

The Good Restaurant Guide

www.leamingtoncourier.co.uk

Wines selected by Alastair MacBrayne – Your Wine Guru

Spring Time Treats around the Maypole or in Your Secret Garden

Conjure in your mind some eclectic wines to stir the mind and excite the palate, taking in the delight and positive energies of your growing garden. This is the time of year for rebirth, to take a fresh look at your life and damn the routine – The seeds are being sown and you can now indulge in the positive forces.

Great wines of the season for your enjoyment with a supper stir fry feast, those exotic flavours of Distant Land Gewurztraminer from Gisborne, New Zealand, with Turkish Delight and rose petal aromas followed by sweet spices, rich with refreshing fruit; a wonderful Spring wine for a real treat at £8.50 per bottle.

Or alternatively, to highlight a fish feast to impress your Special One, an intimate wine Montlouis Sec Minerale, 2007 – Domaine Franz Saumon – Organic white wine from a small hectare property in Touraine; the wine is unfiltered and no sulphur is added, with its spiky personality and honeyed texture made from old Chenin grapes, this will make a salmon exceed its expectations for a minimal investment of £13.75 per bottle (Please

note that this wine is made without chemicals in the vineyard, and its taste is purity and clean fresh minerality).

Casting aspartions aside with, we now move on to a chirpy little Merlot – Domaine De Moulines – Vin De Pays De L'Herault. This wine is stylistic, impeccable balanced, elegant and pure red wine, with flavours of plums, blackberries and cherries balanced by soft plush tannins and fresh on the finish. This wine is made with a traditional fermentation and maceration of 25 – 30 days with light extraction of fruit and ageing in tank. The wines are bottled unfiltered. Monsieur Saumade, the owner, has attracted the attention of a certain Robert Parker. However, for your enjoyment this is a wine for Spring Lamb and Cêpes. A brilliant bargain at only £6.99 per bottle.

When you are visiting Puglia in the heel of Italy, an area rich in historic tradition and a region with notable cultivation of vineyards, almond and olive groves, cherry and plum orchards, you come across the Primitivo grape (Otherwise known as the Zinfandel in other Countries), you will discover a laid-back Primitivo gentleman, Pasquale Petrera

from the Fatalone Estate, Gioia Del Colli, who makes exquisite organic wines that create tranquillity and harmony. The philosophy of his winery is healthy and happy vine roots to healthy and happy vine fruits and enzymes with a spring in their step, a wiggle on their hips and a new age song on their lips. This straight talking Primitivo Gioia Del Colle wine has a sweet tobacco scent and flavours of sour black cherry, mussel, plum and toffee; a smooth warm balanced red finishing with an aftertaste of toasted almond, typical of this wine. Another candidate for lamb cooked with rosemary and garlic – the Perfect Primitivo Match. This wine sells at £10.99 per bottle – It is a limited production.

May the wines talk for themselves, just enjoy and experience an alternative option to bring your palate back to life, but also to dream about the flavours.

All wines available to order on line at www.dorjes.co.uk or telephone Dorjé's Wine Company on 01926 430550 for further information.

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