



## Wine by design

Forget the traditional image of a cobweb-filled dungeon – wine cellars can now match your chic interior décor, thanks to wine storage experts Spiral Cellars. The company has added a new 'White Cellar' design to its range for those who want a stylish alternative to the concrete finish of their original cellars. The new design includes a smoother finish, a light-reflecting surface and a choice of lighting solutions, such as under-step, ceiling down or floor up-lighters which look stunning at night if the cellar is fitted with a glass trap door. The White Cellar is available from £17,530 with other cellar options also available. See [spiralcellars.com](http://spiralcellars.com) to find out more.



## Spring greens

If the arrival of a bright new season makes you want to be greener and more eco-friendly, the drinks world has its own initiatives to offer more ethical choices. Chilean wine brand Palo Alto (which means 'high tree') has teamed up with the charity Trees for Cities ([treesforcities.org](http://treesforcities.org)) so money from every bottle sold is given to a fund that facilitates tree planting in urban areas worldwide. Palo Alto's fresh Sauvignon Blanc is a great wine for spring and available from Thresher at £7.99. Wildlife fans will be glad to know that luxury Polish spelt vodka, Snow Leopard (£30 at Waitrose and

House of Fraser) works alongside the Snow Leopard International Trust and other wildlife charities, giving 15 per cent of profits to help ensure the survival of the snow leopard and other endangered species.

# Drinks NEWS

Kate Ennis enjoys an eco-friendly wine and raises a glass of Cava for Catalonia's St George's Day



## Tequila sunrise

The latest arrival on the tequila scene is the small batch, artesian tequila Ocho, a joint project between Mexico's respected Camarena family of distillers and Tomas Estes, tequila aficionado and owner of popular Mexican restaurant group, Café Pacifico. Made purely from the bluish, spiky lily plant, Ocho is the first agave tequila to bear a vintage specifying the harvest date and location of where the plants were grown. There are two varieties available: a citrusy, un-aged 'blanco' tequila (£16.95 for 50cl), which shines in a Margarita and a smooth, gently-aged 'reposado' (£17.89), ideal for sipping. Visit [thedrinkshop.com](http://thedrinkshop.com)

## Did you know...

**St George's Day isn't the only reason to raise a glass on April 23? England shares its patron saint with the Spanish region of Catalonia, where the day is known as La Diada de Sant Jordi. Barcelona fills with stalls selling the red roses of St George and crowds enjoy a sparkling glass of local Cava. One of the best quality and most traditional Cavas is Codorníu and its Reserva Raventos Cava is available from Sainsbury's, Majestic and Oddbins, priced £8.99.**



## Late at Tate

Hamish Anderson, talented head sommelier and wine buyer for the Tate museums, is known for compiling an exciting list of well-priced wines. To sample his award-winning selection head to one of Tate Britain's wine and food pairing evenings, held on the first Friday of every month. The dinner is a seasonal, five-course tasting menu at the Rex Whistler restaurant, accompanied by perfectly matched wines. Tickets cost £60 per person. To make a reservation, call 020 7887 8825.