

A decorative border of stylized grapevines and leaves in shades of green and magenta surrounds the central text. The vines are thin and elegant, with leaves of various shapes and sizes. Some leaves are solid green, while others are outlined in green. The vines are intertwined with small clusters of grapes and tendrils.

— THE —
WINE
SOCIETY
— 1874 —

150 YEARS

THE WINE SOCIETY'S
EXHIBITION WALKAROUND

BRISTOL, APRIL 2024

Introduction

We're thrilled that you have joined us to celebrate The Wine Society's 150th anniversary with the second of four Exhibition Walkaround weekends alongside producers, buyers, Wine Society staff and fellow members too.

The idea of these events is not only to tell the story of the second 50 years of The Wine Society but also to contextualise the inception of The Society during the years 1924 to 1974 and allow our members to better understand what was going on in the world of wine at this time.

The tasting is divided into sections; you're welcome to taste in whichever order you wish, and we hope that you will take advantage of the diversity on show today.

Wines 1 to 31 celebrate the collection that our buyers created to represent the era of 1924 to 1974. Each of the wines, called our 'Generation Series', represents an important wine for The Society during this period and has a colourful back story to explain it. Given that we have invited the producers of these wines to pour them, we are also showing other wines that they produce; some are brand new, and others are firm member favourites.

For wines 32 to 40, we're excited to show you our second limited-edition range of wines that have just been launched. These wines, titled the '150th Anniversary Range', have been in the works for over a decade and represent what the buyers believe are some of the finest and most important wines of the world today.

From 41 to 60, members can enjoy our themed tables which put the world of wine in context during this period. Whether it's exploring wines that survived prohibition, tasting the original six appellations of France side-by-side, learning a little about the up-and-coming regions of the era or testing out the technology of bag-in-box; each table's theme brings to life the wider wine world from 1924 to 1974.

And finally, 61 to 80 are all designed to help you get more enjoyment from your wine. These tables demonstrate how to taste, how wines age and give members an opportunity to test themselves with some blind tastings.

What's more, we have masterclasses on Bordeaux châteaux we've worked with for at least 50, and in some cases 100, years with our buyers Sebastian Payne MW and Tim Sykes; fine wines of the USA with Sarah Knowles MW and Alex Hunt MW or a producer masterclass from Jean-Frédéric Hugel with the help of Alsace buyer, Jo Locke MW. If you are interested in attending any but haven't yet bought a ticket, please find a member of the Tastings Team and ask about availability.

This tasting celebrates the aptitude and knowledge of our buying team, strong relationships with our suppliers and the value and diversity of wines that we offer. But most importantly it recognises our commitment to you, our members, and our thanks for your support over the years. Here's to another 150!

The Tastings Team

For 10% discount on all available wines excluding the Anniversary Range, please use the discount code **TSTR050604**

Discount runs to Sunday 14th April but order early to avoid disappointment.

Not yet a member?

Are you interested in attending more events, and in getting access to our award-winning range of wines and services, with a **£20 credit to help you get started?**

Scan this code to join today



Wine List

Walkaround Room A: Generation Series Wines (Wines 1 – 31)

- 1* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Cava 2019**
- 2 Sumarroca Reserva Rose 2021
- 3* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Gentil Alsace 2021**
- 4 The Society's Vin d'Alsace 2022
- 5 The Society's Exhibition Alsace Gewurztraminer 2020
- 6* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Muscadet 2022**
- 7 Muscadet Sèvre et Maine La Haie Fouassière Le Clos du Château L'Oiselinière 2016
- 8 Muscadet Sèvre et Maine Monnières St Fiacre Les Terrasses Chereau Carré 2016
- 9* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Rioja Blanco Reserva 2018**
- 10 López de Haro Classica Gran Reserva Blanco 2013
- 11 El Pacto Rioja 2020
- 12* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Graves Blanc 2021**
- 13 Château La Garde Rouge Pessac-Léognan 2016
- 14 Château Le Boscq Saint-Estèphe 2016
- 15* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Tokaji Furmint 2021**
- 16 Wine from producer's own collection
- 17* **Dirt Track Cinsault, Swartland 2022**
- 18 The Wine Society's Generation Series South African Red 2023
- 19* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Orvieto Classico 2023**
- 20 Luigi e Giovanna Orvieto Classico Superiore Barberani 2021
- 21 Foresco Umbria Barberani 2020
- 22 Côtes-du-Rhône Villages Blanc Référence, Domaine Jaume 2022
- 23* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Vinsobres 2021**
- 24 Vinsobres Altitude 420, Domaine Jaume 2020
- 25 The Society's Reserve Claret, Côtes de Bordeaux 2021
- 26* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2020**
- 27* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Chianti Classico 2021**
- 28 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Castello di Brolio 2020
- 29 Bleasdale Adelaide Hills Chardonnay 2019
- 30* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Australian Cabernet Merlot 2022**
- 31 Bleasdale Langhorne Creek Sparkling Shiraz NV

Walkaround Room B: Anniversary Series Wines (Wines 32 – 40)

- 32* **The Society's 150th Anniversary Hunter Valley Semillon 2014**
- 33 Tyrrells Stevens Single Vineyard Hunter Valley Semillon 2011
- 34* **The Society's 150th Anniversary Kumeu Chardonnay 2019**
- 35 Kumeu River Hunting Hill Pinot Noir 2021
- 36* **The Society's 150th Anniversary Geyersville Zinfandel 2019**
- 37 Ridge Pagani Ranch Zinfandel 2021
- 38* **The Society's 150th Anniversary Pauillac 2015**
- 39* **The Society's 150th Anniversary Amarone 2018**
- 40 Amarone della Valpolicella Corte Giara Allegrini 2020

Walkaround Room C: Wine History and Appreciation (Wines 41 – 80)

- 41 Wente Vineyards Morning Fog Chardonnay 2021
- 42 Pedroncelli Dry Creek Valley Somoma County Cabernet Sauvignon 2020
- 43 Once and Future Napa Valley Zinfandel 2021
- 44 Cassis, Clos Val Bruyère, Château Barbanau 2022
- 45 Tavel Cuvée Prima Donna Rosé, Domaine Maby 2022
- 46 Arbois Rouge, Trousseau, Sungulier, Domaine Tissot 2019
- 47 The Society's Exhibition Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2021
- 48 Monbazillac, Château Pech La Calevie 2021
- 49 The Society's Cognac VSOP
- 50 The Society's English White 2023 Bag-in-Box
- 51 The Society's White Burgundy 2022 Bag-in-Box
- 52 The Society's French Pinot Noir 2023 Bag-in-Box
- 53 Clay Creek Vineyards California Pinot Noir 2022 Bag-in-Box
- 54 Cuvée John Agard, Breaky Bottom 2017
- 55 The Society's Exhibition Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2023
- 56 Van Loggerenberg 'Kamaraderie' Chenin Blanc, Swartland 2022
- 57 The Society's Exhibition Limarí Pinot Noir 2022
- 58 The Society's Exhibition Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2021
- 59 The Society's Exhibition Mendoza Malbec 2021
- 60 Half bottle of Vidal Ice Wine Signature Series, Peller Estates 2018
- 61 Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022
- 62 Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022
- 63 Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 ORGANIC
- 64 Montlouis-sur-Loire 'Les Tuffeaux', François Chidaine 2019
- 65 Half bottle of The Liberator 'The Francophile' Natural Sweet Chenin Blanc, Paarl 2018
- 66 Pinot Noir, Ostoros 2022
- 67 Madiran Ode d'Aydie 2019
- 68 Maison Roche de Bellène, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019
- 69 Maison Roche de Bellène, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2016
- 70 Muga Reserva Rioja 2019
- 71 Muga Reserva Rioja 2005
- 72 Porseleinberg Syrah 2021
- 73 Porseleinberg Syrah 2019
- 74 Porseleinberg Syrah 2017
- 75 Blind wine (sparkling)
- 76 Blind wine (sparkling)
- 77 Blind wine (white)
- 78 Blind wine (white)
- 79 Blind wine (red)
- 80 Blind wine (red)

Wines by Style

Sparkling

- 1* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Cava 2019**
- 2 Sumarroca Reserva Rose 2021
- 31 Bleasdale Langhorne Creek Sparkling Shiraz NV
- 75 Blind wine (sparkling)
- 76 Blind wine (sparkling)

White Dry and Off-Dry

- 3* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Gentil Alsace 2021**
- 4 The Society's Vin d'Alsace 2022
- 5 The Society's Exhibition Alsace Gewurztraminer 2020
- 6* **The Wine Society's Generation Series Muscadet 2022**
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- 41 Wente Vineyards Morning Fog Chardonnay 2021
- 44 Cassis, Clos Val Bruyère, Châteay Barbanau 2022
- 50 The Society's English White 2023 Bag-in-Box
- 51 The Society's White Burgundy 2022 Bag-in-Box
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- 55 The Society's Exhibition Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2023
- 56 Van Loggerenberg 'Kamaraderie' Chenin Blanc, Swartland 2022
- 61 Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022
- 62 Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022
- 63 Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 ORGANIC
- 64 Montlouis-sur-Loire 'Les Tuffeaux', François Chidaine 2019
- 68 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019
- 69 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2016
- 75 Blind wine (white)
- 76 Blind wine (white)

Rosé

- 45 Tavel Cuvée Prima Donna Rosé, Domaine Maby 2022

Red

- 11 El Pacto Rioja 2020
- 13 Château La Garde Rouge, Pessac-Léognan 2016
- 14 Château Le Boscq, Saint-Estèphe 2016
- 17* **Dirt Track Cinsault, Swartland 2022**
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- 72 Porseleinberg Syrah 2021
- 73 Porseleinberg Syrah 2019
- 74 Porseleinberg Syrah 2017
- 79 Blind wine (red)
- 80 Blind wine (red)

Sweet and Fortified

- 48 Monbazillac, Château Pech La Calevie 2021
- 60 Half bottle of Vidal Ice Wine Signature Series, Peller Estates 2018
- 65 Half bottle of The Liberator 'The Francophile' Natural Sweet Chenin Blanc, Paarl 2018

Spirits

- 49 The Society's Cognac VSOP

*Limited edition 150th

Generation Series Wines and Their Producers

Sumarroca

Penedès, Spain

Attending: Marc Picón

The Story

1972 marked the birth of the denominacion 'Cava' as Spain's sparkling wine, including the requirement for Cava to follow the traditional method where the second fermentation, which adds the sparkle, occurs within the bottle it is sold in (though this had been practiced since as early as the 1870s.)

Since its inception, the DO has represented quality Spanish sparkling wines and they continue to play an important role in the Wine Society lists today, as much as they did then.

The Producer

The Sumarroca family have been making wine for several generations. They began in the village of Llimiana in Jussa, before moving to the more premium wine-growing area of Penedès nearer Barcelona. Husband and wife Carlos and Nuria Sumarroca bought a 15th-century estate there in 1982 so they could begin producing white and sparkling wines. Since their inception, their philosophy has been to focus on making innovative, characterful, balanced wines rather than competing with larger wineries: their emphasis is always on quality rather than quantity.

To that aim, in 1999 they bought nearly 405ha of land, meaning that they can now use 100% of their own grapes and have ultimate control over the fruit that goes into their wine. This newer land means they are the largest cava producer to make their wines entirely from estate-grown fruit. Production is tightly managed: they use only free-run juice (the pressed juice is sold to other bodegas) and practise sustainable farming to preserve the vineyards for future generations.

1. The Wine Society's Generation Series Cava Gran Reserva Brut 2019

150  

The small family producer of Sumarroca is behind this wine, aged for over two years on its lees, and then specially for the 150th bottling spends a further year in bottle after being disgorged. This enhances the toasty, apple flavour and mouthfeel, exuding the often underrated high quality of Cava. Drink this year and next. 12%

Ref: SG4171 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

2. Sumarroca Reserva Rose 2021

A fragrant pink Cava that has wonderful charm and energy. This is made entirely from pinot noir and comes from the talented Sumarocca family who we believe are making some of Spain's best cava. Pale in appearance with lifted, floral aromas and a refreshing, mouthwatering finish.

Ref: SG4381 £11.50 per bottle | £138 dozen

Hugel Alsace, France

Attending: Jean Frédéric Hugel

The Story

The Wine Society has worked with several generations of the Hugel family, who have been making wine in the picturesque village of Riquewihr in the heart of Alsace since 1639, including our Society's Vin d'Alsace and Exhibition Gewurztraminer. If that was not good enough reason to ask them to create our 150th Anniversary cuvée, it just so happens that early Alsace listings appeared simply as 'Riquewihr', or 'Gentil', the historic name given to an Alsace blend of noble grape varieties still used by Hugel today. It is a style they describe as having the typical characteristics of each variety: the suave, spicy flavour of gewurztraminer, the body of pinot gris, the finesse of riesling, the grapiness of muscat and the refreshing character of pinot blanc and sylvaner. Our Society's Vin d'Alsace is also made in the Gentil style but the 150th cuvée is a superior blend with a significant proportion of grand cru fruit from Hugel, Sporen and Pflostig vineyards, described by Jean-Frédéric Hugel as 'educated gentil'.

The Producer

Hugel is one of the longest-established Alsace houses as well as being one of the most famous. The family firm has made wine in Riquewihr since 1639. As well as having extensive vineyard holdings of some 127 hectares (including grands crus Sporen and Schoenenbourg), Hugel also acts as a négociant buying grapes from other respected growers.

The late Johnny Hugel was one of the most influential winemakers in Alsace, not only championing Alsace at home and abroad, but also helping to formulate important protection laws. It was he who obtained the official seal of approval for late-harvest vendange tardive and Sélection de Grains Nobles designations.

Members visiting the pretty town of Riquewihr, where Hugel is based, might also enjoy a visit to an interesting wine-themed museum there, established by Johnny's brother, André Hugel, and to their excellent fine wine shop.

3. The Wine Society's Generation Series Gentil, Alsace 2021

150  2

A refined blend of Alsace noble grape varieties with the freshness of the 2021 vintage: restrained on the nose, more complex and layered on the palate, with gentle texture underpinned by a backbone of minerality, and fine length. Drink now to 2026. 13%

Ref: AL17191 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

4. The Society's Vin d'Alsace 2022

 2

Rather than being made from a single grape variety, this is a blend that varies a little by vintage, so that no one flavour dominates. A little fuller bodied than the 2021 but typically dry and fresh on the palate. Produced for us by the Hugel family, this wine occupies the pivotal spot in our Alsace selection and has introduced the region to generations of members. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%

Ref: AL17091 £9.95 bottle | £119 dozen

5. The Society's Exhibition Alsace Gewurztraminer 2020

 3

Classically floral perfumed and spicy, this has the supporting power of fruit from Hugel's grand cru Sporen vineyard. Drink now to 2028. 14%

Ref: AL17081 £16.50 bottle | £198 dozen

Chéreau Carré

Loire Valley, France

Attending: Louise Chéreau & Bernard Chéreau

The Story

Early Society Lists included Muscadet or Muscadet Supérieur, an unofficial category not used today. The Muscadet Sèvre et Maine sur Lie appellation was established in 1937 and the Chéreau family, of Maison Chéreau-Carré, were pioneers of the style. From their base at the Château de Chasseloir, just outside Saint-Fiacre-sur-Maine, they have been making wine in the Pays Nantais since the 1950s.

Muscadet's reputation suffered in the 1970s, when yields and rather unpalatable acidity were high, and quality low, but these days, in part thanks to climate change, the wines are cleaner, riper, and all round friendlier. As the name implies, melon de Bourgogne originated in Burgundy, and finer, mature examples can even resemble Burgundian chardonnay, and certainly make a great-value alternative to it. Our 150th Generation Series Muscadet celebrates the positive change that has happened in the region since those challenging times.

The Producer

The name Chéreau has been prevalent in winemaking circles in the Nantais area of the Loire region for centuries. Bernard Chéreau senior set about acquiring more vineyards and property in Sèvre-et-Maine, the most notable being Château de Chasseloir in 1953 and, following his marriage to Mademoiselle Carré also brought the vineyards of Château l'Oiselinière into the fold. Following this union, the business was renamed Chéreau-Carré i to distinguish it from other growers with the Chéreau name and the couple's business went from strength to strength. Investment in the region has continued since and they now own 133 hectares across six domaines and five communes.

Second generation Bernard Chéreau, is in charge of the family firm, which includes a number of domaines under the Chéreau-Carré umbrella, and in 2014 his daughter Louise joined him to continue the family commitment to the region and to the development of the Crus Communaux.

6. The Wine Society's Generation Series Muscadet 2022 150 W 2

This wine combines Bernard and Louise Chéreau's specialism in the sur Lie style with a nod to the past. A small component was raised in older oak barrels bringing extra breadth and complexity to muscadets natural freshness and appetising salinity. Drink now to 2027. 13.5%

Ref: LO18741 £11.95 bottle | £143 dozen

7. Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine La Haie Fouassière, Le Clos du Château L'Oiselinière, Chéreau-Carré 2016 W 1

Chéreau-Carré's first cru Muscadet, released after extended maturation in tank and bottle. A full-bodied Burgundy-alternative for the dinner table, with a smoky richness and refreshing Atlantic twist. Drink now to 2026. 12%

Ref: LO18361 £14.50 bottle | £174 dozen

8. Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine Monnières-Saint Fiacre, Les Terrasses de la Cantrie, Chéreau-Carré 2016 W 1

From an established hillside vineyard planted on schistous soils in the village of Saint Fiacre this appetising wine is structured around a chalky, mineral core lifted by white-flower bouquet and a lovely fluidity on the palate. Drink now to 2028. 12%

Ref: LO18721 £15.50 bottle | £186 dozen

Bodegas Hacienda López de Haro (Vintae) Rioja, Spain

Attending: Ricardo Arambarri & Matt Pym

The Story

In Rioja, this era is notable for the quality of its aged white wines and The Society's 150th Generation Series Reserva Blanco is a nod to this historic style, one that has become somewhat eroded in recent times. What's more, the 1970 vintage was considered by some to be the vintage of the century and a new wave of interest in this traditional region followed, as did more investment and another upstep in quality across all styles.

While Rioja is undeniably better known for red wines in modern times, it's exciting that these aged, traditional styles of white wines are increasing in popularity – as are fresher light white wines and rosés too.

The Producer

This estate is managed under the umbrella of a larger group called Vintae, established by Riojan businessman and wine lover José Miguel Arambarri Terrero. Vintae operates winemaking projects in six other Spanish regions. They chose the area of Sonsierra for this particular project because they believe that the poor but well-drained limestone-clay soils, at 500-600 metres altitude up in the foothills, provide a perfect terroir for old vine tempranillo, grown on bush vines and hand-harvested at low yields.

Although a young and dynamic team with a modern winery, the modus operandi of Bodegas Hacienda López de Haro is to produce wines that honour and celebrate the classic Rioja style. As producers of our Society's White Rioja, they were no strangers to meeting with our Spanish buyer, Pierre Mansour, and creating unique wines for our members that embody this timeless and yet traditional style.

9. The Wine Society's Generation Series Rioja Blanco Reserva, 2018

150th W 2

It is entirely local grapes – mostly viura, with small percentages of malvasía, tempranillo blanco, garnacha blanca and turruntés from high-quality vineyard plots in Sonsierra and Alto Najerilla. The wine is aged for 18 months in oak barrels and a further three years in bottle, resulting in a complex white with hints of floral notes and buttery, nutty flavours, soft texture and precise finish. Drink now to 2029. 12.5%

Ref: SP19951 £13.95 bottle | £167 dozen

10. López de Haro Classica Gran Reserva Blanco, Rioja 2013

W 2

Ten years ago, the young team at López de Haro started to develop a style of white Rioja which reflected the traditional, oxidative wines of the region. The 2012 is a real success. It is nutty, savoury and structured and will be adored by fans of this distinctive, characterful style from Spain. Drink now to 2028. 12%

Ref: SP20041 £36 bottle | £432 dozen

11. El Pacto, Rioja 2020

R D

A crianza in all but name, having been aged for over a year in barrel, this modern-style Rioja is deep in colour and full in flavour. Velvety with satisfying Spanish red with notes of cassis and spice. Now to 2025. 14%

Ref: SP18741 £12.95 bottle | £155 dozen

Maison Dourthe Bordeaux, France Attending: Nick Dagley

The Story

While red Bordeaux wines are far more common today, the dry white wines of the region were very popular in the early part of the era. One interesting influence on their decline was a severe frost in 1956 which forced producers to reconsider the grapes that could cope better with these extreme weather conditions – malbec and white grapes were pulled out, and the landscape of Bordeaux and styles of wine changed forever.

The Generation Series Graves Blanc 2021 is a classic example of the style of dry white Bordeaux that was popular in Britain in the early to mid twentieth century. It is the result of a collaboration between The Society and Maison Dourthe, one of Bordeaux's most respected château owners and négociants. This hybrid business model (property owner and wine trader) gave us access to a wide palette of options when it came to blending the wine.

The Producer

Pierre Dourthe launched this company as a wine merchant back in 1840, but it was the fourth generation, André and Roger, who began purchasing vineyards and properties in Bordeaux during the 20th century. Now owners of Château Belgrave in the Haut-Médoc, Château La Garde in Pessac-Léognan, Château le Boscq in Saint-Estèphe and Château Pey La Tour in the Entre-Deux-Mers, Dourthe manages 500 hectares of vines.

In the late 20th century, the company also launched a number of successful new wine ranges, including Dourthe No. 1. And as one of the few to play the dual role of owner/grower and négociant, the company operates from state-of-the-art facilities to the highest quality standards.

The Dourthe family haven't owned the company since 1998, when they sold it to its three directors. But the company remains committed to growing grapes in exceptional terroirs, with each of its châteaux managed by its own dynamic, committed team.

12. The Wine Society's Generation Series Graves Blanc 2021

150 W 2

The wine is made from 54% semillon, which lends body and depth to the wine, 34% sauvignon blanc, contributing freshness and aromatic intensity, and 12% muscadelle, which adds a touch of grapiness on the finish. The fruit came from three distinct terroirs. Firstly, the vineyards of Château Rahoul, which make some of the best whites of the whole Graves appellation, while the balance comes from grapes grown in Saint-Pierre de Mons and Toulence. The wine was vinified and aged partially in barrel (20%) with the majority in stainless steel. The result is a classically styled dry white Bordeaux which displays mouthwatering notes of white peach and citrus, and a long aromatic finish. It can be enjoyed with a wide variety of fish and seafood dishes, poultry, flambéed chicken livers and goat's cheese. Drink now to 2025. 12.5%

Ref: BW7401 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

13. Château La Garde Rouge, Pessac-Léognan 2016

R D

With deep colour and appealingly scented dark-fruit bouquet, this is a classy, well-balanced claret from a property making benchmark Pessac-Léognan. Displays good fruit density and a lingering finish. From the superb 2016 vintage, it is a blend of 52% cabernet sauvignon, 45% merlot and 3% petit verdot. Drink now to 2034. 14%

Ref: CM25201 £26 bottle | £312 dozen

14. Château Le Boscq, Saint-Estèphe 2016

R C

The northern Médoc was particularly successful in 2016 and winemaker Frédéric Bonnaffous was rightly proud of the Le Boscq, which displays pure, savoury fruit character and fine-grained, sleek tannins. Drink now to 2033. 13.5%

Ref: CM20081 £29.50 bottle | £354 dozen

Pajzos

Tokaj, Hungary

Attending: Arpad Kolozsvary-Kiss & Dr. Rita Berczes, DipWSET

The Story

The region of Tokaj in the north-east of Hungary is famed for its intensely sweet and long-lived aszú wines which rank amongst the finest wines in the world. Over the last 10 to 15 years attention has turned to the production of dry furmint, utilising the grape's naturally lifted acidity and opulent flavour profile of apple, quince and stem-ginger to create exciting and commercially viable dry wines. At The Wine Society, we pre-empted this trend by some 80 years, with dry furmint from Tokaj a regular feature in our lists since the 1940s. In order to showcase this, we asked Tokaj producer Pajzos to create an exclusive blend for us.

The Producer

Though the great wines of Tokaji are a thing of history, Pajzos represents the modern revival of the region. In 1991, French insurance company GAN bought Château Clinet in Bordeaux, owned by the wife of winemaker Jean-Michel Arcaute. A joint venture between Jean-Louis Laborde, winemaking consultant Michel Rolland and Jean-Michel followed with the aim of bringing more modern winemaking techniques to the tradition methods and quality material on Tokaji. The winery farms 80 hectares of vines in what is considered a rare and Grand Cru region from the historical classification.

15. The Wine Society's Generation Series Tokaji Furmint 2021

150 W I

Using 100% furmint with partial barrel maturation this shows furmint's natural style with added weight and opulence. Having now been in bottle for over two years this is developing waxed-lime and toasted notes but will continue to develop with time. Drink now to 2027. 14%

Ref: HU2091 £13.50 bottle | £162 dozen

16. Wine from producer's own collection

W I

For tasting only

Duncan Savage Wines

South Africa

Unable to attend due to harvest

The Story

South African wines first appeared on Wine Society Lists using familiar French regions to illustrate the style of the wine, until their use was banned as part of a trade agreement in the 1930s. The once-workhorse grape cinsault was more widely planted back then, and an unsung hero in those early wines. Today it is transformed into a delicately herbal and red-fruit-perfumed, silky beauty by celebrated winemaker Duncan Savage, here blending the fruit of two contrasting wine wards.

The Producer

Liked and admired throughout the industry, Duncan Savage was responsible for putting sauvignon specialist Cape Point Vineyards on the vinous map, and for numerous awards during his tenure there. His first bottling under the Savage Wines label was 2011 and these small production, elegant, minimalist own labels focus on a different palate of grape varieties.

In 2016 for the first time, he sourced fruit to make a single varietal cinsault under the Dirt Track label for us, with the help of friends and colleagues in the Swartland. A pinotage, shiraz, sauvignon and blends have followed, taking advantage of the best grapes and opportunities that present themselves in any given vintage.

17. Dirt Track Cinsault by Duncan Savage, Swartland 2022

R C

A juicy, lighter style of red-fruited cinsault that works a treat when served cool, but is capable of standing up to all manner of foods. Extremely versatile with an agreeable lightness of touch, it will absorb big flavours without bludgeoning lighter bites. It's a wine that, for our new South Africa buyer Matthew Horsley, offers a glimpse of the country's bright future. Drink now to 2024. 13%

Ref: SA19841 £9.50 bottle | £114 dozen

18. The Wine Society's Generation Series South African Red, Coastal Region 2023

150 R C

Made for us by Duncan Savage from the once workhorse, now fashionable, cinsault grape variety, this wine combines cooler, maritime Darling and warmer Swartland fruit to produce a delicately herbal perfumed, silky textured red with lovely freshness. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%

Ref: SA20631 £12.95 bottle | £155 dozen

Barberani

Umbria, Italy

Attending: Bernado Barberani

The Story

The Wine Society has been working with the wines of the Orvieto region in Italy for over 100 years (there are references in our Lists dating as far back as 1929). From the middle-ages to the mid 20th century, the wines would have been made in a sweeter style from grapes affected by botrytis, known in Italy as Muffa Nobile. These wines are an increasing rarity as producers meet modern wine-drinking preferences for refreshing dry white wines. In August 1971, the DOC of Orvieto was established, signalling the recognition of quality in the region. The estate of Barberani was also established during this era (in 1961) and they continue to produce not only the modern, popular style as is our Generation Series wine, but also small amounts of the botrytised wines, as well as small volumes of Umbrian red.

The Producer

Barberani is one of Umbria's most respected producers, famous for its clean, pure-tasting wines. The vineyards lie on hills overlooking Lake Corbara, close to the city of Orvieto in the south-west of the province, which lies south of Tuscany in Italy's centre. Of the estate's 80-odd hectares, 50 are dedicated to vineyards and olive groves. The rest is given over to cereals and holiday cottages, making this an authentic place to visit for a spot of agriturismo. The close proximity of the lake below helps regulate the microclimate here by preventing extreme variations in temperature.

19. The Society's Generation Series Orvieto Classico 2023

150 W 1

Made especially for us by brothers Bernardo and Nicolo at their family estate Barberani in Umbria, this is an unusual blend of Orvieto, picked two weeks apart. The first half, picked at the start of the harvest from grapes grown on ancient alluvial deposits, has tension, citrus notes and a salty finish. The second part was picked two weeks later and has more richness, showing the riper fruit profile that the grechetto grape can achieve. Blended exclusively for us, this complex wine has great balance with a nectarine, apricot and lime-scented nose, holding the tension and a floral, saline finish. Drink now to 2027. 12%

Ref: IT39571 £12.95 bottle | £155 dozen

20. Orvieto Classico Superiore Luigi e Giovanna, Barberani 2021

W 2

Top-quality Umbrian white by any international standard, with almond-skin, oyster-shell, sage and lemon-rind flavours that last well on the finish. In 2011, for the 50th anniversary of the Barberani estate, Luigi and Giovanna Barberani's sons, Bernardo and Nicolo, decided to make an extra special classic Orvieto. They based it on the best grechetto grapes with the addition of 5% of grapes concentrated by *muffa nobile*, or noble rot, that gives an extra elegance and voluptuousness to this top-quality Italian wine, one which can age beautifully. Drink now to 2027. 12%

Ref: IT39461 £24 bottle | £288 dozen

21. Foresco Umbria, Barberani 2020

R C

Lovely red-fruited crunchy medium-bodied wine that is a great-value alternative to pricier Supertuscans. A well-judged blend of 80% sangiovese with 10% each merlot and cabernet sauvignon, whose plum, leather and bramble notes are held by structured tannins and refreshing acidity. Drink now to 2025. 13%

Ref: IT35951 £10.50 bottle | £126 dozen

Domaine Jaume

Vinsobres, Southern Rhône, France

Attending: Claude, Nicole, Richard, Laurence & Vincent Jaume

The Story

Wines of the southern Rhône have been popular since Roman times and were much loved by members through the 20th century. The Jaume family are an institution in the village of Vinsobres and have produced over 100 vintages. The first supplied to The Wine Society was the 1979, an immediate hit with members who enjoyed the generous fruit and lightness of touch with altitude playing such an important role. It seemed obvious that Vinsobres, now a Cru of the Rhône Valley, should feature in our 150th Generation Series.

Interestingly, the region of Vinsobres owes much of its quality wine plantings to the famous frosts of 1956, when 14,000 of the 15,000 olive trees in the region were destroyed and so farmers of the region looked to the less precarious and hardier vine.

The Producer

Domaine Jaume, which celebrated its centenary in 2005, has been supplying The Wine Society with Côtes-du-Rhône since 1981, and their wines are among the best-selling red Rhône on our list. Vinsobres, a beautiful hillside village in the southern part of the Valley, blessed with extremely well-exposed vineyard sites. The Jaumes worked hard to get cru status for Vinsobres and in the end won the argument based on their Cuvée Référence. Though geographically close to villages like Cairanne or Rasteau, the climate here is quite different, with particularly interesting potential for the syrah grape. The Jaumes also own plots of vines high above the village at an altitude of some 420 meters which inspired the name for another of their cuvées – Vinsobres Altitude 420.

Brothers Pascal and Richard Jaume are highly committed vigneron and strongly believe that wine should be highly enjoyable and approachable so the style they look for is smooth, round and satisfying. Pascal is often found in the vineyard and his wife Isabelle does much of the pruning. Richard divides his time between the cellar and the office. A warm welcome awaits visitors here, especially Wine Society members, with Richard's wife Laurence on hand to meet and greet with genuine pleasure.

22. Côtes-du-Rhône Villages Blanc Référence, Domaine Jaume 2023

W 2

The Jaume family produces two white wines. This one is based on older and better-placed vines and blends roughly equal proportions of clairette, grenache blanc, marsanne, roussanne and viognier, fermented and aged in barrel. Full-flavoured, quite complex, rich and creamy with dry fruit, nut and a touch of honey. Drink now to 2027. 13.5%

Ref: RH71481

For tasting only, not available to purchase until Summer

23. The Wine Society's Generation Series Vinsobres 2021 150th R C

Altitude and mountain breezes make Vinsobres the ideal place to source a Côtes-du-Rhône and this has bright open fruit like cherries and raspberries, ripe tasting but without any heaviness. Drink now to 2027. 14%

Ref: RH68401 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

24. Vinsobres Altitude 420, Domaine Jaume 2020

R D

This popular 60:40 grenache-syrah mix, 10% of which is aged in foudres, is full of raspberry-like fruit with a touch of spice. Softly textured and, as the name suggests, from grapes grown on slopes that rise to 420m altitude, ensuring freshness. Drink now to 2030. 14%

Ref: RH62751 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

Château de Pitray

Bordeaux, France

Attending: Jean de Boigne

The Story

The wines of Bordeaux were as popular with members between 1924 and 1974 as they are today. In particular, the 1940s and 1950s saw excellent vintages, with many claiming that the 1945 vintage signalled a new age of quality. However, as well as this golden era of great vintages, a landmark frost in 1956 changed the course of the region and cemented a focus on red wines.

At Château de Pitray, this period was also formative. From 1940 to 1941, the Countess of Pitray protected the castle from the German occupation, leaving it in good stead for its growth in 1965, when Louis de S. Pitray modernised the vineyards and opened up the Château's wines to the British market.

The Producer

The majestic estate of Château de Pitray has been in the de Boigne family for over 600 years. Situated on the Gardegan plateau in the west of the Dordogne Valley, the property falls under the Côtes de Castillon appellation, but it lies just 8km from the better-known town of Saint-Emilion. Pitray is thought by many to be amongst the finest properties in the appellation.

Since 2003, the estate has been run by current generation Jean de Boigne. He farms the estate sustainably with the health of the soils, vines and the environment around them uppermost in his mind. The 36 hectares of vineyards are split into 73% merlot, 23% cabernet franc and 4% malbec, all of which enjoy the clay-limestone soil. The vines have an average age of 30 years.

25. The Society's Reserve Claret, Côtes de Bordeaux 2021 ® D

Our Reserve Claret is made from vineyards in the Côtes de Bordeaux by Jean de Boigne and Nina Mitjavile at member favourite Château de Pitray. This medium-bodied wine is a merlot-based blend with an inviting nose of juicy dark-berry fruit, complemented by a lick of vanilla oak, good tannin structure and a fresh note of black pepper. The Society buys the wine after harvest, but it is only released when ready for drinking. On the label we depict an element from a Bordeaux landmark, a column on the great Grand Théâtre, a hub of the city's cultural life. Drink now to 2028. 13.5%

Ref: CL281 £11.50 bottle | £138 dozen

26. The Wine Society's Generation Series Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2020

150 ® C

The Generation Castillon is a bespoke wine from the excellent 2020 vintage. The blend, which we put together in the autumn of 2021, is made up of 65% merlot, 30% cabernet franc and 5% malbec, the latter a variety that is increasingly widely planted in the region. A fragrant, plummy and satisfying claret from member favourite Château de Pitray, this is deliciously ripe and intense, yet with freshness too. Partially aged in French oak barrels, the wine reveals notes of damsons, bitter chocolate and a hint of liquorice on the finish. Drink now to 2031. 14.5%

Ref: CB6431 £15.50 bottle | £186 dozen

Castello di Brolio Chianti Classico, Italy

Attending: Jo Moody

The Story

In spite of extensive challenges in the region during World War II and the mass exodus from the Tuscan countryside in the 1950s, Chianti proved popular with members in the 1960s and 1970s as the world looked for affordably priced wines. Its growers were further challenged by the creation of the DOC (Denomination of Controlled Origin), the rules of which were not universally appreciated by all the winemakers of the region. However, continuous updates to the legislation and later the introduction of the DOCG and Gran Selezione has allowed for fantastic development in quality in the region, cementing Chianti as one of the most popular classic wines of the world.

When looking for a style of Chianti Classico for our 150th Generation Series, one that reflects the history of the region, we went immediately to Francesco Ricasoli, whose family has been making wine in Chianti Classico at Castello di Brolio since the 12th century.

The Producer

Francesco Ricasoli has been innovative in his leadership of this historic estate since taking over the property in 1993, paying particular attention to the work carried out in the vineyards and lowering yields to attain riper fruit and fine tuning the quality of the wines produced.

Brolio now has 240 hectares of vines planted on the beautiful 1,200-hectare estate. The whole estate has been carefully zoned according to soil type, and as a result they now make 200 separate vinifications. The vineyards are at heart weathered sandstone with galestro in front of the castle and limestone for the single vineyards at 500metres with some land at 250m on alluvial soil.

Once the fruit reaches the modern cellars, at the foot of the slope on which the castle sits, they are fed to the vats using only gravity. Once fermented the wines are transferred to barrels and barriques for maturation.

27. The Wine Society's Generation Series Chianti Classico 2021

150⁺ R C

Francesco's incredible attention to detail means that his Chiantis are some of the most polished examples that buyer Sarah Knowles MW tastes each year. This traditional example has wonderful lift, with red apple and rosemary aromas and great elegance. Drink now to 2028. 14%

Ref: IT37111 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

28. Castello di Brolio, Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2020 R C

This beautifully balanced, outstanding Chianti Classico, is Castello di Brolio's flagship wine, created from a meticulous selection of estate-grown grapes from the three most representative soils in Brolio: Macigno del Chianti (sandstone), Scaglia Toscana (Galestro), Monte Morello (Alberese). Thanks to its great intensity this is a keeper. Drink now to 2036. 14.5%

Ref: IT38991 £46 bottle | £552 dozen

Bleasdale Vineyards Langhorne Creek, South Australia

The Story

Up until the 1950s, popular 'port wines' of Australia dominated both local consumption and export production. Sweet, unctuous and suitable for the long journey back to the UK, these were a great alternative to sweet Ports (although the Portuguese had something to say about that.)

However, following the influx of European refugees in the mid-20th century, new cultural norms of table wine with a meal brought about a significant shift in the country's wine industry. New techniques were employed, new regions planted, and new styles produced, and by the 1970s quality table wine outsold fortified wines for the first time.

While our producer for this wine, Bleasdale Vineyards, continues to make a 'sticky' (sweet wine) that is enjoyed by our members, their focus is now on dry, high-quality wines, making them the perfect partner for this project.

The Producer

The historic Bleasdale vineyards were founded in 1850 by Frank Potts, who arrived in South Australia from Portsmouth, England, in 1836. Potts spotted the potential of the rich alluvial soils of the area and the impact of the Bremer River on which the isolated, tiny town of Langhorne Creek region depends for flood irrigation. His sons and grandsons operated and built up the winery, and even today the fourth and fifth generation of the Potts family are still involved in the winemaking and running of the winery.

The cellars are a national monument, constructed from red gumwood and limestone, and some of the original winemaking equipment is still occasionally used. Nevertheless, the emphasis here is on using modern technology to produce wines of consistently high quality.

29. Bleasdale Adelaide Hills Chardonnay 2019

W 2

A winning balance between lively, citrusy fruit and toasty, oaky interest here. Much has been made of Australia's minimalist new wave of chardonnay, and rightly so. This wine offers something of that tautness and restraint but, crucially, in a way that's also a joy to drink. Drink now to 2024. 12.5%

For tasting only

30. The Wine Society's Generation Series Australian Cabernet-Merlot 2022

150+ R D

A succulent, juicy and generous red with charming, upfront fruit flavours. The nose shows aromas of red berries and blueberries with a tell-tale twist of Aussie eucalyptus and cracked black pepper. The palate is full but silky, with generous notes of cherries, plums, cranberries and blackcurrants. It's a wine that demonstrates the best of both cabernet sauvignon and merlot, with the former providing backbone and structure, while the latter brings juicy fruit and a floral character. Drink now to 2027. 13.5%

Ref: AU26621 £9.50 bottle | £114 dozen

31. Bleasdale Langhorne Creek Sparkling Shiraz NV

S 4

Deeply coloured, rich-tasting sparkling Aussie red. This blackberry-laden wine stands up to chocolate cake. Drink within the next 12 months. 13.5%

Ref: SG871A £12.76 bottle | £153.12 dozen

Our 150th Anniversary Series Wines

As well as sourcing the Generation Series wines, our buyers have spent more than ten years working on something very special: a one-off collection of fine wines called the 150th Anniversary Series. They include never-to-be-repeated exclusives, bespoke blends, joint efforts between producers and more, taking in a mouthwatering range of estates and regions. All have been aged in advance, meaning they are all deliciously ready to enjoy.

Please note that due to the very limited nature of the 150th Anniversary Range wines, they are not subject to the regular 10% tastings discount.

Tyrrell's Hunter Valley, Australia

A member of Australia's prestigious First Families of Wine initiative, it is not surprising given Tyrrell's history that they make some of the most-awarded wines in the country.

Tyrrell's have been making wine since 1858. Their founder's philosophy was 'nothing is great unless it is good' and this is still very much the family motto. Their history spans five generations and is today headed by the irrepressible Bruce Tyrrell and his children Chris, Jane and John.

Tyrrell's has a talent for creating wines with a distinctive, high-quality varietal character.

32. The Society's 150th Anniversary Hunter Valley Semillon 2014



Hunter Valley semillon is an unsung hero of cellarworthy wines. This wonderful example, blended exclusively for the Wine Society's anniversary by the skilled team at Tyrrell's, is fully developed and ready to enjoy. Now in a wonderful place for drinking, with 10 years age, this is mellow and elegant on the nose, showing green-apple and candle-wax notes. The palate is dry, concentrated and lifted, with lime and flint through to the long finish.

Drink now to 2028. 11.6%

Ref: AU19681 £19.50 bottle | £234 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply

33. Tyrrell's Stevens Single Vineyard Hunter Valley Semillon 2011



This example from the Stevens single vineyard is grown on old vines, some dating as far back as 1911 and has wonderful depth of flavour and impressive concentration for an 11% white wine. There is a balance of freshness and maturity here, with floral and fresh citrus notes, along with an enticing waxiness, spice and flinty minerality. Singing wonderfully now but sure to continue to age for the next few years at least. It's not hard to see why it has won so many gold medals! Drink now to 2024. 11%

Ref: AU23601 £45 bottle | £540 dozen

Kumeu River Wines

Auckland, New Zealand

Attending: Hamish Young, New Gen Wines

The Brajkovich family own the highly regarded Kumeu River Estate near Auckland. Michael Brajkovich, who was the first New Zealander to become a Master of Wine, has been the winemaker since 1982. His non-conformist, forward-thinking approach has been particularly successful in creating wines that show the hallmarks of New Zealand although there is a definite Old World inspiration throughout. Michael's brothers Milan and Paul look after the vineyards and sales respectively, so it is all a real family effort.

34. The Society's 150th Anniversary Kumeu Chardonnay 2019



Coming from a spectacular vintage for New Zealand, this is a blend from almost equal parts Matés and Coddington vineyards. The Matés portion, aged mainly in old oak, gives great concentration, length and density, while Coddington, with a bit of new oak, is ripe and peachy. The whole shows beautiful texture and an ability to age brilliantly; a complex, intense and focused wine combining the best of both of these world-renowned sites. Drink now to 2034. 14%

Ref: NZ12151 £45 bottle | £540 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply

35. Kumeu River Hunting Hill Pinot Noir 2021



Hunting Hill is situated on a slope overlooking Kumeu's flagship Matés Vineyard. This wine is pure, with a silky texture and tart red-berry and spice flavours. It is more akin to the fine, higher-acid pinots of France than to the riper more rounded stereotypes of the new world. Drink now to 2031. 13%

Ref: NZ14501 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

Ridge California, USA

Ridge is one of California's greatest wineries. Situated 2,300 feet up in the Santa Cruz Mountains on Monte Bello Ridge overlooking San Francisco's Silicon Valley, it is, literally, a summit of Californian excellence. The first vines were planted in the 1880s and in 1892, and the first Monte Bello wines were produced, only to clash with Prohibition. Winemaking was abandoned here until the mid-Sixties, when Ridge was bought by a group of academics from Stanford University Research Institute, who were passionate about wine, including the legendary winemaker Paul Draper.

As well as the famous Monte Bello vineyards, the company later acquired or has the benefit of fruit from excellent sites further north, above San Francisco, in the Sonoma Valley. Here the Lytton Springs, Geyserville and Pagani ranch vineyards show the real calibre of zinfandel 'field blends'.

36. The Society's 150th Anniversary Geyserville Zinfandel 2019

150th R D

Eric Baugher made this wine for us from Ridge's famous Geyserville vineyard as an exclusive for our anniversary. A field blend of zinfandel, carignan and petit sirah, this has a full black-fruited perfume with cherry and liquorice spice on the palate. A Californian wine singing now, but one that will certainly improve with some time. This is a one-off, made to reflect the very long history Ridge and The Wine Society share. Drink now to 2029. 14.5%

Ref: US9111 £39 bottle | £468 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply

37. Ridge Pagani Ranch Zinfandel 2021

R D

This field blend is 90% zinfandel, 5% petite sirah, 5% Alicante Bouschet from mostly pre-prohibition vines planted and managed by the same family at Pagani Ranch, in California's Sonoma Valley. The positioning of this vineyard means that it sits in an enclave that benefits from the cooling fogs that slip in from the coast for longer each morning. Pure and intense this wine has a bramble, damson and blueberry core that has well balanced but delicious fine oak notes, spice and balance with a long finish. It's a wine that is enjoyable in its youth, but with time will develop layers of forest fruits, baking spice and undergrowth. Exclusive to The Wine Society in the UK thanks to our long relationship with the team at Ridge. Drink now to 2030. 14.5%

Ref: US11531 £43 bottle | £552 dozen

Château Batailley Pauillac, Bordeaux, France

We couldn't release a range of specially labelled fine wines to celebrate our 150th Anniversary without including a Pauillac, the king of Bordeaux's Médoc communes, and Batailley seemed like the obvious place to go. Owned for a century by one of Bordeaux's dynastic families, the Castéjas, Château Batailley is a classed growth claret that combines all the classic characteristics of the wines of the Pauillac commune, with sensible pricing and an unerring ability to age beautifully. Batailley has been a favourite among Wine Society members for decades. It is located towards the south of the commune and as such produces wines that don't take forever to hit their sweet spot, in contrast to wines from further north in the appellation.

38. The Wine Society's 150th Anniversary Pauillac 2015

150th R ?

The blend is 77% cabernet sauvignon, 20% merlot and 3% petit verdot, matured in French oak barrels, 55% of which were new and 45% of which were one year old, for 18 months.

We purchased the wine en primeur back in 2016 when the 2015 vintage was still in barrel.

The intention was to ensure that by the time 2024 came along the wine would be nearing its drinking peak. We're delighted that the wine has turned out every bit as exciting as when we tasted a barrel sample eight years ago. With deep crimson colour and a classic nose of cassis, graphite and vanilla, this is a classy Pauillac with impressive depth and concentration. Ample fruit density and gravelly tannins complete the picture. An hour in a decanter before drinking is recommended for this wine as this will allow the flavours to unfurl gradually.

Now to 2036. 13.5%

Ref: CM19601 £49 bottle | £588 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply

Allegrini Veneto, Italy

Attending: Tom Jones, Liberty Wines

Allegrini are a great, historic estate in Valpolicella, but they are also a truly modern wine producer. Having a reputation for pure, clean fruit and taking great care in the drying of the grapes their Amarone have set new global standards for all.

All Allegrini wines are produced from estate-grown fruit, harvested from the family's 70 hectares of vines. With quality firmly under their control, the Allegrinis are famously anti-establishment when it comes to local DOC regulations, many of which they feel to be outdated and counterproductive.

39. The Society's 150th Anniversary Amarone 2018 150th R D

An exclusive blend made for us by Allegrini. The wine is 40% corvina, 40% corvinone, 17% rondinella and 3% oseleta. Selected grapes from the upper hillsides were hand harvested and then left to naturally air-dry in the drying facility, losing around 40% of their weight. After a soft pressing, the wine ferments in steel tanks, to capture the purity of the fruit flavours and avoid any spoilage. Once fermented, the wine was aged in new barriques for 18 months softening the tannins and giving the wine a mocha richness to balance out the dried prune flavours. It was then further aged in large barrels for seven months for the blend to knit, before bottling, and a further four years of ageing. Drink now to 2028. 15.5%

Ref: IT33261 £35 bottle | £420 dozen
No discount available due to very limited supply

40. Amarone della Valpolicella Corte Giara, Allegrini 2020 R D

Classic Amarone from Italy's Veneto region, full-bodied rich and concentrated with Black Forest cherry and mocha notes that linger on the long finish. Delicious paired with rich foods, it really opens up if decanted an hour or so before being enjoyed. Drink now to 2028. 15%

Ref: IT38201 £30 bottle | £360 dozen

1874 - 1924 Wine History

1920 - 1933: Prohibition in the USA

Nationwide, Prohibition ran for 13 long years in the United States from 1920 to 1933. Called the 'Eighteenth Amendment' it banned the manufacture, sale and transportation of alcohol across the whole country.

Most wineries went out of business and many vineyards too, but not all of them. Many survived through producing grape juice (which was not illegal) and people would make their own wines at home – quadrupling grape juice production in California. What's more, the Volstead Act also allowed wine for religious rites so many wineries sought sacramental licenses too.

Buena Vista Winery, the source of wine 41, is one of the oldest surviving wineries in California, founded in 1857. The winery has survived phylloxera, Prohibition and The Great Depression too." With this text "Established in 1883 by German immigrant Carl H. Wente, the family estate producing wine number 43 survived Prohibition by turning their hand at medicinal and sacramental wine. Now run by the fifth generation, it remains a family business.

41. Wente Vineyards Morning Fog Chardonnay 2021 W 2

Fresh peach, baked-apple and vanilla-bean flavours are well balanced by the medium body, soft yet crisp style and gently fruited finish of this California chardonnay that has been partly barrel fermented for richness and partly in stainless steel to protect the freshness of fruit. Estate-grown Morning Fog Chardonnay is named for the morning coastal fog that streams into San Francisco Bay and then extends its fingers into the various valleys fanning out from it, including the Livermore Valley's unique east-west orientation. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%.

Ref: US11351 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

42. Pedroncelli Dry Creek Valley Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon 2020 R D

Dry Creek Valley is one of Sonoma's most prestigious areas for growing cabernet and this, made from the Pedroncelli's older estate vines, is a steal! Textbook cedar and cassis notes on the nose, with leather, violets, and blackberry on the well-structured palate. Drink now to 2027. 14.5%

Ref: US11791 £18 bottle | £216 dozen

43. Once and Future Napa Valley Zinfandel 2021 R D

This is a blend of old-vine fruit from the Green and Red and Dickerson Vineyards in California's Napa Valley, creating a full-bodied yet fresh style of expressive zinfandel that Joel embraces, allowing the damson, blueberry and blackberry fruit to sing. Drink now to 2033. 14%

Ref: US11631 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

1936: The First Six Appellations in France are Created

Though it's often stated that Châteauneuf-du-Pape was the first appellation in France, this is only part of the story.

In fact, in 1925, the first ever AOC was created by Institut National des Appellations d'Origine (later called the Institut National de l'Origine et de la Qualité [INAO]) to protect... Roquefort Cheese. But moves were already being made to protect wine regions from fraud, especially in Châteauneuf-du-Pape where a syndicat had been formed and, in 1919, laws to geographically protect the production zone had been introduced. But this wasn't enough, and the loose law was still being exploited by fraudsters.

Enter Baron le Roy, lawyer and winegrower, who strove to get stronger legislation in place to protect quality wines of his region. This time, not only was the geographical limitation stipulated, but also the parameters, such as varieties and winemaking, paving the way for the appellation system as we understand it today.

Finally, on 15th May 1936, the French President approved six wine regions for the first ever legislation. The AOCs of Cassis, Tavel, Arbois, Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Monbazillac and Cognac were all simultaneously decreed and continue to produce top-quality wines that we are proud to sell today.

44. Cassis, Clos Val Bruyère, Château Barbanau 2022 W 1

Above the Mediterranean, amidst the towering limestone Calanques, is where Provence's most exciting whites are made. This is bone-dry, characterful, savoury and perfect with all manner of seafood. Drink now to 2026. 12.5%

Ref: FC45091 £16 bottle | £192 dozen

45. Tavel Cuvée Prima Donna Rosé, Domaine Maby 2022 P 2

Tavel is always a deep-pink, full-bodied Rhône rosé, inevitably designed to accompany food, and especially Mediterranean-style dishes. It copes well with heat and spice and is stunning with ratatouille. Drink now to 2026. 14.5%

Ref: RH67761 £14.50 bottle | £174 dozen

46. Arbois Rouge, Trousseau, Singulier, Domaine Tissot, 2020 R C

This unusual, very pale Jura red has a long and persistent flavour with hints of ripe cherry and strawberry, plus pure, clean lines and creamy, well-balanced tannins. Perfect with poultry, pork or cheese and utterly gorgeous in 2020. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: JU1861 £35 bottle | £420 dozen

47. The Society's Exhibition Châteauneuf-du-Pape 2021 R D

Dark and fruity Châteauneuf-du-Pape from the Mayard family, refined and richly textured with a flavour of ripe fruit and gentle spice, with hints of fig and bay leaf. This is perfectly rounded and ready to drink but will mature beautifully if you can resist it. Drink now to 2031. 14%

Ref: RH67721 £24 bottle | £288 dozen

48. Monbazillac, Château Pech La Calevie 2021 W 8

This is a glorious, succulent and peachy nectar from the Dordogne, made in the style of a Sauternes. Although fully sweet, it retains great delicacy and freshness. Drink now to 2027. 12.5%

Ref: FC45981 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

49. The Society's Cognac VSOP U

Made exclusively for The Wine Society our Cognac is produced by family-run, independent distiller Château d'Orignac, where grapes have been grown for over 800 years. This Cognac is far older than the required four years of ageing in oak for a VSOP. Cedar, fruitcake and walnuts linger on the palate, perfect for rounding off dinner in style. 40%

Ref: BY381 £29 bottle | £348 dozen

1955: Bag-in-Box Invented in Australia

In 1955, after the invention of aseptic containers to carry liquid (mostly battery acid!) Thomas Angove, a winemaker in South Australia spotted its potential for the wine industry. He put the so-called 'goon' bags into cardboard containers to allow them to serve wine.

However, their inconvenient service mechanism whereby drinkers had to cut off a corner of the bag, pour and then re-seal it with a peg, meant that they didn't immediately catch on. In 1967, merchant Dan Murphy and inventor Charles Malpas developed a tap to allow wine to be served like a traditional wine cask which was adopted by Penfolds. And the rest, is history.

While the popularity of BiBs undoubtedly waned, and an image as vessels for 'cheap' or 'poor quality' wines grew; a new resurgence of Bag-in-Box is taking the modern world by storm. Now considered a sustainable and convenient packaging option, and with technology to support premium and quality wines being served this way, more and more people (including The Wine Society) are committing to this excellent format.

50. The Society's English White 2023 Bag-in-Box (2.25 litres) W 2

2023 was a record breaking harvest for the UK and we're thrilled with our own-label English white produced by Three Choirs in Gloucestershire. We aim for consistency year-on-year to give gentle aromatics of white flowers, hedgerow and gooseberry with a light, delicate palate that's ideal with spring salads or aperitif. Drinking now. 11%

Ref: EN2198 £29 bag

51. The Society's White Burgundy 2022 Bag-in-Box (2.25 litres) W 2

A fine, dry white wine of great delicacy from the Mâconnais in southern Burgundy, the warmest part of the region. The wine is ripe and round, with flavours of toasted hazelnut, apple and stone fruit, a hint of citrus and a lovely streak of minerality. The quality of the wine reflects the deep involvement in its selection by successive buyers and the skill of our man on the ground, Jean-Marc Darbon, who excels in sourcing the right blending options for us to work with. The fierce zander (sandre in French), also known as the pikeperch, thrives in the rivers of Burgundy and is shown on this wine's new label. Don't hesitate to try it and enjoy it for up to six weeks after opening. Drink within one year. 12.5%

Ref: BU85508 £35 bag

52. The Society's French Pinot Noir 2023 Bag-in-Box (2.25 litres) R ?

A pinot to delight the senses: fresh, round and fruity with a hint of cherry and plenty of charm. Best drunk a little cool. Much of it is sourced from around Limoux which works well in years of heatwaves. In this format it is the ideal wine for get-togethers, particularly as warmer weather arrives. Drinking now. 13%

Ref: FC46868 £23 bag

53. Clay Creek Vineyards California Pinot Noir 2022 Bag-in-Box (2 litres) R C

This is a lovely, fruit-forward, simple and pure pinot from California. With grapes sourced from the cooler delta AVA of Clarksburg it has a cherry-scented, vibrant crisp style in this handy 2-litre bag-in-box format, ideal for an anyday glass and for entertaining. Enjoy it for up to six weeks after opening. Drink within one year. 13.5%

Ref: US11398 £25 bag

Making Moves Outside Mainland Europe

While 1924 to 1974 could be considered a significant era for many of the classic regions of Europe, there were also notable changes happening in the wider world of wine.

The first glimmers of the English wine industry as we know it were starting to shine. One of the true guiding lights of the early movement was Peter Hall of Breaky Bottom, who planted his vineyards in the Sussex Downs in 1974 – a bold move in those days! He continues to produce excellent wines, such as his Cuvée John Agard at **wine 54**.

Though we think of it as an established wine region, the first vineyards of the Marlborough Valley in New Zealand were planted on 24th August 1973. Since then, sauvignon blanc from Marlborough (such as **wine 55**) has become one of the most recognised wines of the world.

In the same year, 1973, South Africa established its WO (Wines of Origin) system, delineating the different wine regions in the country. **Wine 56** is from the Swartland, one of the most up-and-coming WOs of South Africa.

In Chile, decades of lesser-quality winemaking had marred the industry. But in 1973, when dictator Augusto Pinochet took over, foreign investors were encouraged, stimulating the start of the quality revolution in the country. **Wine 57** from historic producers Concha y Toro is a great example of a top-drawer, single-variety wine that the country has become famous for.

Though Australia is one of the world's oldest wine producing countries, one of its most famous and premium regions was only established in 1967, when Dr Tom Cullity planted the first modern commercial vineyard at Vasse Felix. Today, Margaret River is considered one of the finest wine growing regions in the world for chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon and **wine 58** is a great cabernet from the pioneers themselves.

During the 1920s, Argentina was the eighth richest country in the world and that fed into a booming wine industry. The global Great Depression led to a decline, but the presidency of Juan Perón in the 40s and 50s saw a brief bounce back and over 120,000 acres were planted in the country – more than are found today. Malbec was, and still is, the country's biggest volume red grape and **wine 59** is our own-label example.

Finally, **wine 60** (our Canadian sweet wine) represents a considerable change in wine tastes, and therefore styles, during this period. While wines have been produced in Canada for over two centuries, modern dry styles gained popularity as preferences changed in the 1960s. This sweet wine demonstrates a wine that has fallen out of favour but still represents outstanding quality and amazing technical know-how to produce.

54. Cuvée John Agard, Breaky Bottom 2017

S **1**

Named after Peter's good friend and famed poet and playwright, John Agard, who settled in England from Guyana in 1977, this is English sparkling wine is a classic blend with 65% chardonnay at its core providing good richness on the nose with baked-bread and toasted-citrus notes. The palate is tight and elegant and will reward patience. Drink now to 2030. 12%

Ref: SG4141 £33 bottle | £396 dozen

55. The Society's Exhibition Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2023

W **1**

Elegant, mineral, citrusy and crisp sauvignon which is a nod in style to the classic sauvignons of France, rather than the more opulent Marlborough stereotype. This is pretty on the nose, with crisp apple and elderflower notes. The palate is focused, infinitely refreshing and shows bright lemon and gooseberry. Drink now to 2025. 12.5%

Ref: NZ14581 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

56. Van Loggerenberg 'Kamaraderie' Chenin Blanc, Swartland 2022

W **2**

From vines planted in 1966, this is quintessential Swartland chenin with an intense, linear palate showing lime and green-apple fruit, firm acidity and a structured palate. Best enjoyed after a few more years in bottle this South African white will open up in a decanter if drunk now. Drink now to 2028. 12.5%

Ref: SA21051 £34 bottle | £408 dozen

57. The Society's Exhibition Limarí Pinot Noir 2022 Ⓡ Ⓢ

Pretty and aromatic red and black-fruit pinot noir from Chile, with ripe tannins and silky palate after about a year in barrel. Made from two of the best vineyards owned by Concha in the cool Limarí Valley, Quebrada Seca and San Julian. Drink now to 2027. 14%

Ref: CE12601 £17.50 bottle | £210 dozen

58. The Society's Exhibition Margaret River Cabernet Sauvignon 2021 Ⓡ Ⓢ

Margaret River is home to some of the world's finest cabernet sauvignon so it's been a pleasure to work with Vasse Felix, the founding winery of the region, to produce this example exclusively for Wine Society members. The nose is wonderfully inviting, silky and black-fruit driven, while the palate is full-bodied, pristine and elegant. Drink now to 2027. 14%

Ref: AU25521 £17 bottle | £204 dozen

59. The Society's Exhibition Mendoza Malbec 2021 Ⓡ Ⓢ

2021 was a cool and dry year in Argentina, producing concentrated and aromatic wines. This blend comprises malbecs from Eugenio Bustos (50%), Agrelo (40%) and Gualtallary (10%). This wine combines an aromatic, floral nose with a ripe-yet-fresh and concentrated palate rounded out by 15 months' oak maturation. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: AR4801 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

60. Half bottle of Vidal Ice Wine Signature Series, Peller Estates 2018 Ⓢ 9

Peller are a leading producer of ice wine, and this Canadian gem is worth seeking out. Fully sweet, with pure fruit flavours, it's an absolute treat with anything sweet or a cheese plate. Icewine is a rare dessert wine produced from the juice of naturally frozen grapes that have been left on the vine well into winter when temperatures drop to as low as -10°C. Once picked the grapes are pressed while still frozen, producing tiny quantities of intensely sweet juice. Peller Estates are based in the heart of Ontario's Niagara Peninsula and champion vidal, Canada's principal icewine grape. Their Signature Series is fermented at low temperatures and aged in stainless steel to preserve pure fruit expression. Drink now to 2026. 11%

Ref: CA232 £39 half bottle | £468 dozen half bottles

How to Taste

Tasting wine like a professional is a skill that anyone can learn. While it sounds daunting, the building blocks are straightforward and can be applied to any wine. It's a great skill to have to better discover what styles of wine you like.

The basic mechanics of tasting:

It's important to appreciate the aromas of the wine. Some wines have interesting character and texture in the mouth, but many have alluring fragrances, and this is usually our first 'experience' of the wine. This is a two-part process and very simple:

- 1 Swirl the wine in the glass to better release these aromas (you can try this free hand, but to practice the motion it's much easier to do this on the table holding the base of the glass and making a circular movement.)
- 2 Take a long, slow smell of the wine, ensuring that your nose is right inside the glass (don't be afraid to have the rim of the glass touching your face!)

Do you like the aroma? Can you detect any smells that you recognise? Have a look at the aroma wheels for some inspiration.

Next comes the tasting part. This might take a little more practice and we recommend practicing with a white wine first!

- 1 Take a sip of the wine (not too much)
- 2 Swirl the wine gently around the mouth to coat it like mouthwash (this will engage all the receptors in the mouth)
- 3 If you can, leave the wine resting on your tongue whilst slowly taking air in through your mouth. You can try keeping your teeth closed or pursing your lips if you're worried you might dribble. (This technique serves to engage your olfactory system and allows your sense of smell to play a part in what you can taste.)
- 4 As you complete steps 2 and 3, think about what flavours you are tasting and explore some of the components of the wine such as acidity, sweetness, tannins and alcohol that we will guide you through below.
- 5 Finally, you can swallow the wine.

First pair – Deciphering body and understanding acidity

Body could also be described as the viscosity of a wine. Lots of elements contribute to the overall body of a wine, but perhaps the most prevalent are the tannins (see third pairing), acidity, sugar content and alcohol levels. A great analogy is thinking about it like milk – skimmed, semi-skimmed or full fat. You shouldn't be considering the flavour when you're talking about body (light-bodied wines can still be very flavourful) but instead how weighty it feels in the mouth.

Try a little of wine 61, a light-bodied riesling, and then try the more full-bodied viognier, wine 62, which combines both higher levels of alcohol and an oily viscosity.

Another element at play is the natural acidity of both of these varieties. Riesling, wine 60, has a naturally high level of acidity so you will find that your mouth waters, whereas the lower acidity levels of viognier, wine 61, means that there will be less salivation. It's worth noting that acidity is a physical sensation and not a flavour – so simply because a wine tastes of lemon, it is not necessarily high in acid.

61. Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022



A clean and uncomplicated dry riesling from a top Mosel estate. This has lovely citrus fruit with a touch of steeliness and uplifting salinity, with charm and a touch of finesse.

Drink now to 2028. 11%

Ref: G16341 £11.95 bottle | £143 dozen

62. Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022



Viognier makes a very distinctive style of wine that is full-bodied and rich yet, exuberantly fruity with flavours of peach or apricot. Luscious yet dry, this Rhône white is a good foil for shellfish, scallops or pâté. Drink this year and next. 14%

Ref: RH68291 £11.50 bottle | £138 dozen

Second trio – Comparing sweetness

When a wine is described as ‘dry’ it doesn’t mean that it leaves a drying sensation (although more on that later), it is describing a wine with little or no discernible sweetness. The sweetness of wine most often comes from natural sugars left during the winemaking process whether that is from using very ripe (and therefore sugary) grapes, grapes that have been dehydrated in some way, or by the fermentation process not converting all the sugars to alcohol.

With many methods and techniques resulting in a huge range of sweetness levels and styles, detecting the presence, and eventually the amount of sugar in a wine can be an asset. Though people perceive sweetness in flavours (for example, a very fruity wine) it’s only really through practice and, importantly, comparison that you can master the art of detecting sweetness. Here, wines 63, 64 and 65 are all made using the same grape – chenin blanc – but are wildly different styles and sweetness levels. Wine 63 is dry i.e. has little or no detectable sweetness. Wine 64 is a ‘demi-sec’ i.e. a half dry and has around 15-20g/l of residual sugar, so enough for us as humans to register. And, finally, wine 65 has 160g/l, making it much sweeter than the others but certainly not one of the sweetest wines in the world.

Taste the three side-by-side to calibrate your palate in determining sweetness.

63. Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 W 2

Alex Cady is a talented young grower skilled at coaxing the best out of the Loire’s chenin blanc grape. His estate Anjou blanc is a refined dry white with crunchy stone fruit and texture underpinned by invigorating freshness on the palate. Drink this year and next. 12%

Ref: LO18661 £11.50 bottle | £138 dozen

64. Montlouis-sur-Loire ‘Les Tuffeaux’, François Chidaine 2019 W 4

From one of the stars of this increasingly dynamic appellation and produced from old vines, this is a ripe and concentrated Loire chenin to serve with fine fish and white meat dishes as it evolves. It even works with spicy dishes while the wine is still young and shows a little sweetness. Drink now to 2031. 13.5%

Ref: LO17941 £26.50 bottle | £318 dozen

65. Half bottle of The Liberator ‘The Francophile’ Natural Sweet Chenin Blanc, Paarl 2018 W 8

Light and delicious South African dessert chenin with 160 grams of residual sugar, hints of citrus and pineapple and a pure, long finish. Drink now to 2029. 11.5%

Ref: SA18412 £8.75 half bottle | £105 dozen

Pair three – Experiencing tannins

Tannins are found in the skins of grapes and, due to the way that red wines are made in contact with their skins, they are far more likely to have tannin than white wines. However, not all tannins are born equal – the level and the nature of the tannins vary with each grape variety and the way that the winemaker manipulates the juice during winemaking as well as the time and vessel its aged in will all have an impact.

The fundamental thing to determine is the level of tannin, which you can assess by considering how drying the sensation is in your mouth (teeth, gums, sometimes tongue). Does a wine have low level, medium level or high levels? 66 is an example of a low level and 67 a high level, so they’re a great pair to compare. After you’ve mastered that, consider the texture – are the tannins chalky, silky, rough, smooth?

66. Pinot Noir, Ostoros 2022 R B

Top-value Hungarian red that has surprised and delighted members since we introduced it several vintages ago. Expect lashings of juicy red-berry and bramble aromas and an effortlessly enjoyable glass of wine. Drink over the next year. 12%

Ref: HU2031 £7.25 bottle | £87 dozen

67. Madiran Ode d’Aydie 2019 R D

From the south-west of France comes this second wine from one of Madiran’s top estates, made using 100% tannat grapes and aged in oak barrel for just over a year. The style is true Madiran with plenty of grip and bold, dark flavours that make a perfect match with roast beef. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: FC47401 £13.95 bottle | £167 dozen

How Wines Age

At The Wine Society we pride ourselves on cellaring wines and only releasing them to our members when our buyers believe that they are ready to drink. Of course, many wines will last long periods of time after release and whether you prefer more youthful or older styles is simply a matter of preference.

There is no simple answer to 'how wines age' and there are so many factors at play including the grape variety or varieties used, the growing conditions that year, the winemaking, the style of wine, the ageing vessel and how the wine is packaged including the closure, size and material.

Remember, not all wines even suit lengthy ageing, but those that do can reveal exciting complexities when enjoyed at the right moment. We're delighted to present multiple vintages of three classic wines to demonstrate how these particular wines age.

68. Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019

W 2

Ample, rich, yet not top-heavy Meursault from a leading cru, courtesy of Nicolas Potel's excellent négociant business and the concentrated 2019 vintage. A delight. Drink now to 2028. 13.5%

Ref: BU76861 £78 bottle | £936 dozen

69. Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2016

W 2

Rich, ripe Meursault which nevertheless has a fresh finish, from Nicolas Potel's Burgundy négociants. A good vintage but in small supply. Drink now to 2027. 12.5%

For tasting only

70. Muga Reserva Rioja 2019

R D

An exceptional vintage of this concentrated and stylish Rioja reserva from the talented Muga family. Full-bodied, velvety and long with ripe dark-fruit flavour and oak enhancing spice. Drink now to 2032. 14.5%

For tasting only

71. Muga Reserva Rioja 2005

R B

Jorge Muga has made a beautifully refined reserva in 2005 which is a showcase for the elegant style of this delicious vintage. This is a classic Rioja blend of tempranillo (70%), garnacha (20%) with mazuelo and graciano. The 2005 saw six months in traditional Riojan oak vats then 24 months in small oak barrels followed by 12 months in bottle. Drink over the next year. 13.5%

For tasting only

72. Porseleinberg Syrah 2021

R C

A dense and spicy wine in 2019 with an uplifting sprinkling of white pepper over perfumed red fruits, seductive velvety tannins, with remarkable mineral freshness and long savoury finish. Drink now to 2035. 13.5%

Ref: SA21281 £62 bottle | £744 dozen

73. Porseleinberg Syrah 2019

R C

A dense and spicy wine in 2019 with an uplifting sprinkling of white pepper over perfumed red fruits, seductive velvety tannins, with remarkable mineral freshness and long savoury finish. Drink now to 2031. 13.5%

Ref: SA18571 £59 bottle | £708 dozen

74. Porseleinberg Syrah 2017

R D

100% syrah, 100% whole-bunch fermented, and made with a sensitive hand in the cellar to produce a fine and fragrant, peppery expression of the grape. The 2017 shows roasted coffee and spice notes and great density, but with the finest of tannins and great length. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: SA16191 £59 bottle | £708 dozen

Test Yourself: Blind Tasting Table

Using some of the tips you have learnt at this tasting as well as any past wine tasting experience, why not try your hand at blind tasting the wines we have on offer.

Can you guess the grape variety or varieties and the country wines 75 - 80 are from? Why not try guessing the price too?

Hints:

Wine 75: Though the still wines from this region have been around since the times of Pliny the Elder, it wasn't until 1961 that the first sparkling wines were produced by oenologist Franco Ziliani. So impressive were the wines, that DOC status was granted in 1967.

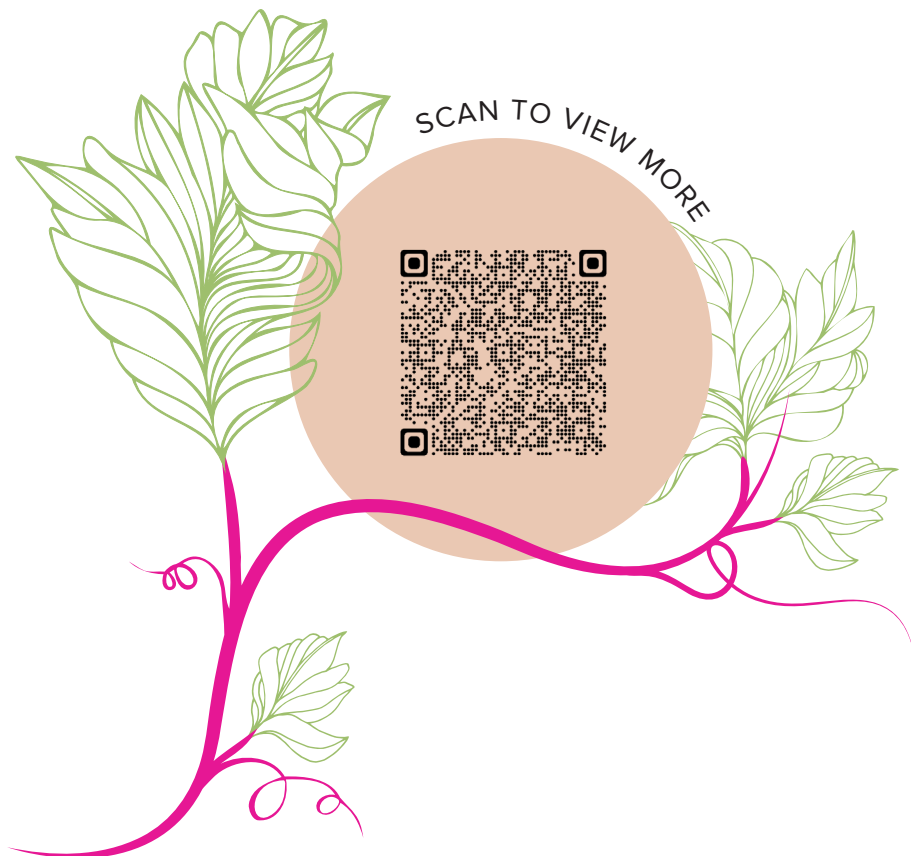
Wine 76: This house was established in 1916 and enjoyed decades of success from 1924 to 1974 being drunk across some of the finest restaurants in Paris. It's made using the same production method as 75 but from another country.

Wine 77: This wine is made exclusively from a single grape variety which, although historic, has enjoyed international success in every continent. This version is from one of the more celebrated growing regions and considered a 'classic'. It is from an appellation d'origine contrôlée (AOC) that was designated in 1937.

Wine 78: The modern name for this grape variety wasn't officially standardised until the 1930s. Before then it was known locally as Weißgipfler. Until then, it was simply a local homogenous grape. However, after the introduction of the Hochkultur vine training system, its quality was realised – exploding from the 1950s onwards to become the country's most planted variety.

Wine 79: The talented winemaker of wine 79 (Decanter's Rising Star Winemaker of 2022) is based in the northern part of Greece, in a region that received its PDO in 1971. This is produced from a single indigenous variety, made using young vines to give an affordable and drinkable introduction to the style.

Wine 80: Though this winery was established in the 1880s, it wasn't until the 1950s that the modern image of well-made varietal wines was truly established thanks to the involvement of the Guilisasti family. The single French variety, from which the wine is made, is now the most important of the entire country and makes particularly high-quality wines in this region.



Scan the QR code above to discover more about our exciting 150th Anniversary celebrations, including our biggest ever programme of tastings and events, exclusive wines, giveaways and competitions.

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To order any of these wines please call **01438 741177** and quote the appropriate reference number

Key **T** - **D** Bone dry to intensely sweet **A** - **D** Very light to full/very full

R Red **W** White **P** Rosé **S** Sparkling **F** Fortified **A** Spirit **S** Screwcap **P** Synthetic

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