

**A BEER  
DUCHY  
ORIGINAL  
ORGANIC ALE**



The Prince Of Wales' new range of garden furniture and shampoos have both hit the headlines recently, but let's not ignore His Royal Not-Quite-Kingness's exceedingly good organic beer. Duchy Original Organic Ale uses barley from Home Farm (part of the Prince's Highgrove Estate), and hops from two farms that were the pioneers of organic hop growing in the UK. The resulting brew is 100 per cent organic with a rich ruby colour, a balanced bitter flavour and wonderfully malted, sweet caramel smell. Profits go to charity allowing you to convince people you are not attempting to become intoxicated, but raising money for good causes. *Available at Waitrose, Booths, Safeway and Sainsbury's (RRP £1.79 per 500ml bottle).*

**A WINE  
VIÑEDO  
CHADWICK 1999/  
ERRAZURIZ  
SYRAH 2001**



At a recent blind tasting in Berlin, leading wine experts were treated to samples of the best reds in recent years. Included were Chateaux Lafite, Margaux and Latour - all notoriously exclusive and expensive. But the bottle that came out top was a powerful 35 quid Chilean red: Viñedo Chadwick, 2000 - a result that stunned many (not least the French). The 1999 vintage has the aroma of black fruits and tobacco and a rich, velvety texture, and compared to top-end French wines it's an absolute bargain, meaning you can try a world-class bottle of wine without first selling a kidney. The medium bodied Errazuriz Syrah 2001; made by the same people, is deliciously fruity and only £5.99. *Viñedo Chadwick 1999 (RRP £35) www.everywine.co.uk and select retailers; Errazuriz Syrah 2001 (RRP £5.99) Thresher, Safeway and Waitrose.*

**A SPIRIT  
SMIRNOFF  
RED LABEL**



It's not every day one gets excited about Smirnoff Red Label Vodka; the day you read this will be no exception. Everyone knows the brand - over 25 million bottles are sold annually in the UK - but, not wanting to see their spirit overtaken by younger, trendier brands, Smirnoff have chosen to do what Absolut did with impressive results a few years ago - give their bottle a makeover. They've done a top job. The new label is sleek and striking, taking its cue from Smirnoff's Russian heritage, with an eagle icon derived from the Russian royal warrant granted a century ago. The contents, happily, remain unchanged. *Widely available. Price varies.*

**A PURÉE  
FUNKIN PURÉES**



Since their launch in 2002, Funkin fruit purées have enjoyed the patronage of the nation's best bartenders, but now the good people at Funkin are making their most popular purées available to budding living room mixologists, allowing us to produce cool bellinis or fruit martinis with maximum taste, minimum effort. Granted, there is something a little poncey about a fruit martini, but at least you're guaranteed to mix more than half-decent cocktails. The purées also come in resealable pouches which, once opened, keep fresh for just over a week. The flavours are white peach, passion fruit, strawberry and raspberry, as well as liquid dark chocolate - perfect for those chocolate martinis. *Available from Harvey Nichols and Selfridges (£3.95 per 300g pouch).*