

The Bottleneck News October 2018

Biddenden Vineyards say 2018 is a bumper Harvest!

Biddenden vineyards began their 2018 harvest at the end of August the 27th to be precise about 3 weeks earlier than the average! The grapes are fully ripe with plenty of sugar and in very good condition. This will be a really big harvest possibly double the usually expected yield. This is great news as 2017 was disappointing as the weather was not helpful to the vines but 2018 has made up for it. The unusually warm long



summer with just the right amount of rain gave Biddenden perfect conditions so it was all hands to the pump to get grapes picked! This year there should be plenty of English wines to go around, and although the sparkling wines will not be ready for a few years it will be great quality when it is released.

Chapel Down a Kent success story!

Chapel Down are creating England's largest vineyard by extending its North Downs plot in Kent to 385 hectares. Larger than Rathfinny and Denbies resulting in England's largest vineyard. Chapel Down is already England's largest wine producer, but it needed more land to meet ever-increasing demand. Chief executive Frazer Thompson said: "This is more exciting news for Chapel Down and the English sparkling wine business. The new Boxley site is close to our existing vineyard at Kits Coty and our other recently planted sites at Court Lodge Farm and Street Farm on the North Downs." "We believe this area of the North Downs offers the finest terroir in England for sparkling varieties and successive excellent crops and critical acclaim for wines from our Kits Coty

vineyard prove it. This will be the largest vineyard in England, with the potential to produce up to a million bottles of sparkling wine per annum when mature." "The sites will be planted over the coming years to enable us to grow our business to satisfy the demand for Chapel Down wines over the next 25 years." The completion of the lease is anticipated on or around October 11, 2018. Chapel Down announced 15% sales growth in sales for 2017, compared to the year before, driven by both its wine and its beer businesses. That trend looks set to continue this year as it goes on the expansion trail and continues to win legions of new fans. 2018 is set to be a bumper harvest great quality and a much bigger yield.

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New Arrivals

Australia

Red Wines

Peter Lehmann

The Barossan Shiraz 2016

Usually 16.99 bottle

Special Price 14.99 bottle

Peter Lehmann was known as the saviour of the Barossa and this wine says everything about the Barossa & Peter Lehmann.

This wine spends 15 months in 50% new oak & 50% older oak barrels before bottling. A complex and layered wine with fruit intensity and suppleness. Lifted cherry and brooding dark fruit aromas combine seamlessly with sweet chocolate and mocha undertones. An intense, generous and full bodied wine with fine tannins and a soft, supple finish.

Mitolo Jester McLaren Vale

Cabernet Sauvignon 2015

Usually 14.99 bottle

Special Price 12.99 bottle

Mitolo is a family owned winery established in 1999 by Frank Mitolo, built on passion and an uncompromising commitment to quality.

Winemaker Ben Glaetzer became a partner in the business in 2001. The fusion of Frank's intimate knowledge of the land, with Ben's winemaking talent has led to the creation of one of Australia's most exciting wineries. The nose is bright, lifted and aromatic with raspberry, blackberry and mint chocolate characters. The palate is concentrated with a luscious rolling texture and packed with fresh blackberry and plum, dark chocolate, liquorice and a hint of white pepper spice. The wine is juicy and plush with silky tannins that linger, providing a dry, savoury finish.

France

White Wines

Château de Fontenille 2016

Entre de Mers at 12.99 bottle

Light gold in colour. The nose is complex and pure, with aromas of citrus fruit and white peaches. Full-bodied, with fresh acidity, the palate is well balanced. The lingering finish has a pleasant pepperiness to it.

Italy

Red Wines

Zabu Nero d'Avola Sicilia 2017

Usually 11.99 bottle

Special Price 9.99 bottle



The vineyards for Vigneti Zabù were planted in 2005 on the hills around Lake Arancio in Sambuca di Sicilia in southwestern Sicily. This Nero d'Avola has an intense ruby red colour with purple highlights. The nose is bursting with red cherries and berry fruit, supported by floral and balsamic notes. Warm and long-lasting, the palate has lovely floral hints on the long attractive finish.

White Wines

I Muri Puglia Bianco 2017 at 9.99 bottle

This wine is straw yellow in colour with golden reflections. It has lifted aromas of peaches and stone fruit with some citrus notes, which follow on to the elegant palate. This wine is crisp with refreshing acidity and is a great partner for seafood or creamy chicken dishes.

Spain

Red Wines

Pruno Ribera del Duero 2016

Usually 16.99 bottle

Special Price 14.99 bottle

The vineyards are now farmed organically, with canopy management and natural treatments used instead of artificial chemicals. As expected, Tempranillo is the mainstay of the vineyards, with Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon also planted. This wine is deep, black cherry in colour. Aromas of red fruit with oaky toffee hints from the ageing in French barrels give way to a rich and fruit-driven wine on the palate. With elements of ripe fruits and liquorice, this wine has a pleasant, lingering and soft finish.

Sherry

Valdespino El Candado Pedro Ximenez at 19.99 bottle

A deep mahogany colour. Intense aromas of dried fruits, raisins, figs, and subtle notes of chocolate and coffee. Smooth and velvety on the palate, with great length and balance. If you like vanilla ice cream you'll like it even more with a glass of this poured over it!

Wine tastings ~

Our September wine tasting had some new tasters and we were glad to welcome them on such a miserable day but the tasting put some sunshine back into their lives! The three big hitters at the September tasting were Zabu Nero d'Avola Sicilia 2017 Usually 11.99 bottle

Special Price 9.99 bottle,

Cleef's Reserve Collection Shiraz Mouvedre Viognier & Cleef's Reserve Collection Chardonnay Usually 12.99 bottle **Special Price 9.99.** We are pleased to announce that the Nero d'Avola will be at special price until Christmas yippeeeeeeeeeee!!



Opening Hours ~



Monday Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday

9.30am to 6pm

Friday & Saturday

9.30am to 8pm

Sunday Closed except for wine tasting Sunday

28th October 11am to 3pm

N.B. We will be closed on Monday 8th to Thursday

11th reopening on Friday 12th October

apologies for any inconvenience to our customers but we need a holiday!

Wine Wizard

The French authorities have found millions of bottles of Spanish rosé masquerading as French IGP wines! It is a criminal offence to pass off foreign wines as French and an offender can face a two-year prison sentence. Fancy doing porridge for the "Francisation" of wine!

I'm sure you know that we sell miniatures very useful for stocking fillers at Christmas or for jazzing up a sauce or a pudding. Well a miniature of 1937 The Macallan Malt has just sold at auction for £3000 although the rare whisky business is booming I don't think



we will be stocking it any time soon ! A wine has been launched that would bowl a maiden over! Yes Sir Ian Botham OBE has ventured into the wine business, " I hate the term "celebrity wine" he said making it clear that he wasn't just putting his name to a wine but has plenty of input into the making of the wine. However Ian is a celeb and it is a wine so I think we could be forgiven for calling it a celebrity wine! Tootle pip and purrs all round!

Special Offers Case discounts available on all wines!

Argentina

Red Wines

Urban Uco Tempranillo Mendoza 2014
Usually 11.99 bottle

Special Price 7.99 bottle we got more of this one aren't you lucky!

Australia

Red Wines

Helmsman Cabernet Merlot
Usually 10.45 bottle

Special Price 7.99 bottle not much left won't last the month!

Mitolo Jester McLaren Vale
Cabernet Sauvignon 2015

Usually 14.99 bottle

Special Price 12.99 bottle

Peter Lehmann

The Barossan Shiraz 2016

Usually 16.99 bottle

Special Price 14.99 bottle

White wines

Helmsman Semillon Sauvignon Blanc

Usually 10.45 bottle **Special Price 7.99 not much left!**

Champagne

Bollinger Special Cuvee NV

Usually 46.00 bottle

Special Price 38.50 Gift Boxed

Bollinger Special Cuvee NV

Usually 25.50 ½ bottle

Special price 19.99 ½ bottle Gift boxed

Taittinger Brut Reserve NV 2018 FIFA
World Cup Usually 42.85 gift box

Special Price 33.50 gift boxed

France

Red Wine

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

Our Price £9.99 bottle

Jean Luc Colombo Cotes du Rhone Les
Abeille Rouge RRP 12.99

Special offer price 9.99 bottle

White Wine

Jean Luc Colombo Cotes du Rhone Les
Abeille Blanc RRP 12.99 bottle

Special offer price 9.99 bottle

Italy

Red Wines

Zabu Nero d'Avola Sicilia 2017

Usually 11.99 bottle

Special Price 9.99 bottle

New Zealand

White wines

Left Field Albariño Gisborne 2017
usually £13.99 bottle

Special Offer £10.99 bottle only a few left!

Vidal Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc
2017 usually 12.99

Special Offer 9.99 bottle

Vidal Marlborough Riesling 2017
usually 12.99

Special Offer 9.99 bottle

South Africa

Red Wines

Darling Cellars Cinfu Cinsault

Usually 9.99 **Special price 5.99 we grabbed the last 15 cases available at this price!**

The Curator Red Swartsland 2013/16
Usually 9.50 bottle

New Lower Special Price 6.99 bottle yippee we obtained more of this excellent wine!

Cleef's Reserve Collection Shiraz Mou-
vedre Viognier Usually 12.99 bottle

special price 9.99 bottle

White wines

Cleef's Reserve Collection Chardonnay
Usually 12.99 bottle

Special Price 9.99 bottle

Spain

Red Wines

Pruno Ribera del Duero 2016

Usually 16.99 bottle

Special Price 14.99 bottle

Beers

Mix & match offer features Hobgoblin,
Hobgoblin Gold, Batemans XXXB,
Wadworths 6X, Boon Doggle, Mann's
Brown Ale, Whitstable Bay Pale Ale &
Masterbrew & Spitfire

Buy any 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**

Gadds' She Sells Seashells 2.15 330mls
can or buy 6 cans for 11.50 also Gadds'
No 11 1.70 330ml can or buy 6 for 9.50