

This was an evening battling the big boys Intermache and Leclerc against the cheeky Lidl. Which wines are the best value for money, which are worth drinking, which would you not even take off the shelves. The results are very surprising. All wines were tasted blind with the labels covered and the wine tasters were asked to guess the price and place of purchase. Also which they preferred. In almost every case the wine from Lidl tasted very good and was best value for money. So if you are looking for a wine costing €5 or less then Lidl is the place to go for best value for money.

In many cases the wine labels at Lidl were poor and often reflected a low price. My view is that people would be more likely to buy some of their good value for money cheaper wines if the labels were more attractive and reminded drinkers more of a vineyard than a bottling factory.

Lidl is not really into the  $\in$ 5+ market and certainly not into the  $\in$ 10+ market. The one wine we tasted from Lidl costing more than  $\in$ 10 was just not worth the money.

So you can get drunk for less at Lidl or simply provide a good value accompaniment to your food in the form of wine if you go to Lidl. It opened my eyes.

1	Crement de Loire BRUT	12% €4.29 Lidl, Redon	The Crement de Loire bought in Lidl and Intermache were tasted and compared. Most thought that No1 was the most expensive and tasted the best. Both were thin, little nose and the taste was short lived on the pallet. Almost everyone preferred the Lidl sparkling white wine and at €2 cheaper it was a good drink.
2	Crement de Loire Ackerman	11.5% €6.25 Intermache, Redon	Over the months we have been tasting sparkling white wine from Champagne, from around France, Germany, Spain and the UK. In the under €10 price range the Spanish Cava Negro is still best but if it has to be French then buy at Lidl. In the under €35 UK Nyetimber is outstandingly good. Pity it is not generally on sale in France.
3	Gewurztraminer 2013	12.5% €4.49 Lidl, Redon	Again we compared a Lidl Gewurztraminer with a quite expensive Intermache offering. Both were disappointing and there was not much to choose between them. If it has to be Gewurztraminer then the Lidl version at €4.49 is best value for money.
4	Gewurztraminer Cuvee 2012 Expert Club Vin Biologique	13% €8.15 Intermache, Redon	

	Bergerac White	11.5% €1.99 Lidl, Redon	A blind tasting and wine tasters put the price between €4.29 and €6.21. It was a shock to all when it turned out to cost less than €2.00. 5 thought it came from Lidl and 4 from Leclerc. It was a really good drink and well worth the money. Worth going to Lidl to buy.
	St Emilion Grand Cru	12% €13.99 Lidl, Redon	A surprise intruder which should have been a really good drink and maybe would have been if layed down for 5 years.
			It was really not worth the money and the most anyone guessed the price was €9.99 No point in buying this.
	Graves Chateau Gravaillas 2010	12% €7.39 Lidl, Redon	Again a blind tasting with prices guessed at €4.00 to €8.95 sand most thought it had been bought in Leclerc.
			Lidl have a really nice wine with this Graves but even so my personal opinion was that it was not really worth the money and that there are better €7 Graves around.
7	Cotes de Blaye 2013	14% €2,85 Lidl, Redon	We all liked this one and there was not much to choose between the two so buy at Lidl if you need a wine in this price range.
8	Cotes de Blaye	13% €4.59 Intermache, Redon	It was nothing like the Cotes de Blaye we drank last month.
9	Cotes de Rouissillon 2013	13% €1.89 Lidl, Redon	There really was no comparison between the Lidl offering and the Caramany from Intermache.
10	Cotes de Rouissillon Caramany 2013	14% €5.60 Intermache, Redon	The Caramany won without any difficulty and a really good value wine.

11	Moulin-a-Vent 2013	12.5% €3.75 Lidl, Redon	Everyone preferred the Moulin-a-vent from Lidl. It was price guessed at between $\in 1.50$ (come on that is ridiculous) and $\in 7.23$ . It was a lovely offering and a bargain at $\in 3.75$
12	Moulin-a-Vent Antoine Barrier 2013	12.5% €6.02 Leclerc, Redon	
13	Jurancon 2013	12% €4.99 Lidl, Redon	Again the Lidl offering was best though those who like Jurancon would find that the sweetness of the Leclerc version was more typical and well rounded. However at less than €5 the Lidl offering was really good value and I would buy it again.
14	Jurancon 2012	12% €7.20 Leclerc, Redon	