

THE NEW PORTUGAL ICONIC, HISTORIC MATAWHERO OCTOBER'S BRILLIANT BARGAINS EXCITING NEW WINES FROM SPAIN CRAGGY RANGE; RULING THE ROOST TREASURES FROM THE LOIRE VALLEY THE WINES OF GIANNI GAGLIARDO CENTRAL OTAGO'S MT DIFFICULTY NGA WAKA TURNS TWENTY-ONE GLENGARRY'S OCTOBER TOP10 SPARKLERS FOR SPRING

WINELETTER 147 OCTOBER 2009

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GLENGARRY KINGSLAND 467 NEW NORTH ROAD PHONE 815 9207 Manager of Glengarry Kingsland, Sam Molloy

While most of us spend the weekends of our carefree youth surfing the net or the waves, playing sport or trying to coax 'Smoke on the Water' from our uncle's Fender, Sam Molloy's weekends went a little differently. 'Every weekend with my four siblings was spent working in the family vineyard. I didn't get paid, but as long as I get to drink wine, I'm happy.'

To that end, when he's not managing our Kingsland store, Sam still spends much of his time out at the family winery, the boutique and beautiful St Nesbit at Karaka, south of Auckland. It's not often you meet someone of whom you can truly say, 'wine is in their blood,' but Sam (who is exactly the same age as the first St Nesbit vintage) has grown up with it in a way few New Zealanders have.

'Yet I never considered wine career-wise until quite recently,' he tells me. 'I studied History and the Classics at uni.' Ahh, Pliny, I mention, showing my breadth of knowledge. 'All of them!' he smiles. 'There was always wine involved, and it always got rowdy, even back then.' 2,000 years and nothing changes...

A quick burst at retail to shore up his varsity funds and Sam was hooked. 'Yeh, I've found I really enjoy retail, and it's a great way to get to know loads about wine. I'm always buying different things to see what they're like. It's like I get paid and then just give it straight back again,' he smiles. 'It's what I say to customers, too; trying something different really builds their confidence, and you see it in them the next time they come in.'

They'd be a chatty lot in Kingsland? 'Yeh, it's brilliant. There's this whole burgeoning food scene here, where people want interesting food but also chase good value, so we get to enjoy matching wines to what they're cooking or eating. And a real earthiness here too, which I like.'

The local enthusiasm is evident in the two sold-out wine events Sam held over the past two months. 'Well, sold out means fifteen people,' he says wryly, 'but yeh, they went really well. We had Kumeu River's Michael Brajkovich talking about his new release wines and before that Nick Blampied-Lane from Cloudy Bay. I think it's amazing that people of this calibre and reputation want to come and talk to us; and so did everyone who came, so we have lots more monthly wine events planned.'

Pay him a visit. Whether your thing is claret or Agrippa, he'll walk you through it with enthusiasm aplenty.

Jak Jakicevich

MANAGER'S PICK SAM MOLLOY



St Nesbit Merlot Cabernet Franc Petit Verdot 2002 14340

WAS \$51.00 NOW \$44.40 A BOTTLE

ST NESBIT VERLOT CABERNET FEASE PETIT VERDOT 2002 At the moment St Nesbit 2002 expresses excellent acidity and good fruit with ripe tannins. The middle palate offers mocha, tobacco, \mathcal{E} lead pencil characters. It is beautifully balanced and exquisitely elegant. Drinking well now, it'll continue to develop over the next five to ten years.

Sales enquiries: freephone 0800 733 505 freefax 0800 106 162 email sales@glengarry.co.nz

S Fearless Buys

A monthly selection of delicious, dependable reds and whites where the palate, not the price tag, packs a punch



POIN

Wild South

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$18.90 now \$16.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

You look at a wine like this and think, will it pick you up? Lay you down gently? Sideswipe you like an unsupervised five-year-old at New World with a trolley? Ease you into an afternoon or perhaps deliver you at lunchtime from the pain of your morning? Well, all of these things and more, depending on your attitude and whether the big hand is gaining on the little one. A bracing four o'clock sunsplash, deep with flavour and blessed with lemon-flavoured zing. At a sensible Sunlight price.

Terravin

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$27.00 now \$22.90 12843

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE

The name is a blend of 'earth' and 'wine' yet it always brings to mind turtles. Concerned that this may be the result of some dreadful hallucinogenic flashback, I consulted a dictionary, and she told me I was thinking of terrapin, which is indeed a be-shelled slow-coach. Curious, because this wine blasts along at a good clip, fattened on some oak and lees work. It has texture and complexity often sadly lacking from Marlborough Sauvignon, coupled with a richness and vibrancy that make it an overwhelmingly appealing proposition.



Ti Point Marlborough Pinot Gris 2009

was \$21.90 now \$16.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Pinot Gris is often pushed as a wine for those who have grown tired of Chardonnay. It would seem to me that, to paraphrase Johnson, if you're tired of Chardonnay then you're tired of life; but we'll leave our prejudices at the door, as they say on those government courses, have a group hug and make some pretty patterns with coloured paper. This is a Pinot Gris for the Chardonnay fan; weighty, mouthfilling and very fresh, it's excellent with food, and so flavoursome everyone will be smiling. We encourage diversity, after all.

Wild South Black Label

Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

2008 was bigger than Baywatch, so the problem with Pinot was to exercise control, keep the yields down and the quality up. Judicious and prudent they must be at Wild South, for this wine lacks nothing in terms of flavour; indeed it comes on quite fruitily, delivering immediate impact fleshed out by excellent structure. Pinot this good under seventeen dollars! Whatever next? A Roller for a monkey and some change?





MARLBOROUGH

2009 SAUVIGNON BLANC

Torea

Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2009



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

Good to view one of the 2009s on the market. Often we've seen a few of the newbies off by now, but with plenty of the excellent '08s still to go round, the game has been patience. The Torea door (sorry) is open and the new vintage is flying out, a ripe and fascinating expression, with enough summer herbs and invigoration to have you dreaming up a meadow.

Ti Point Hawke's Bay Syrah 2008



was \$22.90 now \$17.90 19037 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Hawke's Bay Syrah is a reasonably recent innovation; ten years ago you wouldn't have even seen those three words in the same sentence, let alone on a label. Proving that there is more than enough heat to ripen this Rhône varietal, our wines now trump the Aussies at their own game. But they've been a tad pricey; so to get a wine of punch, weight and ripe, full flavours from the Gimblett Gravels for under twenty notes is staggering, frankly. The stampede starts here.



Free magnum when you buy a case*

Unusually for a popular Australian red, this fruit is entirely estate grown. Not only does it allow Taltarni great control over fruit quality, it also means you're getting a regional snapshot rather than the cross-regional homogeneity that is the passport to pleasure of the bigger brands. Loads of character and charm, and a French finesse due to the cooler *While stocks last climate and, perhaps, a Bretagne winemaker called Loic.

Three Monks

CAREKNET MERLOT





Giants Winery

When Craggy Range bought vineyards in Martinborough's Te Muna Rd in the late 90s, they took their financial clout, and owner/winemaker/viticulturist Steve Smith's innate ability to identify brilliant vineyard land, and invested in a site that was, well, 8km south of where all the big names were.

Innovative or barking? Well, let's just say that Craggy's Pinot winemaker Adrian Baker scored an unprecedented 93 points in Spectator with his 2004 Pinot from the Te Muna Road vineyard. Interestingly enough, the other winemaker at the time buying in Te Muna Rd was Martinborough pioneer Larry McKenna. It's worth noting, too, that when Craggy go in, it's boots and all. Once they'd decided on Te Muna Road they didn't opt for a 2ha trial plot; the 166 hectare piece of land they bought basically doubled the region's production. Uh-huh.

This tale articulates the way Craggy Range was designed to work from the outset: the land comes first, the vineyard sites are crucial to success. 'Single vineyard, single minded' is the Craggy tag. As they say themselves, 'It is a philosophy like no other. To select and source the very best vineyards in the country, plant them with only the vines that are perfectly suited to that terroir. Bottle them all as single estate wines.' As they say in rugby circles, that's a big call.

It is no coincidence that Steve Smith MW, one of the company directors, was the first specialist viticulturist to gain that rarefied Master of Wine title. The vines, the soil, vine health – these are where his pockets of knowledge run way deeper than almost anyone in the world. If that sounds excessive, it's worth noting that both Decanter magazine and Wine and Spirits Magazine named him as one of the fifty most influential people in the world of wine. For both of these accolades, he was the only New Zealander included.

None of which would matter a fig if the wines were average. If you've tasted them or read about them, you'll know they're not. The new releases included here are another opportunity to taste uniquely conceived, cultivated and executed wines, wines with the stamp of individuality and the air of greatness.



11236Craggy Range Te Muna Road Vineyard Sauvignon Blanc 2008wa11210Craggy Range Gimblett Gravels Chardonnay 2008wa11214Craggy Range Gimblett Gravels Merlot 2006wa

11330 Craggy Range Zebra Vineyard Central Otago Pinot Noir 2008

was \$25.00 now **\$19.90** was \$32.00 now **\$24.90** was \$32.00 now **\$24.90** was \$45.00 now **\$34.90**

CRAGGY RANGE



Steve Smith told Decanter that in the long term, New Zealand's greatest white variety may very well be Riesling. It is this style, with its low alcohol and intense flavours, that he believes 'fits the modern style of foods.' No question this off-dry wine is aces with lemongrass/coriander/smart 'n spicy food, but tis still delicious on its own of a languid afternoon. 'Honeyed oranges' I exclaimed loudly during the tasting, which, while accurate, certainly made the bus driver swerve. Precise, focused and rather clever.



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE

There have been murmurings about Waitaki for some time, a remote subregion that's so far into north Otago you might want to call it Canterbury. Could cause a squabble at Lands and Survey, that. The limestone soils here are rare for New Zealand, and here have delivered a wine with obvious mineral components and excellent structure. There's a dusting of residual sugar to balance the cool climate acid, and a chalkiness and spice that lends a European bent to the proceedings. Most excellent.

Craggy Range Te Muna Road	G CRAGGY RAN
Martinborough Pinot Noir 2008	Buet Acie
was \$44.00 now \$34.90	
CASE OF 12 ONLY \$34.40 A BOTTLE	TL MUNA ROAD VINEYARD

Te Muna Road, via Craggy Range and Larry McKenna's Escarpment label, is proving capable of producing some handsome, complex Pinot expressions. There are hints of typical Martinborough earthiness here, whiffs of truffle and forest floor that identify its home and add to the complexity. A richly smooth and deeply textured wine, the tannins are firm and youthful, the flavours intense. It's barely out of its bassinette, though, so drink some, cellar some.



This has that Central Otago flood of deep-scented fruit at the outset, followed by a meaty, spice-touched complexity that threads from the beginning of the experience right through to the criminally long finish. The fruit acid and tannins are firm at this stage, indicating exceptional cellaring potential. That said, this is a wine of significant impact that is an undeniable pleasure on release, especially if you happen to know someone who has bagged a bird or two, so to speak, and feels like sharing their toys.

Richmond Plains Nelson Pinot Noir 2008

was \$25.00 now \$19.90 14579

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE Organic & Biodynamic Producer

Richmond Plains produced NZ's first certified organic Pinot Noir. Managed under a biodynamic programme, the vineyard and winemaking process are certified by Bio Grow New Zealand. Following fermentation, the wine was matured in a mix of French and American oak barriques. It is a ruby, youthful looking wine with a fine bouquet of cherry, raspberry and spice mingling with toasty oak. The palate is well structured, the lingering berry flavours enhanced by hints of mushroom and background oak. Great value at under \$20.

Quartz Reef

Central Otago Pinot Noir 2007

was \$46.00 now \$39.90 17239

RICHMOND

PLAINS

ATA RANGI

Pinot Non

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

Made by the talented Rudi Bauer

This outstanding 2007 Pinot was made by Rudi Bauer, a viticulture and winemaking graduate from Salzburg University who arrived in New Zealand from his native Austria in 1985. He has carved out a stellar career, winning a horde of awards for Central Otago Pinot Noir. The fruit was hand harvested from the company's Bendigo vineyard. It is a beautifully crafted wine with raspberry and cherry aromas entwined with understated oak. The seductive palate is dominated by ripe fruit supported by a fine tannic structure.



Ata Rangi Martinborough Pinot Noir **2008**

was \$79.90 now \$62.90 10581

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$62.40 A BOTTLE New release of one of our top Pinots

The fruit is from Ata Rangi's oldest home block, now almost twenty-nine years of age. The wine was handcrafted, fermented on indigenous yeasts followed by malolactic and twelve months maturation in oak. It was bottled unfiltered and released only in June 2009. There are alluring crushed rose petal aromas to be found on the nose, while the palate is distinguished by pervasive fruit flavours and complemented by a silky-smooth texture. Excellent wine. Lake Chalice Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

was \$24.90 now \$19.90 13583

Ripe, fruity, forward Marlborough Pinot

Lake Chalice is fortunate in having an excellent selection of vineyard sites at their disposal, providing them with an extensive palette with which to construct their delightful layers of characters and flavours. This is a stylish, fruit forward wine with a bouquet of cherry, raspberry, plum and integrated spicy oak, the well-defined varietal flavours held in focus by ripe, supple tannins.

Momo

Met Neir

Marlborough Pinot Noir 2008 was \$30.00 now \$22.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE Made at the famed Seresin Estate

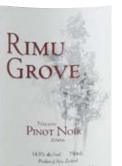
Momo sprang from Seresin Estate, where this wine is made. A blend of organically-grown fruit from three Marlborough vineyards, each lending individual characteristics to the final mix. Classic cherry, spice and forest floor nuances enhance the concentrated palate of succulent fruit flavours and supple tannins.



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE Grab it now, it's selling fast

Talented winemaker Jules Taylor searched high and low to find vineyard sites and growers capable of delivering high-quality Pinot Noir. Going by this wine, it seems that she got it right. Aged in new and seasoned French barrels for nine months, it is a vibrant wine with splendid spicy cherry aromas and flavours wrapped in velvet.

Rimu Grove



was \$45.00 now \$34.90 10417 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$34.40 A BOTTLE

Nelson Pinot Noir 2006

Classy boutique Nelson winery

Rimu Grove is a boutique winery whose wines are made exclusively from estate-grown fruit by Californian Patrick Stowe. Produced in limited quantities, this is a classic case of small is beautiful. It is a very individual wine that has been crafted with passion to showcase its terroir. The nose displays soft summer fruit aromas neatly woven with cinnamon nuances; the graceful palate opens up to show voluptuous fruit supported by fine-grained tannins. There's a curious fragrance wafting up the Douro valley in Portugal's north east. Being renowned for producing mind-bending ports for nigh on a century, you'd expect that aroma to be fortifying spirit or fermenting port; perhaps, at a stretch, a wedge of stilton as you call to mind your last wondrous port and cheese evening. However, the smell is a more international one; it came to town about ten years ago and is here to stay. It is the combination of money, industry and passion, an air of pioneering innovation as one of the world's most renowned pieces of terroir reflects what is happening across the nation: a wine renaissance.

Portugal has always produced plenty of table wines, it's just that for a long time the Portuguese drank the bulk of these table wines themselves. After all, export markets were well satisfied by the rivers of fortifieds - port and madeira - coming from this narrow land. Note the past tense; the port market has stagnated over the past decade, with prices stabilising at a point that is nowhere near the stratospheric levels buyers are still prepared to pay for first growth Bordeaux and top end Burgundy. This has caused a little rethinking in this region, a renaissance that is being worked out in most of Portugal.



has more forward, flavoursome fruit than you might

expect from a wine of this immensity and proportion.

The beautiful aromas of violets and dark cherries are

supported by an earthy dankness, the whole thing

immediately approachable, profoundly concentrated.

Quinta de la Rosa Dourosa Tinto 2006

MACAL

douROSA

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$21.40 A BOTTLE Well priced, highly drinkable

was \$26.00 now \$21.90 79008

A handful of traditional Portuguese varieties make up the divine fruit that develops through into this wellpriced, highly drinkable and very approachable red. If you worry that the wines of the Douro are going to assault you like a Springbok front row, fear not, and try this; it brims with blackberry and cherry fruit, is knitted together firmly, but carries none of the overpowering oak or tannin that Douro wines once wore as their badge.

douROSA

Quinta de la Rosa Dourosa Rosé 2008

RRP \$24.00 now \$19.00 79009

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$18.50 A BOTTLE Perfect with roast chicken or salmon

This wine is made from the free run juice that comes directly from the granite lagares where the vintage port grapes have been trodden. Hence this is more deeply coloured than the rosé styles we're used to in New Zealand, and with more stuffing, too. It is an appealing, refreshing style, sturdy and fulsome, with integrated tannins and bright-eyed red fruits. Take a roast chicken or slab of salmon on a picnic excursion, grab a bottle or two of this and it'll be paradise found, for sure.

Mirroring what has happened next door in Spain, there has been much modernising of a staunchly traditional and stubborn winemaking industry, machinery and minds being mended in equal measure. Portugal has not just revolutionised its viticultural processes and upgraded facilities, it's also shown that the traditional varieties can actually shine when treated properly, rather than relying on the famous French varieties to fuel the cannons of revolution.

There have been experiments with the likes of Cabernet and Syrah, but it's with the largely unknown indigenous varieties that some scintillating wines are now being made. 'Portugal is a jewel house of ancient vine varieties,' says Oz Clarke, and the pioneering winemakers and viticulturists are beginning to mine some of that potential.

We're not dealing with vast tracts of land as in Spain; mostly Portugal is little more than 160km wide. Like Spain, joining the EU encouraged a bit of a sort out in the chaotically non-chartered vineyard lands, but progress towards rationalisation on a broad scale has been, well, done on country time. However, with the investment coming in from the likes of Château Lynch-Bages, Château Cos d'Estournel and Louis Roederer, things have gone from the goat track to the fast track in less than a decade.



The Douro is a good example of the revolution that is occurring across Portugal. Since the late 1980s, there has been some recognition that the table wines coming out of the valley, made from the Port varieties, were more than half good. While the initial efforts could be politely categorised as hard and unapproachable as a Rimu table, the new guys have reined in the tannins and plumped for fruit-driven styles that are proving very appealing.

The Touriga Naçionale and Touriga Franca grapes are producing wines of substance and spice, with concentrated black and red fruits and a mineralderived character for extra complexity. Achieving ripeness isn't the issue, the winemakers say; it is ensuring elegance and finesse that is difficult.

So, can the Douro, and Portugal in general, consistently produce the sort of profound wines seen from the world's great red-growing districts without losing the character of the local terroir? Will they be a victim of their own success and be unable to keep up with demand if the floodgates open? Of course the producers are sanguine, mostly, but it will be the consumers who ultimately decide whether what they're drinking represents good quality and value, and adequately captures Portugal's unique topography. That'd be us, so waste no more time reading; there are a few gems to be unearthed.

D+D Douro Tinto DOC **2006**

RRP \$99.00 now \$84.00 87756

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$83.50 A BOTTLE The Douro & the Duero combine!

The Douro is experiencing a surge of interest from winemakers outside the region, and a joint venture between Douro producers and Spain's legendary Emilio Moro has led to this extraordinary wine. Styled from traditional Portuguese grapes and aged in both French and US oak, it evokes berries and chocolate and coffee and spice, all spooned out on a thickly textured, intensely flavoured palate. An exhilarating expression of substance, concentration and class.

pó∗poe

DHO -----06 Meneret M

Poeira Po de Poeira Douro Tinto 2006



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$43.50 A BOTTLE Authentic expression of Douro terroir

The label of Quinta de la Rosa's chief winemaker, Jorge Moeira. Aiming for an authentic expression of terroir that offers freshness and vitality, it still has the depth and weight you'd expect. 'Poeira' means dust, as Jorge explains: 'This wine is born in the dirt and wind-borne dust, in the coarseness and austerity of the Douro. It is born from the elements and the vine. It is moulded by man because we believe that a wine should not end with an exclamation mark, but always leave questions to be answered...' Amen.

Quinta Das Bandeiras Passagem Douro Tinto DOC 2006



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$48.50 A BOTTLE

Savoury, spicy, fruit-laden Douro red

A relatively recent purchase for the Bergqvist family, the Bandeiras vineyards (no relation to the muslin shirt-wearing swashbuckler) is a 100ha property right down by the river. This ripplingly muscular beauty, crafted largely from Touriga Naçionale and Touriga Franca, is savoury, spicy and richly fruit-laden, with sturdy, well-proportioned tannins and a beautifully integrated palate.







CASE OF 12 ONLY \$39.90 A BOTTLE

ant

Pinot Noir-dominant champagne

Charles 'mind my bike' de Gaulle was evidently a huge Drappier fan, so it's no stretch to say that the House has the President's seal (of approval). Churchill, we know, was devoted to Pol Roger and Hitler... drank paint. Strange times indeed, wartimes. Fast forward sixty years and this continues to be one of the best, a fresh, fruit-driven style with a touch of lemon and a flavour reminiscent of apple Danishes. Golly, at this price, I'm surprised anyone would need further convincing. What are you waiting for, people?

Charles Heidsieck Brut Réserve NV

was \$99.00 now \$89.90 41522

Exclusively available from Glengarry I

Charles has had a renaissance since you probably last fell prey to its charms. Media comments such as 'the best wines in the history of the label are now being made' bear testament to the work done by winemaker Daniel Thibault and his successor Règis Camus. The company (at huge expense) cut production and built up its reserve stocks, and Charles, a graceful yet assertive wine, is now considered by many, with its 40% reserve wines in the final blend, to be in the class of a prestige cuvée. Dazzling.

harles Heidsiech

Pol Roger Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill Brut 1998

was \$336.00 now \$245.00 48224

From the rich, oppulent '98 vintage

'Elegance combined with brooding potential,' someone remarked when describing Winston's wily ways. Why wily? Well, the way this wine unfolds, layer upon layer, first aromatically, then on the extraordinary, complex palate, requires words of such number that to invoke even a few in such a short space doesn't do the wine justice. Robust, yet with great finesse and power; alluring and engaging, yet it carries enormous cellaring potential. Find the occasion and let a bottle augment it exponentially. Beyond belief.



Warning: whenever you serve Piper people will always drink more than you think. It's so charming, so adorable, so alive with vivacious spirit that it sweeps you along in its path, in the most delicious way possible. Oh yes, rich and citrus-tinged, bready yet zippy, refreshingly dry, ra, ra... but, just tell the caterer to double your order.



The food lover's champagne

Philipponnat has a high proportion of reserve wines, anything from 25-40%, depending on the vintage. Some of these go back 50-plus years, so you're certainly getting a profound Champagne statement for your financial contribution. Quite floral on the nose, the palate is wondrously mouthfilling, intense and fresh, with a serious mineral note to the ebullient proceedings. Listed in many Michelin-starred restaurants, you'll find it mingles mightily with food, too.



One of our top-selling champagnes

What makes it so popular? The vibrant label? The accoutrements (groovy ice buckets, brollies, jackets for your Dachsund)? The lemon and white flowers over a bready base of tantalising freshness? Who could say. Veuve seems to embody that French spirit, somewhere between charm, élan and arrogance that, well, you just feel better for a glass of it. Isn't that the point?



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$79.40 A BOTTLE Gold medal & trophy winner

People tend to misquote the Churchillian anecdote of 'I am drunk and you are ugly, but in the morning I'll be sober,' etc. But better was when Lady Astor, appalled by something Churchill said, uttered, 'Winston, if I were your wife I'd put poison in your coffee.' Whereupon Winston dryly replied, 'And Nancy, if I were your husband, I'd drink it.' Thus the spirit of Pol Roger and its most dedicated follower.



DRAPPIER



Nethodes



Twin Islands Pinot Noir Chardonnay Méthode Traditionnelle Brut **NV**

was \$25.50 now \$17.90 19305

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE Sub-\$20 Marlborough sparkler

Here comes the flood, Noah; Xmas doth approach, and it's time for us to seek out the good value, good quality sparklers from the tidal wave of bubbling detritus that will be unleashed upon us all as the calendar ticks over. Good value, good quality are both handles that apply to this excellent méthode from Marlborough. A heaving success virtually since its inception, it is creamy, soft, with a biscuity note to its fresh fruit characters, much like a good cheesecake. Were you an only twin? This one's for you, then.

Arcadia Méthode Traditionnelle **NV**

was \$26.00 now \$19.90 11152

Top Central Otago méthode

Arcadia being ancient Greece's pastoral equivalent of Eden, the patronymic of this Brut perhaps indicates a taste for life in a rural idyll which, as the pressures of this time of year tighten like a vice, starts to seem like an appealing prospect. Temporary relief is granted via this wine's crisp, refined flavours of citrus meets stonefruit. These sophisticated fruits are dignified further by a suede yeasty flavour, adding to the overriding impression of full-bodied silken prettiness. Helena Bonham-Carter in period costume, then.

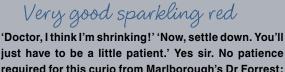


The Doctors' Bubbles for Beth Marlborough Méthode Traditionnelle 2005

was \$37.00 now \$29.90 12914

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE





just have to be a little patient.' Yes sir. No patience required for this curio from Marlborough's Dr Forrest; it instantly rewards with an explosion of black and red fruits, spice and pepper, delighting you almost before you've even registered the fact. Created for the Doc's daughter, this méthode is an 80% Syrah, 20% Merlot blend that is disturbingly good, those aforementioned flavours laid out on a richly-textured palate as smooth and satisfying as a Van Hartog and a velour jacket. Saint-Meyland French Méthode Traditionnelle Brut NV

was \$19.90 now \$16.90 43010



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE Fantastic value French méthode

There is a liveliness to this méthode that never ceases to amaze me, its freshness and invigorating vibrancy a delight. Here in the New World we sometimes forget that mega-litres of excellent méthode flow from France; we just don't often see it. Well see this, and raise it to your lips this festive season. As often as you like, at this price.



CLOUDY BAY

Allan Scott Cecilia NV

was \$26.50 now \$19.90 17397

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Smart méthode from top producer

This really is a cracker; beautifully made and perfectly priced for the impending celebratory gatherings that are starting to block out the calendar like an opponent's sub in Battleships. Don't be fooled by the price, this is a sophisticated style, with engaging, come-hither aromatics and a smartly tart, well-weighted and smooth, harmonious palate. Ideal for the salmon and blinis guests (but maybe not so much for the Savage and Beanie set). Adults only, then.





Buy 12 bottles and receive a FREE Pelorus ice bucket

Pelorus is such a critical and commercial success, it would probably continue to fly out the door even if the parent brand name were to be removed. This wine has achieved much in its ten-plus year tenure, not least that it's very consistent, the hallmark of great sparkling wine from Marne to Marlborough. Gushing green apples circulate around beautiful baked bread characters; crisp yet creamy, refined, divine 9 and beautifully made.

Matanlaro

This month will see the re-launch of Matawhero, one of New Zealand's legendary wine brands that during the 1970s and '80s produced a string of award-winning and ground-breaking wines. The famous property has been purchased by Gisborne's well known and respected Searle family.

The late Bill Erwin has probably not received the credit he deserves as one of the leading pioneers of this country's wine industry. In 1968, Bill was growing kumara on his Riverpoint Road property in Matawhero and began to plant grapes. He was just one of a handful of commercial grape growers in Gisborne, but it was what he was planting that set him aside from his contemporaries.

An extensive study of viticultural literature combined with advice from overseas experts convinced Bill to select and import new varieties and clones. Today these varieties are commonplace in New Zealand, but at the time they were not. Bill proceeded to propagate the vines, producing thousands of cuttings that were planted in the Gisborne region, and later in Hawke's Bay, Martinborough and Marlborough. The company continued to operate as a winegrower for a number of years before finally stepping up to produce its own wines under the Matawhero label.

> Matawhero Gisborne Chardonnay 2009

was \$25.90 now \$21.90 10765

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.90 A BOTTLE

The fruit was harvested from Paul and Jenny Tietjen's vineyard sited in the Ormond district of Gisborne, the vineyard's deep soils over limestone consistently turning out premium Chardonnay grapes. The wine was fermented on indigenous yeasts and put through malolactic. Pale straw in colour, it opens with ripe melon aromas that develop nuances of apricot and nuttiness. Beautifully crafted, it is dominated by ripe peachy flavours complemented by a creamy texture and a crisp finish. Excellent.



Matawhero Gisborne Pinot Gris 2009

was \$25.90 now \$21.90 10763

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.90 A BOTTLE

In Gisborne, Pinot Gris vines need to be managed carefully to ensure they deliver well conditioned and balanced grapes. During the 2008/2009 season the vines in the Briant vineyard were carefully managed to produce low yields, and the canopy was opened to encourage ripening. The wine was cool fermented to retain freshness and a portion put through malolactic to add greater dimension. It has an aromatic bouquet expressing apricot, pear and hints of Brazil nut. The full bodied, silky textured palate neatly balances the fruit flavours with a dash of minerality. Matawhero Gisborne Sauvignon Blanc 2009

was \$25.90 now \$21.90 10764

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.90 A BOTTLE

The Leaderbrand vineyard, in the Makaraka district which borders Matawhero, was selected for the fruit because the vineyard is close to the ocean and enjoys cool sea breezes that provide a long, slow ripening season. To retain freshness and vitality the wine was cool fermented in stainless steel. The nose is packed with melon and pineapple aromas with nice hints of celery and mineral. The palate has distinctive rich tropical fruit flavours, embellished by herb nuances and a fresh, zippy finish.

Matawhero



Matawhero Gisborne Viognier 2009

was \$25.90 now \$21.90 10762

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$19.90 A BOTTLE

Originally from the Rhône, Viognier has garnered a reputation for producing intense, weighty aromatic wines. As a consequence, it has become fashionable in recent years and the variety has become reasonably well established in New Zealand. The grapes were grown in the Patutahi district of Gisborne. With its seductive bouquet of lychee, apricot, and floral notes, this is a well balanced, weighty, beautifully textured wine, the lovely spicy notes and moderate alcohol levels making it particularly good with food.



Richard Searle with Matawhero's original owner, Denis Irwin



Matawhero

PINOT GRIS



While working at a winery in Germany, Bill's son, Denis Irwin, realised that with modest equipment and the right techniques, it was possible to produce world-class wines. On his return to New Zealand, he applied that philosophy, and in 1975 in a converted chicken shed, made Matawhero's first wine.

Success was almost immediate; the 1976 Gewürztraminer won a silver medal at the National Wine Competition and came fourth at the Paris Wine Show, Matawhero's reputation as a boutique winery firmly established when the 1978 Gewürztraminer won gold at the National. Everyone was drinking it. Even Elizabeth II tried it at the 1977 State luncheon during her visit to New Zealand, and the wine became a favourite at Buckingham Palace.

Success was not limited to Gewürztraminer; in the 1980s Matawhero's Chardonnay and Pinot Noir also placed high in international competitions. The architect of these triumphs was Denis Irwin. His adventurous spirit and pioneering use of varieties, coupled with an unconventional approach to winemaking, won worldwide accolades for Matawhero and Gisborne wines. Ill health has forced Denis to give up winemaking, at least for the time being, but his legacy to the Gisborne wine region is profound.



On handing over to the Searles, Denis said, 'I really wish them well. It's excellent that it is going from one family to another, and not being swallowed up by a corporate business like so much land on the Flats these days.'

Since purchasing the historic Riverpoint Road site, the Searles, who have also been growers in the Gisborne region since 1999 and own the Brunton Road winery, have replanted the Matawhero vineyard with new varieties and clones that include Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris and Viognier.

Richard Searle states that 'Matawhero wines will not be Brunton Road wines under a different label. We intend to follow Matawhero's philosophy of producing groundbreaking, adventurous wines, as started by founder Bill Irwin and his son Denis. Holding true to their determination, the wines will continue to have an individualistic bent. Denis always did things differently, and the brand will be very individual and quirky.' The old cellar door on the property has also been refurbished and will be ready to host visitors this summer.

The grapes for the new range of wines will be sourced primarily from the Gisborne region and will complement the Estate-grown material. Says Richard, 'The intention is to source high quality fruit from vineyards that express the unique micro-climates and soils spread throughout the region.'

The Searle family approached winemaker Kim Crawford for advice and direction because of his vast experience with Gisborne fruit, particularly the aromatics and Chardonnays, for which he has won numerous gold medals. 'With Kim's help, our objective is to re-establish Matawhero wines to its former pre-eminent position,' says Richard. The quality and character of the offerings just released promise to revitalise Gisborne's wines. We think Denis would approve.







Roger Parkinson, Nga Waka

That Nga Waka are celebrating their 21st Birthday may surprise more than a few of you. Such is the nature and philosophy of the winery and its main driver, Roger Parkinson; a kind of 'great things are done quietly' approach. You won't find Nga Waka wines on the show circuit and you won't see them dump-stacked at your local supermarket.

This by no means reflects an attitude of snobbery - Roger being one of the most down to earth guys you'll ever meet - it's just not the Nga Waka style. Their approach is a simple but fundamental one: let the terroir speak through the wines, and let the wines speak for themselves. In an age where we each receive a thousand marketing messages a day, this is a refreshingly focused and straightforward strategy.

Named after the three hills behind the winery, the Three Canoes, what started out as a white wine specialist has developed into a producer of great reds as well. With the inclusion of the Three Paddles brand, a cute take on the parent brand's origins, Nga Waka now cover the pricepoints as well as the different styles that an ever-discerning New Zealand public demand.

To have not only survived, but excelled through two decades of vintage and economic turmoil is an outstanding achievement, testament to Nga Waka's vision and commitment, and to a public who have continued to buy these consistently excellent wines from the vineyard sites nestled beneath the Three Canoes.

ron the cell Nga Waka NGA WAKA Martinborough Riesling 2002 was \$27.90 now \$19.90 15774 CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE 'A consistently rich, long-lived wine,' says Michael Cooper, and this gem certainly proves his point. Seven years on and there's still an undeniable freshness to the wine, which demonstrates the quality of the fruit, the excellence of the vintage and the skilled handling in the winery. The mineral and lime components are to the fore now, and a strong kero character too, all richly delivered

and seamlessly integrated. A very strong advertisement

for ageing quality New Zealand Riesling.

NGA WAKA TURNS 21





CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

The big brother to this little beauty is a New Zealand classic; both wines remind us that Marlborough doesn't hold all the cards when it comes to producing punchy, zesty, exciting Sauvignon Blanc. No, there are a few up Roger's sleeve, and this is one. Bursting with ripe, tropical fruit it also has a clear and present minerality, reflecting its terroir to a T. And it delivers major dash for your dosh.



Three Paddles Martinborough Pinot Noir 2008

was \$25.90 now \$19.90

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Voted best sub-\$25 Pinot and garnering 41/2 stars in the latest Cuisine roll call, this is a superb, approachable expression of Martinborough Pinot. Bravely unfined and unfiltered, thus allowing all the characters to shine, the spice, the red cherries and red berries sparkle and richly delight, while a sobering forest floor character brings it into balance. Soft, sexy and seductive, and astounding value.

Nga Waka Martinborough Chardonnay 2008 was \$25.90 now \$19.90 158



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

While this is barrel fermented and frequently lees stirred while ageing in barrel, the oak influence is still subtle, underlining the richly ripe stonefruit and grapefruit characters. Only bottled in February, it's already showing tremendous poise and balance, and while there's a richness to the fruit and oak combination, there's also an undoubted elegance and finesse. A vineyard-derived minerality adds to the complexity and the final impression of an artfully crafted wine.



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$39.40 A BOTTLE

Superb expression, and the first vintage since 2003 considered good enough to produce a wine of a quality that befits the brand. A dense wine, the very low-yielding vines deliver up ultra-concentrated fruit, while the out and out ripeness translates into a mouthfilling richness and cherry/berry overload. Martinborough earthiness adds intrigue, judicious oak adds structure and substance. Succulent, chewy and delicious now, it will also cellar brilliantly.

15939 Three Paddles Martinborough Chardonnay 2009 15844 Nga Waka Home Block Martinborough Chardonnay 2005 15843 Nga Waka Martinborough Riesling 2004



Huerta de Albalá Barbazul 2007

a taste of

Barbazul



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE Shiraz from southern Spain

This is one of Vincente Taberner's mighty reds, a Shiraz-based beauty from Cadiz, to be drunk with ease, as you please, will bring you to your knees... and while his top of the range red 'Taberner' costs a profusion of pesos, this beauty, half aged in oak and half in stainless steel, is priced for the people. Impressively structured yet vigorous and playful, red berries meet citrus and a discreet covering of fig leaves. Adaaaammm...!

Palacios Remondo La Vendimia Rioja 2007

La vendimia Rioja 200

was \$24.90 now \$19.90 88060

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

New stock has finally arrived

We've been hanging out for new stocks of this vino. From the long-established Palacios family estate in Rioja, which pioneer Alvaro Palacio has streamlined, rationalised, and modernised. 'La Vendimia' sounds sexy enough; it actually means 'harvest', uh-huh, while Al's input means we get to drink fragrant, cherry fruit-filled modern Spanish wine for less than 20 notes. 50% Grenache, 50% Tempranillo, fully drinkable.

Marqués de Murrieta Reserva Rioja 2005

RRP \$64.00 now \$59.90 81019

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$59.40 A BOTTLE

NDIMIA

Premium Rioja producer

The Marquis is a serious player in Rioja, a producer of some of the best wines to come out of what is arguably still Spain's best wine region. This is a belter, no question. The fruit comes off the 300ha Ygay estate in Rioja Alta, getting on up to 500m above sea level. Sure, the pickers carry oxygen tanks, but the views, Miguel, the views... Um, mostly Tempranillo, twentytwo long months in barrel, hand-picked, artfully made, this is a super-powerful red of great finesse and class. A breathtaking window into the Modern Rioja.

Luzon Jumilla **2007**

was \$25.00 now **\$18.90** 86957

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$18.40 A BOTTLE Chewy ripe fruit, great value

Robert Parker reckons Jumilla may well be the undiscovered viticultural region in Spain; the three families of Finca Luzon know that, already. For thirty years now they've been pumping out excellent Monastrell-based wines based on new plantings and better clones of the old workhorse. Gamey and plummy, with some mocha/coffee notes; close your eyes and it could be a Rhône red. Close your eyes, and the guy next to you will steal your glass, too.

Viña Almirante Pionero Mundi Albariño 2008

was \$28.00 now \$19.90 87881

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

A perfect match with seafood An interesting expression of Spain's great white grape, coming from an ultra-cool modern winery and a cool climate region in a land of searing heat and afternoon naps. Albariño is the culprit, stainless steel treated and deliciously rendered, with pineapple, apricot and other stonefruit brushed with kitchen herbs and doused with floral fragrance. Razor sharp

flavours, precisely delivered.

PIONERO MUNDI Rint Bacon



was \$39.90 now \$34.90 88115

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$34.40 A BOTTLE

New release from Bierzo

Another winery who, like Alvaro Palacios, has turned the hitherto dismissed region of Bierzo on its Uncle Ned. The Mencía grape, for so long politely tolerated, has been shown by these guys to produce minerallaced reds with a solid, vibrant fruit core. Here plums and wild berries are enhanced by brushes of violet and lavender. With the fruit from vines up to 40 years old, and said vines planted in unforgiving calcareous soils, concentration is a given, intensity guaranteed, delight a certainty.

MARQUES DE MURRIETA

YCAY

ESERVA

10.14

Protos Ribera Duero Roble 2006

was \$24.90 now \$19.90 88072

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Pioneering producer

Worth mentioning that Protos just spent 12 million euros on a new winery. With the design by Sir Richard Rogers, it is already the recipient of numerous architectural awards. Golly, they must sell a lot of this young whippersnapper to pay for all that aluminium sheeting, then. This rippling red gets no more than a dip in oak before it's whipped away and bottled, ensuring it's fresh, flavoursome and not a little bold.

Protos

Ribera Duero Rosado 2008

was \$28.90 now \$24.90 88079

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Spanish rosé for the summer ahead

The new vintage has arrived just in time for summer. We figure it will only take a quick mouthful of this little ripper and you'll be hunting out the picnic rug, the wicker basket, that smelly old cap with the faded beer logo on it and your favourite Hawaiian shirt. And that's just the girls. Lickety-split strawberries and raspberries do the do with a bunch of cherries and a twig of summer florals. Plenty of weight, looks good with gingham...



Alvaro Palacios Camins del Priorat DOC 2007

RRP \$39.90 now \$36.00 88059



Protos

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$35.50 A BOTTLE

One of Spain's finest winemakers

Yet another wine from Alvaro Palacio, the blue-eyed Spaniard whom Wine Spectator gushed was 'the most exciting winemaker in Spain.' With his revolutionising of previously moribund wine regions, and energising others to do the same, you can't argue with their assessment. This is a brand new wine for 2009, from Al, the delicious debut of a Carignan/Grenache/Cab Sav/Syrah blend, a flamboyant and most flavoursome mix of the old and the new. Like a paella emulsion. Yip. Dangerously approachable, gleaming and brightly lit with bold red fruits and suppleness.

Castillo Perelada Brut Reserva Cava NV



RRP \$16.90 now \$14.90 88051

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$14.40 A BOTTLE

The cava the Spanish drink

They take cava very seriously in Spain, for not only do they produce and export gazillions of gallons of it, within the dusty borders they've been known to knock back a few fizzies themselves. Perelada proudly proclaim that 'we only add the charisma,' a testament perhaps to this wine's pure, clean apple and citrus flavours, or a poorly-translated attempt to articulate sustainability. We don't care; this rocks and bubbles like the Poly pools and is far less messy.

Emilio Moro Finca Resalso 2007



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$22.40 A BOTTLE 90/100 Robert Parker

Finca Resalso was the Moro winery's first vineyard, planted back in 1931, the same year Emilio was born, although this actually comes off young vines and is deliberately made in a drink young style. 100% Tinto Fino makes for a big, tarry style, with wisps of smoky oak and strong, brooding dark fruits chimed with chocolate. Parker squeezed out a 90/100 for it, though maybe that was the 14.5% alcohol talking ...

Pazo Barrantes Albariño 2008

RRP \$49.00 now \$45.00 81024

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$44.50 A BOTTLE Made by Marqués de Murrieta

This is a single-estate, 100% Albariño. You think the wine's good (it is, as it happens), you should see the vineyard and winery. Pazo de Barrantes is a 16th-century Galician palace, all turrets and gargoyles and blaring trumpeters. Ahem. Located in the Salnés Valley, a sub-zone of Rias Baixas, the wines produced are an herbaceous headrush trimmed with topical tropicality.

a taste of France

A monthly selection of affordable French wine from our extensive range

Wines of the Loire Valley

The Loire Valley wine region, at the geographical and cultural heart of France, is one of its most important. The variations of soils, micro-climates and varieties along the banks of the Loire River and it tributaries is reflected in the diverse range of wines produced in its sixty-five appellations.

On its 1000-kilometre journey to the Atlantic, the Loire's first major concentration of vineyards are located on Sancerre and Pouilly-sur-Loire. The wines from these two appellations are world famous, and the most widely available in New Zealand. Sancerre produces reds and rosés from Pinot Noir and whites from Sauvignon Blanc, as do those labelled Pouilly-Fumé.

The region around Tours, largest city in the Loire, is known as Touraine and has as a number of important appellations producing red, rosé and white wines. The most interesting, in terms of diversity, is the Vouvray AOC, which produces white wine styles from Chenin Blanc: dry (sec), medium dry (demi-sec), semi-sparkling (pétilant), sparkling (mousseux) and sweet.

The common denominator exhibited by Loire wines is a characteristic fruitiness, fresh crisp flavours and a distinctive expression of the variety. They are among France's most approachable and affordable wines.

Domaine Bourillon-Dorléans

La Coulée d'Argent Vouvray Sec 2007

was \$35.50 now \$29.90 40977

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE Chenin Blanc at its elegant best

Vouvray is the standard bearer for Chenin Blanc. No other wine region has managed to capture the variety's unique characteristics as well, and one of Vouvray's most highly regarded winemakers is Frederic Bourillon, who produces a range of styles based exclusively on Chenin. This, then, is a bonedry wine with mineral-edged, apple-like aromas leading on to a well balanced, elegant palate.



Pascal Jolivet Pouilly-Fumé 2008

was \$57.00 now \$49.90 41041

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

that was cool fermented on indigenous yeasts. Pale

straw in colour, it has a bouquet dominated by mineral

notes. It is a crisp, clean wine with ripe fruit flavours

and a lingering, mineral-accented finish.

The new wave of the Loire



Pascal Jolivet established his Domaine in 1987. He is a new breed of winemaker, one of the youngest and most dynamic of the Loire Valley. Pascal believes in allowing nature to make the wines, using techniques that let the natural flavours and characters of the fruit shine through. This wine is a 100% Sauvignon Blanc



Bourillon-Dorléans

La Bourdonnerie Vouvray Demi-Sec 2007

was \$40.00 now \$35.00 40978



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$34.50 A BOTTLE Spicy, honeyed and alluring

Frederic Bourillon's Vouvray Demi-Sec beautifully demonstrates the versatility of the noble Chenin Blanc. The fruit is off 35-year-old vines on the Domaine's 26-hectare vineyard in the Rochecorbon commune. The wine has an alluring bouquet of spicy, honeyed, floral notes, while the off-dry palate has rich, moderately complex fruit flavours balanced by a touch of minerality that provides length and freshness to the finish. It is the perfect accompaniment to pork dishes.

> Pascal Jolivet Attitude Sauvignon Blanc 2008

was \$33.50 now \$24.90 41040

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE

Enticingly different take on Sauvignon

Sauvignon Blanc fans with a hankering for something other than Marlborough will welcome this. It displays the familiar characteristics, but is stylistically more restrained than its Marlborough cousins. The wine was fermented on natural yeasts and given extended lees contact to provide textural mouthfeel. It is a stylish wine with herb, apple & spice aromas and flavours balanced by a squeeze of lemon.

> Pascal Jolivet Sancerre 2008



was \$57.00 now \$49.90 41042

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$49.40 A BOTTLE

Pascal Jolivet wines are food friendly and currently feature in a number of Michelin-starred restaurants in France. Produced from Sauvignon Blanc, the 2008 Sancerre was fermented on indigenous yeasts. It is an elegant wine, with laid-back lime, herb and pipfruit aromas. Lees ageing has added complexity and depth to the palate, which has a lively, fruity character.



Didier Dagueneau **Silex 2007** \$145.00 ₄₂₇₂₈

Didier Dagueneau's final wine!

Didier Dagueneau's time in the limelight was much too short; he died tragically in an aircraft accident last year, leaving behind an impressive legacy. He was a master, if eccentric winemaker, his wines in a class of their own. Silex is the last wine Didier made. It has superb Sauvignon characteristics, boasting concentrated mineral and herbedged aromas. The complex, richly flavoured, beautifully structured palate is remarkably fresh and long in flavour.



16

Gagliardo

a taste of

Piedmont's Gianni Gagliardo family wine estate was originally started by Paola Colla, a fourth-generation winegrower. In the 1950s Paolo moved his operation to La Morra in the historical heart of the Barolo zone. Paolo's son-in-law, Gianni Gagliardo, joined the modest family concern in 1974, and by 1986 had become the sole proprietor. With the birth of his third son, Gianni made the decision to change the name of the company from 'Paola Colla' to Gianni Gagliardo.

a

A momentous period for the company, the name change precipitated a change in direction and style of wine. Old casks were replaced with new small French barrels, and significantly, it introduced two top-of-the-line Barolos, Batie and Preve.

Gagliardo is a family affair; Gianni's two eldest sons are involved in the everyday operations. Stefano assists Gianni with winemaking and brother Alberto manages the family's 30 hectares of vineyards. These vineyards are the major source of Gianni Gagliardo's Barolos. The company's reputation is based on these outstanding expressions, but it also makes an excellent range of classic Piedmont wines that are among the best in the region.



Barolo is named after the village of Barolo, produced from the Nebbiolo grape and considered to be Italy's noblest wine, possessing the ability to age gracefully for two decades. Produced by Stefano Gagliardo, the 2007 was was matured for a minimum of twenty-four months in oak barrels. A beautiful, deep ruby colour, with complex aromas of black cherry, tobacco, spice and smoky oak. The palate reveals layers of cherry, plum and blackberry flavours, embellished by hints of leather and cinnamon wrapped around a core of grainy tannins. Truly magnificent.

Intriguing, exciting and always stylish, smarten up your sideboard with the new breed of Italians

Gagliardo Dolcetto d'Alba DOC 2008

RRP \$38.00 now \$32.00 62753

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$31.50 A BOTTLE

Lovely, easy drinking red wine

The 2008 Dolcetto was harvested mainly from the Monforte commune in Alba. A youthful and lively wine, the nose has floral, earthy tones supported by white pepper and spice nuances. The fruit forward, dark berry flavours are complemented by a supple tannin structure.



Gianni Gagliardo Batie Langhe Nebbiolo DOC 2006



Perfect accompaniment to red meat

'Cun cust nduma a batie' translates to 'fit for a baptism,' a particularly important occasion in Italy; but don't feel you have to wait for such a moment to try out this grand wine. The intense berryfruit aromas and flavours are enhanced by a velvety feel and a persistent aftertaste.



concentrated fruit enhanced by supple tannins.

Moscato 2008

villa

M

RRP \$33.00 now \$22,00 62760

CASE OF 6 ONLY \$21.50 A BOTTLE

Aromatic, sweetish, low alcohol sparkler

Also from the Gagliardo stable is this delightful, low-alcohol sparkler made from the Moscato Bianco grape. The aromatic nose shows hints of melon, pear and almond. Wonderfully fruity, with distinctive sweet notes and a velvety mousse. Great as an aperitif or with pastries.

Villa M Rosso Brachetto 2008 RRP \$38.00 now \$24.40 A BOTTLE CASE OF 6 ONLY \$24.40 A BOTTLE Silky smooth sparkling red wine

As with its sibling Moscato, this is a low-alcohol wine, produced from Brachetto grapes fermented under pressure to create effervescence. It smells and tastes of strawberry and raspberry, with lovely hints of spice in the background. Silky smooth and very moreish.

17

Istralia a taste of

WELL, MY ONE WAS QUITE EASY TO TRAIN. ACTUALLY !!

Rediscover the wines of the lucky country with our pick of the best Aussies on offer

umulus



Rolling Shiraz 2007

was \$25.00 now \$16.90 20002

CASE OF 12 ONLY \$16.40 A BOTTLE

Best Buy & ★★★★ Cuisine

The Rolling wines are named after the rolling hills that characterise Cumulus vineyard in the Central Ranges of New South Wales. Their 2007 Shiraz is a boldly styled wine with a bouquet of classic varietal characters, the spice, plum and berry aromas supported by subtle oak. The palate boasts an abundance of ripe, upfront berry flavours complemented by hints of nutmeg. It is a well structured and generous wine with a velvety texture.

Deen De Bortoli



CASE OF 6 ONLY \$17.40 A BOTTLE

Vibrant wine, perfect Spring red

The late ripening Petit Verdot variey is well-suited to Australia's climate. Matured in new and seasoned oak barrels, this is a deep purple-hued red displaying an aromatic bouquet of violet, blackcurrant and spicy oak. The palate shows concentrated plum and coffee notes supported by supple tannins.



CASE OF 12 ONLY \$29.40 A BOTTLE New vintage, just released

This Shiraz is named after Dean Hewitson's sons Ned and Henry, older brothers of Miss Harry. The fruit was harvested from low-cropping vines grown in classic terra rossa soils over limestone. The wine was aged in French oak barriques for fifteen months and exudes plum, pepper, berry and spice on the nose and palate. It is full bodied and seamlessly integrated, with ripe, pervasive fruit flavours.



Katnook Founder's Block Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon 2006

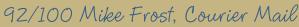


CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE

The essence of Coonawarra

A big-hearted wine with inviting blackcurrant and cassis aromas, an appealing hint of mint and subtle notes of vanilla and toasty oak. It is generously flavoured, the ripe berryfruit flavours complemented by spicy oak and dusty tannins. Mellow in texture, it finishes on a long, flavoursome note. Well priced, perfect with char-grilled beef.

Katnook Founder's Block Coonawarra Shiraz 2006 was \$25.50 now \$19.90 2002 Katnook CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE Supple, fruit forward, ready now Sourced from low-yield Coonawarra vines and aged in a combination of American and French oak, this dark, spicy wine will appeal to dedicated fans of Australian Shiraz. It is a medium-bodied style, with spicy/peppery notes supporting the ripe fruit aromas and flavours. Katnook Founder's Block Coonawarra Merlot 2006 was \$25.50 now \$19.90 20025 Katnock CASE OF 12 ONLY \$19.40 A BOTTLE



Traditionally fermented and matured in French oak for twenty-four months. The alluring bouquet of plum and berry is supported by hints of mocha and cigar box. The distinctive soft summer fruit flavours are embellished by subtle oak and complemented by a slick mouthfeel.



HEWITSO

SHIRAZ BAROSSA VALLEY

WILL ALSTRAIAN WIE



was \$23,50 now \$18.90

CASE OF 12 \$18.40 A BOTTLE

This much awarded Pinot Gris displays lovely tropical fruit and pipfruit aromas that lead on to a rich, fully flavoured palate nicely balanced by a fine, elegant finish.



GLENGARRY

Hawke's Bay Pinot Gris 2009

was \$19.90 now \$17.90 11273

CASE OF 12 \$17.40 A BOTTLE

From master winemaker Peter Robertson, this is an Alsace-like Pinot Gris packed with ripe, honeyed pear aromas and flavours. A touch offdry, it is a very versatile food wine.



Top10 Mixed Case: 1 bottle of each wine for only \$220.00

Cookoothama



CASE OF 12 \$15.40 A BOTTLE

Shiraz **2008**

The first sniff reveals ripe plum underscored by spice, chocolate and vanillin notes. Capably structured and full bodied, it has concentrated fruit flavours complemented by spicy oak.

cookoothama



A remarkably consistent Chardonnay from the well established Bergman vineyard. A complex wine with toasty stonefruit and butterscotch

Ata Rangi Craighall

Brookfields Bergman

Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2008

CASE OF 12 \$16.40 A BOTTLE

aromas and flavours that linger at the finish.

buttery nuances and a textural mouthfeel.

CASE OF 6 \$24.40 A BOTTLE

defined stonefruit and citrus aromas & flavours,

nicely enhanced by subtle oak nuances and a



Brut de Charvis Méthode Traditionnelle Brut NV



CASE OF 12 \$19.40 A BOTTLE

Produced in Burgundy and using the traditional Champenoise method, this is an absolute steal. The distinctive stonefruit and yeasty notes are complemented by a fresh, crisp finish.





Matua Valley Ararimu Chardonnay 2007

CASE OF 6 \$39.40 A BOTTLE

was \$55.00 now \$39.90

The Ararimu series wines are only produced in exceptional vintages, as experienced in 2007 in Gisborne. A complex, creamy-textured wine with peach and melon on the nose and palate.





Chakana Argentine Malbec 2007

lengthy, flavoursome aftertaste.

was \$19.90 now \$16.90 90152

CASE OF 12 \$16.40 A BOTTLE Harvested from 35-year-old vines and packed

with ripe, soft summer fruit and spice nuances on the nose and palate, all complemented by a velvety texture. Superb value.



19

Waipara Hills Waipara Pinot Noir **2008**

was \$21.90 now \$16.90 10321

CASE OF 12 \$16.40 A BOTTLE

A purple-fringed Pinot Noir with classic varietal spice-edged strawberry aromas that cascade on to the palate. Medium weighted, with a fruity character and a lively finish.



ARIM

Brut de Charvis Hand harvested, barrel fermented and one of Martinborough's leading Chardonnays. Alluring tropical fruit and mealy notes are supported by

6

was \$46.00 now \$39.00 10574 CASE OF 12 \$38.50 A BOTTLE

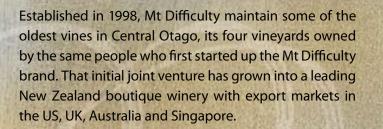


RANGI Chardonnay

Sacred Hill The Wine Thief Series Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2008 was \$29.90 now \$24.90 18488

A stylish, full bodied Chardonnay boasting well

SACRED HILL





Mt Difficulty's Winemaker and GM, Matt Dicey, is a fourth-generation vigneron, returning to Bannockburn in 1998 to try his hand at making the best wines possible in a region with almost infinite potential.



met, alst

COUL

mt.

OTAGO

14939 MT DIFFICULTY ROARING MEG Pinot Gris 2009 was \$23.90 NOW \$19.90

- 14936 MT DIFFICULTY ROARING MEG Sauvignon Blanc 2009 was \$21.90 NOW **\$19.90**
- 14935 **MT DIFFICULTY ROARING MEG** Pinot Noir 2008 was \$27.90 NOW **\$24.90**
- 14937 **MT DIFFICULTY** Sauvignon Blanc 2008 was \$25.90 NOW **\$22.90**
- 14946 **MT DIFFICULTY** Rosé 2008 was \$25.90 NOW **\$22.90**
- 14930 MT DIFFICULTY Target Gulley Riesling 2008 was \$25.90 NOW **\$22.90**
- 14940 **MT DIFFICULTY** Pinot Gris 2008 was \$25.90 NOW **\$22.90**
- 14929 **MT DIFFICULTY** Chardonnay 2007 was \$34.90 NOW **\$29.90**
- 14945 **MT DIFFICULTY** Pinot Noir 2008 was \$45.00 NOW **\$39.90**