

34 festive wines



With even more recommendations this month and a higher price limit for the special occasion, *Decanter's* tastings director Christelle Guibert has picked out 34 exciting wines to try over the festive season. All are UK-available and perfect for drinking now

* denotes supermarket and high-street wines



Cloudy Bay, Pelorus, Marlborough, New Zealand NV 90

£20 **Morrisons***
This sparkler from Cloudy Bay (responsible for putting Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc on the map) is predominantly Chardonnay with some Pinot Noir. The nose opens up to crisp apple and lime notes that linger on the palate. Two years on lees adds weight and texture with a nice bready note. **Alc 12.5%**



De Telmont, Grande Réserve Brut, Champagne, France NV 90

£19.99 **Majestic***
From one of the last remaining family Champagne houses, more than a century old. The nose is full of white blossom and lemon zest, developing to honey and warm bread concentration on the plate. At this price, it's a Champagne that's punching well above its weight. **Alc 12%**



Wiston Estate, Brut Rosé, West Sussex, England NV 91

£27.50 **Waitrose***
Made by the talented Dermot Sugrue, who is playing a big part in shaping the UK sparkling wine industry, this is a fine fizz made from the classic Champagne varieties. It is fresh and alive with pretty raspberry and red cherry fruit flavours embedded in an elegant framework that makes it ideal as an aperitif. **Alc 12%**



Von Bühl, Reiterpfad In der Hohl Riesling GG, Pfalz, Germany 2015 93

£27 **Laithwaite's**
Don't miss out on this pure, elegant Riesling from what was rated an excellent vintage. It has delicious citrus intensity with wet stones and a hint of smoke. Very intense and powerful but also refined and vivacious thanks to the mineral structure and spine of acidity. **Alc 13.5%**



Domaine Jean-Louis Tissot, Vin Jaune, Arbois, Jura, France 2008 92

£28.50 **Yapp Bros**
Vin Jaune is made from the Savagnin grape that has been aged oxidatively under yeast for more than six years – think of a dry Sherry with higher acidity and slightly lower alcohol. It's complex and fresh with nutty depth. Serve it at room temperature. **Alc 14.5%**



Vidal Soblechero, Pagos de Villavendimia Escribiente, Castilla y Leon, Spain 2014 92

£15 **Carte Blanche, Mission Wines**
This Viura-Verdejo blend is a *Vino de la Tierra* from the Rueda area. The fruit from 100-year-old bush vines are looked after like grand cru vineyards and express a sense of place with lemony and crisp apple flavours. It shows tension and minerality with an acidity-driven finish. **Alc 13%**



Maison Albert Bichon Pure Blanc de Blancs Crémant de Bourgogne, France

£19 **Oddbins***
If you are looking to impress with fizz over the festive season, some cash too, then look no further. This bone-dry bubbly is fresh and expresses great finesse of fruit mingled with subtle yeast. The 12 months on its lees with a proportion of the wine also adds complexity and texture.