

U3A WINE APPRECIATION 6 JANUARY 2026

Wine Club Looking at Labels What's in a name?

Use of celebrity names

A director Francis Ford Coppola – family fo wine growers

Cliff Richard – interest in wine

125

Majestic (grand dignified noble commanding)

Definition (own label) –launched 2015 – worlds greatest wine styles showcases commonest wine styles began with Spain and Rioja – collaboration with wineries around the world – 2023 re – assessed the range and made changes where they felt necessary – includes range of whites, reds and rose.

Gavi – crisp white Italian wine from Piedmont made from 100% Cortese grapes

Notes apple pear and citrus with honeyed finish

Ned – New Zealand Marlborough region

Founder Brent Morris

Picture – contour lines – named after a peak on which founder played. His claim is that the wine places energy and liveliness of adventure in every bottle.

Pinot Grigio Notes pear blossom green fruit

Men in White Coats – S. Africa - viognier

Traditional use psychiatrists , medical

Apricot and peach flavours

Rollo Gabb family who was originally from Shropshire - Mount RoZier Estate

ST-NICOLAS-DE-BOURGUEIL 2023 JEROME DELANOUE

France – Loire Valley
Terroir – Sandy-Gravel soil
Grape – Cabernet Franc
Alcohol —12.5%

Has a supple yet refined palate with aromas of red fruits (raspberry-strawberry} supported by soft & integrated tannins

Serve chilled – 13-15°
Food – White meats, grilled meats, charcuterie & cheese

David Williams – The Guardian

Recently cabernet franc has been enjoying a new lease of life, prized by growers for its ability, in the right conditions, to make red wines of fashionable freshness, elegance and crunch, many of which take well to drinking at cooler temperatures than richer, denser wines. The Loire Valley is the wellspring of this genre of cabernet franc, with the taste of red and blackcurrants and pencil-lead shadings.

This wine we have tasted is not available in UK but Tesco stock a similar wine as reviewed above in the Guardian –

LES TERRASSES ST-NICOLAS DE BOURGUEIL, LOIRE, FRANCE 2022

PRICE £11. The wine we tasted cost 7 euro (£6)

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CHIANTI CLASSICO 2023

Italy-Tuscany
Grape – Sangiovese (not mentioned on label)
Alcohol —13.5%

From the sunlit slopes of Chianti Classico, Villa Cafaggio offers an elegant, organically farmed red that balances bright acidity with fine-grained tannins. Aromas of ripe cherry and spicy clove lead to a palate of red fruit, dried herbs and a touch of earth.

The Villa's winemaking tradition goes back to Benedictine monks in the 15th century.

Crafted on the estate with careful night time harvesting and respectful winemaking, it feels both honest and refined.

Hints of spicy cloves on the nose- a savoury complexity and a wonderful black cherry and plum character; supple tannins, firm acidity, gentle earthiness and a floral lift create a poised, focused flavour with lingering spice.

Food - Slow-roast lamb with rosemary, tomato-rich pasta or aubergine parmigiana, mature pecorino or aged cheddar

Will Lyons- Sunday Times

A good all rounder -vibrant cranberry notes & a lick of spice on the finish. Ideal with pasta, lamb or beef

Price £16 – on offer at £10 from Waitrose

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BERONIA RESERVA 2020

Spain - Rioja

Grapes – Tempranillo 90+% with sometimes Graciano and Mazuelo

Alcohol – 14%

Beronia Reserva Rioja draws from Rioja's classic heritage, marrying ripe black cherry with leather and warm coconut-scented oak. Aged for 3 years with at least one in oak barrels –French and American – Beronia's signature method.

Deep spicy blackberry and plum aromas edged in toasty oak. Smooth, sleek texture and finely tuned tannins that hold fruit and savoury spice in balance. The oak adds gentle vanilla and toast, while earthy notes lend depth..

Food - roast lamb with herbs, aged manchego and cured meats, mushroom risotto with parmesan

Price - £17.50 – on offer at £12 from Waitrose

**Here is the link to Virgin Wine's website -
How to read a wine label**

<https://share.google/CK1ZryVerxsP1ZYz>