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**Nuusbrokkies / News Snippets**

**UK: Sparkling wine sales show no signs of falling flat**

The UK’s unquenchable thirst for sparkling wine, namely Prosecco, doesn’t show any signs of abating. Sparkling wine consumption per head is forecast to increase from 12 litres in 2015 to more than 15 litres by 2020.

**German discounter Aldi to start online sales in China**

German discount supermarket chain Aldi is planning to start online sales in China this month, hoping to appeal to Chinese consumers interested in German brands with a selection of wine, snack and breakfast products. The company will sell its own brand products via online platform Tmall Global, operated by Alibaba, and will use its Australian suppliers to serve the Chinese market.

**Tesco to up focus on no-low alcohol wine**

Tesco is upping its focus on low and no-alcohol wine and is understood to be mulling a dedicated bay for the products. The UK retailer is said to be mulling the installation of a new fixture dedicated to the no- and low-alcohol category, which db understands could go in stores as early as the middle of March.

**UK: Drinking ‘less but better’ slows still wine imports**

Drinking less but drinking better will result in UK still wine imports dropping 3.5 million cases by 2020. IWSR bods have calculated still wine imports will fall from highs of 120.9m 9-litre cases in 2015 to 117.4m, as consumers continue to think before they drink.

When it comes to still wine, white trumps red and rosé. While sparkling wine sales show no signs of falling flat, all three still wines are forecast to drop sales in the next five years.
China to become second largest wine consumer by 2020

New figures from Vinexpo predict that wine sales in China will grow by 39.8% in the next three years, leading the country to become the world’s second largest wine market after the US.

Despite its overall size, China’s per capita wine consumption only ranks 36th in the world with 1.34 litres, compared to France’s 47.19 litres. In 2020, per capita consumption is expected to grow to 1.53 litres. In addition, China is forecast to become the world’s biggest non-sparkling wine market by 2020.

However, wine consumption still lags behind spirits consumption in the country. China is the world’s biggest consumer of spirits including Baijiu, vodka, whisky and brandies.