



## Wines from the New World

**March 2008**

We have tended to focus on wines from the established “Classic” regions of Europe, so it was about time that we put together an offer on some of the excellent wines that we have tasted recently from the New World.

Perhaps the Chardonnay grape has suffered somewhat at the hands of over enthusiastic wine makers, modelling their wines on the big, oak enhanced blockbusters that the wine critics used to rave about. Today there are many examples of a more subtle and even *terroir*-led approach to wine making – less Dolly Parton and more Keira Knightly if you get our meaning! Take note of the Margaret River offerings from the renowned Vasse Felix in Australia.

For the “anything but Chardonnay” brigade we have an enticing Arneis from Coopers Creek in New Zealand or try the Chenin Blanc from Kanu in South Africa.

As for reds, *the Holy Grail* that is Pinot Noir has really come of age thanks to growers’ better understanding of this challenging grape. New Zealand perhaps leads the way for alternatives to Burgundy, check out the Prophets Rock Pinot, but Saintsbury Pinot from California is a richly endowed wine that is also worth buying.

The South Americas have been hitting the headlines for some time and deservedly so. The innovative winemakers from the classic regions of France have certainly utilised their skills and passion in Chile and Argentina forming strong partnerships, taking full advantage of the enormous potential these countries offer. As such we are delighted to offer the wines from Casa Lapostolle in Chile and Bodega Norton in Argentina, one of the country’s most respected names, is responsible for crafting world-class wines.

We are also delighted to be offering the iconic wines from Meerlust Estate in South Africa, responsible for some of the most sought after wines in the world.

Some of the wines in this offer will be available to taste at our office on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March from 10am to 2pm, so please let us know if you would like to come along. Telephone Karl on 01273 474766 or email [karl@oliverwines.co.uk](mailto:karl@oliverwines.co.uk).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any further advice.

**Oliver Wines.**

To order telephone 01273 474766 / 471992

## Argentina

### Bodega Norton

In 1885, the Buenos Aires to Mendoza railway opened, cementing the significance of this emerging wine growing region high in the Andean foothills. Ten years later, Edmund Norton planted the first vines in Mendoza. At 900-1100 metres, the altitude moderates the temperature, causing an extended ripening season. It is here that the Malbec grape has prospered. The **Malbec Reserva** is entirely matured in French barrels and offers an amazing depth of fruit and complexity. The **Privada** used to be the family's private reserve and is now Norton's signature wine, as well as one of Argentina's best respected names, with 50 to 80 year old vines providing great concentration.

Red wines

Per case of 12

#### **Malbec Reserva 2004**

**£104.00**

Packed with dark berry fruits and spices.

#### **Privada 2004 (Malbec/Cabernet/Merlot)**

**£140.00**

## Australia

### Vasse Felix, Margaret River

Vasse Felix was the first commercial winery to be established in Margaret River. Others followed and the region now has an international reputation for fine wine, typically combining the ripe Australian fruit with elegant European structure. Their **Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon** offers a classic expression of the *terroir* and the flagship **Heytesbury** sets the highest standards with the winery's best fruit.

White Wines

Per case of 6

#### **Heytesbury Chardonnay 2005**

**£99.00**

100% barrel fermented in French Oak gives this wine a wonderful combination of custard, white orchard and citrus fruits, offering a very poised and elegant wine on the palate.

Red Wines

#### **Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2005**

**£82.00**

Should age well for another 10 years.

#### **Heytesbury 2004 (Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz)**

**£175.00**

"...exhibits a bouquet of cedar, wood smoke, scorched earth, black cherry, and blackberry. Tightly wound but well balanced, this densely packed wine needs 6-8 years in bottle to reveal its full potential. Drink it through 2025." Robert Parker, 92 points.

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## Yalumba, Barossa Valley

In an era when consolidation seems an unstoppable force and Australian wine is becoming ever more corporate, Yalumba's steadfast independence as Australia's oldest family-owned winery is to be applauded. Robert Hill Smith is the fifth generation in charge since the winery's foundation in 1849. From their extensive range, we are offering two wines from iconic Barossa-Eden Valley region. The warm **Barossa Valley** floor brings ripeness, weight and spice to the Shiraz listed below, while the cooler conditions of the **Eden Valley** produces the intensely flavoured, well defined Chardonnay in this offer.

At the top end, we have **The Menzies**, with its typically cassis laden Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon and **The Signature**, a very stylish example of the most Australian of blends, Cabernet/Shiraz. And finally, there are two exceptional sweet wines that also caught the attention of Jancis Robinson recently. The **Museum Reserve Muscat** will handle the sweetest of desserts or even chocolate, whereas the **Antique Tawny** works well with cheeses. Both come in 37.5cl bottles, which given the 18 degree alcohol content is probably just as well.

White Wines

Per Case of 6

### **Eden Valley Wild Ferment Chardonnay 2005**

**£55.00**

Excellent weight of fruit due to ageing in French oak, although the oak does not really show on the palate.

Sweet Wines

Per Case of 12

### **Museum Reserve Muscat, 37.5cl**

**£95.00**

"..the thing to serve with very sweet food for it is a dentists delight". Jancis Robinson MW, February 2008, Purple Pages

### **Museum Reserve Antique Tawny, 37.5cl**

**£105.00**

"..It has great refreshing acidity as well as nutty, but not overpowering sweetness". Jancis Robinson MW, February 2008, Purple Pages

Red Wines

Per Case of 6

### **Barossa Shiraz 2005**

**£55.00**

No mistaking where this wine is from. A knock-out of a Shiraz – blackcurrants, spicy, rich and silky.

### **The Menzies Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon 2003**

**£140.00**

"The 2003...reveals gorgeous notes of creosote, blueberry liqueur, black currants, licorice, and cedar. Full-bodied with great fruit purity, real stature, wonderful sweetness (from glycerin), ripe tannin, and a long, heady finish, it can be drunk now or cellared for 15 or more years", Robert Parker, 94 points.

### **The Signature Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon/Shiraz 2003**

**£140.00**

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# Chile

## Casa Lapostolle

The Marnier-Lapostolle family are the founders and owners of the liqueur Grand Marnier who created Casa Lapostolle with the Rabat family from Chile in 1994. The catalyst for this union was a visit to the Apalta Vineyard in Colchagua, that simply inspired them to make wine in this “viticultural paradise”. Their objective is as simple as it is ambitious; to create world-class wines using French expertise and the superb *terroir* of Chile. Michel Rolland consults exclusively for Casa Lapostolle in Chile and is involved in every step of the process from the vine to the bottle. Their portfolio is comprised of the **Classic** label, offering a range of French grape varieties that display a unique Chilean character; the **Cuvée Alexander** label is used for a collection of refined wines from older vines produced in limited quantities; The **Clos Apalta** is a blend of Carmenere/Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon and demonstrates the exceptional quality of wine that Chile can produce.

### White Wines

Per case of 6

**Classic Sauvignon Blanc 2006, Rapel Valley** **£42.00**

Very aromatic with a tropical fruit twist on the palate.

**Classic Semillon 2006, Rapel Valley** **£42.00**

**Classic Chardonnay 2006, Casablanca Valley** **£42.00**

This fruit-driven Chardonnay is superb with Thai food.

**Cuvée Alexander Chardonnay 2006, Casablanca Valley** **£63.00**

Expect more notes of butterscotch and vanilla compared to the Classic above.

### Red Wines

**Classic Cabernet Sauvignon 2006, Rapel Valley** **£48.00**

**Classic Merlot 2006, Rapel Valley** **£48.00**

Really juicy and just a touch of new oak

**Cuvée Alexander Cabernet Sauvignon 2006, Colchagua Valley** **£63.00**

Decant this a good hour before serving.

**Cuvée Alexander Merlot 2006, Colchagua Valley** **£75.00**

Generously fruit-driven in style with the delicate oak touches of sweet spice.

**Clos Apalta 2004, Colchagua Valley** **£132.00**

“it has a splendid bouquet of pain grille, spice box, blueberry, and blackberry liqueur. This is followed by a rich, layered wine with excellent grip and plenty of ripe tannins. This nicely balanced effort should reach its peak in 5-6 years and drink well through 2027.” The Wine Advocate, 91 points.

## New Zealand

### Coopers Creek, Gisborne

Coopers Creek was established by Andrew and Cynthia Hendry in 1980 with the aim of producing the very highest quality wines, principally in dry styles and reflecting New Zealand's outstanding cool climate viticultural conditions. The Coopers Creek label first appeared in 1982, since then they have continued to develop their vineyards, extend their range and advance their reputation as one of the best performing and most eclectic medium-sized New Zealand wineries. It is from here that we have been impressed with two of their eclectic offerings. The Arneis grape is typically found in north-west Italy, but **The Little Rascal** Arneis is really raising the standards for innovative winemaking. Their **Viognier** is very northern-Rhone-like and demonstrates the enormous potential this grape has in New Zealand.

White Wines

Per Case of 6

#### **The Little Rascal Arneis 2007**

**£66.00**

Fantastic with shellfish!

#### **Viognier 2007**

**£58.00**

### Matakana Estate, Auckland

Situated in the far north of the country, Auckland arrived late on the New Zealand wine scene, but with the discovery of sub-regions like Matakana it has more than made up for lost time. The eponymous Matakana Estate concentrates on grape varieties that thrive in the warm North Island climate, such as the lush **Pinot Gris** and the densely spicy **Syrah**. As with all great winemakers, they believe the wine is made in the vineyard. These are exceptional crafted wines.

White wine

Per Case of 12

#### **Pinot Gris 2006**

**£140.00**

Extremely stylish and not unlike a top Alsace Pinot Gris.

Red Wine

#### **Syrah 2005**

**£150.00**

Very Cote Rotie-like.

## Prophets Rock, Central Otago

The inspiring landscape of Central Otago has clearly had an impact on the winemakers in this part of the South Island. It is from here that some of the country's finest Pinot Noir's and Riesling's are produced from the boutique wineries that occupy this area. Prophets Rock is no exception. **The Pinot Noir** is a clear match for a really decent red Burgundy and has great aging potential. The **Riesling** is made more in the Alsace style and is definitely a food wine. Quantities produced are tiny and we are delighted to be able to offer some of these gems for the first time.

White Wine Per Case of 6

**Riesling 2006** **£96.00**

Red Wine

**Pinot Noir 2006** **£129.00**

## Spring Creek, Marlborough

Spring Creek is a small and newly established winery in the Marlborough region of New Zealand, owned by father and son, Peter and James Macdonald. All the grapes are sourced from the Wairau valley, which probably produces the best fruit in Marlborough. The fruit is picked in the cool of the morning and processed using anaerobic techniques to retain the fruit characteristics. These are great value wines and classic examples of the varietals.

White Wines Per Case of 12

**Sauvignon Blanc 2007** **£99.00**

This really leaps out of the glass with its classic cut grass and gooseberry notes.

**Riesling 2006** **£99.00**

Red Wines

**Pinot Noir 2006** **£125.00**

Very burgundian-like.

## South Africa

### Kanu, Stellenbosch

Kanu is the second winery owned by Hydro Holdings, the first being the highly acclaimed Mulderbosch Vineyards in Stellenbosch. The primary aim of Kanu has been to produce world class Chenin Blanc, but with the involvement of the renowned “master of Sauvignon”, aka Mike Dobrovic from Mulderbosch, it is clear that their Chenin is going to have to share the winners podium in the near future. We think these two white wines are cracking and represent amazing value for money.

White Wines	Per Case of 6
<b>Chenin Blanc 2006</b> A wonderful mix of pineapple and lime.	£36.00
<b>Sauvignon Blanc 2006</b> Mouth wateringly good!	£45.00

### Meerlust Estate, Stellenbosch

Meerlust Estate has been part of the Myburgh family for eight generations, dating back to 1756. Long recognized for producing world-class wines, the Meerlust Estate is singularly rich in charm and history. It is located 15 km south of Stellenbosch, with False Bay just 5 km away. The Estate is uniquely positioned for the production of wines with exceptional complexity and character. In the summertime, ocean breezes and evening mists roll in from coast to cool in the vineyards. The grapes ripen slowly, thus achieving full, concentrated flavours.

From the richly endowed Chardonnay to the iconic Rubicon, these wines are a real treat for anyone fortunate enough to buy them.

White Wine	Per Case of 6
<b>Chardonnay 2007</b> This will age well for another 6 years.	£95.00
<b>Red Wines</b>	
<b>Meerlust Red 2004</b> A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. This is amazing value for a label that started life as a <i>declassified</i> Rubicon ! Shipment due end-March.	£54.00
<b>Merlot 2005</b> Masses of red and dark berries, with a hint of mint. This will cellar for up to 15 years.	£95.00
<b>Pinot Noir 2005</b> Rich, powerful and silky.	£100.00

Meerlust continued

Per case of 6

### Rubicon 2004

£112.00

Rubicon was the first Bordeaux blend produced in South Africa and has maintained its iconic status since. Packed with dark fruits and spice and an almost syrup-like concentration.

## Terms and Conditions

- All wines offered subject to availability
- Prices include vat, but are subject to fiscal changes as a result of the 2008 Budget
- Wines offered in cases of six 75cl bottles except where stated
- Minimum order 12 bottles
- Payment due with order (VISA/MASTERCARD)
- Free local delivery (BN post code only), orders less than £150 in value will be charged £3.95 for delivery to the rest of Sussex and £15 for the rest of the UK
- Offer ends 31 March 2008
- E&OE.

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