RESERVE WINE

No. 1

Craven Wines Chenin Blanc

VINTAGE
2018

NOTE
Firmly at the front of a new wave of South African producers, Craven Wines makes several single-varietal wines the standout of which is this wonderful stone-fruit chenin which has all the elegance of the finest Loire whites – but with added spice and bite.

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£55
RESERVE WINE

NO. 2

Domaine Sebastien Magnien Hautes Cotes de Beaune Blanc

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
Sebastien Magnien make his 10 hectares go a very long way – focussing on super-precise winemaking which even in average years produce stellar wines. In good vintages like this one, the results are spectacular. Despite ‘only’ being a Cotes de Beaune this has the finesse of a wine with far greater pedigree and proves the adage that backing the winemaker in Burgundy and not the vineyard is always the best call.

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£60
Domaine Naudin-Ferrand
Le Clou 34
Vin de France Aligoté

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
Aligote, for so long the ugly duckling of white Burgundy, is being given much greater attention now by a new generation of brilliant winemakers. None more impressive than Claire Naudin-Ferrand, who brings a baked apple richness to this grape's natural acidity. Fantastic with fish.

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£71
RESERVE WINE

NO. 4

Birichino Jurassic Park Vineyard, Chenin Blanc
Santa Ynez Valley

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
Californian winemaking seems increasingly split between the traditional (and large-scale producers) and funkier new wave ones, Birichino seem to be both – making fantastic wines with a real independent feel. None more so than this incredibly lively chenin with a hard-to-forget name. Compared to the Craven chenin, this is a little more apple-y and better to kick things off rather than an out-and-out food wine.

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£74
RESERVE WINE

NO. 5

Livio Felluga
Pinot Grigio

VINTAGE
2019

NOTE
Forget any hang-ups you might have about pinot grigio. In fact, forget everything you know because this may be the best example in Italy if not the world. Livio Felluga creates stunning white wines in the hills of Friuli on an estate he built and created from scratch. The lime and sandstone soils produce an oily, heady, burnt-apricot flavours which last long and work wonderfufly well with rich food or fish.

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£75
RESERVE WINE

NO. 6

Maximin Grünhaus
‘Abtsberg’ Grosse Lage
Mosel Riesling Kabinett

VINTAGE
2018

NOTE
From one of the giants of German riesling, this is a superb, tropical riesling whose ‘Kabinett’ status makes it dry in the eyes of riesling lovers but to others might seem ever so slightly sweet. This is definitely more of an aperitif riesling that the Auslese you will also find on this list. Super crisp and fresh from one of the most sustainable wineries in the world.

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£82
Pieropan ‘La Rocca’
Soave Classico

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
One of the great winemaking estates in Italy, Pieropan have redefined Soave not just with their more entry-level wines but particularly through this stunning single-vineyard cuvee which every vintage manages to be distinct and different. The ‘17 is pure melon and peach with the lime-y freshness of garganega.

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£89
RESERVE WINE

NO. 8

Henschke ‘Julius’
Eden Valley Riesling

VINTAGE
2018

NOTE
From perhaps the most venerable name in Australian winemaking, a truly mighty riesling from Barossa. Baked in Southern Australian sun but with the inescapable crystalline citrus of all great rieslings, this is a truly ethereal wine. Textural in the mouth and an amazing lime blossom fragrance.

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£95
RESERVE WINE

NO. 9

Sybille Kuntz
Sharz Riesling

VINTAGE
2007

NOTE
This cuvee of Auslese (made from grapes picked later on in the harvest and therefore more rich in natural sugars) is only made in the best vintages and despite the sweetness has a beautiful tangerine freshness to it which can be found in all Sybille’s wines. The sweetness might not be for everyone or rather for every dish but a bottle of this with cheese or a fruity dessert could be just the ticket if riesling is your thing.

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£106
RESERVE WINE

NO. 10

Domaine Rougeout
Meursault ‘Sous La Velle’

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
Another young star in Burgundy making great white wine with respect to tradition and also an eye firmly on modern winemaking styles and tastes. Some new oak is used to bring the stone fruit richness so expressive of Meursault but keep it refreshing at the same time. Sous la Velle, located at the foothills of Meursault, affords the acidity which suits the low-intervention wine-making style of Pierre-Henri Rougeout so well.

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£159
Scopetone
Rosso di Montalcino

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
‘Rosso di Montalcino’ might not have the cachet of its more famous brother Brunello but in the right hands it can create wines which are just as impressive and sometimes far more approachable. Scopetone’s 2016 is certainly that – full of fresh red cherry and fine tannins, which make it more approachable than many Tuscan reds which need a big piece of meat to get the most out of them. Not here.

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£64
RESERVE WINE

NO. 14

Crystallum ‘Peter Max’
Pinot Noir

VINTAGE
2019

NOTE
This effort from Crystallum is a slightly richer, more
voluptuous pinot than some you may have enjoyed from
South Africa. Multi-vineyard and blended from different
plots, the ‘Peter Max’ is incredibly fruit-forward and rich.
One to enjoy with a plate of cheese or alongside the
Storm Wines offering as a comparison!

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£78
RESERVE WINE

NO. 21

Domaine Chapel
Fleurie Charbonnieres

VINTAGE
2018

NOTE
One of the most exciting wineries we have worked with in France over the last few years, Domain Chapel’s wines are increasingly hard to get hold of, but we’re chuffed to have this on the list. Charbonnières’ is a varietal old vine Gamay and has none of the bubblegummy zip of some natural wines from the region – in fact it’s a throwback to honest, fruit-forward winemaking but with a great deal of finesse. Whack it in ice for 10 minutes if the sun is shining.

£84
RESERVE WINE

NO. 15

S.C. Pannel
‘The Vale’ McLaren Vale
Grenache/Shiraz

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
Stephen Pannell is one of the world’s great winemakers and a zealot about freshness – he picks whenever he can as early as possible to ensure all his wines have an exuberance you might not have found in many other new world reds. Jammy and stick shiraz this is not!

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£85
RESERVE WINE

NO. 12

Domaine Jean Chauvenet
Nuits-St Georges

VINTAGE
2015

NOTE
Sometimes the old school is the best school and none more so than in Nuits-St-Georges, in the northern tip of the Cote D’Or. The vineyards of this Burgundian village always have a classical, almost austere style of pinot which is definitely ‘trad’ and can benefit from a few years in the bottle. Chauvenet is one of the most highly regarded domaines in Nuits but unlike others is always fairly priced.

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£88
RESERVE WINE

NO. 16

Domaine Richaud
Rasteau

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
One of the most impressive and underrated villages in the Rhone Valley, Rasteau has been creeping up on its more famous neighbours in terms of quality and exposure over the last decade. The winemaking at Domaine Richaud is one of the reasons why – this is all you want from a Southern Rhone red; crunchy, burnt-earth on the nose and macerated red fruits on the palate

£93
RESERVE WINE

NO. 13

Storm Wines
Ridge
Pinot Noir

VINTAGE
2017

NOTE
One of two South African pinots, both exceptionally good with our Chef’s clean and bold style of cooking. Storm Wines produce pinot with an incredible purity, silky tannins and intense dark fruit.

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£99
RESERVE WINE

NO. 17

Jane Eyre
Mornington Peninsula
Pinot Noir

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
Jane Eyre is a master of pinot both in Australia (where she started in 2012 with three barrels in production) and in Burgundy where she also produces reds that have her trademark suppleness and delicacy. If pushed we have a slight preference to the Aussie ones, particularly this stunning, slightly earthy vintage from the Mornington Peninsula.

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£115
G.D. Vajra Barolo ‘Albe’

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
Vajra, a family-owned and run institution in Piedmont, make stunning wines of all colours and price ranges. Their trademark is subtlety and careful respect for the Nebbiolo grape meaning even with only a few years in of aging their top-end Barolos are ready to drink. The ‘Albe’ is our favourite – a combination of different vineyards and sites to produce a stunningly elegant Barolo with black figs and rose petals to the fore.

£121
RESERVE WINE

NO. 19

Château Capet-Guillier
Saint-Émilion Grand Cru

VINTAGE
2015

NOTE
Some situations call for a great bottle of Bordeaux and when you need that classic cigar-boxy/dark chocolate hit, this estate deep into the heartlands of Saint-Emilion will always do the job perfectly. Not least the ’15 whose generosity and roundedness makes it very ready even not.

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£133
Jean-Baptiste Souillard
Cote Rotie

NOTE
Jean-Baptiste is the type of winemaker we love working with. He has no vineyards but buys grapes from specific sites and bottles in his rented winery using all the skills he has learnt working in Australia, New Zealand, Burgundy and Bordeaux as well as learning from one of the kings of Rhone, Jean Luc Colombo. His wines are lean and low-intervention and a brilliant example of how ‘natural’ techniques can work wonderfully well the northern Rhone.

£178
Isole e Olena ‘Cepparello’

VINTAGE
2016

NOTE
The flagship wine of a truly great estate whose rise in fame has thankfully not seen any kind of drop off in quality. This 100% Sangiovese is made from the estate’s finest fruit found in the northern part of Chianti Classico and aged in oak for up to 20 months. Decant, order something meaty and enjoy

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£230