



— THE —
WINE
SOCIETY
— 1874 —

150 YEARS

THE WINE SOCIETY'S
EXHIBITION WALKAROUND

LONDON, JANUARY 2024

Not yet a member?

Scan this code to join today

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?**



Introduction

We're thrilled that you have joined us to celebrate The Wine Society's 150th anniversary with the first 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 first 50 years of The Wine Society but also to contextualise the inception of The Society during the years 1874 to 1924 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 28 celebrate the collection of wines that our buyers created to represent the era of 1874 to 1924. 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 29 to 42, we're excited to show you a sneak preview of our second limited-edition range of wines launching in March this year. 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. These special Anniversary wines will only be available to buy from March onwards, but we are also showing some other wines from these producers which are available for sale now.

From 43 to 59, members can enjoy our themed tables which put the world of wine in context during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. You can explore wine styles made popular on sea voyages, learn about the Champagne riots of 1910 and 1911, taste wines that tell the story of the phylloxera crisis during this period and wines from producers even older than we are.

And finally, 60 to 80 are all designed to help you get more enjoyment from your wine. The tables demonstrate how to taste, how wines age and give members an opportunity to test themselves with some blind tastings.

What's more, our masterclasses on the history of Portugal with Jo Locke MW; riesling with top producer Bürklin-Wolf, Marcel Orford-Williams and Sebastian Payne MW; and old vines with Sarah Abbot MW are the cherries on the cake. 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 **TSTL26701**

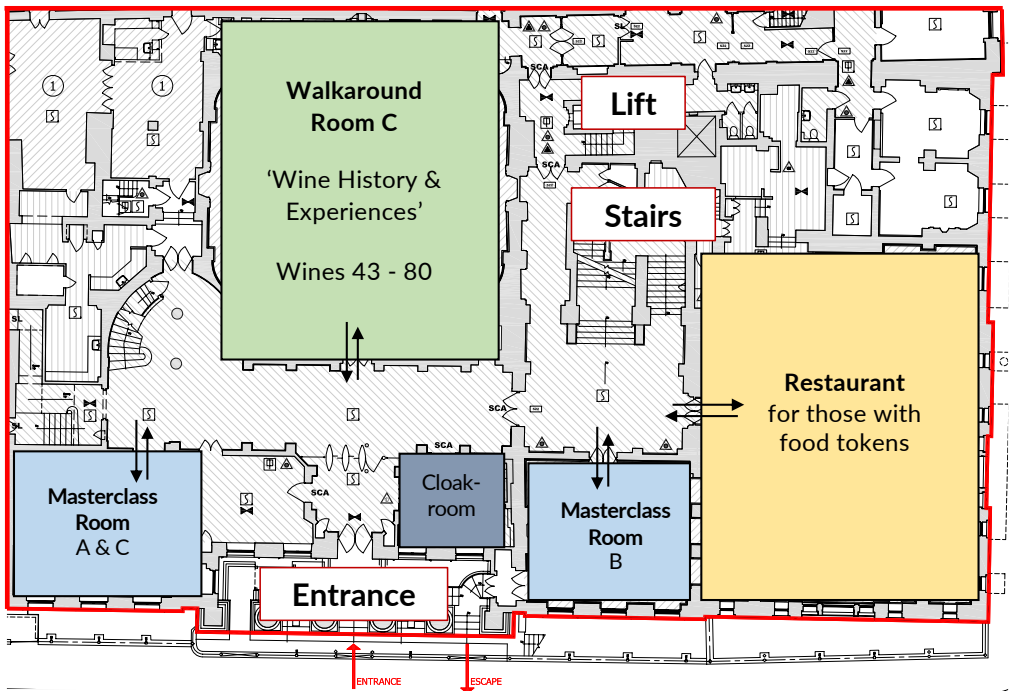
Discount runs to 1st February but order early to avoid disappointment.

Ground Floor

Masterclass Rooms

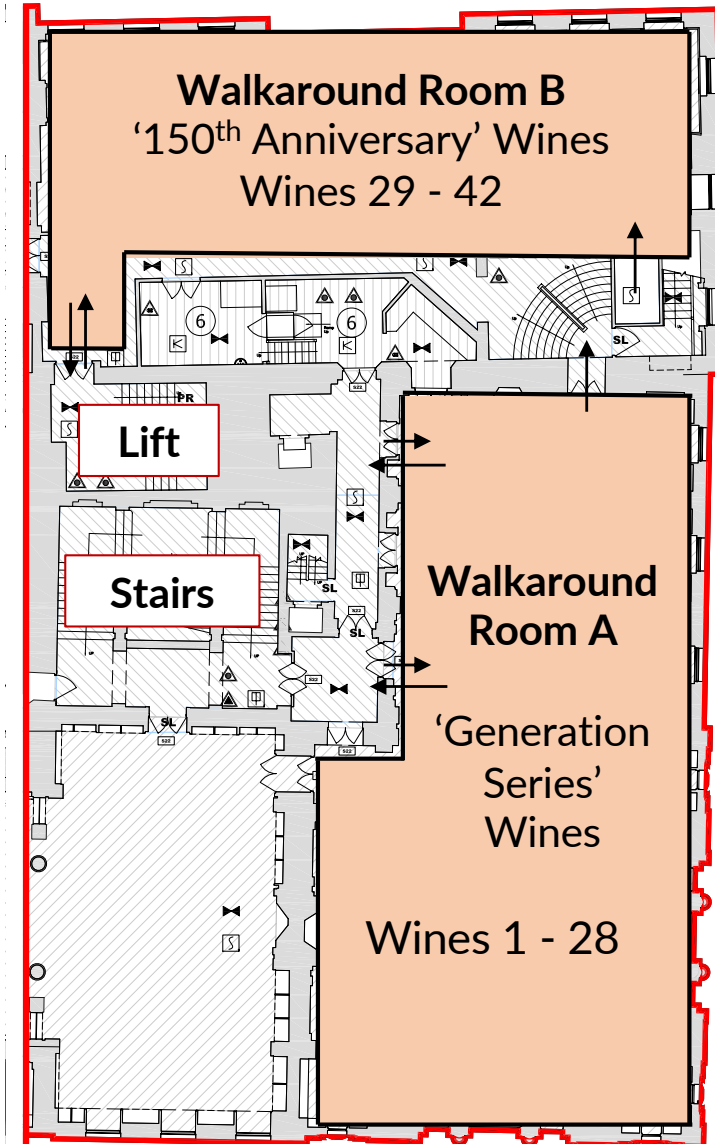
Walkaround Room C (wines 43 – 80)

Restaurant (for pre-paid food token holders)



First Floor

Walkaround Room A (wines 1 – 28)
Walkaround Room B (wines 29 – 42)



Wine List

Walkaround Room A: Generation Range Wines (Wines 1 – 28)

- *1 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Bucelas 2022**
- 2 Casa Ferreirinha Vinha Grande Tinto, Douro 2020
- 3 Niepoort Conciso Branco, Dão Organic 2021
- *4 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Portuguese Red 2021**
- 5 Niepoort Dry White Port
- *6 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Crémant de Loire 2020**
- 7 The Society's Celebration Crémant de Loire 2020
- 8 The Society's Champagne Brut NV
- 9 Domaine de l'Arfentière Mâcon Blanc 2022
- *10 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Mâcon-Villages**
- *11 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Régnié 2022**
- *12 **The Society's 150th Anniversary Moulin-à-Vent 2019**
- *13 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Wachenheimer Riesling 2021**
- 14 Weissburgunder Trocken, Bürklin-Wolf 2022
- 15 Bürklin-Wolf, Hommage á Luise, Riesling 2022
- *16 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Haut-Médoc 2019**
- 17 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2020
- 18 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2016
- *19 **The Society's White Rioja 2021**
- *20 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Rioja, 2020**
- 21 Hacienda López de Haro Classica Gran Reserva, Rioja 2005
- 22 Verdeca, San Moro Puglia 2023
- *23 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Primitivo di Manduria 2022**
- 24 Primitivo di Manduria Riserva San Moro 2020
- 25 Alegria Manzanilla
- *26 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Medium-Sweet Oloroso half bottle**
- *27 **The Wine Society's Generation Series Reserve Port**
- 28 Quinta do Vale Meão Vintage Port 2017

Walkaround Room B: Anniversary Range Wines (Wines 29 – 42)

- *29 **The Society's 150th Anniversary Kamptal Grüner Veltliner 2019**
- 30 Schloss Gobelsburg Grüner Veltliner, Ried Lamm 1ÖTW 2020
- 31 Schloss Gobelsburg Riesling, Ried Heiligenstein 1ÖTW 2020
- *32 **The Society's 150th Anniversary Santa Barbara Chardonnay 2020**
- 33 Au Bon Climat Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir 2020
- *34 **Magnum of The Society's 150th Anniversary Mendoza Malbec 2007**
- 35 Weinert Carrascal Malbec 2020
- 37 The Society's 150th Anniversary Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2016
- *36 **Château Ampélia, Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2018**
- 38 Château Grand Corbin-Despaigne Saint-Emilion 2016
- *39 **The Society's 150th Anniversary Stellenbosch Cabernet 2015**
- 40 The Society's Exhibition Pinotage Stellenbosch 2020
- *41 **The Society's 150th Anniversary Barossa Valley Shiraz 2018**
- 42 Yalumba 'The Signature' Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz 2018

Walkaround Room C: Wine History and Appreciation (Wines 43 – 80)

- 43 Du Toitskloof Hanepoot Jerepigo, Western Cape 2021 50cl
- 44 Henriques & Henriques Verdelho, 5 Years Old
- 45 The Society's Cognac VSOP
- 46 Champagne Deutz Classic Brut NV
- 47 Guy Mea L'Assemblage Premier Cru Extra Brut NV
- 48 Champagne Christophe Brut Tradition NV
- 49 Magnum of Rustenberg Chardonnay, Stellenbosch 2021
- 50 Muscat Réserve, Trimbach 2020
- 51 CVNE Monopole Classico Blanco, Rioja 2019
- 52 Chinon 'Le Logis de la Bouchardière Les Clos', Domaine Sourdais 2020
- 53 Bleasdale Bremerview Langhorne Creek Shiraz 2020
- 54 Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore Capitel San Rocco, Tedeschi 2020
- 55 Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie, Comte Leloup du Château de Chasseloir, Cuvée des Ceps Centenaires, Chéreau-Carré 2018
- 56 Saint Mont Les Vignes Retrouvées 2021
- 57 Manseng Noir, Plaimont, 2022
- 58 Undurraga TH Maule Garnacha-Cariñena-Monastrell 2020
- 59 Brazil Lodi Old-Vine Zinfandel 2020
- 60 Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022
- 61 Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022
- 62 Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 ORGANIC
- 63 Montlouis-sur-Loire 'Les Tuffeaux', François Chidaine 2019
- 64 Half bottle of The Liberator 'The Francophile' Natural Sweet Chenin Blanc, Paarl 2018
- 65 Pinot Noir, Ostoros 2022
- 66 Madiran Ode d'Aydie 2018
- 67 Chianti, Poggiotondo 2021
- 68 Rosso di Montalcino, Canalicchio di Sopra 2021
- 69 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019
- 70 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2016
- 71 Muga Reserva Rioja 2019
- 72 Muga Reserva Rioja 2005
- 73 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2012
- 74 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2011
- 75 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2006
- 76 Blind wine (white)
- 77 Blind wine (white)
- 78 Blind wine (red)
- 79 Blind wine (red)
- 80 Blind wine (red)

Wines by Style

Sparkling

***6 The Wine Society's Generation Series Crémant de Loire 2020**

7 The Society's Celebration Crémant de Loire 2020

8 The Society's Champagne Brut NV

46 Champagne Deutz Classic Brut NV

47 Guy Mea L'Assemblage Premier Cru Extra Brut NV

48 Champagne Christophe Brut Tradition NV

White Dry and Off-Dry

***1 The Wine Society's Generation Series Bucelas 2022**

3 Niepoort Conciso Branco, Dão Organic 2021

9 Domaine de l'Arfentière Mâcon Blanc 2022

***10 The Wine Society's Generation Series Mâcon-Villages**

***13 The Wine Society's Generation Series Wachenheimer Riesling 2021**

14 Weissburgunder Trocken, Bürklin-Wolf 2022

15 Bürklin-Wolf, Hommage á Luise, Riesling 2022

***19 The Society's White Rioja 2021**

22 Verdeca, San Moro Puglia 2023

***29 The Society's 150th Anniversary Kamptal Grüner Veltliner 2019**

30 Schloss Gobelsburg Grüner Veltliner, Ried Lamm 1ÖTW 2020

31 Schloss Gobelsburg Riesling, Ried Heiligenstein 1ÖTW 2020

***32 The Society's 150th Anniversary Santa Barbara Chardonnay 2020**

49 Magnum of Rustenberg Chardonnay, Stellenbosch 2021

50 Muscat Réserve, Trimbach 2020

51 CVNE Monopole Classico Blanco, Rioja 2019

55 Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie, Comte Leloup du Château de Chasseloir, Cuvée des Ceps Centenaires, Chéreau-Carré 2018

56 Saint Mont Les Vignes Retrouvées 2021

60 Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022

61 Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022

62 Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 ORGANIC

63 Montlouis-sur-Loire 'Les Tuffeaux', François Chidaine 2019

69 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2019

70 Maison Roche de Bellene, Meursault Premier Cru Les Charmes 2016

76 Blind wine (white)

77 Blind wine (white)

Red

2 Casa Ferreirinha Vinha Grande Tinto, Douro 2020

***4 The Wine Society's Generation Series Portuguese Red 2021**

***11 The Wine Society's Generation Series Régnié 2022**

***12 The Society's 150th Anniversary Moulin-à-Vent 2019**

***16 The Wine Society's Generation Series Haut-Médoc 2019**

17 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2020

- 18 Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2016
- *20 The Wine Society's Generation Series Rioja, 2020**
- 21 Hacienda López de Haro Classica Gran Reserva, Rioja 2005
- *23 The Wine Society's Generation Series Primitivo di Manduria 2022**
- 24 Primitivo di Manduria Riserva San Moro 2020
- 33 Au Bon Climat Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir 2020
- *34 Magnum of The Society's 150th Anniversary Mendoza Malbec 2007**
- 35 Weinert Carrascal Malbec 2020
- 36 The Society's 150th Anniversary Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2016
- *37 Château Ampélia, Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2018**
- 38 Château Grand Corbin-Despaigne Saint-Emilion 2016
- *39 The Society's 150th Anniversary Stellenbosch Cabernet 2015**
- 40 The Society's Exhibition Pinotage Stellenbosch 2020
- *41 The Society's 150th Anniversary Barossa Valley Shiraz 2018**
- 42 Yalumba 'The Signature' Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz 2018
- 52 Chinon 'Le Logis de la Bouchardière Les Clos', Domaine Sourdis 2020
- 53 Bleasdale Bremerview Langhorne Creek Shiraz 2020
- 54 Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore Capitel San Rocco, Tedeschi 2020
- 57 Manseng Noir, Plaimont, 2022
- 58 Undurruga TH Maule Garnacha-Cariñena-Monastrell 2020
- 59 Brazil Lodi Old-Vine Zinfandel 2020
- 65 Pinot Noir, Ostoros 2022
- 66 Madiran Ode d'Aydie 2018
- 67 Chianti, Poggiotondo 2021
- 68 Rosso di Montalcino, Canalicchio di Sopra 2021
- 71 Muga Reserva Rioja 2019
- 72 Muga Reserva Rioja 2005
- 73 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2012
- 74 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2011
- 75 Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2006
- 78 Blind wine (red)
- 79 Blind wine (red)
- 80 Blind wine (red)

Sweet and Fortified

- 5 Niepoort Dry White Port
- 25 Alegria Manzanilla
- *26 The Wine Society's Generation Series Medium-Sweet Oloroso half bottle**
- *27 The Wine Society's Generation Series Reserve Port**
- 28 Quinta do Vale Meão Vintage Port 2017
- 43 Du Toitskloof Hanepoot Jerepigo, Western Cape 2021 50cl
- 44 Henriques & Henriques Verdelho, 5 Years Old
- 64 Half bottle of The Liberator 'The Francophile' Natural Sweet Chenin Blanc, Paarl 2018

Spirits

- 45 The Society's Cognac VSOP

**Limited edition* 150

Generation Series Wines and Their Producers

Generation Series Bucelas: The Story

Bucelas DOC, a tiny region close to Lisbon, is the first style of wine The Society ever sold! The story goes that a group of Portuguese growers had gone to great efforts to ship their wines to the International Exhibition held at The Royal Albert Hall in the summer of 1874. Unfortunately, the organisation of the event was not up to scratch and these wines lay undiscovered in the basement.

To avoid a diplomatic incident our founders, Royal Albert Hall architect, Major-General Henry Scott and R. Brudenell Carter, a renowned ophthalmic surgeon, were engaged to host a series of lunches to promote these wines amongst their peers. So popular were these lunches, that they formed our Society, with the mission 'to introduce foreign wines hitherto unknown'.

According to one-time Chairman Edmund Penning-Rowsell's history of The Wine Society, Bucelas was 'Popular in Victorian times, as decanter labels demonstrate, but scarcely known today. This is a medium dry white wine, otherwise called Portuguese Hock. It was sold at 1s. 7d. a bottle'. Prior to that it may even have been a fortified wine, to help preserve it for shipment to England.

Sogrape Vinhos

Attending: Liberty Wines

The wines of Bucelas have been loved by the British since Wellington's time and continue to be popular with our members today. Our buyer for Portugal, Jo Locke MW, worked with the Sogrape Group to produce our limited-edition Bucelas for the Generation series, relying on their expertise of the region to produce something refreshing and interesting for our members.

Our Generation Series wine is from Sogrape Vinhos' historic Quinta da Romeira estate, which has been producing wines since 1703. Sogrape have made major investments in the property, bringing in modern techniques and expertise to make the very best of this historic appellation and its fine white grape, arinto, producing still and sparkling wines.

1. The Wine Society's Generation Series Bucelas 2022

150th W 2

Today, Bucelas is a crisp, dry white, a bottled expression of the Atlantic freshness of Portugal's breezy west coast. DOC Bucelas lies just north of Lisbon and the wines are made from the arinto grape variety, appley and lemony in their youth, with a core of minerality and the potential to develop greater complexity with bottle age. The wine is also available in half bottles. Drink this year and next. 13%

Ref: PW10561 £11.95 bottle | £143 dozen

Also available in half bottle Ref: PW10562 £7.25 bottle | £87 dozen

Please note this wine will be available from early February. The tastings discount will extend for one week after the wine is released, using the code Bucelas150Tastings

2. Casa Ferreirinha Vinha Grande Tinto, Douro 2020

R D

Impressive Portuguese red from the Douro, deep in colour, velvety smooth, rich and ripe, its fragrance lifted by a touch of oak sweetness. Drink now to 2028. 14.5%

Ref: PW10151 £13.95 bottle | £167 dozen

Generation Series Portuguese Red: The Story

The Wine Society, under the eyes of Major-General Henry Scott and R. Brudenell Carter, continued to champion the wines of Portugal after their founding.

Our early catalogues give us no indication of the origins of the Portuguese red wines listed simply as 'Full, dry', but it is our supposition that these early reds would have been cross-regional blends, with different elements transported by cask for blending; an exercise in security for the winemaker as much as to ensure the best possible result. For our Generation Series wine, we wanted to recreate this style, eschewing a particular appellation in favour of the integrity of wines of the time.

So here, our Portuguese Red Blend is exactly that, a representation of the styles of wines that may well have been enjoyed by our members at Scott and Carter's wonderful lunches in 1874.

Niepoort

Attending: Daniel Niepoort & Tim French, Halo Wines

Independent family winery Niepoort was conceived in 1842 and is therefore even older than The Wine Society. Five generations of the Niepoort family have since propelled the business to fame. Whilst they continue to be pioneers in the production of Douro table wines, they now also have organically farmed vineyards in Bairrada and Dão regions.

Niepoort was the obvious choice of partner for this wine. They are leaders in Portuguese wine production and known both for their innovative streak and their sheer love of Portugal's indigenous grapes and classic regions. Discussions began with the charismatic, creative and inspirational Dirk Niepoort and the project was brought to fruition by his son Daniel, by blending wine from three regions.

3. Niepoort Conciso Branco, Dão Organic 2021



Elegantly barrel-fermented Dão white with saline freshness accompanying aromas of white flowers, citrus and beeswax, and typically firm backbone of acidity. A sophisticated wine with blossomy charm and mouthwatering acidity. Drink now to 2029. 12%

Ref: PW10701 £27 bottle | £324 dozen

4. The Wine Society's Generation Series Portuguese Red 2021

150th R B

35% of the wine is boga from the Bairrada DOC, from Niepoort's own winery at Quinta de Baixo; 20% is from older-vine mixed plantings in the Portalegre region in north-east Alentejo, close to the border with Spain, made at a rented winery; the balance of 45% is from Niepoort's Quinta da Lomba in the Dão region, also an older-vine field-blend. The resultant blend combines purity and fragrance with inviting silky texture. Serve it on the cooler side, and enjoy it now for its fresh, red-fruit flavour, or cellar to allow more savoury character to develop. Drink now to 2026. 12.5%

Ref: PW10571 £17.50 bottle | £210 dozen

5. Niepoort Dry White Port

F 4

Drier than many, yet with the complexity that comes with traditional foot treading and cellar handling, this makes a delicious glass on its own but is not too proud to make an excellent 'Portonic' (Port with tonic water) as they do in Portugal, and it keeps well in the fridge. 19.5%

Ref: PN221 £17 bottle | £204 dozen

Generation Series Crémant de Loire 2020: The Story

Following the successes of Champagne, sparkling wines from other parts of France (i.e. Crémants) became increasingly popular across Europe in the 19th century.

The Society first discovered the wines of Gratien & Meyer in 1906 when some Saumur was shipped to our cellars in London. The company quickly became our choice for our sparkling wines, and today Gratien & Meyer are still responsible for The Society's Saumur and Saumur Rosé as well as The Society's Celebration Crémant de Loire, all of which are bestsellers.

Gratien & Meyer

Attending: Pierre Charon & Nicolas Jaeger

Gratien & Meyer – a jewel in the Loire Valley's Anjou-Saumur region – was founded by Alfred Gratien in 1864, then aged just 23, and in the same year he established the well-respected Champagne house that is his namesake.

The 'Meyer' refers to Albert Jean Meyer, an enthusiastic wine expert from Alsace with whom Gratien joined forces ten years later in 1874. When Alfred died in 1885, the Meyer family was entrusted with the company and has continued to uphold its excellent traditions.

Given the importance of this relationship, not to mention the fact that they are our longest-standing supplier, producing a limited-edition Crémant de Loire with Gratien & Meyer was a no brainer.

6. The Wine Society's Generation Series Crémant de Loire 2020

150th S 2

From Gratien & Meyer's own Saumur vineyards, this is a classic blend based on the chenin blanc grape variety, with cabernet franc, and a little chardonnay and grolleau. It displays chenin and cabernet's freshness and minerality, its aromas enhanced by a hint of red fruits from the grolleau, rounded on the palate by chardonnay's body and texture. Drink now to 2026. 12.5%

Ref: SG4101 £14.50 bottle | £174 dozen

7. The Society's Celebration Crémant de Loire 2020

S 2

This Crémant comes from the Saumur region of the Loire and uses a large percentage of chardonnay in the blend, which gives the wine its length and delicacy. Light, bone-dry and refreshing, it makes for a delightful aperitif. The jester's hat on the label is a throwback to the image that adorned this wine when it was first introduced as part of a celebration range marking 25 years of The Society in Stevenage. Drink this year and next. 12%

Ref: SG3871 £13.31 bottle | £159 dozen

8. The Society's Champagne Brut NV

S 1

Voted a Wine Champion in our blind tastings again in 2023, with a thesaurus of superlatives, as usual, for richness, poise and finesse, thanks to the team at Gratién whose masterly blending skills deliver 'absolutely fantastic' results year after year. Our buyer for Champagne, Sarah Knowles MW, recommends buying a case to put down and allow the wine to age a little and develop even more complexity – if you can resist! Otherwise, drink within three years of purchase. 12.5%

Ref: CH331 £33.81 bottle | Part of our 6 for 5 Champagne offer £338.10 dozen

Generation Series Mâcon-Villages and Régnie: The Story

In the 1800s, Cyrus Redding, the British-born journalist and wine writer, first began talking about the wines of Beaujolais, referencing the sub-regions of Moulin-à-Vent and Saint-Amour. His 1833 book, *A History and Description of Modern Wines*, was considered one of the greats of the era and he put the wines of Beaujolais on the map.

The wines of Beaujolais appeared frequently in early Wine Society Lists, either as Moulin-à-Vent or simply labelled as Beaujolais. Our Generation example comes from the village of Régnié, which was famed for the quality of its wines as far back as Roman times. Grapes grown in the vineyards surrounding the village regularly found their way into the Beaujolais shipped to our London cellars in the first 50 years of The Society.

Beaujolais' northerly neighbour, the Mâconnais in southern Burgundy, was also enjoying a rise in international popularity during the 19th century. The expanding French railway was making transport to Paris easier, and word was spreading about these great-value wines.

Les Vins Aujoux & Jacques Dépagneux Attending: Jean-Marc Darbon & Bruno Mallet

Founded in 1938, J.M. Aujoux is a renowned specialist in the wines of the Beaujolais and Mâconnais regions.

In 1996 the company acquired the well-established Jacques Dépagneux brand, and today the brand is used for the flagship wines sold by J.M. Aujoux.

Les Vins Aujoux is a négociant, which means that they can purchase wines either in tank or in bottle from small-scale growers in order to offer wines under their own labels. Négociants (shortened to négoce), have historically been instrumental in the development of the wines of Beaujolais and Mâconnais, and this house has been at the forefront.

As producers of many of our members' favourite wines, including The Society's White Burgundy, The Society's Beaujolais-Villages, Exhibition Fleurie and more, it seemed only appropriate to celebrate their influence on our business with three brand new wines – two for our Generation Series, and one special anniversary Moulin-à-Vent that we're giving our members a preview of today.

9. Domaine de l'Arfentière Mâcon Blanc 2022



A mineral, citrusy and whistle-clean unoaked Mâcon from the Sallet family, whose grapes have regularly found their way into The Society's White Burgundy. Drink over the next year. 12.5%

Ref: BU85521 £10.95 bottle | £131 dozen

10. The Wine Society's Generation Series Mâcon-Villages 150th W 2

An attractive and complex blend of Mâcon from a number of different villages with 8% oak-aged wine to contribute principally structure, not aroma, and 19% from a superior appellation included to augment the quality. 2022 is a warm year producing ripe yet fresh fruit with a melony character. Drink now to 2027. 13%

Ref: BU85631 £16.50 bottle | £198 dozen

11. The Wine Society's Generation Series Régnié 2022 150th R C

A blend from two well-respected producers with vineyards in Régnié, the majority of which are situated on south-east facing slopes. From the excellent 2022 vintage, it was matured in stainless-steel tanks to ensure maximum fruit expression and purity. A supple, easy-drinking style of Régnié with good purity and soft tannins. Drink this year and next. 13.5%

Ref: BJ9901 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

12. The Society's 150th Anniversary Moulin-à-Vent 2019 150th R C

Moulin-à-Vent is considered by many to be the king of the Beaujolais crus, and its top wines historically commanded similar prices to grand cru red Burgundy. Thankfully for the consumer, if not the producers, that is no longer the case. The elements of the blend that make up this example come from four well-known and well-respected growers. Just under 10% of the wine was aged in small oak barrels of three to four years. Whilst this doesn't impart any obvious oak flavour in the wine, it adds to the texture and structure of the wine on the palate. The 2019 vintage produced excellent Beaujolais, with the gamay grapes reaching optimal ripeness, but without losing the freshness that makes these wines so appetising and food friendly. This is perfectly ready for drinking now, has mid-ruby colour and a nose of brambles and dried herbs. Drink this year and next. 13.5%

Ref: BJ9891 £17.50 bottle | £210 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

Generation Series Wachenheimer Riesling: The Story

The 19th century was the 'golden age' for German wines. In fact, in the 1800s, it was not uncommon for wines from Mosel and the Rheingau to fetch much higher prices than those from Champagne or First Growth Bordeaux. These wines were not only enjoyed on the continent, but Queen Victoria also expressed adoration for them. In particular, the success was led by the riesling grape variety, which is still the most planted and revered variety today.

It's a sad reality that the late 19th century outbreak of the phylloxera vine pest, world wars and economic downturn all conspired to change the course of this famous wine. However, many critics (including Jancis Robinson) still consider it to be one of the most noble in the world. As a result, it is also one of the most affordable fine wines today.

Weingut Dr. Bürklin-Wolf

Attending: Bettina Burklin von Guradze, Anna Bergner & Fabian Fleckenstein

The reputation of this famous estate was made in the 20th century by the formidable Dr Bürklin-Wolf with his great sweet wines. Under his daughter Bettina's guidance all the wines are now fermented to dryness, and the vineyards are farmed organically or biodynamically, without herbicides or pesticides.

We've been privileged to work closely with this estate for decades, offering our members some of their most sought-after wines thanks to our special relationship. To celebrate this, we've also partnered with Bettina and the team to celebrate with a very special masterclass.

13. The Wine Society's Generation Series Wachenheimer Riesling 2021

150th  2

To mark our historic event and indeed our long partnership, the Bürklin-Wolf team has bottled a riesling from a single foudre (a cask much larger than a barrel) from two top vineyards; Gerümpel and Goldbächel. This is a dry riesling, as members of long ago would have savoured, with hints of peach and lime. Drink now to 2032. 12%

Ref: GE16011 £19 bottle | £228 dozen

14. Weissburgunder Trocken, Bürklin-Wolf 2022

W 2

Planted on sandy soils, this pinot blanc (known as weissburgunder in Germany) makes an appealing, rounded white, clean and crisp and ripe-tasting. Drink now to 2027. 12%

Ref: GE16621 £14.50 bottle | £174 dozen

15. Bürklin-Wolf, Hommage á Luise, Riesling 2022

W 4

A delicious retro-look riesling for the pleasure of drinking a white with a little sweetness. Made mainly from grapes planted in Wachenheim, this has flavours of ripe peach and apple with beautifully integrated sweetness. Drink now to 2028. 9.5%

Ref: GE16611 £13.95 bottle | £167 dozen

Generation Series Haut-Médoc: The Story

Whilst the broader region of Bordeaux had been well recognised for its wine for centuries, it wasn't until the 17th century that the Dutch drained the marsh areas between the Gironde estuary and the Atlantic Ocean and the vineyard area we recognise today as the 'left bank' was established. The potential for the area was identified almost immediately and, combined with the Age of Enlightenment and developments in transport, Bordeaux became the second largest port in Europe by the 18th century.

This period is considered a 'golden age' of the wines of Bordeaux – investment, growth and world fame meant that many of the châteaux we still recognise as some of the highest quality and most respected were finding their footing and thriving at this time.

Château Beaumont

Attending: Anthony Yaigre

After the land was cleared in 1772, Henri Labarthe took ownership of the estate and began preparing it for planting vines. In 1824, the first vineyards were planted and over the course of the next two decades, under the eyes of the new proprietors, the Bonnin brothers, the estate as we know it today was formed.

Now owned by Société Grands Millésimes de France and home to 114 hectares of vines, the estate continues to offer some of the best value wines of the region. including our ever-popular Exhibition Haut-Médoc.

Château Beaumont makes consistently good, classically styled clarets and so there was no better candidate to ask to produce our special Generation Series Haut-Médoc. What's more, we've included a recently released 2020 vintage of their wine as well as an older vintage (2016) so you can see how well these wines develop with time in bottle.

16. The Wine Society's Generation Series Haut-Médoc 2019

150th R D

A silky-smooth blend of 55% cabernet sauvignon and 45% merlot from the superb 2019 vintage, this is now drinking beautifully. With vibrant, refreshing cabernet fruit combining with plump, velvety merlot this is a harmoniously balanced left bank claret of impressive purity and length. A Sunday roast classic. Drink now to 2030. 13.5%

Ref: CM27731 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

17. Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2020



Another top-drawer vintage from this ever-popular château. It combines supple fruit and spice with the cool freshness demonstrated by the best wines of the vintage. This will make a delicious bottle over the course of its lengthy drinking window. Drink now to 2036. 13.5%

Ref: CM27011 £17 bottle | £204 dozen

18. Château Beaumont, Haut-Médoc 2016



A refined and finely honed Beaumont with pronounced black plum perfume and supple, ripe tannins on the palate. A notable success in this excellent vintage. Drink now to 2028. 13.5%

Ref: CM20041 £17.50 bottle | £210 dozen

Generation Series Rioja: The Story

The region of Rioja experienced one of the most dynamic and exciting periods in its history during the 18th century, as influence from the fine wines of Bordeaux began to creep across the borders into Spain. It all began with the Marqués de Murrieta who, having been exiled in London after the Civil War of the 1840s, developed a taste for Bordeaux wines. In 1850, after exile, he studied winemaking in the region and then brought his learnings back to Spain. Other Marqués soon joined, and the revolution had begun.

Going from simple, locally consumed wines to those aged for long periods in oak, in vast bodegas with expert winemakers marked the beginning the Spanish fine wines we know today.

Bodegas Hacienda López de Haro (Vintae)

Attending: Erik Wolff & Matt Pym

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.

The wine that Pierre and the team created is titled 3 Años to recognise the wines that were produced here before the common aging terms such as Crianza, Reserva and Gran Reserva. 'Tercer Año' simply means third year to signify its aging length.

19. The Society's White Rioja 2021

150th W 2

A classically styled white Rioja made from this great Spanish region's traditional white grapes (mostly viura with some malvasia), with a proportion aged in barrel for around two years. It is lemony gold in colour with aromas that are spicy and nutty, rather than fruity. Drink this year and next. 12.5%

Ref: SP19551 £9.25 bottle | £111 dozen

20. The Wine Society's Generation Series Rioja, 2020

150^{US} R D

This has been aged for several years before bottling in 2023, including ten months in French oak. It also includes a high proportion of garnacha alongside tempranillo, the former taking a more leading role during this period. It is a generous style, in many ways modern with the emphasis on fruit. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%

Ref: SP19771 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

21. Hacienda López de Haro Classica Gran Reserva, Rioja 2005

R D

A refined, fully mature Rioja from the excellent 2005 vintage that has been ageing in López de Haro's cellars until now. This is graceful and fine with complex flavours of tobacco and cedarwood. Drink now to 2028. 14%

Ref: SP19601 £36 bottle | £432 dozen

Generation Series Primitivo di Manduria: The Story

Our Italy buyer, Sarah Knowles MW, was particularly surprised to see the prominence of the variety primitivo in early Society Lists. Better-known names of today (regions like Chianti, Barolo, etc.) featured far less and, perhaps even more unusually, primitivo was called out by the name of the grape rather than the region.

In fact, although we think of primitivo as a variety indigenous to Italy, it is not. It was likely introduced in the mid-18th century from the Balkan islands. Perhaps this new, early ripening grape, which was producing some impressive wines in southern Italy was more fashionable in the UK than wine historians give it credit for.

Although today it lives somewhat in the shadow of some of Italy's other grape varieties and regions, it still represents some of the best-value wines the country has to offer and continues to be a staple in our Lists.

Produttori Vini Manduria

Attending: Giovanni Dimitry & Stuart Bracey

Produttori di Manduria is the oldest active wine cooperative in Puglia, established in 1928 as a private winery and then converted to a cooperative in 1932. It specialises in primitivo in the heartland of the grape variety, Manduria.

Very few wineries active in Puglia now were operating at the turn of the last century when local co-ops were the order of the day. 100-year-old bush vines are also, unfortunately, in short supply, though there are some parcels still in Manduria. That is why it felt natural to partner with one of the more historic wineries based in Manduria, situated on the west coast of the Salento peninsula – Produttori di Manduria. They were so pleased to partner us on this generation wine that they gave our buyer for Italy, Sarah Knowles MW, free rein to select the primitivo she most wanted to work with from the winery.

22. Verdeca, San Moro Puglia 2023



With grapefruit, peach and wet-stone aromas this dry crisp white with a slightly saline refreshing finish is great with creamy pasta dishes or seafood. Verdeca is a rare white grape variety from Puglia and this is made by the Produttori di Manduria co-operative. Drink this year and next. 13%

Ref: IT40201 £11.50 bottle | £138 dozen

23. The Wine Society's Generation Series Primitivo di Manduria 2022

150⁽¹⁸⁰⁾ R D

Sarah was looking for a more modern fruit-driven, medium to full-bodied wine, as this is the style that, 150 years on, is back in huge demand, and offering great value and pleasure. The majority of this wine was fermented in traditional concrete vats, but then transferred to stainless steel for ageing to preserve the floral aromas, though 15% of the wine was aged in 'botti grande', large older oak vats which have softened the tannins and added a little more spice character. Drink now to 2026. 14%

Ref: IT38671 £10.50 bottle | £126 dozen

24. Primitivo di Manduria Riserva San Moro 2020

R D

This rich, full-bodied, blackberry and bramble-scented primitivo from Italy benefits from ageing in large wooden botti and in bottle, which has softened the structure and allowed a little spice to develop. Drink now to 2026. 14.5%

Ref: IT38391 £13.50 bottle | £162 dozen

Generation Series Medium-Sweet Oloroso: The Story

The wines of Jerez had a history long before the founding of The Wine Society. So popular were they that in the 1500s pirates would regularly attack ships to steal their cargo of sherry and sell the wine to the British. In fact, in 1587 when Sir Francis Drake attacked Cádiz, he carried off 3,000 kegs of sherry! Sherry was so well renowned that Queen Elizabeth I recommended it, King James I had to limit the consumption of it, and Shakespeare mentioned it several of his plays.

British tastes changed between the days of Shakespeare and the inception of The Society. Whereas before the vogue was for the pale, lighter styles, the British public began to opt for more colour, more maturity and, to a degree, more alcoholic strength. It was also around this time that the region was developing its now important traditions of long ageing, establishing solera systems and cathedral-like bodegas for maturing the wines.

Williams and Humbert Attending: Peter J. Dauthieu

To recognise the popular medium to medium-sweet styles of sherry style of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Tim Sykes (our Buyer for sherry) and Williams and Humbert created a special wine from a 90-barrel solera with a minimum age of 15 years.

The Generation Series wine is made in a style that was popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The base of the blend is an old, bone-dry oloroso, made from the palomino grape, but with the addition, prior to entering the solera system, of top-quality Pedro Ximénez to lend richness and sweetness on the palate. The palomino grapes come from Williams and Humbert's own vines in the famed Balbaína and Carrascal vineyards.

Just like sherries from the first half-century of The Society's existence, this wine was bottled for us 'en rama' (Spanish for raw), without fining or filtration to ensure maximum flavour complexity and length.

25. Alegria Manzanilla

F 1

Alegria is a wonderful manzanilla, pale, aromatic and pungent yet delicate, fine and whistle-clean. Like all manzanilla, it is aged in Sanlúcar de Barrameda on the Atlantic coast where the protective flor yeast exerts a stronger influence on the wine, resulting in a pale colour and salty tang. The ideal partner for fish and shellfish, or simply an aperitif to stimulate the appetite. Drink within one year. 15%

Ref: SH931 £9.50 bottle | £114 dozen

26. The Wine Society's Generation Series Medium-Sweet Oloroso half bottle

150 F 5

From a 90-barrel solera in the Jerez cellars of Williams and Humbert, this is a medium-sweet sherry with an average age of 15 years. Perfect with hard cheeses or to be savoured on its own at the end of a meal. Drink now to 2031. 20.5%

Ref: SH1642 £16.50 half bottle | £198 dozen

Generation Series Reserve Port: The Story

The close connection with Portugal was established through the 1386 Treaty of Windsor creating close political and trade alliances between the UK and Portugal, followed by another commercial treaty in 1654 which gave Scottish and English merchants living in Portugal reduced duties and better privileges. But it wasn't until the 17th century that wines known by the name of 'Port' were brought to the UK, although not necessarily in a style we would recognise today.

By the time The Wine Society was established in the 19th century, the region had experienced a period of significant unrest, including a civil war. The end of the war signalled one of the most exciting times for the region. Fortification was commonplace by 1840, and the British had developed a taste for Vintage Ports.

It would be some years after its creation that The Wine Society featured vintage wines from recognised houses, in the early years Ports appeared under a variety of names: 'Port, full, dry, rich', 'Fine, full matured' 'Specially selected', 'Choice old vintage' to name just a few. These styles would likely have been blends of at least two vintages and our 150th cuvée is just that.

Quinta do Vale Meão

Attending: Francisco Olazabal, James Hands & Raymond Reynolds

Antónia Adelaide Ferreira, the legendary Great Lady of the Douro, purchased the land for Quinta do Vale Meão in 1877 at an auction in Vila Nova de Foz Côa. It was her 'last great achievement' and the only property she planted entirely by herself (all 300 hectares of it!)

The estate originally grew grapes that went into Barca Velha, one of the most famous red table wines of Portugal, but today it is a hugely admired and successful producer of both table wines and Port in its own right. It is now owned by her great-great grandson, Francisco Javier de Olazabal, and boasts a renovated modern winery as well as special block plantings which matches soil types with the best-suited grape variety – something less commonly done in the region.

Recognising the multi-vintage styles of the early era at The Wine Society, our buyer Jo Locke MW worked with Quinta do Vale Meão to produce a wine based on the fine 2017 vintage, matured in large, seasoned wooden casks in the Douro Superior, and refreshed by some younger wine prior to bottling in 2023.

27. The Wine Society's Generation Series Reserve Port

A vivid and refined young wine, its floral bouquet marked by purity and freshness, with a hint of fruitcake spice, vinous, silky texture, and well-integrated spirit. Enjoy its youthful fruit expression now, or cellar to allow more complex and savoury flavours to develop. Bottled unfiltered, it may be enjoyed on release, or stored for future drinking, when decanting is recommended, as it may throw a sediment with cellaring. This style of premium ruby Port is the perfect match for a cheeseboard, especially Stilton, but may also be enjoyed with chocolate, a rich fruit cake, or a few dried fruits and nuts. Drink now to 2035. 19.5%

Ref: PN331 £20 bottle | £240 dozen

28. Quinta do Vale Meão Vintage Port 2017

F 7

From the producer of The Society's Exhibition Douro, an historic family-owned estate with a long history of fine wine in the Douro, this is a seductively rich Port, with gorgeous floral perfume and great concentration on the long palate. Drink now to 2038. 19.5%

Ref: PT2321 £56 bottle | £672 dozen

A Preview of our 150th Anniversary Range Wines

As well as sourcing the Generation Range 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: these limited-edition wines will not be released for sale until March this year, but we welcome the opportunity to offer members a preview at this tasting by presenting some of the selection to try.

Schloss Gobelsburg

Attending: Michael Moosbrugger

29. The Society's 150th Anniversary Kamptal Grüner Veltliner 2019

150th  2

Widely recognised at the time as being the vintage of the decade for Austria, 2019 was a warm and consistent year which produced wines with upfront charm and significant ageing potential. Schloss Gobelsburg dates back over 850 years and, in that time, has collected some of the Kamptal's best vineyard plots, and this wine comes from their excellent Renner single vineyard. Top grüner veltliner is a wonderfully versatile food-pairing wine and this is no different. However with time in bottle this has also become a wine to sit and savour, having developed layers of complexity and depth. The nose shows great precision, with notes of gingerbread, lime, thyme and a delicate hint of vanilla. On the palate the wine is full and textured but fresh, with Austria's hallmark life-affirming acidity, lemon, pepper, peach and a moreish touch of salinity. Drink now to 2028. 13.5%

Ref: AA3461 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

30. Schloss Gobelsburg Grüner Veltliner, Ried Lamm IÖTW 2020

 2

The Lamm single vineyard is located on the south-east side of the legendary Heiligenstein mountain. With a predominantly clay-based soil, a southerly aspect and exposure to the sun, the site produces rich, ripe and ethereal wines which are regularly considered to be the best of the best. The 2020 vintage produced wines with a particularly impressive ageing potential. It was a long and cool vintage, resulting in wines with an incredible freshness, focus and structure. This is a racy, savoury wine, with Lamm's hallmark hint of lanolin, flinty minerality and note of straw, backed up with fresh citrus and a note of stone fruit. Complex but extremely inviting too. Drink either in the first couple of years or cellar and open after eight or nine. Whenever you do decide to drink it, we recommend decanting in advance. Drink now to 2036. 13%

Ref: AA3171 £32 bottle | £384 dozen

31. Schloss Gobelsburg Riesling, Ried Heiligenstein 1ÖTW 2020

W 2

Heiligenstein is arguably the best riesling vineyard in Austria, and this wine comes from one of the country's oldest and most highly regarded wineries. 2020 was a classic vintage which has produced a riesling with remarkable freshness and ability to age. The nose has lifted notes of pepper, spice, lemon and peach, while the palate is taut, bone-dry and focused, with impressive structure. Decant in order to allow the aromatic nature of this wine to show through. Drink now to 2034. 13%

Ref: AA3181 £30 bottle | £360 dozen

Au Bon Climat Attending: Jonathon Scarfe (Fields Morris & Verdin)

32. The Society's 150th Anniversary Santa Barbara Chardonnay 2020

150th W 2

A poignant wine as 2020 turned out to be Jim Clendenen's last harvest at Au Bon Climat, passing away in the spring of 2021. This was a project he was excited by, and ABC had been at the top of our list of producers to work with from the start. A wonderful bespoke blend of chardonnay from Los Alamos and Bein Nacido vineyards in California, with richness and length. Expect baked apple, pineapple and sweet oranges on the nose, with fine vanilla oak notes supporting the full creamy body and a saline note to the finish adding to the surprising freshness in the glass. Drink now to 2030. 13.5%

Ref: US10431 £30 bottle | £360 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

33. Au Bon Climat Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir 2020

R C

There is wonderful purity and drive on this red-berry focused pinot from the ocean-fog cooled vineyards of Santa Maria Valley. These are some of the coolest vineyard sites in the whole of California giving the pinot noir grape a more restrained elegance akin to great Burgundy whose wines the late Jim Clendenen, admired so much. Drink now to 2028. 13.5%

Ref: US11441 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

Bodega & Cavas de Weinert

34. Magnum of The Society's 150th Anniversary Mendoza Malbec 2007

150th R D

Weinert keep many of their reds in large wooden vats, toneles, for years, transforming the fruity aromas of youth into a complex bouquet of leather, tobacco and cedar. It is a style that Society members love, but is increasingly difficult to find. This was made from Finca Huarachi which is situated at Perdriel, Mendoza. Its malbec vines were approximately 60 years of age at harvest. It was matured in Tonel number 141, an old oak barrel, for 15 years until bottling in 2022. Oak maturation has mellowed the tannins and concentrated the wine. This is opulently flavoured and the palate shows dark black fruit and notes of leather, with excellent potential for further ageing. Drink now to 2038. 14.5%

Ref: AR4704 £72 magnum | £432 six

Also available in bottles **Ref:** AR4701 £35 | £420 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

35. Weinert Carrascal Malbec 2020

R D

Big, round and fruity Argentine malbec matured 18 months in old oak foudres of 2,000 to 9,000 litres until tannins are sweet and soft. It comes from Finca Besares in Lujan de Cuyo, a small, low-yielding eight-hectare vineyard located in Chacras de Coria that was planted circa 1950. This is also Fair for Life certified for Weinert's ethical approach to their work. Drink now to 2027. 14.5%

Ref: AR4691 £13.50 bottle | £162 dozen

Château Grand Corbin Despagne Attending: François Despagne

36. Château Ampélia, Castillon Côtes de Bordeaux 2018



Ampélia is a small gem of a property that is certified organic and run by François Despagne. The 2018 displays deep colour, with lovely notes of plums and vanilla spice. It is packed with generous, ripe merlot (80%) and cabernet franc (20%) fruit. Dense, pure and appealing. Drink now to 2030. 14.5%

Ref: CB5701 £14.50 bottle | £174 dozen

37. The Society's 150th Anniversary Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2016



This comes from a vineyard owned by François Despagne, one of Saint-Emilion's most respected vigneron, and this is the only time he has ever done an 'own-label' wine for anybody. What we love about François' wines is that, unlike many wines from Saint-Emilion, which can be overly alcoholic and extracted, his are the model of refinement and restraint. The 2016 vintage in Bordeaux was amongst the best of the last 30 years, and this is perfect for drinking now, although it has the capacity to age for several more years. Made from vines bordering Pomerol, the unique blend combines 80% merlot with 20% cabernet franc for freshness. Aged for 18 months, 50% was matured in French oak barrels and the balance in stainless steel. It reveals a bouquet of ripe damsons and a touch of lavender. On the palate it is fresh and vibrant, with suave tannins and plush merlot-fruit texture. Drink now to 2031. 13.5%

Ref: CS11481 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

38. Château Grand Corbin-Despagne Saint-Emilion 2016



A charming, perfumed blend of 75% merlot and 25% cabernet, the wine has dense, fleshy fruit character on the palate and a long finish that will give plenty of pleasure in years to come. Drink now to 2034. 14%

Ref: CS10401 £36 bottle | £432 dozen

Kanonkop **Attending: David Cartwright (Seckford)**

39. The Society's 150th Anniversary Stellenbosch Cabernet 2015



Kanonkop Estate is one of the great names in South African wine, as famous for its Bordeaux-style reds as for its pinotage, and in the capable and award-winning hands of cellar master Abrie Beeslaar, the estate has gone from strength to strength. This richly concentrated cabernet comes from their own Simonsberg vineyards and a superb Cape vintage, hailed as one of the very best of the last 20 years. Kanonkop estate fruit was vinified in open-top fermenters and the wine was matured in new and second-fill French oak barrels for two years. In this still vigorous dry red, plush, dark berry fruit is complemented by hints of spice, coffee and mocha, with sweet, integrated tannins, leading to a long and persistent finish. Expect its dense fruit and structure to continue to mellow slowly, developing more cigar-box and indigenous fynbos complexity to 2030 and beyond. 14.5%

Ref: SA16031 £35 bottle | £420 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

40. The Society's Exhibition Pinotage Stellenbosch 2020



Pinotage is South Africa's signature grape and arguably nobody does it better than Kanonkop, so we're delighted to work with them on this succulent, plummy and spicy example. A versatile bottle for red meats and roasted vegetable dishes, its fruit sweetness will complement spicier dishes too. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: SA19651 £12.50 bottle | £150 dozen

Yalumba **Attending: Lucy Hill-Smith & Richard Girling**

41. The Society's 150th Anniversary Barossa Valley Shiraz 2018

150  

Full, rounded and silky Barossa Valley shiraz from one of the best vintages for the region in half a century. Few parts of the world are so synonymous with a single grape variety as the Barossa Valley is with shiraz. These wines scream out for bottle age yet so seldom receive it, so we partnered with one of Australia's greats, Yalumba, to treat members to an outstanding example of how good mature Barossa shiraz can be. This balanced, dark-fruit laden wine is now showing earthy notes and a hint of eucalypt freshness. Full-bodied, authentic and bursting with delicious personality, this is a testament to the quality of what is Australia's oldest family winery and the relationship we share with them. Drink now to 2029. 14%

Ref: AU24221 £25 bottle | £300 dozen

No discount available due to very limited supply. Available from March 2024

42. Yalumba 'The Signature' Barossa Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz 2018

The Signature is a premium example of the 'Great Australian red' blend, with cabernet sauvignon providing impressive full structure and shiraz bringing spice, red fruit and a meatiness on the nose. Yalumba have made The Signature since 1962, each year as an ode to the people who have enhanced the traditions and cultures of the winery. 2018 was a long vintage with an Indian summer allowing the perfect opportunity for ripening. The resultant wine is full-bodied, beautifully balanced and with a freshness which perfectly complements the tannic structure. The nose shows cedar, eucalyptus, cassis, blueberry and redcurrant. The palate is full and generous, with black pepper, vanilla, black fruit and iron minerality. Drink now to 2033. 14.5%

Ref: AU25671 £37 bottle | £444 dozen

Low stock

1874 - 1924 Wine History

1800s: Wines on Sea Voyages

150 years ago one of the greatest challenges of the wine world was shipping. Travelling long distances, stored in barrels in the hulls of hot ships, many wines spoiled in transit, oxidising and eventually turning to vinegar. To make matters worse, many boats would also be attacked by pirates or sunk – sea merchants had some of the most dangerous jobs in the world.

As early as the 1600s brandy was added to wines to extend their shelf life, taking advantage of the natural preservative properties of alcohol. This led to a rise in the production of fortified wines across the globe, especially in coastal wine-producing regions with large international ports. Porto (the home of Port), Cadiz (sherry) and Madeira were popular stop-off points for trips across the Atlantic, and South African fortified wines were either enjoyed on the return journey or traded for goods in India. All boomed in popularity.

The late 1800s and early 1900s saw the rise of railway networks which hugely impacted the wine world's ability to move barrels from more central regions to the ports. However, these traditional wines and spirits continue to be popular with modern wine drinkers, and demonstrate an important moment in wine history.

43. Du Toitskloof Hanepoot Jerepigo, Western Cape 2021 50cl

F 8

One of the historic specialities of the Cape, a fortified muscat made with raisined and botrytised (affected by noble rot) berries. This displays the beguiling heady perfume of the muscat d'Alexandrie grape variety, here with bright caramelized citrus fruit and a fresh finish. It retains 210 grams of residual sugar and has the added appeal of keeping well in the fridge once open. Versatile nectar! Drink now to 2070. 15%

Ref: SA20541 £12.95 bottle | £155 dozen

44. Henriques & Henriques Verdelho, 5 Years Old

F 4

A charming young verdelho from H&H's own Quinta Grande vineyard, from a producer established in 1850. Amber-brown in colour, with a touch of nut kernel on the nose and a fine seam of acidity to refresh the palate. There is increasing competition for the verdelho grape for table wine production on the island of Madeira, making such wines even more of a treat to savour. 19%

For tasting only

45. The Society's Cognac VSOP

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

Ref: BY381 £29 bottle | £348 dozen

1910 - 1911: The Champagne Riots

After years of vineyard losses due to phylloxera, (the louse that destroyed European viticulture at the turn of the 19th century) rot and mildew, as well as poor wages for growers and competitively priced grapes imported from outside the region, Champagne was on the brink of collapse and on the edge of a revolution. The terrifying and destructive riots of 1910 and 1911 were the culmination of this perfect storm of events.

Champagne Deutz suffered particular losses during these riots. Their headquarters were destroyed along with much of their stock of both bottled wines and older reserve wines crucial for blending. The following two world wars caused further damage to Deutz and the company took decades to recover. Thankfully they did, although this is perhaps why they are less well known than some of their peers. We're delighted to show their non-vintage here today, wine 46.

Whilst tumultuous and damaging, the riots brought about some positive outcomes within the region which are still relevant today. They were the driving force behind a delimitation of the region of Champagne: nearly two decades earlier than the official appellation system, which was created in 1936, an official boundary was drawn up to prevent grapes being shipped in from other parts of France or even other countries like Germany and Spain. Wine 48 is from the Aube region of Champagne, a part that was originally excluded from the boundary and which was (thankfully!) included after the riots.

Another notable beneficial outcome was the fair wage for the grape growers of Champagne. It is a unique wine region, with a structure of 'houses' who buy grapes from various growers to make, blend and label their own wines. Whilst nowadays these growers are paid a fair wage, this wasn't always the case, and pay was one of the key motivations for the riots. The riots set in place structures for better, more secure payments year-on-year. Of course, growers don't need to sell their grapes to the large houses and can produce their own wines if they would prefer and are financially able to. Wine 47 is a great example of one of the 'grower Champagnes' that are increasingly popular.

46. Champagne Deutz Classic Brut NV

🇸🇧 1

Most of the production of Champagne Deutz is drunk enthusiastically in France! They make fine, pure Champagne in a style that is dry, graceful and delicate. A bright, crisp Champagne with a very precise mouthfeel, pin-head bubbles and a fine toasty finish. Drink within two years. 12%

Ref: CH2761 £45.81 bottle | Part of our 6 for 5 Champagne offer £458.10 dozen

47. Guy Mea L'Assemblage Premier Cru Extra Brut NV

S 1

Champagne Guy Méa have owned vines for over a century in the south-west of the Montagne de Reims. The seven-hectare estate is now looked after by grand-daughter Sophie, who is now the winemaker, and her husband Franck Moussie. This pinot-dominant blend (70%) has a rich soft style, with plum fruit flavours and fresh pastry notes. 12.5%

Ref: CH4891 £36 bottle | Part of our 6 for 5 Champagne offer £360 dozen

Low stock

48. Champagne Christophe Brut Tradition NV

S 2

100% pinot noir from the heart of the Côte des Bar in the Aube, a prime region for the grape. With pink-apple, plum and pastry notes, this grower Champagne is made in a fruit-driven, charming style that makes a perfect aperitif. 12%

Ref: CH4481 £31.81 bottle | Part of our 6 for 5 Champagne offer £318.10 dozen

Low stock

Historic Estates: Producers Older than The Wine Society

Whilst we're delighted to have our members celebrating our 150-year anniversary, we're also very proud to have excellent relationships with producers who have been making superb wines for far longer.

South African winery Rustenberg, who make wine 49, have been growing grapes since 1682, after Roelof Pasman from Meurs, near the Rhine, recognised the wine-growing potential of the estate. They originally sold brandy – to a midwife although the use of the wine, whether for medical use or pleasure is unknown!

Trimbach, producer of wine 50, was established in Ribeauvillé in Alsace in 1626. Despite wars redefining the border of France and Germany (and then changing it back again) the same family still owns and runs the winery 13 generations later.

You'll have to excuse us for cheating slightly for Wine 51. CVNE in Rioja was actually established in 1879 by brothers Raimundo and Eusebio Real de Asúa making it slightly younger than The Society. However, the story behind this wine is one we wanted to share with you because it is made using very traditional techniques from the region. These techniques were actually lost, and when CVNE wanted to re-introduce the style some years ago, they had to fight a long but eventually victorious battle to convince the regulating body, the Consejo Regulador DOCa Rioja, to let them put Rioja on the label. It's a truly historic wine worthy of a spot in this line up.

Wine 52 from Domaine Serge et Bruno Sourdais represents the beginning of the cultivation of vines on this Loire estate in 1850. Now, father-and-son duo Serge and Bruno represent the fifth and sixth generation to tend this land and produce wines.

Wine 53 hails from Australia, not often considered an historic wine-growing country. Frank Potts, originally from Hounslow but who joined the navy aged only nine years old, established this winery in Langhorne Creek in 1850, just over 15 years after landing on the continent.

Finally, wine 54 is from the Tedeschi family in Valpolicella. The first documents relating to the Tedeschi estate date back to the 17th century. The family have worked within the region since the 1630s, shaping and influencing its vineyards and landscape. Whilst the current building was only established in 1911, the historical importance of this family within the region over the last four centuries is undisputable.

49. Magnum of Rustenberg Chardonnay, Stellenbosch 2021 W 2

A regular winner in our Wine Champions blind tastings and surely one of the most consistent barrel-fermented chardonnays in the world of wine. This creamy, toasty, lemony South African may be relied upon to delight your guests. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%

Ref: SA18544 £28 magnum | £268 dozen

50. Muscat Réserve, Trimbach 2020 W 2

Showing the extra richness of the 2020 vintage, this is a fragrant dry Alsace muscat with concentrated grapy aroma and ready charm. It makes a lovely fragrant aperitif and is a must with asparagus. Drink over the next year. 13.5%

Ref: AL16641 £19 bottle | £228 dozen

51. CVNE Monopole Classico Blanco, Rioja 2019 W 2

It might seem innovative today, but it was the recipe successfully used for decades: this high-quality viura is aged in American oak then blended in old sherry barrels, resulting in an extraordinary-tasting white that is aromatic, nutty and fresh with wonderful texture and length and a salty quality. Drink now to 2030. 13.5%

Ref: SP19751 £22 bottle | £264 dozen

Low stock

52. Chinon 'Le Logis de la Bouchardière Les Clos', Domaine Sourdais 2020

R C

From an 80-year-old vineyard with clay and flint soils and good southern exposure, giving more blackcurrant fruit aroma and flavour as well as more minerality, power and keeping potential. This domaine is a sixth-generation family-owned property at Cravant-les-Coteaux, run since 1992 by Bruno Sourdais, who has 55 hectares under vine. Drink now to 2030. 13%

Ref: LO18401 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

Low stock

53. Bleasdale Bremerview Langhorne Creek Shiraz 2020

R B

Plush, pure and vibrant Australian shiraz with rich red and blackberry-fruit notes, and a hint of violets and cassis. The palate is juicy and succulent with ripe tannins and a long, fruity, generous finish. Drink now to 2026. 13.5%

Ref: AU25621 £11.95 bottle | £143 dozen

54. Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore Capitel San Rocco, Tedeschi 2020

R D

Ripasso styles from Valpolicella in Italy can really offer the best of both worlds, retaining freshness and cherry fruit from the corvina grape, but gaining a little more depth, weight and complexity from the Amarone grape skins that the wine has been 'passed over'.

Drink now to 2026. 14.5%

Ref: IT38811 £16.50 bottle | £198 dozen

The Story of Phylloxera

In the late 18th century, a louse named phylloxera spread through the vineyards of Europe, destroying unimaginable amounts of vineyards and entirely changing the world of wine forever. It was brought to Europe by mistake from America where it is endemic and as a result America's native vines are immune. Phylloxera damages the roots of European vine species and eventually kills them. It took decades to find a solution to the problem: grafting European species onto tolerant non-European rootstocks.

Vines were destroyed across the continent as the louse spread southwards. Wine 56 is an example of a wine that had to be carefully reimagined after the vines were replanted on phylloxera-resistant rootstocks. Wine 57 is made from a grape that was nearly wiped out by phylloxera.

As European vines were shipped back to America to produce wines more attuned to the settler's tastes, the problem was exacerbated as the newly planted European vines quickly died in the American soils.

Interestingly, there are a select few pockets of vineyards where phylloxera is seemingly not present. Wine 58 is from Chile which, thanks to its remote nature, flanked by mountains, deserts and sea, has never been affected. However, this particular wine has been head grafted in order to quickly change from the less commercially popular grape variety país to garnacha and monastrell. Lodi, the region in America where wine 59 originates, has soils so sandy that phylloxera cannot survive there.

So, whilst there are some plots of old vines in the world, they are few and far between. Not only are they a romantic notion and beautiful to see, but there is also increasing evidence that they produce more balanced wines and are more resilient against turbulent weather – particularly important for climate change. Wine 55 is a fantastic example of an impressive wine produced from vines over 100 years old.

55. Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine sur Lie, Comte Leloup du Château de Chasseloir, Cuvée des Ceps Centenaires, Chéreau-Carré 2018

W 2

From a plot of century-old vines, a Muscadet with the heft and concentration to make the transition from summer *fruits de mer* to scallops, oysters and similar winter treats. Drink over the next year. 12%

Ref: LO16971 £11.50 bottle | £138 dozen

56. Saint Mont Les Vignes Retrouvées 2021

W 2

Dry and full-bodied white from Gascony in the French south-west, with complex aromas of nectarine and citrus. The Plaimont co-operative is at the centre of a vineyard that was never replanted post-phylloxera, and Saint Mont had to be reconstructed from scratch using the traditional grape varieties on show here: gros manseng, petit courbu and arrufiac. Drink now to 2026. 12.5%

Ref: FC46141 £9.50 bottle | £114 dozen

57. Manseng Noir, Plaimont, 2022

R C

Deeply coloured red from a grape that was presumed lost as a result of the phylloxera crisis, but rediscovered growing wild in south-west France. A versatile food wine that packs a lot of plummy flavour into a relatively modest alcohol level. Drink this year and next. 11.9%

Ref: FC44711 £10.95 bottle | £131 dozen

58. Undurraga TH Maule Garnacha-Cariñena-Monastrell 2020

R D

A lovely Chilean blend of 60% garnacha for richness, 25% cariñena for freshness and 15% monastrell for grip. Matured for two years in large oak barrels, this is ripe, structured, powerful and dense. The cariñena was planted in 1956 and the garnacha and monastrell were field grafted onto 80-100 year old país vines, so benefitting from the extensive root system. All these varieties are grown without irrigation. Drink now to 2031. 14.5%

Ref: CE11971 £16.50 bottle | £198 dozen

59. Brazin Lodi Old-Vine Zinfandel 2020

R D

A wine that lives up to its name, this brazen zinfandel from California is a full-bodied, rich and powerful red, with a concentrated blackberry and damson fruit profile, with mocha, sarsaparilla and sweet spice developing. A great red to pair with a steak, barbecue or burger, although the soft tannins mean it is a comforting glass by itself. Drink now to 2026. 15%

Ref: US11161 £14.95 bottle | £179 dozen

How to Taste

Tasting wine like a professional is a skill that anyone can learn. Whilst 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 60, a light-bodied riesling, and then try the more full-bodied viognier, wine 61, 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.

60. Riesling Trocken, Schloss Lieser 2022

W 2

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: GE16341 £11.95 bottle | £143 dozen

Low stock

61. Viognier Gres du Trias, Vignerons Ardéchois 2022

W 2

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 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 sweetnesses and styles, detecting the presence, and eventually the amount of sugar in a wine can be an asset. Whilst 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 62, 63 and 64 are all made using the same grape – chenin blanc – but are wildly different styles and sweetness levels. Wine 62 is dry i.e. has no detectable sweetness. Wine 63 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 64 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.

62. Anjou Blanc Domaine Cady 2022 ORGANIC

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

63. 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

64. 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? 65 is an example of a low level and 66 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?

65. 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

66. Madiran Ode d'Aydie 2018

Ⓡ Ⓛ

Madiran, in sight of the Pyrenees in the south-west of France, is a red-wine only appellation centred on the tannat grape. Tannat delivers plenty of colour and extract and plenty of character too. Full-bodied and juicy with tannins that have rounded out in ageing, Madiran is a perfect food wine. Drink now to 2027. 14%

Ref: FC41761 £13.95 bottle | £167 dozen

Pair four – Deciphering alcohol levels

Truly a challenge in the world of blind tasting, extrapolating well integrated alcohol can be very difficult. The only way to learn is by calibration, constantly tasting and assessing wines, especially when comparing them side by side. The below wines are both made from sangiovese, however 67 is 13.5% and 68 is 15%. Because of its power and the seamless integration, it can be hard to determine the alcohol level of wine 68. For this one, practice makes perfect!

67. Chianti, Poggiotondo 2021

Ⓡ Ⓛ

A vibrant, full and fruity Chianti made by Alberto Antonini, one of Italy's brightest winemakers, from organically cultivated vines on his family estate in the hills north-west of Empoli, Tuscany. Drink this year and next. 13.5%

Ref: IT37321 £12.75 bottle | £153 dozen

Low stock

68. Rosso di Montalcino, Canalicchio di Sopra 2021

Ⓡ Ⓛ

Hailing from the famous Tuscan town of Montalcino, this rosso has great charm, with crunchy cherry and tart red-berry flavours, firm but balanced tannins and energy. Pure youthful sangiovese with great poise. Francesco Ripaccioli's reds, from his two vineyards north of the town, always retain their finesse and freshness. Drink now to 2031. 15%

Ref: IT37481 £21 bottle | £252 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.

69. 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

70. 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%

Ref: BU69201 £69 bottle | £828 dozen

Low stock

71. 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%

Ref: SP19141 £18 bottle | £216 dozen

Also available in half bottle **Ref:** SP19142 £9.95 | £119 dozen

Low stock

72. 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 Rioja oak vats then 24 months in small oak barrels followed by 12 months in bottle.

Drink over the next year. 13.5%

Ref: SP5251 £40 bottle | £480 dozen

73. Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2012

R **D**

The 2012 vintage of this South African red is a real showstopper, a wine that'll make you sit up and take notice. The nose leaps out of the glass with sweet spices, cassis and hints of graphite and a gloriously bright hue. The palate is luxurious and silky with powerful yet fully integrated tannins and new oak opulence. A whopper but all the better for it. Drink now to 2028. 14.5%

Ref: SA20841 £105 bottle | £1,260 dozen

74. Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2011

R **D**

A much cooler and more elegant style of V was made in 2011 with distinct blue rather than black fruit that's still very much in the ascendancy. The tannins are still firm and mouthcoating, and the wine has great aromatics and classically framed body. A real treat for lovers of claret. Drink now to 2028. 14.5%

Ref: SA20831 £98 bottle | £1,176 dozen

75. Vergelegen Estate V Red Stellenbosch 2006

R **D**

A fabulous opportunity to taste one of South Africa's finest Bordeaux blends at full maturity. The 2006 V has everything you could want from a flagship Cape cabernet sauvignon – cigarbox and smoke on the nose with menthol and dried blackcurrants on the palate alongside sweet chunky tannins and outstanding cedar and spice notes from high-quality new oak. A beauty. Drink now to 2026. 14%

Ref: SA20821 £98 bottle | £1,176 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 76 – 80 are from? Why not try guessing the price too?

Hints:

Wine 76: Considered a 'new world' country, however vines have been harvested here since 1500s. The Spanish settlers were the first to cultivate vines in the region and, following them, the Bordelaise had a huge influence on the country (including importing this variety, one of the lesser known of the region.)

Wine 77: Whilst this grape is hundreds of years old, the region this example comes from is relatively more modern. Scotsman David Herd planted vines in 1873 (the year before The Wine Society was established) but commercial vineyards weren't planted until 100 years later in 1973.

Wine 78: From one of the oldest wine growing countries in the world which is currently undergoing a quality renaissance. This wine is a modern member favourite from a historic region and an indigenous variety.

Wine 79: A wine from the Southern hemisphere, from a region established in 1838 by immigrants from post-war Italy. Some of the oldest vines in the world can be found here, especially from this variety.

Wine 80: Wines were produced commercially in Marseille from as early as fourth century BC. This wine is from a still popular area around 90 minutes north of Marseille and similar wines would very likely have been served to the Pope in 1300s.





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.

Found a new favourite?

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

be**drinkaware**.co.uk

The International Exhibition Co-operative Wine Society Limited. Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 2BT. Register Number: 1824R (IP)

