



The Castle Hotel Bishop's Castle

WINES BY THE GLASS

WHITE

		125ml	175ml	250ml
1	AUS Estate Reserve Chardonnay De Bortoli. Victoria. Australia. 12% ABV. VEGAN. <i>Juicy, fun, and easy drinking for everyday meals or on its own.</i>	4.80	6.50	8.95
2	San Antonio Pinot Grigio Del Venezia. Veneto. Italy. 11% ABV. VEGAN. <i>This is a light, crisp, citrus flavoured wine with hints of lemon and lime zest.</i>	4.80	6.50	8.95
3	Riviera Sauvignon Blanc. Vin de France. Southern France. 11% ABV. <i>Vibrant, aromatic, and zesty with clean flavours of granny smith apples and old-fashioned pear drops.</i>	4.95	6.75	9.30
4	Rioja Blanco Bodegas Navajas. Rioja Alta. Spain. 13% ABV. <i>Fresh and vibrant with little citrus acidity.</i>	5.25	7.25	9.75
7	Shropshire Lady, Solaris, Kerry Vale. Churchstoke, Shropshire 11.5% ABV. (Dry & Crisp) <i>A crisp, dry wine full of citrus flavours rounded off with melon and hints of refreshing green apple.</i>	6.95	8.95	10.95

ROSÉ

17	San Antonio, Pinot Grigio Rosato, Terre Sicily Italy 11% ABV. (Med-Dry) VEGAN. <i>An Attractive pale colour with appealing red berry laced taste. Soft & fresh.</i>	4.85	6.50	8.95
18	Cougars Moon White Zinfandel, California, USA 10.0% ABV. (Med-Sweet) VEGAN. <i>Medium sweet rosé bursting with strawberries & watermelon</i>	4.85	6.50	8.95

RED

21	Villa Rosa Merlot. Central Valley. Chile. 11% ABV. VEGAN. <i>Soft plummy, damson fruit with moderate acidity and low tannins.</i>	4.80	6.50	8.95
22	AUS Estate Reserve Shiraz. Victoria. Australia. 13% ABV. VEGAN. <i>The raspberry, plum fruit character is nicely balanced with supple oak and a somewhat surprising creamy spiciness.</i>	4.80	6.50	8.95
23	La Vaca Gorda Malbec. Mendoza. Argentina. 12.5% ABV. VEGAN. <i>Deep and vibrant with an intense nose of plum, damson, and dark chocolate aromas.</i>	5.25	7.25	9.75
24	Riviera Pinot Noir. Vin de France. France. 12.5% ABV. <i>Middleweight but beautifully structured. Redcurrants, & cranberries.</i>	5.25	7.25	9.75

SPARKLING

43	Single Serve Prosecco, Italy, 11% ABV. VEGAN. <i>The classic Italian sparkling wine. Peachy fruit with delicate citrus zest. A single serve</i>	200ml	8.95
44	Single Serve Le Rosé Spumante Prosecco 11% ABV. VEGAN, <i>A gentle strawberry scented rosé from Italy,</i>	200ml	8.95

DESSERT

40	Chateau Le Fage, Monbazillac, France 13.0% ABV. <i>This is a luscious dessert wine, brimming with ripe botrytised fruit, both complex and intense.</i>	100ml	6.30
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Available by The Glass



WHITE WINES

BOTTLE

1. AUS Estate Reserve Chardonnay De Bortoli. Victoria. Australia. 12% ABV. VEGAN



£24.95

AUS Estate Reserve is a cleansing Australian Chardonnay with lifted aromas of ripe peach and nectarine complemented with subtle oak. The palate is soft and creamy and exhibits ripe stone fruits. Integrated oak and a gentle acid nuance for a very long finish.

2. San Antonio Pinot Grigio Del Venezia. Veneto. Italy. 11% ABV. VEGAN



£24.95

Pinot Grigio production is widespread through Europe, from Alsace in France to Sicily, Italy and beyond to Eastern Europe, it is a versatile variety. Taking characteristics from where it is cultivated. Northern Italy, a cooler climate, gives a more neutral wine – lighter on the palate with delicate citrus and herb flavours. Move to the warmer temperatures of Sicily and it takes on a richer, deeper more intense nature.

Our San Antonio Pinot Grigio is from the Veneto region, nestled around Venice in Northern Italy. This it is a light, crisp, citrus flavoured wine with hints of lemon and lime zest.

3. Riviera Sauvignon Blanc. Vin de France. Southern France. 11% ABV.



£25.95

Riviera Sauvignon Blanc is from the vast 'sea of vines' in Southern France, stretching from Languedoc/Roussillon over to Provence on the South coast. It is vibrant, aromatic, and zesty with clean flavours of granny smith apples and old-fashioned pear drops. We tried numerous offerings when constructing our new list and this particular wine took some beating.

4. Rioja Blanco Bodegas Navajas. Rioja Alta. Spain. 13% ABV.



£26.95

This 'white' Rioja from Bodegas Navajas is primarily made from the Viura grape, which is the most prevalent white variety in Spain. It has no oak ageing and is fresh and vibrant with little citrus acidity and is a great accompaniment to fish and chicken or simply a great wine on its own.

5. Freedom Cross, Chenin Blanc, Western Cape, South Africa 12.5% ABV. VEGAN

£27.95

The Cape's favourite white grape. Full, ripe apple fruit mingles with tropical flavours leading to a clean, dry finish. As ideal with food as it is without.

6. Vinho Verde Pardalito. Portugal. 9.5% ABV.

£28.95

Vinho Verde literally translates to 'green wine' in reference to the youthful nature and subtle hints of lime green in the colouration. Produced from the Loureiro, Arinto and Trajadura varieties in coastal vineyards on sandy/granite shale ground. Traditionally Vinho Verde has a very slight 'spritz' or petulance on the tongue which gives the impression of a sparkling nature, although this is very subtle. A wonderful summer wine, which at 9.5% ABV doesn't hit the head too hard either.

7. Shropshire Lady, Kerry Vale Vineyard, Churchstoke, Shropshire 11.5% ABV.



£30.95

A crisp, dry white with a delightful gooseberry nose, bursting with citrus flavours and rounded off with grapefruit and refreshing hints of green apple. A Silver Medal winner at The Wine GB Awards 2023.

Named in tribute to the remarkable women of Shropshire.

8. Picpoul de Pinet Domaine de la Madone. Languedoc. France. 13% ABV.

£30.95

Picpoul is delightfully mineral style of white wine from the Languedoc region in Southern France. The variety is spelt Picquepoul and historically offered low yield and susceptibility to fungal diseases like mildew, but with modern viticulture techniques these have widely been eradicated. Domaine de la Madone displays the traditional taste profile of lemon zest and acacia flowers with a luscious mineral finish on the palate, a great partner to shellfish and can handle mild spice well too.



9. Tempranillo Blanco Fincas Azabache. La Rioja. Spain. 13% ABV.

£36.95

Tempranillo Blanco was discovered in Rioja during an inspection of the traditionally red variety by viticulturalists in 1988, after careful investigation, it was found to be a mutation of the red grape and only discoverable after the fruit matures from berries to ripe fruit – Veraison. Our merchant discovered this Fincas Azabache version on a recent buying trip to Rioja and felt it a worthy addition to our list, we whole heartedly agree. Succulent, fleshy white fruit, pear, lychee with spring blossom aromatics. Beautifully balanced grassy acidity. Looking for an alternative to that Southern Hemisphere Sauvignon Blanc, try this.

10. Allan Scott Sauvignon Blanc. Marlborough. New Zealand. 12.5% ABV. VEGAN.

£36.95

Fresh, zesty, juicy, and full, this fruit-driven wine will excite the senses without the racy overload. Tropical fruit with a fresh herbaceous character balanced with zesty passionfruit and a dry finish. A crisp refreshing wine, that shows the true terroir characters of the soil and area it comes from. Expect the familiar and beloved aromas and flavours that Marlborough is renowned for.

11. La Petite Ferme Viognier, Franschhoek, South Africa 14% ABV.

£39.95

Peach fruit combines with frangipane to give a complex wine with spicy hints and underlying almond nuttiness. Some barrel maturation has given depth and concentration rather than oaky flavours.

12. Goldschild Riesling Trocken Germany 11% ABV.

£39.95

Elegant and light with refreshingly racy lime acidity with juicy peach and apple fruit and a mineral finish. The Producer, Moselland is the product of ongoing mergers between cooperative wineries in Rheinland-Pfalz and, in 2000, with the co-op in Nahe. Half this area is planted with Riesling and consequently Moselland is currently one of the largest producers of Riesling worldwide.

13. Gavi Del Comune di Gavi, La Chiara, Italy 12.5% ABV.

£50.95

This small estate's low yields give this wine a juicy, honey-like core. Add the Cortese grape's apple-like freshness, and you have a standard bearer for Gavi, Piedmont's most famous dry white. The Producer La Chiara - This 6.5 hectare estate was established by Ferdinando Bergaglio in 1975.

14. Chablis Chartron et Trébuchet A.C. Chablis. Burgundy. France. 12.5% ABV.

£55.95

This wine displays a more acidic character and can often have a flinty, steely nature, this is slightly offset by oak aging which tempers the wine and gives a more tropical fruit delivery with a mineral edge. Our Chablis is no exception with a rich bouquet and elegant fruit.

15. Sancerre, André Dezat et Fils. Loire Valley. France. 14% ABV.

£70.95

Firmin Dezat produces one of the best Sancerres we have tasted. It is dry and fruity with a wonderfully delicate bouquet and has great length. Their vineyards have three different types of soil which give added complexity.

16. Pouilly-Fuissé, Cuvée Vieilles Vignes, Domaine Guerrin & Fils. Loire Valley. France. 13.5% ABV.

£75.95

Grapes from low yielding, 45 year-old vines make a beautifully intense yet elegant Pouilly-Fuissé, the top wine from grower Bastien Guerrin. He ferments it in barrel, working the lees to give roundness and a yeasty, dry finish. The Producer Domaine Guerrin et Fils - Maurice and Nadine Guerrin have one the most spectacularly situated wine properties in France.



ROSÉ WINES

BOTTLE

17. San Antonio Pinot Grigio Rosé. Veneto. Italy. 11% ABV. VEGAN



£25.95

By the addition of a low percentage, usually 3-5%, of red grapes (Pinot Nero or Nero d'Avola) prior to fermentation, the resultant salmon pink colouration is achieved. A medium dry rosé with clean, rose-hip, redcurrant flavours and crisp, citrus acidity. A wonderful wine for exciting salads and lightly spiced dishes too.

18. Cougars Moon White Zinfandel. California. USA. 10% ABV. VEGAN



£25.95

If you have a particular fondness for the sweet life, then this is for you. Strawberries and watermelons are the dominant flavours of White Zinfandel, a name conjured up by American marketeers, with a definite creaminess, it is hugely popular with all age groups and also makes a great punch too.

19. La Tonnelle Rosé. Hautes de Provence. France. 13% ABV.

£29.95

Provence lies on the south coast of France with the Rhone valley to the north and the Mediterranean to the south. Using red varieties such as Syrah, Grenache and Cinsault in varying degrees, and with minimal initial skin contact, that trademark light colour is created. La Tonnelle is produced in the north of the region, towards the foothills of the Alps. Classical pale pink with floral and fragrant, tangy summer fruits oozing out of the glass, it's an absolute gem, don't save it just for Summer.

20. Rare Hare, Kerry Vale Vineyard, Churchstoke, Shropshire 11% ABV.

£34.95

A vibrant wine packed with summer fruit flavours—strawberry, raspberry, and delicate floral notes, creating a soft, elegant palate. A medium / dry rosé, best enjoyed lightly chilled.

Inspired by history and nature: A Roman pottery fragment featuring a hare was unearthed during the vineyard's establishment, while a resident pair of hares continues to grace the land today.

DESSERT WINE

HALF BOTTLE

40. Château Le Fagé Monbazillac, France - 13.0% ABV.



£25.00

This is a luscious dessert wine, brimming with ripe botrytised fruit, both complex and intense.

François Gerardin and son, Benoit, cultivate 40 hectares of rolling vineyard near Bergerac.

41. Toro De Piedra Late Harvest Sauvignon/Semillon- 14.5% ABV.

£36.00

A nose of honey, apricots and marmalade extends to a luscious yet well balanced palate. There is some acidity here which adds freshness and keeps the wine very clean. Warm stone fruits, orange citrus and nectarine linger on the pleasing finish.

42. Quady Elisium, Black Muscat- 15% ABV.

£45.00

Elysium delivers an aroma of roses accompanied by dark fruit – cherry, strawberry – balanced with fruit acidity to finish clean. It's wonderful with cheeses, especially goat cheese or Gorgonzola; desserts containing red fruits; dark chocolate and with cream desserts and cheesecake. Elysium poured onto vanilla ice cream is an effortless favourite.

Available by The Glass



36. Barocco Prosecco Spumanté, Italy 11% ABV. VEGAN**£29.50**

Prosecco used to be the grape variety used to make this most famous Italian sparkler, when laws had to be introduced to maintain and control the production, the name of the wine was kept but the grape name was changed to Glera, so as not to cause confusion as to geographical provenance. Prosecco is made like any other sparkling wine by first making a still wine, then having a second fermentation, but unlike Champagne, the second fermentation is in either a concrete or stainless-steel vat. With soft, creamy peach and pear fruit, a hint of natural sweetness and enough bubbling to lift the palate it's no wonder this style of wine has become so popular.

37. Barocco Prosecco Rosé Spumanté 11% ABV. VEGAN**£31.00**

Made in a similar fashion to Pinot Grigio Rosé, where a small amount of red grapes are added to the white ones prior to initial fermentation – which gives it the colour and a flavour profile more akin to rose hips and redcurrants.

38. Phoenix Brut Sparkling White, Kerry Vale Vineyard, Churchstoke, Shropshire 11% ABV.**£65.00**

An elegant sparkling white with a crisp acidity, delicate toasty notes, and beautifully fine bubbles. Light-bodied, yet complex, with a refined, lingering finish.

Bronze Medal, Wine GB Awards 2023

39. Tanners Brut Extra Reserve Champagne, France 12.0% ABV. VEGAN**£87.00**

A finely structured, fruit-driven style with an impression of white flowers, fleshy stone fruits and toast. With fruit, style and elegance, this champagne is produced for Tanners by a highly reputed champagne house, a group of small growers, each carefully tending small vineyards above Epernay in the heart of the Champagne region.

43. Prosecco Spumanté, Italy 11% ABV. VEGAN**200ml Bottle****£8.95**

Ideal as a generous single serve, our delicious Prosecco is ideal for any occasion.

44. Prosecco Rosé Spumanté 11% ABV.**200ml Bottle****£8.95**

A wonderful addition to our list, a single serve Prosecco Rosé. A hint of Rose-hips and raspberries – divine.

English Wine right on our doorstep: Kerry Vale Vineyard

Located 5 miles away towards Montgomery, right on the English/Welsh border is The Kerry Vale Vineyard a family-run business, owned by husband & wife team Russell and Jan Cooke.

We stock 4 of their exceptional wines here at The Castle Hotel, which are detailed on this wine list: Shropshire Lady (White, Dry), Rare Hare (Rose, Medium Dry), Offa's Shadow (Red, Oaked) and Phoenix (Sparkling, Brut). There is a wonderful on-site wine shop and café.

Prior to being a vineyard, the site was home to an old blacksmiths house called Brompton View, sixteen old out-buildings and six acres of farmland. Consultation on the land revealed ideal growing conditions for vines and so 6,000 vines later in March 2010, Kerry Vale Vineyard was born! They love to share the vineyard with our guests and welcome you to explore at leisure, take in the stunning countryside and experience the beautiful sense of space and tranquillity the vineyard offers



RED WINES

BOTTLE

21. Villa Rosa Merlot. Central Valley. Chile. 11% ABV. VEGAN.



£24.95

Merlot is seemingly synonymous with Chile, fabulous growing conditions, stable climate. Villa Rosa is a typical Chilean Merlot, soft plummy, damson fruit with moderate acidity and low tannins (that earthy, stalky grip in the gums that can sometimes be a little too austere). A really good middleweight red.

22. AUS Estate Reserve Shiraz. Victoria. Australia. 13% ABV. VEGAN.



£24.95

Our AUS Reserve Shiraz is from the Riverina vineyards in Western Australia, one of the original wineries in the expansion of De Bortoli. The raspberry, plum fruit character is nicely balanced with supple oak and a somewhat surprising creamy spiciness. A great value wine that has elegant mouth feel and none of the sugary jaminess associated with inferior Oz Shiraz's.

23. La Vaca Gorda Malbec. Mendoza. Argentina. 12.5% ABV. VEGAN.



£25.95

Our 'house' Malbec is great example of a good all-rounder. Deep and vibrant with an intense nose of plum, damson, and dark chocolate aromas. Lush and layered on the palate, with well-integrated oak and plenty of fine tannins. Not just for beef but all red meats and especially cheese – don't forget the quince (its planted in the vineyards to keep the greenfly and pests away – they don't like the aromas from the skins)

24. Riviera Pinot Noir. Vin de France. France. 12.5% ABV. VEGAN.



£27.95

Pinot Noir – the King of Burgundy, a noble variety indeed! Riviera Pinot Noir is a great example of what can be achieved. From the cooler slopes of Languedoc/Roussillon (Pinot Noir does not like too much heat – simply ruins the flavour profile) this delightful middleweight is young and vibrant yet with nicely matured strawberry, redcurrant fruit, elegant tannins, simply a good, wholesome red that works well with lighter meats and especially chicken.

25. Kingklip Bay Pinotage, Robertson South Africa 12.5% ABV. VEGAN.

£29.95

The product of a crossing of Pinot Noir and Cinsault, Pinotage is South Africa's unique grape. This example is softly styled with intense blackberry fruit and mocha coffee notes. The Producer Robertson Winery - Robertson Valley is situated 160 kilometers from Cape Town, between the base of the Langeberg Mountains and the lower reaches of the Breede River.

26. Rioja Crianza Bodegas Azabache. La Rioja. Spain. 14% ABV. VEGAN.

£31.95

Stretching from the almost alpine northern tip just south of Bilbao to just north of Zaragoza and moderated by the Ebro River to the south and the Iberian range of mountains to the north. Azabache Crianza is made from Tempranillo, Garnacha and Mazuelo grapes with a long, slow fermentation, 12 months in French and American oak barrels then left to stabilise in bottle until release. Strawberry, blackcurrant, and redcurrant fruit with toasty vanilla hints and a touch of dark chocolate to boot. A great Sunday Roast partner but save some for the cheeseboard.

27. Tanners Claret, Bordeaux, France 13.0% ABV. VEGAN.

(Half Bottle £19.95)

£33.95

This Merlot-driven house Claret has all the brambly fruit and adaptability of a classic Bordeaux. Full of hedgerow fruit and plums, this is sumptuous and highly drinkable. The Producer Sichel - Maison Sichel is one of Bordeaux's foremost négociants

28. Smart Dog Syrah, Alentejo, J P Ramos, Portugal 14% ABV. VEGAN.

£34.95

João Portugal Ramos is at the forefront of the modern Portuguese revolution. We can see why, with this fragrant creation of lavender, chocolate and spice box, with a fruit-filled palate and ripe tannins. The Producer João Portugal Ramos - Ramos started winemaking in Alentejo with Quinta do Carmo in 1985.

Available by The Glass



29. Chianti Colli Senesi, Geografico, Italy 13.5% ABV.

£35.95

Brick red in colour with a nose of cherries and spice, this great value Chianti comes from the hills around Siena and is made by the excellent Geografico co-operative. Medium body and mild tannins make it all too easy to drink.

30. Gouguenheim Cabernet Sauvignon, Valle Escondido, Mendoza, Argentina 13.5% ABV.

£36.95

Intense and juicy, aromatic blackcurrant fruit, with velvety soft tannins and attractive toasty oak. Dense, yet fresh and easy-going with a big focus on fruit. The Producer Gouguenheim Winery - Patricio Gouguenheim was born in Argentina to French parents. During 2002 in the midst of an economic slump in Argentina, Patricio decided the time was right to leave his job as a banker in the city of Mendoza and start up a winery..

31. Offa's Shadow, Rondo Reserve, Kerry Vale Vineyard, Churchstoke, Shropshire 11.5% ABV.

£36.95

A deep ruby red, filled with the richness of ripe blackberries and cherries on the nose, followed by subtle vanilla and spice from oak barrel ageing. On the palate, herbaceous notes mingle with dark fruit and a hint of black pepper, leading to a toasty finish. A small-batch, limited-edition wine named after Offa's Dyke, the historic 8th-century earthwork built by King Offa. The 177-mile trail passes near the vineyard, adding to the area's stunning scenery.

32. Fleurie, La Pigionnier, France 13% ABV.

£42.95

Beaujolais, situated at the southern end of Burgundy and partially in the Rhone region, yet it has a character all of its own and is an autonomous authority in its own right.

Fleurie is the most approachable, appealing with enough muscle to be interesting yet delicate and flavoursome. It's very much fruit to the fore, with raspberry and cherry flavours dominating. There is some good texture here too, making it smooth on the palate.

33. Casarena '505' Malbec. Lujan de Cuyo, Mendoza. Argentina 13.5% ABV. VEGAN.

£44.95

Casarena are proud to be both custodians and interpreters of the distinctive terroir of Luján de Cuyo in Mendoza. The winery itself, built in 1937 and sympathetically renovated in 2008, sits in the heart of Perdriel. The certified sustainable vineyards are a tribute the diversity of the area. Each enjoys different elevation, sun orientation and soil composition allowing winemaker Martina Galeano to create markedly different profiles within a varietal to showcase the unique expression of each vineyard.

Rich, violet-inflected fruit aromatics on the nose with a touch of spice; rich and full palate, smooth, richly fruited. Bright acidity, firm tannins and a long finish.

34. Massaya Classic, Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. 15.0% ABV. VEGAN.

£50.95

Lebanon, Bekaa Valley - one of the oldest wine producing regions in the world.

Spicy notes with ripe, meaty, blackberry and red fruits, and a touch of chocolate. This supple, round wine is from an exciting French-Lebanese collaboration, which owns vineyards at an altitude of 1,000 metres in the Bekaa Valley.

35. Sarget de Gruaud Larose, Saint-Julien 2016. 13.5% ABV.

£99.00

The 2016 Sargent de Gruaud-Larose is a blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, with Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot, matured in 15% new oak. There is plenty of fruit on the nose: black cherries, red plum and a touch of violet, the modest level of new oak allowing the fruit to shine. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent ripe tannin, very pure fruit and a caressing texture. This second wine of the famous Chateau Gruaud Larose can sometimes be a little disappointing, but not this year. It's just a delicious wine that will give a decade's worth of drinking pleasure.



THE CASTLE AT BISHOPS CASTLE

A VERY OLDE FREEHOUSE.

The Castle Hotel is a Grade 2 listed building, built in 1719 on the site of the outer bailey of the original Castle.

Documented history begins in Saxon times for Bishop's Castle when Edwin Shakehead, grateful for being miraculously cured of the palsy at Saint Ethelbert's tomb in Hereford Cathedral gave part of his lands to the incumbent Bishop of Hereford. A successive Bishop of Hereford built the castle, originally a motte and bailey design, in 1087 to defend the church and village from the threat of the Welsh. The castle has been under attack several times, most notably in 1263 when John Fitzalan, 6th Earl of Arundel and Lord of Oswestry and Clun, held it under siege and caused significant damage.

In the Early Middle Ages the castle and parish were situated partly in Wales and partly in England so territorial disputes literally 'came with the territory'. In 1557 the castle was described as follows: "thirteen rooms covered with lead, a tower on the outer wall on the eastern side containing a stable, and two rooms covered with tiles. There were two other rooms called 'le new building' situated on the outer wall between the building over the gate and the tower called 'le prison tower'. There was also a dovecote, a garden, a forest and a park."

In 1618 the castle started to deteriorate and in the 1700s the stone keep and surroundings were flattened to make a bowling green, and in 1719 The Castle Hotel was built on the site of the outer bailey, probably using stones from the original castle. Some historians believe that the houses along Market Square and Castle Street were built on the foundations on an outer wall due to the curvature of the houses.

All that is physically left of the castle today is a 10 m long, coursed stone wall on the west side of the hotel gardens which is 2 m thick and 3 m high. It was overgrown with ivy and was recently renovated to keep it safe and stable. The Castle Hotel still welcomes guests from near and far, offering fine ales, local food, and bedrooms with facilities the original Bishop of Hereford could only have dreamed of!



Alastair
Sanday's



Available by The Glass

