



## **Sparkling wine- more than just champagne- presented by Andrew Melville DipWSET**

**Monday 12<sup>TH</sup> May 2025**

**Cave de Ribeauville ‘Les Comtes de Ribeauville’ Crémant d’Alsace Brut** This is a well-balanced sparkling wine from the Alsace region of France. Made using the traditional method, this is a good example of Crémant d’Alsace using a blend of both the Pinot Blanc and Auxerrois grape varieties. Not an overly acidic wine, allowing for easy and simple drinking where there are clear citrus notes like lemon as well as crisp green apple. There is also a noticeable aroma of brioche arising from the lees aging. Overall, a good sparkler that could easily be enjoyed sitting outside on a sunny day.

**Cava Conde de Haro Brut 2020** Although the Penedes region in Catalonia is perhaps the most well-known area for Cava production in Spain, it is made all over the country. This example is from Rioja and is made of 70% Macabeo (Viura – in Rioja) and 30% Chardonnay. This wine has a good intensity level with citrus and green apple notes along with strong brioche and biscuit notes from two years of lees aging. This wine doesn’t have a mouthwatering acidity level but with long length that lingers on the tongue, this wine is good for just about any occasion.

**Sparkling Furmint Brut Nature Juliet Victor 2021** The Tokaj region of Hungary has a reputation for its sweet wine, but this is the first official release of this 100% Furmint sparkling by the Juliet Victor winery. There are notes of quince and lemon along with a hint of ginger to complement the brioche and biscuit aromas coming from three years of lees aging. With this region expanding its style offering, this wine provides an alternative option for a sparkling wine choice.

**Franciacorta Mozzafiato Brut NV Ferghettina** In the northern Lombardy region of Italy sits Franciacorta in where crisp and aromatic traditional method sparkling wine is made. This wine, which is 85% Chardonnay and 15% Pinot Noir, shows a lot of lemon, pear and green apple fruits with a hint of white blossom. With more than two years on the lees, there are clear brioche and biscuit notes along with toast adding to its complexity. Whilst the acidity levels are refreshing, they are well balanced within the wine. This sparkling Italian wouldn’t be out of place at any major celebration or even a mid-week tasting.

**Langlois-Chateau ‘Classique’ Crémant de Loire Brut Rosé** A delightful rosé from the Loire valley in France which uses primarily Cabernet Franc. With a gentle pressing, the resulting pink colour combined with the bubbles has a pride of place in the glass. Expect the usual citrus aromas and brioche notes from 18 months lees aging but also some raspberry, blackcurrant and herbaceous notes. A lovely wine for a summer afternoon.

**Bleasdale Langhorne Creek Sparkling Shiraz** This is a robust wine that packs a punch. It is a uniquely Australian wine with 100% shiraz from near the Barossa Valley in South Australia. An intense and bold wine with strong notes of black fruits (berry, plum, cherry) and pepper. Like any Australian shiraz this wine has a deep colour, but this wine comes with bubbles to add some additional enjoyment. This wine would go well with a slice of a rich chocolate cake.