



Fresh Gazette

April 2021

MONTHLY UPDATE ON ALL THINGS FRUIT & VEG!

As we all eagerly count down the days until the 12th, we wanted to keep you up to date with gorgeous seasonal produce to give you a flying start to your openings. We are coming into UK growing season now & we will be sourcing produce from as many local farms as we possibly can.

Veg & Salad



English asparagus is what you need on your menus for opening! Locally grown & picked by hand to ensure quality is superb (available in green & purple).

Jersey Royals are starting to come down in price & will be a great addition to your spring/summer menus (both mids & wares available).

Artichokes coming in from Milan are simply stunning & great value. **Heritage radish** are lovely & will add colour to your spring dishes.

Golden, Candy & Red beetroots make a lovely trio of colour on your plate when mixed together & they are great value through the month.

Broccoli is changing from southern to northern Spain so prices have jumped until volumes can catch up with demand.

We are in the middle of season change from Spanish to Dutch/English. Spanish season has unexpectedly finished a month early leaving a shortage on key lines such as **Peppers, Tomatoes & Broccoli**. We have seen prices shoot through the roof. We are expecting this to last for April until Dutch & English season has fully kicked in.

Iceberg & Cos lettuces are higher in price currently, we are just waiting for UK season to take over & we should see prices come down.

Avocado are still demanding higher prices but we are hoping by the end of the month they will be better.

We have had some **English heritage tomatoes** come through but we are still a couple weeks away from receiving the first crop of specialty tomatoes from The Tomato Stall on the Isle of Wight (we will update you as soon as these arrive)

From our Forager

Wild Garlic is in abundance & should not be missed! **Garlic flowers** are also something a little bit special (pre-order). **Turkish Morels** have started their season but extremely pricey so get in touch before ordering. Some lovely sea veg is around. **Purslane, beets, salty fingers & rock samphire** to name a few. Fresh Cornish & Scottish seaweeds are at their peak. **Kombu, pepper dulce & codium** are a real treat.

Fruit

English Rhubarb is now outdoor variety & coming from Roughway farm, Kent. **English strawberries** started their season (early we know). We are sourcing these from the New Forest, even though they are early season they taste delicious. We are hoping to see English raspberries from Hughlowe farm by the end of the month (weather permitting). If you are after something a little bit luxurious then we have **gariguettes strawberries** from France. **Black & white grapes** are still holding their higher price but hoping this will ease by the end of the month.



Farm Visit

Our sales team Ashleigh & Tim made their way to one of our growers 'New Forest Fruit Company' to collect our first order of **English Asparagus & Strawberries**. It's so important to us as a company to support our UK farmers & promote local seasonal produce to our customers. By sourcing produce locally we keep our food miles down & ensure quality of the product is exceptional. Not only is the quality fantastic, they also grow the asparagus & strawberries using natural materials such as 'coir' which are the hairs you see on coconuts! We are now coming into the peak of UK growing season & we will be sourcing direct from a number of our growers. We will be keeping you up to date as & when products start their season.

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