

The Bottleneck News February 2011

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Wine tasting..... swirling & sniffing!

For years the swirl & sniff has been the mark of a serious taster and now scientific research has discovered just how the technique works. The mystery process known in physics as “orbital shaking” allows tasters to appreciate the wine's aroma or bouquet, was uncovered by researchers who studied the waves generated around the inner edge of the glass. Fluid experts have long been aware of the action that churns the liquid as it travels drawing oxygen from the air and intensifying the smell. Different glasses have a different effect on the olfactory glands and we believe the ISO glasses we use for our tastings do a good job. If you want to join the swirl & sniffers for “orbital shaking” at our monthly



Sunday tastings the next one is on Sunday 26th February between 11.30 & 3pm at the Bottleneck shop. Wines featured will be reds & whites with Rhone Valley influence, including the excellent Les Bartavelles Châteauneuf du Pape 2009 at £22.50 from the legendary Jean-Luc Colombo, plus the excellent St Hallett Faith Barossa Valley Shiraz on offer at £9.99 bottle plus at least 6 other wines. Tastings are relaxed & informal with no obligation to buy, wine wizard & friends have been known to attend. Why not make it a leisurely Sunday & finish off with lunch at the Tartar Frigate telephone 01843 862013 or the Albion Hotel telephone 01843 868071

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Opening Hours February

Monday Tuesday
Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am to 6pm
Friday & Saturday
9.30am to 9pm
Sunday Closed

Except Wine Tasting
Sunday
Sunday February
26th 11am to 3pm



White Zinfandel a Rosé made from red grapes?

The White Zinfandel row broke out last autumn after Italian authorities complained about the grape being referred to as "White Zinfandel" when it is a red grape, which they said would be confusing to consumers. The term is widely understood as a brand name in the USA and UK meaning the popular rosé wine. This storm in a wine glass took up hours of EU time for such an undistinguished wine it gained enormous importance!! After much deliberation the 27 member states voted to allow the term to be used in the EU. If you are looking for a more exciting rosé we have plenty to offer from the classy Pol Roger Rosé Vintage 2002 Champagne at £69.00 to Zonin Rosato Spumante Brut at £10.99 bottle Marques Rosado Cava at £6.99 bottle

Angus Brut Sparkling Rosé at £9.99 bottle all these lovely sparklers on offer at 10% off shelf price from 7th to the 14th

February to help you celebrate St Valentine's Day. We have some super still rosé too from the gently medium dry McGuigan Rosé at £6.55 bottle to the stylish dry rosés Spy Valley Marlborough Rosé 2010 at £ 9.99 bottle, L'Aumerade Cotes de Provence Cru Classé 2010 £ 10.49 bottle and the excellent Ventoux rosé Belle Combe Terraventoux Rosé 2010 a snip at £6.69 bottle and during February on offer at £5.99 bottle.



Australia Day Blues.

It's Australia day and as I write a strange phenomenon is taking place in Australia, the strong Australian dollar, coupled with the aggressive tactics of supermarket giants Coles and Woolworths, has caused a plunge in the price of European wine in Australia.

Prices have fallen, some brands have dropped by 30 per cent, with a bottle of Moët & Chandon NV now sometimes cheaper than the local version, Domaine Chandon. Coupled with a cultural snobbery that assumes foreign wine must be better than the domestic wines, the low prices for obscure European drops have caused a flow of wine into the country - and money out - that the local industry is worried by! In Europe suppliers and consumers are very loyal to their local wines but this is proving not to be so in Australia.

The Australian industry's response to the deluge of cheap wine is a new mar-

keting campaign asking consumers to consider patriotism.

Wine Australia wants Australians to stick to Australian wine on Australia Day and, if they catch someone drinking an offshore drop, to "pull down their strides". Let's hope that English producers don't call for the same action here on St George's Day!!!

The high dollar has delivered a double hit to local producers, making exporting more difficult at the same time as French and Spanish wines flood Australia's shops.

When you consider the amazing diverse wines produced in Australia you'd think the locals would be happy! Australian wines from £5.99 to £150.00



Wine Tastings

**Sunday 26th February
11.30am to 3pm**

*Tasting to include wines in the style
of the Rhone valley from their home
& around the World.*

*Yalumba Bush Vine Grenache
usually £10.99
special offer £8.99 bottle and
Yalumba Y Series Viognier Usually
£8.99 special offer £7.99 bottle*



Wine Wizard

I have been told to tell you about our purrfect delivery service our friendly delivery driver Chris (yes that is the same Chris that can be seen behind the counter, dressing the window and taking in stock from suppliers etc) is out & about most mornings of the week but never on a Sunday.....well almost never. Delivery is free on the island for orders of over £35. Also did you know that we loan glasses free with an order you fill the glasses twice (i.e. 12 glasses loaned you buy 4 bottles of wine) & we will loan them free of charge you only pay for breakages.

Now I have got the customer services advice done, & talking about customer service how about this error of judgement. A consumer court in Delhi has ordered India's Jet Airways to pay a fine of £590 in compensation for refusing to serve a passenger an alcoholic drink on



the grounds that she was a woman!!

Have you ever wanted a wine that is “out of this world”, it seems you may soon get the chance! Ian Hutcheon is making Cabernet Sauvignon wine in Chile that is aged over a chunk of meteorite that landed in the Atacama desert 6,000 years ago. The rock is thought to have formed in the Asteroid belt about 4.5 billion years ago, the wine is called Meteorito and will be exported to the UK Hutcheon said “this wine contains elements from the birth of the solar system” Just to put your mind at

rest no Higgs bosons were found in this wine!!! Just to remind you wine lovers it is Valentines day on February 14th we will gift wrap your sparkling wine in cellophane & give you 10% off shelf price between 7th & the 14th February.

Special Offers

Australia

Grant Burge Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon Sparkling Methode Traditional Usually £21.00 bottle
Special Offer £17.99 bottle

Grant Burge Burge Vines Cabernet Merlot 2007 usually £10.99 **special price £7.99 bottle**

Yalumba Bush Vine Grenache usually £10.99 bottle **special offer £8.99 bottle**

Yalumba Y Series Viognier Usually £8.99 **special offer £7.99 bottle**

Leaping Lizard Western Australia Cabernet Merlot 2008 £8.99 bottle **special price £6.99 bottle stock won't last the month**

St Hallett Barossa Valley Faith Shiraz 2009 Usually £10.99 bottle **special offer price £9.99 bottle free gift box too!**

France

Chateau Bonnet Reserve White Entre de Mers 2010 usually £9.99 bottle **special price £7.99 bottle**

Marcel Hubert Red, Rosé plus Dry & Medium White **at £4.69 or buy 3 for £12.00 no further discounts**

Taittinger Brut Reserve NV usually £35.00 bottle
special price £27.99 bottle

Cave Terraventoux Les Combes Blanc, Belle Combe Rosé & Les Sablons Rouge usual price £6.69
special price £5.99 bottle

Cave Terraventoux Terres de

Truffes Rouge 2010 usually £8.99 bottle
special price £7.99 bottle

New Zealand

Spy Valley Sauvignon Blanc 2011 Usually £9.49 **special price £8.49 bottle.**

South Africa

Lourensford The River Crossing Shiraz Cabernet 2010 usually £6.99 bottle
special price £4.99 bottle

Lourensford Sauvignon Blanc 2011 Chardonnay 2010 Merlot 2009 Shiraz 2009 usual price £8.99 bottle **special offer price £6.99 we can offer a 5% case discount off 6 bottles or more off these delicious wines too!**

Sparkling wines & Champagne

From 7th February to 14th February **10% off a bottle** to celebrate St Valentine's Day

Beers

We have a range of ales & a few ciders on our 3 x 1/2 litre bottles for **£4.50 including Shepherd Neame Masterbrew, Celebration, Badger's Fursty Ferret & Hopping Hare, Black Sheep, Manns Brown Ale & Green King IPA** the beers on offer may change without notice but more will take their place.

