

# Wellington Red Case

## Victoria Reeves

ACTING WINE CLUB MANAGER




*Star winemaking talent is beautifully showcased here in the form of two Pinot Noirs, one from the Old World and one from the New. At one end of the spectrum is Birichino, which – although barely a decade old – has a formidable reputation already. At the other, we've got the four-decade long experience of Burgundian winemaker Patrice Rion, and his son Maxime, producing a wild and spicy Nuit-St Georges. We've also picked out classic Claret, a superb Tuscan red, a full-bodied mature red from Priorat and a very fine Roussillon.*

### 2016 BIRICHINO, SAINT GEORGES PINOT NOIR, CENTRAL COAST



Birichino is a young project (started in 2008) run by the hugely talented winemaker John Locke and his partner in crime Alex Krause. Based in Santa Cruz, they purchase fruit from around California, often with extremely old vines dating back to the late 19th century and in lesser known viticultural areas.

This is bright ruby in colour displaying aromas of wild strawberries, redcurrants with floral vibrancy. On the palate, flavours of blueberry combine with juicy red plum fruits, complemented by fine, chalky tannins and a silky texture. There's refreshing acidity and a saline lift on the finish. Drink now to 2023.

<b>Food matches</b>	Roast chicken, tomato-based pasta dishes or hard cheeses
<b>Price</b>	£30.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Room temperature
<b>Region</b>	California, USA
<b>Grape variety</b>	Pinot Noir
<b>Product code</b>	V2227B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Clay, sand and gravel
<b>Buyer</b>	Fiona Hayes

#### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
OTHER CALIFORNIAN PINOT NOIR

### 2004 CORANYA, CELLER SANGENÍS I VAQUÉ



The Sangenís family have been making wine in Priorat for more than 200 years and farm terraced vineyards, all dominated by distinctive slate soils known locally as *llicorella*. The grapes are divided equally between Garnacha and Cariñena; French takes precedence over American oak and the wines are bottled without fining or filtration.

Deep ruby in colour, this has a rich and powerful nose of cassis, black cherry and damson. The palate is rounded and textured, with tannins that melt in the mouth. It has a bitter-chocolate richness, herbal complexity and graphite-like minerality, thanks to the slate soils. The finish is long and lingering. Drink now to 2020.

<b>Food matches</b>	Venison, steak or meat stews
<b>Price</b>	£36.50 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Decant an hour before serving at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Priorat, Spain
<b>Grape variety</b>	Garnacha 50%, Cariñena 50%
<b>Product code</b>	V0370B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Steep slate terraces ( <i>llicorella</i> )
<b>Buyer</b>	Catriona Felstead MW

#### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:  
ZINFANDEL, OLD-VINE GARNACHA OR REDS FROM MONTSANT (ALSO CATALUÑA)

## 2008 CH. BELLISLE MONDOTTE, ST ÉMILION



Ch. Bellisle Mondotte is an organically farmed estate based in St Laurent des Combes in the St Émilion appellation on the Bordeaux's Right Bank. Jean Marie Bouldy has been running the property since 1987 alongside Ch. Grand Pey Lescours and Ch. Bellegrave in Pomerol. He offers very little wine for the common Bordeaux marketplace and instead holds stock back until he believes that it is ready to drink.

This wonderfully rich and layered St Émilion is at perfect maturity. The nose shows lots of red and black fruit intertwined with its typical mineral note. The palate is fleshy with more berry fruit and a touch of plum, with subtle spice on the finish. The tannin has really softened with time and now shows a real elegance in the glass. Drink now to 2022.

<b>Food matches</b>	Lamb cutlets or beef steak
<b>Price</b>	£34.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Decant for 30 minutes and serve at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Bordeaux, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Merlot 75%, Cabernet Sauvignon 25%
<b>Product code</b>	Y3343B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Limestone and clay
<b>Buyer</b>	Oliver Barton

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

OTHER ST ÉMILION OR TOP POMEROL

## 2016 ROSSO DI MONTALCINO, LISINI



Lisini is one of Montalcino's oldest wine estates. The Clementi family, being of Jewish origin from Venice, fought alongside the Medicis in their conquest of Montalcino. Today, *signor* Filippo Paoletti is responsible for making traditional wines, using cement and large oak casks.

This is a beautiful, lucid cherry colour with purple flashes. The nose is a tightly woven with ripe cherries, grained leather and Tuscan garden herbs. The palate is cleansing and bright, with crunchy cranberries, sour cherries and a ripe plum character, showing the generosity and richness of the vintage. The fruit flavours, framed by silky tannins give way to sweet spices, and a wonderful savoury edge, typical of Sangiovese. Drink now to 2024.

<b>Food matches</b>	Roasts, red meats or hard cheeses
<b>Price</b>	£28.35 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Decant an hour before serving at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Tuscany, Italy
<b>Grape variety</b>	Sangiovese Grosso (Brunello)
<b>Product code</b>	V3221B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Hill slopes at 300-350 metres above sea level, tufa soils
<b>Buyer</b>	Davy Žy

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO, SOUTHERN ITALIAN REDS OR SYRAH FROM THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

## 2016 DOMAINE DE LA RECTORIE, CÔTÉ MONTAGNE, COLLIOURE



This 30-hectare estate is run by Thierry Parcé and his son Jean-Emmanuel. The family produce both dry and fortified wine styles of exceptional quality, aided by their old vines, steep terraces, vinification practices and picking times. Plantings of different varieties are mixed in the vineyards and yields are very low, helping to create incredibly concentrated wines.

Bright, dark purple in colour, the nose combines blackcurrant and black cherry with generous raspberry notes. Savoury spice notes are supported by garrigue and herbal notes that are so typical of the wine's Roussillon origin. Firm, grainy tannins are balanced by vibrant acidity and a saline character that adds complexity and structure. Long finish. Drink now to 2024.

<b>Food matches</b>	Beef ragù, moules Provençales, pizza
<b>Price</b>	£29.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Roussillon, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Carignan, Grenache Noir, Mourvèdre, Counoise
<b>Product code</b>	V4448B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Schist
<b>Buyer</b>	Fiona Hayes

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

CÔTES DU ROUSSILLON

## 2016 BURGOGNE HAUTES CÔTES DE NUITS, LES DAMES HUGUETTES, P&M RION



Maxime Rion now makes most of the decisions at this exemplary estate, although he can call on his father Patrice – approaching his 40th vintage as a winemaker – for guidance. The Rions are a talented, forward-thinking family who were among the first in Burgundy to bottle some of their wines under screwcap, and whose eco-friendly tractor shed boasts solar panels and a rainwater purification system.

This is a fresh, fruit-driven Burgundy from vineyards just above Nuits-St Georges. It is raised exclusively in used oak, which rounds the tannins and accentuates the wild, spicy character redolent of Nuits. Drink now to 2021.

<b>Food matches</b>	Lincolnshire sausages with mash and fiery mustard
<b>Price</b>	£23.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Consider decanting shortly before serving
<b>Region</b>	Burgundy, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Pinot Noir
<b>Product code</b>	E3509B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Clay with pockets of hard limestone
<b>Buyer</b>	Adam Bruntlett

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

CRU BEAUJOLAIS FROM A WARMER, MORE CONCENTRATED VINTAGE (SUCH AS 2015 OR 2017)