



COUNTRY HOUSE · HOTEL · RESTAURANT

2010 Wines for a Summer's Day

These are some of the highlights and are all seriously chilled, perfect for a summer's day

Franschoek Cellar Chenin Blanc, South Africa, 2009

Brilliant value. Full ripe apple fruit mingles with tropical flavours leading to a clean dry finish.

Wachau collection Domaine Wachau, Austria, 2008

Fresh mouth watering with green apples, spice, with a honey finish

Pinot Grigio, Trentino DOC, Azienda Due Torri 2008 Italy

A crisp, dry, white with delicious honeyed fruit and a lovely finish.

Kumeu River Chardonnay Auckland 2006 New Zealand

This is how chardonnay should be oaked with enormous subtlety – peach and hazelnut nose and drinks as a rich quality white such as white Burgundy. Made by Master of Wine Micheal Braikovich - A wine to savour.

And a couple of excellent rosés

Tanners Rosé, Merlot, VdP des Côtes de Gascogne France

Racy, fruity and soft strawberry flavour.

And for a serious rosé wine to drink

Margan Shiraz Saignée Rosé, Hunter Valley 2008 Australia

Dry rosé 100% Shiraz. Strawberry on the nose & the palate.

We have chosen all the wines on this page to be good examples of grape variety at sensible prices.

WHITE

Viognier	Alto Pampas Mendoza 2008	Argentina Ripe apricots
Colombard	VdP des Côtes de Gascogne Producteurs Plaimont 2009	France Zippy, zingy white
Chardonnay	VdP d'Oc Rémi & Jérôme 2008	France Lemony with a touch of oak
Riesling	Moselleland Kabinett 2007	Germany Medium sweet peach fruit
Sauvignon Blanc	Hawke's Bay C J Pask 2008	New Zealand Fresh, nettly, grassy
Pinot Grigio	Trentino DoC Azienda Due Torri 2008	Italy Crisp, dry, honeyed fruit

RED

Pinot Noir	Alto Pampas Mendoza 2009	Argentina Raspberries, soft, no harshness
Merlot	VdP d'Oc Rémi & Jérôme 2008	France Soft fruity red
Tempranillo	Marius Reserva Almansa DO, Bodegas Piqueras 2005	Spain Oak aged, fruity
Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot/Malbec	Hawkes Bay CJ Pask 2006	New Zealand

ROSÉ

Merlot	VdP des Côtes de Gascogne Tanners Rosé, Racy, fruity and soft strawberry flavour	France
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SPARKLING

Prosecco	di Valdobbiaene Selva Selva Ducale A good example, grapey fruity nose with a creamy texture	Italy
Pinot Noir	Adelaide Hill Bird in Hand 2009 This is fuller and not at all acidic. Looks great and does hit the spot and you can keep drinking it.	Australia

CHAMPAGNE

Champagne Grande Réserve Bouzy	André Clouet This is a good quality Champagne with a posh label. Great elegance and lovely concentrated fruit.	France
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WHITES

Chardonnay

“God I love Chardonnay. No, I mean I really love Chardonnay”. “The flavours are usually so immediate, generous and downright delicious, easy to understand. User friendly. I want to find, lemon, green apples and grapefruit in un wooded or lightly wooded styles, through melon, peach and cashew in medium bodied wines to toast, butter, fig and honey in the bigger, barrel fermented and barrel aged styles. Then I’m happy”.

Here, eight ways to be happy.

- 3 Rémi & Jérôme Chardonnay, VdP d’Oc 2008 France
A ripe and balanced Chardonnay with lemony flavours and a light touch of oak to give weight and richness.
Good body and freshness.
- 15 Novas Chardonnay Casablanca Valley 2008 Chile
From the cooler Casablanca Valley, minerally with ripe tropical flavours
- 16 Chablis, Domaine des Valéry, Jean Durup, 2007 France
Clean, fresh, steely, fruity, no oak.
- 17 Montagny 1er cru, “Les Loges” Vieilles Vignes Caves de Buxy 2005 France
Made from old vines which give more concentration and depth.
Good body and really elegant.
- 18 Kumeu River Chardonnay Auckland 2006 New Zealand
This Chardonnay is fermented in oak barrels as is full wine with peach and hazelnut aromas. The palate is richly textured.
Wine maker Michael Braikovich is a master of wine.
- 19 Chablis 1er cru Côte de Léchet, Daniel Etienne Defaix 2000 France
Wonderful, biscuity, waxy flavours achieved by the highly unusual practice of stirring up the lees into the wine over an eighteen month period.
- PC19 Puligny-Montrachet 1er cru Les Perrières, Etienne Sauzet 2004 France
Well positioned in the heart of the commune, with deep, stoney, calcareous soils. This is a great wine with racy and floral character, as well as depth.
Supreme balance between richness and acidity.

Sauvignon Blanc

“Eurgh! What the bloody hell is this?”

“That’s a glass of good Sauvignon Blanc”

“Yuk! It smells like some mangy old cat just pi**ed on a tomato bush”

“Yeah. Wonderful, isn’t it?”

“Good Sauvignon Blanc should be a most refreshingly juicy wine with crisp acidity and tongue tingling liveliness and manage to combine intense fruit with pebbly dryness”.

- 5 C J Pask Sauvignon Blanc, Hawke’s Bay 2008 New Zealand
Fresh, nettly grassy. Kate Radburnd has really lifted the reputation of this north island wine
- 22 La Petite Ferme Sauvignon Blanc Franschock 2009 South Africa
Ripe aromatic Sauvignon Blanc.
- 24 Sancerre, Cuvée CM, Jean-Max Roger 2007 France
Off 28 hectare, bone dry, concentrated and aromatic.

Grüner Veltliner

The Austrians attempted commercial suicide by getting caught sweetening and improving the body of their wine with anti freeze. The upshot is that to survive the proper wine makers have had to improve quality and cut prices – an opportunity for the great value at the table. This is good wine.

- 25 Wachau collection Domaine Wachau 2008 Austria
Fresh mouth watering with green apples, spice, with a honey finish

Riesling

“Don’t read this bit. You might be tempted to try a bottle of good Riesling and you might get a taste for it, that’s the last thing we need because the wine makers will start charging more for it and that would be a disaster”. This is what to expect “Dryness for a start, lime, floral, packed with aromatic fruit and lively, juicy flavours but dry. Never oaked it is the most delicious and rewarding white wine. But don’t tell anyone – or they will want some”.

- 4 Moselleland Riesling Kabinett 2007 Germany
Peach fruit, refreshing, well made.
- 26 Riesling Kaefferkopf, Henri Ernhart 2007 Alsace France
Fragrant powerful balanced with depth of fruit

Chenin Blanc

“A blistering hot day. What are you going to drink? An old red? Nah. A big oaky Chardonnay? Uh uh. Lots of cold, fruity, uncomplicated, refreshing, un wooded, white wine? Yes please”. Here you are.

- 27 Franschoek Cellar Chenin Blanc. Franschoek 2009 South Africa
Brilliant value. Full ripe apple fruit mingles with tropical flavours leading to a clean dry finish.

Pinot Grigio/Pinot Gris

Pinot Gris is the French for the Italian Pinot Grigio so they are the same. Pinot Grigio is very popular and often disappoints I have tried many to find some good examples.

- 28 Lurton Pinot Gris Mendoza 2008 Argentina
Rich complex flavours of peaches, apricots and raisins, dry and full.
- 6 Pinot Grigio, Trentino DOC, Azienda Due Torri 2008 Italy
A crisp, dry, white with delicious honeyed fruit and a lovely finish.
- 29 Pinot Gris, Bruno Sorg 2005 France
Slightly spicy but delicate. Rarely offered outside Paris
- 30 Kumeu River Pinot Gris, Auckland 2007 New Zealand
the fruit aromas of this wine are very floral and like roses. The palate is a rich texture making it good with food.
The finish has a little more citrus fruit giving freshness and elegance

Colombard

Gluggable, fruity, crisp, white. That's a good idea to me.

- 2 Cépage Colombard, VdP des Côtes de Gascogne, Producteurs Plaimont
2008 France
Zippy, zingy white - not for sipping a gulper.

Viognier

“In the northern Rhone, Viognier produces the most hedonistic white wines that reek of ripe apricots, grilled nuts and spice and other goodies that are hugely powerful in the mouth, are rich, seductive and oily. Hideously expensive too” exported to South Africa to give this sensibly priced example.

- 1 Alto Pampas Viognier Mendoza 2008 Argentina
Ripe apricots
- 31 Zilzie Estate Viognier, Victoria, New South Wales 2006 Australia
Intriguing with lychee apricot and ginger flavours and a crisp citrusy finish

Rosé Wines

- 11 Tanners Rosé, Merlot, VdP des Côtes de Gascogne France
Racy, fruity and soft strawberry flavour.
- 32 Margan Shiraz Saignée Rosé, Hunter Valley 2008 Australia
Dry rosé 100% Shiraz. Strawberry on the nose & the palate.

Champagne

- 14 André Clouet Grande Réserve, grand cru à Bouzy France
This is a good quality Champagne with a posh label. Great elegance and lovely concentrated fruit.
- 33 Veuve Clicquot Brut Yellow Label France
Soft toasty nose with a long lasting flavour.
- 34 Moët et Chandon Brut Impérial Rosé, France
Lively and expressive with a rich palate of lovely fruit.
Creamy, toasty, hugely complex
- 35 Laurent Perrier Cuvée Rosé Brut France
Fruity but with fullness of body and elegance.
- 36 Krug Grande Cuvée NV France
A myriad of flavours, fresh, creamy, toasty, hugely complex and elegant

Sparkling

Bin No.

- 37 Tanners Cava Brut, Traditional Method Spain
Really great fizz nearly up to Champagne quality.
Have a bottle before dinner.
- 12 Prosecco Selva Ducale di Valdobbiaene Selva Italy
A good example, grapey fruity nose with a creamy texture on the palate
- 13 Bird in Hand sparkling Pinot Noir, Adelaide Hill, 2009 Australia
This is fuller and not at all acidic. Looks great and does hit the spot and you can keep drinking it.
- 13a Green Point by Chandon Vintage 1999 Australia
We have a small parcel of the excellent Australian sparkling wine which is made by Moët & Chandon.

REDS

Cabernet Sauvignon

Now the red wine thing starts to get very complicated. Cabernet Sauvignon is the major component of the great clarets of Bordeaux. It will age, has lots of colour, lots of potentially complex flavours and generous tannin. Almost too good a thing so usually it is blended with Cabernet Franc or Merlot. The Cabernet Franc is a perfumed delicate grape. Watch in wonderment as the two merge into a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.

- 38 Cousiño Macul Antiguas Reservas, Cabernet Sauvignon, Maipo 2006 Chile
This comes from a beautiful estate on the outskirts of Santiago and is aged for one year in French oak with further ageing in bottle.
Excellent Blackcurrant flavours.
- 10 CJ Pask Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot/Malbec Hawkes Bay
2006 New Zealand
Juicy and full of fruit, a bit spicy with blackcurrant and a warm lingering finish
- 39 Mitchell Cabernet Sauvignon, Sevenhill Vineyard, Clare Valley 2004 Australia
An intensely fruity Cabernet Sauvignon, displaying mint and blackcurrant aromas and flavours that are well rounded out with a touch of oak.
- 41 Château d' Angludet, Margaux 2004 France
Typical Margaux elegance & excellence.
(This wine will be decanted for you)
- PC14 Engelbrecht Ernie Els Blend 2006 South Africa
62% Cabernet Sauvignon 24% Merlot.
20 months in French oak barrels, 18 months in the bottle.
Jean Engelbrecht is a mate of the Big Easy, they have invested heavily in what is in reality a boutique wine
- 42 Château Grand-Puy Ducasse, 5me cru Pauillac 1996 France
A classic Pauillac with cassis and damson fruit, cedar and pencil lead undertones and good structure.
(This wine will be decanted for you)

Merlot

“If only all red grapes could make wines that were as downright cuddly as Merlot. Not that Merlot can't produce big, serious, stern wines that benefit from spending decades in a cool dark place like St Emilion and Pomerol where Merlot made its name. But there's an inherent suppleness and roundness to Merlot that you will enjoy”.

- 8 Rémi & Jérôme Merlot VdP d'Oc 2008 France
Soft fruity red
- 43 Meerlust Merlot, Stellenbosch 2005 South Africa
Made by a rare and talented wine maker, very Claret like.
- PC3 Château Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac 2005
(This wine will be decanted for you)

Shiraz or Syrah

“Roll the word Shiraz on your tongue for a while. Lovely, isn't it? Play with it on your tongue and it can conjure up images of spice, bazaars and hermits on steep rocky hills. The Shiraz vine loves the Rhone valley, creating rich dark seductive wine, inky black, full of rich ripe blackberry fruit, spicy and peppery”.

- 44 Mitchell Peppertree Vineyard Shiraz, Clare Valley 2006 Australia
This is the best Australian Shiraz we've tasted, very concentrated, lots of blackberry flavours but balanced with acidity is not all fat and one flavour from top to bottom of the bottle.
- 45 Crozes-Hermitage, Domaine Mucyn 2006 France
This is a very soft & elegant wine which has smooth tannin & very pure, ripe cherry fruit overlaid with a hint of sweet liquorice.
- 46 Gigondas, Domaine Les Pallières 2006 France
Good concentrated wine from vineyard now owned by the Brunier family of Châteauneuf-du-Pape Domaine de Vieux Télégraphe fame.

Pinot Noir

“You know those old Tex Avery cartoons where the sleazy dog is sitting at a table in a wild west town and the impossibly curvaceous singer comes on, the dog's eyes pop out across the room and his jaw thumps to the floor and steam comes out of his ears? Wine made from the pinot noir can have a similar effect”.

- 7 Alto Pampas Pinot Noir, Mendoza 2009 Argentina
Raspberry Pinot Noir fruit fills the nose & is mirrored on the palate. The tannins are soft & well integrated with no harsh elements.
- 47 Esterhazy Pinot Noir, 2008 Austria
Excellent pinot noir, light, fresh and fruity.
- 48 Churton Pinot Noir Marlborough 2007 New Zealand
Ripe Pinot Noir, black cherries, raspberries, spicy lovely complexity and a good finish.
- PC6 Santenay 1^{er} cru Les Gravières Rouge, Vincent Girardin 2005
- 49 Felton Road Pinot Noir, Central Otago 2007 New Zealand
Spicy character with deep brooding cherry fruit
- 50 Beaune 1^{er} cru, “Bastion”, Domaine Chanson 2006 France
Drawn from several 1^{er} cru holdings that belong to Chanson, this is plummy with a ripe, slightly spicy pinot character.
- 51 Morey-Saint-Denis 1^{er} cru Clos de la Bussière, Georges Roumier 2004 France
World class wine.

Tempranillo

Intense berry fruit of Cabernet with the generosity of Shiraz and the earthiness of Sauvignon. Obviously the next big thing.

- 9 Marius Reserva, Almansa DO, Bodegas Piqueras 2005 Spain
This red is a Tempranillo which is the grape of the Rioja.
Oak aged and fruity with a touch of vanilla.
- 52 Viña Salceda, Rioja 2005 Spain
A superb example of red Rioja, aged first in oak casks which develops the bouquet and gives softness, and then in bottle to bring the wine to its peak.
- 53 Viña Real Reserva, Rioja CVNE 2004 Spain
Rich & complex aromas of anise, mint, liquorice & vanilla.
Wonderful powerful wine

Barbera

- 54 Norton Barbera, Mendoza 2009 Argentina
Very ripe cherry flavours. Barbera is an Italian grape variety that does well in Argentina, hints of plum and prune also.
- 55 Brown Brothers Barbera, King Valley 2005 Australia
A full flavoured wine with delicious berry fruit and well balanced acidity and oak

Gamay

Less complex than pinot noir. Up front strawberry, cherry, raspberry fruit when young and develops spicy, earthy character. The grape of Beaujolais.

- 56 Regnié, Château Chassantour, M Perroud 2007 France
Regnié is the newest Beaujolais cru. Succulent raspberry fruit.
- 57 Fleurie, André Colonge 2008 France
Fleurie is fragrant and floral and Monsieur Colonge adds body and depth to the style.

Mourvèdre

- 58 Cépage Mourvèdre, Domaine La Condamine l'Evêque, VdP des Côtes de Thongues 2006 France
Lots of interesting flavours reminiscent of evenings sitting on the veranda as the Mediterranean sun sets.

Halves

You can't quite justify another full bottle or one of you wants red and the other white. Nowadays wine makers acknowledge the need for decent wine in half bottles. Here's a few I have tasted and enjoyed.

WHITE

- 59 Mâcon-Lugny, Les Genièvres, Louis Latour 2007 France
- 60 Chablis, Domaine des Valery, Jean Durup 2006 France
- 61 Sancerre, André Dezat et Fils 2006 France
- 62 Pouilly-Fumé Domaine Thibault, André Dezat 2007 France

RED

- 63 Tanners Claret, Bordeaux France
- 64 Fleurie, Domaine de Viroglette 2008 France
- 65 Marqués de Cáceres Tinto Crianza, Rioja 2005 Spain

Port

- 66 Taylors Late Bottled Vintage Port 2003 Portugal
Decanted this will pass rounded splendidly.
- 67 Taylors Quinta de Vargellas 1998 Portugal
Delicious & very good value
- 68 Taylors 1970 Portugal
A great year.

Dessert Wine

- 69 Muscat de St Jean de Minervois A.C France
Deliciously sweet with a clean finish and wonderful aromas.
- 70 Aszú 5 Puttonyos. Hungary
Royal Tokaji Wine Company 2005 Blue Label

These small bottles enough for two glasses give you the opportunity to taste Hungarian Tokaji, a delicious sweet dessert wine that has been made for centuries. It is very rich honeyed and has an almost marmalade character.

Private Collection

We have recently renovated the ancient Goldstone cellars which are brick vaulted and date back to the 1760's. This has provided us with a new cellarage area where we can lay down fine and long living wines. This will enable us to build up a stock of fine wines which we will be able to offer at sensible prices. All wines listed below are drinking well now and will lay down for years to come.

Bin No. **CLARET**

PC1 Château Amelisse, St.Emilion Grand Cru France 2006
(Decanted)

PC2 Château Haut-Bages Libéral, Pauillac 2004
(Decanted)

PC2a Château Haut-Lariveau, Fronsac 2000
(Decanted)

PC3 Château Lacoste-Borie, Pauillac 2005
(Decanted)

PC4 Château Potensac, Medoc 1999
(Decanted)

RED BURGUNDY

PC5 Chambolle-Musigny, Domaine Georges Lignier 2001
We have acquired a small parcel of good quality and at the right price

VINTAGE 2005

The vintage 2005 is the greatest current vintage of all time. These wines are drinking now and will lay down for years. Prices will keep moving up.

BURGUNDY

PC6 Santenay 1 er cru Les Gravières Rouge, Vincent Girardin 2005

PC7 Pernand - Vergelesses Rouge 1 er cru Fichots, Rémi Rollin 2005

DOMAINE RENÉ ENGEL VOSNÉ – ROMANÉE

We now move into very serious wine. Philippe Engel took over the family domaine in 1981 who as an extremely talented wine maker bigger denser wines with great concentration and fruit and his Clos Vougeot was rated as one of the best of the appellation. Tragically he was killed in 2005 and the estate had to be sold. Château Latour bought it and has pushed their prices skyward. These wines were bought before this disaster and represent extraordinary value.

PC8 Vosne – Romanée René Engel 2003

PC9 Clos - Vougeot grand cru, René Engel 2001

PC10 Clos - Vougeot grand cru, René Engel 2003

NONE FRENCH GREAT WINES

- PC13 Barolo DOCG. Eugenio Bocchino 2005 Italy
A wonderful Barolo off a tiny vineyard. Fascinating flavours of plums, cinnamon and vanilla follow a typical tar and roses Barolo. Full bodied (Decanted)
- PC14 Engelbrecht Ernie Els Blend 2006 South Africa
62% Cabernet Sauvignon 24% Merlot.
20 months in French oak barrels, 18 months in the bottle.
Jean Engelbrecht is a mate of the Big Easy, they have invested heavily in what is in reality a boutique wine

PORTUGAL

Portugal is currently the most innovative red wine producing area in the world. There are some fantastic serious wines coming from along the Douro. These wines are made from Port grapes such as Tinta Amarelo, Tinta Barocca and their Tinta Roriz which have amazing depth of flavour and mature well in the bottle. Great value serious red wine.

- PC15 Churchill Churchill's Estates Duro Tinto 2007
(Decanted)
- PC16 Quinta Vale Dona Maria, Douro Tinto 2006
(Decanted)

WHITE

- PC17 Gewurtztraminer grand cru Kessler, Domaines Schlumberger 2005
Hugely complex exotic floral aromas. This has candied quality but the wine remains vigorous, intense and multi layered with bitter notes and alcohol balancing to a minerally core. Wonderful
- PC19 Puligny-Montrachet 1er cru Les Perrières, Etienne Sauzet 2003 France
Well positioned in the heart of the commune, with deep, stoney, calcareous soils. This is a great wine with racy and floral character, as well as depth. Supreme balance between richness and acidity.

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