

Country: UK
Publication: Profile Sheffield
Circulation: 8,000
Date: August

bakewell show **PROFILE**

PICK OF THE WINES

Vinalba Cuvee Couture (4) – Malbec Touriga Nacional Reserva 2008 (Argentina)
 Rich and complex taste with good depth and flavours ranging from figs and liquorice to damsons, cherries, blackcurrants and even chocolate. Smoky and peppery depth. Ideal to accompany red meat or steak. Just £9.99 at Majestic or £8.99 per bottle if you buy two until the end of August.

French winemaker Louis Jadot has new wines to suit differing tastes, budgets and occasions. Near the top of the range is the **Gevrey Chambertin 2007**, a red wine which was smoky on the nose, with an initial sweet taste and balanced acidity. Pleasant on its own or with food. A case of six bottles is £157.01 from www.everywine.co.uk

Meursault wines are viewed as some of the finest in the country. **Louis Jadot's 2007** bottle, made from 100 per cent Chardonnay grapes, is a lively wine with great complexity. Dry and acidic with hints of lemons and limes – tempered with slight honey sweetness. Best enjoyed with poultry or fish in rich sauces, priced £24.51 in larger Sainsbury's stores or £20.89 from Waitrose.

Louis Jadot Chablis AC 2008 is a classic French white with crisp, citrus notes on the nose, echoed in the flavour. It's £84.71 for a case of six bottles from www.everywine.co.uk

Another refreshing white wine from the same range is the **Cave de Lugny Chardonnay Macon Villages 2008** – another Chardonnay. Dry with some acidity, serve chilled with chicken. It's £6.69 from www.everywine.co.uk

Beaujolais Villages 2008 (2) is made from Gamay grapes and has good depth. Flavours of cherry and redcurrants, with a smooth finish. The aftertaste is warming with soft tannins. It's £8.95 from Tesco or £8.54 from Waitrose.

Chateau Pey La Tour Bordeaux 2008 (3), from Vignobles Dourthe, has ripe berry flavours on the nose, is smooth on the palate, with pepperiness and silky tannins. This medium-bodied, well-balanced wine, which is 77 per cent merlot, plus cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc and petit verdot grapes, won two gold medals at shows in France in 2008 and 2009. Yours for £6.64 a bottle at Tesco.

The Society's **Old Vine Zinfandel Amador County 2006 (1)**, from California, has been matured for 12 months in French oak barrels. The result is a rich, smooth, velvety taste of ripe fruits. Priced £10.95 from www.thewinesociety.com (one-off joining fee of £40).

Stuck for a summer cocktail? Australian brand **Yellow Tail (5)** is recommending trying its Bubbles sparkling wine with bitter-orange-flavoured blue liqueur Curacao. Unlike most sparkling wines, which are quite dry, Bubbles is pleasantly soft and tastes of tropical fruits. The contrasting flavours blend well together. Available £8 at Tesco.



BEER TASTING

James Kemp of Thornbridge Brewery crosses the pond to pick his favourite ales Stateside...

In craft beer terms this is the battle of the US giants. I've tasted two of the United States most iconic beers, Sierra Nevada pale ale and Anchor Liberty Ale. American pale ales, or APAs, take their ancestry directly from British pale ales but most similarities end there. APAs differ in two main ways. Firstly, the US market demands bigger beers so APAs are usually in the range of 4.5 per cent to six per cent alcohol by volume. These pale ales are so high in alcohol in Britain they'd certainly be classed as an India pale ale.

The other major difference is the use of hops. British pale ales generally tend to lean towards the understated, whereas APAs use big, bold American hops abound with citrus, flora and fruity aromas. Anchor Liberty pours a dark yellow and immediately sherbet, sweet jellies and juniper aromas waft from the glass. On the palate, this beer is light-bodied, which belies its strength. Its finish is as dry as a martini.

Sierra Nevada pale ale pours a reddish caramel. Fragrant dandelion with a touch of pine aromas exude from this beer. On the palate it starts with a full malt body and ends crisp and bitter with a citrus attack. Sierra Nevada is available at Tesco, while Anchor Liberty is on sale from online supplier www.beersofeurope.co.uk



from www.everywine.co.uk

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