

Rathcluan Country House Hotel Wine List

A U S T R A L I A

South Australia

Brookfield, Kingston Estate Verdelho/Chardonnay 2003, 13.5% ALC.
(White) **£ 12.50**

Sharply priced without sharp flavours. Fruity easy-drinking blend.
Verdelho gives an interesting appley twist to the blend.

Murray River Valley, New South Wales

Murphy's Chardonnay 2004 13.5% ALC (White) www.trenthamestate.com.au
£12.50

Hails from a family-run estate in the town of Mildura (owned by...the
Murphy's!) Nice fruit, not too heavy, lovely & soft, mellow. Tasty, tasty
it's very, very tasty. Judiciously made to be indulgently consumed.

Barossa Valley, South Australia

Binder Wines A Second Generation wine family of enormous repute
(they have got three Robert Parker 99/100 scores under their belt already
under the "Veritas" label). Rolf struts his stuff alongside his equally
competent & acclaimed sister Christa. All their wines are all hand-made
in the old antique wine press they inherited from their father, and partly
because they also inherited his cracking vineyards.

Very handy if you want to make world-class wines. The reds are ripe,
ripe, ripe but have balancing dry tannins & a crunchy tang.

Rolf Binder Cabernet/Merlot 2003 13.5% ALC. (Red) **£16.95**

Langhorne Creek, South Australia

Bremerton Matilda Plains Cabernet/Shiraz 2002, 14% ALC. (Red)
£15.95

A slightly more easy-drinking style from Bremerton Dare I say fruity,
soft, full-bodied, but most importantly....dreadfully easy-drinking?

S O U T H A F R I C A

Franschhoek Vineyards- 45 minutes drive East of Cape Town, an area
suited to both red & white wines www.wine.co.za

Forge Mill Merlot 2003 14% ALC. (Red) **£13.95**

Their Merlot is a new release & they don't feel the need to put in
Cabernet to give structure to the wine as their Merlot grapes are

Sufficiently robust by themselves. It does however have plenty,
plenty pleasurable fruit too & it delivers flavour way above its
price point.

Robertson-S. Africa

Springfield “Life From Stone” Sauvignon Blanc 2004 12.5% ALC.
(White) **** **Platter** **£16.95**

Excellent quality, quite flinty, minerally dry (presumably hence the name).

Durbanville - North-East of Cape Town (in the Suburbs!) Very maritime climate (cool)

Altydgedacht Gewurztraminer 2003, 12.5%. (White) *** **Platter**
www.Aldygedacht.co.za **£14.40**

“...Dry; with evanescent rose-petal & spice charm” (Platter S.A. Wines 2005). Smells as though it is going to be sweet...but it tastes dry!

A R G E N T I N A

Terrazas Alto Malbec 2003, 13.5% ALC. (Red) **£14.50**

All the Terrazas are expertly made by Moët & Chandon. They look cool, over-deliver on flavour & taste excellent!

Quite a meaty, appealing, full-bodied style without any grindingly dry tannins

C H I L E

Sierra Grande Merlot, 2004 13.5% ALC. (Red) **£ 14.95**

A good & juicy, popular style of red that the Chileans appear to be quite good at!

F R A N C E

Loire, The West

Sancerre by Domaine Sarry/Brock 2003, 12.5% ALC. (White)
£20.50

Very crisp, very light & very long flavoured bone-dry white. Sauvignon Blanc in the “non-gooseberry” mould. Brilliant

I T A L Y

The North & East

Pinot Grigio La Casada, Veneto 2004, 12% ALC. (Veneto Light Dry White White) **£ 12.95**

Beautifully crafted & Much tastier & better value than the average PG

Montepulciano Cerasuolo ROSE 2004 12% Alc. **£13.50**

A superbly Dark-Coloured rose with masses of fruity, cherry, strawberry flavour. Extraordinary stuff.

SPAIN

Rioja, Navarra, Jumilla and Toro

Rioja Reserva *Ondarre* 1998, 12.5% ALC. (Red) £17.50

Reserva Rioja is all about “baby’s bum” smoothness. Stereotypical warm, Mediterranean, silky styled red.

FIZZY STUFF

Cava Maria Amoros Brut £15.50

Shipped direct from Spain hence the sharp price without a sharp taste. Excellent quality for the money Absolutely ideal for catering for the multitudes or just for pleasurable fizzy drinks “a deux”.