



Press Release

4th January 2023

The Iconic Box Tree Restaurant of Ilkley adds Dunesforde's award-winning wines to their menu

Following Dunesforde's success at the 2022 WineGB awards, the boutique vineyard based in North Yorkshire is delighted to announce that two of their wines have now been selected by The Box Tree to add to their already outstanding wine list.



Restaurant guests can now choose Queen of the North, an elegant sparkling wine with broad orchard fruit notes and a wonderfully long finish, or Dunesforde Solaris which radiates finesse and is bursting with acidity and character.

Founded in 2016, Dunesforde is one of the most northerly commercial vineyards in England and its wines are now appreciated far and wide.

With the first wines launching less than three years ago, Dunesforde is now a multi-award-winning vineyard where Solaris, Bacchus, Pinot Noir Précoce and Pinot Gris varieties are grown.

They are fast gaining a reputation for outstanding cool climate wines, added to which their 2018 Queen of the North sparkling wine was awarded this year's regional WineGB award for best wine from the midlands and the north by English wine champion Oz Clarke. Another fan of this classic cuvée is TV presenter and wine expert Joe Fattorini who said, "Queen of the North is a wine which I loved, blending a floral perfume with a toasty character which comes from being made exactly the same way as Champagne."

Peter Townsend, Head of Wine Development at Dunesforde, commented, “We are delighted to have been selected to supply The Box Tree with two of our wines. Given their long-standing reputation as one of Yorkshire’s most iconic restaurants, we regard this as one of our greatest achievements to date. We hope that this will be the start of a long and mutually rewarding partnership as we very much share The Box Tree’s demand for excellence in all areas of our business.”

Didier Da Costa, Head Sommelier, at The Box Tree said, “Queen of the North is a surprising English-made assemblage, combining 70% of the floral and elegant Chardonnay and 30% of the charismatic and complex Pinot Noir with only fourteen months on lees. The final result is an exceptional sparkling wine with a delicate mousse giving freshness, finesse and elegance followed by ripe fruit, light yeast aromas and a smooth, creamy complexity on the palate.

“Dunesforde Solaris brings a new flavour to the North, after the Bacchus grape. This forty-eight-year-old grape shows great potential in this Yorkshire terroir giving a fruity and aromatic wine with balance and a refreshing gooseberry style acidity. Both wines I am delighted to add on our wine list.”

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All BoxTree Restaurant media enquiries

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About Dunesforde

Dunesforde is a six-acre vineyard in Upper Dunsforth, York, producing outstanding cool climate wines in one of the most northerly locations in the UK. Set up in 2016, it is owned and managed by the Townsend Family. A total of six thousand vines across four different grape varieties are grown at Dunesforde: Solaris, Bacchus, Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir Précoce. The first harvest wines were released in 2019 and the vineyard now produces a range of still and sparkling wines. They have received many awards for their wines including a gold medal which was awarded in 2021. In addition to their wines this boutique vineyard has first class facilities, and their range of tours and tastings are appealing to all sectors both private and commercial.

About The Box Tree Restaurant

Opened in 1962 by Malcolm Reid and Colin Long, The Box Tree quickly became the North's most successful restaurant with two Michelin stars to its name. Without exception the Box Tree featured in every good food guide as renowned chef's Michael Truelove, Edward Denny, Marco Pierre White, Simon Gueller and now the more contemporary Kieran Smith, each making their mark on the menus and history of the restaurant.

www.theboxtree.co.uk

About Queen of the North

The Townsend family who live next to the vineyard in Upper Dunsforth, North Yorkshire having been captivated by the local history, commissioned this Classic Cuvée for which England is fast becoming renowned and dedicated it to Queen Cartimandua, the first documented 'Queen of the North'. As leader of the largest and most northerly tribe in England, this powerful lady chose to form an alliance with the Roman invaders rather than be wiped out in futile battle. Made by traditional method using a blend of Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes harvested in the summer of 2019, this wine is rich in flavour with all the elegance one would expect from its regal association. Only limited numbers of these individually numbered bottles are produced.

www.dunesforde.com

