

Domaine Richaud, Terre de Galets, Côtes du Rhône, France 2016 90

£23.99 Liberty Wines Marcel Richaud takes a Burgundian approach in the vineyards and winery, so this spicy, southern red is more elegant than you might expect. Garrigue and blueberry are backed by sculpted tannins and, despite the high alcohol, it is an approachable style. Alc 15%



Guy Allion, Les Parcs Pinot Noir, Touraine, Loire, France 2016 90

£11.99 All About Wine

If you are on a budget and fancy a Pinot Noir, then this is just the ticket. Biodynamically grown, it has an engaging perfume of strawberry and raspberry compote that is mirrored on the palate along with refreshing acidity and a dash of pepper on the finish. A great alternative to red Sancerre. Alc 12%



Jeroboams, Bordeaux, France 2016 90

£13.45 Jeroboams

Own-labels are seeing a new lease of life and Jeroboams is the latest merchant to get in on the act. Blended by négociant, François Thienpont, this is a smooth and easygoing Bordeaux boasting sweet plum and red cherry fruit and fine structure. Very versatile, it would be a great bottle to take to a dinner party. Alc 14%



Josetta Saffiro, Barbera d'Alba, Piedmont, Italy 2015

£18.95 Vagabond Wines

This 5ha family estate, managed by the fifth generation, majors on Nebbiolo but its Barbera shouldn't be overlooked. This vintage is packed with crunchy, vibrant red fruit given a great kick from the acidity. A perfect red to have with nibbles on the balcony or at a picnic. Alc 14%



Ranuccio Neri, Stile di Campriano, Toscana, Italy 2015 90

£18.20 Haynes Hanson & Clark Previously labelled as Chianti, this 100% Sangiovese still is, in all but name (the winemaker labelled it IGT to free him from the strict DOC rules). Generous red cherry and herbal notes sing from the glass over high-toned acidity and firm tannins. It will really open up at the table with



Tanners, Super, Douro, Portugal 2015 90

£14.50 Tanners

UK merchant Tanners blended this from wines made by Duorum Vinhos. A full-on mouthful at first taste, with concentrated black berry fruits galore. But the palate reveals more lightness of touch thanks to an elegant structure and subtle use of oak. Definitely one for barbecued meats. Alc 14%



Vieux Château St-André, Montagne St-Emilion, France 2014 90

£18.75 Haynes Hanson & Clark Jean-Claude Berrouet, longtime winemaker for the Moueix properties which include Petrus, now runs this estate with his son. The 2014 has vibrant black fruit, cedary oak and polished tannins on a serious, structured palate. A classic Right Bank wine that will age well. Alc 13%



Louis Tête, Brouilly, Beaujolais, France 2016 89

£12 Marks & Spencer

Best drunk slightly chilled (and ideally alfresco), this is an ideal summer quaffer. The traditional carbonic maceration used in Beaujolais highlights the juicy fresh strawberry fruit of the Gamay grape on a light and breezy palate. One to keep on standby in the fridge for barbecue emergencies. Alc 13%



Château du Moulin-à-Vent, Moulin-à-Vent, Beaujolais, France 2015 92

£25 Stannary St Wine Co

From one of the most serious and ageworthy of the 10 Beaujolais crus, this Gamay is made in quite a modern style, showcasing generous and vibrant dark cherry fruit supported by a firm tannic frame and fine acidity. The complex palate is layered, textured and structured which suggests you could cellar it for several years, but it has enough ample fruit to be enjoyed now. Alc 13.5%