

Opinion **FT Magazine**

The best sparkling wines for Christmas

Champagne is festive, but so too is cava, prosecco and even English bubbly

JANCIS ROBINSON

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Perhaps this helps to explain some exceptionally enticing deals in the UK on non-vintage blends from some of the most famous names in Champagne. Lea & Sandeman usually applies alluring discounts on champagne at this time of year but the special offers at Waitrose and Berry Bros & Rudd are also well worth checking out.

Discounts on top-quality English wine seem to be rather thinner on the ground, with an ambitious £40 a bottle looking dangerously like the new normal for homegrown fizz.

The selection of sparkling wines below has been made with value in mind.

Raventós i Blanc de la Finca 2015 Conca del Riu Anoia

£30 Woodwinters

Made by a skilled refugee from the cava category, mainly from the local Catalan Xarello grape. No copy of champagne, this fine-boned wine was aged on lees for 30 months and had no dosage, the equivalent of champagne's popular Brut Nature category.