



1. HATTINGLEY VALLEY KING'S CUVEE

This highly limited 2015 vintage release from Hampshire is a blend of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Meunier. 100% barrel fermented, and aged in oak for seven months, the wine was then matured on the lees for six years. After a rigorous taste testing of approximately 200 barrels, just six were selected for this release. While exclusivity does not always guarantee quality, this golden English sparkling offers a symphony of citrus zest, brioche, vanilla, honey, and nuts, while still retaining fresh acidity. RRP: £85

Contact: *Hattingley Valley; hattingleyvalley.com*

2. VINCA RED

Taboos about canned wine be damned, this product proves that alternative packaging does not compromise a wine's flavour, but can make a big difference in terms of sustainability. Vinca was founded by three friends from Framlingham, Suffolk, and has since become popular with another Framlingham local: none other than singer Ed Sheeran. A blend of 80% Nero d'Avola and 20% Frappatto, this organic Sicilian red is fresh, juicy, fruity, and perfect with pizza. RRP: £3

Contact: *Vinca Wine; vincawine.co.uk*



3. 7 DEGREES SAUVIGNON BLANC

Launched by Ehrmanns Wines, this 2022 12.5%-ABV white has the crispness and aromatic intensity that we have come to expect from Marlborough's expressions of Sauvignon Blanc. Offering citrus, lime, lemongrass, and passion fruit, this would be a worthy accompaniment to all manner of aromatic dishes, ranging from Thai green curries to goat's cheese tarts. As for the optimum temperature to drink it at, Ehrmanns says: "Many connoisseurs consider it is best served at 7°C, but we are a chilled bunch, so serve it the way you enjoy it." RRP: £12

Contact: *Ehrmanns Wines; ehrmannswines.co.uk*



4. DONNAFUGATA ROSA 2021

Created by Donnafugata in partnership with Dolce & Gabbana, this Sicilia DOC Rosato has substance and style. The two indigenous Sicilian varieties used in this blend, Nerello Mascalese and Nocera, have been cultivated in different ways to get the most out of them. The Nerello Mascalese was grown on the slopes of Mount Etna, where it thrives in the volcanic soil. The Nocera was harvested from the Contessa Entellina estate, on the other side of the island, in Western Sicily, where it ripened while still retaining refreshing acidity. The final blend offers aromas of jasmine, rose petals, peaches, and minerality. RRP: £40

Contact: *Donnafugata; donnafugata.it/en*



5. YOTES COURT 'LIVELOVELAUGH' SPARKLING PINOT GRIS 2021

Coming from Yotes Court Estate in Kent, one of the first producers to be accredited under the Sustainable Wines of Great Britain scheme, this expression of Pinot Gris was not originally intended to be a sparkling. Though the grapes had too much acidity for a balanced still wine, such sharpness is an attribute in the production of sparkling wines. Made using the traditional method, it was then lees-aged for seven months to lend some texture and a freshly-baked bread character to complement the primary characteristics of white pear, honeysuckle, preserved lemon, and pear drops on the finish. RRP: £29.95

Contact: *Jeroboams; jeroboams.co.uk*



6. GULLIVER'S 47 SHERRY CASK WHISKY

Just as English wine is gaining a reputation for excellence, so is English whisky. Distilled at the St. George's Distillery in Norfolk, this single malt was finished in Pedro Ximénez Sherry Casks, and bottled at 47% ABV without chill filtration. On the nose there are aromas of butterscotch, sweet spices, and orange zest, and tasting it will uncover golden raisins, ripe figs, and dark chocolate. Stuart Gulliver, a ninth-generation descendant of Samuel Gulliver, who founded the family business in 1747, says it's "perfect for warming up on a chilly winter's night". RRP: £79

Contact: *Gulliver's Whisky*; gulliverswhisky.com



7. EGG ROYALE

This egg-straordinary glass bottle contains a chocolatey surprise within, combining the charm of an Easter egg with the allure of a liqueur. Inside, it holds a 15%-ABV concoction of cocoa, vanilla, and cream liqueur that can be enjoyed over ice, in cocktails, or even as the final flourish to a chocolate cake. Gravity Drinks director Jim Denoon says: "We've used the best in class throughout; developing the glass bottle with Allied Glass, UK, the closure with a UK engineering firm, and our cream liqueur comes from Holland – where the cows are at their happiest." RRP: £29

Contact: *Harvey Nichols*; harveynichols.com



8. FLÄVAR RASPBERRY & LIQUORICE SCHNAPPS

What the Swedes don't know about liquorice isn't worth knowing. With the addition of sweet Swedish wild raspberries, schnapps brand Flävar has created a winning winter warmer. Though Christmas may soon be a distant memory, it's never too late, or too early, for a festive concoction. To make the Kiss Under the Mistletoe cocktail, stir 50ml of Flävar Raspberry & Liquorice, 20ml of orgeat, and 25ml of lime juice with ice. Or, for a pure taste, serve the 25%-ABV spirit chilled as a shot. Skål! RRP: £19

Contact: *Flävar*; flavarspirit.com



9. BONE IDYLL BOTANICAL RUM

Developed during lockdown by restaurateurs, and husband-and-wife team Sam and Alex Berry, Bone Idyll focuses on small-batch spirits and cocktails produced in its Kingston upon Thames distillery. Banana, lime leaf, and Scotch Bonnet pepper were all used, resulting in a complex flavour profile that offers sweetness, tropical fragrance, and a subtle spark of heat to enliven the palate. As for a serving suggestion, Bone Idyll suggests: "Double measure with The London Essence Blood Orange and Elderflower tonic. Serve with a lime wedge and wild abandon."

RRP: £40 for a 70cl bottle

Contact: *Bone Idyll*; boneidyll.co.uk



10. DARK TO THE CORE

Sussex breweries Burning Sky and Abyss Brewing crossed over to create this punchy 9.5%-ABV imperial stout. Using a range of dark chocolate malts (Munich, Maris Otter, and Cara), it was hopped with Chinook in the boil. Burning Sky's Mark Tranter said: "It has been great to strengthen relationships with local breweries over the past few years, and collaborating with Abyss in December just added to that. The beer is a deliciously smooth and decadent imperial stout – launching at a foul time of year, when we all need some cheering up." RRP: £4.75

Contact: *Contact: Abyss Brewing*; abyssbrewing.co.uk

