



fruits of the Kaiken Classico Malbec 2018 (£12.50 rickstein.com).

If you are looking for something a little more cutting edge, then hip south London wine bar, deli and shop Diogenes the Dog (no, I don't know why it's called that

either...) is now also making its quirky individual wines available for delivery nationwide. An £85 gift pack includes a terrifically punchy but relatively conventional red from Portugal and an orange Moscato from Puglia in southern Italy, which is also the source of a decidedly cloudy,

unlabelled and very natural Harvest1 Field Blend (£14 diogenesthedog.co.uk): an unknown mix of grapes, grapefruit and lemon flavours and a touch of spice – exotic, delightful and easily drinkable; and then there is the remarkable Pet Nat Triumph/Pinot Noir (£20.40 diogenesthedog.co.uk) a lightly sparkling, very dry biodynamic red from the wonderful Ancre Hill Estates in south Wales, which is a lovely and unconventional aperitif. And the gift package, which includes some olive oil, would make a great introduction to orange and natural wines for the uninitiated.

Talking of sparkling wines, we all need a little sparkle in our lives these days and there are, of course zillions of gift packs out there, often with champagne glasses and truffles included.