Words to describe wine

LOOK

Clarity

clear, hazy

Depth of colour

pale, medium, deep

Colour

WHITE	lemon-green, lemon, gold, amber, brown
ROSÉ	pink, salmon, orange
RED	purple, ruby, garnet, tawny, brown

SMELL

Condition and strength

clean, unclean; light, medium, pronounced

From the grape

CITRUS AND APPLE	lemon, lime, green apple, pear
PEACH AND TROPICAL	peach, mango, pineapple, passion fruit, guava
FLOWERS	rose, violet, elderflower, jasmine
GREEN AND HERBAL	cut grass, green pepper, mint, eucalyptus, nettles
RED FRUIT	strawberry, raspberry, red cherry
DARK FRUIT	blackberry, blackcurrant, plum
DRIED FRUIT	dried fig, raisin, fruitcake
PEPPER AND STONE	black pepper, flint, chalk, mineral

From winemaking

BREAD AND BUTTER	bread, biscuit, butter
OAK	vanilla, toast, cedar, coconut, smoke

From age

NUTS AND CARAMEL	almond, hazelnut, caramel
HONEY AND PETROL	honey, petrol
EARTH AND LEATHER	leather, mushroom, forest floor, tobacco, earth, truffle

TASTE

Sweetness

bone dry, dry, off-dry, medium, sweet, very sweet

Acidity

SCALE	low, medium, high
FEEL	crisp, fresh, zesty, zingy

Tannin (reds)

SCALE	low, medium, high
FEEL	silky, soft, round, grippy, firm

Body

SCALE	light, medium, full
FEEL	lean, rich, creamy, buttery, oily

Alcohol

low, medium, high

FINISH

Length

short, medium, long

Overall

balanced, long, intense, complex; would buy again