TWO PAGES OF THE NEW SPAIN

Spain is now producing some of the most forward thinking wines in the world. These guys are making brilliant wines without losing the traditional flavours.

Chilled

LA GUITA MANZANILLA

65% of all the Sherry drunk in Spain is Manzanilla ... and 60% of all Manzanilla enjoyed is La Guita! Light, aromatic and nutty, with a beautifully clean finish. This is terrific stuff ... A great aperitif.

£3.95 glass £17.95 half bottle **15%ABV**

BODEGAS CHIVITE –NAVARRA

The Chivite family have been in this region, neighbouring Rioja, since 1647.

87. GRAN FEUDO ROSADO 2010 21.50

A lusciously extravagant whoosh of pinko flavours. 100% Garnacha (Grenache). **13%ABV**

88. GRAN FEUDO CHARDONNAY 2009 23.50

Deliciously fragrant fruit from high terraces near the River Aragon. Lovely unoaked style with zingy citrus flavours. Easy drinking. **13%ABV**

89. GRAN FEUDO CRIANZA 2006 23.50

70% Tempranillo, 25% Garnacha (that's Grenache to you and me), 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, and aged in American oak for 12 months. Well balanced, spicy fruit, with a soft style. Great value!! **12.5%ABV**

90. GRAN FEUDO RESERVA 2005 25.50

A marvellous introduction to three 'old and new' red wine grapes strutting their stuff in Navarra – Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. **13%ABV**

91. GRAN FEUDO VINAS VIEJAS RESERVA 2004 29.50

Tempranillo, Garnacha (Grenache), Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon from vines 45-60 years old. Full-bodied, mouth-filling black fruits with vanilla spices and a velvety softness – plus a powerful finish. Great stuff! **13%ABV**

93. ALBARINO RIAS BAIXAS 2009 29.50

"SERRA DA ESTRELA". This varietal is Spain's answer to Viognier. A lovely amalgam of peaches, apricots and dried fruits. One of the world's most user-friendly "food whites". **13%ABV**

SOUTH AFRICA

For decades the South Africans, starved of international competition, persuaded themselves that their dull whites and fruitless BBQ reds full of acetone (nail polish to you and me) were fine and dandy. Things have changed dramatically, but only in some of the Estates.

WHITES

180. "HAZY VIEW" CHENIN BLANC 2010 19.95

Attractive guava and tropical fruit salad flavours with a clean, dry (but not bone dry) finish. Good on its own or with our salads. **13%ABV**

181. BUITENVERWACHTING SAUV BLANC 2011 23.50

Not rated any South African Sauvignon Blancs yet? This is a revelation! I first tasted this on the six star "Crystal Serenity" when working on board as their wine lecturer. It is a glorious amalgam of extroverted gooseberries with melon and a splash of guava – plus a subtle finish. Only problem is the pronunciation! **13.5%ABV**

182. KLEIN CONSTANTIA CHARDONNAY 2009 24.50

Deliciously ripe, limey fruit. Only lightly oaked with a beautiful, well-balanced, soft finish. **14%ABV**

REDS

183. KLEINE ZALZE PINOTAGE 2009 24.50

"FOOT OF AFRICA". Extroverted plums and spices with more user-friendly characteristics than most examples of this Pinot Noir-Cinsault cross. **14.5%ABV**

184. KLEIN CONSTANTIA CAB SAUV/MERLOT '08 26.00

Blackcurrants on the nose with heaps of red berry flavours and a hint of mint. Softer and more elegant than most Rainbow Nation cabernets. **14.5%ABV**

HAMILTON RUSSELL - HERMANUS

Eureka! These beauties are as scarce as hen's teeth, but after my complaints in the last list, my mate Anthony Hamilton Russell has upped my allocation.

186. HAMILTON RUSSELL CHARDONNAY 2009 39.50

"Classy and fine-edged. 3 Stars", *Hugh Johnson*. **13%ABV**

187. HAMILTON RUSSELL PINOT NOIR 2007 50.50

"Small yields, French-inspired vinification, careful barrelling. Three Stars", *Hugh Johnson*, again. **13.5%ABV**