



CROWN CELLARS®

WORLD WINES



FROM YEARS

20 TO 21

CROWN CELLARS TASTING GUIDE INCLUDING PEDLEY'S PICKS FROM YEARS 20 TO 21



TASTING GUIDE

INCLUDING PEDLEY'S PICKS



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**OUR WINES ARE
GRADED, TO HELP YOU
FIND EXACTLY WHAT
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR**

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WORLD WINES FROM 

HELPFUL INFORMATION

WINE TASTING GUIDE







White and rosé wines have a scale of 1–9, with 1 being very dry, through to 9 having a dessert wine level of sweetness. Examples of wines which are typically graded 1 are Sauvignon Blanc, Italian and Spanish whites; 2 and 3 tend to be softer styles such as Chardonnay and Viognier; and the sweeter wines are the blush rosés, like White Zinfandel – graded at a 5 or 6.

Red wines are marked on a scale of A–E. Lighter reds like Beaujolais, Valpolicella or Côtes du Rhône, will be graded A or B, while more chunky wines like Shiraz, Bordeaux and Rioja are a D or E.



STYLE GUIDE







To make your selection even easier, we have a simple style guide to each of our still wines. So whether you want a light white to go with fish, or a big gutsy red to enjoy with a steak, these style icons will help.

-  LIGHT & DELICATE
-  JUICY & RIPE
-  FULL-FLAVOURED & OAKED
-  DRY & AROMATIC
-  SPICY & WARMING
-  OAKED & INTENSE

PRICING GUIDE

In the listings we have used £ symbols as a guide to indicative pricing, with £ listed against the best value options within each category, through to ££££, for the most premium.

OTHER ICONS

-  Exclusive to Crown Cellars.
-  Organic.
-  Suitable for vegetarians.
-  No or low alcoholic content.
-  Suitable for both vegans and vegetarians alike.
-  Sparkling.



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

I HAVE MANAGED TO SQUEEZE AN EXTRA WINE INTO THIS YEAR'S PEDLEY'S PICKS, SO IT WILL BE A "BAKER'S DOZEN" THAT MAKES UP MY SELECTION OF PERSONAL FAVOURITES

WELCOME

Jonathan Pedley, Master of Wine and Crown Cellars' Wine Consultant, makes his personal selection from the 2020 wine range.

Louise Boddington, Crown Cellars' wine buyer, and I based ourselves in Cheshire and Yorkshire for this year's range selection tastings. We also visited several suppliers in person to see what they had to offer. We slurped our way through a couple of hundred wines to reach our final line-up of twenty-five new listings.

VETERANS OF PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF PEDLEY'S PICKS, AND THE CROWN CELLARS SPRING LAUNCH TASTINGS, WILL HAVE EXPERIENCED MY ENTHUSIASTIC RANTINGS ABOUT SPAIN AND ITALY

Both of these countries have extraordinary repertoires of grapes and regions that we are only now coming to appreciate. Grape growing, winemaking and marketing have improved markedly, delivering an enormous array of fascinating wines. Crucially though, because most of these wines are new to the global market, the prices are incredibly reasonable.

SO, LET'S GET STARTED IN SPAIN

La Pepica is a range of varietal wines inspired by the famous restaurant in Valencia. Louise and I have gone for a classic white and red pair. The white is a Viura/Sauvignon Blanc blend that is light, refreshing and bone-dry but it is the chunky red, made from Monastrell, that is the first of this year's Pedley's Picks.

Talking of contemporary smartness, the Canforrales Verdejo that we added to the range a couple of years ago has been a big success. Hence when the winery sent us a sample of their juicy Tempranillo it was a no-brainer to join the range and also become the second of my picks. The Canforrales Tempranillo has the same style of eye-catching surrealist label as the Verdejo, so they now form a perfect super-trendy house wine pair.

Of Spain's "rediscovered" native white grape varieties, Albariño is the one that has established the highest reputation around the world. Rubén Simón and his family

JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**THE PACKAGING IS
EXCELLENT, COMBINING
CONTEMPORARY
SMARTNESS WITH THE
TRADITIONAL LOOK OF
MEDITERRANEAN SPAIN**



in Rías Baixas are responsible for the superb As Laxas Albariño that we have stocked for many years. One or two customers have asked us if we can find an Albariño that is a little cheaper than As Laxas. Rubén has delivered the goods in the shape of the new Valdocea Rías Baixas Albariño. It does not have quite the depth and complexity of the As Laxas, but it is deliciously floral and fruity. It is the third of my picks.

**HENCE YOU NOW HAVE A
CHOICE OF ALBARIÑOS:
STICK WITH AS LAXAS IF YOU
WANT A PREMIUM EXAMPLE
OR GO FOR THE VALDOCEA IF
YOU NEED SOMETHING
A LITTLE CHEAPER**

It is a similar story over in Ribera del Duero. Our longstanding Portia Prima is an excellent wine and looks great. However, it is not cheap. Hence this year we are adding another Ribera del Duero under the Valle de Orón label to give you an option. It is no slouch (100% Tempranillo, 20 year old vines, 6 months in American oak barrels) but it is quite a lot cheaper than the Portia Prima.

**JUST BEFORE LEAVING SPAIN
I SHOULD GIVE A SHOUT OUT
FOR THE NEW ALCOHOL-FREE
SPARKLER FROM FREIXENET**

There has been a lot of talk in the trade press and in wider society about the need to offer consumers more no/low alcohol drinks in both the On and Off-Trade. It has to be said that across our particular customer base the interest so far has been muted.

However, we think it is important to give people the choice. In this case Freixenet, one of the big Cava producers in the Catalan region, have developed a sherbety medium-sweet fizz that is clean-as-a-whistle and less than 0.05% alcohol.



ONTO ITALY, WHERE THE BIG ANNOUNCEMENT IS OUR NEW RANGE OF KEY WINES UNDER THE ZIMOR LABEL

Mattia Casati, who worked for Carlsberg for many years, has set up his own wine sourcing business in Italy and has put together this line-up for us. There is a Prosecco (75cl and 20cl), a Sparkling Rosé, a Pinot Grigio (75cl and 20cl), a Pinot Grigio Blush and a Merlot. They are all decent liquids but I have picked out the fresh and appley Prosecco to go into Pedley's Picks.

Sticking with bubbles leads us nicely to one of this year's quirkier new listings. Do any of you out there remember Lambrusco Rosso? In the 2019 edition of Pedley's Picks I reminisced about some of the wines that have featured in the Crown Cellars range down the decades; one of those was this famous semi-sparkling red wine from Emilia-Romagna. Time moved on and Lambrusco disappeared from the range. I seem to remember another fizzy red, Banrock Station Sparkling Shiraz, put in a cameo appearance for a couple of years. Anyway, last year a group of customers visited the Ponte winery in north-eastern Italy and fell head over heels in love with their semi-sparkling "frizzante" red. It is made from the local Raboso grape and is the fifth of my picks.



FROM NORTH-WESTERN ITALY COME AN ELEGANTLY PACKAGED PAIR OF WINES UNDER THE CASALI DEL BARONE "150+1" LABEL



The Piemonte Barbera is a mid-bodied red that has a lovely cherry and vanilla aroma. However, for Pedley's Picks I have plumped for the Langhe Bianco. I am fascinated by this wine, for reasons that I explain in the detailed notes.

My other two Italian picks are from Sicily. They illustrate brilliantly the sheer variety of wines that nowadays come from this incredible island. Il Montalto Vermentino is a light, delicate, aromatic dry white; the Passo Verde Nero d'Avola is a rich, powerful, concentrated red.

WE HAVE TWO OTHER STOPS TO MAKE IN EUROPE, FROM OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE CONTINENT

The Deer Point Chardonnay and Merlot from Bulgaria have proved to be big sellers ever since we listed them. When I spotted that Domaine Boyar had a couple more wines under this label I made a beeline for their stand at a recent trade tasting. Deciding to list the clean, simple and fruity Pinot Grigio is probably one of the less contentious decisions I will be called on to make in my life.



I had to think a split second longer about the Cabernet Sauvignon but it too got the nod. For purely commercial reasons (Cabernet Sauvignon is just not as popular as Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay and Merlot) we probably will not sell as much as the other three, but I like the Cabernet Sauvignon and I have made it the ninth of my Pedley's Picks.



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

LAST JUNE FOUR OF US FROM
THE CROWN CELLARS TEAM
(MIKE GIBSON, DOUGAL KENNY,
LOUISE AND I) WENT ON AN
OLD-FASHIONED "WORKS VISIT"
TO THE HUSH HEATH VINEYARD
IN DARKEST KENT



NOTHING DARK ABOUT THIS WINERY

Except it was nothing of the sort. The weather was glorious, the vineyard impeccable, the wines excellent and the hospitality gracious. The owner, Richard Balfour-Lynn, is a shrewd cookie and knows what he is playing at. We have listed three wines under the Balfour label. Skye's Blend is a crisp dry white that is packed with the floral citrus aromas derived from the Bacchus grape variety. Nanette's Rosé is salmon pink and has a more subtle, summer fruit bouquet. My choice for Pedley's Picks is Leslie's Reserve Extra Dry, a delicious bottle-fermented white that typifies the world-class sparkling wine now being made in England.





FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER WE ARE GOING TO LIST A PAIR OF WINES FROM URUGUAY

South America has been our main focus of attention in the New World this year. As a wine producer, Uruguay is young and tiny when compared to Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Climatically it is very different as well. In Chile and Argentina the Andes are a major influence on the weather (and the Pacific Ocean in the case of Chile). In parts of Brazil the climate is subtropical. By contrast, the key factor in Uruguay is the proximity of the Atlantic Ocean. There are no significant mountain ranges in the country so the vineyards are distinctly maritime, making growing conditions warm and humid. Tannat is the country's flagship black grape, and I have chosen the Finca Traversa version for Pedley's Picks. Its white partner is a light and crisp Sauvignon Blanc.

Malbec from Mendoza in Argentina is well established as one of the world's benchmark wine styles. We already offer four different versions (Dead Man's Dice, Trapiche, Andean and Acordeón) but the ongoing strong demand does justify a further addition.

WE HAVE GONE FOR THE VIÑAS DE MENDOZA MALBEC MADE BY LOS HAROLDOS

It is a mid-bodied example and has crunchy dark berry fruit. However, for Pedley's Picks I have opted for the Viñas de Mendoza Torrontés. Torrontés, with its floral aromas and light-bodied palate, will always be more of a niche proposition, but I rather like what Los Haroldos have done with this off-dry version.

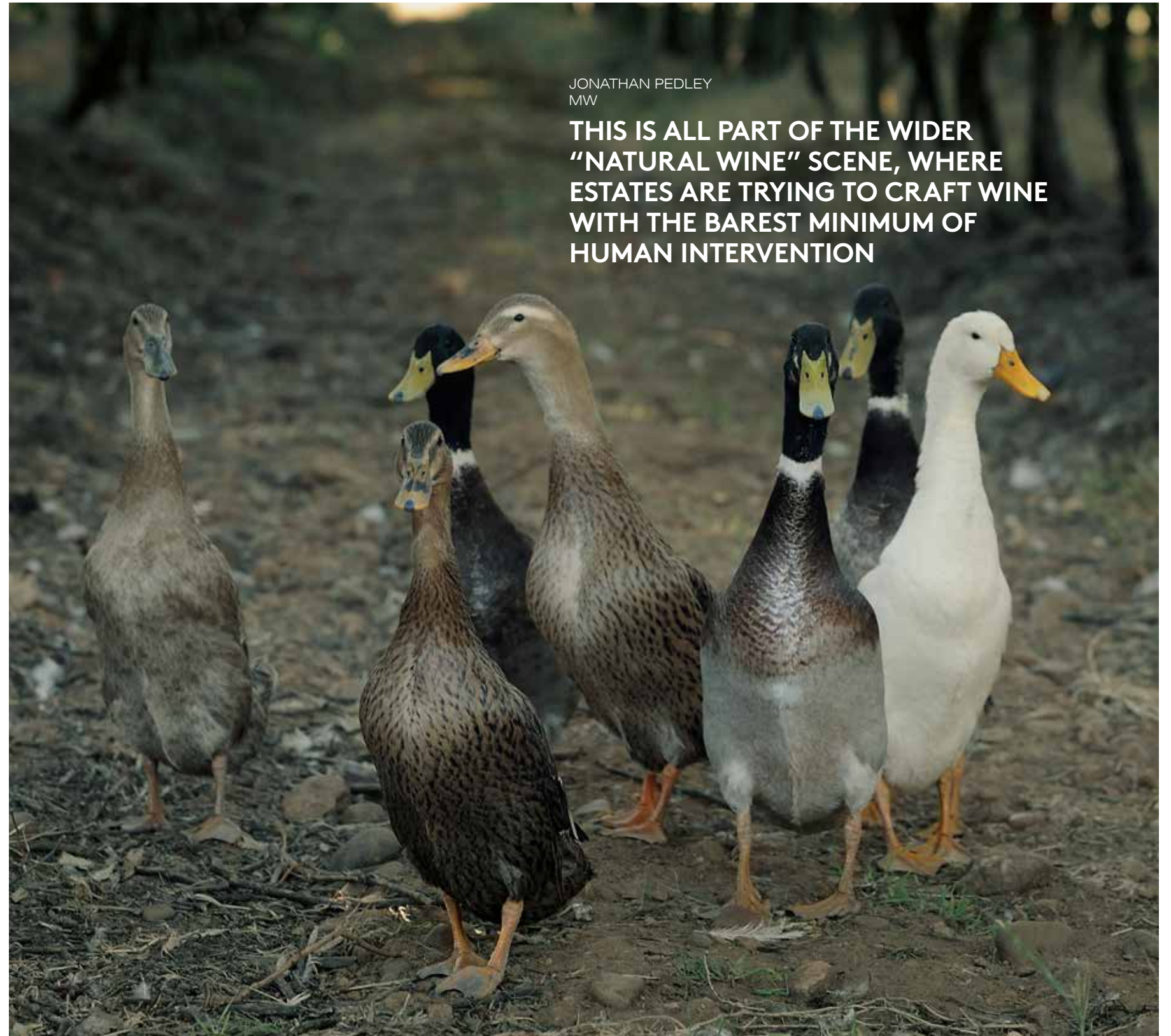




THE LAST STOP ON OUR JOURNEY IS AT THE STELLAR WINERY IN SOUTH AFRICA

The “Running Duck” wines have been firm favourites for many years. As many of you know, the estate is certified organic and “Fair for Life” Fair Trade, and the wines are vegan friendly. The team in the cellar have also been experimenting with trying to make wines without adding any sulphur dioxide. The use of sulphur dioxide in winemaking goes back to Roman times, and until about twenty years ago it was taken for granted that you needed to add a bit to prevent oxidation and to kill unwanted microbes. On the back of the organic wine movement a number of producers have started to challenge that orthodoxy and to see if it is possible to make “no added sulphur” (NAS) wine. It is not easy, and the resulting wines can be violently expensive. Hence I was pleasantly surprised by the quality and price of the Running Duck NAS Pinotage. Give it a try; I have made it the last of my picks for 2020.

Jonathan Pedley
Master of Wine and Crown Cellars' Wine Consultant





JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**LA PEPICA IS A RANGE
OF VARIETAL WINES
INSPIRED BY THE
FAMOUS RESTAURANT
IN VALENCIA**



BODEGAS MURVIEDRO

La Pepica Monastrell


VALENCIA

2017

Fans of Pinot Grigio should run for their lives now. Apart from its red colour, the La Pepica Monastrell is about as rabidly politically incorrect as one can get. It is big and chunky in the mouth with grainy tannins. For this reason I gave it an "E" code (massively full-bodied). It also makes it a great choice with grilled meats and hard cheeses. The nose is dense and brooding, composed of dried fruit (prunes and dates), spices and even tar notes. Monastrell is a thick-skinned, late-budding and late-ripening grape variety. It needs to grow in a place where the summer is long and hot. Step forward Valencia. Winemaker Victor Marqués crafts this splendid example at Bodegas Murviedro.

 PEDLEY'S PICK

 TASTE

 STYLE

 ABV 13.5%



A DELICIOUSLY LIGHT AND REFRESHING DRY WHITE WINE SHOWING CITRUS AND HERBAL AROMAS



BODEGAS MURVIEDRO

La Pepica Viura & Sauvignon Blanc

VALENCIA

2018

Palish green-lemon. Fresh and aromatic on the nose showing floral, citrus and herbal notes. Light, refreshing, youthful and bone-dry in the mouth.

1 TASTE

🌸 STYLE

% ABV 11.5%



BODEGAS CAMPOS REALES

Canforrales Tempranillo

LA MANCHA

2018

We have plenty of fancy, highfalutin wines in the Crown Cellars range but this, by contrast, is a splendidly uncomplicated glugger. It has a deep, almost opaque, pink-purple appearance. On the nose and palate it is packed with juicy, succulent blackberry fruit. In the mouth it is mid-bodied with just a touch of fleshy tannin. It finishes with decent length. In the summer you could drink it on its own, slightly chilled. In the cooler months it will partner a lot of, dare one say it, traditional "pub grub": quiches, meat pies and ploughman's salads. This red is made from Tempranillo, Spain's most prestigious native black grape variety. It comes from the hot, dry vineyards of La Mancha, slap bang in the centre of the country.

🍷 PEDLEY'S PICK

🍷 TASTE

🍷 STYLE

% ABV 14.0%

Ve SUITABLE FOR VEGANS





AS LAXAS

ValdoCea Albariño


RÍAS BAIXAS

2019

Despite there being evidence that Albariño has been cultivated in north-western Iberia for centuries, it was hardly spoken of beyond its native land. My 1988 Wine & Spirit Education Trust textbook briefly mentions it under its Portuguese name, Alvarinho, as a component of the Vinho Verde blend. Rías Baixas, the classic Spanish region for Albariño, is not even listed. I for one am delighted that Albariño has become so well-known and developed a worldwide following, not least because it is the ideal partner for fish and shellfish. Our new "ValdoCea" version uses all the techniques of modern white winemaking to capture the character of the Albariño grape (gentle pressing, cool fermentation, cold filtration etc.). The wine has a bright golden straw colour. The nose is pronounced and shows the lovely floral (gardenia) and exotic fruit (mango and guava) aromas that are part of Albariño's charm. The palate is dry, lightish-bodied and zingily fresh.

 PEDLEY'S PICK

 TASTE

 STYLE

 ABV 12.5%

 SUITABLE FOR VEGANS

DARK FRUIT AND SPICE AROMAS ARE FOLLOWED BY A MID TO FULL-BODIED PALATE

BODEGAS LARCHAGO


Valle de Orón Tempranillo

RIBERA DEL DUERO

2018

Dark purplish colour. A moderate intensity of dark fruit (blueberry in particular) and spice on the nose. The palate is mid to full-bodied with some grippy tannins. Warm finish.

 TASTE

 STYLE

 ABV 14.0%

 SUITABLE FOR VEGETARIANS



A CRISP AND SHERBETY FIZZ THAT IS MEDIUM-SWEET WITH BALANCING FRESHNESS




GRUPO FREIXENET

Freixenet 0.0% Alcohol-Free

| | |
|--------------|----|
| ALCOHOL-FREE | NV |
|--------------|----|

Pale lemon in colour with lots of big bubbles. Clean and crisp on the nose showing attractive sherbet aromas. The palate is medium-sweet with balancing freshness.

 SPARKLING

 TASTE

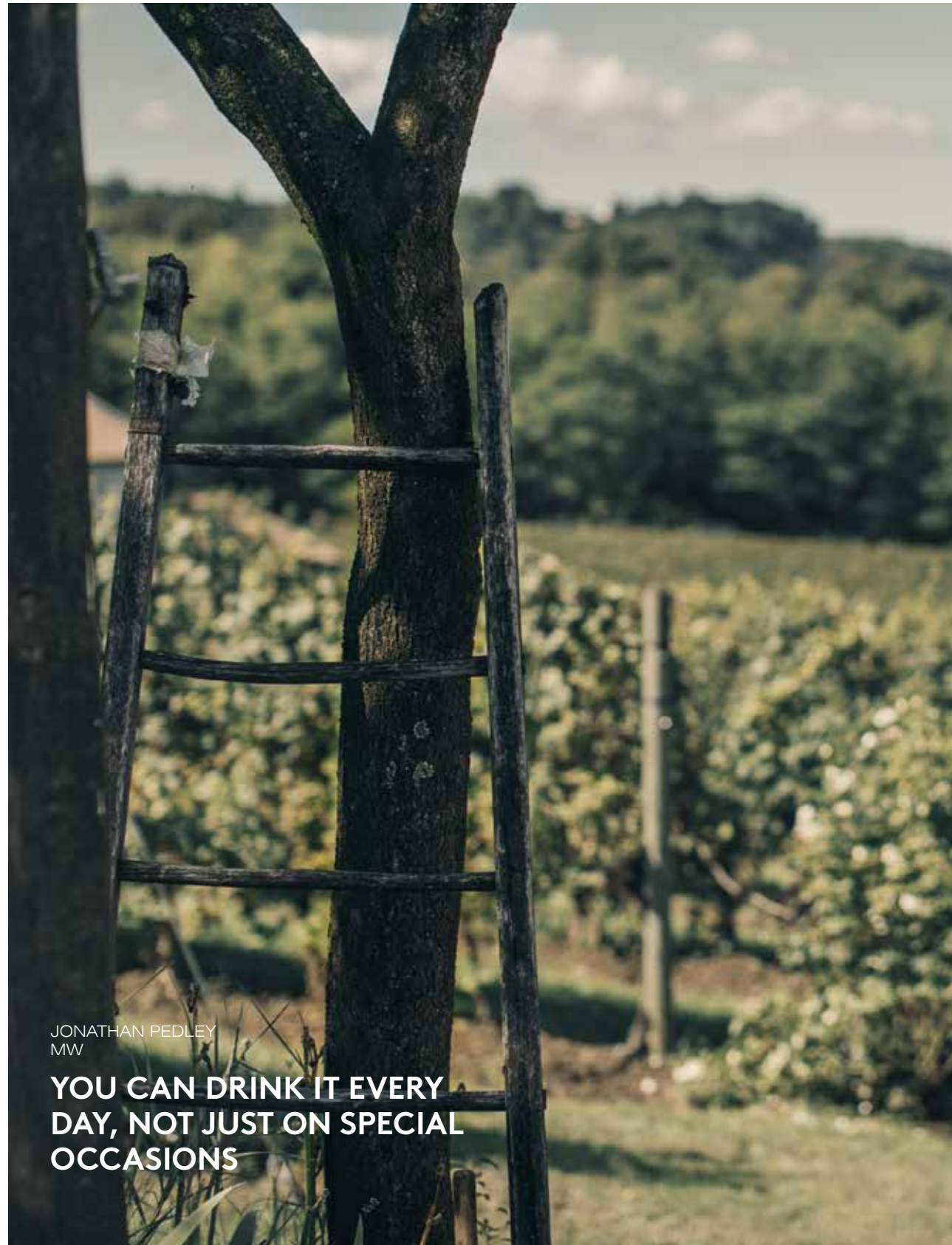
 ABV 0.0%

 NO ALCOHOL



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**A SHOUT OUT FOR THIS NEW
ALCOHOL-FREE, SWEET,
CLEAN-AS-A-WHISTLE
SPARKLER**



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**YOU CAN DRINK IT EVERY
DAY, NOT JUST ON SPECIAL
OCCASIONS**



C&C S.R.L.

Zimor Prosecco Treviso Extra Dry Millesimato

TREVISO

NV

The staggering success of Prosecco continues to amaze and bewilder all of us in the wine trade. How did this simple, fruity, off-dry fizz come to overtake Champagne sales in the UK? Perhaps the answer lies in my description: simple, fruity (it is not too austere and/or complex) and off-dry (Brut Champagne can sometimes be rather tart). Anyway, Prosecco seems to be here to stay, despite Champagne staging a comeback over the last year or so. Our new example under the Zimor label ticks all the usual boxes. It has an intense sparkle and a pale greenish-lemon colour. The nose is light and fresh with apple aromas. The palate is not too dry and there is just the right amount of balancing acidity.



PEDLEY'S PICK



EXCLUSIVE TO
CROWN CELLARS



SPARKLING



TASTE



ABV 11.0%



A LOVELY ROSE PINK FIZZ THAT IS MEDIUM-DRY AND SHOWS DELICATE RED FRUIT AROMAS



C&C S.R.L

Zimor Rosato Spumante Extra Dry Millesimato

TREVISO

NV

Pale rose pink in colour. There is plenty of sparkle and the bubbles are small. Youthful and delicate on the nose with a hint of red fruit. Medium-dry and juicy on the palate.

e EXCLUSIVE TO CROWN CELLARS

o SPARKLING

4 TASTE

% ABV 11.0%

A REALLY CHARACTERFUL PINOT GRIGIO, WITH TEMPTING APRICOT, PEACH AND MELON FRUIT



C&C S.R.L

Zimor Pinot Grigio delle Venezie

IGT VENEZIE

NV

Very pale lime in colour with a good intensity of ripe fruit on the nose showing touches of peach, apricot and melon. The fruit carries through onto the palate where the wine is dry and refreshingly crisp.

e EXCLUSIVE TO CROWN CELLARS

1 TASTE

⚡ STYLE

% ABV 12.0%

A LIGHT AND DELICATE PINK PINOT GRIGIO THAT IS OFF-DRY ON THE PALATE



C&C S.R.L

Zimor Blush Pinot Grigio delle Venezie

IGT VENEZIE

NV

Palish cherry pink. There is a light and delicate fruit character on the nose. Off-dry but with enough fresh acidity to provide balance. Light-bodied with a hint of red fruit.

e EXCLUSIVE TO
CROWN CELLARS

3 TASTE

🍷 STYLE

% ABV 12.0%

A MID-BODIED RED WINE WITH SOFTISH TANNINS AND ACIDITY. RED FRUIT ON THE NOSE



C&C S.R.L

Zimor Merlot Veneto

IGT VENETO

NV

Mid-pink ruby colour. A moderate intensity of simple red fruits – damson in particular. Mid-bodied with softish tannins and acidity. The fruit comes through to the palate.

e EXCLUSIVE TO
CROWN CELLARS

C TASTE

🍷 STYLE

% ABV 11.5%



VITICOLTORI PONTE

Ponte Vino Frizzante Raboso

IGT VENETO

NV

Raboso is an old black grape variety, native to the north-east of Italy. Traditionally it produces a fullish-bodied red wine that has rustic tannins and dried fruit aromas. Crown Cellars has listed one for several years under the Campe Dhei label. It is the sort of wine you drink with a winter stew or a meat pie. However, it can also be used to make something totally different. Vinified to show off the vibrant youthful side of Raboso, and then put through a second fermentation in tank, the result is a joyous fizzy “fruit bomb”. The colour of the Ponte Raboso Frizzante is mid-pink ruby with a powerful bubbly mousse. The nose is extremely fruity (black cherry and elderberry) and floral. The palate is mid-bodied, soft and medium in sweetness. No need for food matching here – just drink this wine well chilled with friends.



PEDLEY'S PICK



EXCLUSIVE TO
CROWN CELLARS



SPARKLING



TASTE



ABV 11.5%



SUITABLE FOR VEGANS



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**ONE OF THIS YEAR'S
QUIRKIER NEW LISTINGS**



CASALE DEL BARONE

150+1 Bianco DOC

LANGHE DOC

2018

My original tasting note for this wine is as follows: palish-lemon colour; attractively perfumed and scented on the nose – gooseberry, quince and orange blossom; the palate is dry, mid to light-bodied, elegant and lively. I thought it was intriguing and it did not take Louise and me long to decide to list it. What came as a bit of a shock is the subsequent discovery that it is actually made from Chardonnay (with 10% Arneis, a local variety in Piemonte). The label simply states “Langhe Bianco”. I find this fascinating because had the wine been badged “Chardonnay” I am pretty sure that I would not have worked so hard on the nose to pick up those lovely aromatic notes: it would have been just another Chardonnay. One of the lessons here is the timeless one of not automatically judging a wine by its label. Self-chastisement finished. Enjoy this delicious wine with white fish – sea bass, sea bream or good old cod.



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.0%

LOTS OF BLACK CHERRY FRUIT, OVERLAID WITH VANILLA OAK, ENLIVEN THIS MID-BODIED RED

CASALE DEL BARONE

150+1 Piemonte Barbera DOC

PIEMONTE

2018

Mid-pink ruby colour. Lots of black cherry fruit up front overlaid with vanilla oak. The fruit continues through to the mid-bodied palate. There is just a touch of tannin on the finish.



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.5%





CANTINE ERMES

Barone Montalto Vermentino

TERRE SICILIANE IGT

2019

Mid-pale straw in appearance, this white wine is clean and fresh on the nose. It is delicately aromatic with hints of peach and apricot. The palate is dry, light-bodied and moderately acid. It finishes in a soft textured and gentle way. I would recommend drinking this as a thirst-quenching aperitif, perhaps accompanied by Mediterranean dips and nibbles. Plantings of Vermentino straddle the land and sea borders of France (where it is sometimes called "Rolle") and Italy: it is grown in Provence, Corsica, Liguria, Tuscany, Sardinia and in this case, Sicily. It never seems to stray far inland (for reasons that I have never seen explained). This mystery aside, Vermentino's great assets are its perfume, lightness and refinement.



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 12.0%



VIGNETI ZABÙ

Il Passo Verde Organic Nero d'Avola

TERRE SICILIANE IGT

2018

Nero d'Avola is the most widely planted black grape in Sicily. A generation ago a lot of the robust, deeply coloured wine that it produced was shipped to other parts of Europe for blending with the local "thin potatoes" to beef them up. Nowadays, the wine industry has woken up to the fact that Nero d'Avola deserves a nobler fate, being well capable of making its own distinctive varietal wines, rather than ending up in an anonymous blend. This example, "Il Passo Verde" (the green step), is made from grapes grown organically in the western part of Sicily. It is fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel vats, half of the wine subsequently being aged in oak. The pronounced but polished nose shows the influence of both the Nero d'Avola grape (prune and blackberry aromas) and the oak. The palate is mid to full-bodied with fleshy tannins and a good length. I cannot think of anything better to accompany a rich meat ragù (along with Eduardo De Filippo's play, "Saturday, Sunday, Monday").



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.0%



ORGANIC



DOMAINE BOYAR

Deer Point Cabernet Sauvignon

THRACIAN LOWLANDS

2017

It was Cabernet Sauvignon that led the first boom in Bulgarian wine back in the 1980s, so there is a touch of déjà vu about relisting one in 2020. It is hard to believe it now, but for a lot of UK consumers these Bulgarian wines were some of the first ones to be prominently labelled by grape variety rather than region. Of course a lot has happened in Bulgaria, and to the country's wine industry in particular, since then. However, leading producers, such as Domaine Boyar, are still dab hands at crafting good-quality Cabernet Sauvignon at a decent price. This Deer Point wine has a mid-deep ruby colour. There is lots of classic varietal blackcurrant and blackberry fruit on the nose. The palate is mid to full-bodied with ripe supple tannins. The fruit continues through to the finish. Lots of happy experiences down the years have shown that wines based on Cabernet Sauvignon often work beautifully with roast lamb.



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 12.5%

A PLEASANT AND UNCOMPLICATED DRY WHITE WINE THAT IS MODERATELY ACID AND LIGHT-BODIED

DOMAINE BOYAR

Deer Point Pinot Grigio

THRACIAN LOWLANDS

2018

Watery lemon in appearance. Pleasant and uncomplicated on the nose. There is some yellow fruit. The palate had no rough edges: dry, moderately acid, light-bodied.



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.0%





BALFOUR HUSH HEATH ESTATE

**Balfour,
Leslie's
Reserve NV**
Pinot Noir &
Chardonnay

KENT

NV

About 70% of Hush Heath Estate's production is sparkling wine, so it makes sense to feature this delicious fizz. The grape mix is the traditional combination of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The wine is bottle fermented and matures for 12-18 months before release. The emphasis is on youthful fruit on both the nose and palate. Although it is counterintuitive, the "Extra Dry" designation means that Leslie's Reserve is a not as dry as a "Brut" version would be; if anything, this makes it even more enjoyable to drink on its own or as a celebratory toast. By the way, in case you are curious, Leslie is the wife of the owner, Richard Balfour-Lynn.



PEDLEY'S PICK



SPARKLING



TASTE



ABV 11.5%



SUITABLE FOR VEGANS

A LIFTED AND VIBRANT DRY WHITE WINE SHOWING ELDERFLOWER, CUT GRASS AND GRAPEFRUIT AROMAS

BALFOUR HUSH HEATH ESTATE

**Balfour,
Skye's Blend**
Bacchus,
Chardonnay &
Pinot Blanc

KENT

2018

Pale lemon in appearance. Lifted and vibrant on the nose – the Bacchus grape contributing its distinctive elderflower, cut grass and grapefruit aromas. Dry and crisp on the palate.



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 11.5 %



SUITABLE FOR VEGANS



A LIGHT AND REFRESHING DRY ROSÉ THAT HAS ATTRACTIVE SUMMER FRUIT AROMAS



BALFOUR HUSH HEATH ESTATE

Balfour, Nannette's Rosé

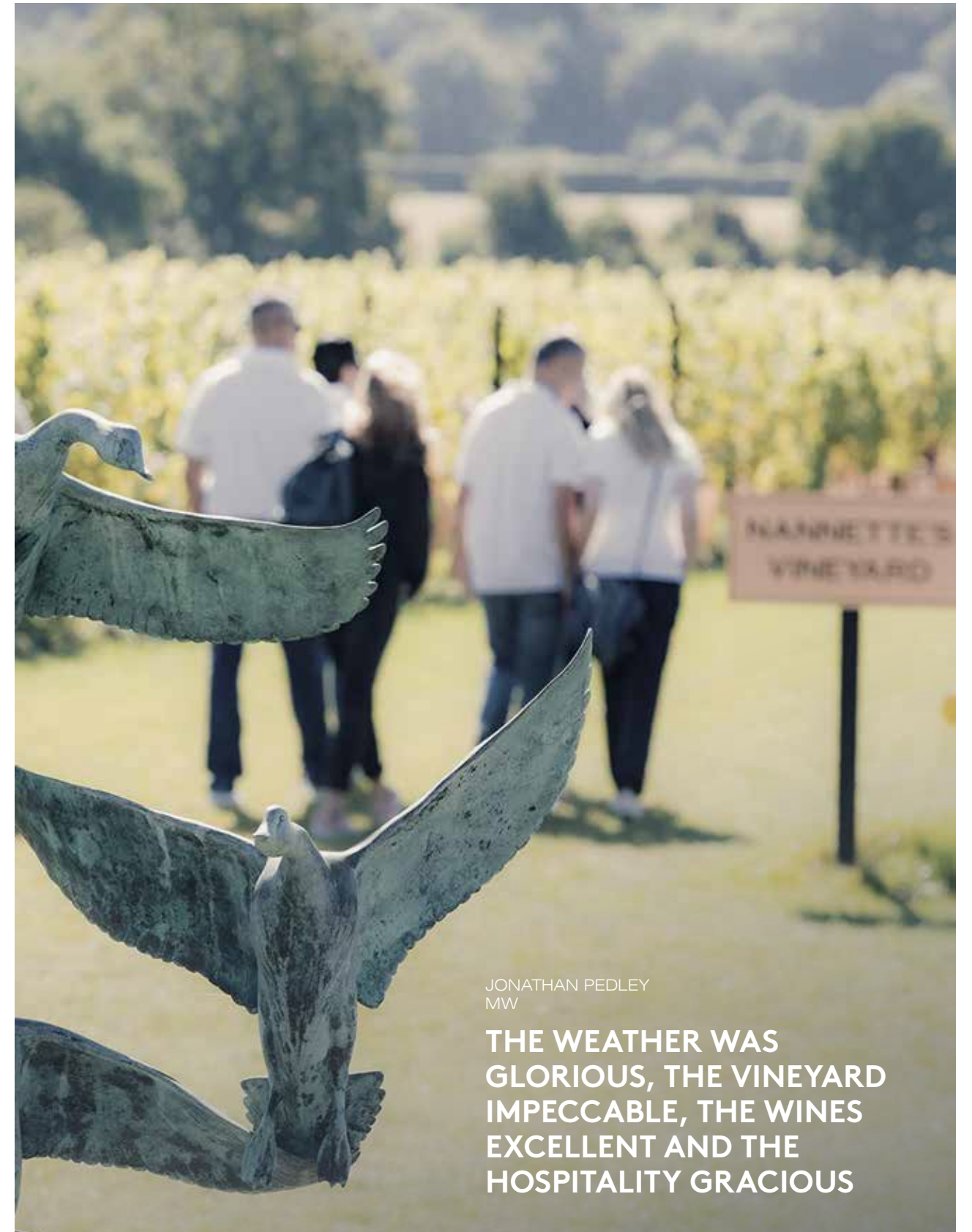
Regent, Pinot Noir,
Pinot Meunier &
Chardonnay

KENT

2018

Salmon pink in colour. Ripe and attractive on the nose with summer fruit aromas – strawberry in particular. The palate is dry, light and refreshing.

- 1 TASTE
- 🍷 STYLE
- % ABV 11.0%
- Ve SUITABLE FOR VEGANS



JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**THE WEATHER WAS
GLORIOUS, THE VINEYARD
IMPECCABLE, THE WINES
EXCELLENT AND THE
HOSPITALITY GRACIOUS**



GRUPO TRAVERSA

Finca Traversa Tannat

MONTEVIDEO

2018

Nowadays we often associate the New World with growing a narrow repertoire of “international” grape varieties (e.g. Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot etc.). However, what you sometimes find are less familiar grape varieties that tell us about the origins of the European settlers. For instance, the widespread planting of Chenin Blanc in South Africa is attributed to the arrival of Huguenots from the Loire Valley. The importance of Tannat in Uruguay can be explained by a wave of Basque immigration in the 1870s. Tannat is the key grape variety in Madiran, the top red wine appellation in the south-western part of France, so it would have made sense for the local Basques to take cuttings out to Uruguay to try to make wine there. One hundred and fifty years later the Finca Traversa Tannat is deep pink ruby in appearance. The bouquet is solid and dense with distinct prune and date notes. The wine is full-bodied and foursquare in the mouth but the tannins are ripe and there is good length on the finish. It is hard to think of a better partner for a rare steak.



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 12.5%

A DRY, LIGHT-BODIED AND CRISP WHITE WINE SHOWING VIBRANT GREEN FRUIT AROMAS



GRUPO TRAVERSA

Finca Traversa Sauvignon Blanc

MONTEVIDEO

2018

Watery lemon colour. Light and youthful on the nose showing vibrant green fruit aromas. Dry, light-bodied and crisp on the palate. Decent texture and length.



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.5%



LOS HAROLDOS

Viñas de Mendoza Torrontés

MENDOZA

2019

Torrontés is Argentina's flagship white grape variety. It was first mentioned as growing in Argentina's vineyards in the nineteenth century, but its exact origins were unknown. Recent DNA research has shown that it is a cross of Muscat (hence the intense perfume) and Criolla (hence the light texture). Our version is produced by the family-owned Los Haroldos winery in Mendoza. The vines grow at an altitude of just under 3,000 feet in the foothills of the Andes. The wine has a very pale lemon colour. The aromas are pretty and refined with elderflower and primrose floral notes. No oak ageing is employed and the wine is bottled young. The palate is off-dry, light-bodied and balanced by just enough acidity. Whilst you could drink this with something light, such as a seafood salad, I tend to think that Torrontés is best enjoyed well chilled as an aperitif.



PEDLEY'S PICK



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.0%



A SUPPLE MID-BODIED MALBEC THAT HAS PLENTY OF CRUNCHY DARK BERRY FRUIT

LOS HAROLDOS

Viñas de Mendoza Malbec

MENDOZA

2019

Mid-deep pink ruby appearance. Crunchy dark berry fruit characterises the nose. The palate is mid-bodied with soft acidity and supple tannins. Moderate length on the finish.



TASTE



STYLE



ABV 13.0%





JONATHAN PEDLEY
MW

**I WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY
THE QUALITY AND PRICE OF THE
RUNNING DUCK NAS PINOTAGE**



STELLAR ORGANICS

Running Duck No Added Sulphur Pinotage (NAS)


WESTERN CAPE

2018

When you make a wine without adding any sulphur dioxide (the key preservative used in winemaking) there is always a risk of oxidation. You all know about fruit oxidation: think about what happens when you cut open an apple or a banana and leave it exposed to the air for half an hour – it goes brown and the flavour is deadened. The production team at the Stellar Winery skilfully avoid these problems with this “No Added Sulphur” Pinotage. First of all, it has a deep pink-purple colour with no sign of browning. Secondly, there is a decent intensity of damson and bramble fruit (oxidised wines often take on a sherry-like aroma). There is no flatness on the palate either: the wine is mid to full-bodied, has soft acidity and just a touch of tannin. Enjoy this wine with informal contemporary food: burgers, chicken skewers, grilled halloumi, etc.

 PEDLEY'S PICK

 TASTE

 STYLE

 ABV 13.5%

 ORGANIC



LES GRAND CHAIS

NOTES:

VIN DE PAYS CONTINUED

GRENACHE BLANC, PAYS D'OC, DOMAINE MAS BELLE EAUX

Quite a full-bodied white wine that has a good intensity of ripe fruit: melon and yellow plum in particular.

072 2 🌞 🍷 ££

PETIT VERDOT, PAYS D'OC, DOMAINE MAS BELLE EAUX

An impressive red wine that combines youthful dark fruit aromas with a mid to full-bodied palate.

073 D 🍷 🍷 ££

ALSACE

PINOT BLANC, JEAN-RÉMY HAEFFELIN

A light, fresh, dry white wine with green apple aromas and peach and yellow plum fruit flavours.

074 1 🍷 🍷 🍷 £££

GEWÜRZTRAMINER, JEAN-RÉMY HAEFFELIN

Exotic and floral aromas are followed by a ripe roundness on the palate.

075 3 🍷 🍷 🍷 £££

BEAUJOLAIS

FLEURIE PIGEONNIER DU CHAPITRE

A lightish-bodied and delicately tannic red wine that has just a touch of dark fruit.

076 B 🍷 🍷 🍷 £££

LES GRAND CHAIS

NOTES:

PROVENCE

HENRI GAILLARD CÔTES DE PROVENCE, ROSÉ

A classic French rosé: bone-dry and light-bodied with delicate red fruit.

077 1 🍷 🍷 🍷 £££

BORDEAUX

CHÂTEAU MARCADIS LALANDE-DE-POMEROL

A classic complex mid-bodied Bordeaux red that has dark fruit, stylish oak and some savoury notes.

078 C 🍷 🍷 🍷 £££

MINERVOIS

MUSCAT DE SAINT-JEAN-DE-MINERVOIS, DOMAINE LES TAILHADES

A sweet but beautifully balanced white wine that has attractive aromas of sultana and beeswax.

079 8 🍷 🍷 🍷 ££

BURRIDGES OF ARLINGTON ST, SPAIN

NOTES:

RIOJA – BODEGAS DEL MEDIEVO

FINCA DE ORO, VIURA SAUVIGNON BLANC

Fresh, clean and youthful with attractive apple and peardrop aromas.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 080 | 1 |  | e | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|---|----|----|

FINCA DE ORO, TEMPRANILLO

A surprisingly refined and complex mid-bodied red, showing dark fruit, spice and oak aromas.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|----|----|
| 081 | C |  | e | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|---|----|----|

BLANCO FERMENTADO EN BARRICA

A dry and light-bodied white with an intense aroma dominated by oak and ripe fruit.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|
| 082 | 1 |  | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|

ROSADO

Pale rose colour with floral summer fruits aromas. Dry with plenty of refreshing acidity.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|
| 083 | 1 |  | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|

CRianza

A concentrated and brooding red wine that has a solid structure of tannin and is mid to full-bodied.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|
| 084 | D |  | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|

“TUERCEBOTAS” TEMPRANILLO BLANCO

A dry white wine with attractive juicy fruit on the nose and a rich smooth palate.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|
| 085 | 2 |  | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|

“TUERCEBOTAS” GARNACHA

A deliciously lush mid-bodied red wine: ripe and juicy with blueberry and spice to the fore.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|
| 086 | C |  | | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|

BURRIDGES OF ARLINGTON ST, SPAIN

NOTES:

RIOJA – BODEGAS LANDALUCE

FINCAS DE LANDALUCE CRIANZA

Bramble, dark plum and spicy oak aromas give the wine a lovely aroma. The palate is lush and rich.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|
| 087 | C |  | | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|

FINCAS DE LANDALUCE RESERVA

Mid to full-bodied with well-integrated tannins. Smooth and mellow with hints of very ripe red fruit and a long finish.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|
| 088 | D |  | | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|-----|

GALICIA

JOAQUÍN REBOLLEDO, GODELLO, VALDEORRAS

Rich and ripe aromas of melon and greengage are followed by a dry but succulent palate.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|--|-----|
| 089 | 2 |  | | | £££ |
|-----|---|---|--|--|-----|

NEW VALDOCEA ALBARIÑO, RÍAS BAIXAS

Lovely floral and exotic fruit aromas are followed by a zingily fresh and dry taste.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|
| 090 | 1 |  | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|----|

ALBARIÑO LAXAS, RIAS BAIXAS

A beautifully aromatic and scented dry white wine that is refreshingly crisp.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|----|------|
| 091 | 1 |  | | Ve | ££££ |
|-----|---|---|--|----|------|

DOUGLAS GREEN BELLINGHAM

NOTES:

SOUTH AFRICA

FRANSCHHOEK VINEYARDS CHARDONNAY
PINOT NOIR BRUT NV

A stylish traditional-method sparkling wine with aromas of citrus, melon and biscuit.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|
| 130 | 1 | | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|

MILLSTREAM SAUVIGNON BLANC

A light-bodied dry white wine with attractive ripe fruit flavours and a lively acidity.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|---|----|
| 131 | 1 | | e | V | ££ |
|-----|---|--|---|---|----|

MILLSTREAM ROSÉ

A fruity and friendly medium-dry pink glugger.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|---|----|
| 132 | 5 | | e | V | ££ |
|-----|---|--|---|---|----|

MILLSTREAM CINSAULT RUBY CABERNET

Medium-bodied with ripe berry and spice flavours.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|----|----|
| 133 | B | | e | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|---|----|----|

BOSCHENDAL RACHELSFONTEIN, CHENIN
BLANC

A youthful but pleasant dry white wine that is attractively fruity.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|
| 134 | 2 | | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|

BELLINGHAM, HOMESTEAD, SAUVIGNON
BLANC

A dry white wine with gooseberry and tropical fruit flavours.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|-----|
| 135 | 1 | | | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|-----|

DOUGLAS GREEN BELLINGHAM

NOTES:

SOUTH AFRICA CONTINUED

BELLINGHAM HOMESTEAD PINOTAGE

A wine with an intense bramble berry aroma, complemented by a full, soft, round palate.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|-----|
| 136 | C | | | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|-----|

BRAMPTON, SAUVIGNON BLANC

Tropical fruit, floral and herbaceous notes characterise this vibrant and zingy dry white wine.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|
| 137 | 1 | | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|

BRAMPTON, UNOAKED CHARDONNAY

This is a dry white wine with all the ripe fruit of a top Chardonnay but without the oak flavours.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|
| 138 | 2 | | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|

BRAMPTON, OLD VINE RED

A proper, chunky, mid to full-bodied red wine that has aromas of blackcurrant, spice and oak.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|
| 139 | D | | | Ve | ££ |
|-----|---|--|--|----|----|

BRAMPTON, CABERNET SAUVIGNON

A fullish-bodied and chewily tannic red wine that has plenty of cassis and oak flavours.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|----|-----|
| 140 | D | | e | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|--|---|----|-----|

BRAMPTON, THE ROXTON RED

A red wine that is fullish-bodied and off-dry with quite intense black fruit aromas.

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|----|-----|
| 141 | D | | e | Ve | £££ |
|-----|---|--|---|----|-----|

