

made in a tiny garage-style winery. The nose is opulent, crammed with damson, liquorice, vanilla and cherries. Juicy and peppery on the palate, this is a restrained, intriguing and elegant example. **Alc** 13.5%

Colomé, Malbec, Calchaquí Valley, Salta, Argentina 2010 17.5 (91)

£15.99 **Waitrose, Waitrose Wine Direct**
Grapes picked at altitudes between 1,700m and 2,700m give a dense, plummy wine with hints of raspberry cream and damson. Mid-weight, it has a breezy freshness with red fruit coulis flavours on the finish. **Alc** 14.5%

Alvaro Palacios, Camins del Priorat, Priorat, Spain 2009 17 (90)

£17.95 **Berry Bros & Rudd**
This wine maintains the Palacios reputation of quality. The nose packs a punch, full, as it is, of deep dark fruit, bacon and liquorice. Plump and sumptuous, this red cries out to be enjoyed with some well-aged beef or lamb. A lot of wine for the price. **Alc** 14.5%



Château Beauregard-Ducasse, Graves, Bordeaux, France 2009 17 (90)

£14.50 **New Generation Wines**
Should your drinkable Bordeaux stock start running low, then this would prove a more than solid choice with which to boost your supplies. Appealingly dense with a solid black fruit core, there's a sleek sheen to the wine with pure, supple fruit partnered by touches of graphite. **Alc** 13%

Domaine Guiton, Pinot Noir, Burgundy, France 2010 17 (90)

£16.95 **Flint Wines**
A lively and fresh, immediately accessible Pinot Noir that delivers a highly enjoyable glass of wine. The vitality it shows is hugely appealing, with a meat extract hint lying underneath the crisp redcurrant fruit. **Alc** 12%

Moss Wood, Amy's Blend, Margaret River, Western Australia 2010 17 (90)

£14.50 **Jeroboams**
From a producer that resides in the top echelon of Margaret River wineries, this is a succulent, long beauty. Intense mulberries dominate the nose, followed by a supple palate layered with oak, hints of green pepper and brambly fruits. **Alc** 14%

Tanners, Douro Red, Douro, Portugal 2010 17 (90)

£7.90 **Tanners**
Produced by Duorum for this well-respected UK merchant, this wine punches above its weight. Complete and full of depth, it's bursting with black cherry, plums and damson. Sweet spices and grippy tannin fill out the palate which is balanced and delicious. **Alc** 13%

Tenuta dell' Ornellaia, Le Volte, Bolgheri, Tuscany, Italy 2010 17 (90)

£19.95 **Jeroboams**
A blend of Merlot, Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon this – as one would expect from Ornellaia – is a polished wine bursting with red and black cherries. The glossy, rich palate boasts more cherry fruit, complemented by savoury notes such as olives, thyme and sage. **Alc** 13.5%

Renato Ratti, Nebbiolo, Langhe, Piedmont, Italy 2009 17 (90)

£13.99 **Marks & Spencer**
A great-value Nebbiolo boasting buckets of pure, red and dark fruit on the nose framed by menthol, cedar and eucalyptus notes. There's a lovely texture on the palate, with ripe red cherries dovetailing nicely with a herbaceous edge and a meaty finish. **Alc** 14%

Alternative

Chamonix, Greywacke Pinotage, Franschhoek, South Africa 2010 17.5 (91)

£13.99 **Handford Wines**
Chamonix is one of the largest producers in Franschhoek, with a diverse range of vineyards. Grapes are cut and hung out in the vineyards, Ripasso style, adding depth and concentration. This is a pure, expressive Pinotage: fresh and vibrant with juicy blueberries and mulberries on the attack, and chocolate on a velvety finish. **Alc** 14%

Villard, Le Pinot Noir Grand Vin, Casablanca Valley, Chile 2010 17.5 (91)

£14.50 **The Wine Society**
From a family-owned company set up in 1989, this is a fine, restrained Pinot, which avoids the fruit-bomb characterisation of many of its peers. Long and pure, it has a minty air, with lots of juicy red cherry fruit and blackcurrants underneath. **Alc** 14%



Dominio de Tares, Baltos Menica, Bierzo, Spain 2009 17 (90)

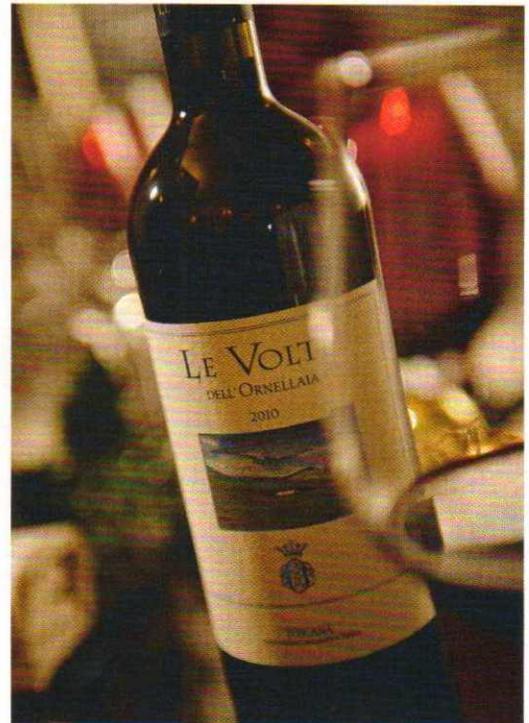
£12.69 **Armit**
Old-vine Menica from one of Bierzo's top producers, this is an intense wine with a mineral, earthy nose and lashings of spice, while the palate is dominated by red fruit complemented by a hint of liquorice. **Alc** 13%

Edoardo Miroglio, Soli Pinot Noir, Thracian Valley, Bulgaria 2009 17 (90)

£9.95 **Swig**
Miroglio, whose fortune was made in textiles, has unearthed the Thracian Valley's potential here. Gentle and soft with smoke and toast on the nose, it shows lots of violets on the palate with a layer of wild strawberries. An elegant, restrained example of Pinot Noir. **Alc** 13.5%

Gitton Père & Fils, Les Herses, Sancerre, France 2011 17 (90)

£12 **Borough Wines**
Silex soils and old vines add complexity and expression here, as does the cool climate of the Loire. Delicate and perfumed, the palate is rich and concentrated with a gamey, herbal touch. The tannins are well knit, making this an enjoyable, affordable food wine. **Alc** 13%



Above: from the makers of the 'Super Tuscan' Ornellaia, this winter-warming red is full of cherry fruit as well as hints of olives, thyme and sage