



MARKET REPORT – DECEMBER 2017



In season and at its best in December

Fruit: Clementines, Cranberries, Passion Fruit, Pears, Pomegranates, Rhubarb (forced), Satsumas, Tangerines

Vegetables: Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Celeriac, Chicory, Garlic, Horseradish, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Leeks, Mushrooms, Onion, Parsnip, Potatoes (main crop), Radicchio, Romanesco, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Truffle, Turnips,



Salads: Beetroot, Celery, Watercress

Peter's Top Picks for December - #PetersPicks

Large Pomegranates, Pre-cooked vacuum-packed chestnuts, Fresh USA Cranberries, Dutch Redcurrants, Piccolo Parsnips, Class 1 prepared sprouts from Holland, South African Peaches, Argentinian Cherries



Seasonal Update

"It's Christmas!" The busiest time of the year and the party season is now in full swing. As you might expect, in season now are roast dinner accompaniment staples and warming dessert essentials – so make sure you stock up. Don't forget, our last delivery day before Christmas is on Saturday 23rd December.



Unseasonably mild weather has seen a boost in British produce, with premium quality root vegetables including carrots, turnips and swede – and of course, not forgetting those all-important parsnips! A bonus is that the recent frost we've seen means tastier parsnips – as the cold makes root vegetables up their natural sugar levels as insulation.



Following their summer price hike, bananas have returned to their usual cost levels and are good value this month. Potatoes are also a good buy, with anticipation of a strong harvest into 2018, along with brassicas including cauliflowers, cabbages and good old Brussels sprouts.



Moving away from the UK, volumes of Spanish clementines and oranges are down (though taste levels are unaffected). European apples and pears are of course winter staples and are doing well, though our recommendation is that Brazilian white grapes are a better buy than European red ones, at least for a few weeks. Egyptian strawberries are a treat to come later in December, while Chilean avocados are doing well.



Crop-wise, though European salad crops are performing as expected, the unseasonably hot Spanish climate may affect their quality if the sun continues to shine (this not a problem we anticipate here in the UK!). Meanwhile, watch out for a probable drop in herb and pepper quality as the month progresses, due to adverse weather conditions.



The adverse weather forecast in the UK from mid-December onwards is likely to affect homegrown supplies. In turn, this could well lead to price fluctuations and poor quality as we look to source imported alternatives.



Our social media feeds will keep you fully updated, so why not join the conversation by clicking the links at the end of this update?



Please take note

Over Christmas & New Year, please help us to help you over the busy Christmas and New Year period by placing your orders early.



- 24 hours' notice is required for all bulk orders of prepared produce.
- The cut-off time is 11 pm for next day delivery.



Opening Hours over Christmas & New Year

- Friday 22nd December – normal delivery
- Saturday 23rd December – last delivery
- Christmas Eve - Sunday 24th December – no delivery
- Christmas Day – Monday 25th December – no delivery
- Boxing Day - Tuesday 26th December – no delivery
- Wednesday 27th December – no delivery
- Thursday 28th December – normal delivery
- Friday 29th December – normal delivery
- Saturday 30th December – normal delivery
- Sunday 31st December – no delivery
- Monday 1st January – no delivery
- Tuesday 2nd January – normal delivery



Please look at our new website - Features now include:

- Product Lists
- Our Service Charter
- Our Process
- Monthly Seasonality Reports
- Monthly Market Reports
- Produce Gallery
- FAQs



For daily updates and #Peter's Picks, follow us on social media

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- Twitter – Chefschoiceltd
- Instagram – 1stchefschoiceltd
- YouTube – Chef's Choice Ltd
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We hope you enjoy our updates. Please let us know if you have any questions, or anything you'd like to see added in future editions.

In the meantime, wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year - see you in 2018.

