



Olney Wine Bar  
& Restaurant

# Wine List

*& Vineyard Notes*

Good times every time

# White Wines

## Bin No. Light, Elegant & Fresh

- 3 Muscadet de Sevre et Maine, Celliers la Roche, Loire, 2007/8 (France) £14.95  
Probably the driest, crispest wine in the world, Muscadet has returned to form of late with some excellent vintages. This wine is packed with delightful fresh fruit. Excellent with seafood, fish and salads.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** It's no coincidence that Muscadet is a classic seafood wine, as it's grown and made in the Nantais region, around the town of Nantes, where the Loire River tumbles into the cold Atlantic. The local cuisine takes advantage of the river and the sea's bounty of both freshwater and saltwater seafood and fish, and the local wine has evolved to match. The regional designation Muscadet de Sevre et Maine, named after two tributaries of the Loire, covers so large a sub-region that it makes the lion's share of Muscadet's bottled wine. Muscadet is made from the Melon de Bourgogne grape, a variety that - as its name implies - is thought to be native to Burgundy, although it's no longer grown there.
- 6 Rioja, El Coto Blanco, 2008/9 (Spain) £16.95  
Pale in colour yet delicately aromatic, this well-balanced, refreshing dry white displays refined citric fruit yet rounded on the finish. Excellent with salads and pasta dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** El Coto's reputation has been established as one of the top winemakers in Rioja. Strict selection of grapes, gentle handling techniques and modern winemaking practices create wines that are ready to drink and to be enjoyed as soon as they are released. The Blanco, made exclusively from Viura from grapes grown in the Alavesa district only. It is vinified in stainless steel tanks at low temperatures to retain freshness and intensity of fruit aromas.
- 7 Sauvignon Blanc, Terramater Vineyard Reserve, Maipo Valley, 2008/9 (Chile) £16.95  
Tremendous pale yellow-green dry white with intense nose, with notes of green apple, pear and citric lime combining with grassy Sauvignon characteristics. Wonderful with fish, white meats, salads and ham.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** TerraMater was founded in 1996 by the three Canepa sisters, Gilda, Edda and Antonieta. Their father José was one of the pioneers of the modern Chilean wine industry back in the 1930's and his great passion and skill is certainly evident in his three daughters. With around 500 hectares of mature vineyards, they quickly set about constructing a state of the art winery at Caperana Estate in the Isla de Maipo DOC. The vineyards lie within three estates, each in three different valleys; Maipo, Curicó and Maule. There are many 20, 30 and 40 year old, low-yielding vines throughout these vineyards which in turn provide excellent quality fruit for the production of premium wines.- Vineyard reserves is the flagship range which shows TerraMater's commitment to 'Mother Earth'; to tend and nurture their vines with due care and dedication in search of pure, concentrated fruit flavours (exemplified by the Sauvignon Blanc).
- 10 Sauvignon Blanc, Mission Estate, Marlborough, 2008/9 (New Zealand) £22.50  
Fantastic quality wine. The colour is pale straw. The bouquet has gooseberry, passion fruit, white and blackcurrant aromas. The palate is crisp and textural with good weight. There is good fruit sweetness and a rich varietal impact. This intense fruit on the mid palate leads to a dry, clean finish. This is a focused style with plenty of character and complexity. Excellent as an aperitif or with salads, fish and white meats.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** There can be few places associated with the development of New Zealand wine that has such unique historical significance as Mission Estate Winery. Established in 1851, Mission Estate is New Zealand's oldest winemaker. Over 150 years of experience and passion have culminated in the current collection of Mission award winning wines. Grapes are sourced predominantly from Marlborough on the South Island with modern viticulture and winemaking techniques practiced to ensure the long-standing reputation for quality is maintained. The soil and climate here is almost identical to the Burgundy region in France. Mission Winery is committed to minimising the impact of its winery operations on the environment. To achieve this end, they have set up an environmental management program and have the accreditation ISO 14001 environmental management standard. As a result they measure power, water and other use of materials that have an effect on the environment.

## Aromatic, Ripe, Midweight

- 1 Chenin Blanc, Keate's Drift Bush Vine, 2008/9 (South Africa) £13.95  
Emerging from the shadow of Apartheid, South Africa is increasingly making better wines which usually represent good value for money at all levels on the quality scale. Light and bright, this is a zesty wine with balancing acidity and juicy fruit flavours. This wine complements chicken, pork and other white meats.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** It was in 1580 that Sir Francis Drake discovered the Cape of Good Hope as he sailed on the Golden Hind. The Dutch came to settle and planted the first vines but purely for the passing sailors in order to prevent scurvy. The French Huguenots came to the country in 1688 and brought with them all their expertise in wine producing. The Dutch Governor agreed to give them some land which became known as Franschoek -African for a Corner of France.  
South Africa was also known back in Napoleonic times. The Constantia Region, just outside Cape Town, wine was made famous by Napoleon. It was his favourite wine and other European Monarchs took notice.  
In 1918 the South African Government set up a co-op - KWW Cooperative Wine Growers Association- dedicated to producing wines but they had full control of production and prices. It wasn't until the 1980's when the wine growers broke away from this tie to produce such wines as this excellent Chenin Blanc.

# White Wines

Bin No. Aromatic, Ripe, Midweight, continued.

- 2 Grecanico, Celso, IGT, Sicily, 2008 (Italy) £14.95  
A great Sicilian wine with bags of character. Colour is pale straw-yellow with green hints. With a flowery bouquet, delicate and elegant with light notes of apple and banana. Fresh with a fruity aftertaste and a pleasant acidity. Medium-bodied. Ideal with the Mediterranean dishes based on vegetables or fish.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** The Italian wine world is split over the future of DOC and IGT designations. Among the country's most respected winemakers, some claim IGT is the only way forward for Italian wine. Others say it dilutes the purity of terroir. IGT (Indicazione Geografica Tipica) designations allow foreign grape varieties to be added. One of Europe's oldest viticultural regions still offers some pleasant surprises. Sicily's oenological history is an ancient one dating from the time when the island was part of Magna Graecia. One usually associates fine wines with eastern Sicily and the areas near Mount Etna, but many new wineries have sprung up across the island. Sicilian viticulture is not just varietals. Sicily's vintage wines are a magical creation, and many of the island's traditional wines and spirits are famous far beyond its shores. Several boast denomination of origin. Sicily has its own table and dessert wines, and a number of regional liqueurs. There is a whole family of southern Italian white grapes, from Campania, Puglia, Basilicata and Sicilia that share a profile of floral and nutty, quite delicate aromas, but fat, lemony and powerful fruit on the palate. Grecanico is one, named after its Greek origins, and this wine from Sicily offers a real alternative to a white wine diet of Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay.
- 4 Pinot Grigio, Eva's Vineyard, Hilltop Winery, 2008/9 (Hungary) £14.95  
This fine Pinot Grigio offers delicate and complex aromas of tropical fruits, melon and ripe pear. The palate is flavourful with round citrus flavours complemented by notes of honey and crisp apple. It goes equally well with salmon, chicken, pasta or on its own.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** Despite originating from Alsace as Pinot Gris, today Pinot Grigio is Italy's most successful white wine. Thought to be a mutant clone of the Pinot noir grape, it normally has a greyish-blue fruit, accounting for its name ("gris" meaning "grey" in French) but the grape can have a brownish pink to black and even white appearance. The word "Pinot", which means "pinecone" in French, could have been given to it because the grapes grow in small pinecone-shaped clusters. Eva's Vineyard comes from Hilltop Winery, nestled high on the hills with spectacular views over the river Danube in the historic Eszac-Dunantul wine region. Eva, an owner of the winery, together with her team are passionate about delivering high quality fine wines and have been recognised internationally, winning awards across the world.
- 5 Chardonnay Reserve, Old Vines, Le Sanglier, Vin de Pays De L'Aude, 2008/9 (France) £14.95  
The Chardonnay Réserve, comes from the wild and remote hills at the heart of the Languedoc region in the sunny South of France. Older vines produce less bunches of grapes but give the grapes added concentration of fruit. A rounded, smooth pineapple wine with a lovely freshness. Excellent with white meats and dishes with creamy sauces.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** Mont Tauch's wine is made using traditional winemaking methods passed on from generation to generation combined with the very latest winemaking technology. The vigneronns are fully committed to moving towards sustainable agriculture. Mont Tauch wines have a unique style and a special story behind the label. The first Caves Cooperatives were created by grouping together a multitude of small independent wine producers. This was an attempt to survive in an unstable market, which culminated in the wine sales crisis of 1907. The winery at Mont Tauch sits at the foot the 900 meter high Mont Tauch mountain, looking over the village of Tuchan. Michel Marty has been the winemaker at Mont Tauch since the early nineties. He is a perfectionist, and so consistently works to make wines of the best possible quality. Year after year, in strict accordance with the rules set by the AOC, Michel and his cellar masters strive to perfect subtly blended wines. In order to achieve the best results, over the last ten years the Cooperative's imposing original stone building, which was built in 1913, has been renovated and equipped with the latest facilities for winemaking. The new facilities include a number of small vats, which allow greater flexibility to vinify small batches from single vineyards owned by individual growers. For the first time this allows individual growers the chance to taste their own wines and become more involved in the wine making process. Thus the vigneronns become wine producers rather than just grape growers. Various styles of wine are produced, embodying both the charm of the region with its eclectic mix of soils, microclimates and herbs, and the determination of individual coop members to demonstrate the maximum character from their own terroir.

# White Wines

Bin No. Aromatic, Ripe, Midweight, continued.

- 9 Riesling, Mission Estate, Hawkes Bay, 2008 (New Zealand) £22.50  
This Riesling is bright and clean reflecting the gentle handling of the fruit. It has an aroma of stonefruit minerality and a subtle lime tone. The palate is medium dry, fresh and long. It is true to the aromatics, carried by its smooth body and cleansed by the unassuming acidity. Salads, hams and light chicken dishes with a creamy sauce match well along with slightly spiced dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
There can be few places associated with the development of New Zealand wine that has such unique historical significance as Mission Estate Winery. Established in 1851, Mission Estate is New Zealand's oldest winemaker. Over 150 years of experience and passion have culminated in the current collection of Mission award winning wines. Grapes are sourced predominantly from Marlborough on the South Island with modern viticulture and winemaking techniques practiced to ensure the long-standing reputation for quality is maintained. The soil and climate here is almost identical to the Burgundy region in France. Mission Winery is committed to minimising the impact of its winery operations on the environment. To achieve this end, they have set up an environmental management program and have the accreditation ISO 14001 environmental management standard. As a result they measure power, water and other use of materials that have an effect on the environment. This wine is produced from the Riesling fruit from Ohiti Road. This vineyard has produced award-winning wines for the Mission since 1992 which have included at least 6 gold medals and a trophy.
- 11 Chardonnay, Alta Vista Premium, 2007/8 (Argentina) £22.95  
With a bright greenish yellow color, this Premium Chardonnay is a fresh and lively wine, with tropical fruits aromas and a delicate toasted bread note. In the mouth, this wine is velvety, round, with great volume and a long finish. Great with salads and delicate fish dishes  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Alta Vista is a family owned winery, part of the French group Edonia founded by the D'Aulan Family always in the top 5 of the wineries of Argentina. The wineries of Argentina's Mendoza region have abandoned the hot valley floor and taken to the hills. The quality of their wine is rising as rapidly as the slopes to which they cling. The greater height of the vineyards, until recently seen as impractical for winemaking, offers cool nights for the vines and higher radiation from the sun that can make photosynthesis so much more effective than on the hot, clammy valley floor. Snow-capped peaks provide unlimited natural water for irrigation. Alta Vista had to buy the entire valley just to have access rights to irrigation water. Their vineyards are between 30 and 65 years old and harvested by hand from February to April.
- 14 Sancerre, Domaine Vacheron Organic, Loire, 2008 (France) £40.00  
Richly scented exceptional gooseberry fruit from one of the best producers in the Sancerre region. Summery, fresh and dry with a faint richness. Goes best with white meat, salads and seafood dishes  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The Vacheron family has been influential in Sancerre since the turn of the century. Domaine Vacheron is the only Sancerre winery with equal parts of limestone and flint in its vineyards. Limestone contributes to balanced acidity, while flint provides good aroma and mineral overtones. They use biodynamic principles and Bourgeois and their wines improve year on year. Vacheron is rated as 'the fastest improving Producer' in the whole of the Loire Valley (Wine Report 2009).  
Sancerre is an Appellation d'origine contrôlée (AOC) for wine produced in the environs of Sancerre in the eastern part of the Loire valley, southeast of Orléans. Almost all of the appellation lies on the left bank of the Loire, opposite Pouilly-Fumé. It is regarded as the spiritual home of Sauvignon Blanc, making wines of great purity and elegance. The town lies on an outcrop of the chalk that runs from the White cliffs of Dover down through the Champagne and Chablis. A series of small valleys cut through the chalk, each with their own soils and microclimate, leading to a local obsession with terroir. In the east are the 'flints' that make mineral, long-lived wines. Between the town and Verdigny the soil consists of marl and gravel - 'les caillottes', producing fruity, well balanced wines. And in the southwest, away from the river towards Menetou-Salon, the chalky 'terres blanches' (white ground) produce weightier wines. Most - but not all - of the Sauvignon Blancs are unoaked.

# White Wines

## Bin No. Fuller and Rounded Whites

- 8      Macon Lugny, Les Charmes, Caves Lugny, Burgundy, 2007 (France)      £22.50  
As the name 'Les Charmes' suggests, this is a charming unoaked Chardonnay. Light, dry with hints of fresh apples and pears, and a graceful soft finish. Excellent with white meats, creamy sauces and subtle spicy foods  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Produced in the north of the Maconnais region. Clay soil with limestone subsoil.  
The Mâconnais district lies in the south of the Burgundy wine region in France, west of the River Saône. It takes its name from the town of Mâcon. Mâcon was a major crossroads in Roman times, and grapes would have been brought by the Romans if they were not already cultivated by the Celts. Viticulture was further encouraged by local religious foundations; the province was dominated by the bishopric of Mâcon during the Dark Ages.  
It is best known as a source of good value white wines made from the Chardonnay grape. Almost all the wine made in the Mâconnais is white wine. Chardonnay is the main grape grown, in fact there is a village of that name in the far north of the region. 'Les Charmes' is a bottling of 100% Chardonnay from a large, south-facing, old-vine vineyard near the Burgundy village of Lugny. The wine sees either no oak or very neutral oak, as evidenced by the crisp, pure fruit. This readily available, affordable, and very food-friendly wine is another good example of the value to be had in Maconnais white wines.
- 18      Albarino, Bodegas La Val, Rias Baixas, Galicia, 2007/8 (Spain)      £25.00  
A wonderfully fragrant wine from north-west Spain using the local Albariño grape variety. A slight spritz on the tongue characterizes this dry white and ensures its freshness. On the palate it is very elegant and delicate with hints of peaches, apricots and limes. An excellent alternative to Chablis.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
La Val Albarino hails from the Rias Baixas wine growing region in the North West of Spain, close to the Portuguese border. Weather conditions in the Rias Baixas are generally cool, windy and rainy. Vines must be trained high and open to allow winds to dry them out and avoid the ongoing threat of rot, mildew and other fungal diseases. Notably, Albariño grapes develop thick skins here, contributing to their intense aromas. One of Rias Baixas leading producers of the indigenous Albariño variety, Bodegas La Val owns 80 hectares of vineyards in the heart of the beautiful region of Galicia in North West Spain. Their policy of restricted yields and use of modern winemaking practices helps to produce one of country's best white wines and its popularity in top bars and restaurants, not only in Madrid but now also in the UK, proves it is gaining the recognition it truly deserves
- 13      Chablis, Domaine Christophe, Burgundy, 2006 (France)      £29.95  
This world-famous white wine from Burgundy exudes class and style. Elegant with subtle lemony fruit, and flinty, mineral flavours. Perfect with white meats, creamy sauce dishes and subtly spiced food.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The Chablis region is the northernmost wine district of the Burgundy region in France. The grapevines around the town of Chablis are almost all Chardonnay, making a dry white wine renowned for the purity of its aroma and taste. The northern location along the 48th parallel north place Chablis at the northern extremes of viable viticulture. The cool climate of this region produces wines with more acidity and flavours less fruity than Chardonnay wines grown in warmer climates. The wines often have a 'flinty' note, sometimes described as 'goût de pierre à fusil', tasting of gunflint, and sometimes as 'steely'. In comparison to the white wines from the rest of Burgundy, Chablis has on average much less influence of oak. It is likely that vines came to the region with the Romans, if not before. As elsewhere, the Dark Ages saw monasteries putting great effort into viticulture for communion wine, and the proximity of Auxerre meant that the market in Paris was readily accessible. There are records in the mid-15th century of Chablis wine being shipped to England, Flanders and Picardy. But in February 1568 the town was razed by the Huguenots, and the region did not really recover until the 18th century. Then came the ravages of the French Revolution, the Little Ice Age and Prussian invasions. Just as the vineyards were being built back up, they were hit first by oidium in the 1880s, and then by the phylloxera epidemic. Following two World Wars, the Chablis wine industry wouldn't recover till the second half of the 20th century.  
In the middle of nowhere on the plateau above Fye and the Grand Crus lies the Ferme des Carrieres. In addition to sugar beet and maize the youthful Sebastian Christophe runs a small vineyard. The estate has only been bottling since 1999. There is no wood and he creates fantastic, much acclaimed wines.

# White Wines

## Bin No. Fuller and Rounded Whites, continued.

- 12 Montagny 1er Cru, Les Loges, Vieilles Vignes, Cave de Buxy, Burgundy, 2006 (France) £32.50  
Some fantastic vineyards with some of the best value for money appellations to be found anywhere in Burgundy. Excellent quality dry white. Ripe and honeyed with a crisp finish. Matches with white meats and dishes in creamy sauces.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Founded in 1931, this co-operative has become the leading producer of Côte Chalonnaise, covering 12 different appellations and producing 2 thirds of Montagny's output. Modernisation under Roger Rageot in 1963 has led to Buxy being unique in being able to mature 6000hl of wine in oak barrels. The idyllic village of Buxy is home to the 160 members which make up the Cave des Vignerons de Buxy. This is one of the real gems of the co-operative movement with a brilliant young winemaking team backed up by an innovative and highly experienced management. They have some fantastic vineyards with some of the best value for money appellations to be found anywhere in Burgundy. Buxy's best kept secret is its remarkable storage facility, a disused railway tunnel (1.5km long) where they age the vast majority of their wines before release.
- 15 Châteauneuf-du-Pape Blanc, Domaine Font de Michelle, Rhone, 2007 (France) £55.00  
A unique blend from the Rhône white grape varieties of Roussanne, Marsanne and Chasan, producing a full-bodied, rich and fragrant wine with peaches and apricots on the nose and on the palate, and a touch of spice on the finish. Beautiful wine drunk on its own but marries well too with pheasant and rabbit.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The white wines, sought after and extremely rare, are made using only white grapes. They are dry and have an extremely full aroma. The grapes are picked by hand. After being carefully sorted in crates, where all damaged and unripe grapes are discarded. Ageing is carried out in oak tuns as well as in oak barrels. Bottling of white wines takes place a year after the grape-harvest, whereas red wines are bottled 15 months later. The name of this top estate, Domaine Font Michelle is derived from a hidden spring, in a hollow among the vines, called the Fontaine de Michelle. It is today run by the third generation, Jean and Michel Gonnet. They honour their father with Cuvée Etienne Gonnet, and Etienne was instrumental in developing the estate, bringing together numerous small plots to make up the 30 ha that the brothers have to work with today. The vines are located in the Commune de Bédarrides. The soil is naturally covered by the galets roulés which are typical of the region; these are on largely south and southeast facing slopes, which run up to Le Crau, home to the most famous Vieux Télégraphe vineyards. Indeed, Vieux Télégraphe is Font de Michelle's closest neighbour, and it comes as no surprise to learn that Daniel and Frederic Brunier, proprietors of Vieux Télégraphe, are cousins to Jean and Michel Gonnet.  
Châteauneuf-du-Pape is an AOC for wine made near the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape in the Rhône wine region in southeastern France. It is the most renowned appellation of the southern part of the Rhône Valley. Vineyards are located around Châteauneuf-du-Pape and in the neighboring villages Bédarrides, Courthézon and Sorgues between Avignon and Orange. More wine is made in this one area of southern Rhône than in the entirety of the northern Rhône region. Châteauneuf-du-Pape roughly translates to "The Pope's new castle" and, indeed, the history of this appellation is firmly entwined with papal history. In 1308, Pope Clement V, former Archbishop of Bordeaux, relocated the papacy to the town of Avignon. Clement V and subsequent "Avignon Popes" were said to be great lovers of Burgundy wines and did much to promote it during the seventy-year duration of the Avignon Papacy. Clement V was succeeded by John XXII who, as well as Burgundy wine, regularly drank the wines from the vineyards to the north and did much to improve viticultural practices there. Under John XXII, the wines of this area came to be known as "Vin du Pape", this term later to become Châteauneuf-du-Pape. John XXII is also responsible for erecting the famous castle which stands as a symbol for the appellation.  
The characteristic terroir of Châteauneuf-du-Pape comes from a layer of stones called galets ("pebbles"). The rocks are typically quartzite and remnants of Alpine glaciers that have been smoothed over millennia by the Rhône River. The stone retains heat during the day and releases it at night which can have an effect of hastening the ripening of grapes. The stones can also serve as a protective layer to help retain moisture in the soil during the dry summer months. The appellation rules name thirteen grape varieties that are allowed to be used in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Since two of these, Grenache and Picpoul, may be used both in their noir (dark-skinned) and blanc (light-skinned) versions, the number of varieties allowed is in fact fifteen. Red varieties allowed are Grenache Noir, Syrah, Mourvèdre, Picpoul Noir, Terret Noir, Counoise, Muscardin, Vaccarèse and Cinsaut, and white varieties are Grenache Blanc, Picpoul Blanc, Picardan, Clairette, Roussanne and Bourboulenc. Both red and white varieties are allowed in red Châteauneuf-du-Pape. There are no restrictions as to the proportion of grape varieties to be used.
- 16 Puligny Montrachet, Domaine Jean Louis Chavy, Burgundy, 2006 (France) £62.50  
Smoky, round, full and buttery style a classic white Burgundy with only a little oak to influence the flavour the fruit comes to the fore in this wine. Wonderful with white meats and creamy sauce dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Puligny-Montrachet is a commune in the Côte-d'Or department in eastern France. In the middle of the Côte de Beaune, it is a well-known appellation of Burgundy wine, containing one of the most famous vineyards in the world, Montrachet. The "Scabby Hill" ("Mont Rachaz"), not much more than an undulation between the villages of Puligny and Chassagne, is one of the most famous vineyard sites in the world. Jean-Louis Chavy (son of Gerard) created his own domaine in 2004 with 6.5 hectares, including a good range of premiers crus. In his spotless winery he vinifies and ages his village wine in 15 to 20% new wood, and his premiers crus in a maximum of 30% new wood. These are excellent wines which display finesse and crisp minerality - true Puligny. Smoky, round, full and buttery style the wine lover can tell from aromas alone that these wines are classic white Burgundies. Without the overly forward candy/fruit character of New World wines, these Chardonnays are made to drink with dinner. This is a classic steely Puligny, with only a little oak to influence the flavour the fruit comes to the fore in this wine.

# Rosé Wines

## Bin No. Delicately Blushed

- 101 Cabernet Shiraz Rosé, Paso del Sol, Central Valley, 2008/9 (Chile) £15.95  
Attractive pink colour. Sweet and ripe strawberry aroma in the nose, some notes of cherries. Fresh, soft, rounded palate. Persistent and pleasant aftertaste. Excellent as an aperitif, with salads, or with chicken and salmon dishes as well as Chinese or less spicy Thai dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
TerraMater was founded in 1996 by the three Canepa sisters, Gilda, Edda and Antonieta. Their father José was one of the pioneers of the modern Chilean wine industry back in the 1930's and his great passion and skill is certainly evident in his three daughters. With around 500 hectares of mature vineyards, they quickly set about constructing a state of the art winery at Caperana Estate in the Isla de Maipo DOC. The vineyards lie within three estates, each in three different valleys; Maipo, Curicó and Maule. There are many 20, 30 and 40 year old, low-yielding vines throughout these vineyards which in turn provide excellent quality fruit for the production of premium wines.- Paso del Sol - literally meaning the 'passing of the sun', the name conjures up an image of lazy vineyards drenched in warm sunshine by day contrasted by cool refreshing nights, which swells the grapes to perfect physiological ripeness. An easy drinking varietal blend - Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz Rosé is bursting with ripe fruit flavours.
- 102 Syrah Rosé, Le Sanglier, Old Vines, Vin de Pays De L'Aude, 2008/9 (France) £14.95  
The Syrah Rosé Réserve comes from the wild and remote hills at the heart of the Languedoc region in the sunny South of France. Rounded, vibrant pink and deliciously fresh. An excellent wine as an aperitif or with salads and fish dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Mont Tauch's wine is made using traditional winemaking methods passed on from generation to generation combined with the very latest winemaking technology. The vigneron are fully committed to moving towards sustainable agriculture. Mont Tauch wines have a unique style and a special story behind the label.  
The first Caves Cooperatives were created by grouping together a multitude of small independent wine producers. This was an attempt to survive in an unstable market, which culminated in the wine sales crisis of 1907.  
The winery at Mont Tauch sits at the foot the 900 meter high Mont Tauch mountain, looking over the village of Tuchan.  
Michel Marty has been the winemaker at Mont Tauch since the early nineties. He is a perfectionist, and so consistently works to make wines of the best possible quality. Year after year, in strict accordance with the rules set by the AOC, Michel and his cellar masters strive to perfect subtly blended wines.  
For the first time this allows individual growers the chance to taste their own wines and become more involved in the wine making process. Thus the vigneron become wine producers rather than just grape growers.  
Various styles of wine are produced, embodying both the charm of the region with its eclectic mix of soils, microclimates and herbs, and the determination of individual coop members to demonstrate the maximum character from their own terroir.
- 103 Malbec Rosé, Alta Vista, Mendoza, 2009 (Argentina) £17.95  
An impressive wine with marked reddish hues. In the nose, it has a medium to high intensity, with prevailing fruity aromas -such as ripe cherries and sour cherries. It also shows floral notes - such as red roses. In the mouth, it has a persistent flavour and is well balanced. Wonderful as an aperitif and pairs well with salads or other light dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Alta Vista is a family owned winery, part of the French group Edonia founded by the D'Aulan Family always in the top 5 of the wineries of Argentina. The wineries of Argentina's Mendoza region have abandoned the hot valley floor and taken to the hills. The quality of their wine is rising as rapidly as the slopes to which they cling. The greater height of the vineyards, until recently seen as impractical for winemaking, offers cool nights for the vines and higher radiation from the sun that can make photosynthesis so much more effective than on the hot, clammy valley floor. Snow-capped peaks provide unlimited natural water for irrigation. Alta Vista had to buy the entire valley just to have access rights to irrigation water. Their vineyards are between 30 and 65 years old and harvested by hand from February to April.

# Red Wines

## Bin No. Light, Vibrant, Fruit Driven

- 203 Merlot, Terramater Vineyard Reserve, Maipo Valley, 2007/8 (Chile) £16.95  
Deep purple/red colour. Characteristic varietal, plump and ripe with attractive dusky dark fruit and notes of chocolate on the rich velvety finish. Excellent with a variety of rich, savoury foods such as hams, chicken or duck, poultry, tomato-based pasta dishes and mild cheeses.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
TerraMater was founded in 1996 by the three Canepa sisters, Gilda, Edda and Antonietta. Their father José was one of the pioneers of the modern Chilean wine industry back in the 1930's and his great passion and skill is certainly evident in his three daughters. With around 500 hectares of mature vineyards, they quickly set about constructing a state of the art winery at Caperana Estate in the Isla de Maipo DOC. The vineyards lie within three estates, each in three different valleys; Maipo, Curicó and Maule. There are many 20, 30 and 40 year old, low-yielding vines throughout these vineyards which in turn provide excellent quality fruit for the production of premium wines. Vineyard reserves is the flagship range which shows TerraMater's commitment to 'Mother Earth'; to tend and nurture their vines with due care and dedication in search of pure, concentrated fruit flavours (exemplified by the Merlot).
- 205 Beaujolais Villages, Château du Chatelard, Old Vines, Beaujolais (France) £19.95  
This gorgeous, cherry-coloured wine with a bouquet of strawberries and blackcurrants and a smooth, well-balanced flavour, vanilla and liquorice on the finish. Silky fruit from the concentration of juice as made from old vines. Pairs well with salads and hams.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The Estate of Chatelard is established as part of French history; vines have been cultivated here since the time of Charlemagne in the VIII century. During the French Revolution, CHATEAU DU CHATELARD was besieged and devastated and was then rebuilt in the 18th century. The owners of the Chateau du Chatelard today are a young family. Sylvain Rosier, enjoyed a childhood steeped in the tradition of wine production, and then utilising the professional and entrepreneurial skills he learnt in the business sector, Sylvain and his wife Isabelle returned to the heart of the Beaujolais. They studied oenology and viticulture and are now totally involved in the day to day running of this exceptional estate. Beaujolais is a French Appellation d' Origine Contrôlée (AOC) wine generally made of the Gamay grape which has a thin skin and few tannins. Beaujolais tends to be a very light-bodied red wine, with relatively high amounts of acidity. Can also be served chilled. The wine takes its name from the historical Beaujolais province and wine producing region. It is located north of Lyon, and covers parts of the north of the Rhône département (Rhône-Alpes) and parts of the Saône-et-Loire département (Burgundy). While administratively considered part of the Burgundy wine region, the climate is closer to the Rhône and the wine is unique enough to be considered separately from Burgundy and Rhône. The region is known internationally for its long tradition of winemaking. Beaujolais-Villages AOC, is the intermediate category in terms of classification, covers 39 communes/villages in the Haut Beaujolais, the northern part of the region accounting for a quarter of production.
- 209 Valpolicella Superiore, Vigne Nuove di Musella, 2007 (Italy) £22.95  
The Musella winery makes small quantities of single estate, excellent red wines just outside of Verona, Italy. Made primarily from Corvina grapes, this dry red wine has a light peppery quality. Though Valpolicella Classico Superiore can be drunk throughout the meal, it will go best with more involved entrees, for example roasts or stews.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Just outside Verona, on the hills of San Martino Buon Albergo, is Tenuta Musella, one of the most beautiful and self-contained estates of the Veneto region. Rich in forests, waters, specialized crops, ancient courts and little churches, farming estates and houses. The splendid aristocratic Villa, dating from the seventeenth century, at the centre of its park. The oldest ancestors traced are family of the counts Muselli, presumably the first proprietors of the Tenuta. This dates back to the sixteenth century, but it is not until the second half on the nineteenth century, that one hears about the winemaking tradition of the area, inaugurated by the inspired and enthusiastic Cesare Trezza di Musella. The cellar and offices of the winery are located in a rural court of the sixteenth century, surrounded by green meadows crossed by the river Figgio, which originally hosted the stables of the aristocratic Villa.  
Valpolicella has lost popularity- consumers see it as a light, fruity red wine with little character or finesse. The problem is serious enough that some of the wineries have taken to printing their names in large letters and doing their best to hide the word Valpolicella. It's a pity, because there's quite a bit to this wine, and it can be delightful. It's produced in the foothills of the Alps, just west of Verona, in an area sandwiched between the mountains and Lake Garda. They tend to be less tannic than the wines from Tuscany or Piemonte.  
Getting down to specifics: Valpolicella Classico is what most foreigners think of when they think Valpolicella. It is a light quaffing wine, generally fermented in steel, kept in tanks, and then bottled in the spring, to be drunk on a daily basis. It tends to have a lively bouquet with floral notes and hints of cherry or berry fruits - this is definitely an aromatic wine. On the palate it is light, fruity, and with a pleasant touch of acidity that leaves a clean finish. Not much in the way of tannins.  
This Valpolicella Classico Superiore is a very different animal from the above. Though made from the same grapes it is aged in wood for at least a year; it emerges more structured and interesting, and in reaches great heights. The wood can be either large botti, or smaller barriques, which some producers use to add tannins to the wine. There is a certain amount of controversy regarding this point, because Valpolicella has a distinctive floral-fruity bouquet that is in part overshadowed by the vanilla notes surrendered by barriques. This more traditional winery won't use them. Instead, to add tannins to the wine they pass it over the skins and seeds left over from the fermentation of Recioto. The tannins gained are light and tend to be well rounded, while the skins surrender more aromatics to the bouquet, and add intriguing complexities to the wine on the palate. This technique, which is unique to Valpolicella, is called Ripassa, and can give wondrous results.

# Red Wines

## Light, Vibrant, Fruit Driven, continued.

- 211 Fleurie, Les Vieux Granits, Château du Chatelard, Beaujolais, 2007 (France) £28.00  
A rich cherry-coloured wine with violet tints and a delightful floral aroma, this has a smooth, deep, subtle hint of raspberries on the palate and a silky finish. Serve with tomato based dishes and light red meat dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The Estate of Chatelard is established as part of French history; vines have been cultivated here since the time of Charlemagne in the VIII century. During the French Revolution, CHATEAU DU CHATELARD was besieged and devastated and was then rebuilt in the 18th century. The owners of the Chateau du Chatelard today are a young family. Sylvain Rosier, enjoyed a childhood steeped in the tradition of wine production, and then utilising the professional and entrepreneurial skills he learnt in the business sector, Sylvain and his wife Isabelle returned to the heart of the Beaujolais. They studied oenology and viticulture and are now totally involved in the day to day running of this exceptional estate. Fleurie is a Cru Beaujolais, the highest category of classification in Beaujolais, account for the production within ten villages/areas in the foothills of the Beaujolais mountains. Unlike Burgundy and Alsace, the phrase cru in Beaujolais refers to entire wine producing area rather than an individual vineyard.  
Beaujolais is a French Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC) wine generally made of the Gamay grape which has a thin skin and few tannins.

## Smooth, Elegant, Supple

- 202 Montepulciano, D' Abruzzo, Villa Borghetti, 2008/9 (Italy) £14.95  
This wine has an intense bouquet of violets, roses and dried raisins; palate shows ripe intense berry fruit with a sweet fig and raisin finish. Wonderfully velvety smooth. Perfect with pasta and tomato dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
From the Vineyards located in Central Italy, close to the Adriatic Sea, between Chieti and Casalbordino, in the Abruzzo region. Here the soil is Calcareous soil and clay. The Montepulciano D'Abruzzo is produced using 100% Montepulciano grapes. These grapes are vinified with maceration on the skins, frequent pressings and fermentation at controlled temperature of about 25-28° C. Montepulciano d'Abruzzo is a type of wine grape as well as a type of red wine made from these same grapes in the Abruzzo region of east-central Italy. The grape is however recommended for 20 of Italy's 95 provinces. The quality of Montepulciano wines produced in Abruzzo (especially in the provinces of Pescara and Chieti) has been constantly improving in the last ten years, making Abruzzi, once a backwater in winemaking, one of the most interesting locales in the Italian scene.
- 206 Rioja, El Coto Crianza, Rioja, 2005/6 (Spain) £19.95  
Medium-bodied with soft succulent raspberry fruit and subtle spicy flavours. Ageing in American oak for 12 months adds creamy and vanilla characteristics to this sensuous wine. Wonderful with lamb, hams, cheese and other dark meats.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Located in the village of Oyón just north of Logroño City, the main El Coto winery has grown significantly over the past 35 years. Today, El Coto owns vineyards in the Alta and Alavesa districts but controls more across Rioja Alta, Rioja Alavesa and a small proportion in Rioja Baja. The predominant grape varieties planted are Tempranillo for the reds. The Crianza is made exclusively from Tempranillo grapes grown in the Alta and Alavesa districts. The juice is fermented in stainless steel vats for 2-3 weeks with frequent pumping over (remontage) to achieve the right balance of fruit intensity, colour and tannin structure. Following fermentation, the wine is then transferred to American oak barriques, around a third of which are new, for ageing for 12 to 14 months. The barrels have received a medium toasting which gives the ideal amount of vanilla undertones to the final wine. The wine is then bottled and aged for a further period of 6-8 months before being released. This extra bottle ageing is no longer a requirement by law for Crianza but is a major contributing factor towards El Coto's quality.
- 207 Syrah, Mission Estate, Hawkes Bay, 2007 (New Zealand) £22.50  
This Hawkes Bay Syrah has vibrant spicy berry notes with a rich fruity mid palate. The Gimblett Gravels fruit has contributed to the warm spicy character; the TeAwanga fruit a peppery aroma with fresh cassis flavours. It has been partially barrel aged creating a long soft palate with classic pepper flavours on the finish.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
There can be few places associated with the development of New Zealand wine that has such unique historical significance as Mission Estate Winery. Established in 1851, Mission Estate is New Zealand's oldest winemaker. Over 150 years of experience and passion have culminated in the current collection of Mission award winning wines. Grapes are sourced predominantly from Hawkes Bay on the warmer North Island with modern viticulture and winemaking techniques practiced to ensure the long-standing reputation for quality is maintained. Mission Winery is committed to minimising the impact of its winery operations on the environment. To achieve this end, they have set up an environmental management program and have the accreditation ISO 14001 environmental management standard. As a result they measure power, water and other use of materials that have an effect on the environment.
- 208 Crozes Hermitage, Domaine Pierres Benites, Rhone, 2007 (France) £22.95  
A deep coloured, robust style wine with intense peppery, spicy fruit character. Served best with red meat dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Eleven villages constitute the Crozes Hermitage AC and the area produces red wines from the Syrah grape variety and white wines from the roussanne and marsanne grapes. The preferable wines from Crozes Hermitage are those that come from the hilly areas rather than the flat lands, and have a surprising delicacy of flavour that is a joy to drink.

# Red Wines

## Bin No. Smooth, Elegant, Supple

- 213 Pinot Noir, Bourgogne Rouge, Ambroise, Burgundy, 2007 ( France) £28.00  
Bertrand Ambroise makes ripe, aromatic, richly-textured wines, using traditional vinification in open-topped oak vats. His Bourgogne is big and bold with impressive depth. Delicious with duck, red meats and cheeses.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
This estate has its origins in the 18th century, where Bertrand Ambroise manages to extract the authentic character of the richest appellations to produce big, powerful wines. Using 40-50 year old vines and complete de-stemming have helped produce a powerful, concentrated and thick wine, deep ruby red colour and a long finish, the hallmark of this Domaine Bertrand Ambroise wine. Burgundy today is in the centre stage for quality, excitement and value for money. The benchmark for Pinot Noir producers throughout the world (and still the undisputed king of Pinot) red Burgundy is typically low in tannin, high in acidity, and fragrant in aroma, a beguiling mix of subtlety, elegance and refinement.
- 214 Mercurey, Domaine de Suremain, Burgundy, 2004 (France) £32.00  
A wine with great character with typical Pinot Noir aromas, and rich strawberry and cherry fruit. Excellent with game, red meats, duck and cheeses.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Yves Suremain took over the family domaine in 1987 and continues to produce a robust style of Mercurey from the Pinot Noir grape. Mercurey is on the Côte Chalonnaise is named after the town of Chalon-sur-Saône, located on the Saône. Its location made the town an important trading centre of the Celts in Gaul. The region was later used by the Ancient Romans with wine being one of the commodities traded up and down the river. More than 20,000 amphora stamped with Roman emblems have been found in graves in this area. In the 18th it was a vital link on the Canal du Centre which linked the wine regions of the south of France to the key markets in the north. In the 1980s, the region experienced a renaissance highlighted with a substantial jump in quality wine production. With the price of Burgundy wine steadily escalating, the Côte Chalonnaise developed a reputation for consistent quality for lower cost than some of the more well known villages of Burgundy. This led to a sharp increase in the price of wines from the Côte.
- 215 Magia Blend, Moreson, Coastal Region, 2004 (South African) £29.95  
Truly amazing wine, aromas tend towards forest floor and wild mushroom with hints of blueberry. The palate is velvety and mouth filling with lingering sweet oak, vanilla, cinnamon and liquorice. Served best with most red meat, stews and pork dishes  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
We are very proud to list the Moreson Range of South African wines. Moreson are a slice of magic. This is a very individual boutique winery, led by the Owner Richard Friedman they have a young team passionate about their wines and with stunning innovation.  
It was in 1580 that Sir Francis Drake discovered the Cape of Good Hope as he sailed on the Golden Hind. The Dutch Came to settle and planted the first vines but purely for the passing sailors in order to prevent scruvy. The French Huguenots came to the the country in 1688 and brought with them all their expertise in wine producing. The Dutch Governer agreed to give them some land which became known as Franschoek -African for a Corner of France. South Africa was also known back in Napoleonic times. The Constantia Region, just outside Cape Town, wine was made famous by Napoleon. It was his favourite wine and other European Monarchs took notice. In 1918 the South African Government set up a Co Op- KWW Cooperative Wine Growers Association- dedicated to producing wines but they had full control of production and prices. It wasn't until the 1980's when the wine growers broke away from this tie.  
It was at this time in 1986 that the Moreson Winery was purchased by the Friedman Family and this young team are led by a young winemaker Clayton Reabow. He trained in France and Germany and we are proud to list his fantastic award winning wines. Moreson, a premium estate that sources its grapes from its own vineyards in Franschoek and from long-term contracts in Paarl and Stellenbosch, using the diversity of these famous regions to create wines of specific individuality and character. The top-quality fruit is subjected to a vigorous selection process in the cellar, further enhancing the quality and typicity of this outstanding range. Moreson is based in the aptly named Happy Valley Road and the name Moreson derives from the African 'Morning sun' as the vineyards are first to have the morning sun rays. The sun can be seen on the label.  
The Moreson Magia is the over-achiever in the Moreson Family. The award winning wine made by Clayton Reabow (only 29 years old). It is from Franschoek region a blend of 48 % Cabernet Sauvignon, 19 % Cabernet Franc and 33 % Merlot. Each variety is fermented separately and transferred to new French oak barrels for Malolactic Fermentation, after completion only the Cabernet Sauvignon component is kept in new oak, while the Merlot and Cabernet Franc is matured in 2nd fill barrels. The wine spends a total of 24 months in oak with only the best barrels of each cultivar going into the final blend.
- 219 Chateau Monlot, Grand Cru, St Emilion, Bordeaux, 2004 (France) £40.00  
Rich in concentration showing opulence on the nose of creamed cherry fruit preceding a palate of fruitcake and spice with a nicely rounded long finish. Excellent with red meats, game and cheese.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The Chateau Monlot is located at 2 kms away from the village of Saint-Emilion, and in the middle of the famous vineyard. This tiny estate with a grand cru St Emilion appellation covers a mere 8 hectares and is owned by the Rivals family. Made from 65% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, the vinification is traditional; fermentation takes place in cement vats and continues for 15 to 20 days depending on the vintage. Half of the wine is matured in oak barrels of which 20% are renewed each year ensuring the preservation of the fruitier characteristics of the wine.

# Red Wines

## Bin No. Hearty, Rich & Full Bodied

- 201 Cabernet Sauvignon, Le Sanglier Reserve, Old Vines, Vin de Pays De L'Aude, 2008 (France) £14.95  
The Cabernet Sauvignon Réserve, comes from the wild and remote hills at the heart of the Languedoc region in the sunny South of France. This is a delicious wine with minty and slightly leafy rich fruit. Excellent with red meats and cheeses.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** Mont Tauch's wine is made using traditional winemaking methods passed on from generation to generation combined with the very latest winemaking technology. The vigneronns are fully committed to moving towards sustainable agriculture. Mont Tauch wines have a unique style and a special story behind the label.  
The first Caves Cooperatives were created by grouping together a multitude of small independent wine producers. This was an attempt to survive in an unstable market, which culminated in the wine sales crisis of 1907.  
The winery at Mont Tauch sits at the foot the 900 meter high Mont Tauch mountain, looking over the village of Tuchan.  
Michel Marty has been the winemaker at Mont Tauch since the early nineties. He is a perfectionist, and so consistently works to make wines of the best possible quality. Year after year, in strict accordance with the rules set by the AOC, Michel and his cellar masters strive to perfect subtly blended wines.  
In order to achieve the best results, over the last ten years the Cooperative's imposing original stone building, which was built in 1913, has been renovated and equipped with the latest facilities for winemaking. The new facilities include a number of small vats, which allow greater flexibility to vinify small batches from single vineyards owned by individual growers. For the first time this allows individual growers the chance to taste their own wines and become more involved in the wine making process. Thus the vigneronns become wine producers rather than just grape growers.  
Various styles of wine are produced, embodying both the charm of the region with its eclectic mix of soils, microclimates and herbs, and the determination of individual coop members to demonstrate the maximum character from their own terroir.
- 204 Malbec, Alta Vista Classic, Mendoza, 2007 (Argentina) £17.95  
Bright violet-like red colour. This wine has an intense nose, with aromas of red fruit, particularly plums, and with vanilla notes and subtle coffee touches resulting from its storage in oak. On the palate one finds a freshness and soft, rounded tannins, recalling those fruity sensations in the nose. Perfect accompaniment with red meats as the Argentinians intend.  
Wonderful with Roast Beef or Steaks.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** Alta Vista is a family owned winery, part of the French group Edonia founded by the D'Aulan Family always in the top 5 of the wineries of Argentina.  
The wineries of Argentina's Mendoza region have abandoned the hot valley floor and taken to the hills. The quality of their wine is rising as rapidly as the slopes to which they cling. The greater height of the vineyards, until recently seen as impractical for winemaking, offers cool nights for the vines and higher radiation from the sun that can make photosynthesis so much more effective than on the hot, clammy valley floor. Snow-capped peaks provide unlimited natural water for irrigation. Alta Vista had to buy the entire valley just to have access rights to irrigation water. Their vineyards are between 30 and 65 years old and harvested by hand from February to April.
- 210 Shiraz, Beresford, McLaren Vale, 2006 (Australia) £24.95  
Bright purple-red with attractive berry notes and subtle creamy aromas, but big, bold and full of body on the palate. This is a cracker, full of black fruit and chocolate flavours with a spicy peppery finish ideal with rich red meat and cheese dishes.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** McLaren Vale was first established as a grape-growing region in 1838, it wasn't until the late 1880's that McLaren Vale really boomed, developing a fine reputation for full bodied red wines. At the turn of the century a strong export market into the UK was created, long after exports from the other regions of Australia had dwindled. The proximity of the sea in the form of Gulf St Vincent, provides tempering sea breezes offering an excellent micro-climate for viticulture. With well structured soils, the Vale is a haven of consistency. Its endearing beauty, peaceful tranquility and gently undulating hills continue to attract people with their solitude and grace. A long tradition of full flavoured wines is being upheld by Beresford Wines.  
Rob Dundon began Beresford Wines in 1985, creating and establishing brand recognition for a premium collection of wines from the acclaimed McLaren Vale region. Rob a graduate from Adelaide University in 1974, has had a distinguished career in winemaking, including 11 years with the famous Hardy wine company and now with the success of Beresford, more than 1,000 medal winning wines to his name.  
Today Beresford Wines is one of Australia's largest producers making over 300,000 cases of premium wine under various labels. The flagship brand of the portfolio, it is unashamedly McLaren Vale at its best. The name was taken from an area in the Peak District called Beresford Dales, where Rob used to rock climb in his younger days. The landscape almost mirrors that of the McLaren Vale. The river that flows through the Dales is the River Dove and hence the use of the dove as the company's logo. Beresford Shiraz has fast gained a reputation for excellence with critical acclaim coming from across the globe including Robert Parker.
- 218 Reserva, Cigales Real, Bodegas Museum, 2003 (Spain) £33.00  
Truly outstanding wine. Rich, concentrated and ripe berry fruit flavours combine with a heady mixture of chocolate, liquorice and spice to make this exceptional Spanish red. Made from vines between 50 and 100 years old. Best served with veal and lamb, other red meats and cheese.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** Finca Museum is located in the highlands of the Castilian plateau, in the village of Cigales. In the late 1990's the management team at El Coto were considering investing in land in nearby Ribero del Duero but found prices to be too high. When a Spanish journalist led them to the lesser known area of Cigales, they were very excited by what they found and very quickly set about establishing what would become an award-winning winery. 100% Tinto del Pais from previously selected vines, around 50-60 years old and very low yielding. The very best grapes are selected for the Reserva from vines aged between 50 and 100 years old. Fermented in stainless steel tanks followed by 24 months ageing in French oak barriques. Again bottled unfiltered and matured for a further 12 months minimum before release.  
The nose is deep and complex with red berry fruits and cloves dominating while the palate is elegant, silky and harmonious with soft, rounded tannins and a very long complex finish. This wine has great ageing potential.

# Red Wines

## Bin No. Hearty, Rich & Full Bodied, continued.

- 217 Cabernet Sauvignon, Altum, Curico Valley, 2005 (Chile) £29.95  
Stunning single vineyard wine- the ultimate wine from Terramater. It has a rich, spicy berry nose and is well-balanced and elegant with spicy cassis notes and great depth of flavour. Nectar. Grapes come from carefully selected, 50-60 year old vines from on the slopes of Andean foothills at Hacienda San Jorge in Curicó Valley. Wonderful with game, red meats and cheese.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
TerraMater was founded in 1996 by the three Canepa sisters, Gilda, Edda and Antonieta. Their father José was one of the pioneers of the modern Chilean wine industry back in the 1930's and his great passion and skill is certainly evident in his three daughters.  
With around 500 hectares of mature vineyards, they quickly set about constructing a state of the art winery at Caperana Estate in the Isla de Maipo DOC.  
The vineyards lie within three estates, each in three different valleys; Maipo, Curicó and Maule. There are many 20, 30 and 40 year old, low-yielding vines throughout these vineyards which in turn provide excellent quality fruit for the production of premium wines.  
Fundo Caperana – in the heart of the Maipo Valley and the winery's spiritual home is made up of 300 ha of mixed varietals. The fruit contributes good aromatic intensity, sweet fruit flavours and smooth round tannins (in the reds). The winemaking today is led by Cristian Vallejo, a young and dynamic winemaker with extensive experience producing premium wines having worked at Château Margaux and Léoville-Poyferré in Bordeaux, Concavin in Spain and Franciscan in California. The culmination of this winemaking philosophy has led to TerraMater achieving international recognition, having been awarded numerous accolades in the world's leading wine competitions. With the investment and development of their super premium wines, this certainly looks set to continue into the future.
- 220 Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Jardin des Princes, Rhone, 2006 (France) £49.00  
Deep and lively garnet colour, this superb wine has complex and intensive aromas, predominantly blackcurrants but equally notes of leather, truffles and spices. Brilliant with meat.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Vine cultivation, already known to the Gauls, was widely developed by the Romans. Monks were the first to clear the land and cultivate these vineyards and Bishops were instrumental in extending vine cultivation. In 1157, in keeping with Roman tradition, Geoffrey, the Bishop of Avignon, planted vines and personally managed his own estate and was most certainly the owner of a vineyard located in his fief in Châteauneuf.  
In the 13th century the village of Châteauneuf, with its 1000 inhabitants, grew rich and had already developed a flourishing vineyard (approximately 300 hectares).  
In 1308, Clément V planted additional vine stock before he died some years later just after crossing the Rhône to return home. The Pope at Avignon was undoubtedly one of the first wine producers in Châteauneuf.  
Under Pope John XXII, wine from Châteauneuf was regularly supplied to the Papal residence. John XXII was beyond doubt the prelate who participated most in developing the reputation of Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines and his legacy, the first appellation in the history of Châteauneuf, was the prestigious appellation of "Vin du Pape" that was later to become "Châteauneuf-du-Pape".  
John XXII was also responsible for building the famous castle. Today the remains of the proud Papas summer residence house the headquarters of the "Echansonnerie des Papes" a brotherhood that bears high and with pride the reputation of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The final homage to this Papal lineage, the first to take pride in cultivating the sun-drenched fruit of their precious land.
- 216 Château Coudreau, Lalande de Pomerol, Bordeaux, 2006 (France) £30.00  
Made from 100% Merlot this is an excellent, rounded and warming Pomerol with delicious plummy fruit. Pairs well with red meats and cheeses  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The family home and its white stone façade overlook one of the smallest estates in the appellation. Yet those three and a half hectares have long since earned respect.  
One merely has to taste Château Coudreau wines to understand that Jean-Marie Vacher is a winemaker inspired. His 100% Merlot pays homage to the wines that the best terroirs of Lalande-de-Pomerol are capable of producing. While the vineyard owner does take particular care over the cultivation of his vines and the maturity of his grapes, he can also count on the diversity of his soils so as to assemble some complex blends. He also possesses a rare quality: the sensibility of a great wine producer.
- 221 Château Haut Bages Libéral, Cru Classe, Pauillac, Bordeaux, 2004 (France) £50.00  
Excellent quality Claret. Dense and blackcurranty with a touch of oak. Wonderful with red meats, game and cheeses  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The three vineyards of Château Haut-Bages-Libéral are, for the most part, ideally situated within the commune of Pauillac. The largest lies just across the road from the vineyards of Château Latour, with only a county lane defining where first growth ends and fifth growth begins, and another plot lies close by, slightly further south, just adjacent to Pichon-Lalande. Both these vineyards are a short distance south of the town of Pauillac, and are just a stones throw from the banks of the Gironde. The third plot, however, lies further inland on the Bages plateau, adjacent to Grand-Puy-Lacoste. No doubt the increasing age of the 28 hectares of vines at Chateau Haut-Bages-Libéral, following the replanting of the Cruse era, has also contributed to the gradual improvement exhibited by the wine over the last few decades. The average age is now about 35 years, and older vines are replaced individually rather than en masse.

# Red Wines

## Bin No. Hearty, Rich & Full Bodied, continued.

- 222 **Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine Font de Michelle, 2006 (France)** £55.00  
Super wine from a top estate with limited availability. The domaine is situated on an ancient Roman site where there was a spring: "La Fontaine de Michelle". A wine with a fragrant, red berry fruit nose which is followed by an explosion of ripe fruit on the front of the palate, fresh acidity and silky tannins.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:** The white wines, sought after and extremely rare, are made using only white grapes. They are dry and have an extremely full aroma. The grapes are picked by hand. After being carefully sorted in crates, where all damaged and unripe grapes are discarded. Ageing is carried out in oak tuns as well as in oak barrels. Bottling of white wines takes place a year after the grape-harvest, whereas red wines are bottled 15 months later.  
The name of this top estate, Domaine Font Michelle is derived from a hidden spring, in a hollow among the vines, called the Fontaine de Michelle. It is today run by the third generation, Jean and Michel Gonnet. They honour their father with Cuvée Etienne Gonnet, and Etienne was instrumental in developing the estate, bringing together numerous small plots to make up the 30 ha that the brothers have to work with today. The vines are located in the Commune de Bédarrides, The soil is naturally covered by the galets roulés which are typical of the region; these are on largely south and southeast facing slopes, which run up to Le Crau, home to the most famous Vieux Télégraphe vineyards. Indeed, Vieux Télégraphe is Font de Michelle's closest neighbour, and it comes as no surprise to learn that Daniel and Frederic Brunier, proprietors of Vieux Télégraphe, are cousins to Jean and Michel Gonnet.  
Châteauneuf-du-Pape is an AOC for wine made near the village of Châteauneuf-du-Pape in the Rhône wine region in southeastern France. It is the most renowned appellation of the southern part of the Rhône Valley. Vineyards are located around Châteauneuf-du-Pape and in the neighboring villages Bédarrides, Courthézon and Sorgues between Avignon and Orange. More wine is made in this one area of southern Rhône than in the entirety of the northern Rhône region. Châteauneuf-du-Pape roughly translates to "The Pope's new castle" and, indeed, the history of this appellation is firmly entwined with papal history. In 1308, Pope Clement V, former Archbishop of Bordeaux, relocated the papacy to the town of Avignon. Clement V and subsequent "Avignon Popes" were said to be great lovers of Burgundy wines and did much to promote it during the seventy-year duration of the Avignon Papacy. Clement V was succeeded by John XXII who, as well as Burgundy wine, regularly drank the wines from the vineyards to the north and did much to improve viticultural practices there. Under John XXII, the wines of this area came to be known as "Vin du Pape", this term later to become Châteauneuf-du-Pape. John XXII is also responsible for erecting the famous castle which stands as a symbol for the appellation.  
The characteristic terroir of Châteauneuf-du-Pape comes from a layer of stones called galets ("pebbles"). The rocks are typically quartzite and remnants of Alpine glaciers that have been smoothed over millennia by the Rhône River. The stone retains heat during the day and releases it at night which can have an effect of hastening the ripening of grapes. The stones can also serve as a protective layer to help retain moisture in the soil during the dry summer months. The appellation rules name thirteen grape varieties that are allowed to be used in Châteauneuf-du-Pape. Since two of these, Grenache and Picpoul, may be used both in their noir (dark-skinned) and blanc (light-skinned) versions, the number of varieties allowed is in fact fifteen. Red varieties allowed are Grenache Noir, Syrah, Mournvèdre, Picpoul Noir, Terret Noir, Counoise, Muscardin, Vaccarèse and Cinsaut, and white varieties are Grenache Blanc, Picpoul Blanc, Picardan, Clairette, Roussanne and Bourboulenc. Both red and white varieties are allowed in red Châteauneuf-du-Pape. There are no restrictions as to the proportion of grape varieties to be used.
- 223 **Gevrey Chambertin, Domaine Rossignol Trapet, Burgundy, 2006 (France)** £65.00  
This Pinot Noir is from one of the best Grand Cru Vineyards in Burgundy. An intensely seductive nose of raspberries, cherries, figs with hints of chocolate, leather and vanilla follow through to the palate. An immensely pleasing wine.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Archives show that the ROSSIGNOL family has had vineyards in Volnay since the 16th Century and the TRAPET have owned vineyards in Gevrey Chambertin from the 18th century. This accrued knowledge of their vineyards has been handed down from one generation to the next. Le Domaine ROSSIGNOL-TRAPET today is the result of the marriage of Jacques Rossignol to Mado Trapet. Nicolas and David ROSSIGNOL, their two sons, have been running the Domaine based in Gevrey-Chambertin since 1990. The Domaine owns vineyards not only in Gevrey-Chambertin but also in the prestigious villages of Beaune and Savigny-Les-Beaune. Although today Nicolas and David are very aware of the traditions, they are not afraid to incorporate technological and biological advances into their work in the vineyards to enhance the condition and quality of the harvest.
- 224 **Malbec - Cabernet Sauvignon, Alta Vista Alto, 2005 (Argentina)** £99.00  
A new world great, with a deep ruby colour, with aromas of jammy black fruits and notes of spices and chocolate, Alto is a rich, complex and sensual wine, perfect with red meats. From one of the highest vineyards in the world on the Andes Mountains.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The wineries of Argentina's Mendoza region have abandoned the hot valley floor and taken to the hills. And the quality of their wine is rising as rapidly as the slopes to which they cling.  
The greater height of the vineyards, until recently seen as impractical for winemaking, offers cool nights for the vines and higher radiation from the sun that can make photosynthesis so much more effective than on the hot, clammy valley floor. Snow-capped peaks provide unlimited natural water for irrigation. Altitude at Alta Vista: Over 3000 feet (hot days cool nights) One of their vineyards is at 2300 metres – they had to buy the entire valley just to have access rights to irrigation water. Alta Vista's premier product, Alto, is an Argentine wine icon. (The highest vineyard in the country – Altura Máxima in Salta province, near the Bolivian border – is 3100 metres above sea level.)

# Red Wines

Bin No. Hearty, Rich & Full Bodied, continued.

- 225 Château Leoville Barton, Cru Classe, St Julien, Bordeaux, 1998 (France) £125.00  
Simply one of the top Clarets in the world. Beautifully matured, a real classic. Excellent with game, red meats and cheeses.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
The history of Langoa and Leoville Barton is the history of a family who have managed to preserve their inheritance for more than 2 centuries. An elegant residence built in 1758, Château Langoa is the archetype of the 18th century bordelais style. Its architecture and harmonious proportions seduced Hugh Barton who became its proud owner in 1821.  
From one generation to another the wines produced by the two properties have maintained the quality of their classification, offering wines at the very top of their appellation. The soil of St Julien is ideal for vines, due to its geographic situation and its climate ; every element is present to produce wines of exceptional quality and elegance. Châteaux Langoa and Léoville barton have the great privilege of being in the very heart of this appellation.  
The Bartons respect tradition but do not ignore progress. A modern de-stemmer and the latest wine press have been introduced for the vinification. Generally fermentation lasts about five days during which the juice is pumped over twice daily. The wine is left with the skins for two weeks approximately but this depends on the quality of the crop. The wine is then drawn off and the skins are pressed, thereby obtaining the " vin de presse " which is an important component in the final blend. The malo-lactic fermentation takes place in the vats, after which the wine is aged in oak barrels for 20 months before bottling.

## Dessert Wines

- 226 Elysium, Black Muscat, Andrew Quady 2007 (USA) 1/2 bottle £20.00  
The Black Muscat is one of the very few wines that is perfect with chocolate. It is richly sweet yet with a very particular aroma of roses and Turkish delight. Superb with Chocolate based puddings or drizzled over ice cream for a decadent treat.  
**Notes from the Vineyard:**  
Andrew Quady ONLY makes sweet wines, and boy are they good. The Black Muscat is one of the very few wines that is perfect with chocolate. It is richly sweet yet with a very particular aroma of roses and Turkish delight.  
Black Muscat, another under appreciated muscat variety, is known in Europe as a table grape variety, Muscat Hamburg, one of the very few black skinned muscats. If ripened to about 25 brix, it attains a rose-like aroma and litchi like flavour. This rose-like aroma led us to name the wine Elysium, Greek for heaven. Drinking this, you can almost feel you have fallen into a rose garden and been transported to heaven.

Champagne and Sparkling Wines,  
Ports, Brandies and Liqueurs  
available by the glass on request

Good times every time 