



ALTANO DOURO



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Home Reports 100 Best Australian Wines

Elite wines everywhere you look this week

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The dishes referred to in my tasting notes come from Weekend Magazine's cookery feature showcasing Tom Kerridge's 'autumn feast' recipes.

2015 Masleno, Musi, Northeastern Italy (£19.67 each if you buy 6 bottles, www.winedirect.co.uk). Made from Pinot Grigio and Verduzzo, this wine is a delightful amalgam of the famous PG grape with the little-known Verduzzo, which brings juiciness and silkiness to the party. The result is a hypnotic aperitif style which will amaze you with its charm.

2015 Altano White, Symington Family Wines, Douro, Portugal (£8.99, The Wine Society tel. 01438 741177; £8.99, Cambridge Wine Merchants tel. 01223 568989). This is a quirky creation made from a rare collection of indigenous white grapes - Malvasia Fina, Viosinho, Rabigato and Moscatel Galego. My favourite vintage to date, the eclectic flavour and delicate scent will be sure to enchant your palate.

2015 Berry Bros. & Rudd Argentinian Malbec by Puleta Estate, Mendoza (£11.95, reduced to £10.75 each, if you buy a case of 12 bottles, www.bbr.com). Eminent wine merchant Berrys has decided to stick a toe in the everyday red category with this sumptuous, velvety Malbec. Made by expert estate Puleta, this is a very impressive wine, particularly if you are serving the Ale-braised pork cheeks with pickled carrot salad and mustard mayonnaise.

2014 Gougenheim, Cabernet Sauvignon, Mendoza, Argentina (£8.95, www.slurp.co.uk). I wasn't aware that this estate made wines at this price point, having always thought that they were much pricier. Imagine my surprise when I found this epic, blackberry-stuffed beauty at nine quid! Drink it with the wonderful Mutton cutlets with roused and rosemary mayonnaise recipe.

2015 Gavi, Quadro Sei, Piemonte, Italy (£8.50, Mario & Spencers). This is such a languid, laid back white it literally soothes your furrowed brow on the very first sip. Succulent, long, refreshing and calm, this is a green apple imbued white wine, blessed with a heavenly, long finish.

'Behind the Label' - 2015 Te Mata, Gamay Noir, Hawke's Bay, New Zealand (£14.95, www.winedirect.co.uk, www.slurp.co.uk; £17.95, Oxford Wine Co. tel. 01895 301144). Hawke's Bay is a powerhouse region in the North Island of New Zealand. Red wine is the main game here with Bordeaux varieties Cabernet and Merlot making the most famous wines. Syrah also performs well, but on this occasion I have found you a rare and incredible Gamay from one of the founding father estates of the region. Drink this extraordinary wine with the Roast loin of venison with black cabbage recipe.

DOC DOURO WHITE 2015
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