

# 63. Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester

The Dorchester, Park Lane, W1K 1QA  
 +44 (0) 20 7629 8866  
 alainducasserervations@alainducasse-  
 dorchester.com  
 alainducasse-dorchester.com

**BELGIAN-BORN HEAD** sommelier Ruben Desport has been inextricably linked to the Ducasse international instrument of fine dining since starting his vinous career as a 19-year-old intern at Le Louis XV, Monaco.

He currently co-authors the wine tome at Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester with group executive wine director Gérard Margeon.

The 1,000-bin list celebrates classic French appellations while flirting with important pockets of terroir elsewhere. Logically, given this is a venue that has three Michelin stars, iconic producers are intrinsic, though Desport ensures evolution occurs throughout the list, "in relation to our London marketplace and customers' expectations".

It is this diversity, he says "which allows us to include many New World wines". Hence, expect, by the glass, Dom Pérignon, Boekenhouts Kloof's Franschoek Semillon, and an Australian Syrah from a wannabe fireman turned biodynamic winemaker. By the bottle, expect to encounter Château d'Yquem dating from 1939, a rich seam of Burgundy, including Coche-Dury and Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, a dalliance with the US, big-name Spain, including a gutsy Cirsion (Bodegas Roda) in magnum, and starry Italians. Also available is the really good still red from the house of Bollinger - La Côte aux Enfants from Coteaux Champenois. Beyond the celebrity bottles value is to be found, particularly in the neat Chablis selection. More than 100 wines roll in



below - and sometimes well below - £100, including a very respectable rested white Lirac at £40 (Domaine Maby).

Dishes, by executive chef Jean-Philippe Blondet, may include: pot-au-feu with oxtail ravioli; Scottish Langoustines with citrus and Earl Grey; and venison rib and saddle with parsnip and peanut' then pudding of "Baba like in Monte-Carlo".

## BEST FOR

- Restful decor
- Champagne
- Subtle Ducasse iconography in branding

Score	Value	Size	Range	Originality	Service
92.6	86	93	94	91	99



9a St Thomas St, SE1 9RY  
 +44 (0) 20 3957 9932  
 reservations.london@duddells.co  
 duddells.co/london

Score  
 92.7

Value

90

Size

90

Range

90

Originality

98.5

Service

95