

# The Bottleneck News March 2018

## New Arrivals

### France

#### Red Wines

**Baron de Badassière Vins d’Pays d’Oc Syrah 2016 £8.99 bottle**

*Deep red in colour, with complex spicy aromas leading to a richly structured palate, supple tannins and persistent length. Well-balanced with freshness that lifts the finish.*

**Olivier Ravier Beaujolais-Village 2015 £9.99 bottle**

*The nose is very fresh and fruity with distinct aromas of strawberries and redcurrants. The palate is full of fruit with a juicy attack. The wine has structure & good length.*

**Brouilly La Loane Beaujolais 2015 £12.99 bottle**

*An intense purple colour with aromas of blackcurrant, redcurrant and blueberry. With sweet tannins, the palate is bursting with rich red fruit flavours and floral hints of violet.*

#### White Wines

**Baron de Badassière Picpoul de Pinet 2016 £8.99 bottle**

*Pale lemon in colour with a youthful rim. Crisp apple aromas are complemented with a citrus edge. On the palate, it has attractive weight, with a good balance of ripe, yellow plum and greengage fruit character and a fresh lime zest acidity that*



*continues through the very attractive finish.*

**Baron de Badassière Vins d’Pays d’Oc Viognier 2016 £8.99 bottle**

*This Viognier is made in a fresh, modern style. It offers subtle aromas of almond and honey on the nose. Rounded on the palate, with guava and apricot flavours, it is balanced by a refreshing acidity on the finish.*



### Italy

#### Red Wines

**Fantini Farnese Montepulciano d’Abruzzo 2016 Organic Wine £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. This wine is extremely attractive.*

### Portugal

#### Red Wines

**Duque de Viseu Carvalhais Dao 2014 £8.99 bottle**

*Deep ruby red in colour. The nose shows aromas of strawberries, blackberries and ripe raspberries, as well as balsamic and herbal nuances that lend freshness and complexity to the wine. The palate is soft and smooth, with great freshness provided by balanced acidity and a minty character. The tannins give structure and personality to this wine, which is harmonious and long on the finish.*

**Herdade do Peso Trinca Bolotas Alentejo Vinho Tinto 2015 £10.99 bottle**

*Very bright red colour. Highly intense aroma dominated by components of red fruit and ripe black fruit – blackberry, raspberry and plums. Dense on the palate, with high-quality tannins, well-balanced acidity and a long finish.*

**Vila Regia Douro Vinho Tinto 2016 at £7.99 bottle**

*Ruby red in colour, this wine displays fresh red strawberry and raspberry aromas, as well as some black fruits and a hint of black pepper. On the palate, it is full-bodied with well-integrated acidity and lingering flavours of ripe red fruits on the harmonious finish.*

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**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.**

**Wine  
Discounts  
March  
6 bottles  
5%  
12 bottles  
7.5%**

## What's in a name?



**Punto Final  
Mendoza  
Malbec 2017  
on offer at  
£10.50 bottle**

It's such a long time ago that I started learning about wine (I wish I knew more!) that I am quite surprised about how little the wine drinking public know about the wines that they drink. I was asked last week about Malbec a customer saw a Malbec from France on our shelves and said "I thought that Malbec was a place in Argentina." I can understand why this confusion would occur as Malbec is always bracketed with Argentina. When I told him that Malbec was a grape variety from Bordeaux he was intrigued. I went onto explain that Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet France and Carmenère were Bordeaux grapes too and that generally (though not always)

claret was a blend of several grape varieties.

I have spent hours explaining that Chardonnay is not a bad grape variety the "I hate Chardonnay but I love Chablis" customer is alive and well and living in Broadstairs! When I explain that Chablis is 100% Chardonnay and so is Blanc de Blanc Champagne the news is met with suspicion & sometimes hostility. Chardonnay is one of those varieties that is an expression of the vineyard' the

winemaker and the climate, it grows like a weed if it is left to its own devices but given some TLC it turns into a great wine. Chardonnay is a village in Burgundy and the grape is thought to be named after the village. Macon-Chardonnay is allowed to carry the village name on its label so it's sort of named twice.

The confusing thing about wines although many are named for their grapes many others are named for a place the only way you are going to know the difference is by practice! Rioja is a place in Spain Tempranillo is its principle red grape. Burgundy is a place in France principle red grape Pinot Noir principle white grape Chardonnay & it's also a place in Burgundy, confused you won't be if you ask a wine merchant!!!! For most people enjoying wine is a simple pleasure and I am sure that with the rise of the "I can't stand Pinot Grigio" customer I am going to have to explain that Pinot Grigio is not the same, hell what I am saying I am already doing that! I have done this with Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and Merlot et al. The sweeping statement that you dislike a certain variety doesn't

contribute to your enjoyment of wine it just holds you back from trying things that you may like. If you want to learn a little more about wine come & taste wine at one of our tastings. No charge, 8 wines to try, ask us questions and we'll do our best to give you an answer.



**Louis Jadot Macon-Chardonnay  
2015 at £14.99 bottle**

### CASE DISCOUNTS MARCH

**6 bottles 5% Discount  
and 12 bottle 7.5% Discount**

### WINE TASTING MARCH

**18th March 2018 from 11am to 3pm  
come & try before you buy.**

## Wine tastings ~

Our first tasting of the year was well attended & the wines all showed well it's difficult to pick out a star however the Blank Canvas Gruner Veltliner 2013 Marlborough New Zealand usually £15.50 bottle **Special Offer £13.99 bottle** and Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc 2016 Marlborough New Zealand usually £15.50 bottle **Special Offer £11.99 bottle** were unanimously applauded. In the reds Bill Downie Biodynamic Petit Verdot 2015 South Australia usually £16.99 bottle **Special Offer £14.99 bottle**, Amalaya Malbec Tannat Petit Verdot 2016 Valle De Calahaqui Argentina usually £11.99 bottle **Special Offer £10.99 bottle** Renacer Punto Final Malbec 2017 Mendoza Argentina usually £11.99 bottle **Special Offer £10.50 bottle** The Velvet Devil Merlot 2015 Washington State USA £14.99 bottle were also received with enthusiasm if I had to pick a red favourite I would be hard pressed to do so. In the whites it would be Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc. Next Wine Tasting 18th March 2018 from 11am to to 3pm come & try before you buy.



## Opening Hours ~ March 2018



**Monday Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday**  
**9.30am to 6pm**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
**9.30am to 8pm**  
**Sunday Closed Except for**  
**Wine Tasting March 18th 11 am to 3pm &**  
**Easter Sunday 1st April 11am to 3pm**  
**Easter Monday Closed**

## ~~Wine~~ G & T Wizard

We all know the sinking feeling we get when we go to a "Posh" restaurant and your starter is served on a roof tile, then main is served on a trowel & the pudding in a jam jar!! While the food is so good that there is no need to feel you have to serve food from items found lying around a building site but they do. Well this same trend can now be found in trendy bars, they are serving the ubiquitous G & T from jam jars, paint pots, buckets and any other strange vessel that comes to hand! Online barware firm Root 7's has come up with a new

-serving vessel "styled as a teapot" for serving a G & T's, with a filter basket that strains out all the bits that you don't want to drink. The company told "Drinks Retailing" that if a G & T is not your thing then the item can be used in the traditional way to make a cuppa tea. Methinks this was because it is actually a regular teapot not too cunningly disguised as a G & T glass.



# Special Offers

## Argentina

### Red Wines

Amalaya Calchaqui Valley  
Malbec/Tannat/Petit Verdot 2016

Usually £11.99 bottle

**Special Price £10.99 bottle**

Bodega Renacer Punto Final  
Mendoza Malbec Clasico 2017

Usually £11.99 bottle

**Special Price £10.50 bottle**

## Australia

### Red Wines

Bill Downie Biodynamic  
Petit Verdot 2015

Usually £16.99 bottle

**Special Price £14.99 bottle**

De Bortoli Over Yonder Pinot Noir Yarra  
Valley 2015

Usually £9.99 bottle

**Special Price £7.99 bottle**

Handcock & Handcock

Cabernet Sauvignon Touriga 2015

Usually £13.99 bottle

**Our Price £10.99 bottle Arriving week  
commencing 5.3.18**

Robert Oatley Finisterre

Great Southern Pinot Noir 2011

Usually £22.99 bottle

**Special Price £ 12.99 bottle**

### White Wines

Handcock & Handcock Fiano 2016

Usually £13.99 bottle

**Our Price £10.99 bottle Arriving week  
commencing 5.3.18**

Robert Oatley Finisterre

Mudgee Chardonnay 2011 Usually £22.99  
bottle **Special Price £ 12.99 bottle**

## Champagne

Bollinger Special Cuvee NV ½ bottle

Usually £25.50 **Special price £19.99 gift  
boxed**

Charles Heidsieck Brut Reserve NV

Usually £45 bottle **Special Price £39 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**

Taittinger Brut Reserve NV plus

2 Champagne flutes Normally £45

**Special Offer £35.50 gift box**

## France

### Red Wine

Jean Luc Colombo Cotes du

Roussillion Les Palomettes 2015

Usually 12.75 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle Arriving week  
commencing 5.3.18**

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

**Our Price £9.99 bottle Arriving week com-  
mencing 5.3.18**

### White Wine

Jean Luc Colombo La Violette Viognier

IGP Vin de Pays Usually £12.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle Arriving week com-  
mencing 5.3.18**

## New Zealand

### White wines

Blank Canvas Grüner Veltliner

Marlborough 2013

Usual price £15.50 bottle

**Special price £13.99 bottle**

Esk Valley Hawkes Bay Pinot Gris 2016/17

Usually £13.99 bottle

**Our Price £9.99 bottle Arriving week com-  
mencing 5.3.18**

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 Arriving week  
commencing 5.3.18**

Villa Maria Private Bin Riesling

Marlborough 2017 Usually £10.99 bottle

**Our Price £8.99 bottle Arriving week  
commencing 5.3.18**

## South Africa

### Red Wines

Excelsior Robertson

Cabernet Sauvignon 2015

Usually £9.99 bottle

**Special Price £8.50 bottle**

### White Wines

Excelsior Robertson

Sauvignon Blanc 2017

Usually £9.99 bottle

**Special Price £8.50 bottle**

## Beers

Our famous Mix & match offer features

Hobgoblin, Hobgoblin Gold, Brakespear

Bitter, 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**