

# Napoleon Red Case

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WINE CLUB MANAGER

*KARolph*



*March's Napoleon Red Case contains a diverse range of styles, perfect for drinking over the spring months as the weather warms up and winter (hopefully) recedes. At the lighter end of the spectrum, both Sunier's declassified Beaujolais and our Own Selection New Zealand Pinot Noir are light enough to enjoy with roast chicken or fish. If winter is refusing to bow out gracefully, and the nights are still decidedly chilly, then pour a generous glass of Elderton's rich Australian Shiraz or Jaboulet's Crozes-Hermitage for fireside sipping; made from the same grape variety (Shiraz/Syrah), their rich, bramble-focused fruit will be sure to warm you up.*

## 2014 ELDERTON GRENACHE/SHIRAZ/MOURVÈDRE



Elderton is a family-run estate, set in the heart of the township of Nuriootpa, Australia, surrounded by extremely old Shiraz and Cabernet Sauvignon vines. The Estate is currently headed up by the second generation of Ashmeads, Cameron and Allister, who took over in 2003.

Medium ruby, this has aromas of blueberry and blackberry, a hint of aniseed spice, and a floral, violet note. The palate reveals an abundance of juicy black fruit, ripe and smooth tannins, and a peppery edge. Focused, long, and rich, but with refreshing acidity. Drink now to 2020.

<b>Food matches</b>	Chorizo-based stews
<b>Price</b>	£22.50 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at ambient temperature, straight from the bottle
<b>Region</b>	Barossa, Australia
<b>Grape variety</b>	Grenache, Shiraz, Mourvèdre
<b>Product code</b>	Y4808B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium to full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Sandy loam over clay
<b>Buyer</b>	Katherine Dart MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
CÔTES DU RHÔNE REDS

## 2016 WILD SOUL, JULIEN SUNIER



Julien Sunier is one of the young generation in the Beaujolais, having started out with nothing in the 2008 vintage. He makes natural wines, describing himself as an "Artisan Vigneron" and "Decontaminator of Soils", taking on parcels of vines, converting them to organic viticulture and passing them on to other organic winemakers.

Pale ruby in colour with purple highlights, the nose gives lovely, floral notes of violets and peonies, along with a touch of sweet spice. The palate is juicy, with red berry fruit and a chalky, brambly finish. Drink now to 2020.

<b>Food matches</b>	A great match with salads or cold meats
<b>Price</b>	£18.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at cellar temperature or even slightly chilled; uncork and enjoy!
<b>Region</b>	Beaujolais, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Gamay
<b>Product code</b>	Y9228B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, light to medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	High altitude, blue granite soil in the commune of Régnié
<b>Buyer</b>	Adam Bruntlett

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
CABERNET FRANC FROM THE LOIRE

## 2012 BOURGUEIL, CUVÉE PRESTIGE, DOMAINE LAMÉ DELISLE BOUCARD



Created by Pierre Guyot in 1869, this historic *domaine* is now in the hands of the affable and exceptionally able Philippe Boucard, who likes nothing more than to treat visitors to ancient bottles in his deep *tuffeau* cellars. Indeed there is no worthier ambassador for both the quality and ageing capacity of Bourgueil, lauded throughout France but strangely undervalued in the UK.

The wine has a dynamism and energy and an almost feminine lift, its red-fruit core finely balanced by spice and firm, somewhat chalky tannins. The additional bottle-age has added an extra dimension in the form of notes of game and *sous-bois*, both discreet and supportive of the ensemble – delicious! Drink now to 2022.

<b>Food matches</b>	Goose, veal, grilled chicken
<b>Price</b>	£14.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Decanting optional, but generous aeration is preferable
<b>Region</b>	Loire, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Cabernet Franc
<b>Product code</b>	Y2212B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Mid-slope clay-chalk soils
<b>Buyer</b>	Simon Field MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
SANCERRE ROUGE

## 2015 CROZES-HERMITAGE, DOMAINE DE THALABERT, PAUL JABOULET AÎNÉ



Jaboulet is one of the great names of the Rhône Valley and its flagship Hermitage, La Chapelle, is one of the most famous wines in the world, with this, its junior Crozes-Hermitage sibling, also widely celebrated. After the premature death of paterfamilias Gérard, the house lost direction for a few years. Now they are definitively back on track; a source of relief and, of course, great excitement!

The 2015 vintage was the best in the Northern Rhône for a very long time and this powerful example is a perfect illustration; deep of colour with enticing aromas of blueberry, spice and black olive. This is Syrah as it can and should be; graphite, cassis, loganberry and a gloriously sweet and generous core. Drink now to 2026.

<b>Food matches</b>	Grilled lamb, beef stroganoff or barbecued pork
<b>Price</b>	£30.00 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Decant an hour before serving at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Rhône, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Syrah
<b>Product code</b>	V2438B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Gravel and alluvial stones, fast draining and low in clay
<b>Buyer</b>	Simon Field MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
ST JOSEPH

## 2015 BERRY BROS. & RUDD NEW ZEALAND PINOT NOIR BY GREYSTONE WINES



Greystone, in North Canterbury (previously known as Waipara), continues to excel, once again making this lovely Pinot Noir for us in 2015. The estate began in 2000 when the Thomas Family purchased a farm with exceptional limestone soils in the Omihiri hills in Waipara and the first vintage was 2008.

Our 2015 is rich with notes of sweet, dark cherries, yet all is counterbalanced by an herbaceous freshness. There is impressive depth and structure to this wine, reflecting the warmer conditions of the vintage, but it retains an appealing savoury complexity. This is an intriguing, rewarding Pinot Noir to sink into. Drink now to 2020.

<b>Food matches</b>	Try with roast poultry, beef carpaccio, mushrooms provençal
<b>Price</b>	£17.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve slightly cool to bring out aromas
<b>Region</b>	North Canterbury, New Zealand
<b>Grape variety</b>	Pinot Noir
<b>Product code</b>	Y9225B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied, pure, generous yet savoury red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Hard limestone rock moving down towards clay on north-facing slopes – excellent <i>terroir</i> for Pinot Noir
<b>Buyer</b>	Catriona Felstead MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

AUSTRALIAN PINOT NOIR FROM THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA OR THE YARRA VALLEY

## 2005 VIÑA TONDONIA TINTO RESERVA, BODEGAS R. LÓPEZ DE HEREDIA



Bodegas López de Heredia is one of the wine world's great treasures. Founded in 1877 by Don Rafael López de Heredia y Landeta, the *bodega* is still owned and run today by the same family. The property extends over 170 hectares, with Tondonia the largest and most famous of its vineyards.

This is an immediately seductive wine with lifted aromas of macerated red berries and a touch of cured meats. The wine leaves a scent in the glass that is really quite magical, moving into a succulent palate with a core of rich red fruit and the more mature, tertiary characters of its age. Drink now to 2027.

<b>Food matches</b>	Roast lamb, beef Wellington or melanzane parmigiana
<b>Price</b>	£29.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Rioja, Spain
<b>Grape variety</b>	Tempranillo 75%, Garnacho 15% (a local pseudonym for Garnacha), Graciano and Mazuelo 10%
<b>Product code</b>	Y9155B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, rich, mature red wine with great freshness and potential for longevity
<b>Terroir</b>	“Aridisol” soil combining sand and limestone with a clay structure
<b>Buyer</b>	Catriona Felstead MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
MATURE BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO