

winelist

February 2010

tel: 01531 670809

croque-en-bouche

Prices are per unit inc. vat. The minimum order is 12 items, or £180.

Delivery is £5 per order, NOT per case. Detail on the website.

15% inc. VAT price in blue. Ex. VAT in grey.

RED...			Ex. VAT	NEW ZEALAND
SAINT CLAIR MERLOT 2007	49	11.00	9.36	Lovely! Soft, smooth with a great fruity merlot character. Matt Thomson is NZ's No. One wine guy.
SAINT CLAIR PINOT NOIR 2007	10	12.00	10.21	Want your pinot up-front and super-fruity? Then this is for you. It's not gamay and not Beaujolais, but reminds me of the style.
RED...			Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA, PINOT NOIR & WEIRD
D'ARENBERG IRONSTONE PRESSINGS 1998	1	32.00	27.23	Only outshone by Dead Arm. Grenache/shiraz/mourvedre.
INNOCENT BYSTANDER PINOT NOIR 2006	114	11.50	9.79	Phil Sexton is famous! He makes wines called Giant Steps. This is junior stuff for him, but you'll be won over by the soft, enveloping flavours here. And the value!
RED...			Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA, SOUTHERN RHONE GRAPES
CHARLES MELTON NINE POPES 2005/6	22	21.00	17.87	Australia takes on Châteauneuf and wins.
JOHN DUVAL PLEXUS 2006	16	18.50	15.74	Another glorious Châteauneuf-type wine that's really big. Duval was a famous Penfold guy before setting up on his own. A current favourite.
RED...			Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA, SHIRAZ
CORIOLE LLOYD SHIRAZ 1995	4	48.00	40.85	Top cuvée here.
GIANT STEPS SEXTON JONES BLOCK SHIRAZ 2004	4	18.50	15.74	Top dog wine from Phil Sexton. Really deep and brambly but... balanced too. 94 from Halliday, and Wine Spectator: 92. Can drink now, but will of course, go on for ages.
HENSCHKE KEYNETON 1996	8	36.00	30.64	Junior Henschke but still very fine shiraz/cab mix. I tasted it recently (Nov 09) 'cos I thought it might be losing it, but was fantastic! Aromatic and gutsy.
HENSCHKE MOUNT EDELSTONE 1995	4	48.00	40.85	One of the best years. 'This is very long and very lovely' - Coates. 93 from Wine Spectator.
JIM BARRY LODGE HILL SHIRAZ 2005	12	10.00	8.51	Smooth brambly, up to the usual standard. 90 - Wine Spectator.
JIM BARRY McCRAE WOOD SHIRAZ 2000	2	24.00	20.42	Another 92 score! Bargain
JIM BARRY McCRAE WOOD SHIRAZ 2003	12	19.50	16.59	I (and plenty of others!) really enjoy this! TRIPLE trophies, inc. overall shiraz, in WINE Challenge.
JOHN DUVAL ENTITY SHIRAZ 2006	45	19.00	16.17	Duval used to make Grange - say no more! This is a GOLD winner in the 2008 WINE Challenge. Drink or keep.
LEASINGHAM CLASSIC CLARE SHIRAZ 1994	2	66.00	56.17	One of the greats. Halliday called the wine, "Stentorian, takes no prisoners, compacting densely-rich fruit and layer upon layer of oak into every long-lived bottle." Jimmy Watson Trophy - fantastic.
McWILLIAMS PHILIP HERMITAGE 1977	2	36.00	30.64	Ditto. Real old-style stuff.
MITOLO JESTER SHIRAZ 2006	72	10.00	8.51	Lots of beefy fruitiness from master winemaker, Ben Glaetzer.
PETER LEHMANN WEIGHBRIDGE SHIRAZ 2007	110	7.00	5.96	Decent stuff. Plenty of flavour for the money.
ROSEMOUNT ESTATE SHOW BALMORYL SYRAH 1994	4	38.00	32.34	Recently this brand name has been devalued (dumped?) by its owners - too many cheap supermarket deals. But it did do class wine - here's the proof.
ROUGE HOMME SHIRAZ/CABERNET 1976	1	44.00	37.44	This 1976 is still good, and called Coonawarra Claret! Those were the days.
SHAW AND SMITH SHIRAZ 2005	42	17.00	14.47	This extremely good but needs until 2009.
STEVE MAGLIERI SHIRAZ 1995	1	28.00	23.83	A man who made his name selling oceans of Aussie Lambrusco proves he can hack it with the serious stuff. Grand drinking.
TALTARNI SHIRAZ 1982	7	33.00	28.08	Still looking good!
TEUSNER ALBERT SHIRAZ 2004	11	27.00	22.98	Top wine maker Kym Teusner, makes classic old-vine wine. Top of the heap.
TYRRELL'S SHIRAZ 2006	211	7.00	5.96	Good smooth stuff at a good price.
WIRRA WIRRA R.S.W. SHIRAZ 1996	2	27.00	22.98	Better known for their Angelus, but this is probably the best wine named after the founder, Robert Strangeways Wrigley. There's oak but the fresh fruit pushes through well.
WOLF BLASS PRESIDENT'S SELECTION SHIRAZ 2004	12	13.50	11.49	Gold medal: WINE Challenge 2006. This estate is now back on song.
WYNNS MICHAEL SHIRAZ 1998	5	37.00	31.49	Drink now or give it a few years.
YALUMBA SHIRAZ/VIOIGNIER 2004	66	10.00	8.51	93 score from Wine Spectator. Classic Côte Rôtie (Northern Rhône) style. 5% of the viogner works magic. Recommended.
YALUMBA SHIRAZ/VIOIGNIER 2005/6 HALF.	52	5.50	4.68	And in halves!
RED...			Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA, CABERNET-DOMINANT
CHATEAU TAHBILK CABERNET 1982	9	38.00	32.34	Lovely trad oldie. Superb levels.
JIM BARRY COVER DRIVE CABERNET 2006	33	10.00	8.51	Don't know why you should drink Bordeaux any more unless it's the mega-stuff, 'cos this knocks out most clarets. A smoothie looking to go with a steak.
HENSCHKE CABERNET 1992	4	58.00	49.36	These bottles have won very many awards, including golds at the International 'WINE' Challenge (they don't even enter these days)
HUNTINGTON MUDGEE CABERNET 1980	2	38.00	32.34	Rare, old, but still in fine form.
LINDEMANS SAINT GEORGE 1985	6	29.50	25.10	Still very good.
LINDEMANS SAINT GEORGE 1988	2	29.50	25.10	Still very good too.
PENFOLDS BIN 389 CAB/SHIRAZ 1995	1	18.00	15.32	Bin 389 is a middle-level Penfold wine. Previous GOLD IWC winner.
PETALUMA COONAWARRA RED 1988	3	45.00	38.30	Lovely maturity.
ROSEMOUNT SHOW RESERVE CABERNET 1988	1	22.00	18.72	See above.
ROSEMOUNT TRADITIONAL 2000	8	12.00	10.21	Australia tackles fine claret, and wins!

ROUGE HOMME CABERNET 1976	1	39.00	33.19	A favourite estate, owned by a family called Redman, hence the name. The style is more sophisticated than usually seen in Australia.
ROUGE HOMME RESERVE CABERNET 1982	1	60.00	51.06	Still going well!
ROUGE HOMME RESERVE CABERNET 1978	8	55.00	46.81	All the cabernet sauvignons show typical dry, minty flavour; top quality, getting better and better with age.
SEPPELT RESERVE CABERNET 1903	1	48.00	40.85	Should still be excellent.
TALTARNI CABERNET 1980	1	38.00	32.34	The sister winery to Clos du Val (q.v.), in California. Needed some maturing, but lovely now. And so rare.
TYRRELL'S CABERNET/MERLOT 2005 HALF.	84	4.50	3.83	Nice half. Smooth in a claret way, but much better value.
WOLF BLASS PRESIDENT'S CABERNET 1993	2	30.00	25.53	Yellow label is nice but it's the specials which shine. Smooth oozy cab.
WOLF BLASS YELLOW LABEL CABERNET 2008	12	8.00	6.81	Yellow Label is actually quite fine.
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1985	3	135.00	114.89	Beat Mouton 85 in a recent tasting!
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1990	3	105.00	89.36	All-time great year and this will be a wonder wine - but as to its readiness, I'm not about open one and see! Suspect another 5 years.
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1993	3	46.00	39.15	Can be drunk now or 2020.
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1994	21	49.50	42.12	First made in 1982, only in the best years and never more than 1% of the cabernet crop, this is almost too powerful.
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1996	12	55.00	46.81	Very fine year, but I wouldn't try it yet. This wine needs 15 years usually.
WYNNS JOHN RIDDOCH CABERNET 1998	6	42.00	35.74	More mature than the 96 - could try.
YALUMBA SIGNATURE CABERNET 2001	11	28.00	23.83	94 from Wine Spectator. Think second growth claret, but at this price?
RED...			Ex. VAT	SOUTH AFRICA
BUITENVERWACHTING CHRISTINE 2006	6	17.00	14.47	Glorious Bordeaux-style, smooth, mouth-filling ripe flavour. One of SA's top wines.
DOOLHOF CAPE BOAR 2007	48	8.00	6.81	So smooth and easy to drink. Do NOT drink modest claret - drink this!
RED...			Ex. VAT	CALIFORNIA
SEGHEIO ZINFANDEL 2007/8	0	17.50	14.89	Not normally into zin. But this is v. sophisticated stuff. A must buy for me!
SUTTER HOME MERLOT 2006/7	80	6.00	5.11	Modest money, but a nice, fruity wine.
RED...			Ex. VAT	WASHINGTON STATE
STIMSON ESTATE MERLOT 2006	31	8.50	7.23	Not overt fruit, more restrained, classy. Superb value.
RED...			Ex. VAT	ARGENTINA
COLOME AMALAYA 2007	18	9.50	8.08	New wine to me, gorgeous mix with malbec prominent. Full smooth, made by the Hess family who are famous in California. 91 from Wine Spectator!
NORTON MALBEC 2008/9	30	7.00	5.96	A really good buy. Imagine a £10 meaty Rhône red, maybe a Gigondas. And then buy this instead.
NORTON RESERVE MALBEC 2006	22	11.00	9.36	Super-solid - a real bruiser. Pretty good though. 90 from Wine Spectator!
RED...			Ex. VAT	CHILE
CHOCALAN RESERVE CABERNET FRANC 2006	48	10.50	8.94	Smooth and fruity. Top-notch value.
ERRAZURIZ CABERNET 2006	36	9.00	7.66	Dry claret style.
ERRAZURIZ CABERNET HALF. 2007	29	5.00	4.26	Please don't drink cheap claret!
SANTA RITA MEDALLA REAL CABERNET 2005	24	10.00	8.51	Quality drinking, real concentration.
SIETE SOLES 2008	48	6.00	5.11	Cabernet and merlot and fruity.
RED...			Ex. VAT	NORTHERN ITALY
BAROLO 2004 (PIO CESARE)	45	34.50	29.36	"Extremely attractive aromas of blackberry, fresh mushroom and mahogany. Full-bodied, with lovely fruit, soft tannins and a long finish. Chewy, yet balanced and pretty. Builds on the palate. A big and juicy red. Best after 2010." 94 - 'Wine Spectator' and no. 6 in their '2008 TOP 100 WINES' selection.
BAROLO PERNANNO (CASCINA BONGIOVANNI) 1997	1	37.50	31.91	A real biggie, with massive tannins. The berry aroma is intense and the finish long. 93 - 'Wine Spectator'.
BARBERA BRICCOTONDO 2008 (FONTANAFREDDA)	66	11.50	9.79	SUPER-SMOOTH! Bulging with goodness and brightness. Fave wine.
CORTEGIARA VALPOLICELLA RIPASSO 2007	88	9.50	8.08	Extraordinary value! Big, rounded rich style, that won a trophy at the 09 Wine Challenge. A trophy winner at this price?
NEBBIOLO D'ALBA 2005 (PIO CESARE)	18	18.50	15.74	Full-bodied, with chewy tannins and a long finish. There's lots of fruit too.
TERODOLGO ROTALIANO RISERVA (MEZZACORONA) 2005	15	8.50	7.23	Forget the unpronounceable Veneto name. This shouts fruity solid quality.
RED...			Ex. VAT	ITALY, TUSCANY & SOUTH
BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO (CASTELGIOCONDO) 1999	5	31.00	26.38	Another great wine here, 95 in 'Wine Spectator'.
CERESUOLO DE VITTORIA 2006 (PLANETA)	16	13.50	11.49	Sicilian beauty, very smooth, very fruity.
CHIANTI CASTIGLIONE (FRESCOBALDI) 2007	30	11.00	9.36	Right from the heart of Tuscany, this is an excellent glass. Loads of bright grapey fruit.
CHIANTI CASTIGLIONE (FRESCOBALDI) HALF. 2007	29	6.50	5.53	Neat half.
CHIANTI RUFINA CASTELLO DI NIPOZZANA RISERVA (FRESCOBALDI) 2005	13	14.50	12.34	Another good year for this superb chianti.
GUARDO AL TASSO (ANTINORI) 1995	2	50.00	42.55	Predominately cabernet, but tastes like a fine Aussie shiraz.
INSOGLIO DEL CINGHIALE 2006 (TENUTA DI BISERNO)	38	16.00	13.62	Dark color, with blueberry and hints of herbs. Full-bodied, with round tannins and a bright finish. Drink now. Super-modern stuff!
MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO (UMANI RONCHI) 2007/8	118	7.00	5.96	Nice rustic oomphy wine from the Marches.
SOLAIA (ANTINORI) 1995	1	80.00	68.08	Solaia is made only in great years, and balances power and fruit fantastically. Cabernet sauvignon with some cabernet franc.
TORMARESCO NEPRICA 2007	28	9.00	7.66	Dark but sophisticated stuff from Puglia.

RED...			Ex. VAT	
RIOJA & NAVARRA, SPAIN				
BARON DE LEY CLUB PRIVADO 2006	66	7.00	5.96	Fruity- style rioja. Beats all-comers at this price!
BARON DE LEY RESERVA 2003	74	10.00	8.51	Excellent value from this new estate. Modern technique means less oak, more fruit, but not New Worldy at all.
BARON DE LEY GRAN RESERVA 1998	24	10.00	8.51	Lovely mature wine with just the right amount of integrated oak.
CAMPO NUEVO TEMPRANILLO 2007/8	164	6.50	5.53	Bright Navarra. Rioja style with fruit.
MARQUES DE MURRIETA GRAN RESERVA 1983	1	33.00	28.08	VG year.
RIBERA DEL DUERO, SPAIN				
ABADIA RETUERTA SELECCION ESPECIAL 2006	30	15.50	13.19	From just outside this area from Sardon del Duero. Like a very classy smooth rioja, mostly tempranillo. Star winemaker: A WINE Challenge Winemaker of the Year.
PESQUERA RESERVA (FERNANDES) 1998	2	32.00	27.23	Great reserva year.
NORTH-EAST SPAIN				
FLOR DE GREALO 2003	1	18.00	15.32	In-your-face fruit and bite. VV good.
PRIORAT FINCA DOFI (PALACIOS) 1996 MAGNUM	3	76.00	64.68	Excellent year for Dofi.
PORTUGAL				
CEDRO DO NOVAL 2004	14	11.50	9.79	Brilliantly smooth like a posh claret. A top port house shows what they can do as a 'regular' red. I expect they always could, just never sold it. 90 score from Wine Spectator.
CHURCHILL ESTATES 2006	93	11.00	9.36	New vibrant red from this fine port house. Debut vintage and they have tried very hard. Loads of fruit but meaty too. Very good value!
BANGALORE, INDIA				
GROVER VINEYARDS CABERNET/SHIRAZ 2004	15	8.00	6.81	Soft style. Ideal for that 'ringer' wine in wine tastings.
FRANCE, SOUTHERN RHONE & ENVIRONS				
COTES DU RHONE ST. ESPRIT 2007 (DELAS)	33	8.50	7.23	Fruity in a trad. French way, but backbone too.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE				
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE BEAUCASTEL 1979	1	78.00	66.38	The Perrin brothers make some of the world's greatest wines. This is why I list so many vintages. The style is traditional, and it's organic. The 1979 exemplifies the oaky, peppery character.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE BEAUCASTEL 1985	2	64.00	54.46	1985 is lovely still.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE BEAUCASTEL 1988	2	58.00	49.36	But then have you checked the price of fancy claret lately?
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE CAILLOUX (BRUNEL) 2000	12	22.00	18.72	2000 is v. fine.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE CUVÉE PRESTIGE (PERE CABOCHE) 1981	2	36.00	30.64	A follower of carbonic maceration vinification, with good effect. This wine, the top cuvée of a top vintage, has a balanced, fruity character that seems almost Australian. A recent bottle was in fine form.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE CHATEAU FORTIA 1998	5	21.00	17.87	A1 stuff.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE CHATEAU FORTIA CUVÉE BARON 2003	38	18.50	15.74	"Packed with bramble, tar, red currant, licorice and cocoa, this muscular Châteauneuf gives way to briary tannins and smoke. Big, fruit-packed finish. Equal parts Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre." Wine Spectator 91/100
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE MONT OLIVET 2005	48	23.00	19.57	Needs a bit of time but will be v special.
CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE PIGNAN 1986	2	39.00	33.19	Pignan is the second wine, but is almost as good as Rayas proper. Reynaud, himself, was rather arbitrary in distinguishing between the two; so Pignan offers good value.
HERMITAGE, RHONE				
HERMITAGE MARQUIS DE LA TOURETTE (DELAS) 1998	6	33.00	28.08	Gold Medal - 2004 WINE Challenge - gorgeous stuff. Ready but go for a decade or more yet.
HERMITAGE MARQUIS DE LA TOURETTE (DELAS) 2000	9	34.00	28.93	Gold Medal - 2005 WINE Challenge. Sort of ready but will age well. This house is re-vitalised.
COTE ROTIE, RHONE				
COTE ROTIE (JASMIN) 1988	1	48.00	40.85	One classic example from this historic grower.
COTE ROTIE LA LONDONNE (ROSTAING) 1994	2	38.00	32.34	V V good.
COTE ROTIE SEIGNEUR DE MAUGIRON (DELAS) 1998	4	37.00	31.49	This excellent grower is better known for hermitage (see above), but are really excelling here now. The "remarkable quality" 1998, 'a supple and seductive red', rates a great 94/100.
LOIRE				
CHINON VARENNES DU GRAND CLOS 2003	5	17.00	14.47	Classic cbernet franc. 91 from Wine Spectator.
BORDEAUX				
CHATEAU BEAUMONT 2004	72	18.00	15.32	Meaty crû bourgeois that needs until late this year. Excellent concentration.
CHATEAU DE GIRONVILLE 2002	10	15.00	12.77	In fact a quite new estate which only started in the late 80's, but a crû bourgeois with a soft smooth style. Should be cheaper but that's Bordeaux!
CHATEAU GRAND PUY DUCASSE. PAUILLAC E.B. 1961	2	140.00	119.14	Rich and full wine from Berry Bros.; shows how good English-bottling was in the 50's and 60's, often better than at the châteaux!
CHATEAU GRAND PUY LACOSTE. PAUILLAC 1961	1	190.00	161.69	This is my favourite traditional claret. Officially a fifth-growth, but consistently a top performer, defining the taste of the cabernet sauvignon grape. LABEL CONDITION: POOR. LEVEL: VERY TOP SHOULDER
CHATEAU LA LAGUNE. LUDON 1990	3	69.00	58.72	Heavy investment in ultra-modern winemaking, has established a superb reputation.
CHATEAU LASCOMBES 2001	22	52.00	44.25	Almost ready. A very special claret, full-flavoured with toasty ripe character.

RED...			Ex. VAT	POMEROL, ETC.
CHATEAU LE TERTRE-ROTEBOEUF. ST. EMILION 1986	2	89.00	75.74	A superstar in the Bordeaux firmament, François Mitjavile. Low yields and obsessive winemaking give flamboyant, rich wines that compare with Pétus or Certan de May, or Guigal's La Mouline, or Gaja's Barbaresco, for that matter.
RED...			Ex. VAT	BEAUJOLAIS
FLEURIE. DOMAINE COLLONGE 2006	56	14.00	11.91	Fleurie is as nice a wine village as the name suggests.
FLEURIE. DOMAINE COLLONGE HALF. 2006	60	8.00	6.81	This is the leading traditional grower. Not a light wine; quite weighty with 13° alcohol.
RED...			Ex. VAT	BURGUNDY
PINOT NOIR BOURGOGNE 2006 (FAIVELEY)	110	25.00	21.28	In a big tasting for a restaurant list with much grander burgundies, this shone out. Pure fresh traditional flavours at modest money (for Burgundy!)
CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY (BOISSET) 2004	12	25.00	21.28	Jean-Claude Boisset is one of the new-wave burgundy makes. Clean pinot noir fruit with a nice firmness too.
CHAMBOLLE-MUSIGNY (BOISSET) 2006	24	27.00	22.98	A GOLD winner in the 2008 WINE Challenge, but I think it needs a year.
WHITE... WINES				CHAMPAGNE
SPARKLING...				
CANARD-DUCHENE BRUT N.V.	86	19.50	16.59	This was the second label of Veuve Clicquot, though a Grande Marque in its own right.
CANARD-DUCHENE BRUT HALF. N.V.	66	10.50	8.94	It has a fine fruity, pinot noir style, is properly aged and has been getting better and better in recent years.
CANARD-DUCHENE BRUT MAGNUM N.V.	1	39.00	33.19	Party size.
CANARD-DUCHENE BRUT ROSE N.V.	18	23.00	19.57	Rosé is on the up, and has caught the Champenoise on the hop. There is a shortage of pink champagne.
DOM PERIGNON 1999	7	102.00	86.80	Famous! But rationed!
GOSSET GRANDE RESERVE BRUT N.V.	12	38.00	32.34	The oldest house of Champagne. Also one of the smallest, still a family enterprise, but in the top league. The ultra-smooth style has an underlying freshness
GOSSET GRANDE RESERVE BRUT ROSE N.V.	3	43.00	36.59	Class pink - much admired.
KRUG GRANDE CUVÉE BRUT N.V.	7	120.00	102.12	The individual style of Krug, toasty and oaky, is not one I immediately took to, but it does grow on you. Whether you want it to, may depend on your financial priorities.
HUBERT LAURENT BRUT N.V.	124	19.00	16.17	Made by Jaquart this is soft, fresh and excellent value. Has decent bottle age too.
TAITTINGER BRUT N.V.	28	33.00	28.08	Super chardonnay-dominant house.
TAITTINGER COMTES DE CHAMPAGNE 1995/8	11	125.00	106.38	Ultimate chadonnay champagne.
VEUVE CLICQUOT BRUT N.V.	12	31.00	26.38	Full-bodied wine from the great estate of Champagne.
VEUVE CLICQUOT BRUT. HALF. N.V.	54	18.00	15.32	Shows incredible consistency in quality terms.
VEUVE CLICQUOT BRUT MAGNUM N.V.	3	64.00	54.46	Full-bodied wine from the great estate of Champagne.
GOSSET CELEBRIS 1995	2	98.00	83.40	The oldest house of Champagne. Also one of the smallest, still a family enterprise, but in the top league. The best they do.
VEUVE CLICQUOT 1998	15	42.00	35.74	One of the great names.
VEUVE CLICQUOT 1999	6	42.00	35.74	One of the great names.
SPARKLING...			Ex. VAT	THE REST
CLOUDY BAY PELORUS BRUT N.V.	18	15.50	13.19	This Blanc de Blancs is lighter and frothier than the vintage wine, but also very good - I prefer it.
INNOCENT BYSTANDER MOSCATO 2008 HALF.	168	6.00	5.11	Pink and frothy. Actually quite sweet, but still good before a meal. A fun wine seriously made!
MORTON ESTATE RESERVE SEC NV	208	9.50	8.08	More dry than brut, and the more delicious for it too! Spectacular value.
PROSECCO DI CONEGLIANO SPUMANTE (CA MORLIN) N.V.	76	11.00	9.36	Northern Italy's special fizz is light, frothy and great refreshment. And the essential part of a Bellini. Particularly good example as it is made by New Zealander, Matt Thomson (see Saint Clair estate).
ROSATO SPUMANTE (CA MORLIN) N.V.	12	10.50	8.94	Pink 'Prosecco', dry and fresh. BUT Italian rules mean it can't actually be called Prosecco! Doh!
WHITE...			Ex. VAT	NEW ZEALAND
CLOUDY BAY CHARDONNAY 2007	20	17.50	14.89	Tropical fruit dominant - not like burgundy. Some in soon, but please only one per order. Have to share out. Only one per order.
CLOUDY BAY SAUVIGNON BLANC 2008/9	126	17.50	14.89	Still on the ball. And still not enough. Except this year we did get a bigger allocation.
TINPOT HUT SAUVIGNON BLANC 2009	62	9.50	8.08	New kid on the Marlborough block. Super-fruity and super good! Value too.
MORTON CHARDONNAY 2007	12	8.50	7.23	Lovely balance from NZ's chardonnay specialist. And value too.
MORTON PINOT GRIGIO 2007	84	8.00	6.81	Better than the Italian stuff! Full, smooth.
MORTON SAUVIGNON BLANC 2008	102	8.00	6.81	Typically crisp and fresh, quality at a good price.
SAINT CLAIR SAUVIGNON BLANC 2008/9	2	10.50	8.94	Dead ringer for Cloudy Bay sauvignon, big and assertive. The man who runs the wine store, down the road from the Cloudy Bay estate also agrees about its quality.
SAINT CLAIR SAUVIGNON BLANC PIONEERS' BLOCK 3 2007/8	6	15.00	12.77	Top cuvée here. By golly, this grabs you. Really, as good as it gets.
VILLA MARIA CHARDONNAY 2006/7	30	9.00	7.66	Like the sauvignon, fruit and zip.
VILLA MARIA SAUVIGNON BLANC 2009	24	10.00	8.51	Keeps winning medals.

WHITE...		Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA
CULLENS SAUVIGNON/SEMILLON 2007/8	18	14.50 12.34	Star of Western Australia. Piercing freshness.
PEWSEY VALE RIESLING 2008	23	10.50 8.94	Bright and generous, with pineapple, citrus flavors, finishing with finesse. Drink now through 2015. 90 in Wine Spectator.
TYRRELL'S CHARDONNAY HALF. 2006	84	5.00 4.26	Nice clean half.
YALUMBA <Y> RIESLING 2008	8	7.50 6.38	Clean and fresh, very good example.
YALUMBA <Y> UNWOODED CHARDONNAY 2008	12	7.50 6.38	Crisp wine matured in oak, but not overly. I bet there are plenty of growers around Maçon, who would like to make wine as good as this.
YALUMBA <Y> VIOGNIER 2008/9	30	7.50 6.38	Most modest money versions of this grape don't work. Dry and fragrant... this does.
YALUMBA EDEN VALLEY VIOGNIER 2006	13	11.50 9.79	Oz challenges Condrieu here – and to my mind wins. Fragrant and complexly rich, this is quality stuff. Amazingly this wine is a little cheaper than it used to be!
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	USA
STIMSON CHARDONNAY 2007	40	8.00 6.81	Extraordinary for the money. Such true chardonnay character!
CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE CANOE RIDGE CHARDONNAY 2006	12	18.00 15.32	Washington State. 92 in Wine Spectator. "A fruit-centered wine, ...perched enticingly on a lithe frame, with subdued oak notes lingering around the periphery. It's the texture, though, that makes it so attractive, polished and refined."
CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE PINOT GRIS 2007	2	10.00 8.51	Smooth, quite full. Again and I know it's boring but this area is such good value.
CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE EROICA 2006	23	17.00 14.47	Joint venture with famous Dr. Loosen. Super!
SAINTSBURY CARNEROS CHARDONNAY 2007	6	19.00 16.17	California. Long and smooth, layering taste on taste. Whilst definitely dry, it has a honeyed richness, with gentle oak body. This straight chardonnay has up-front freshness.
SAINTSBURY CARNEROS CHARDONNAY 2006/7 HALF.	24	10.00 8.51	California. Long and smooth, layering taste on taste. Whilst definitely dry, it has a honeyed richness, with gentle oak body. This straight chardonnay has up-front freshness.
SUTTER HOME GEWURZTRAMINER 2005	17	6.50 5.53	California. Classic grapey style. And check the price. Alsace does not do this!
TANGENT PINOT BLANC 2006	24	11.50 9.79	California. Full dry with a great fresh edge. Off-the-wall stuff but real quality.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	CHILE
CALBUCO SEMILLON/CHARDONNAY 2007/8	102	5.50 4.68	Smooth and fresh.
MONTGRAS SAUVIGNON BLANC 2009	42	5.50 4.68	A1 stuff for the cash. Fresh, dry, restrained.
SANTA RITA SAUVIGNON BLANC 2009 HALF.	13	4.00 3.40	Good fresh-tasting half.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	SOUTH AFRICA
STORMY CAPE CHENIN BLANC 2007	275	6.50 5.53	Super fresh, with that crisp apple character of the grape.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	ITALY & SLOVENIA
LA SEGRETA BIANCO 2008 (PLANETA)	19	10.00 8.51	From Sicily's major grower, this is quite full with a nice fruity finish. Chardonnay and local grape, grenacico.
PINOT GRIGIO DI TRENTINO (MEZZACORONA) 2008	134	8.50 7.23	Pinot Grigio, the new liebfraumlilch. Well, I have tasted a lot, and most offer bu**er all (excuse me!). Not this, it's clean, super-fruity, has character too. We're drinking a fair few ourselves. Must be good.
PINOT GRIGIO DI TRENTINO (MEZZACORONA) 2008 HALF.	80	4.80 4.08	Pinot Grigio, the new liebfraumlilch. Well, I have tasted a lot, and most offer bu**er all (excuse me!). Not this, it's clean, super-fruity, has character too. We're drinking a fair few ourselves. Must be good.
QUERCUS PINOT GRIGIO 2008	96	8.00 6.81	Actually in Slovenia, this vineyard straddles the Italy/Slovenia border. This too has some proper flavour.
SOAVE 'LA ROCCA' 2006 (PIEROPAN)	34	19.50 16.59	The finest and probably the most expensive Soave you'll come across, actually delivers value. Full, dry with superb complexity. I'd say... Value-for-Money!
SANNIO FALANGHINA 2008 (VESEVO)	6	8.50 7.23	From South of Naples, this has a lovely citrus freshness. Class act.
TORMARESCO CHARDONNAY 2007	48	9.00 7.66	Puglian and modern. Fresh dry. I'm not mad for chardonnay but this is good!
TREBBIANO DEL RUBICONE 2008	36	6.00 5.11	Fresh and dry from Emilia-Romagna.
VERMENTINO DI SARDEGNA CRABALIS 2008	18	9.50 8.08	Citrus edge to this Silver medal winning wine. A personal favourite.
VINTAGE TUNINA 2006 (JERMANN)	39	35.00 29.79	Very posh stuff from NE Italy.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	GERMANY AND AUSTRIA
GRUNER VELTLINER 2007 (DURNBERG)	6	8.50 7.23	Dry zippy fresh, lovely change from all that New World stuff. And a good price.
RIESLING KABINETT WEHLENER 2005 (DR. LOOSEN)	1	14.00 11.91	Lovely aromatic light flavours. Wonderful aperitif.
RIESLING KABINETT WEHLENER SONNENUHR 2004 (PRUM)	10	21.00 17.87	Another magic wine from a world master, J.J. Prum. Aromatic, crisp full of flavours and all with only about eight degrees alcohol!
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	ENGLAND
CODDINGTON VINEYARD BACCHUS 2007	8	8.00 6.81	Our most local vineyard started by Mr and Mrs. Savage, only a couple of miles away. It's dry, light, fruity. Got a Bronze medal in the UK Vineyards tasting competition.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	SPAIN & PORTUGAL
CONDESO EYLO 2007	5	8.50 7.23	New-wave verdejo. Dry, fresh, aromatic. Great value.
JOSE PARIENTE VERDEJO 2007	3	11.50 9.79	The verdejo grape is the speciality of Rueda in Castille. Bags of crisp fruit in a solid frame; refreshing hint of pétillance. House white at 'El Bulli', Spain's best restaurant.
WHITE...		Ex. VAT	ALSACE, RIESLING & PINOT BLANC
RIESLING PRINCES ABBES (SCHLUMBERGER) 2005/6	20	12.50 10.64	Gorgeous character of the grape. Dry and pure.
RIESLING (TRIMBACH) 2005	14	11.00 9.36	Clean fruity and delicious.
RIESLING (TRIMBACH) HALF. 2004/5	14	6.20 5.28	Nice half.

WHITE...			Ex. VAT	ALSACE, GEWURZTRAMINER
GEWURZTRAMINER (KUEHN) 2007	48	10.00	8.51	Good value these days.
GEWURZTRAMINER (ROUFFACH) 2005	30	12.00	10.21	This aromatic wine has a soft, delicate flavour.
GEWURZTRAMINER (ROUFFACH) HALF. 2005/6	28	7.00	5.96	Nice half.
WHITE...			Ex. VAT	LOIRE
POUILLY-FUME DOMAINE BELAIR 2008	41	14.00	11.91	GOLD in the 2009 WINE Challenge. A1 stuff.
POUILLY-FUME DOMAINE BELAIR 2007/8 HALF.	49	7.50	6.38	GOLD in the 2008 WINE Challenge. A1 stuff.
VOUVRAY CHATEAU GAUDRELLE 2006	24	11.50	9.79	Classic 'sec-tendre' style, softly dry, perfect on a summer's eve.
VOUVRAY (BREDIF) HALF. 2003/6	54	7.00	5.96	Fresh, quite dry wine from the top negociant.
VOUVRAY DEMI-SEC PEU DE LA MORIETTE 1989	6	27.00	22.98	Classic vouvray in a fine year; exuberant, flowery character.
WHITE...			Ex. VAT	VIN DE PAYS
DOMAINE COSTE VIOGNIER/GRENACHE 2007	49	8.00	6.81	A Languedoc goodie - fresh fullness.
WHITE...			Ex. VAT	BURGUNDY
MEURSAULT NARVAUX 2004 (GIRARDIN)	4	19.50	16.59	Very classy wine!
SAINT VERAN DOM. CROIX SENAILLAT 2006	56	11.50	9.79	Think Puligny-Montrachet - pay posh Macon. Bags of flavour.
SAINT VERAN DOM. CROIX SENAILLAT HALF. 2005/6	45	6.80	5.79	Halves too. This wine is universally liked.
SAUVIGNON DE ST. BRIS (BROCARD) 2008	46	11.00	9.36	I'd forgotten about this one in the 15-year frenzy of New Zealand sauvignons. Think crisp, lean sancerre style (St. Bris sits between Sancerre and Chablis) but at reasonable money. Famous Chablis grower.
CHABLIS FOURCHAUMES (LAMBLIN) 2006	96	12.50	10.64	Very good value for a clean fresh glass of splosh.
LE MONTRACHET (BOUCHARD PERE) 1993	1	150.00	127.65	Bouchard are a major owner with a couple of acres of the finest white wine vineyard of them all. Of course all the various wines are crazy money (some crazier than this!), but quality sometimes does not match. This does.
ROSE...			Ex. VAT	
CHATEAU VIGNELAURE ROSE 2007/8	15	14.50	12.34	Sophisticated Provence stuff. I bought 12 bottles 'cos I loved the bottle shape (shallow or what?). But selling well. Nice!
DOMAINE COSTE ROSE 2008	54	8.00	6.81	Rosé is on the up, but most don't impress me. This does! Very refreshing wine from Southern France.
JABOULET COTES-DU-RHONE ROSE PARALLELE 45 2008	18	8.50	7.23	Full dry, fruity. Winner of 'Great Value Champion Rosé Trophy' at the 2009 WINE Challenge.
SUTTER HOME WHITE ZINFANDEL 2007/8	8	6.00	5.11	One of the 'blush' wines of California; for some reason called white, but, in fact, a delicate pale pink. It's off-dry and quite light, with only 10° alcohol; very refreshing in summer.
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	AUSTRALIA
MOUNT HORROCKS CORDON-CUT RIESLING HALF. 2004	3	16.00	13.62	Super. GOLD Wine Challenge.
YALUMBA MUSEUM MUSCAT HALF. N.V.	43	10.00	8.51	Some rare old Aussie stuff that's really impressive. Port from the Forties, great liqueur muscat (good with chocolate/Christmas pudding)
SKILLOGALEE MUSCAT. N.V.	18	12.50	10.64	Good value for fine liqueur muscat.
YALUMBA MUSEUM OLD TAWNY HALF. N.V.	12	11.50	9.79	Great old-fashioned Aussie, at least 15 years old. Ringer for old tawny port!
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	SOUTH AFRICA
ROOIBERG JEREPIGO 1996	1	9.50	8.08	Sweet port-like red. Goes with chocolate - amazing value.
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	ITALY
VIN SANTO TETRINO 50CL. 2003/4	30	16.50	14.04	Pleasant oddity. You also need the hard cantucci biscuits, which you soften by dunking in vin santo.
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	SPAIN
HIDALGO PX NAPOLEON N.V.	1	18.00	15.32	The Pedro Ximenes grape gives a very dark, very sweet wine, normally used in the blends of sweet sherry, Bristol Cream, et al. A match for anything sweet, including chocolate.
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	LOIRE
BONNEZEUX CHATEAU LES GAULIERS 1935	1	130.00	110.63	Two wonderful, old wines from the grand crû area of Coteaux-du-Layon. Note these were chateau stock that did not have foils.
BONNEZEUX DOMAINE DU PETIT VAL 1995	6	38.00	32.34	A very good recent vintage. Can be drunk now, but long-term potential.
COTEAUX-DU-LAYON LES ONNIS DOMAINE DES FORGES (FOREAU) 1995	3	26.00	22.13	Ultra-rich, but a couple - or dozen - of years would not matter.
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	SOUTHERN FRANCE
BANYULS DOMAINE LA TOUR VIEILLE MEDITATION 50cl. 1952	1	94.00	79.99	This old one is brilliant.
CHATEAU JOLYS 2004/5 HALF.	35	10.00	8.51	IWC Gold medal.
MUSCAT DE RIVESALTES 2005 (CAZES)	6	16.00	13.62	A leading estate for this sweet grapey nectar.
VIN DE PAILLE (CHAPOUTIER) HALF. 1996	2	79.00	67.23	This is the rare and extraordinary straw (grapes semi-dried on straw mats) wine from this revitalised Rhône estate. Very rich and raisiny, it should keep for ever. Drank one
SWEET...			Ex. VAT	BORDEAUX
CHATEAU RAYNE-VIGNEAU PREMIER CRU 1986	1	39.00	33.19	Classic style, perfect example.

SWEET...		Ex. VAT		ALSACE
GEWURZTRAMINER CUVÉE ANNE SCHLUMBERGER (SCHLUMBERGER) 1989	1	70.00	59.57	The combination of rich sweetness and delicacy of Cuvée Anne 1976 (now gone) may never be equalled. But 89 is no slouch.
GEWURZTRAMINER CUVÉE CHRISTINE SCHLUMBERGER (SCHLUMBERGER) 1990	1	60.00	51.06	Ultimate Gewürztraminer cuvées, made by the Alsace specialist, under a dozen times last century.
GEWURZTRAMINER SELECTION DES GRAINS NOBLES (HUGEL) 1976	1	105.00	89.36	Rich, complex wine, the equivalent of beerenauslese in Germany; the grapes individually picked, after withering on the vine with botrytis. All-time great year. This last bottle only has part of the SGN strip.
TOKAY CUVÉE CLARISSE SCHLUMBERGER (SCHLUMBERGER) 1989	2	66.00	56.17	It reached an Oeschlé rating of ripeness of 156 degrees, an Alsace record; beyond Trockenbeerenauslese! And sweet Alsace tokay, wow!
TOKAY VENDANGE TARDIVE (HUGEL) HALF. 1976	1	62.00	52.76	There's very little late-harvest tokay. Coming from the famous 1976 vintage and in halves, makes it very rare. Extraordinarily good.
FORTIFIED...		Ex. VAT		PORT
DOW 10 YEAR OLD TAWNY.	23	15.50	13.19	The growers' favourite style. BTW, goes well with chocolate too!
QUINTA DA NOVAL OLD DRY WHITE N.V.	3	8.50	7.23	Quite rare apéritif port. Nor expecting a rush, but worth trying.
QUINTA DA NOVAL L B RESERVE N.V.	8	9.50	8.08	Posh ruby. A bit mis-named, but good drinking.
QUINTA DA NOVAL LATE-BOTTLED 2001	18	12.50	10.64	Port kept in the casks for a few years, sediment racked off and bottled. Value choice for reasonable quality.
FORTIFIED...		Ex. VAT		MADEIRA
HENRIQUES AND HENRIQUES SERCIAL VINTAGE 1944	2	160.00	136.16	Sercial is the dry one. Wartime years are rare.
FRUIT...		Ex. VAT		LIQUEURS & BRANDIES
CRÈME DE CASSIS 20 DEGREE (PHILLIPE DE BOURGOGNE) N.V.	8	14.50	12.34	Add a dash to still or sparkling wine, or ice-cream.
CRÈME DE FRAMBOISE 18 DEGREE (PHILLIPE DE BOURGOGNE)	3	14.50	12.34	Add a dash to still or sparkling wine, or ice-cream.
CRÈME DE PÊCHE 18 DEGREE 50CL.	6	12.50	10.64	Bellini any one?
EAU DE VIE DE CASSIS 45 DEGREE (CATTIN) N.V.	1	37.50	31.91	You need prodigious amounts of fruit! About 8 kilo per 75cl.
EAU DE VIE DE CASSIS 45 DEGREE (CATTIN) HALF. N.V.	1	19.00	16.17	Dry strong distilled fruit brandy.
EAU DE VIE DE COING 43 DEGREE (BERTRAND) N.V.	1	38.50	32.76	Some are obscure like this quince one.
EAU DE VIE DE QUETSCH (PLUM) 40 DEGREE (BERTRAND) N.V.	1	38.50	32.76	Blue plum.
EAU DE VIE DE FRAMBOISE 45 DEGREE (TRIMBACH) N.V.	18	25.00	21.28	Raspberry is one of the best flavours. Superb in sorbets and other desserts.
EAU DE VIE DE POIRE 43 DEGREE (TRIMBACH) N.V.	12	21.00	17.87	Pear is arguably the finest flavour of them all.
EAU DE VIE DE MYRTILLES 45 DEGREE (PIERRE SPARR) N.V.	1	38.50	32.76	Dry strong distilled fruit brandy. Some are obscure, but the pear and raspberry are the most successful.
APERITIFS...		Ex. VAT		VERMOUTHS
MANZANILLA GUITA 20CL.	47	3.00	2.55	Cute and sensible!
CHAMBERY	6	8.50	7.23	Vermouths from Savoie. The original dry martini was made with Chambéry.
CHAMBERYZETTE	11	8.50	7.23	Chambéryzette is medium-dry and flavoured with strawberry.
PINEAU DES CHARENTES BEAULON (5 YEAR OLD) WHITE	4	15.00	12.77	Grape juice with brandy added to stop fermentation. Can be rough but not this!
PINEAU DES CHARENTES BEAULON (5 YEAR OLD) RED	5	15.00	12.77	The red version is quite rare.
BRANDY...		Ex. VAT		
GRAPPA DI TIGNANELLO ANTINORI 50cl.	1	28.00	23.83	Classy Italian brandy from Master Piero Antinori.
BAS ARMAGNAC CASTERADE VSOP (10 YEAR OLD)	3	39.00	33.19	Best combination of price and quality. Very smooth but strong on flavour too.
BAS ARMAGNAC MICHEL TREPOUT (20 YEAR OLD) MAGNUM	1	114.00	97.01	Usually in stock. Very good.
BAS ARMAGNAC MICHEL TREPOUT APOTHEOSE (30 YEAR OLD)	2	75.00	63.83	Usually in stock. Very VERY good.
CALVADOS ROGER GROULT (8 YEAR OLD)	2	38.50	32.76	Usually in stock. Very good.
CALVADOS ROGER GROULT DOYEN D'AGE (40 YEAR OLD)	1	114.00	97.01	Glorious stuff! Usually in stock.
COGNAC GRANDE CHAMPAGNE RAGNAUD-SABOURIN No. 10	6	49.50	42.12	VSOP standard - much better than Remy! Usually in stock.
COGNAC GRANDE CHAMPAGNE TESSERON LOT 76 XO	0	104.00	88.50	Brilliant!