

Cellar Wine

Red

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.

Louis Jadot Savigny-Les-Beaune, La Dominode, 2017

80

Savigny produces exclusively almost red wines (90%) under the village and premier cru appellations. The Dominode vineyard is very suitable to Pinot Noir because the soil is deep and benefits for a large variety of fallen rocks from the top of the hill. A wine great with anything, even just company.

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

Haut Batailley, Pauillac, 2010

90

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 Cru 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

Chassagne Montrachet Domaine Fontaine Gagnard 1er Cru, 2017

130

A classic white burgundy. A hint of reduction to the aromas of pear, stone, menthol and herbs; a bit wild in a positive way. Dense, rich and sappy, with its touch of sweetness perfectly countered by crushed-stone minerality. At once broad and vibrant, with tactile flavours of grapefruit & lemon.

Louis Jadot Chablis Vaudesir Grand Cru, 2017

95

A strong Chablis offering from Louis Jadot, and worth the price. Rich aromas of pear, white flowers, and a touch of vanilla. Full bodied palate with tropical fruit, citrus, pear, and racy minerality. Strong acidity and a touch of white pepper on the lengthy finish.

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

60

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.

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

50

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