

2011 – 2012 Wine List

Welcome to my latest list. After all the shenanigans of the last few years of Labour mis-rule with endless Budget increases in beer, wine and spirit duty, I am tempted to think that Boy George Osborne is unlikely to raise UK Duty any higher before the next Budget in Spring 2012. He has already increased Duty on still wine to £1.81 per bottle, and sparkling wine and Champagne to £2.32 per bottle not to mention the increase in VAT to 20%! Greedy Bugger.

I am therefore tempted to produce a 'proper' list which will hopefully last until the next Budget. The only N in the.....no, I can't say that now can I ? The only cloud on the horizon is the continuing weakness of the £, which may affect prices adversely over this period. I will try and keep prices stable but please bear with me if I have to ask for a little more on some wines if the rate drops too far.

I think it might be interesting to highlight just how much the Government takes from you and me in duty and tax on our enjoyment of the odd bottle of wine. If I buy a wine from a producer in France for example, and it costs me let us say a £1.00 a bottle, by the time it reaches the Bonded Warehouse, it will have cost £1.35 a bottle. Take it out of Bond, add Duty, and it rises to £3.16 per bottle. Add VAT and you arrive at the Grand Total of £3.79 per bottle, or £45.48 per case without any margin for the Wine Merchant. Out of our £1 bottle, the Government has taken £3.68, or £44.13 per case. The fact is that a bottle of wine costing a £1 is not likely to do you any good at all !! Do this calculation for Champagne costing, say £11 per bottle in France, and you reach a total of £16.40 per bottle without a margin, and the Government has grabbed £5.05 per bottle or £60.60 per case. Iniquitous.

I am afraid it is going to get increasingly difficult to find a decent and drinkable wine at under £10 per bottle, but I am doing my level best to list some good wines at below this mark, which I hope that you will find enjoyable.

As always I can find pretty well any wine that you might enjoy drinking which doesn't appear on this list, so don't hesitate to ask me if you have a special favourite. Best wishes Alastair.

PLEASE NOTE. WINES MARKED WITH ** IN THE LIST ARE ONLY AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM SOUTH HARTING OR LOCAL DELIVERY. THEY CAN BE SENT BY CARRIER AT COST. PLEASE ASK FOR QUOTE FOR DELIVERY FOR THESE WINES.

NOTE :Please see page 16 for delivery details on wines in the list marked **

BORDEAUX WINES

CHATEAU DE TERREFORT-LESCALLE 2009

Bordeaux

£92.20 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.69/bottle)

Here is a modern wine that has benefitted from the many advances in wine-making in the last few years, yet remains very good value for money. Situated close to 5th Growth Château Cantemerle. Very popular now with my Clients, and for a very good reason.

****CHATEAU LA VERRIERE 2004**

Bordeaux Superieure

£95.74 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.98/bottle)

This is a lighter style of claret for those who have grown weary of the 14 to 15 degree New World reds. Attractive fruit and a stylish 13 degrees wine from a vintage that is drinking well now. Good value too.

****CHATEAU VALENTONS CANTELOUP 2004**

Bordeaux Superieure

£107.32 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.95/bottle)

This is such good value for money considering the recent swingeing duty increases. Excellent well-balanced wine from a good drinking vintage with lots of attractive fruit and a long finish. Won a Gold Medal at the Paris Show. Not to be missed.

CHATEAU MAUPEREY 2007

Cotes de Castillon

£109.78 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.15/bottle)

Another well made and balanced wine from Cotes de Castillon, where the Merlot grape dominates, giving a smooth and attractive wine which can be drunk young or kept for another 3 to 4 years.

CHATEAU DE PARENCHERE 2006

Bordeaux Superieure

£117.39 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.79/bottle)

This Château sits on an outcrop of chalky clay not dissimilar to that of St Emilion, and superior soil types are the key to quality in wine-making. This is good.

CHATEAU HAUT-BREGA 2006

Haut Medoc

£123.24 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.27/bottle)

This wine comes from the St Estephe end of the Haut Medoc, so tends towards the 'blackberries and herbs' fragrance and is very good. Good value too.

VIEUX CHATEAU NEGRIT 2008

Montagne Saint Emilion

£133.23 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.11/bottle)

Another Right Bank wine with Merlot dominant in the blend, which gives it a richness and full flavour which is a hallmark of the wines of Saint Emilion and it's satellites.

****CHATEAU CAZEBONNE 2004**

Graves

£134.62 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.22/bottle)

NEW TO THE LIST. This has got lots of good things going for it. Grown on the gravel, the vines impart a rich fruity flavour to this wine, and it really is quite excellent. Reasonably priced for the quality.

****CHATEAU TOUR ST BONNET 2002** **£139.28 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.61/bottle)**

Cru Bourgeois, Medoc

NEW TO THE LIST. This Chateau has been making such good wines in recent years, and always give very good value for money. Ready for drinking and will not disappoint.

****CHATEAU BERNADOTTE 2007** **£127.37 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.62/bottle)**

Haut Medoc

NEW TO THE LIST. This wine from an unfashionable vintage is drinking really well at the moment. It is tremendous value for money as it has a very sound pedigree, having been produced by the same team that makes Chateau Pichon Longueville Lalande. I bought this at a knock down price because it has American back labels and was part of a bankrupt stock. Not to be missed!

****CHATEAU LES TROIS MANOIRS 2005** **£141.88 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.83/bottle)**

Medoc

Here is another Paris Show Gold Medal winner from a famous vintage which you could keep for another 4 years but is drinking really well now. I highly recommend this wine. Real quality. You may find it hard to resist opening the second bottle!!! A lot of my Clients are liking this one.

CHATEAU GARDOUR 2005 **£163.64 per case 12 inc VAT (£13.64/bottle)**

Lalande de Pomerol

I love the wines of Pomerol and it's satellites. They have a richness and velvety feel about them, and of course they get more and more expensive. This one is good value though.

CHATEAU MONTAIGUILLON 2006 **£167.60 per case 12 inc VAT (£13.97/bottle)**

Montagne Saint Emilion

£198.32 per case 24 ½'s inc VAT (£8.27/ ½)

£175.91 per case 6 Magnums inc VAT (£29.32/mag)

This wine is very popular with my Clients. Well balanced with good fruit and soft tannins. Also available in half bottles and Magnums. No disappointments here. 2006 is a good vintage for Bordeaux.

CHATEAU DE GIRONVILLE 2005 **£188.98 per case 12 inc VAT (£15.75/bottle).**

Cru Bourgeois Haut Medoc.

This Chateau lies just to the south of the great Bordeaux wine region of Margaux, renowned for it's elegant and perfumed wines. This is very good and the 2003's are drinking well now.

CHATEAU HAURA 2006 **£191.84 per case 12 inc VAT (£15.99/bottle)**

Graves.

Quintessential modern Graves from the expert wine maker Denis Debourdieu. Fruit, wood and minerality in perfect balance.

****LE HAUT MEDOC DE GISCOURS 2004/5** **£203.74 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.98/bottle)**

Haut Medoc.

NEW TO THE LIST. Back on the list, but at a significantly higher price reflecting the excellent quality of this wine. Made by the team at Chateau Giscours from land bordering their Grand Cru Classe property this is still a bargain. When you consider that a Restaurant will charge £16 to £18 per bottle for a 'House Wine', you can see that a case or so of this wine in your cellar will give you some pleasurable drinking, with so much of the elegance and style of the Grand Vin in it's make-up to enjoy.

CHATEAU DU GLANA 2004 **£281.33 per case 12 inc VAT (£23.45/bottle)**

Cru Bourgeois St Julien.

The majority of the wines produced in St Julien are from Classified Growth Chateaux. This one is an exception, but it exhibits all the elegance that comes from the excellent terroir of the region.

CHATEAU CANTEMERLE 2004**£316.29 per case 12 inc VAT (£26.36/bottle)****5me Cru Classe Macau. Haut Medoc.**

This fifth growth Chateau has made rapid improvements in the quality of it's wines, and it always features well in the Primeurs tastings. The prices always seem to be sensible and represent good value for money. 2004 has turned into a decent drinking vintage on the whole.

CHATEAU BEL-AIR 2003**£316.49 per case 12 inc VAT (£26.38/bottle)****Pomerol.**

I have always loved the wines of the right bank, and Pomerol is where some of the best wines of the region are produced. I have listed this Chateau before and it has always proved very popular, but alas, the price climbs ever higher. At least you get what you paid for.

HOUSE WINES

A good range of every-day drinking wines. As you can see, the French wines from Georges Duboeuf have got more expensive, and the **Siete Soles from Chile** is now the same price as the French offering, and **must represent the best value in the list!!**

Le Bouquet de Georges Duboeuf.**Rouge & Blanc case of 12x 75 cl. bottles: £67.32 per case 12 inc VAT. (£5.61/bottle)****Le Bouquet de Georges Duboeuf.****Rouge & Blanc case of 12 Screwcap litres: £87.92 per case 12 inc VAT. (£7.33/litre)**

Two new blends from Georges Duboeuf for my house wines. These are a great improvement on the previous offering...more Gamay in the mix makes the red cleaner and fresher and very approachable. The white is similarly more attractive. These are very good value & excellent for parties too.

Siete Soles Blanco 2008 Terra Andina**£67.32 per case 12 inc VAT. (£5.61/bottle)**

Chilean blend of Semillon and Chardonnay grapes. Good fresh tasting wine.

Siete Soles Tinto 2008 Terra Andina**£67.32 per case 12 inc VAT. (£5.61/bottle)**

Chilean blend of Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot grapes. Pleasantly rounded & well-balanced wine.

Vista Flores Blanco 2009.**£74.93 per case 12 inc VAT. (£6.25/bottle)**

Argentine blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Chenin Blanc . Produced by the famous Bodega Norton.

Vista Flores Tinto 2009**£74.93 per case 12 inc VAT.(£6.25/bottle)**

Bodega Norton blended Sangiovese and Malbec grapes. Lots of fruit here and good quality.

'BEAUJOLAIS'

I think most of my Clients are aware of the fact that I am a keen Beaujolais man. I have been a fan for a long time and became hooked by the 1976 Vintage which was so good. We recently attended a presentation of the 2009 Vintage by Georges Duboeuf, from whom I buy all my Beaujolais wines, and I must say it is a really stunning Vintage. Georges says that you have to go back to 1949 in his Grandfather's time to find an August as sunny as 2009, and this Vintage could even surpass that great Vintage. There are still 2008's on my list which are very good, and when the 2009's come on-stream, you really should try them. You will not be disappointed ! If you don't know Beaujolais, now is a very good time to start. Perfect summer lunch-time drinking, and many other times as well.

Gamay de l'Ardeche 2009**£82.06 per case 12 inc VAT.(£6.84/bottle)****Georges Duboeuf**

NOT a Beaujolais, but I have put it in this category because it is made by Duboeuf from the Gamay grape grown in the Ardeche region. This is better than many Growers Beaujolais Villages and never disappoints. Clean, rich and fruity. Really good drinking and such good value for money. The wine Madeleine and I drink as an aperitif every evening. Could qualify for the house wine category, but too good!!!!!!

Beaujolais Villages 2009
Chateau des Vierres.

£103.44 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.62/bottle)

I don't normally list a Beaujolais Villages because I prefer to list the single vineyard 'crus', but this was so outstandingly good, from a single vineyard **and**, in the circumstances, such good value too, that I thought I had better make an exception to the rule!

Regnie 2009
Domaine des Buyats

£106.61 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.89/bottle)

The newest appellation of the Beaujolais, this is really good. We have moved on now to the 2008 Vintage which is fresh and fruity and full of the raspberry and soft fruit flavours so typical of the gamay grape.

Brouilly 2009
Château de la Perriere.

£125.62 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.47/bottle)

This wine has a dark colour and lots of mature fruit. A satisfying mouthful and a very good example of how good Beaujolais can be. As good a Brouilly as I have ever tasted and is consistent from vintage to vintage.

Morgon 2009
Domaine Jean Descombes

£127.20 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.60/bottle)

I don't know what it is about Jean Descombes but he always produces a unique and extraordinary style of Beaujolais which is dark and powerful with a flowery nose and a huge range of fruity flavours.

Fleurie 2009
'La Madone'

£138.29 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.53/bottle)

Here is a top class Beaujolais from an excellent vintage, and this is one that you will enjoy. Deep ruby red with a lovely aroma of black cherries and raspberries. Classic wine.

WHITE MACONNAIS

Macon Charnay 2008/9
Georges Duboeuf

£119.28 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.94/bottle)

Still the most popular white wine on my list. This has something for everyone. Fruity, dry, versatile, stylish, and sophisticated. Definitely one of my favourites too.

Saint Veran 2009
Domaine Saint Martin

£143.04 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.92/bottle)

This is such a good wine. Complements most fish dishes, and is a pleasure to drink.

Pouilly Fuisse 2008
Domaine Beranger

£192.15 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.02/bottle)

Top of the range in the region. Very highly regarded, and a real treat. Ripe fruit and good depth of flavour are features of this stylish wine.

VIN DU PAYS D'OC.

****Marsanne/Viognier Les Vignes d'Orpin 2009** **£91.64 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.63/bottle)**

Here is another new entrant to the list. These two grapes 'married together' seem to bring out the best of both characteristics.. Nice fruit and satisfying.

****Picpoul de Pinet Cuvee Prestige 2009** £89.86 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.49/bottle)

Domaine Lauriers

This is a fruity, flowery and all too drinkable white wine made with the Picpoul de Pinet Grape which you don't often come across. Particularly good aperitif wine before a sunny lunch, or even with lunch. Well worth a 'go' at this one. Lots of Languedoc sunshine in this.

LOIRE

I am continuing to list the three top whites of the Loire region. Muscadet whose vineyards are situated close to where the Loire meets the Atlantic, and Sancerre and Pouilly from the upmarket and up river vineyards.

Chateau de Clery 2007 Muscadet de Sevre-et-Maine £125.62 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.47/bottle)

One of the oldest properties in the Muscadet region. This really is a quality wine, and the arguably the best you will find from this region. Bright, fruity and full of 'zing'. Special! Great with shellfish

Sancerre 'Les Boffants' 2007/08 £181.85 per case 12 inc VAT (£15.16/bottle)

Charles Dupuy

Fermented at low temperatures to retain fruit character and freshness. This is an excellent example of how well the sauvignon blanc grape can perform in the Loire. Very good indeed.

Pouilly Fume Les Chailloux 2008 £168.39 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.04/bottle)

Domaine Jean-Claude Chatelain

Such a good wine from a producer who cares passionately about quality. Fresh with a good depth of flavour You can't go wrong here. This is top quality wine.

ALSACE

Why won't you buy Alsace wines? I have tried and tried to sell them to you all, but no one seems to want to know. Such stylish, individual, fruity and interesting wines deserve some recognition. Here are three to whet the appetite. You cannot say that I am not trying. (perhaps I am!!)

Pinot Blanc 2009 £113.43 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.46/bottle)

Rene Mure. Alsace

Dry, fruity and slatey style of wine. Attractive fresh flavour. Great aperitif.

Pinot Gris 2010 £131.96 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.00/bottle)

Rene Mure. Alsace

This is a grape that is grown all over the World and is styled Pinot Grigio in Italy and elsewhere. Here it has a distinctive 'Alsace' flavour and style which is richly fruity and quite plump. Well...you know what I mean. I love it.

Gewurtztraminer Signature 2009 £138.77 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.57/bottle)

Rene Mure. Alsace

Once tasted never forgotten. That is how the unique, rich, plump (again!) exotic flavour of Alsace Gewurtztraminer was once described to me by a Doyen of the wine trade. Several countries grow this grape, but few if any achieve the special flavour imparted by the Alsace terroir and expertise. The Mure Family have been making wine there since 1648.

Riesling Grand Cru Clos St Landelin 2007 £279.75 per case 12 inc VAT (£23.32/bottle)

Rene Mure. Alsace.

The Clos St Landelin is the pinnacle of Mure's holdings, enjoying a particularly warm and sheltered southerly location, and thanks also to the protection of the highest of the Vosges Mountains to the west. This is a lovely wine with just the right balance of minerality, acidity, richness and spice. You will not be disappointed.

A GERMAN WHITE

I have never had much luck selling German Wines. They rather shot themselves in the foot in the past by sending us huge quantities of Bombers, Doodlebugs, V2's, Blue Nun, Piesporter Michelsberg, Bereich Nierstein, Black Tower, Liebfraumilch..STOP...no more please. The top German wines are really wonderful and exciting, and I am going to list just one to whet your appetite. I expect I shall end up having to drink it myself but that will not be a hardship.

****Graacher Himmelretch Kabinett 2009
J. J. Prum**

£250.23 per case 12 inc VAT (£20.86/bottle)

If you are a German Wine fan, do get in touch with me. I have access to a huge range of wine from the very best growers, and will be happy to obtain stocks of your favourites, or advise.

RED RHONE WINE

With winter upon us, this is the best time to consider the wines of the Rhone Valley. So rich and warming, they team really well with game, roast meats, and cheese. So much wine is produced in this huge region that it is hard to know where to start with a list. I have been looking at some wines to extend the list of Rhones, and am pleased to report that I have found some really interesting and enjoyable examples, and I do hope you will give them a try. I am sure you will not be disappointed.

**Coteaux de Tricastin 2009
Delas Freres**

£93.63 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.81/bottle)

A well-made 'cockle-warming' mouth filling wine from the Northern Rhone Valley. Has an almost sweet richness about it. Very good and good value too !! Good with game.

****Cotes du Rhone 2007
Domaine Pesquier.**

£107.32 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.95/bottle)

New to the list. This wine is so good !!! Big rich and fruity wine expertly made by Pesquier who makes such beautifully balanced and elegant wines. Smooth & delicious. Not to be missed. Good value too.

**Cotes du Rhone St Esprit 2009
Delas Freres**

£109.78 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.15/bottle)

A Southern Rhone Valley Cotes du Rhone from a very good producer. A bit lighter in style, but good fruit and well balanced. Very satisfactory wine.

****Cotes du Rhone 2008
Château de Montfaucon.**

£118.90 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.91/bottle)

New to the list. This Southern Rhone property sits right on the bank of the river on the floor of the valley where summer temperatures can reach 40 degrees, but this is a fine, cool and stylish wine, and although a little dearer than others on the list, it really is delicious. Why not try them all ?

****Quintessence de Château Pesquie 2007.
Cotes du Ventoux. Rhone**

£173.50 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.46/bottle)

We were served this wine at a recent Wine Trade lunch, and it was a revelation. I really couldn't place it...there were so many exciting flavours in the glass, and it was so elegant, well-balanced and mature. I could taste the Syrah grapes, and a small amount of Grenache, but there was also a hint of Bordeaux about it. This wine is a winner, but sadly in short supply. First come first served

****Vacqueras 2007
Reserve de Deux Monardes. Monardieres.**

£164.86 per case 12 inc VAT (£13.74/bottle).

I couldn't resist adding it to my list. I had to give it full marks on the tasting because I couldn't find a fault with it. Such fruit and rich flavour, a most satisfying wine.

****Gigondas 2007** **£176.26 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.69/bottle)**
Pesquier.

This is another fine wine from the Pesquier stable. They certainly know how to make wonderful and exciting wines. Wines from Gigondas are usually rich, dark, fruity and delicious, and this is no exception, and it is so smooth. Give yourself a treat.

Vacqueyras 2007 **£185.02 per case 12 inc VAT (£15.42/bottle)**
Château de Trignon

Here is a newish addition to my list. Deeply concentrated, it has a distinctive plump yet herbal quality. Grenache from old vines is the main grape here, backed up by Syrah. Really good.

Chateauneuf du Pape 2007 **£309.36 per case 12 inc VAT (£25.78/bottle)**
Domaine de Beurenard

Big dark and powerful wine from the Coulon family, who use traditional production methods to produce a very high quality wine. Rich fruit with a hint of cloves. A real treat.

WHITE RHONE WINE

Viognier Vin du Pays d'Oc 2009 **£102.17 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.52/bottle)**
Delas

On the whole, I find the Rhone Valley white wines lack acidity because of the heat, which makes them rather flabby. This Viognier is a bit of an exception, and has plenty of rich melon and apricot flavours.

RED BURGUNDY

This is such a difficult region in which to find good quality wines at a reasonable price. The best wines are terribly expensive, and the medium ranges are very expensive. I am not offering much in this category, because I think you get better value from Bordeaux. I have access to substantial stocks of top quality Burgundies too numerous to list here. Contact me if you would like a longer list.

****Bourgogne Rouge 2007** **£198.72 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.56/bottle)**
Domaine Tollot-Beaut

New to the List. This is a particularly impressive example of pinot noir grown by the Tollot-Beaut family and is complements the equally excellent Bourgogne Blanc from the same stable which has been on the list for some time.

Givry Rouge, La Grande Berge 2006 **£203.83 per case 12 inc VAT (£17.01/bottle)**
Eric Desvignes.

Very good colour and good fruit, this is a very good bottle from the Cote Chalonnaise's smallest red wine appellation.

Gevrey-Chambertin 2007 **£296.69 per case 12 inc VAT (£24.73/bottle)**
Vieilles Vignes. Vincent Girardin

New to the List. Vincent Girardin really does know how to make good red Burgundy and this is a prime example of his art. Good colour with lots of fruit and so well balanced.

WHITE BURGUNDY

****Bourgogne Blanc 2007** **£198.72 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.56/bottle)**
Domaine Tollot-Beaut.

New to the list, this is a really outstanding declassified White Burgundy and is an absolute bargain. You would pay more than double this for the Grand Vin from this celebrated Grower. Not to be missed.

Montagny 1^{er} Cru 'sur le Cloux' 2008 £192.15 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.02/bottle)
Domaine Alain Roy

I have listed this wine for some years now and it has always proved to be very popular. The sporting Alain Roy puts the best cuvees in oak for a short time for added complexity.

****Bourgogne Chardonnay Prestige 2006** £231.22 per case 12 inc VAT (£19.27/bottle)
Maison Alex Gambal

New to the list. These Bourgogne Chardonnays from top Growers are the 'insider's' route to drinking really outstanding white Burgundy at bargain prices. Here is another one from a top Grower. Make hay !!!

Bourgogne Chardonnay 2008 £249.17 per case 12 inc VAT (£20.77/bottle)
Domaine Roulot

This highly respected grower in Meursault produces top quality wines and this is an excellent example of the winemaker's art. Good colour with elegant chardonnay fruit and sophistication. Not cheap but nothing really is anymore. If you like white Burgundy, hurry along for this one.

Chassagne Montrachet Blanc 2008 £399.34 per case 12 inc VAT (£33.28/bottle)
Thomas Morey, Chassagne

This wine replaces Bernard Morey's Vieille Vignes Chassagne, which has run out. This has the Morey style of meticulous attention to detail which makes the most of the ripe fruit producing round, rich and well balanced wines that are a pleasure to drink.

Puligny Montrachet Vieilles Vignes 2007 £395.69 per case 12 inc VAT (£32.97/bottle)
Vincent Girardin

This is a fine Puligny made from old vines from the celebrated Grower/Negociant Vincent Girardin.

CHABLIS

Bourgogne Chardonnay 2009 £122.13 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.26/bottle)
Jean-Marc Brocard

De-classified Chablis...this is so good and such good value. If you are a Chablis fan, don't miss this!!!

Petit Chablis 2008 £135.92 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.33/bottle)
Domaine Hamelin

This wine was recommended to me by a colleague, and it certainly is very good indeed, and in terms of today, affordable and satisfying.

Chablis 2009 £154.92 per case 12 inc VAT (£12.91/bottle)
Jean-Marc Brocard

Green/gold colour, nice fruit with typical steely finish. Very good.

Chablis 1er Cru Fourchaume 2009 £233.33 per case 12 inc VAT (£19.45/bottle)
Jean-Marc Brocard

Premier Cru is quite a step-up from the 'ordinaire', noticeably more depth and richness of flavour.

Chablis Grand Cru Les Clos 2008 £455.09 per case 12 inc VAT (£37.93/bottle)
Jean-Marc Brocard

Superb Chablis. Wonderfully rich and creamy, and a real treat.

ITALIAN RED

The Italian wine industry has been transformed over the past 20 years, and some really excellent wines are being produced now. I offer you a few examples that are such good value.

Vitiano 2009 **£118.49 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.88/bottle)**

Falesco

The Wine Spectator magazine wrote that this is the 'best value wine coming out of Italy'. A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Sangiovese grapes. Full bodied, rich, and interesting. Very good.

Brentino Merlot/Cabernet 2008 **£147.00 per case 12 inc VAT (£12.25/bottle)**

Maculan, Breganze.

Rich ruby colour, very fruity and well balanced. Bordeaux style blend made in Italy.

Villa Antinori 2008 **£172.04 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.34/bottle)**

Single Estate. Marchesi Antinori

Intensely perfumed, perfectly balanced and very forward. A very good example of the best from the Chianti Classico region.

Teroldego Rotaliano Riserva 2007 **£114.22 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.52/bottle)**

Mezzacorona Trentino

New to the List. I really recommend this wine from the same stable as the excellent Riserva Pinot Grigio. Produced in the mountains above Venice, this wine is an Italian 'take' on a Bordeaux blend and shows all the depth of flavour and freshness that you might expect.

ITALIAN WHITE

Same story here. Far fewer dull, fat and tasteless wines. More fresh fruit acidity and better balance.

Pinot Grigio Riserva 2008 **£114.22 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.52/bottle)**

Mezzacorona, Trentino

Such a good, clean, refreshing wine, but packed with fruit. The best Pinot Grigio I have tasted. Do try it. This has become the second most popular white wine on my list, which is not surprising, and several of my Clients declare that it is their favourite white wine.

SPAIN

There seems to be a growing demand for Rioja, and since I can now obtain supplies from one of Spain's leading family wineries, Bodegas Chivite, it seems reasonable to add some of these wines to my list. Prices can go up as high as £22 per bottle, but I don't think we will go there!

Finca Antigua Blanco 2006/07 **£104.72 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.73/bottle)**

Martinez Bujanda. La Mancha

A new wine on my list from the limestone hills of La Mancha. This vineyard is 900 metres above sea level, and produces an elegant and fruity white wine of good quality.

Finca Antigua Tempranillo 2008 **£104.72 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.73/bottle)**

Martinez Bujanda. La Mancha.

Another wine from the Martinez Bujanda family estate in La Mancha. This is made from the well known Spanish grape variety, Tempranillo with its distinctive and unique flavour. You can almost hear the Castanets!!!

Conde de Valdemar Rioja Crianza 2006 **£124.52 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.38/bottle)**

Bodegas Valdemar.

Unoaked entry level Rioja bursting with flavour. This will not disappoint.

****Cal-Pla Tinto 2006****£128.98 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.75/bottle)****Mas d'en Compte. Priourat.**

New to the list, here is a really delicious wine from the Priourat region of Northern Spain. This is so well-balanced, rich and delicious, and at the price it is a real bargain. Definitely not to be missed. I have to hide this stock from my Wife who really loves it. Help!!!

NORTH AMERICA

I don't normally list wines from North America, but at a recent tasting, I came across three really outstanding wines from Saintsbury, founded in 1981 in the Napa Valley in California. Using the elegant, more 'European' style with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes, they have produced authentic top quality 'Burgundy' style wines which the French would be proud to call their own, but at considerably higher prices. If you love Burgundy, you will love these.

Saintsbury Carneros Chardonnay 2008**75 cl Bottles****£201.65 per case 12 inc VAT (£16.81/bottle)****37.5 cl Half Bottles (2006)****£234.76 per case 24 inc VAT (£9.79/bottle)**

This wine is so good, and right up there with the Meursaults, Montrachets et al at substantially lower prices. All the characteristic sophisticated flavours are there. You really should try this wine. Amazing!

Saintsbury Carneros Pinot Noir 2007**75 cl Bottles****£230.16 per case 12 inc VAT (£19.18/bottle)****37.5 cl Half Bottles****£308.57 per case 24 inc VAT (£12.86/bottle)****150 cl Magnums****£292.73 per case 6 inc VAT (£48.79/Magnum)**

Superb wine, absolutely no question. Rich pure Pinot Noir of topmost quality. Considering a bottle of quite ordinary wine costs £20 or so in a restaurant, why would you not want to drink this gem at home?

Saintsbury Brown Ranch Pinot Noir 2005/6**£474.89 per case 12 inc VAT (£39.58/bottle)****Napa Valley.**

Alright, I know. Expensive but then it really is a superb wine. To get this sort of quality in Burgundy, you need to spend at least £600 to £700 a case. This is such a clean, stylish and sophisticated wine, and an absolute joy to drink. If you buy a case of this I promise not to tell your 'Other Half' how much it cost!!!

SOUTH AMERICA

Of all the 'New World' wines, I consider that those produced by Chile arguably offer the most sophisticated and interesting range of flavours, so I am offering some good examples of these. The recent earthquakes have caused surprisingly little damage to the vineyards and production units, but have caused problems with getting the wines out of Chile and over to us. There may therefore be some delays in availability of some of the wines listed so I hope you will bear with me on this one.

I am continuing to list a range of wines from Casa Lapostolle which offer excellent value for money. This Company is owned and run by the Marnier Lapostolle Family who also own and make the famous Grand Marnier Liqueur, so much French expertise has gone into the making of these wines on the superb Chilean terroir. I tasted the whole range again recently and I was most impressed with the quality and good value of the wines. There is something for everyone from the Santa Alvara range to the top of the tree Cuvee Alexandre. I really recommend these wines to you, both for their quality and competitive pricing.

CHILE RED**CASA LAPOSTOLLE.****Santa Alvara Merlot 2007****£69.87 per case 12 inc VAT (£5.82/bottle)**

This wine is such good value for money. When you compare it in quality to the euro based wines, there is no doubt that this is a bargain. It has real style and warmth. Punches well above it's weight.

Casa Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 £102.32 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.53/bottle)

Rapel Valley

Richer, weightier and rather less sophisticated than a Bordeaux wine, but there is no doubt about the quality and good value of this wine.

Casa Merlot 2009 £102.32 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.53/bottle)

Rapel Valley

The same can be said for this wine which is more mellow and fruity as is the way with merlot.

Cuvee Alexandre Cabernet Sauvignon 2009 £130.68 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.89/bottle)

Colchagua Valley

Moving up a gear here, you have to be thinking £18 per bottle for a similar quality wine from Bordeaux. This is very well constructed.

Cuvee Alexandre Merlot 2007 £155.40 per case 12 inc VAT (£12.95/bottle)

Colchagua Valley

As with the above, another beautifully made wine.

Cuvee Alexandre Pinot Noir 2008 £174.41 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.54/bottle)

Colchagua Valley

Stylish and well-constructed wine of great quality. This is how red Burgundy used to be made. Full blooded no nonsense Pinot Noir. You would pay more than double for this in Burgundy! Single vineyard wine made from selected grapes from Lapostolle's best sites.

Cuvee Alexandre Syrah 2008 £174.41 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.54/bottle)

Cachapoal Valley

This is Chile's answer to the great wines of the Rhone Valley, and if you are a fan of Rhone wines, you must try this. You would pay double for this quality if it came from the Rhone.

Gran Hacienda Merlot 2010 £80.48 per case 12 inc VAT (£6.71/bottle)

Rapel Valley. Santa Rita

This is smooth and so easy to drink, and very good value too. I recommend this wine.

Reserva Carmenere 2008 £98.38 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.20/bottle)

Rapel Valley Vinas Santa Rita

The Carmenere grape is a close relative of the Merlot, and makes wines of a similar style. This wine has plenty of weight and fruitiness and goes well with red meats and cheese.

Medalla Real Cabernet Sauvignon 2007 £119.75 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.98/bottle)

Maipo Valley. Santa Rita

A great big dark, smooth and powerful wine. You almost have to chew it! Very good on a cold winter's evening with a good oxtail stew.

CHILE WHITE

CASA LAPOSTOLLE.

Here are five good quality whites from Casa Lapostolle which I am sure you will enjoy

Santa Alvara Chardonnay 2009 £69.87 per case 12 inc VAT (£5.83/bottle)

Casa Lapostolle

The 'white' half of the Santa Alvara pair. At a recent tasting, we were very impressed with the quality and style of this wine, and in present day terms, such good value for money.

Casa Sauvignon Blanc 2010 £95.21 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.94/bottle)
Rapel Valley

Very good fruity sauvignon with a long pleasant aftertaste. This is such a good wine and very popular.

Casa Semillon 2007/08 £95.21 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.94/bottle)
Rapel Valley

Full ripe and rich flavour which will stand up to most challenges. I particularly like it with pate or poultry. This is the main grape that is used to make the great Sauternes, but here it is fruity and off dry.

Casa Chardonnay 2009 £95.21 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.94/bottle)
Casablanca Valley

This is another wine that has proved very popular with my Clients. Burgundy style wine with rich clean fruit and a satisfyingly long aftertaste. No big fat oaky monsters here!!

Cuvee Alexandre Chardonnay 2008 £130.68 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.89/bottle)
Casablanca Valley

Another of the single vineyard wines made from selected parcels of grapes grown on the best sites. Very much the 'European' style as you would expect from a French Wine Maker. This is very good.

Gran Hacienda Sauvignon Blanc 2010 £80.48 per case 12 inc VAT (£6.71/bottle)
Santa Rita Lontue Valley

Wonderful young and intense fresh Sauvignon fruit flavours, and is such good value. Not to be missed. This is one of my most popular white wines. Very good for parties where it always goes down well.

Reserva Sauvignon Blanc 2009 £98.38 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.20/bottle)
Santa Rita Casablanca Valley

Very good fruit and Sauvignon flavour, well-rounded with good balance. Very good indeed.

ROSE

Cabernet Sauvignon Rose 2008 £80.48 per case 12 inc VAT (£6.71/bottle)
Santa Rita. Chile.

To my mind this is one of the best roses on offer. A lovely rich colour, the Cabernet Sauvignon grape gives this wine some strength and flavour, missing in so many of their ilk, which can be rather wishy-washy! Packs a punch, and you will not find better value anywhere.

Stone Cellars Zinfandel Rose 2009 £88.88 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.41/bottle)
Beringer

This is a medium Rose with a very definite hint of strawberries which is the trade mark of Zinfandel, the home grape of California.

Casa Rose 2008 £95.21 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.94/bottle)
Casa Lapostolle Chile

This is another elegant and well made wine from Casa Lapostolle. Plenty of attractive fruit and a very well balanced wine. I recommend this one.

Chateau de Pamplonne 2008 £136.75 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.40/bottle)
Cotes de Provence Rose

A completely different style of rose. Pale blush apricot pink, stylish fresh fruity nose and good flavour. Most Cotes de Provence wines do not travel in my view, but I have to say that this one does. Big price increase due to the weakness of the pound against the euro, and the depredations of the late unlamented Gordon Brown, but this is the Aristocrat of Roses and is well worth the extra expense.

Sancerre Rose 2009/10

£173.62 per case 12 inc VAT (£14.47/bottle)

Pascal Gitton

This is a classic Sancerre rose made by one of the best growers in the region. It is never cheap but it is well worth the extra money: a special occasion wine.

CHAMPAGNE LEGRAS & HAAS

The Family Legras Haas established their business 7 generations ago in the small village of Chouilly, close to Epernay in the heart of the Champagne region. They bought their first acre of land in the prestigious Cote de Blancs, where the best white (chardonnay) grapes are grown, 200 years ago, and they now have 67 acres of premium quality land. Seven generations of growers, and three generations of wine-makers in the family have handed on great expertise in growing grapes and making champagne to the current generation. A charming and dedicated Family making top quality wines that are a match for all the top names at really reasonable prices. You cannot go wrong here.

I am really pleased with the consistent quality of the wines from this House. Prominent members of the Wine Trade in Britain and France have all commented on the excellence and quality of the offerings from Legras & Haas. The Blanc de Blancs Grand Cru Vintage 2002 is absolutely stunning. 2005 soon.

THE TRADITION NON VINTAGE WON A BRONZE MEDAL IN THE DECANTER MAGAZINE WORLD WINE AWARDS IN 2008, AND THE BLANC DE BLANCS GRAND CRU VINTAGE 2002 WAS AWARDED A GOLD MEDAL IN THE SAME COMPETITION.

*If you want to drink 'labels', and pay extra for the pleasure, that's fine. If you want to drink pure quality at a very reasonable price, you need look no further. **PRICES HELD UNTIL NEW YEAR.***

**Legras & Haas Tradition

£111.24 per case 6 bottles inc VAT (£18.54/bottle)

Non Vintage Brut

£130.96 per case 12 Halves inc VAT (£10.92/half bot)

This is an excellent and very well-balanced blended non-vintage Champagne, which you can serve with confidence on any occasion. Much better than a lot of the top brands. Why drink labels when you can still drink this at a competitive price despite the big rise in price due to the strength of the euro. **BRONZE MEDAL WINNER.**

**Legras & Haas Blanc de Blancs

£120.37 per case 6 bottles inc VAT (£20.07/bottle)

Non Vintage Brut.

New to the list, the Legras & Haas Vineyards are situated in the Grand Cru Blanc de Blancs region. Whilst their Tradition Non Vintage is a blend of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier grapes, the non vintage Blanc de Blancs is made exclusively with Chardonnay grapes. This is a lovely smooth and creamy wine with a good mousse and delicious flavour, one step down from the vintage.

**Legras & Haas Rose

£122.20 per case 6 bottles inc VAT (£20.37/bottle)

Non-Vintage Brut

This is almost too beautiful to drink! Lovely clear pale salmon pink colour with lots of pinot noir flavour and a good mousse. Everyone who has tried it so far has loved it, and it is just as good as many 'swanky name' roses at much higher prices.

**Legras & Haas Blanc de Blancs

£137.90 per case 6 bottles inc VAT (£22.99/bottle)

Grand Cru Vintage 2002/2005

£141.57 per case 3 Magnums inc VAT (£47.19/mag)

Outstanding Vintage Champagne at a lower price than many of the well-known marque's non vintage efforts. This really is a fine wine. I thought that the 1999 was 'top notch', but Brigitte Legras said that this would be better. It certainly is!!! Soft velvety mousse; elegant Chardonnay flavour, with a long aftertaste. So good. Treat yourself! **GOLD MEDAL WINNER**

****Legras & Haas Cuvee Prestige
Premium Quality Champagne**

£162.00 per case 6 bottles inc VAT (£27.00/bottle)

Grand Marque Champagne houses produce premium quality champagne and sell it at £40 to £50 per bottle, and it is generally no better than this terrific offering. In it's elegant bottle, this Champagne is skilfully blended from the very best grapes, picked exclusively from old vines growing in the Grand Cru vineyards of Chouilly, where the chardonnay grapes impart lightness and finesse, and Ay across the valley which supplies the pinot noir grapes that are the backbone of the wine giving it structure and body. Really a connoisseur's wine.

SPARKLING WINE

Duc de Breux Blanc de Blancs.

£87.67 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.31/bottle)

A French Sparkling Wine at less than £7 per bottle ? No, I am not off my trolley in spite of the rumours. This really isn't half bad, and those of you that have tried it are coming back for more. Just right for the teenage parties or Sunday morning 'kir' if you don't feel like splashing out on the real thing.

**Blanc de Blancs Reserve
Charles de Fere**

£125.86 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.49/bottle)

This wine is made just outside the champagne region, and if you are looking for a 'sparkler' which is good and reasonably priced, you should try this. Good for Bucks' Fizz and Kir Royale as well as on it's own.

Cava Brut Reserva. Rene Barbier.

£106.53 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.88/bottle.)

Cava Rosado Brut. Rene Barbier.

£110.03 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.17/bottle.)

One of the best known producers of Spanish Fizz, here is a white and a rose sparkler to liven up any party.

**Prosecco di Valdobbiadene Extra Dry 2009
Col de'Salici.**

£143.93 per case 12 inc VAT (£12.00/bottle)

Traditional Italian 'bubbly', refreshing and off-dry.

PUDDING WINE

**Chateau de Stony 2009
Muscat de Frontignan**

**Half Bottles :
Bottles:**

£183.12 per case 24 inc VAT (£7.63/half)

£158.57 per case 12 inc VAT £13.22/bottle)

Pale golden colour with a lovely perfumed Muscat flavour and a dry finish. Perfect for fruit-based puddings or anything else for that matter!! Keeps well in the 'fridge too, so you can drink it regularly. I have yet to meet anyone who doesn't like it.

**Chateau Haura 2006
Cerons, Denis Debourdieu**

50 Cl Bottles: £181.06 per case 12 inc VAT (£15.09/50cl btl)

This wine is made by the celebrated Professor of Oenology at Bordeaux University Denis Debourdieu. Shares the same grape combination as Sauternes and Barsac which is Semillon and Sauvignon. This is a very well-made wine and is such good value. With a bigger name it would be twice the price!!!

**Gewurtztraminer VT Clos St Landelin 2005 50Cl Bottles
Rene Mure Alsace**

£254.40 per case 12 inc VAT (£21.20/50cl btl)

Here is a superb example of the very best of Gewurtztraminer with lush fruit and lovely balancing acidity. Late picked grapes (Vendage Tardive) are bursting with rich sweet juice and this is a wine to be savoured and enjoyed.

NEW ZEALAND

Argosy Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009 £106.56 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.88/bottle)
Argosy Vineyards Marlborough £122.40 per case 24 inc VAT (£5.10/half)

New to the List. At a recent tasting I was really pleased to find this outstanding example of a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc although the owners do not own the vineyards they are expert wine makers and at a 2009 Sauvignon Blanc blind tasting this came top of 13 wines entered.

Sauvignon Blanc 2010 £122.93 per case 12 inc VAT (£10.25/bottle)
Matakana Marlborough

Super NZ Sauvignon Blanc from the 'Cloudy Bay' area. They know how to make wine from this grape!!!

Pinot Gris 2009 £139.56 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.63/bottle)
Matakana Estate

You must try this. Such a rich and fruity Pinot Gris reminiscent of the great Alsace wines made from the same grape.

Argosy Marlborough Pinot Noir 2009 £138.24 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.52/bottle)
Argosy Vineyards Marlborough £165.60 per case 24 inc VAT (£6.90/half)

This is a wonderful example of top quality Pinot Noir, juicy dense fruit and silky rounded tannins. I wonder why we buy red Burgundy when this is here at half the price. Do try this.

Pinot Noir 2009 £139.56 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.63/bottle)
Matakana Marlborough. Marlborough has the climate and soil where the best NZ Pinot Noirs are grown and they are really good now. Plenty of good Burgundian scents and flavours here.

AUSTRALIA

OK, I KNOW! I said that I would not list Aussie wines because they pack a punch like a boxing Kangaroo. I am being converted by some really excellent and stylish white wines, and the ghost of my favourite Granny who was born in Wagga Wagga!!!_Tickle your tonsils with some of these beauts.

Yalumba 'Y' Series Pinot Grigio 2010 £108.20 per case 12 inc VAT (£9.02/bottle)
South Australia.

Fresh, fruit forward pinot grigio which seems to capture the sunshine of South Australia. Good value.

Eden Valley
Wild Ferment Chardonnay 2008 £136.71 per case 12 inc VAT (£11.40/bottle)

Another wine from Yalumba, this time from the cooler conditions of the Eden Valley. This is a really enjoyable wine, intensely flavoured and well defined. Well worth the money.

Chardonnay 2008 £158.88 per case 12 inc VAT (£13.24/bottle)
Heggies Vineyard. Eden Valley

At 550 metres above sea level, this is one of the highest-altitude vineyards in Australia, so one of the coolest. The vines are close-planted in the European style leading to increased competition for water and nutrients, and heightened levels of flavour as a result. The use of wild yeast and lees stirring gives the Chardonnay real complexity and texture. I really recommend this wine.

SOUTH AFRICA

The South African Rand is weak against the pound at the moment, so it is worth listing a few of these wines to counter the endless additions of Duty and VAT imposed by the awful Gordon's ex- Government, and likely to be added to by the new Government at every opportunity. Quality has improved greatly in recent years. Here are some examples from the Buitenverwachting Estate in Constantia.

Buiten Blanc 2009/10 £84.44 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.04 bottle)

Buitenverwachting. Constantia

Easy every-day drinking from a blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Chenin Blanc grapes. Not too tough on the guts or the pocket.

Rhine Riesling 2009 £85.31 per case 12 inc VAT (£7.11/bottle)

Buitenverwachting. Constantia

Nothing wrong with this either. Good honest Riesling if you like the 'German' style, and once again, you are getting good value for your money.

Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot 2007 £96.00 per case 12 inc VAT (£8.00/bottle)

Buitenverwachting. Constantia

The classic 'Bordeaux' blend which turns out very well. You can tell that the grapes are grown in a 'hot' climate from the ripeness of the wine which is quite muscular, and doesn't quite match the stylish elegance of the true Bordeaux wines. Not bad at all.

MANZANILLA SHERRY

Produced at Sanlucar de Barrameda on the Atlantic coast of Andalucia in Spain, this is the sherry that the Spanish drink, and you can certainly see why. Dry with a hint of saltiness, it really is brilliant. Serve it chilled in a proper wine glass the way the Spanish do either as an aperitif with a handful of Olives or nuts, or as suggested above. Delicious.

La Guita Manzanilla.

Bottles 12x75cl.

£119.13 per case inc VAT (£9.93/bottle)

Halves 24x37.5 cl.

£126.41 per case inc VAT (£5.27/half)

ARMAGNAC

Chateau de Laubade is the benchmark for Armagnacs. It has won a staggering 40 medals at the Paris and Eauze tasting competitions. Top quality.

Chateau de Laubade Bas Armagnac VSOP

6 years old

£31.34 per bottle.

Chateau de Laubade Bas Armagnac XO Decanter Bottle

15 years old

£50.78 per bottle.

COGNAC

Smooth as silk, and absolutely delicious.

Cognac 12 years old, Chateau de Beaulon Grande Fine
Gosh this was good at a recent tasting. Can't fault it.

£40.78 per bottle

Cognac Chateau de Beaulon 1983

£99.20 per bottle

Cognac XO 1975 Chateau de Beaulon

£132.65 per bottle

ALL THE WINES LISTED ARE AVAILABLE FROM MY STOCKS AT CHURCH FARM, BUT AS I HAVE RATHER LIMITED STORAGE SPACE HERE, THE BULK OF THE STOCK IS KEPT IN A BONDED WAREHOUSE IN LONDON. THIS MEANS THAT THE WINE YOU WANT MAY NOT ALWAYS BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, SO PLEASE CONTACT ME TO MAKE SURE I HAVE YOUR CHOSEN WINES READY FOR YOU WHEN YOU CALL. ALL WINES OFFERED SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME OF ORDER.

PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT WARNING DUE TO FLUCTUATIONS IN THE EXCHANGE RATES, CHANGE OF VINTAGE, OR THE UNWELCOME ATTENTION OF THE CHANCELLOR! I ENDEAVOUR TO KEEP PRICES AS COMPETITIVE AS POSSIBLE. [If you don't like a wine you buy from me I will ALWAYS take it back and refund you.](#)

[If you don't like a wine you have bought from me I will always take it back.](#)