

TE MATA ESTATE HAWKES BAY

Don and John Buck go back to 1965, so there is a little bit of bias here. So, let's quote from Robert Parker's *Wine Advocate* - "Te Mata has fashioned a clutch of stunning wines in both 2008 & 2009 .. bona fide classics". Enough said!

240. ELSTON CHARDONAY 2009 35.00

A marvellous concentration of lime and apple flavours with great finesse. "It is without doubt the best New Zealand Chardonnay", says the iconic Australian wine writer, James Halliday. 14%ABV

241. AWATEA 2009 CABERNET-MERLOT 31.50

Cabernet Sauvignon & Cabernet Franc, plus a splash of Petit verdot. Lovely rounded, ripe fruit style with easy-going tendencies. New World meets the Old in style. 13.5%ABV

242. COLERAINE 2009 85.00

Cabernet Sauv, Merlot & Cabernet Franc. This is the business! Arguably New Zealand's finest red. Marvelous brooding plethora of blackcurrants, chocolate with some liquorice in the background. An amazing wine (Don recently enjoyed a bottle of the still youthful 1983) and yet it is most approachable in its youth. 95/100 Parker. Hugh Johnson recently rated this beauty as "could easily pass for a Bordeaux Cru Classé". John likes to put it up blind against Mouton, Lafite et al, with amazing results. So, it is great value! 14%ABV

247. AKARUA "RUA" PINOT NOIR 2009 39.50

CENTRAL Otago. Winemaker Matt Connell has created a soft, aromatic, sensuous beauty. Juicy, vibrant cherries mixed with cinnamon, mocha, plums and gentle spice - just to keep one's palate busy. 14.5%ABV

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**A GREAT GIFT FOR FARAWAY
FRIENDS WHO KNOW THE PLACE**

REDS

Don has spent 45 years extolling the delights of Pinot. Then along comes bloody Miles in "Sideways". He waxes lyrical about the subtle nuances and, hey presto, everyone is trying the stuff!

30. BOURGOGNE PINOT NOIR 2008 25.50

LOUIS JADOT. A splendid introduction to the subtle refinement of Pinot Noir. Upfront raspberry & strawberry flavours with a lively finish. A great House on form. 12.5%ABV

31. DOMAINE ARLAUD BOURGOGNE 'RONCEVIE' 07 34.50

A fascinating single vineyard wine from 'the wrong side of the tracks', i.e. the southern part of the Gevrey Chambertin area. Lovely fragrant, juicy, up-front strawberries and raspberries. Drinking beautifully now. 12.5%ABV

32. MERCUREY 1er CRU 'EN SAZENAY' 2006 41.50

DOMAINE TUPINIER-BAUTISTA. Top class Mercurey is hard to beat ... and affordable. Extroverted & vibrant, unsophisticated, up-front Pinot flavours - like the best of Central Otago but with more delicacy & less sweetness at the end. "Juicy, brambly & charming", says my mate Francis Murray, who just happens to be the importer. 13%ABV

33. SANTENAY 1er cru "BEAUREGARD" 2006 47.00

DOMAINE JOSEPH BELLAND. Attractive fulsome stuff from Roger Belland, the family's fifth generation vigneron. All the richness and depth of great Santenay. A Star in *Guide Hachette des Vins*. 13%ABV

34. NUITS ST GEORGE 'VIELLES VIGNES' 2007 47.50

DOMAINE GUY DUFOULEUR. Subtle Pinot flavours where the violets & raspberries mellow into soft nuances of this glorious grape. I have tasted many lesser Nuits at twice the price ... 13%ABV

37. CHARMES CHAMBERTIN GRAND CRU 2003 99.95

DOMAINE ARLAUD. This Domaine is one of our favourites on the Cote D'Or. Cyprian Arlaud is one of the regions rising stars and his Charmes is wonderful. Silky and seductive stuff; 'liquid satin' with undertones of gentle spices. Drinking beautifully right now and worth every penny, considering that nearby *Domaine de la Romanée Conti* goes for about \$20,000 a bottle! You owe yourself a glass or three once in a while! 13.5%ABV