

LAY & WHEELER
FINE WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1854

OUR BEST
selection
YET

Rosé



SPRING/SUMMER 2021

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Rosé

The ultimate summer wines

Rosé makes us think of the warm sunshine, al fresco lunches in dappled light, carefree holidays, and a light, scented breeze.

A traditional summer holiday to the Med might be just beyond touching distance this summer, but the evocative flavours of a chilled glass of rosé can bring on the summer vibes at home.

So this year, we've put together our most extensive rosé list ever. The place that put rosé on the map, Provence, plays a starring role, ably supported by the Loire, Champagne, and further afield, South Africa.

We've discovered a hidden world of detail, texture, and complexity in today's best examples.

Because rosé lends itself to convivial summer gatherings - garden lunches, picnics, trips to the beach - we've sourced a variety of large formats throughout the range. The prices listed here are, mostly, for 75cl bottles. But magnums and double magnums will all be listed in full on our website.

There's also a very special addition, which is Lay & Wheeler's first foray into 'wine on tap': a 5 litre bag-in-box wine from Figüère in Provence. If you're looking to cut down your carbon footprint, or simply looking for a great bargain, this is something well worth considering - a delicious all-round rosé that ticks every single box.

Almost all the wines listed are available for immediate delivery. The remainder will be delivered early in the summer and are indicated herein.

Dive in!

Catherine

Catherine Petrie MW

Buyer

May 2021

Robbie

Robbie Toothill

Buyer

P.S. All prices are quoted in bond unless otherwise noted.



The South of France

Great value summer wines

If you're looking for great value and easy-drinking rosés, these two are the perfect place to start.

Domaine de Triennes has been a Lay & Wheeler favourite for many years. The people behind it (Aubert de Villaine of Domaine de la Romanée Conti and Jeremy Seysses of Domaine Dujac) keep a watchful eye and ensure quality is brilliant and consistency is unrivalled.

La Méditerranée, from Figuière in the heart of Provence, is a brand new wine to Lay & Wheeler this year. As soon as we tasted it, we knew we wanted to buy it. When we found out they offered it in the environmentally friendly bag-in-box format, it got us thinking. This 5-litre format is perfect for summer gatherings in the garden, picnics, or even just as a convenient 'wine-on-tap' in your fridge at home. The wine will stay fresh and vibrant for at least a month from first opening. In this format, it offers unbeatable value for money.



2020 Rosé, Domaine de Triennes

The Triennes 2020 is a bright, red fruit-led, thirst-quenching rosé from this ever-popular southern venture from two of Burgundy's greatest domains: DRC and Dujac. The de Villaine and Seysses families invested here many years ago, seeing the potential in the region to make great value and delicious, easy-drinking rosé. Perfect for summer drinking.

£ £8 per bottle

£96 per case of 12 bottles

2021 - 2023

2020 Méditerranée Rosé, Figuière

Bag-in-box wines might not have the most chic image, but this bucks the trend. It's beautifully packaged, offers amazing value and has superb environmental credentials (with a much lighter carbon footprint than glass, and is 100% recyclable). Moreover, the wine itself is delicious: a dry, delicate rosé, with a fruity and fresh red berry nose and a salty freshness on the palate. You could easily mistake this for a *bona fide* Côtes de Provence.

£ £65 per 5 litre bag-in-box duty paid

£130 per two pack 5 litre bag-in-box duty paid

2021



Côtes de Provence

The pinnacle of rosé

Provence is to rosé as Champagne is to sparkling wine: home to some of the finest examples, setting the standard to which many other rosés aspire.

The best are bone dry, pale in colour, with delicate red fruit frames, and the scent of wild *garrigue* herbs plus a hint of the sea. When served chilled in the sunshine, the wines will transport you to the Mediterranean coast, and long summer afternoons.

Here we've sought what we think are the best, most characterful wines from the region.



Image kindly supplied by Figuière



2020 Magali Rosé, Figuière, Côtes de Provence

Magali Combard's wines from Figuière are an exciting new addition to our list. This, her signature cuvée, is so well balanced and refreshing, you'll be reaching for another glass in no time. It is pale salmon pink, and has a beautifully expressive nose, with notes of fresh citrus, strawberries, and dried herbs. The palate is silky smooth, with a fresh, pink grapefruit energy. It is the perfect rosé for any occasion.

£ £10 per bottle

£60 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2023



2020 Château Miraval Rosé, Côtes de Provence

This is one of the Côte d'Azur's most distinctive wines, with its recognisable bottle shape and pale onion skin pink. The domaine shot to fame after actors Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt invested in it, alongside the Perrins, the expert winemaking family of Château de Beaucastel fame. The 2020 is lightly scented with sweet strawberry and bonbon notes, an apricot, peachy palate, and a balanced, creamy finish.

£13 per bottle

£78 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2023



2020 Château La Mascaronne Rosé, Côtes de Provence

Château La Mascaronne, in the picturesque village of Luc de Provence, was snapped up in 2020 by Michel Reybier, owner of Château Cos d'Estournel, and he has set the bar sky high with his debut vintage. This organic, dry, delicate, complex and delicious rosé is quite literally Provence in a glass. It is exquisitely balanced, and perhaps the most understated and elegant rosé on our list.

£13 per bottle

£78 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2024





2020 Confidentielle Rosé, Figuière, Côtes de Provence La Londe

La Londe is unusual in the Côtes de Provence for warranting its own appellation. It applies only to the best sites between Toulon and St Tropez, close to the coast, facing the dazzling Porquerolle islands. Here, the schiste soils and cooling sea breeze combine to make the most elegant and sophisticated of the region's rosés. This is the top wine from the Combard family, made from the domaine's organically-farmed grapes, selected and vinified by parcel with meticulous attention to detail. It is fine-boned and subtle, ethereal and enticing, and shows just what the best *terroirs* of Provence are capable of.

£ £19 per bottle

£ £114 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2024

2020 Clos Mireille Rosé, Domaines Ott*, Côtes de Provence

Domaines Ott* is the last word in Provençal sophistication, and their Clos Mireille rosé has become an emblem of the Riviera. But the truth is, this is equally at home enjoyed in the garden on a summer evening as it is on the white tablecloths of the chicest restaurants in St Tropez. The wine is made only from the "coeur de grain," the very purest juice of the berries. Its light, lithe body and detailed freshness make this one of the world's most graceful rosés. Domaines Ott* can take a lot of credit for putting the now ubiquitous style of pale, dry Provençal rosé on the map.

£ £22 per bottle

£ £132 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2025

Available for delivery from June



Image kindly supplied by Domaines Ott*

Bandol

Rare and
ageworthy
rosés

Bandol is a small appellation between Toulon and Marseille where you'll find some of Provence's greatest reds: Mourvèdre-based wines that are deep, soulful, and long-lived.

They say Mourvèdre likes its face in the sun and its feet in the water, and this late-ripening variety thrives here, in this small coastal commune, rich in amphitheatre-like vineyards that face the azure blue sea.

While reds are undoubtedly the focus here, the rosés are far from an afterthought. But for the fact they are produced in tiny quantities, these might be the most celebrated rosés in the world.

However, their scarcity means they are hard to track down outside of the appellation itself. Which is a great shame, as the rosés of Bandol have an unparalleled ability to age.

Here we have two of the finest examples. One from Domaine Tempier, the undisputed luminary of the appellation, and the other from Gros' Noré, its hidden gem.



2020 Bandol Rosé, Domaine du Gros' Noré

This rosé is one of the secret gems of our list. Pale, dry, and quintessentially Provençal at first, it begins to open up in the glass, revealing layers of complexity that take it far beyond its category. This 2020 is superb, with the light scent of wild red berries and dried *garrigue* herbs on the nose, followed by a palate that is taut and bright with seasalt freshness and an agile backbone of acidity. Unlike many simpler rosés, whose enjoyment is exclusively in their fruitiness and freshness, this wine has the structure and depth to age with brilliance. If you hold it for a couple of years, you'll be able to appreciate just what this wine can do.

£16.50 per bottle

£99 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2027

2020 Bandol Rosé, Domaine Tempier

Domaine Tempier's rosé is indisputably one of the finest in Provence, and given that it only makes up a small part of the production at this famous red wine estate, is often tricky to get hold of. But it is worth the effort if you do. The 2020 has an intense but astonishingly refined aroma, with beguiling notes of seaspray and wild flowers. The palate balances the ripe fleshiness of red berry fruit with the savoury and saline length of Mourvèdre, which makes up over half the blend, supported by Grenache and Cinsault. It is one of the most ageworthy rosés in the world.

£20 per bottle

£120 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2028

Available for delivery from June



The Loire

Old school classics

Chinon and Sancerre might not be seaside locations, nor do they immediately conjure images of long summer days. But rosé has played an important role in the Loire's vinous history for a good reason, with these two appellations at the forefront.

Chinon and Sancerre offer two contrasting examples: the former is made from Cabernet Franc, and the latter from Pinot Noir. Both these grape varieties make for delicious rosés, and the Loire's naturally fresh acidity and minerality make a great backdrop for their joyful red fruit flavours.

2020 Chinon Goutte de Rosé, Domaine de la Noblaie, Jérôme Billard

This Cabernet Franc rosé is such a pretty pale pink. It comes from the domaine's young vines, which yield a fruity and open wine. It has delicate sweet red fruit aromas with a minty lift. A simple summer delight.

£ £7.50 per bottle

🍷 £45 per case of 6 bottles

🍷 2021 - 2022





2019 Sancerre Rosé, Domaine Paul Prieur et Fils

This pale pink rosé made from Pinot Noir is vibrant, fresh, and so easy to drink. Lightly scented with red currants, this wine features Sancerre's signature acidity, which gives the palate drive and focus.

Luc Prieur uses the fruit from his young vine Pinot, and the wine is juicy, bright, and refreshing: a brilliant alternative to Provençal rosé.

£ **£10 per bottle**

🍷 **£60 per case of 6 bottles**

🍷 **2021 - 2023**



South Africa

New wave rosés

In recent years, South Africa has become a source of some of the most characterful, complex, and value-for-money wines that we know: it's a region we really back.

And with long, sunny summers, seemingly endless sandy beaches, and a braai, or barbecue, culture unlike anywhere else in the world, you might expect South Africa to be a hotbed of great rosé. Yet it's fair to say that rosé hasn't really seemed to be part of the new wave story. Until recently.

Here are two stunning examples, from incredibly talented winemakers, that we're sure will blow you away. Both made in a 'provençal' style, they demonstrate the ability of this new wave of winemakers to translate international styles, using their country's spectacular *terroir*.

The Klein Constantia Anabel Rosé is only bottled in magnums, and is a beautiful taste of summer in a glass, with a surprisingly long, complex finish. And the Break-a-Leg is one of the best rosés we've come across, from anywhere in the world. With tension, texture, and complexity, it will also age impressively. It's not to be missed.



2020 Break-a-Leg Rosé, Lukas van Loggerenberg

Lukas van Loggerenberg lamented the lack of a rosé culture in South Africa. And so he decided to do something about it. This comes from cinsaut vines, from the closest vineyard to the southern ocean in Stellenbosch, on the sandy soils of the lower slopes of the Helderberg. More akin to top Bandol rosé than easier, quaffing styles, it's saline, savoury, and totally beguiling. A total bargain at this price.

- £ £10 per bottle
- £ £60 per 6 bottles
- 2021 - 2024

2019 Anabel Rosé, Klein Constantia

Matt Day is one of South Africa's most talented winemakers. It sometimes feels like he can turn his hand to anything, making some of the most impressive Sauvignon Blancs we know, as well as the legendary Vin de Constance. This, his first attempt at a rosé, is made from a blend of grapes grown on this beautiful Constantia estate. Only produced in magnums - and only normally sold at the cellar door - it's brisk, floral, and utterly delicious.

- £ £30 per magnum
- £ £90 per 3 magnums
- 2021 - 2025



Sparkling

From Champagne and beyond

Champagne's cool climate and chalky soils produce some of the most powerful, persuasive, and devastatingly beautiful rosé wines in the world.

Top non-vintage rosé can offer greater depth of fruit and complexity than a brut réserve, and vintage rosés can stand shoulder to shoulder with the finest and most ageworthy examples from the region.

But should one look for sparkling rosé beyond Champagne? Previous experience has taught me much is uninteresting: frothy, slightly sweet, and short. So it was with delight that I was stopped in my tracks by Jacky Blot's brilliant Triple Zéro Rosé. I've always loved Jacky's Triple Zéro white made from Chenin Blanc in the Loire. But I hadn't given the rosé a second thought until I was accidentally sent a sample with his 2019 Chenin Blancs, which I was tasting for our Loire releases.

The fact it made it into this list alongside Krug, Billecart-Salmon, and Cristal is a measure of how much I liked it.



N/V Triple Zéro Rosé, Domaine de la Taille aux Loups, Jacky Blot

This sparkling pink made from 100% Gamay in the Loire has been the surprise find of this year's rosé search. The 'Zéro' indicates zero chaptalisation, zero liqueur de tirage, and zero dosage. It is as dry as they come, and made much like a Pet-Nat (pétillant naturel), though the lees are disgorged at the end, meaning the wine is crystal clear and bright in colour. It has a beautiful pithy, pink grapefruit character, a light, scintillating line of freshness through it, and a gentle, creamy mousse.

£15.50 per bottle

£93 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2023

N/V Brut Rosé, Billecart-Salmon

This must be the most reliably brilliant N/V rosé Champagne out there. Delicate onion skin pink, with savoury notes and a gentle but sophisticated lift of red fruits on the nose. The palate is exceptionally smooth, with creamy bubbles and a long, elegant finish.

£44 per bottle

£264 per case of 6 bottles

2021 - 2026





N/V Rosé Edition 23, Krug

One of the wine world's enduring greats, Krug's non-vintage rosé is sumptuous, complex, textured and deep. Its pale pinky-orange hue and fine, persistent mousse are the most immediately alluring characters. Beyond these, the luxurious combination of toasty autolytic flavours and vibrant, plush red fruit concentration with spiced gingerbread notes make this a hugely impressive and indulgent wine. The 23ème Édition is a blend of nine vintages, with the majority drawn from the 2011 vintage.

£ £200 per bottle

£ £600 per case of 3 bottles

2021 - 2032

2012 Cristal Rosé, Louis Roederer

2012 continues to reign as Champagne's greatest recently released vintage, and it's one that Cristal has clearly excelled in. Their rosé is one of the vintage's stand-out wines, receiving 98+ points from Antonio Galloni. This magical wine is as rare as it is brilliant, produced in tiny quantities.

£ £360 per bottle

£ £1,080 per case of 3 bottles

2021 - 2038





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