

Patrick Stuart's Christmas

Patrick Stuart's Christmas

algarve
resident

Patrick Stuart's Christmas

Some friends of mine, who recently moved to the Algarve and have a house-full of guests arriving this week to join them for their first Algarve Christmas, asked me for some wine suggestions.

I started jotting down notes and eventually decided to request some extra space from the editor and share my ideas with our dear *Algarve Resident* readers.

What I buy in for the festive season is governed not only by budget but also by who will be drinking it. I like to find some wines for all occasions in the lower-price range – well, not too low as it Christmas, but wines that can be enjoyed in substantial quantity without breaking the bank. And then I will buy a few bottles of something more special to be savoured by those who really appreciate quality.

Finally, we are in Portugal and when entertaining friends and family from overseas, I like to focus on Portuguese wines, so everything here is proudly made in Portugal.

Bubbles

We always (weather permitting, which it nearly always does) start our Christmas day with a small gathering of friends and family on the beach. When fortified with a few glasses of bubbly, some of us take a refreshing dip in the ocean! This is definitely not an occasion for expensive Champagne or even a premium *espumante*.

What we are looking for is something easy-drinking and I think in this case pink. My suggestion is Soalheiro Rosé Brut (€14.95), salmon pink in colour, quite lush and fruity on the nose whilst still dry in the mouth.



Soalheiro Bruto Rosé, a good, easy-drinking sparkler (€14.95)