

PRIORS DEAN VINEYARD

FINE ENGLISH WINE

www.priorsdeanvineyard.co.uk

Information and sales.

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NEWSLETTER CHRISTMAS 2018

Priors Dean Sparkling has arrived.

Our first English Sparkling wine is now on sale. We always meant to specialise in still white wine, but in 2013 we had a surplus of the Seyval Blanc grape and Emma, our winemaker at Hattingley Valley Winery suggested we use them to make a sparkling wine. It was a good idea as the soil and area (terroir) is very similar to that in Champagne, and in recent years English winemakers have become expert in the art and have frequently beaten the French in International competitions.

What I didn't realise was the time it takes between the picking and the bottles arriving. The wine is made by the Champagne method (it can't be called Champagne due to EEC regulations!) This entails a long time on the lees, two fermentations, and other specialised procedures.

Bronze award

Now at last we have the finished product. It was entered for the Wessex Area Wine of the Year competition and gained a Bronze award. Among the judges' comments were 'clean light fresh apples: Big bubbles: Sherbet Lemon palate: Good acid.

Our price

£25 .00 per bottle. Case of 12 bottles £276.

SPECIAL OFFER Our normal discount is for a minimum of 6 bottles but as a special promotion we are offering a box of 3 bottles for £69.00

The year in the vineyard

It was the summer we have been waiting for since we started. Fine weather at flowering time so we had a good fruit set, then dry hot weather through to autumn. The result a good crop of excellent grapes. Many thanks also to our volunteers who thinned out the branches and leaves so the grapes could get maximum sun. A bonus was that because they ripened early we were able to pick them well before they were found by the pheasants!

Apologies

Sorry for the lateness and shortness of this Newsletter. For the 3rd year in succession I managed to go down with a chest infection in November. This time I managed to avoid Hospital, but still was a bit rough for a while and Christmas has got delayed. Hope to do better soon.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all
Pam