

Cellar Wine

Red

- Margaux 2016** 50
Declassified grapes from a bumper harvest at THE top estate in the appellation, but nobody is supposed to know where they come from. A deep garnet and purple, with a glorious rich fruit nose. A long finish. Made to be drunk young but it will improve for the each of the next ten years.
- Katie Jones, Fitou, 2013** 45
Ms Jones makes such great wines that enraged locals once destroyed her wines in a fit of jealousy fuelled vandalism. A few bottles left undrunk and quietly improving over lockdown encouraged us to secure samples nearly a decade old. We only found 6 bottles and are delighted how they have aged. This would be a £100 wine with a label from more fashionable parts of the Rhone Valley.
- Chasse Spleen 2000** 85
Ready to drink with almost no time to breathe, offering a classic nose of blackcurrant, pencil, leather, unsmoked tobacco and warm earth. It's Vigorous at age 22, a great wine from a year at its peak of drinking
- Chateau De Beaucastel Red 2005** 100
This might have breached the £100 mark but is a magnificent wine. Very rich fruit with both plum and red berry and spicy hints, earthy, lots of structure. This wine will be great in a decade, but ours will be long gone by then. Do give us time to decant.
- Haut Batailley, Pauillac, 2010** 85
A great year that is time to start opening. Give us 30 minutes' notice to let this open and allow the fruits to balance the cedar, spice-box tannins. This will still be drinking well in 15 years but life's too short.
- Languedoc: Mas de Daumas Gassac 2018 (75cl/2012 magnum)** 60/120
Described as the 'Lafite of the Languedoc'. Generous intense bouquet of dark fruits, blackcurrant, with spicy notes. Harmonious palate, fruits, good tannins, elegant finish. Decant if at all possible.
- Mercurey 1er Cr Naugues, Charton, 2017** 55
A rich and fleshy wine from this deep clay vineyard with generous, full spicy flavours. Typical of the area in all but price.
- Argentina: Michel Torino Altimus Malbec 2015** 55
61% Malbec, 25% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Cabernet Franc. This is made high in the Andes and is MASSIVE. Without cheese or red meat, the fruit, oak and alcohol may overwhelm the delicate drinker.

White

- Clos Des Papes White 2004** 110
These whites age beautifully with that edge of oxidisation that adds layers to flavour to the honey and apricot fruitiness and the stone and almond that emerge with age. Needs opening for at least half an hour.
- Au Bon Climat, Santa Barbara County, California 2019** 50
One of our favourite wines and truly a fantastic example of a great chardonnay. Creamy & buttery taste with a well rounded fruit flavour, this is a wine to be enjoyed. Goes well with poultry dishes.
- Chassagne Montrachet Les Enségnieres, Colin 2015** 70
This property neighbours Batard Montrachet and has some of the volume and power of its more celebrated neighbour. Chiselled and nutty with a long finish
- Meursault-Charmes, Louis Jadot, 2012** 100
Fresh peaches and honeyed spring flowers and a hint of caramel with a touch of mineral acidity that lightens this wine beautifully. Yes there is the butteriness of Meursault but with Premier Cru sophistication and complexity.
- Saint-Veran, Joseph Drouhin, 2017** 45

Classic Maconnais burgundy; soft and round, stone fruits, a vibrant nose with mineral chalky tones give the wine great balance.