

## HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

The season for al fresco dining calls for crisp, clean Champagnes and chilled reds. Plus, find tapas trails to follow and meet one of the world's best sommeliers.



### What We're Drinking

**James Brooke, head sommelier, Restaurant Patrick Guilbaud**

This summer, I'll be drinking fresh and aromatic whites from **Galicja, Alsace, Alto Adige** and **Austria**. I'll also be chilling some fresh **Loire reds** and good **Cru Beaujolais** to drink on a summer's evening.

For me, the best value wines today are to be found in Spain and Portugal. **Rioja, Ribera del Duero, Priorat, Bierzo, Valdeorras, Douro Valley** and **Alentejo** would be my favourites. **Barolo** and **Barbaresco** in Northern Italy also offer great bargains compared to their French counterparts. This won't last for long so buy now while you can.

### Wines to Watch

Fancy Champagne's class minus the price tag? Reach for Crémant, the French shorthand for bottle-fermented sparkling wine produced outside Champagne's jealously guarded boundaries. Try the well-balanced **Louis Bouillot Grande Reserve Crémant de Bourgogne**, €25, Donnybrook Fair and independents, or snag a bargain with Aldi's **Philippe Michel Crémant du Jura**, €10.79.



**CATCH** a curated sampling of Albariño wines from Rías Baixas at three exciting Wines of Spain tastings in No. 1 Pery Square **Hotel**, Limerick (June 30, [oneperysquare.com](http://oneperysquare.com)), **The Twelve Hotel**, Galway (July 7, [thetwelvehotel.ie](http://thetwelvehotel.ie)) and Green Man Wines, Dublin (July 13, [greenmanwines.ie](http://greenmanwines.ie)). Book directly with each venue. Tickets cost €25 per person, including Galician-inspired tapas.

### Wine events

Follow the Campo Viejo Tapas Trail in Dublin (June 7-July 3), Cork (July 12-27) and Galway (August 24-September 1). The guided trail runs twice weekly in each city and takes in tapas and matching wine at four participating restaurants, including Dublin's Drury Buildings, Galway's Cava Bodega and Cork's Fenn's Quay. Tickets (€30 per person) are available at [campoviejotapastrail.ic](http://campoviejotapastrail.ic).



KEEP YOUR WHITE WINES – OR YOUR FRUITIER, LIGHTER REDS – PERFECTLY CHILLED WITH THIS SLICK CERAMIC COOLER FROM ARTICLE. JUST ADD SUNSHINE. €65; [ARTICLEDUBLIN.COM](http://ARTICLEDUBLIN.COM)

### BATTLES OF THE SOMMS

Congratulations to the French-born, Irish-based sommelier Julie Dupouy of Dublin's Greenhouse Restaurant, who represented Ireland at the World Sommelier Competition in Mendoza, Argentina earlier this year. Julie ranked third place in the overall competition, picking up a bronze medal and officially becoming the best female sommelier in the world.



Wine editor Aoife Carrigy explores the converging worlds of wine, design and culture.

### WINE in numbers

2

The number of places climbed by Penfolds wine to top *Drinks International* magazine's list of most admired wine brands. Torres slipped to number two, followed by Ridge, Casillero de Diablo and Michel Chapoutier.

132

The number of bottles of allegedly fake Domaine de la Romanée-Conti wine at the heart of the latest \$2.45 million lawsuit involving jailed wine fraudster Rudy Kurniawan.

50M

The Australian Government will invest \$50 million to support domestic wine tourism and wine export growth, in support of the sector that contributes over \$40 billion to the Australian economy.