



THE CROWN INN

EAST RUDHAM

"This list is as much about what has been excluded as included. We have shied away from super-brands, where every subtle nuance, every hint of character is blended away to obscurity. Instead, we have sought out the personal hands-on wine producer, all of whom excel in creating wines of individuality, passion and flair. We have thoroughly enjoyed compiling this list. We hope you enjoy drinking it..."

Chris Coubrough - Proprietor & Chef / John Atkinson - Master of Wine

CHAMPAGNE AND SPARKLING

1. **Prosecco Brut Argeo, Ruggeri, Veneto, Italy NV** £23.00
Lithe, effervescent tonic.
2. **Billecart-Salmon Brut Reserve NV** £40.00
Delicate, yet flavourful, Billecart's fine textural weave vigorously unspools into filaments of tiny, brilliant bubbles.
3. **Bollinger, Special Cuvée NV** £55.00
Bollinger's full-bodied style, perfectly illustrates the extraordinary boost and energy of combination that blending brings to Champagne.
4. **Billecart-Salmon Rosé NV** £59.00
Small additions of still Pinot Noir add extra dimensions of colour and flavour, without ever compromising the gentle impact of the underlying blend.
5. **Billecart-Salmon Vintage 1998/2004** £95.00
The herald of decadence.
6. **Krug, Grande Cuvée NV** £149.00
The ultimate ménage à trois of the Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier.

WHITE WINES

FLORAL, ZESTY AND FRUITY

*They may lack some of the distinction and polish of the fine wines, but there is no shortage of pleasure here. Few of us will ever make the tables of Michelin*** el Bulli, but Basa is their biggest selling wine.*

7. **St Jean, Vin de Pays de Cotes de Gascogne, France 2008** £13.95
Slimline and sophisticated.
8. **Sauvignon Blanc, De Gras, Colchagua Valley, Chile 2009** £15.50
Super-sleek, passion-fruit-scented Sauvignon.
9. **Pinot Grigio Via Nova, Contri, Veneto, Italy 2008** £17.95
The variety that single-handedly sexed-up the bucolic world of Italian wine.
10. **Basa, Telmo Rodriguez, Rueda, Spain 2007** £18.95
Telmo blends a little Sauvignon in with the local Verdejo grape, and the result is subtly unconventional.
11. **Fusion II Riesling, Hofmann, Rheinhessen, Germany 2006** £19.95
Riesling's lightness allied to an enticing floral surge.
12. **Alvarinho, Regueno de Melgaço, Portugal 2008** £25.95
An original and delicious escape from the world of narrowly duplicated wine styles.

RICH, SOFT AND MELLOW

Burgundy's checkerboard of vineyards and appellations is daunting. Less complicated is the region's recipe for oak barrels and chardonnay, which has gained international devotees in wineries as far flung as Orgeon and Otago.

13. **Chardonnay, Les Fleurs du Sud, Vin de Pays d'Oc 2008** £14.95
Round and satisfying.
14. **Fiano, MandraRossa, Sicily, Italy 2008** £15.50
Sicily's towering sun brings extra body and flavour to Fiano's already ample frame.
15. **Petit Chenin, Ken Forrester 2008** £15.95
Stellenbosch, South Africa
Ken has the hands of Shrek, but once in his cellar, he works with the blessed touch of an angel.
16. **Chardonnay, Boobook, Forest Hill, Western Australia 2008** £17.50
This unoaked Chardonnay has generous flavours of fresh, white nectarine, mandarin, peach and hints of dried apricot.
17. **Pinot Blanc, Trimbach, Alsace 2007** £21.00
Alsatian wine has a unique ambrosial element, and Trimbach's Pinot Blanc comes rich with life.
18. **Gavi di Gavi, La Minaia Nicola Bergaglio, Piemonte, Italy 2008** £22.50
Lightly perfumed and silky textured
19. **Hegarty-Chamans, Marsanne/Roussanne, Minervois 2007** £25.00
Like pressing identical magnetic poles together, blends between varieties often repel. Here the Marsanne and Roussanne radiate warmth and flavour in tandem. (Organic)

20. **Chablis, Domaine Grossot, Burgundy 2007** £26.50
Grossot's barley and honey-scented Chablis pithily conveys France's homey sense of place.
21. **Petit Manseng Sec, Cuvée Comte Philippe, Jurançon 2006** £27.50
An original and delicious escape from the world of narrowly duplicated wine styles.
22. **Macon Bussièrès, Domaine Droin, Burgundy 2006** £29.00
The Maconnais is not drenched in light: so much of this wine's gentle impact is drawn from the underlying rock.
23. **Meursault "les Pallans" Vieilles Vignes 2006** £49.00
Domaine de Chateau de Chorey, Burgundy
The intense congestion of densely planted vines occasionally liberates something magical. This is honey-like, fine and evolved.
24. **Chassagne Montrachet, Henri Boillot, Burgundy 2005/06** £55.00
White Burgundy carries a strong impression of its geology, and Boillot's wine comes minted against the hard limestone terrain of Chassagne.

FULL AND AROMATIC

This was the dominion of France, but beginning with New Zealand, Southern Hemisphere raiders have energetically stolen a march on the traditional homeland of Sauvignon, Viognier and Semillon. Te Tera shows why Sauvignon junkies go long-haul to get their aromatic fix.

25. **Semillon/Sauvignon, Xanadu, Western Australia 2009** £15.50
Thumping, two-handed Aussie blend.
26. **Viognier, La Place, Vin de Pays d'Oc, Languedoc 2008** £15.95
Honey, apricots and spice.
27. **Gruner Veltliner, Hopley, Burgenland, Austria 2008** £19.75
Off-piste choice for the more adventurous.
28. **Gewurztraminer Classico DOC, Colterenzio 2008** £24.95
Alto Adige, Italy
Lightly perfumed and silky textured...Honey, lychee and Ginger (Gawd bless 'er) Spice.
29. **Martinborough Sauvignon Blanc 2007** £24.95
Martinborough, New Zealand
Built on the vast magnitudes of Ocean air and bright, luminous sunlight.
30. **Sancerre, Domaine Franck Millet, Loire 2008** £27.50
The Loire is home to handsome chateaux, and woods of slim poplar trees. Millet's wine is a lithe and elegant take on its surroundings.

ROSÉ

31. **St Jean, Vin de Pays d'Oc, France 2008** £13.95
Delicate and fruity, without the distractions of deep colour and tannin.
32. **Château Sainte Marguerite, Provence 2008** £19.50
Neither lurid nor sweet, but just right.

HALF BOTTLES

WHITE

- Pinot Blanc, Trimbach, Alsace 2007** £11.40
Chablis, Domaine Grossot, Burgundy 2007 £13.75

REDS

- Beaujolais Villages, Château des Alouettes, Burgundy 2008** £11.25
Chianti Classico, Fonterutoli, Tuscany, Italy 2007 £14.75

SPARKLING

- Prosecco Brut Argeo, Ruggeri Veneto, Italy NV** £12.50

REDS

SOFT AND FRUITY

No sponging off other's reputations here. These producers are pleasantly disencumbered from any local rivalries, and each offers a fresh and unique take on their surroundings.

33. **St Jean, Vin de Pays d'Oc, France 2008** £13.95
Blissfully simple blend.
34. **Painter Bridge Zinfandel, J. Lohr, California, USA 2008** £15.95
Tart blackcurrant fruit knitted into a silky weave of ripe tannin.
35. **Côtes du Rhône, Le Pas de la Beaume 2008** £16.95
Cave de Cairanne
Spicy, Grenache-dominated blend.
36. **Beaujolais, Vieilles Vignes, Domaine du Vissoux 2008** £21.50
Burgundy
Floral and perfumed, with buoyant summery fruit.
37. **Dolcetto d'Alba, Piani Noce DOC, Piemonte, Italy 2007** £26.00
Delicate and refreshing antidote to zombified, old-style Italian reds.

HEARTY AND AROMATIC

Cabernet, Merlot and Syrah were some of the first grape varieties to be lifted from France, and put in a New World setting. Across Chile, South Africa and Australia, heat and light pour down in abundance, and a strong following has grown for the richly coloured and deeply agreeable wines that have resulted.

38. **Cabernet Sauvignon, les Fleurs du Sud 2008** £14.95
Vin de Pays d'Oc, France
Rich and satisfying with an undertow of ripe black fruits.
39. **Merlot, De Gras, Colchagua Valley, Chile 2008** £16.50
Gritty, warm and easy.
40. **Al Muvedre, Valencia, Spain 2008** £16.95
The Ancient Mourvedre vines draw something unique and elemental out of the sun-blasted vineyards of Valencia.
41. **Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot, Ken Forrester 2008** £17.95
Stellenbosch, South Africa
Combines potency with volume.
42. **Château des Gravières, Graves, Bordeaux 2005** £21.95
Cedar, spice and damp crumbly earth.
43. **Crozes Hermitage, Cuvée Laurent 2008** £22.50
Dom. Combier, Rhone
Lushly textured, with the autumnal fragrance of a sweetly decaying forest floor.
44. **Chianti Classico, Fonterutoli, Tuscany, Italy 2007** £25.00
Cherry fruit, with a lingering tapenade savour.
45. **Les Chamans, La Livinière, Minervois 2006** £27.50
Chamans' delicious organic red restores old ties with the Earth. (Organic)
46. **Prelude à Grand Puy Ducasse, Pauillac, Bordeaux 2003** £39.00
This Bordeaux vintage delivered ripe fruit and soluble tannins, elevating the wines of Pauillac to an imperishable level of perfection.
47. **First Growth, Parker Estate, Coonawarra, Australia 2004/05** £45.00
Perfect mixture of Bordeaux varieties, spun out of Coonawarra's red dirt.

VELVETY AND ROUND

Burgundy's short summer can draw the best of pinot noir, but winemakers will never have it their own way with a variety that can go from ripe to rotten without so much as a skip. "LZ" Rioja provides the reliable, good value alternative to those less inclined to risk their shirt on a bottle of wine.

48. **Shiraz/Viognier, Boobook Forest Hill 2007** £17.50
Western Australia
One of Australia's big guns: unbridled power and flavour.
49. **Rioja "LZ", Spain 2007** £18.50
Time has tamed the original covering of tannin and oak to reveal a sweetened centre of ripe plum.
50. **Château de Campuget, Costières du Nîmes 2006** £27.50
Displays contrary impulses: soft and supple but also very serious.
51. **Pinot Noir Te Tera, Martinborough, New Zealand 2007** £29.95
Surging red fruit; shows why New Zealand Pinot Noir is no longer Sauvignon's silent red partner.
52. **Château La Rivière, Fronsac, Bordeaux 2004** £45.00
Sweet blurring of fruit, spice and earth.
53. **Volnay 1er Cru "Les Chevrets" 2005** £67.00
Dom. Jean et Henri Boillot, Burgundy
Sweetly perfumed, with a rust-like hue that's lifted straight from Volnay's red-weathered earth.

RED GIANTS

Rich, bold, occasionally ugly, but always magnificent.

54. **Colomé Estate, Malbec blend, Salta, Argentina 2007** £26.50
Delivers its dark, nutritious draught all too easily.
55. **Altos, de Lanzaga, Rioja, Spain 2006** £49.00
Dark, velvety, essence of ancient tendinous, Tempranillo vines.
56. **Châteauneuf du Pape Tradition 2007** £52.00
Dom. de la Janasse, Rhone
Unctuously lubricating, Grenache-based blend.

FORTIFIED AND DESSERT WINE

57. **MR, Malaga 2006** 50cl bottle £15.95
Lustrous, oozing, Moscatel. 125ml £4.95
58. **Clos Dady, Sauternes, Bordeaux 2006** half bottle £19.00
Sauternes is the definitive element in Bordeaux's 125ml £6.50
sophisticated flavour-trap.
59. **House Port, Douro, Portugal (19% abv)** £25.50
Slowly born out of the dark morass of grape must and 50ml £2.95
alcohol, Port remains one of the World's great wines.
60. **Vintage Port, Quinta do Crasto 2004** £51.00
Douro, Portugal 50ml £7.50
Shows intense berry fruit aromas and a full-bodied structure,
with plenty of mouthfilling blackcurrant flavours and terrific length.

WINES BY THE GLASS

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING

- 125ml
- Billecart-Salmon Brut Reserve NV** £8.50
(12% abv)
- Prosecco Brut Argeo, Ruggeri, Veneto, Italy NV** half bottle £12.50
(11% abv)

WHITE

- 175ml/250ml
- St Jean, Vin de Pays de Cotes de Gascogne, France 2008** £3.50/£4.65
(12% abv)
- Sauvignon Blanc, De Gras, Colchagua Valley, Chile 2008** £3.75/£5.25
(12% abv)
- Petit Chenin, Ken Forrester, South Africa 2008** £3.85/£5.30
(12.5% abv)
- Semillon/Sauvignon, Xanadu, Western Australia 2009** £3.95/£5.65
(13% abv)
- Pinot Grigio Via Nova, Contri, Veneto, Italy 2008** £4.25/£6.10
(12% abv)
- Basa, Telmo Rodriguez, Rueda, Spain 2007** £4.50/£6.50
(12% abv)
- Fusion II Riesling, Hofmann, Rheinhessen, Germany 2006** £4.95/£6.75
(12% abv)
- Martinborough Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand 2007** £5.95/£8.50
(13% abv)

ROSÉ

- St Jean, Vin de Pays d'Oc, France 2008** £3.50/£4.65
(12% abv)

RED

- St Jean, Vin de Pays d'Oc, France 2008** £3.50/£4.65
(12.5% abv)
- Cabernet Sauvignon, les Fleurs du Sud 2008** £3.60/£5.15
Vin de Pays d'Oc, France
- Merlot, De Gras, Colchagua Valley, Chile 2008** £3.95/£5.65
(14% abv)
- Côtes du Rhône, Le Pas de la Beaume 2008** £4.10/£5.75
Cave de Cairanne (13.5%)
- Shiraz/Viognier, Boobook, Forest Hill, Australia 2007** £4.15/£5.95
(14.5% abv)
- Rioja "LZ", Spain 2007** £4.50/£6.30
(13% abv)
- Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot, Ken Forrester 2008** £4.75/£6.15
South Africa (13% abv)
- Pinot Noir Te Tera, Martinborough, New Zealand 2007** £7.50/£9.95
(13.5% abv)