



# **SOULTON HALL**

## **WINE LIST**

March 2013

## OUR WINE LIST

The aim of this list is to offer interesting wines at reasonable prices.

In particular, we cap any mark up we have for more expensive bottles, so that you are not penalized for pushing the boat out.

These wines have been carefully and personally selected according to their taste rather than their 'name' or vintage.

We are proud of our wines which are, we feel, good examples of their regions and styles, and hope that this list also has realistic options for 'party wines' that will have a broad appeal. There are, for example, robust red wines well suited to accompanying full flavoured meat and game dishes; alternatively, there are powerfully fruit driven wines to suit all palates.

The house wines (towards the back of the list) are available by the glass.

We have some interesting half bottles which may be of interest to you, particularly if you wish to experiment with a couple of wines during your meal. These too are towards the back of the list.

We will be very happy to assist you with your selection, and, if you would like advice, do please just ask.

We hope you enjoy your selection.

## – WHITE WINES –

### ‘Old World’ and European White Wines

#### *France*

- (w1) **La Cabanne Blanc. VdP du Comté Tolosan 2011** £14.25  
A fresh and aromatic white with juicy fruit made from soft-pressed Colombard and Ugni Blanc grapes grown in the rolling Gascon countryside. It is crisp but easy-going, suitable for all occasions and represents the best of modern French wine.
- (w2) **Mâcon Lugny, Les Genevèvres Louis Latour 2010** £22.00  
Louis Latour's ever-popular Mâcon-Lugny comes from the heart of Mâconnais area. It is heavier than Chablis and other Burgundies from further north, yet has a crisp, creamy elegance.
- (w3) **Pouilly Fumé, Silex, D Dagueneau 2003** £135.00  
A superb collector's wine. First class dry white with a smoky flavour produced from the Sauvignon grape. Very special indeed.
- (w4) **Chablis 1er cru Fourchaume, Domaine des Valery 2010** £39.95  
Baked bread aromas and a full-flavoured palate characterise this superb premier cru Chablis. The well-positioned vineyard of Fourchaume slopes gently down to the road to Maligny, home to the Durups who own Domaine des Valery.
- (w5) **Rémi & Jérôme Sauvignon, IGP d'Oc 2011** £14.70  
Tasty, tropical, soft full and fresh fruit flavours from warm southern vineyards. Dry and Crisp putting it firmly in the Kiwi style Sauvignon camp. Such generosity comes from warm Mediterranean vineyards and careful winemaking to capture the best of the grape variety.
- (w6) **Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett Weingut Meulenhof 2010** £20.35  
Stefan Justen of Muelenhof makes richly fruity wines with flavours of apricots and pears. This has fine acidity to balance the gentle sweetness. This has fine acidity to balance the gentle sweetness. Made from 100% Riesling is medium dry in style.

#### *United Kingdom*

- (w7) **Broadfield Special Reserve, Medium Dry Herefordshire England** £20.65  
A lightly floral white with hints of elderflowers and a gentle finish

## 'New World' White Wines

### *Australia*

- (w8) **Lvrebird Colombard/Chardonnay, Victoria, 2009** £13.55  
Family run Wingara Winery in Mildura delivers this deliciously tropical fruity wine, boasting hints of melon and a subtle oak character. There is a good weight of fruit on the palate that is refreshing with a dry finish.

### *South Africa*

- (w9) **Brampton Unoaked Chardonnay, Coastal Region, 2011** £16.75  
A medley of aromas of poached pears, melon and spice continue into a full flavoured, ripe palate – and (perhaps not surprisingly) not a hint of oak in sight! Brampton is the second label of the historic Rustenberg estate.

### *New Zealand*

- (w10) **Churton Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough, 2009**  
£22.40  
A delicious grassy, nettle, gooseberry flavoured Sauvignon full of ripe passion fruit and mango flavours with a mineral finish. This wine is extremely well-balanced with fine mouth watering acidity and a lovely lingering finish.

### *Argentina*

- (w11) **Piont Gris, Mendoza, Bodega Lurton 2011** £19.10  
Rare in Argentina, the Lurons harvest this variety first each year to retain the delicate bouquet and the rich complex flavours of peaches, apricots and raisins. Delicious and interesting.
- (w12) **Tierra del Luna Chardonnay/Torrontés, Mendoza 2010** £15.70  
Very "typical" Chenin. A very appealing wine with a delicate floral nose, fresh and lemony fruit flavours, and a lively acidity from ripe Chenin Blanc grapes. Very drinkable.

### *United States of America*

- (w13) **Cline Cellars Viognier, Sonoma, California** £24.00  
Cline's Viognier offers rich and distinctive aromas of peaches, apricots, orange blossoms and honeysuckle. Its blockbuster flavour and full-body mouth-feel make it an ideal match for fish dishes in particular.

## – RED WINES –

### ‘Old World’ and European Red Wines

#### *France*

##### CLARET

- (r1) Tanners Claret** £15.50  
This has been made even more attractive by the addition of some extra old-vine Merlot to give it a bit more of its familiar succulence and juiciness, whilst still retaining its style and balance.

##### CRUS CHATEAU CLARET

- (r2A) Châteaux Durfort Vivens, 2me cru Margaux, 2001** £88.45  
Exhibits moderate ripeness, as well as black cherry scents intermingled with earth, olives, and oak. Moderately tannic, with medium body. A mid-weight, unobtrusive style of claret that should drink well.
- (r2B) Châteaux Batailley, 5me cru Pauillac, 2000** £92.00  
It is one of the oldest estates in the Medoc. The name is derived from the battle (bataille) that took place where the chateau and vineyard are today – during the 100 years war in the 1452. Batailley is an intensive typical Pauillac, with Cassis and very good structure. Very stable quality across the vintages due to the very old wines.

##### BEAUJOLAIS

- (r3) Côte de Brouilly, Les Volcaniques, Jacques Charlet, 2009/10** £20.75  
From the slopes of the distinctive, round hill of Brouilly comes this fruity Beaujolais. Its aromas of violets, then red fruits and little tannin make for a good glass of wine. Loron & Fils is a well-respected, family house.

##### CHATEAUNEUF-DU-PAPE

- (r4) Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine du Vieux Télégraphe, 2009** £78.95  
Lots of lovely, very primary, fruit on the nose, which has a rich cherry confit character. This carries through onto the palate, which is full and creamy, with a lovely depth of fruit. Behind it all lays substantial tannin with a wealth of fruit to match.

#### *Spain*

- (r5) Marqués de Cáceres Tinto Crianza, Rioja, 2008** £18.20  
Marques de Cáceres displays a remarkable consistency in the quality of its wines, the Crianza being the perfect example. Fifteen months in oak, ripe fruit aroma and claret-like palate of fruit, supple tannin and balancing acidity.

#### *The Lebanon*

- (r6) Châteaux Musar, Gaston Hochar, 2003** £38.30  
A superb wine – a favourite of Auberon Waugh's. If you know about it, we needn't go on. And if this wine is so far not encountered, please put this right!! Very ripe fruit, with spice and leather. This legendary estate was founded by Gaston Hochar in 1930 in a region with a 6,000 year old wine-producing history started by the Phoenicians. Remarkably – despite civil war and invasion (recall 2006) – only in '76 has a vintage been missed.

## 'New World' Red Wines

### *Chile*

- (r7) **Cousiño Macul Augustas Reservas, Cabernet Sovignon, Maipo, 2008** £18.60  
Drinks as a substantially more expensive wine might. Aged for one year in French oak with further ageing in bottle, Cousino Macul's Antiguas Reservas is quite classic in style, and shows excellent ripe blackcurrant, spice and cedar flavours with a good backbone. Good length too. Pair with steak or game.

### *Australia*

- (r8) **Sunnycliff Shiraz, Victoria,** £16.05  
This chunky red with sweet, brambly fruit and chocolaty flavours is crying out for summer drinking. You can almost smell the sunshine in this deliciously Australian wine, the very essence of sweet, ripe fruit.
- (r9) **Bird in Hand Shiraz, Mt. Lofty Ranges,** £29.20  
This second example of an Australian Shirazes on this list easily earns its Place. The move to a different price point on our list will reward you in spades. Aromas of cherries, dark chocolate and blackberries dominate this intense and rewarding summer pudding of a wine. Heavenly! There is also a sparkling Pinot Noir from this house on our list, which is definitely worth a look.

### *South Africa*

- (r10) **Freedom Cross Pinotage, Costal Region,** £12.95  
The product of a crossing of Pinot Noir and Cinsault, Pinotage is South Africa's unique grape. This example is softly styled with intense blackberry fruit and mocha coffee notes. The Franschoek co-operative has young wine-makers and a strict selection policy especially for wines that are to be exported. A weak rand has enhanced the good value this wine represents.

### *Mexico*

- (r11) **L A Cetto Petite Sirah, Baja California** £16.45  
Unrelated to 'true' Syrah, Petite Sirah makes excellent wine in California and here in Mexico. A medley of fruit character from red currants to blueberries. Silky, velvety tannins, nice concentration and weight.

### *United States of America*

- (r12) **Wente Beyer Ranch Zinfandel, San Fransisco Bay, Clarksburg, Calafornia** £24.70  
A lighter red. Classically fruity Zinfandel with aromas of plums with hints of raspberry and blueberry. It is well-balanced on the palate with good acidity and delicious toasty oak, which give under-lying structure to the excellent fruit. Still good value, but not helped by strong dollar.

– “ ROSE WINES ” –

*France*

- (rs1) **Chateau Miaudoux, Bergerac Rosé** £20.80  
Gérard and Nathalie Cuisset acquired Miaudoux in 1986 and have succeeded with this delightful strawberry and white currant rosé. 100% organic, Cabernet grapes give a light claret style, with subtle tannins and juicy acidity.

*United States of America*

- (rs2) **Angel's Flight White Zinfandel, California** £17.30  
A juicy refreshing rosé packed full of crushed strawberry and raspberry fruit. The finish is well-balanced with a hint of sweetness.

*Chile*

- (rs3) **Pato Torrente Merlot Rosé, Central Valley** £13.35  
This is an off-dry, fruity rosé, full of fresh with plenty of strawberry flavours and lively, refreshing acidity. Couples nicely with Oriental-style cuisine.

## - HALF BOTTLES -

### *Red Wine*

#### *France*

##### CLARET

- (h1) **Tanners Claret (half bottle)** £9.25  
This has been made even more attractive by the addition of some extra old-vine Merlot to give it a bit more of its familiar succulence and juiciness, whilst still retaining its style and balance. Also available as full bottle.

##### RHÔNE

- (h2) **Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Domaine du Rempart** £20.25  
Unlike most Châteauneufs, this is light and made to be drunk early and easily. It has a good fruit and depth, but not the muscular character of other Châteauneufs and is therefore a lighter wine than might be anticipated, but certainly not the worse for this.

##### CHILE

- (h3) **Concha y Toro Merlot, Central Valley,** £7.10  
Excellent party wine, this is our house wine in a half bottle. Bursting with cherry and ripe, red berry fruits intertwined with pepper and a touch of coffee bean. Elegant and medium bodied, this is an easy, pleasing all-rounder. A soft, rich, plummy wine with lots of character.

### *White Wine*

#### *Loire*

- (h4) **Muscadet de Sévre-et-Maine Sur Lie, Domaine Fief de la Brie (half bottle)** £10.20  
An attractive white with crisp acidity that is ideal with seafood. The wine is aged on its lees, or sediment, for six months to impart more body to the wine. The grapes come from François Bonhomme's finest vineyard.

#### *White Burgundy*

- (h4) **Chablis 1er cru Fourchaume, Domaine des Valery (half bottle)** £21.55  
Baked bread aromas and a full-flavoured palate characterise this superb premier cru Chablis. The well-positioned vineyard of Fourchaume slopes gently down to the road to Maligny, home to the Durups who own Domaine des Valery.
- (h5) **Mâcon-Chardonnay, Cuvée Joseph Talmard (half bottle)** £12.75  
Creamy and uncomplicated by oak. The Talmard way is to plant on prime slopes, where grapes ripen gradually and well, and yields are naturally lower. Lengthy lees-ageing adds to the rich, concentrated flavours.

#### *Alsace*

- (h6) **Gewurtraminer J Hornstein (half bottle)** £11.25  
A popular wine from Alsace with fresh fruit and lively acidity.

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## - DESERT WINES -

### *Hungary*

- (d1) **Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos, Royal Tokaji Wine Company (25cl)** £24.70  
A well known wine, and the most deliciously creamy and rich desert wine full of ginger and orange marmalade flavours.

### *Australia*

- (d2) **Brown Brothers Orange Muscat and Flora, Victoria (half bottle)** £13.60  
A simply delicious desert wine that has touches of orange and honey. Ideally paired with fruit fresh fruit dishes.
- (d3) **Stanton & Killeen Muscat, Rutherglen – (25cl bottle)** £24.25  
This is a lovely rich fruited wine with flavours of jammy strawberries Mingled. With caramelised sugar and toast. A good finish, with good, clean acidity. £4.50 per glass

## – CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING WINES –

### *Champagnes*

#### **Brut non-vintage**

- (s1) **Tanners Brut Extra Réserve** £43.10  
A bright and delicate fizz, this wine has crisp white fruit flavours, tiny bubbles and a long, lightly toasty finish.
- (s2) **André Clouet Grande Réserve, grand cru á Bouzy** £47.40  
Rich and concentrated with excellent fruit, yet with surprising elegance for a champagne containing only Pinot Noir, which thrives in the soils at Bouzy. Broad, complex and biscuity.
- (s3) **Moët et Chandon Brut Impérial** £59.40  
Brut Imperial is the archetypal Moët & Chandon marque; an harmonious blend of all three grape varieties and reserve wines. Brut Imperial is a subtle, drier-styled champagne, pale yellow in colour with shades of green, delicately vinous with a lime and vine blossom attack. Predominantly Pinot characteristics being very ample on the palate with a discreet finish. An aperitif wine which also accompanies fish dishes.
- (s4) **Bollinger Special Cuvée Brut** £65.00  
*"I drink it when I'm happy and when I'm sad. Sometimes I drink it when I'm alone. When I have company I consider it obligatory. I trifle with it if I'm not hungry and drink it when I am. Otherwise I never touch it – unless I'm thirsty."*  
-- Madame Bollinger.  
A blend par excellence, the Special Cuvée is the purest expression of the Bollinger style: Cool, delicate brioche nose. Nice, rich fruit with honeyed undertones, reserve wine richness and texture. Complex. Classy.

#### **Half bottles**

- (s1/2) **Tanners Brut Extra Réserve** £28.50  
This is a half bottle of the same wine as is in bin (s1) above.

*Further Champagnes are available exclusively to private celebrations. Please see restricted list.*

Helpful note on Champaign Styles – *Non-vintage* is a blend of several years where the aim is for a consistent quality and style. Normally brut, which essentially means just off dry, has touch of sugar in the liqueur d'expédition off setting the acidity. Extra brut has no dosage, and so is very dry.

Vintage Champagnes are only produced in better years and are normally released after six years or so.

As a rule we do not keep vintage Champagnes here. However, for private events we appreciate that there is a demand for these highly exceptional wines and we have a restricted list which we are happy to get in especially in cases (6 bottles). This is at the end of this list.

## *Sparkling Wines*

### **Brut/Dry**

- (s5) **Tanners cava Brut, traditional Method (Spain)** £17.10  
With style and finesse beyond its price, this wine is produced in exactly the same way as Champagne. This is a creamy and biscuity Cava.
- (s6) **Prosecco, Vetiano (Italy)** £17.00  
With lovely fresh fruity character, this is not dissimilar to a Spanish Cava. It has an attractive biscuity flavour, good mouse and typical yeasty finish.
- (s7) **Robe d'Or Brut Vin Mousseux (France)** £14.30  
An ideal base for Buck's Fizz, yet quite drinkable on its own. This is a satisfactory summer quaffer, being juicy with lively, floral, lemony fruit, and good value for money.
- (s8) **Bird in Hand Sparkling Pinot Noir, Adelaide Hills (Australia)** £27.80  
A sparkling rose wine with delightful strawberry and cherry aromas accompanied by a floral lift. Hand crafted wine made from fruit grown in the mineral rich soils above the historic "Bird in Hand" goldmine in the Adelaide Hills' town of Woodside where the Nugent family's winery, vineyard and olive groves are situated. Clean, vibrant strawberry flavours are enhanced by the very fine, persistent bead. The fruit sweetness is elegantly balanced by the crisp acidity and a long, clean finish.

## – SOULTONHALL HOUSE WINES –

In addition to being available by the bottle, these wines are served by the glass (price published separately).

For smaller servings of wine, you may wish to consider our selection of half bottles as well.

### House Red Wine

*Chile*

- (A) **Concha y Toro Merlot, Central Valley** £15.40  
Excellent, reasonably priced, party wine!  
Bursting with cherry and ripe, red berry fruits intertwined with pepper and a touch of coffee bean. Elegant and medium bodied, this is an easy, pleasing all-rounder. A soft, rich, plummy wine with lots of character.

### House White Wines

*Italy*

- (B) **Soave Classico DOC, Zeni, 2010** £14.80  
Definitely a superior Soave, the Zeni family's example from the hilly Classico area is gently floral with a hint of green apples. Once in the mouth it is fresh and zingy like a good Sauvignon Blanc.

*Germany*

- (C) **Rüdesheimer Rosengarten QbA, 2010** £13.10  
The sweeter of our two house white wines, this has a lovely forward fruit with flavours of pears and green apple. Fresh, lively acidity and an off-dry sweetness on the palate make it especially delicious summer drinking.

## - RESTRICTED CHAMPAGNE LIST -

### *Important Note*

The following Champagnes are *NOT* routinely kept in the cellars here, as demand for them is, essentially, infrequent and specialised. However, for private celebrations we are conscious of a demand for exceptional vintage Champagnes.

The following wines are therefore available to those arranging bespoke private celebrations, but must be ordered in advance, by a minimum of two weeks. Orders must be for full cases, i.e. multiples of 6 bottles. Our pricing throughout this list is reasonable, and with more expensive wines, we are particularly careful to avoid large mark-ups. Finally, there is no need to regard this list as totally prescriptive, and we are happy to consider sourcing any wine for a private celebration.

### **Extra Brut & Demi-Sec**

- (private) **Veuve Clicquot, vintage 2004** £92.20\*  
Sourced from twenty vineyards, all Grand and Premier Cru, this is a stunningly good wine. With the classic Veuve Pinot muscularity redolent of red fruit and crème brûlée, the wine is immediately seductive but has harmonious balance and a pleasing freshness on the finish.
- (private) **Pol Roger Brut, vintage 2002** £87.40\*  
A rich, soft golden glow in the glass, plenty of small-to-moderate sized bubbles. The nose is just gorgeous, broad and seductive: elements of brioche, toasted almonds over notes of sweet stone fruit, white peach and more. The palate is just as the nose suggests it will be, generous but not flabby. Yet it remains bright and lively, with a very linear core of acidity flanked by a finely poised mousse. This is absolutely delicious stuff.
- (private) **Bollinger Grande Anné Brut, vintage 2002** £131.15\*  
The Millennium Bollinger is a very impressive effort indeed., The palate is very clean and very pure; its weight worn lightly with an almost silky elegance. 6 years of lees ageing lends biscuity complexity and the finish is accompanied by gentle spice and hazelnut. A very complete wine, rich and powerful as one would expect but with astonishing finesse.
- (private) **Pol Roger Brut Cuvée Sir Winston Churchill, vintage 1998** £212.85\*  
Sir Winston Churchill was Pol Roger's most illustrious devotee and customer. This champagne, made in his honour, has been described as "the greatest prestige cuvee of modern times" and Churchill himself famously said of Pol Roger "**In defeat I need it, in victory I deserve it**". The composition of the blend is a closely guarded family secret. It is made in a style which Churchill himself favoured: robust, mature and long-lived.

\* These per bottle prices are an indication only and will be confirmed at the time of ordering.

# NOTES

## **Vintages & Supply**

Vintages change from time to time and cannot therefore be guaranteed. Although every effort will be made to supply the stated vintage or the next best vintage. Similarly, difficulties with supply may necessitate substitutions, or prevent supply altogether, where this occurs we will of course advise you.

## **Quality**

Guests should not drink corked or otherwise spoilt wine. While every effort is made to store wines correctly, it can happen that a bottle is corked, and it is nobody's fault when it does. Should you encounter a corked wine, please let us know and we will quickly and discreetly substitute it for another bottle.

## **Recommendations and Improvements to this List**

If you are planning a special occasion at Soulton Hall (e.g. wedding reception, anniversary party, or corporate entertainment) and have a particular wine in mind, we are very happy to consider getting it in especially for you. Obviously you will need to talk to us about this. By the same token, if you are aware of a good wine which is not present on this list, and think it should be considered for inclusion when this list is reviewed, by all means let us know! Corkage is not available at Soulton Hall.

## **Screw Caps**

We now hold an increasing number of wines with screw cap 'stevlin' closure. The aim of this type of closure is to ensure that the wine reaches you in excellent condition, with no risk of corky aroma or cork taint. There is no doubt that the use of screw caps will increase over the coming years as more producers invest in this form of closure for a broader range of wines. Such decisions will be motivated by quality criteria and should not be seen as in any way a mark of lower quality.