blancs, France 12%  £29.95**

The Montaudon family has produced this impressive Champagne with Chardonnay grapes from their best Premier Cru vineyards. A Blanc de Blancs Brut, it has been aged over three years in the bottle to give a rich, biscuity flavour and an elegant, sophisticated mousse. Light and refreshing, yet generously flavoured, with notes of minerals, grilled hazelnut and lemon zest. Long and expansive finish. To 2013

**FR2420M Champagne Montaudon Reserve Brut NV, France 150cl  £55.95**

Christmas is the perfect time to celebrate in style and this magnum of Montaudon's Reserve Brut not only tastes great, but looks terrific. Mainly Pinot Noir, it has attractive aromas of ripe apple, brioche and dried fruits. On the palate it is clean, refreshing with flavours of apricot, fig, biscuit and notes of almond. Good finesse, balance and lingering finish. To 2013+

**FORTIFIED WINES**

**PO0235F Bacalhoa Moscatel de Setubal 2005, Portugal 17% £9.49**

This fortified dessert wine won the International Trophy for the best sweet fortified wine under £10 at the Decanter World Wine Awards. What is particularly noteworthy is that you can even find a 75cl bottle of sweet Moscatel aged more than 3 years in small oak barrels at this price, let alone one of such quality! *'Lush palate redolent of creme brulee and fresh caramelised oranges. Unctuous raisiny fruit with underlying refreshing herbiness. Delicate, tangy grape perfume lingers on the finish.'* Decanter Magazine



**PO0070F Henriques & Henriques 3 Year Old Medium Rich, Madeira 19% £13.99**

This Bual style madeira has aromas of walnuts, lemons and dried stone fruit and notes of caramel. Soft, rich, nutty palate with good texture and balance and a lemony zip on the medium sweet finish. Rather like a liquid Christmas pudding, this is the perfect dessert wine. Enjoy through to 2014.

**ESI011D Gonzales Byass Fino Dos Palmas En Rama, Jerez, Spain 50cl  £15.99**

En Rama is an exciting new development where fino is drawn directly from under the protective layer of flor yeast in the cask and bottled without cold stabilisation and filtration. Gonzales Byass have released less than two barrels of Dos Palmas, a very rare and uniquely flavoured fino. The natural character means that it is slightly cloudy and should be enjoyed within the next 6 months. *'Dos Palmas sherry is an eight-year-old 'raw' fino full of character and great value at £16. [It] has the most wonderful combination of lemon oil and almonds and really is a big step up from the Una Palma.'* Jancis Robinson

**ARMAGNAC**


**FR3850M Samalens 8 year old VSOP, Bas Armagnac, France 40% 150cl  £59.95**

Founded in 1882 this family owned company distils wines exclusively from Grand Bas Armagnac, the best *terroir* in the region. The VSOP is made from wines aged a minimum of 8 years in casks of black Gascony oak. The colour is a bright, amber gold. Very fine, fruity bouquet with crushed berry fruits and a touch of vanilla. Smooth, round and generously flavoured, with excellent balance and some nice complexity. Finishes very long and wonderfully smooth. Note that the price is for 150cl or magnum size.



## FINE WINE LIST

### NEW ADDITIONS - DECEMBER 2011

Following the extensive list produced last month we have updated our Fine Wine List to include wines where we have just a few bottles and also some recent arrivals. Note that all stocks are limited but where we have less than 12 bottles, the wine is marked with a .

**EUROPEAN FINE WINES****FRANCE – Red Wines**

**FR4297R Stephane Vedeau J Boutin 'Les Hauts Granites' 2007, Crozes Hermitage £13.99**

Named after Stephane Vedeau's mother, Jeannine Boutin, this is 100% Syrah from two small vineyards within the Crozes Hermitage appellation. The vines are very mature at 40 to 60 years and are trained in traditional goblet fashion. This is a fruit-filled but not tannic wine with deep, intense red colour and complex aromas of plum and berry fruits and a hint of vanilla spice. Soft and very fruity to taste with ripe blackberry, damson and raspberry flavours balanced by good minerality and a light sheen of vanilla oak. Fine velvety tannins sit nicely beneath the fruit on the lingering finish. This is a great value wine to enjoy to 2017.



**FR4307R Stephane Vedeau J Boutin 'Parcelle de Jean' 2007, St Joseph £16.95**

A remarkable red from a tiny 1.85ha vineyard planted to old vine Syrah on dry stone walled terraces. Half the wine is matured in oak barrels and the result is a big, bold, juicy wine packed with black fruit flavours like cherry and blackberry. There are complex sweet spice characters and hints of cooked meat. Rich fruit is balanced by good acidity which gives good grip and an attractive savoury quality. Soft, ripe tannins underpin the fruit intensity and the long finish reveals notes of vanilla spice. Enjoy to 2020+

**FR3516R La Bastide St Dominique 'Secrets de Pignan' 2006, Chateaufort du Pape  £34.95**

The 'Secrets de Pignan' is the top wine from this renowned estate. Made in tiny quantities from a 1.6ha vineyard in the fabled *lieux-dit* of Pignan and has been kept un-oaked to reveal the unique *terroir*. *'Sweet nose of black raspberries, black cherries, lavender, truffles, damp earth, and new saddle leather. Full-bodied and rich, with excellent freshness, length, and concentration, it is already approachable given the velvety nature of its tannins, and should age easily for 12-15+ years. 92 points'* The Wine Advocate

## HAWKSHEAD WINES

### FRANCE – White Wines

FR0789W **Michel Leon Gewurztraminer Vieilles Vignes 2009, Alsace** £11.99

The Vieilles Vignes comes from vines at least 25 years old, giving more body and concentration than the standard wine. Full-bodied with classic rose petal and lychee aromas this elegant white has good varietal character and lovely richness. Grapefruit and citrus notes keep it refreshing and the finish is long and balanced with good integrated acidity. Attractive wine to enjoy to 2014

FR2100W **Marquis de Goulaine Pouilly Fume 2010, Loire** £12.99

Classic Pouilly Fumé style from the Marquis. Pale straw colour with aromas of gooseberry, grass, lemon and guava. Refreshing herbaceous flavours with flinty notes and a long, slightly leafy finish with fresh acidity. A youthful, elegant and attractive wine that needs a little time to open up. Enjoy to 2014.



FR3898W **Ch. Genot-Boulangier, Mercurey Les Bacs 2008, Burgundy** £12.99

François Delaby runs this family domaine. They have just 2.6 hectares in Mercurey's 'Les Bacs', one of the best areas of the Cote Chalonnaise. The Chardonnay vines average over 30 years of age giving a wine of impressive intensity. Attractive aromas of ripe pear, peach and acacia flower. Full and flavour-ome with stone fruit flavours underpinned by good acidity. Lingering mineral finish. To 2014

FR1596W **Baumard 'Clos St Yves' 2006, Savennieres, Loire** £13.49

Described by Robert Parker as *'the Montrachet of the Loire'* Savennieres is a small appellation for intense, dry and age-worthy Chenin Blancs. Florent Baumard is arguably the region's best producer and his bottling from the Clos St Yves vineyard is well-priced for a wine of this quality. *'A fresh, stony style, with hints of green plum and green almond in reserve, while the floral, white peach and melon rind notes hold away for now. A textbook version. 91pts'* James Molesworth, Wine Spectator To 2016+

FR4289W **Michel Leon Riesling Grand Cru Altenberg de Bergbieten 2009, Alsace** £13.99



Altenberg de Bergbieten Grand Cru is a small, 30 hectare vineyard situated at the very northern end of the Grand Cru belt in the Bas-Rhin. Pure, slightly mineral aromas of crisp apple, lemon and quince. Good intensity on the palate with rich, ripe stone fruit flavours, a hint of pineapple, balancing acidity and a tremendously long finish. Remarkable concentration and depth for a wine at this price. Enjoy now through to 2015.

FR3819W **Gerard Tremblay Chablis 2009, Burgundy** £13.99

Gerard Tremblay is the fifth generation of his family to manage this small estate at Poinchy. His Chablis has restrained white peach and lemon aromas with delicate floral notes. Still relatively youthful, with apple, lemon and spicy pear flavours, attractive minerality and a hint of butter on the finish. To 2015

FR1617W **Domaine des Baumard 'Clos du Papillon' 2007, Savennieres, Loire** £19.99

Chenin Blanc from the Clos du Papillon vineyard produces Florent Baumard's best dry white. *'There is a fresh and open style here, and a slightly more exotic expression of fruit, with a touch of mango and tangerine zest alongside a soft suggestion of minerals. Full, a solid presence at first, showing a rather oily concentration in the beginning but with good acid backbone coming through the middle. 17.5/20'* Chris Kissack, The Wine Doctor *'There is a welcome sense of transparency and buoyancy here too often missing from this appellation. 91pts'* David Schildknecht, eRobertParker.com Enjoy through to 2022

## FINE WINE LIST – NEW ADDITIONS

### GERMANY – White Wines

DE0120W **Leitz Rudesheimer Magdalenenkreuz Riesling Spatlese 2010, Rheingau** £13.49

Aromas of lime, kiwi fruit and delicate floral notes. Surprisingly rich and full in the mouth with ripe, grapey sweetness and mineral overtones. The sweetness is nicely balanced by mineral acidity and a subtle orange tang, particularly on the lingering finish. Youthful and delicious now or keep to 2016. *'It would be hard to argue that German Riesling is no longer good value when you can still buy a Spatlese from one of the country's top vintners and most-celebrated regions for under \$25'* The Wine Advocate

DE0196W **Gunderloch Nackenheim Rothenberg Riesling Spatlese 2006, Rheinhessen** £19.95

Rothenberg is the finest vineyard in the Rheinhessen and from its fruit the Hasselach's at Gunderloch produce some of the best wines in Germany. *'Intriguing spice and mineral aromas and flavours highlight the apricot, passion fruit and pineapple core notes. Concentrated, yet light and lively, with a long, resonant, mineral-tinged finish. 92 pts'* Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator To 2025 *Medium sweetness*

### SPAIN – Red Wines

ES0993R **Bodegas Penafiel Miros Reserva Coleccion Privada 2003, Ribera del Duero** £18.99

Penafiel's Coleccion Privada is only released in the best vintages, from a selection of the very best Reserva barrels. 100% Tinta del Pais, it is aged 25 months in French oak barrels and though qualifying as Gran Reserva has been released as Reserva. Dense, almost opaque garnet colour and very ripe plum, blackberry and coffee bean aromas with notes of mulberry, smoke and exotic spice. Smooth, full-bodied and mouth-filling with lots of extraction. Rounded tannins and remarkable weight of bramble fruit flavours leading to a long, gently spicy cassis and damson finish. Showing no sign of age, enjoy to 2016+

### NEW WORLD WINES

AU0459R **Mitolo 'Jester' Shiraz 2009, McLaren Vale, Australia** £12.99

*'I have long been a fan of the value attached to the Jester Series. The Shiraz is always a cracker and Frank Mitolo always keeps the concentration, silkiness and wow factor ratcheted up to max. This vintage is no exception. With Turkish Delight, briary, fresh-picked berries and succulent steak au poivre meatiness this is a true star and it's still a cracking price.'* 100 Best Australian Wines, Matthew Jukes To 2015

CL1466R **Ventisquero Vertice 2006, Apalta Vineyard, Colchagua, Chile** £18.99

This is an equal blend of Carmenere and Syrah, the result of a creative partnership between former Grange winemaker John Duval and Felipe Tosso of Ventisquero. The aim is to highlight the best characteristics of each variety then combine them to create something completely new and spectacular. Gold medal in the Wines of Chile awards. *'A glass-coating opaque purple with superb aromas of wood smoke, mineral, spice box, earth notes, and blueberry. This leads to a full-bodied, opulent wine with complex flavors, outstanding concentration. 92 pts'* Jay Miller, The Wine Advocate To 2020+

AU0010R **Parker Coonawarra Estate Terra Rossa First Growth 1998, Australia** £39.95

This iconic winery is situated on Coonawarra's famed red Terra Rossa soils. The First Growth is their flagship wine made mainly from Cabernet Sauvignon. Every vintage has been rated at least 90 points by Robert. Parker, but the 1998 is quite possibly the best ever. *'[Its] dense purple color is followed by extraordinarily sweet fruit, intense glycerin, and a full-bodied, concentrated mouth-feel. The purity, high extract, and uncanny symmetry is breathtaking. 95-97pts'* Robert Parker, The Wine Advocate To 2020