

The Black Dog Wine Company

Great Wines from Small Producers

ROSE-TINTED

Delicious & Refreshing Pink Wines for the Summer

I am always slightly reticent to send out an early-summer offer of rosé wines for fear of encouraging a burst of poor weather. So here we are, perched on the edge of the bank holiday with the barometer falling and the forecast predicting variations on the broad themes of gales, frost and snow and... well, hang on, we're English, and this is England in all its spring glory, so here we go, come rain or shine, the Black Dog pink season starts here...

2014 GRIS DE GRIS Domaine de Petit Chaumont

£9.50 per bottle £53.10 per case of six (£8.85 each)

Made from Grenache Noir and Gris, Carignane and Cinsault, almost on the beach, close to the walled town of Aigues Mortes in the Carmargue. It has a distinct and characteristic pale salmon grey/pink colour, and is delicious, crisp and fresh, with notes of white fruit, most notably peach and pear. It is lovely as an aperitif, and exceptional to drink with roasted or barbecued fish and salads. It has remained one of of our best-sellers for years, deservedly so. The vineyard is certified organic, alcohol a reasonably modest 12.5%.



2013 TRILOGIE Domaine de Viranel

£10.95 per bottle £61.50 per case of six (£10.25 each)

A 'Vin de Pays d'Oc' from a brilliant estate in the Languedoc Cru of St.Chinian, this combines Syrah, Cabernet and Cinsault. Pale colour, with a subtle play of flowers and soft summer fruits, notably raspberry. Fresh, bright and fruity, and rather elegant, not at all overdone or heavy. Clean and long on the finish, with just a touch of gentle richness at the end. An apéritif rosé, but it will carry salads and light pasta dishes with ease. 12.5%

2014 DOMAINE DE MOURCHON 'La Loubie' Rosé

£12.25 per bottle £68.40 per case of six (£11.40 each)

Walter MacKinlay's marvellous wines from his beautiful hilltop estate in Séguret in the Vaucluse get better with each year. The Loubié Rose is a blend of organically grown Grenache and Syrah cropped at low yields. It has aromas of strawberries, citrus fruit and spring flowers. The palate has good acidity, is refreshing, full of fruit and has excellent length of flavour. Terrific as an aperitif, for a barbecue or as an accompaniment to Mediterranean food such as Provencal salad or ratatouille. It also marries very well with spicy dishes. 13%

2014 REUILLY 'Les Pierres Plates' Pinot Gris, Denis Jamain

£14.95 per bottle £83.70 per case of six (£13.95 each)

Reuilly lies to the west of Sancerre on the same famous Kimmeridgian limestone. There are relatively few growers in this quite recently revitalised appellation, and Jamain is the leading light. Reuilly is unique in the Loire appellations in that Pinot Gris is permitted. Vinified with a little skin contact, it has the palest onion skin hue. It is also serious, and seriously good, crisp, complex, fresh, round and persistent on the palate, dry, with a delicate array of white flowers and summer fruits. It easily qualifies as food wine, though this should not give the impression of weight - it is filigree light, but intense. It is also amongst that very select group of rosés that are capable of quite extended bottle ageing - I still have a few bottles of the lovely 2011 in the shop, which is delightful, and the 2006 was recently superb. Organic/biodynamic. 12.5%

2013 SANCERRE ROSÉ, Domaine André Dezat

£14.95 per bottle £83.70 per case of six (£13.95 each)

Pinot Noir is fairly widely seen in the predominantly Sauvignon Blanc appellation of Sancerre, until the arrival of the odd parcel in southern England one of the most northerly outposts of this capricious variety. Dezat is consistently one of the more successful producers of the light, often quite crisp and sometimes compelling style of Pinot Noir found here. The rosé is a saignée, or vat-bleed, which serves to concentrate the red whilst giving a most gorgeous, delicately rounded rose-petal tinted pink, with lovely, gently ripe notes of raspberry and crushed cherry. 12.5%



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