

Dunbar Charity Wine Events

Spring 2024

with **Gareth Morgan DipWSET**

in aid of the Scottish Refugee Council (regd charity SC008639)



Evenings to discover wines and spirits from across Europe – in a small group round a table – followed by a light supper. All hosted by an experienced wine educator.

Exploring Scotch Whisky – for Wine-lovers

Thursday 18 January 2024 19.30 £25 suggested donation

Book at <https://CharWineJan2024.eventbrite.co.uk>

Specially timed for the week before Burns Night, we will explore seven different whiskies from across Scotland – and we'll compare with a top Cognac (made by distilling wine).

We will unpack terms like single malts, age statements, peat – and the ways of tasting whisky – all in a no-nonsense approach *for those who love wine*. We will explore, in particular, how wine and whisky production interact, such as the increasing use of wine and sherry casks for aging of Scotch whiskies. We'll end with some great Scottish cheeses!

Wines for Romance – with Ravishing Rosés!

Thursday 15 February 2024 19.30 £25 suggested donation

Book at <https://CharWineFeb2024.eventbrite.co.uk>

Just a day after Valentine's day, we will attempt to explore the role of wine in a romantic relationship! We'll ask: how can we choose the right wines to help promote romance and intimacy? What about the issue of quality versus quantity?

The evening will be a light hearted exploration of these issues, tasting wines from different parts of Europe that have some romantic angle. We'll include a white, red and dessert wine – but there'll be a special focus on top rosés (still and sparkling) that can be sure to create a wonderful sense of romance!

How wines develop – Bordeaux vertical tasting

Thursday 21 March 2024 19.30 £35 suggested donation

Book at <https://CharWineMar2024.eventbrite.co.uk>

So often people say "I think this wine needs a bit more time" or "I think this wine is past it" – but how do you tell? What's the right age? What about good vintages and poor vintages?

The only way to know is to compare wines from *different years* from the *same property* – known as a 'vertical tasting'. For this event we will taste eight red Bordeaux wines, all from the same leading Cru Bourgeois château in the Haut-Médoc, starting from around 4 years old and working back to a bottle that is 30 years old! The ultimate pre-Easter event!

Wines of Germany and Austria – for Spring

Thursday 18 April 2024 19.30 £25 suggested donation

Book at <https://CharWineApr2024.eventbrite.co.uk>

Germany and Austria are both incredibly important wine-producing countries, with some outstanding delicate wines. They range from the elegant Rieslings with racing acidity from the Mosel valley in Northern Germany to the spicy yet fresh reds made from the Blauer Zweigelt grape in Austria. These are perfect wines for drinking in the spring.

This tasting will explore eight different wines (mainly whites but also some reds) from across Germany and Austria – including one or two very special dessert wines at the end!



About the Host

Dr Gareth Morgan worked from 2001-2020 as a wine and spirits educator (alongside other roles) – he presented a huge range of wine events to consumer groups, university students and professionals in the hospitality trade. He is co-author of the book *Contemporary Wine Studies: Dancing with Bacchus* (Routledge). He holds the Diploma with Honours of the Wine & Spirit Education Trust and was for 15 years a member of the Association of Wine Educators. He is independent – he was never involved in selling wine.

He is now retired from this work, but he still has an impressive cellar of wine (and whisky) he has collected. He is delighted to share this with wine-lovers in Dunbar to help raise funds for the Scottish Refugee Council. (He is also available for private wine events with a charity donation or events supporting other charities.)

Suggested Donations

These events have no fixed charge – Gareth hopes participants will be happy to make a realistic donation to support the Scottish Refugee Council – an independent Scottish human rights charity supporting refugees living in Scotland – often some of the most vulnerable people fleeing wars and persecution. A suggested contribution is shown for each event but you are free to give more or less when you book – see links above. Gareth is making no charge for the wines: the only expenses to be deducted will be costs of the bread and cheese supper and any admin/printing costs.

Practical Issues: Venue/Numbers/Timing/Wines/Food

These events take place at Gareth's home, sitting around a table, with a maximum of 8 guests for each event to allow for plenty of discussion. It is very close to Dunbar rail station and the stop for the X7 or 106 bus. All participants must be 18+. If you would like to come, please book in good time to secure a place – see <https://winegareth.eventbrite.com/> or the individual links above.

Tasting glasses, maps and tasting sheets will all be provided. Each tasting will start at **19.30 prompt** and last up to 90mins with a tasting of eight different wines from the area or region concerned. Samples will be approx 50ml of each wine (or 25ml for whisky) – equivalent to around half a bottle in total – though spittoons will be available if you don't wish to consume the wines. The range of wines (or spirits in the case of the January event) are as shown in the listings above. There will then be some bread and cheese to share at the end with a chance to take some more wine to re-taste with food if you wish. Each evening will finish around 21.45.