



Think pink! The best rosé to buy now Jane MacQuitty

The pink wine tsunami continues, with rocketing year-round sales and all the world and his wife jumping on the bandwagon. The latest arrivals include the Queen drummer Roger Taylor's surprisingly tasty, bold, ripe, red berry-licked, grenache-led 2025 Cuvée Rock'n'Roll, Côtes de Provence Rosé (Waitrose, £15, down from £18.50), and yet another nauseatingly sweet Kylie Minogue terror: a 7 per cent Petit Rosé with a whopping 20.5g of residual sugar per litre (Tesco, £8).

Thank the Lord for the Perrin family from the Rhône and their consistently good pink "chicken wine". La Vieille Ferme Rosé is still my favourite light, herby, fruity French bargain, and as the bestselling wine of any colour in the UK it's clearly yours too. Check out the pale blush pink 2025 vintage (£8, ocado.com).

Given that the UK has the fastest-growing rosé sales in Europe, it's predictable that Provence promotes itself here as "the gold standard for rosé the world over". True, 90 per cent of Provence's output is this pretty blush

shade, but the region is no longer the global benchmark when so many wonderful rosés are made elsewhere. Standards have risen dramatically everywhere, with winemakers intent on making better pinks from the outset, using better, characterful grapes and direct pressing.

Mediterranean countries and regions have long made good dry rosé to keep everyone refreshed in sweltering summers. Spain's hearty pink riojas are a real barbecue and big food-loving serve; Ramon Bilbao's (see star buys) is the best and cheapest I've found. Look out too for Austria, the new rosé kid on the block — especially the stainless steel-aged Geyerhof star buy, from the 14th generation of winemakers at this 900-year-old property.

If a good, ordinary, rounded yet still peppy Italian is what's wanted, the 2025 Le Preare Chiaretto di Bardolino Rosé (Tesco, £9.50) should fit the bill. Back in France, the bottle to buy is the Raffault family's cracking cabernet franc from the Loire: the elegant, floral, redcurrant and apple blossom-scented 2025 Chinon Rosé, Domaine Jean-Maurice Raffault (yapp.co.uk, £15.75).

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2024 Ramon Bilbao Rosado, Spain
12.5 per cent, Co-op, £8, down from £9 An old unoaked but still big food-loving, garnacha-led friend, with terrific meaty, umami and citrus fruit.



2025 Taste the Difference Fronton Négrette, France
12.5 per cent, Sainsbury's, £7.25, down from £8.75 An unusual, dry, punchy, orchard-fruited négrette grape rosé.



2025 Geyerhof StockWerk Rosé, Kremstal, Austria
11.5 per cent, thewinesociety.com, £13.50 This glorious pink smoulders with lively, spice box-scented vim.



2020 Chateau Musar Rosé, Lebanon
12.5 per cent, vinvm.co.uk, £36.60 Nab this fine, mature, tea leaf and church incense-spiced jewel pink.

This week's best buys



2024 Domaine Bellegarde Jurançon Sec 'Pierre Blanche', France
13.5 per cent, yapp.co.uk, £22.95 A quirky, dry Jurançon with intense, lemon, saline and stone-fruit charm.



2025 Feinherb Piesporter Michelsberg, Germany
10.5 per cent, Lidl, £5.49 A popular bargain-basement Mosel with arresting, sparky, zesty, sweet lime juice style.



2023 Animus Douro, Portugal
13 per cent, Aldi, £6.69 Readers love this over-the-top, barbecue-friendly, luscious Douro red, with masses of bold, chocolaty spice.



2023 Catena Appellation Agrelo Cabernet Sauvignon, Argentina
13.5 per cent, Tesco, £16 A French oak-aged, vegan-friendly, hand-harvested cabernet with big spiced red plum fruit.