

Nine List

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***Rev~er~ie** (noun) meaning a state of pleasant dreamy thought, one of pure happiness. To be in a Reverie is to be in one of the single most blissful states of being.*

Welcome to our wine list

Introduction to White Grapes

ALBARINO Citrusy and crisp, fragrant and spritz-fresh arguably Spain's best white grape variety, is sometimes referred to as Spain's Riesling (which it MAY be derived from), as much because it resembles the citrusy side of Riesling in character as because its fragrant, spritz-fresh style makes it the perfect seafood white. It has plenty of body and fresh acidity with grapefruity, citrus-perfumed flavours.

CHARDONNAY Melon, grapefruit and pineapple, buttery and nutty. In Burgundy, Chardonnay ranges in quality from bland to intense and in style from oaked to un-oaked and from the minerally, unoaked, lean, bone dry Chablis style to the richer, classically hazelnutty intense dry whites of the Côte de Beaune. In the New World, Chardonnay varies from the melon, apple and grapefruit cool climate styles to more tropical fruit styles with flavours of peach, mango, lime and pineapple. As a non-aromatic variety, its affinity with oak brings both a textured, buttery roundness as well as smoky, toasty, clove and cinnamon-spice and nutty features.

CHENIN BLANC Quince and apple, peardroppy in its most classic form in the Loire Valley is full of floral and honeyed aromas and quince and apple-like flavours with good zippy acidity. When cool-fermented as in so many instances in South Africa, it can be quite peardroppy, becoming more peachy in fuller dry whites.

PINOT GRIS/PINOT GRIGIO (The same) Smoky and spicy, occasionally oily often lightly copper-coloured, can be a sort of halfway house between the more neutral-flavoured Pinot Blanc and the overtly spicy and fragrant Gewurztraminer with a smokiness, delicate spice and an occasionally oily character. Italian versions are early-picked to give much less flavour & extra acidity.

RIESLING Apples and lime in its Teutonic heartland of the Mosel and Rheingau Valleys, Riesling produces elegant wines with crisp, lime, lemon, apple and peach flavours and honeyed richness. In Alsace it can be more floral and perfumed, while Australian Riesling, particularly from the Eden and Clare Valleys, starts out lime and lemon-like and develops a minerally, keroseney character with age.

SAUVIGNON BLANC From gooseberry to tropical passion fruit, aromas of elderflower and blackcurrant leaf is at its most fresh in the cooler climate of the Loire Valley where cut-grass, nettles, elderflower, blackcurrant leaf and gooseberries are the key flavours with minerally, zesty, flinty undertones. It is at its most assertive in the pungently catty, elder floral style of Marlborough in New Zealand, where, depending on ripeness levels it ranges from green bean, tinned pea and asparagus flavours and the riper, more tropical characters of grapefruit, guava, passion fruit and mango.

VIOGNIER Peaches and apricots, heady scents of jasmine the hallmark of the grape is the scent of spring blossom and jasmine and the rich flavours of apricot and peach. Ripening in warm sunshine, it can become quite heady and exotic with spicy undertones and plenty of body. Because of its spiciness and body, it can be confused in blind tastings with Alsace Pinot gris.

VIURA/MACABEO (Same grape) Stone fruits, soft fruits the mainstay white grape of Spain. Goes into just about anything you care to mention from Rioja to Cava. It is a workhorse grape but nonetheless produces really very good modern-styled wines. Sometimes gets stuck into oak but more often than not these days is fermented in stainless steel tanks to maximise the freshness & zingyness.

CATARATTO A full flavoured deliciously aromatic, nutty, fresh wine with lemon pith and grapefruit as some of its more common flavours. It is an indigenous variety from Sicily but is possibly the offspring of the Garganega grape. Although it appears under various pseudonyms they are all identical and as such, has contributed considerably to the World Wine Lake!

MUSCAT Possibly the origin of all things Vitis Vinifera. Most families of grape have some connection with Muscat, and there are many different strains producing a wonderful array of styles. From very dry, aromatic whites to thick, black, chewy, sticky sweet wines. You'll find it here in the former guise, rich in Darjeeling tea and fresh sage aromas with typically 'grapey' flavours and a rich, dry finish.

Introduction to Red Grapes

BARBERA Plummy and cherryish this high-in-acid grape of north-western Italy is a chameleon-like grape which changes considerably according to field yield. As an everyday variety, it is a juicy glugger.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON Capsicum and blackcurrant a range of cedar, vanilla and coffee notes. It tends towards herbaceousness when not fully ripe with capsicum and grassy undertones, but as it ripens it tends towards the flavour of blackcurrant. In California and Chilean cabernet, you can often spot mint or eucalyptus. Its affinity with oak lends secondary characters with a range of vanilla, cedar, sandalwood, tobacco, coffee, musk and spicy. The second most planted grape of Bordeaux (Claret).

GAMAY Bubblegum and banana, cherry and strawberry flavours, low tannins & light colour. The Beaujolais grape, is the gluggiest of all grape varieties, partly due to the carbonic maceration (whole berry fermentation) method used, which helps preserve the naturally refresh juiciness of the variety.

GRENACHE/GARNACHA (same grape) White pepper and raspberry, thyme and rosemary scents The light-coloured Grenache is a quintessentially Mediterranean red variety and as a result it often mingles the classic Mediterranean scents of thyme, fennel and rosemary with white pepper and its warming, raspberryish fruit flavours. It tends to be low in tannin and hence soft and supple and, at its zenith in Châteauneuf-du-Pape & Rioja, it takes on heady aromas and spicy, fruit flavours.

MALBEC Mulberry and blackberry flavours, tarry and leathery Harsh and rustic in its homeland of south-west France. It really comes into its own however in Argentina, where it becomes altogether smoother and lusher with all sorts of plummy, red berry and earthy fruit flavours like raspberry, mulberry and blackberry allied to tar, leather and game-like characters.

MERLOT Bell pepper and blackcurrant, chocolate and spice-like characters soft texture helps to give it a deliciously plummy, almost fruitcake-like flavour and a mellow smoothness which makes it more approachable than its sister grape, the Cabernet Sauvignon. Like cabernet, it can be a little grassy and green-pepper-like from cool climate regions and it develops blackcurrant, blackberry, blueberry, chocolate and spice-like characters when fully ripe.

PINOT NOIR Raspberry and strawberry, cola spice, incense and game .This is one of the most sensuously fragrant red grapes in the world with a variety of scented aromas based on red berry characters closest to raspberry and strawberry, and often tinged with incense and cola-like (!) spice. It can be a little minty and vegetal but when ripe usually tastes of raspberry or strawberry as well as cherry and, when exotic, loganberry, mulberry and Fraise du Bois. If overripe, it becomes jammy.

SYRAH/SHIRAZ (same grape) Smoke and blackberry. Cool climate pepper and mint produces dark red wines whose purest incarnation in the northern Rhône produces a wine with memorable aromas which can be smoky, floral, peppery, minty or spicy and often linked to a kind of medicinal or creosote-like character. Cool climates, whether northern Rhône or Victoria and parts of Western Australia, bring out the mint, pepperiness and the spice in the Syrah, while the warmer it gets the more it changes from raspberry to blackberry, becoming chocolatey and, with age, tarry and gamey.

TEMPRANILLO Strawberry flavours, a veneer of vanilla and tobacco-spice. The mainstay of Rioja and a host of other Spanish reds, Tempranillo is a versatile grape which is equally well used to making juicy young strawberryish reds as well as more serious, oak-aged reds with a veneer of vanilla, liquorice and tobacco spice characters overlaying the strawberry flavours.

ZINFANDEL /PRIMITIVO (are the same) Brambly and raspberryish, headily spicy. In its pink incarnation, Zinfandel, sometimes known as white Zinfandel, tends to be light, sweetish and bland. Take it seriously though and it produces powerfully-constructed, brambly, reds with raspberry and blackberry-like flavours and plenty of tannins and spice. It is believed to be the same grape as southern Italy's Primitivo, which is equally capable of producing heady, robustly spicy reds.

Champagne & Sparkling

Cava Santa Monica Brut NV, Spain **£17.75**

Ripe, baked apple flavours, bags of bubbles and as fresh as a daisy.
Made in exactly the same way as Champagne!

Champagne Gobillard Brut Tradition, France NV **£35.95**

Clean as a whistle, very modern style of Champers from this family producer - lots of citrus fruit, fine bubbles making it very approachable. Puts the big producers to shame.

Champagne Gobillard Rosé, France NV **£39.95**

A lovely delicate salmon pink, bright bubbly summer fruit flavours, balanced and very long in the mouth.

Prosecco Spumante Ca' Bolani Brut NV, Italy **£19.50**

A rather aromatic style of Prosecco, with a refreshing and balanced palate; elegant fruit structure with an explosion of apricot, ripe apple and spring flower on the finish.

Taittinger Champagne, France NV **£49.95**

Light, delicate nose with biscuit and brioche hints, the palate has considerable depth and elegance. Produced each year from the first pressings of Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay, the wine is a carefully balanced blend from up to 25 different cru. It also includes a proportion of reserve wines to ensure consistency from year to year. Prior to release, the Brut reserve is aged for 3-4 years giving the wine depth whilst allowing the component parts to become fully integrated.

Sunshine and Rosé

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Cotes du Rhône Rosé Les Cerisiers, France, 2009, 13% **£3.95 / £5.55 / £16.50**

A pale and very elegant rosé with a soft plump texture, good depth and length. It has delicate red fruit flavours combined with hints of white pepper and some of the aromatic herbal perfumes of the Southern Rhône.

Pinot Grigio Rose Ancora, Italy, 2009, 12% **£15.75**

A dry, fresh and fruity rose with delicate aromas of red berries. Crisp and lively on the palate with good intensity of ripe berry and red cherry fruit.

Rioja Anzarena Rose, Spain, 2009, 12% **£15.50**

Well-made and down to earth. Fruity and refreshing. A rounded, medium bodied, dry rose. Gently fruity on the nose with strawberry and cherry aromas, quite full in flavour with soft berry fruits and a hint of spiciness on the finish.

Aromatic Whites

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Pinot Grigio Ancora, Italy, 2009, 12.5%

£3.75 / £5.20 / £15.50

Fresh, dry white with gentle floral and citrus aromas. Crisp and delicate on the palate with lightly honeyed fruit balanced by lemony acidity and a fresh, dry finish.

Catarratto Ca'Di Ponti, Italy, 2009, 12%

£13.65

A delicious and characterful alternative to Pinot Grigio, from a very under-rated grape variety. A ripe, versatile and approachable dry white from western Sicily with floral, peach, tropical fruit aromas and a hint of fennel. Rounded and gentle honeyed flavours on the palate are balanced by lemony acidity.

Handmade, Chenin Blanc, South Africa, 2010, 13.5%

£16.50

A bright and zesty example of this great grape, filled with bags of flavour. Very smooth and laid back with layer upon layer of citrus fruit, lime freshness and great length.

Domaine du Bahourat Viognier, France, 2009, 13%

£15.85

A Viognier of intense power, character and zest. Rich fruit flavours of peach, apricot and pear dominate the senses. Though full in flavour and weight, the wine remains very balanced and textural with a clean, fresh finish. Situated in the Vins du Pays du Gard in the Languedoc, the vineyard is abundant with apricot trees that surround the vineyards, and which, like the vines, benefit from the terroir and climatic conditions of the region.

Alasia Muscat Sec, Italy, 12.5%

£15.60

Intensely aromatic with floral, ripe citrus, and honey overtones. Light and fresh on the palate with further zesty notes, along with fresh grapes and honey. Elegant and crisp with a refreshing dry finish. Very drinkable.

Chardonnay Lovers & Friends

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Andes Peak Chardonnay, Chile, 2009, 13.5%

£3.55 / £5.05 / £14.95

Dry, fresh, bright Chardonnay. Untouched by oak, truly varietal and purely appealing with ripe tropical fruits and a smooth vanilla finish.

Macon Solutre Pouilly Domaine Romanin, France, 2009, 13%

£21.25

Oaked Chardonnay from a great producer in the South of Burgundy. Creamy citrus fruit, full-body and clean finish.

Trout Valley Chardonnay Unwooded, New Zealand, 2007, 14%

£18.25

Unwooded, fresh and crisp with bags of crunchy green apples and tropical fruit.

Elegant Cool Whites

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Sierra Grande Sauvignon Blanc, Chile, 2010, 12.5%

£3.40 / £4.70/ £13.95

Light elegant style with citrus and green fruits, a touch of leesy character and gentle acidity. A friendly approachable wine from Chile, a worldclass producer of excellent value Sauvignon Blanc. Full of tingling aromatics, typical of its grape variety, this wine is bursting with exotic tropical fruit flavours, yet retains freshness through its natural racy acidity

Bascand Estate Riesling, New Zealand, 2009, 11.5%

£19.95

Bascand Estate was established in 1998 and owns vineyards in premium growing regions to produce award winning wines. An intense nose of limes, sherbet and nectarines belies the minerality that comes through on the finish. An initial burst of sweetness is overtaken by ripe fruit that provides structure and texture to the wine. River stone minerality dries the finish whilst the natural spritz in the wine cleanses and refreshes the palate.

Rioja Anzarena Blanco, Spain, 12%

£14.05

A refreshing change to some of the more traditional white Riojas - this is fresh and bright, crisp and enjoyable - a modern unoaked style. 100% unoaked Viura, it's lean, fresh and attractive nose shows hints of ripe peach and pear. Ripe, round and almost creamy palate cut through with a refreshing streak of zesty acidity

Fairfields Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand, 2009, 11.5%

£15.95

A refreshingly crisp dry white wine with herbaceous notes bursting with lemon grass, limes and passion fruit

Warm Hearted Reds

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Slowine Shiraz, South Africa, 2008, 14.5%

£4.05 / £5.75 / £16.95

Plum, sweet fruit and white pepper on the nose. The palate shows additional vanilla spice and bay leaf flavours. This deep ruby coloured wine has a medium to full-bodied palate, with a mouth-filling peppery finish.

Scotto Zinfandel / Barbera, USA, 2007, 14.5%

£17.45

Black fruits, blackberry, black plum and black cherry give richness of flavour on the nose. This complex mix is there on the palate, the black plum pushing for dominance but towards the back there is a fresher spicier feel that lifts the flavours and gives some brightness on the finish. It is light on both nose and palate showing an attractive mix of bramble and raspberry.

Primitivo Feudi di San Marzano, Puglia Italy, 2009, 13.5%

£16.95

Super smooth, super ripe and very, very drinkable- part of the new wave southern Italian reds, majoring on pure flavour.

Smooth Traditional Reds

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

Rioja Artesa Tempranillo, Spain, 2009, 13%

£3.90 / £5.65 / £16.75

A youthful, fruity red with a deep ruby colour and ripe, red berry aromas. Soft, easy drinking style with ripe plum and cherry fruit on the palate

Le Fou Pinot Noir, Vin de Pays De L'Aude, France, 2009, 13%

£17.95

A luscious, textural Pinot Noir made without oak from the Aude valley displaying very intense, sweet berry fruit with a savoury twist – the defining crackly edge of Pinot Noir streaks through the palate to a mesmerisingly fruity, utterly drinkable, sensuous finish.

Macon Serrieres Domaine Romanin, France, 2009, 13%

£16.75

A juicy fruity unoaked red from Southern Burgundy, made from the Gamay grape. Can even be served a wee bit chilled; heresy- I hear you shout!

Southern Hemisphere Reds

175ml / 250ml / Bottle

San Rafael Merlot, Chile, 2009, 14%

£3.40 / £4.70 / £13.95

Soft, smooth, easy-drinking wine with juicy, plummy Merlot fruit on both the nose. The palate is fruity and jammy with crowd-pleasing red berry and cherry fruit.

Urban Uco Malbec, Argentina, 2008, 14.5%

£17.50

A lovely example of Argentina's trademark grape. Good concentration and structure intense plum and blackberry fruit tied up nicely with fresh acidity. High altitude vineyards and 3 months in oak give lovely balance.

Trentham Estate Pinot Noir, Australia, 2009, 13.5%

£20.75

Over the last fifteen years, the tiny Trentham Estate has won over 300 awards. Fresh mulberry backed by bramble gives a nice complex feel to the nose. There are layers of flavour on the palate some fresh red fruits filled out by sweeter black all intermingling. There is a hint of sweetness on the finish.

Glenelly Glass Collection Cabernet Sauvignon, South Africa, 2009, 14.5%

£22.95

A great introduction to Glenelly, the winery of May de Lencquesaing, former owner of the famous Chateau Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande in Bordeaux. The wine develops a very complex nose with flavours of blackcurrant, cherry, a touch of spices and chocolate. The wine has a good tannin structure and perfect balance

Rolf Binder Halliwell Shiraz/ Grenache, Australia, 2006, 14.5%

£26.40

'Shiraz (70%) - Grenache (30%) offers scintillating scents of truffle, earth, blueberry, black cherry, and kirsch liqueur. Layered and full-flavoured, with excellent depth and concentration, it has enough structure to evolve for several years. It should drink well through 2016. It is excellent value.' 91 points, Wine Advocate (Jay Miller)



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