

# White GOLD

## UNDER €12

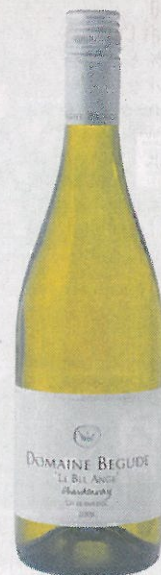
**Laurent Miquel Chardonnay Viognier 2010 IGP d'Oc 13% €6.99**

This unusual blend works very nicely, both varieties contributing to a fresh but rounded white with lovely soft pear and peach fruits. This would go very nicely with fish, grilled vegetables and lightly spiced chicken. Great value for all kinds of easy drinking. *Stockists: Dunnes Stores.*



**Domaine Begude 'Le Bel Ange' Chardonnay 2010, IGP Pays d'Oc 12.5% €8**

A wine that features each year, the Begude Chardonnay is a wonderful, fresh, zesty, dry white wine that bears more than a passing resemblance to a fine Chablis. It just has more fruit. Great with seafood or as an aperitif. *Stockist: Superquinn.*



**Ch Haut-Garriga 2010, Bordeaux Blanc 12% €9.75**

An appetising, dry white, made entirely from Semillon (and therefore Sauvignon-free) with zesty lemon, green apple and melon fruits, finishing bone dry. Low in alcohol, this would make a perfect partner for seafood or as a mouth-watering aperitif. *Stockist: Wines Direct, Mullingar, winesdirect.ie 1890-579579.*

**Castelmaure Corbières Blanc 2010 14% €9.85**

I'm not sure of the grape varieties used, but this has the richness and body associated with the traditional southern grape varieties. Quite big and powerful with nicely textured peach and nectarine fruits, good acidity and a very decent dry finish. I would keep it for richer fish dishes or white meats. Great value for money. *Stockists: Terroirs, Donnybrook.*



**Domaine de Pellehaut, Harmonie de Gascogne 2010, Vin de pays des Côtes de Gascogne 12% €9.95**

A perennial wine of the year, this is one of the great all-purpose whites that is especially good for drinking solo, or at large gatherings. Fresh, light and full of rounded ripe green fruits, with a tangy citrus acidity. Great value. *Stockists: Mitchell & Son, Chq Building, IFSC & Glasthule; Anderson's, Glasnevin; Bin No 9, Goatstown; French Flair, Tralee.*

**McWilliam's Mount Pleasant Elizabeth**



**Semillon 2006, Hunter Valley 12% Normal RRP €19.99 but on offer at €10.**

I made this a wine of the week twice this year, as it has to be one of the greatest bargains available at the moment. I am a little cynical about half-price wines generally, but at the reduced price this is a real bargain. Hunter Valley Semillon is one of the world's classics. It can be drunk young, but will keep for years. Put aside any reservations you might have about Semillon; this is a wonderful, light-bodied, un-oaked, crisp, dry, white wine with a delicious subtle toastiness. *Stockists: Tesco*

**Tesco's Finest Denman Vineyard Semillon 2010, Hunter Valley 11% €10.99**

Possibly not quite as good as the Mount Pleasant version above, but this is another very drinkable Hunter Valley Semillon, with attractive, clean, light kiwi and pear fruits. It has good acidity but enough ripe, plump fruit to allow it slip down smoothly. Even better value when on promotion at €7. *Stockists: Tesco*

**Prova Régia 2010 Arinto Vinho Regional Lisboa 12.5% €10.99**

A very attractive, light, fresh, clean wine with lightly textured pears and peaches, an appealing bitter touch and a nice citrus edge. A great all-rounder at a very keen price. *Stockists: Corkscrew, Chatham St; Donnybrook Fair; O'Brien's; Fallon & Byrne, Exchequer St.; La Touche Wines, Greystones; Fresh Outlets; McCabe's; Nectar, Sandyford; Redmond's, Ranelagh; Sweeney's, Glasnevin; Morton's, Ranelagh; Gourmet Bank; Wine Boutique, Ringsend; Bin No9, Clonskeagh; Deveney's, Dundrum &*

