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WINE LIST

Spring/Summer 2023

BOUQUET WINES grew out of my passionate interest in wine. 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!



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 for £15.50 including VAT.

WHITES

BEST BUYS

WINES FOR

Grüner Veltliner Löss 2022 schloss gobelsburg

£160.20

UP TO

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

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 (£13.35 a bottle).

Grüner Veltliner Weinzierlberg 2020 stadt krems

£,162.40

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 (£13.55 a bottle).

Riesling Steinterrassen 2020 stadt krems

£,162.40

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 (£13.55 a bottle).

Sauvignon Blanc 2021 RAPAURA SPRINGS

£145.65

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 (£12.15 a bottle).

Premium Sauvignon Blanc 2020 VERGELEGEN

£,128.25

During my visit to South Africa in 2015 I tasted many Sauvignon Blancs and Vergelegen's was among my top picks. The 2020 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 (£,10.70 a bottle).

Falerio 2020 SALADINI PILASTRI

£,104.80

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 (£8.75 a bottle).

Lugana 2021 NUNZIO GHIRALDI

£,157.60

BEST BUYS

WINES FOR

UP TO

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

Verdicchio di Matelica 2020 LA MONACESCA

for seafood, salads and light pasta dishes (£13.15 a bottle).

£170.85

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 (£,14.25 a bottle).

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

La Segreta Bianco 2021 PLANETA

£,135.80

When I first visited this dynamic Sicilian producer in 2004, I found its state-of-theart 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' (£11.35 a bottle)

Soave Classico 'Campo dei Tovi' 2021 INAMA

£177.85

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 (£,14.85 a bottle).

Chardonnay 2021 RUSTENBERG

£,152.50

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 orangezest flavours and distinctive. moreish style. Try it with seafood or lightly spiced dishes (£12.75 a bottle).

REDS

BEST BUYS

WINES FOR

Corbières Tradition Rouge 2018 CHATEAU LA BASTIDE

£,145.90

UP TO

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

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 herbscented blend of 80% Syrah with Grenache Rouge and old-vine Carignan is excellent value at (£12.20 a bottle).

Côtes du Rhône 'Le Temps Est Venu' 2020 DOMAINE OGIER

£179.30

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 £14.95 a bottle.

Rocky Road Syrah 2017 MCHENRY HOHNEN

£,162.95

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 (£13.60 a bottle).

Pinot Noir 2020 WAIPARA SPRINGS

£,157.10

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 (£13.10 a bottle).

Premium Cabernet/Merlot 2015 vergelegen

£127.90

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 (£10.70 a bottle).

RM Nicholson 2018 RUSTENBERG

£131.05

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 £10.95 a bottle.

Rasteau Villages 2019 Domaine la soumade

£,170.70

BEST BUYS

WINES FOR

UP TO

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

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 (£14.25 a bottle).

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING WINE

CHAMPAGNE

Brut Réserve NV BILLECART-SALMON

£577.35

SPARKLING

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 (£48.15 a bottle).

'Quartet' ROEDERER ESTATE

€,332.05

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 £27.70 a bottle.

'Quartet' Rosé roederer estate

£317.20

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 (£26.45 a bottle).

ROSÉS

Rosé 2021 domaine tour campanets

£,176.60

I've been on the lookout for a reasonably priced, yet tasty rosé, and this one from organically farmed vineyards near Aix-en-Provence ticks all the boxes. A blend of Syrah, Grenache, Cabernet Sauvignon and Carignan, it has a lovely pale salmon colour and wonderful smooth, juicy summer fruit flavours. It's great as an aperitif or with a variety of fish or chicken dishes as well as spicy Indian or Asian food (£14.75 a bottle).

Premier Cru 2021 CHÂTEAU ROUBINE

£250.20

Provençal rosés are much in vogue at the moment, and many can be short on depth and flavour. Desite 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 Province, and has enough structure to enhance most menus from a light *salade Niçoise* with grilled tuna to hearty Tuscan *porchetta* (£20.85 a bottle).

WHITES

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Petit Chablis 2019 DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON

£236.70

OVER

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

It's rare that a 'Petit Chablis' makes an impression, but this wine from Bernard Billaud always stands out in comparative tastings. Its unoaked, pure, lemony character combined with zingy acidity and minerality would give many more expensive Chablis a run for their money (\pounds 19.75 a bottle).

Chablis 2019 DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON

£,265.80

This is textbook Chablis from one of my favourite producers and an excellent 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 (£22.20 a bottle).

Saint Véran 'Les Pierres Blanches' 2021 CAVE DE PRISSÉ

£,202.30

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 (£16.90 a bottle).

Saint Véran 2021 DOMAINE SAUMAIZE-MICHELIN

£,275.90

This is one of the finest examples of St Véran from the 2021 vintage and stood out at a recent tasting of white Burgundy. It's a delight, combining aromatic notes of buttery toast and fresh pears with refreshing acidity and rich, lingering flavours (£23.00 a bottle).

Chardonnay Grand Ardèche 2021 LOUIS LATOUR

€189.30

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 2016 vintage (£,15.80 a bottle).

Reserve Chardonnay 2019 VERGELEGEN

£197.10

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 (£16.45 a bottle).

Kim Crawford Pinot Gris 2021

£,200.85

MAIN LIST

WINES FOR

OVER

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

I visited Kim Crawford's winery in Marlborough on my trip to New Zealand in 2005 and was captivated by this wine, with its rich, almost savoury character and silky texture. Pinot Gris is rapidly gaining a reputation for quality in New Zealand, and this is one of the tastiest examples I've come across, and makes a delightful aperiif but has enough body and concentration to partner pork, ham or *charcuterie* (£16.75 a bottle).

Greco di Tufo 'Loggia della Terre' 2020 terredora

£,183.35

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 £15.30 a bottle).

Etna Bianco 2021 PLANETA

€,280.90

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 (£23.45 a bottle)

Albariño 2020 FEFIÑANES

£,212.00

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 (£17.70 a bottle). It's delicious with fresh shellfish and grilled or pan-fried fish.

Santorini Estate Assyrtiko 2020 ARGYROS

£291.75

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, *avgolimono* soup, grilled chicken and fish (£24.35 a bottle).

Viognier 'Les Vignes d'à Côté' 2020 YVES CUILLERON

£230.25

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 (£19.20 a bottle).

REDS

MAIN LIST

WINES FOR

OVER

£15.00 A

BOTTLE

Beaujolais 'Origine' Vieilles Vignes 2021 CHERMETTE

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 concen-

tration. It offers an inviting aroma of ripe red cherries with a hint of cinnamon and luscious, silky-textured fruit on the palate ($f_{19.35}$ a bottle).

Savigny-lès-Beaune Rouge 2021 JEAN-JACQUES GIRARD

Vintage 2021 was very small in Burgundy, and many prices have gone through the roof. Not so for the ever-reliable Jean-Jean Girard, who has not only produced a magical red with smooth, ripe tannin, intense plum and spice fruit and excellent palate length but has shown admirable restraint with his pricing. Bravo (£23.80 a bottle)!

Marqués de Murrieta Rioja Reserva 2016

Marqués 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 2016 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, blackberrry 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 (£17.15 a bottle). It's also available in 50 cl bottles, perfect for those times when a full bottle seems a bit much. Price available on request.

Rubicon 2017 MEERLUST

A longstanding personal favourite, Rubicon is the flagship of the Meerlust collection, and the 2017 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. (£23.75 a bottle).

La Rosine Syrah 2019 domaine michel et stéphane ogier

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 (£22.15 a bottle).

£232.15

£,205.60

£,285.10

£,265.55

£,284.95

Carmenère Piu 2018 INAMA

£193.65

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 (£16.15 a bottle).

Barco Reale 2019 TENUTA DI CAPEZZANA

£,214.65

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 2019 Barco Reale, with its bright dark cherry fruit and juicy yet intense flavours (£17.90 a bottle).

Chianti Classico 2020 FONTODI

£390.30

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 2020 Chianti Classico is lovely, combining the ripeness of the vintage with a luscious, spicy dark-cherry character and a powerful aftertaste (£32.55 a bottle).

Bradisismo 2017 INAMA

£,359.80

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 (£,30.00 a bottle).

WINE ORDER

Telephone 020 3689 7930, or write to me at sparkling@msn.com, to tell me what you want. (Remember to tell me your address!) Or print these last pages and circle the price/s of the wine/s you want. (Write the number of cases beside the price to order more than one case of a wine.) Post the form to me at Bouquet Wines, 16 Holland Park Avenue, London W11 3QU.

REDS

Corbières Tradition Rouge 2018 CHATEAU LA BASTIDE	£145.90
Côtes du Rhône 'Le Temps Est Venu' 2020 DOMAINE OGIER	£179.30
Rocky Road Syrah 2017 MCHENRY HOHNEN	£162.95
Beaujolais 'Origine' Vieilles Vignes 2021 CHERMETTE	£232.15
Savigny-lès-Beaune Rouge 2021 JEAN-JACQUES GIRARD	£285.10
Pinot Noir 2020 WAIPARA SPRINGS	£157.10
Marqués de Murrieta Rioja Reserva 2016	£205.60
Premium Cabernet/Merlot 2015 VERGELEGEN	£127.90
RM Nicholson 2018 RUSTENBERG	£131.05
Rubicon 2017 MEERLUST	£284.95
La Rosine Syrah 2019 DOMAINE MICHEL ET STÉPHANE OGIER	£265.55
Rasteau Villages 2019 DOMAINE LA SOUMADE	£170.70
Carmenère Piu 2018 INAMA	£193.65
Barco Reale 2019 TENUTA DI CAPEZZANA	£214.65
Chianti Classico 2020 FONTODI	£390.30
Bradisismo 2017 INAMA	£359.80

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING WINE

Brut Réserve NV BILLECART-SALMON	£577.35
'Quartet' ROEDERER ESTATE	£332.05
'Quartet' Rosé ROEDERER ESTATE	£317.20
ROSÉS	
Rosé 2021 DOMAINE TOUR CAMPANETS	£176.60
Premier Cru 2021 CHÂTEAU ROUBINE	£250.20
WHITES	
Grüner Veltliner Löss 2022 SCHLOSS GOBELSBURG	£160.20
Grüner Veltliner Weinzierlberg 2020 STADT KREMS	£162.40
Riesling Steinterrassen 2020 STADT KREMS	£162.40
Sauvignon Blanc 2021 RAPAURA SPRINGS	£145.65
Premium Sauvignon Blanc 2020 VERGELEGEN	£128.25
Petit Chablis 2019 DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON	£236.70
Chablis 2019 DOMAINE BILLAUD-SIMON	£265.80
Saint Véran 'Les Pierres Blanches' 2021 CAVE DE PRISSÉ	£202.30
Saint Véran 2021 DOMAINE SAUMAIZE-MICHELIN	£275.90
Chardonnay Grand Ardèche 2021 LOUIS LATOUR	£189.30
Reserve Chardonnay 2019 VERGELEGEN	£197.10
Kim Crawford Pinot Gris 2021	£200.85
Falerio 2020 SALADINI PILASTRI	£104.80
Lugana 2021 NUNZIO GHIRALDI	£157.60
Verdicchio di Matelica 2020 LA MONACESCA	£170.85
Greco di Tufo 'Loggia della Terre' 2020 TERREDORA	£183.35
La Segreta Bianco 2021 PLANETA	£135.80
Etna Bianco 2021 PLANETA	£280.90
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