

# The Bottleneck News May 2018

## Albarino Rias Baixas

The first thing I have to say about Albarino Rias Baixas is it is good quality. Like the New Zealand wine industry they strive to make the best wine they can, therefore the wine is not at the lower end of the market if you find a cheap example I simply would not trust it!

Over 99% of all wine produced in Rías Baixas is white. Differences in microclimates and grape varieties in the five sub-zones, as well as different wine-making techniques, make for wonderful diversity. Style ranges from a crisp, aromatic “melony” character in Val do Salnés, to a peachier, softer style in O Rosal, and a less fruity and earthier style in Condado do Tea. While the different sub-zones express subtle differences, the wines all share a number of characteristics. Pale golden lemon, they are all crisp, elegant and fresh. These wines are bone-dry and aromatic, packed with flavours of white peach, apricot, melon, pineapple, mango and honeysuckle. They share good natural acidity, have mineral overtones, and are medium bodied with moderate alcohol .

DO Rías Baixas permits eight types of wines: Rías Baixas, Rías Baixas Albariño 100% Albariño, grapes can be sourced from any sub-zone, Rías Baixas Salné, Rías Baixas Condado, Rías Baixas Rosal, Rías Baixas Barrica – wines aged in oak, can be red or white, Rías Baixas Tinto – red wine, less than 1% of all production, Rías Baixas Espumoso – sparkling very limited production.

While twelve grape varieties are permitted in the DO, the white Albariño grape represents 96% of all plantings. Other important permitted grapes include

Treixadura, traditionally blended with Albariño; and Loureiro, a high-quality local variety particularly associated with O Rosal. Caiño Blanco, Torrontes and Godello are also planted to a lesser extent throughout the region. Planting Albariño at the proper height and exposure to ensure even, healthy ripening is essential to quality. Vines are traditionally widely spaced and trained on stone pergolas hewn out of the same granite as the soils below. To counter the region’s rainfall and humidity, most vines are trained on a wire trellis called a “parra” anchored by granite posts. Parras are up to seven feet high, allowing breezes to flow through to prevent mildew and to promote even ripening. Many Rías Baixas winemakers now favour fermenting their grapes with the native yeasts found in their vineyards. It can be challenging to make wine with wild yeasts, they believe the resulting aromas are a more authentic reflection of the characteristics of the Albariño grape and their terroir.

All wines from Rías Baixas carry an official label from the Consejo Regulador. The Consejo conducts regular vineyard inspections to ensure adherence to the rules apply. Following harvest, cellars are inspected to make certain that the volumes of grape must correspond with the volumes harvested. Prior to bottling, a tasting committee from the Consejo samples each vat of wine for quality and performs a sensory evaluation. Only wines that pass all of the quality control trials bear the official Rías Baixas label. Trust me this summer is going to be an Albarino summer!

**The Bottleneck  
Wine Merchant**  
7 & 9 Charlotte Street  
Broadstairs  
Kent CT10 1LR  
Telephone  
01843 861095

Website  
[www.thebottleneck.co.uk](http://www.thebottleneck.co.uk)

Emails  
[Info@thebottleneck.co.uk](mailto:Info@thebottleneck.co.uk)

### Inside this issue:

New Arrivals	2
Beer Special Offers	2
Wine Tastings	3
Opening Hours	3
Wine Wizard	3
Special Offers on Wines	4

If you do not receive this newsletter on a regular basis, please contact us at the above address, telephone number or email and we'll add you to our mailing list. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter just let us know.



## New Arrivals

### Italy

#### **Brunello Di Montalcino Collina Dei Lecci 2009 £31.00 bottle**

Ripe plum and red berry aromas accented with hints of oak and white pepper lead the nose on this wine. The round, ripe palate delivers fleshy black cherry, dried cranberry, leather & tobacco spiced up with hot cinnamon and a hint of liquorice alongside tight tannins. Drink 2015–2021.

#### **Fantini Montepulciano D’Abruzzo Bio Organic Wine 2016 £11.99 bottle**

This wine shows an intense, fruity bouquet with floral hints and some richer spicy notes. The palate is full yet well balanced with lovely ripe dark red fruits and soft tannins.

### Spain

#### **Lolo Albariño 2017 Rias Baixas £11.99 bottle**

The Albariño grapes come from young vines in the Val do Salnés sub-region of Rías Baixas. Cool-fermented it shows notes of green apple and lemon peel with a hint of stone-fruit, such as white-fleshed plum. The palate is fresh, with zippy fruit and a balancing acidity on the finish.

#### **Paco & Lola Albariño 2016 Rias Baixas £15.99 bottle**

Attractive straw colour with hints of green on the rim; ex-



pressive and harmonious nose of green apples, pear and lemons, with hints of herbs and flower blossom base notes. The palate is clean and textured with seductive exotic notes of pineapple and mango intermingled with refreshing citrus flavours amplified by mineral accents. The fruit is grown in the Val do Salnés sub-region, in sustainably managed vineyards planted on a mixture of granitic, sandy and loam soils. **GOLD International Wine Challenge 2017.**

#### **Bodegas Hidalgo Triana Pedro Ximenez £14.99 50cl**

Deep caramel in colour. Bursting with treacle, toffee, raisins and prunes. The palate is opulently sweet, a velvety texture with flavours of figs and caramel. The ultimate sticky wine. Serve slightly chilled. Pedro Ximenez of this quality can either be served on its own as a luxurious after-dinner drink, or as a dessert wine. Try with chocolate puddings, or even poured over rum and raisin ice cream!



## Beer Offers

### Beers

Our famous Mix & match offer features Hobgoblin, Hobgoblin Gold, Batemans xxxB, Wadworths 6X, Boon Doggle, Greene King IPA, Mann’s award winning Brown Ale, Whitstable Bay Pale Ale & Shepherd Neame Masterbrew & Spitfire **at 3 x ½ litres for £4.99**  
**No further discounts on this offer**

Whitstable Bay Blonde **£1.45 330mls or buy 6 for £7.49 or 24 for £28.00**

## Wine tastings ~

Thanks to all of our customer who attended our tasting on Sunday 22nd April. The Lolo Albariño at £11.99 bottle and the Louis Jadot Couvent Des Jacobins Chardonnay at £16.99 bottle **Special offer £12.99 bottle** where both well received and achieved the best sales for white wines. The Errazuriz Aconcagua Costa Pinot Noir at £16.99 bottle **Special Price £12.99 bottle** was drinking like a dream it went down very well but the star of the show was Contino Reserva Rioja at £22.99 bottle **Offer Price £17.99 bottle ( Marks & Spencer's price £25.99 bottle)** it was simply outstanding. Our next tasting will be on Sunday 20th May from 11am to 3pm we hope to see you there.



## Opening Hours ~



**Monday Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday**

**9.30am to 6pm**

**Friday & Saturday**

**9.30am to 8pm**

**Sunday Closed except**

**Sunday 6th & 27th May from 11am to 3pm May**

**Bank holiday weekends**

**Wine tasting Sunday 20th May from 11 am to 3pm**

**Please note The Bottleneck will be closed Sunday**

**13th May until Thursday 17th May reopening**

**Friday 18th May apologies for any inconvenience to out customers.**

## Wine Wizard

April has been a strange month first it's spring then it isn't. Lin has a sore paw (she calls it a foot!!) a customer trod on it and it swelled up, she had an x ray and it wasn't broken she had a week off and slept a great deal I thought she might be morphing into a cat!! I am pleased to see a florist has moved over the road & as I have my anti histamines' ready I'm happy no-one loves a sneezing cat! The Angel Rooms have flown away but are still trading on line we wish Georgina all the best. Hinge greengrocers have



gone & it is rumoured that the shop will be a sandwich shop we wish Brian & Bridget all the best in their retirement. It is also rumoured that the post office is coming back to town in the Londis store I have my paws crossed that this true! Sending a parcel will be easy at this end of town once again. Chris & Lin are having a few days off in May, Sunday 13th and re-opening Friday 18th. They are hoping that the weather stays fine & maybe a little warmer that old East wind has been biting of late.

# Special Offers

## Argentina

### Red Wines

Bodega Renacer Punto Final  
Mendoza Malbec Clasico 2017  
Usually £11.99 bottle

**Special Price £10.50 bottle**

## Australia

### Red Wines

Angus the Bull Cabernet Sauvignon  
Victoria Usually £12.99 bottle & £25.99  
magnum **Our price £9.99 bottle /£19.99  
magnum**

Bill Downie Biodynamic Petit Verdot 2015  
Usually £16.99 bottle

**Special Price £14.99 bottle**

Handcock & Handcock  
Cabernet Sauvignon Touriga 2015  
Usually £13.99 bottle

**Our Price £10.99 bottle**

## Champagne

Bollinger Special Cuvee NV  
Usually £46.00 bottle

**Special Price £38.50 bottle Gift Boxed\*\***

Bollinger Special Cuvee NV  
Usually £25.50 ½ bottle

**Special price £19.99 ½ bottle Gift boxed**

Moet & Chandon Imperial Brut NV  
Usually £41.50 bottle

**Special price £34.50 Gift Boxed \*\***

Moet & Chandon Rosé Imperial Brut NV  
Usually £50.99 bottle

**Special price £42.50 Gift Boxed**

Ruinart Rosé NV Usually £57.00 bottle

**Special Price £45.00 Gift Boxed**

Taittinger Nocturne City Lights Sec NV  
Usually £105.00 Magnum

**Special Price £79 Magnum**

Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label Brut NV  
usually £46.50 bottle

**Special Price £38.50 Gift Boxed \*\***

## Chile

Errazuriz Pinot Noir Aconcagua Costa  
2016 Usually £16.99 bottle

**Special Price £12.99 bottle**

## France

### Red Wine

Louis Jadot Couvent des Jacobin Pinot  
Noir 2015 Usually £16.99 bottle  
**special offer £12.99 bottle**

Jean Luc Colombo Cotes du Roussillon  
Les Palomettes 2015 Usually 12.75 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle**

Jean Luc Colombo La Violette Syrah IGP  
Vin de Pays Usually £12.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle**

## White Wine

Jean Luc Colombo La Violette Viognier  
IGP Vin de Pays Usually £12.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle**

Louis Jadot Couvent des Jacobin Char-  
donnay 2016 Usually £16.99 bottle

**special offer £12.99 bottle**

## New Zealand

### White wines

Bascand Estate Riesling 2014  
Usually £10.99 bottle

**Special Price £7.99 bottle**

Blank Canvas Grüner Veltliner  
Marlborough 2013

Usual price £15.50 bottle

**Special price £13.99 bottle**

Cloudy Bay Sauvignon Blanc 2017

Usually £23.50 bottle

**Special price £19.99 bottle**

Esk Valley Hawkes Bay Pinot Gris 2016/17  
Usually £13.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle**

Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc  
Marlborough 2016

Usually £ 15.50 bottle

**Special Price £11.99 bottle**

Vidal Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2017  
Usually £12.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle**

Villa Maria Private Bin Riesling  
Marlborough 2017 Usually £10.99 bottle

**Our Price £8.99 bottle**

## Spain

Contino Reserva Rioja 2012 Usually  
£22.99 bottle **now only £17.99 bottle**

## South Africa

### Red Wines

Darling Cellars The Capeman Red  
West Coast 2015 Usually £8.95 bottle

**Special Price £5.99 bottle selling fast!**

Excelsior Robertson

Cabernet Sauvignon 2015

Usually £9.99 bottle

**Special Price £8.50 bottle**

The Curator Red Swartsland 2013

Usually £9.50 bottle

**Special Price £7.99 bottle**

Withington Cellars Darling Malbec  
usually £9.59 bottle

**now only £6.99 bottle**

**\*\* Please note these Champagnes are  
cheaper than Majestic “buy 6 bottle  
prices”, what’s more we will give you a 5%  
discount if you buy 6!!**