



1. RIBADA MENCÍA ROSADO

Mencía is not a grape variety that one comes across every day, but its potential is certainly becoming more and more recognised. This pink expression, from Galicia's DO Ribeira Sacra, comes from hand-harvested Mencía grapes sourced from Bodega Ribada's San Fiz vineyard, situated next to the Miña river, which helps to cool the surrounding area. The result is grapes that fully ripen, but retain their freshness. While the wine's hue is verging on cherry, on the palate it is bursting with fresh raspberries and strawberries. RRP: €20

Contact: Bodegas Ribada, bodegaribada.com



2. TO KALON RESERVE CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2018

To Kalon means 'beautiful' in Greek, but this Napa Valley vineyard isn't just pretty to look at – it is also capable of producing excellent Cabernet Sauvignon. When Californian winemaking legend Robert Mondavi chose the vineyard as the home for his new winery in 1966, he said: "Ideal soils, sunlight and rain – to my eye, the vineyard was a treasure." If the vineyard is a treasure, then this is one of its glimmering jewels. The wine offers blackberries, violets and, a sign of its years of maturation, a puff of pipe tobacco. RRP: £135

Contact: vino.com



3. NOSTRU FRAPPATO

Literally meaning 'fruity', Frappato is a Sicilian grape, the name of which offers a pretty clear indication of what drinkers can expect. The grapes for this expression from Azienda Agricola Cortese were hand-harvested and chilled overnight to preserve their freshness before fermentation. If any drink is designed to help you get over hang-ups about serving red wine with fish, this is it, as in Vittoria, southern Sicily, it is more than acceptable to have a glass of lightly-chilled Frappato, with its aromas of wild strawberry, alongside a fresh tuna steak. RRP: £14.49

Contact: Azienda Agricola Cortese, agricolacortese.com



4. ANAIS MUSCAT

This still wine proves that Penedès has more to offer than Cava. Entirely organic (and vegan), it is Muscat-forward, giving the wine a strong floral and ripe stone fruit profile, but with the addition of some Macabeo to bring complementary notes of peach and honey. The label sports an image of famed aviator Amelia Earhart because, much as she discovered new horizons through flying, U MES U, the producer of the Anais range, believes that the wine will help consumers to discover new sensations. RRP: €9

Contact: U MES U, umesu.wine/gb



5. BAKKANALI ROSA 2022

Located on Montalcino's extinct volcano Monte Amiata, Bakknali is the result of the friendship of Ugo Fabbri and Sebastian Nasello. This dynamic duo make a rosso and a fiorenzo from Sangiovese, but Italy's most planted red grape can also be made into rosé, as is the case with this wine. As the deep pink colour indicates, we're not in Provence any more. If you're wondering whether a Sangiovese rosé can ever rival the complexity of a good Brunello di Montalcino or Chianti Classico, the nose of red fruit and violets will certainly set you right. The slight iron touch on the palate gives a little taste of the ferrous soils in which the fruit was grown. RRP: £39.95

Contact: Jeroboams, jeroboams.co.uk