

U3A WINE APPRECIATION 4 June 2024

NOTE: Price in brackets is sterling equivalent of euro prices not the price charged in UK

WHITE WINES

MUSCADET-SEVRE ET MAINE 2022

This wine comes from the western region of the Loire valley and borders the Atlantic. Muscadet often has the words Sur Lie (aged on the lees) which denotes a better quality and can age more than standard Muscadets. This wine is from a specific area – Sevre et Maine – and has a higher alcohol content than usual.

GRAPE:	Melun de Bourgogne
COUNTRY:	France
REGION:	Loire
CLOSURE:	Natural Cork
CHARACTERISTICS:	Aromatic & mineral with light aromas of acacia & white flowers. Crisp and mineral driven flavour. Citrusy & saline tasting. Organic. Goes well with shellfish (especially oysters), fish and cheese
ABV:	13.5%
UNITS:	10
PRICE:	€6.65 (£5.70) UK guide price £9+. Widely available

SAINT MONT 2019

Reserve de Compostelle

This wine takes its name from the village and abbey of St. Mont where Benedictine monks starting wine-making in the 11th century. Traditionally the wine would be made for pilgrims on their way to Santiago di Compostella - the alleged burial site of St James (Jacques). Hence the scallop shell on the label.

GRAPE:	Gros Manseng, Petit Courbu, Arrufac –harvested at dawn
COUNTRY:	France
REGION:	South West
CLOSURE:	Natural Cork
CHARACTERISTICS:	Aromas of grapefruit, peach, pears & apricot. Good with seafood, fish and cheese
ABV:	13%
UNITS:	9.75
PRICE	€5.72 (£4.92). Tesco similar (grande cuvee) £9.50

POUILLY- FUMÉ 2021

From the Upper Loire opposite Sancerre.

COUNTRY:	France
REGION:	Loire
GRAPE:	Sauvignon Blanc
CLOSURE:	Natural Cork
CHARACTERISTICS:	Very complex. The wine has typical flint aromas arising from a <i>terroir</i> rich in kimmeridgian rocks and silex clays (flint). Flavours of lime and gooseberry
ABV:	13%
UNITS:	9.75
PRICE:	€13.25(£11.40) Similar wine in most supermarkets. M&S have one from same grower at £15. Described by Will Lyons in the Sunday Times as “a gem which melds zest, grassy flavours with a dry,flint finish

REDS

LES ORMES DE CAMBRAS

GRAPE:	Merlot
CLOSURE:	Synthetic Cork
COUNTRY :	France
REGION:	Pays d’Oc (Languedoc-Rousillon)
CHARACTERISTICS:	Aromas of red fruits. Goes well with red or white meats and cheeses of character
ABV :	13%
UNITS:	9.75
PRICE	€2.88. Similar wines – Fitou, Corbiere - widely available

CHINON 2022

Chinon is a fortress town in the Middle Loire where wines were grown as early as the 4th century. some wines are developed in the local troglodyte caves where temperature is constant and ideal for ageing.

GRAPE:	Cabernet Franc (Veille Vignes)
CLOSURE:	Natural Cork
COUNTRY :	France
REGION:	Loire Valley
CHARACTERISTICS:	Aromas of black fruit, spice & minerality. Cherry & raspberry flavours
ABV :	12.5%
UNITS:	9.4
STYLE:	Fresh & light
PRICE:	€8.90 (£7.65) Majestic have similar @ £13.99 (£11.99 when buying 6 bottles)

COSTIERES DE NIMES

COUNTRY :	France
REGION :	Southern Rhone
GRAPE:	Grenache, Syrah & Mourvedre. Harvested from old vines whose roots enjoy the unique terroir of the region made up of small round pebbles called galets.
CLOSURE:	Screwtop
CHARACTERISTICS:	Blackberry & plum fruits dominate with a subtle twist of spice & pepper.
ABV :	14.5%
UNITS:	10.9
PRICE	£9.99 Waitrose