

Bookham Wine Club

Monday, December 09 2019

Christmas Wines with Heather Dougherty

Cremant de Limoux 2017 AOC

This cuvée is rich in Chardonnay and Pinot Noir – like Champagne – and nearly half the wine is oak fermented – just like Krug! It's an expensive technique (so rarely practised) yet important for depth and complexity. Enjoy on its own or with deserving canapés. "Rich, ripe citrus and peach with toasty hints. Mid gold, tiny bubbles. Generous creamy flavours of ripe peach and citrus zest. Gentle mousse"

Seleccion Especial N 41 Albarino Numerada Rias Baixas 2018 13%

From Rias Baixas on the rugged Atlantic coast of Spain. Lemon green with golden glints as the wine pours from the bottle. Seductive peach and apricot aromas, crisp citrus and pear flavours, a touch of mineral and a moth watering finish.

La Voite 2018 14%

For finesse, ripeness and Chablis-esque mineral zip, planted at 300 metres in an ocean cooled climate, produce ripe fruit with intensity and brilliant freshness. After careful pressing the juice was transported to Le Chai and put into oak barrels, 35% new, to ferment at tick over speed. A further year's ageing in oak has lent a broad, creamy texture to the peach and lemon fruit.

M Chapoutier La Croix des Grives 2018 (14%)

Rich, ripe and complex, this benchmark Côtes du Rhône is from the cellars of the Chapoutier family, Chapoutier being one of the most highly regarded names in the French wine world. Michel Chapoutier has now introduced organic viticulture into the vineyards. Alongside this progressive approach – they were one of the first in the Rhône to go organic – Michel still uses traditional techniques in the cellar to produce wines that reflect each terroir and each vintage. This is a velvety red from a superb vintage, with intense forest fruits.

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2014 Cantos de Valpiedra Rioja

Headed by Carlos Martínez Bujanda, Finca Valpiedra is a single estate with remarkably well placed vineyards and a superb, modern winery to match. They take the utmost care every step of the way. For this wine Lauren Rosillo selected finest Tempranillo, patiently maturing it in optimum conditions in the temperature and humidity controlled barrel cellar. “Deep blackcurrant, raspberry with spice and vanilla. Deep red. Intense blackberry, cherry and raspberry with firm vanilla oak”

Chateau Doisy-Vendrines Grand Cru Sauternes 2016 (13.5%)

Bordeaux has much to offer the wine lover – impressive reds, vibrant whites, even sparklers. And in Sauternes, you find the world’s most highly regarded dessert wine. Enjoy the honeyed citrus and crème brûlée charms of this Grand Cru Sauternes.