

**BOUQUET  
WINES**

16 HOLLAND PARK AVENUE  
LONDON W11 3QU  
020 3689 7930  
SPARKLING@MSN.COM

## WINE LIST

*Winter 2020*

Bouquet Wines grew out of my passionate interest in wine, and I sold my first case nearly 30 years ago in 1990. In 1997 I passed the rigorous Master of Wine examinations, winning the Madame Bollinger Prize for Excellence in Tasting and the Sainsbury Prize for my dissertation on Cool Climate Viticulture. Over time the list has grown to its present offering of nearly 70 keenly priced wines from around the world. Each year I taste thousands of wines in the process of making my selections.

My current list features some stunning new discoveries from recent travels and tastings as well as exciting new vintages of many old favourites. If you're looking for delicious, good-value wines, hand-picked by a Master of Wine, then look no further. Happy hunting!

Anne Tupper MW



**PLEASE NOTE** all prices are per case of 12 bottles, including VAT, and there is a minimum order of one case. Delivery in the London area is free for orders of £350 or more. Smaller orders can be delivered at a cost of £15.50 including VAT.

## WHITES

## BEST BUYS

## WINES FOR

## UP TO

£15.00 A

## BOTTLE

*Grüner Veltliner Löss 2018* SCHLOSS GOBELSBURG £153.05

The Grüner Veltliner is Austria's prime grape variety, producing dry, fruity wines with an attractive peppery, herbal character. The finest examples come from the steep vineyards bordering the Danube and its tributaries in the Wachau, Kremstal and Kamptal regions west of Vienna. The lighter 'Federspiel' style of this wine makes for a perfect aperitif and pairs well with light chicken or fish dishes (£12.80 a bottle).

*Rapaura Springs Sauvignon Blanc 2019* £135.40

Sauvignon Blanc has become the signature wine grape of New Zealand, and this tasty example, with its combination of zingy acidity and intense aromas and flavours of limes, greengages and elderflower – shows why. It's delicious, with none of that nasty tinned-asparagus character that spoils so many others (£11.30 a bottle).

*Vergelegen Premium Sauvignon Blanc 2019* £132.45

During my visit to South Africa in 2015 I tasted many Sauvignon Blancs and Vergelegen's was among my top picks. The 2015 offers seductive lime blossom, gooseberry and passion fruit aromas and an elegant balance of fresh acidity and ripe fruit flavours. It makes a delicious aperitif or partner to vegetarian dishes as well as steamed or baked fish and chicken (£11.05 a bottle).

*Saint Véran 'Les Pierres Blanches' 2018* CAVE DE PRISSÉ £168.10

The impressive Cave de Prissé in the Mâcon region of southern Burgundy is the area's foremost producer of Saint Véran, and 'Les Pierres Blanches' has been providing remarkably consistent enjoyment at very reasonable prices year on year for as long as I can remember. Fresh, delicious, and easy-drinking, it provides a satisfying mouthful of bright, apply fruit (£14.05 a bottle).

*Chardonnay Grand Ardèche 2017* LOUIS LATOUR £149.95

Jancis Robinson, MW colleague and wine writer, described this elegant, subtly oaked Chardonnay from the Ardèche as the 'best value by far' in a tasting of top international Chardonnays. Delicious now, it has enough structure and concentration to age for another 3-5 years or more. I'm still enjoying the 2012 vintage (£12.50 a bottle).

*Falerio 2019* SALADINI PILASTRI £101.25

This tasty blend of Trebbiano, Passerina and Pecorino grapes comes from the 300 year-old organic estate of Count Saladini Pilastri in The Marche region of northeast Italy. I love its crisp apple and pear flavours and would happily drink it with lighter fare like risotto with prawns, roast cod, or guinea fowl (£8.45 a bottle).

BEST BUYS

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UP TO

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BOTTLE

*Lugana 2018* NUNZIO GHIRALDI

£149.25

Trebbiano di Lugana is actually the Verdicchio grape, and is responsible for some remarkable wines in vineyards near the shores of Lake Garda in Lombardia. In the hands of the Harley-driving **Nunzio Ghiraldi** it produces lovely, complex wines with hints of stone fruits and gentle herbs. Enjoyable as an aperitif, it also makes a worthy partner for seafood, salads and light pasta dishes (£12.45 a bottle).

*Verdicchio di Matelica 2018* LA MONACESCA

£156.55

To people used to the dull Verdicchio of the past, the wines now produced from this grape are an exciting revelation. This impressive, single-vineyard wine from La Monacesca in the southern Marche is a fine example – fresh and richly concentrated, with exciting notes of guava and white peaches plus a hint of camomile (£13.05 a bottle).

*La Segreta Bianco 2018* PLANETA

£131.70

When I first visited this dynamic Sicilian producer in 2004, I found its state-of-the-art winery and the quality of its wines most impressive. Returning in May 2012, it was even better. La Segreta, a blend of indigenous white grape varieties, continues to wow me with its intriguing floral fragrance and delightful peachy flavours – round, soft and very ‘moreish’ (£11.00 a bottle)

*Soave Classico ‘Campo dei Tovi’ 2018* INAMA

£172.45

**Stefano Inama**, the dynamic, youthful winemaker at this family firm, makes the most delicious Soave I’ve come across. It has unexpected aromatic richness and depth of flavour – a pleasure to drink with just about anything from *bruschetta* to *linguine alla vongole* to pizza with rocket and parma ham or gorgonzola cheese (£14.40 a bottle).

*Rustenberg Stellenbosch Chardonnay 2019*

£151.30

Another great find from my 2015 South African visit was this delicious Chardonnay from RUSTENBERG in Stellenbosch. I was won over by its elegant apricot and orange-zest flavours and distinctive, moreish style. Try it with seafood or lightly spiced dishes (£12.65 a bottle).

*Amigos White 2017* MCHENRY HOHNEN

£171.65

This intriguing barrel-fermented white, a blend of Marsanne, Roussanne and Chardonnay grapes, has a creamy texture, complex floral and fruity aromas, and melon and white peach flavours. It’s part of an exciting range of wines produced in Western Australia’s Margaret River region by **David Hohnen**, who was responsible for putting the legendary wines of Cape Mentelle and Cloudy Bay on the map (£14.35 a bottle).

## ROSÉS

BEST BUYS

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BOTTLE

*Domaine de Petit Chaumont Gris de Gris 2019*

£141.30

I've been looking for ages for a reasonably priced, yet tasty rosé, and this one from organically farmed vineyards in the Camargue region of southern France ticks all the boxes. A blend of Grenache Gris and Grenache Noir, it has an attractive pale salmon colour and aromas and flavours of white peaches and ripe pears. It's great as an aperitif or with a variety of fish or chicken dishes as well as spicy Indian or Asian food (£11.80 a bottle).

*Château Roubine Premier Cru 2019*

£240.50

Provençal rosés are much in vogue at the moment, and many can be short on depth and flavour. Despite its pale, blush pink colour, this lovely blend of the local Tibouren grape plus Cinsault, Grenache, Mourvèdre and Cabernet is bursting with intense aromas and flavours reminiscent of *fraises des bois* and ripe red fruits. It comes from prime organic vineyards in the heart of Provence, and has enough structure to enhance most menus from a light *salade Niçoise* with grilled tuna to hearty Tuscan *porchetta* (£20.05 a bottle).

## REDS

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## BOTTLE

*Corbières Tradition Rouge 2017* CHATEAU LA BASTIDE £131.70

**Guilhem Durand** at Chateau La Bastide in Corbières in France's Languedoc makes some of the tastiest, best-value wines in the region. This juicy, dark fruit and herb-scented blend of 80% Syrah with Grenache Rouge and old-vine Carignan is excellent value at (£11.00 a bottle).

*Côtes du Rhône 'Le Temps Est Venu' 2017* DOMAINE OGIER £168.50

**Stéphane Ogier** makes some ethereal Syrah wines in the Côte Rôtie, and I was delighted to find that he is also now making a fantastic Côtes du Rhône. This fruity, supple red, a blend of 80% Grenache and 20% Syrah grapes, is one of the best I've ever tasted. It's also extremely good value at £14.05 a bottle.

*Rocky Road Shiraz 2016* MCHENRY HOHNEN £166.25

**David Hohnen**, the talented Aussie who put Cloudy Bay and Cape Mentelle on the map, created this exciting new wine a few years ago, and it's become a firm favourite among my clients. It comes from the Margaret River region of Western Australia, long famed for its high quality wines. It combines elegance and richness and costs a good deal less than it tastes (£13.90 a bottle).

*Waipara Springs Pinot Noir 2018* £151.90

Unlike many New Zealand Pinot Noirs, this wine – from vineyards in the warm, dry Waipara Valley near Christchurch on the South Island – bears a relatively modest price tag. Yet it packs a big punch in terms of flavour, with vibrant notes of ripe cherries, raspberries, blueberries and spicy oak balanced by crisp acidity and soft tannins (£12.70 a bottle).

*Vergelegen Premium Cabernet/Merlot 2013* £132.40

**André van Rensburg**, the winemaker at Vergelegen in Stellenbosch, South Africa, makes a host of stunning wines, and he organised an extensive tasting for us during our visit in 2015. The Premium Cabernet/Merlot, along with the Premium Sauvignon Blanc, stood out for its amazing quality/price ratio. It offers claret-like aromas of cassis, spices and cedar, and intense dark berry and spice flavours (£11.05 a bottle).

*Rustenberg RM Nicholson 2016* £133.70

Named after former winemaker **Reginald Merriman Nicholson**, this wine is a blend of Shiraz, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Aging in American and French oak barrels adds a note of toasty spice to its rich flavours of blackcurrants, forest berries, dried herbs and black pepper. Not surprisingly, it has won a host of medals, including double gold at South Africa's National Wine Challenge in 2016 and Silver at the International Wine Challenge in 2016. Not bad for a wine priced at just £11.15 a bottle.

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*Mendoza Malbec 2018* ALTOS LAS HORMIGAS

£174.95

Malbec is to me the distinctive Argentinian grape, and the Mendoza region in the foothills of the Andes produces its finest examples. This wine, made by the handsome, charismatic **Alberto Antonini** and bottled without fining or filtration, combines a powerful bouquet of ripe dark berries and spices with a rich, velvety texture (£14.60 a bottle).

*Promised Land Shiraz/Cabernet 2016* WAKEFIELD WINES

£117.00

It's not easy to find an affordable Shiraz/Cabernet blend, but this one from Wakefield Wines in South Australia's Clare Valley ticks all the boxes. Its soft, silky textures and juicy damson and cassis fruit with a hint of chocolate richness add up to a more-ish wine that can be drunk with pleasure now or cellared for another 12 months or so. (£9.75 a bottle).

*Amigos Red 2017* MCHENRY HOHNEN

£156.50

This flavourful blend of three Rhône varieties combines the savoury character of Shiraz with the spicy, redcurrant fruit of Grenache and the earthy warmth of Mataro (aka Mourvèdre). It comes from an exciting recent venture headed up by **David Hohnen** in the Margaret River region and costs £13.05 a bottle.

## CHAMPAGNE &amp; SPARKLING WINE

CHAMPAGNE

&amp;

SPARKLING

*Billecart-Salmon NV Brut*

£503.35

Everyone has a favourite Champagne and this is mine. I love its delicate, persistent mousse and fresh, elegant style with its subtle hint of spring hedgerows and freshly-baked brioche. This is definitely coming along to my desert island (£41.95 a bottle).

*Roederer Estate 'Quartet'*

£314.65

I first tasted this stylish California sparkler on a visit to the Carneros in 1998 and loved its elegant style. (Not surprisingly, as it's owned by the legendary Louis Roederer Champagne house.) It comes from four vineyards in the cool Anderson Valley north of San Francisco, hence the name 'Quartet', and makes an impressive, yet attractively-priced Champagne substitute – far better value than any cheap Champagne at £26.25 a bottle.

*Roederer Estate 'Quartet' Rosé*

£316.30

While the 'Quartet' has long been a favourite, it was only on my last visit to Roederer Estate in 2018 that I discovered their fantastic sparkling rosé. A classic blend of 60% Pinot Noir and 40% Chardonnay, it has a seductive salmon pink colour, delicate floral, peach and red berry aromas, and crisp acidity. Like its sister wine, it has won countless awards. Enjoy it on its own as a festive aperitif or with light starters and main courses (£26.40 a bottle).

*Jeio Prosecco Brut* BISOL

£139.50

The Prosecco grape grows exclusively in the Valdobbiadene region of Italy's Veneto, where the **Bisol family** owns some of the best-situated vineyards in the area. They have set out to maximise the potential of this variety, through low yields and scrupulous winemaking. The result is high quality, even in their basic Jeio, which is extremely agreeable on its own or mixed with fresh white peach juice for the ultimate Bellini (£11.65 a bottle). It's also ideal for large parties, particularly served from magnums (£139.50 per case of 6; £23.25 each).

*Crede Prosecco Brut* BISOL

£199.50

This is the Rolls-Royce of Proseccos, with lovely apple and pear aromas and crispness combined with creaminess on the palate. It's a great year-round aperitif, just the thing for festive occasions – but serve it on its own and use the less expensive Jeio for the Buck's fizz and Bellinis (£16.65 a bottle). For an added touch of elegance, Crede is also available in magnums (£199.50 per case of six; £33.25 each).

## WHITES

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## BOTTLE

*Grüner Veltliner Weinzierlberg 2018* STADT KREMS £187.25

Austria's Grüner Veltliner grape produces a variety of wine styles, from simple, light quaffing wines to rich, multi-faceted wines rivalling many top white Burgundies in quality, yet without the high pricetag. This zestful wine with its delightful white peach flavours belongs to the latter category and has the added benefit of being enjoyable young and for up to five years. It's a perfect choice for poached trout or salmon, but has enough flavour concentration to match grilled chicken, veal or pork (£15.65 a bottle).

*Riesling Steinterrassen 2017* STADT KREMS £185.25

The boyish-looking **Fritz Miesbauer** propelled the Austrian co-operative Freie Weingärtner Wachau to fame in the 1990s and has now made his mark at Stadt Krems in neighbouring Kremstal. His Riesling Steinterrassen, with its lovely perfumed nose and bone dry, crunchy, green apple flavours is a brilliant example of his wizardry – gorgeous now but promising more complexity and a long life ahead (£15.45 a bottle).

*Petit Chablis 2018* DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON £230.60

It's rare that a 'Petit Chablis' makes an impression, but this wine from **Bernard Billaud** always stands out in comparative tastings. From the outstanding 2017 vintage, its un-oaked, pure, lemony character combined with zingy acidity and minerality would give many more expensive Chablis a run for their money (£19.25 a bottle).

*Chablis 2017* DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON £250.55

This is textbook Chablis from one of my favourite producers and the excellent 2017 vintage. It combines tingling acidity with appetising citrus, white peach and green apple flavours. Delicious now, it will reward cellaring for another five years or longer (£20.90 a bottle).

*Saint Véran 'Les Crèches' 2017* DOMAINE SAUMAIZE-MICHELIN £256.10

Many of the best producers of Saint Véran are now making wines that rival those of their more renowned and highly-priced neighbour, Pouilly-Fuissé. This delightful wine combines aromatic notes of buttery toast and fresh pears with refreshing acidity and rich, lingering flavours (£21.35 a bottle).

*Vergelegen Reserve Chardonnay 2019* £191.70

Wines from South Africa tend to lie somewhere between the rich, ripe styles of New World wines and the more subtle styles of the Old World. Vergelegen's elegant Reserve Chardonnay combines smoky tropical aromas and flavours of orange blossom, white peach and pineapple with a measured hint of buttered toast. It would be a perfect match for crab, trout, smoked salmon, crayfish or lobster (£16.00 a bottle).



MAIN LIST

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OVER

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BOTTLE

*Kumeu River Estate Chardonnay 2018*

£280.10

This lovely barrel-fermented wine, with its rich texture and notes of green apples, hazelnuts, citrus and minerals, is made by fellow Master of Wine, New Zealander **Mike Brajkovich**. It is frequently rated one of the world's top Chardonnays, along with some of Burgundy's finest, and sells for a much more reasonable price (£23.35 a bottle).

*'Mirum' Verdicchio di Matelica Riserva 2017* LA MONACESCA

£257.15

On first tasting this extraordinary wine a few years ago, I was bowled over by its richness and complexity. More reminiscent of a fine white Burgundy than a Verdicchio, it offers abundant flavours and aromas of honey, toasted nuts and poached peaches balanced by a refreshing acidity. Try it with rich, creamy dishes like *vitello tonato* or spicy, salty Thai or Chinese fare. It also ages beautifully, gaining complexity over the years (£21.45 a bottle).

*Greco di Tufo 'Loggia' 2019* TERREDORA

£187.65

The Greco di Tufo grape is of ancient Greek origin and grows along the coastal areas of Campania in Italy, where it has recently gained acclaim for its distinctive character. This is a delightful example, with intense flavours of melon and quince (£15.65 a bottle).

*Etna Bianco 2018* PLANETA

£220.65

The volcanic slopes of Mount Etna in Sicily are home to this distinctive wine from the local Cataratto grape. Pale yellow in colour, it offers aromas of white peaches, yellow plums and summer herbs coupled with a refreshing minerality and a touch of richness from partial barrel fermentation. It's ideal with most seafood and poultry dishes. Try it with crab linguine (£18.40 a bottle).

*Albariño 2019* FEFIÑANES

£215.30

Rias Baixas in northwestern Spain is the home of one of my favourite grapes – the fragrant, stylish Albariño. It makes delightful, bone dry, aromatic whites that are completely beguiling, with aromas and flavours of white peaches and quince. Fefiñanes makes one of the top examples (£17.95 a bottle). It's delicious with fresh shellfish and grilled or pan-fried fish.

*Santorini Estate Assyrtiko 2018* ARGYROS

£250.20

I visited Greece with a group of fellow Masters of Wine in 2013, and one of many highlights was our visit to the beautiful Aegean island of Santorini with its blue-domed, whitewashed buildings, dark volcanic soil, and stunning wines from the native Assyrtiko grape. This wine is a lovely example of the bone-dry, vibrant, crisp, minerally style of Assyrtiko. It's great on its own but works extremely well with meze, avgolemono soup, grilled chicken and fish (£20.90 a bottle).

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BOTTLE

*Timorasso 'Derthona' 2016* WALTER MASSA

£268.45

The Timorasso grape, which grows in a remote corner of Piedmont in Italy, was rescued from near extinction a few decades ago by the determination and energy of one remarkable man, **Walter Massa**, who realised its great potential. Today he produces this unique wine from 10 hectares of grapes grown on the steep slopes of the Colli Tortonesi to the east of Tortona. It offers a distinctive mix of mouth-tingling acidity and a rich, creamy texture with notes of red apples, dried apricots and tangerines. It also ages beautifully for up to 15 years, becoming ever more intriguing over time (£22.40 a bottle).

*Viognier 'Les Vignes d'à Côté' 2018* YVES CUILLERON

£261.30

The voluptuous Viognier grape makes deliciously aromatic white wines with notes of honeysuckle, peaches and cream in its original habitat of the northern Rhône Valley in France. **Yves Cuilleron** makes some divine but rather pricey Condrieus, and his straight Viognier is nearly as good (£21.80 a bottle).

## REDS

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£15.00 A

## BOTTLE

*'Ego' Côtes du Roussillon Villages 2017* DOMAINE CAZES £187.50

This full-bodied, organically produced red comes from Rivesaltes in the Côtes du Roussillon near the southern French border with Spain. It's 100% Grenache, unoaked, and boasts rich, ripe red fruit aromas and flavours alongside velvety tannins. Definitely a food wine, it goes beautifully with grilled or barbecued meats and game. Wild boar pasta anyone? (£15.65 a bottle)

*Beaujolais 'Origine' Vieilles Vignes 2019* DOMAINE DU VISSOUX £181.70

A really good example of how Beaujolais can and should taste, this 100% Gamay wine is produced organically and bottled without filtration to preserve freshness and concentration. It offers an inviting aroma of ripe red cherries with a hint of cinnamon and luscious, silky-textured fruit on the palate (£15.15 a bottle).

*Savigny-lès-Beaune 1<sup>er</sup> Cru Les Peuilletts 2014* JEAN-JACQUES GIRARD £307.30

Les Peuilletts is probably my favourite 1<sup>er</sup> Cru from Girard, and the 2014 is a definite star. It has a powerful, seductive nose of dark berries and spicy oak together with great balance on the palate and a lovely, lingering finish. Worthy of a place at a special dinner of pigeon breasts, grouse, or partridge with a wild mushroom sauce (£25.65 a bottle).

*Marques de Murrieta Rioja Reserva 2015* £210.00

Marques de Murrieta is one of the two oldest Rioja producers, the other being the Marques de Riscal, and its wines today are better than ever. The 2013 Reserva, a blend of Tempranillo, Mazuelo, Graciano and Garnacha grapes, has been aged for 20 months in American oak and another year in bottle before release. It's drinking beautifully now, showing ripe cherry, blackberry and plum fruit with a hint of mocha, plus silky tannins and balancing acidity. I'd serve it with most red meat, game birds, and turkey (£17.50 a bottle).

*Château La Grave Figeac 2009* £324.90

A French friend in London introduced me to **Jean-Pierre Clauzel**, who with his wife Sabine has run this small (6.4 ha) property which neighbours Ch. Cheval Blanc in St Emilion and Ch. La Conseillante in Pomerol since 1993. I was mightily impressed by his wines, blends of 65% Merlot and 35% Cabernet Franc. The 2009 is full and velvet-textured, with long-lasting flavours of dark berries, plums and spices – delicious now but still vibrant enough to cellar for another 3–5 years at least (£27.10 a bottle).

MAIN LIST

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BOTTLE

*Meerlust Rubicon 2016*

£296.00

A longstanding personal favourite, Rubicon is the flagship of the Meerlust collection, and the 2014 rivals the excellent 2009 in quality. I paid a visit on my trip to South Africa in 2015, and was treated to an extensive tasting by winemaker **Chris Williams**. His Rubicon is a Bordeaux-style blend of 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc and 1% Petit Verdot. Young, intense and bursting with blackcurrant, plum and cedar tones, this is a perfect wine to accompany classic beef, game birds, lamb or venison as well as mature cheeses. (£24.70 a bottle).

*La Rosine Syrah 2016* DOMAINE MICHEL ET STÉPHANE OGIER

£259.30

**Stéphane Ogier** makes sublime wines in the Northern Rhone, an impression that was confirmed when I visited his small estate near Ampuis a few years ago. Last year I was treated to a tasting and lunch in London, where he presented recent vintages of all his wines. The wines were stunning, but for me the best value by far was his La Rosine Syrah, from 30-year-old vines on the edge of the Côte Rôtie appellation – juicy, fresh and supple, with lingering flavours of violets and dark berries (£21.65 a bottle).

*Rasteau Villages 2017* DOMAINE LA SOUMADE

£203.70

I've long been a fan of **André Romero**, who makes some of the greatest wines in the southern Rhône area. The American wine critic **Robert Parker** has dubbed him the 'superstar of Rasteau', and this wine clearly demonstrates why. A blend of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre grapes from low-yielding vines, it combines power and concentration with enticing aromas and flavours of dark fruits and a velvety texture (£17.00 a bottle).

*Carmenère Piu 2016* INAMA

£197.40

The gifted **Stefano Inama** has created another amazing wine, this one a blend of 60% Carmenère, 30% Merlot and 10% Raboso Veronese grown in the volcanic soil of the Colli Berici, southeast of Soave Classico. Fresh and balanced, it has lovely damson, black cherry and violet aromas and flavours, very much living up to its name, which means 'more' in Italian (£16.50 a bottle).

*Barbera d'Alba 2017* PIO CESARE

£211.50

I'm a longtime fan of the wines from **Pio Cesare**, and the Barbera d'Alba is a particular favourite. Made from Barbera grapes grown in the Barolo and Barbaresco region of Piedmont in northwest Italy, it exudes velvety, rich and spicy flavours of dark plums and chocolate alongside a balancing acidity. Enjoy it with sausages, grilled meats, or hearty pasta dishes (£17.65 a bottle).

*Barco Reale 2016* TENUTA DI CAPEZZANA

£212.00

Tenuta di Capezzana is a beautiful estate northwest of Florence dating from the time of the Medicis and built around an elegant Renaissance palazzo. Its wines have always impressed me, and the quality today is better than ever, as shown by the 2014 Barco Reale, with its bright dark cherry fruit and juicy yet intense flavours (£17.70 a bottle).

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BOTTLE

*Chianti Classico 2016* CASTELLO DI BOSSI

£255.00

My friend **Michael Palij** MW, who has a nose for great Italian wine, first introduced me to **Marco Bacci**, the handsome, gregarious co-owner of Castello di Bossi, near Siena in southern Tuscany. All Marco's wines are impressive, but his Chianti Classico, with its juicy black cherry fruit and round, full-bodied charm, is a personal favourite (£21.30 a bottle).

*Chianti Classico 2016* FONTODI

£276.90

On my first visit to this family-run Tuscan property in 1994, I was impressed not only by the quality of the wines and the impeccable new winery, but also by the breathtaking views of the surrounding Conca D'Oro ('golden shell') vineyards at sunset. I've been back regularly ever since, and have watched as **Giovanni Manetti** has taken on his late father's role as winemaker, built a spanking new cellar, and continued to improve the quality of the wines. His 2015 Chianti Classico is lovely, combining the ripeness of the vintage with a luscious, spicy dark-cherry character and a powerful aftertaste (£23.10 a bottle).

*Bradisismo 2015* INAMA

£347.40

This amazing wine from **Stefano Inama** is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Carmenère grapes grown on unique volcanic soil ('bradisismo') in the Colli Berici in Italy's Veneto region. It combines muscle and elegance with rich blackcurrant fruit and spicy complexity from 15 months in new French oak barrels (£28.95 a bottle).