



HOUSE OF TOWNEND

FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS SINCE 1906



**BORDEAUX 2015
EN PRIMEUR**

WELCOME

I am delighted to introduce our Bordeaux 2015 En Primeur offer.

The wines within this En Primeur offer have all been tasted by our buying team during our two visits to Bordeaux in April and June. As always, our selection has been vigorous although it must be said the 2015 vintage is an excellent one with some excellent wines produced, both red and white. Our task this year was very much harder in terms of securing the allocations required.

Demand will be high so please get in touch with us as soon as possible to confirm your requirements. We will do our best to fulfil your needs.

Enjoy the read and making your own selection.



John Charles Townend

Managing Director



2015 BORDEAUX OFFER

The Bordeaux 2015 vintage has produced some outstanding wines that stand above every vintage since 2010, so it comes as no surprise that our En Primeur offering is the most complete since then.

The House of Townend wine buying team visited Bordeaux during the first week in April to taste our way through the various communes and appellations, visiting some of the greatest châteaux and attending the regional UGC (Union des Grands Crus) tastings and various other 2015 vintage tastings arranged by the Bordelais to showcase their wines.

After a hard weeks work we returned home with our own views formed. Despite the initial hype generated by the Bordelais themselves, we are unable to categorize 2015 as a great vintage. To place it alongside 2005, 2009 and 2010 would be too generous as it doesn't offer the same uniformity of quality across all appellations.

However, it is unarguable that some truly great wines have been made. In the Médoc the communes of St Julien and Margaux have produced some quite magnificent wines, the latter achieving an uncharacteristic concentration. The sensuality and elegance of this commune are boosted by stunning fruit intensity. This could be the finest vintage for Margaux in many years, maybe even matching the great 2010.

On the right bank, St Emilion and Pomerol were also free of the September rains and have also produced some wonderful, rich wines with great equilibrium. Even here there is a lack of homogeneity with some winemakers over extracting, yielding wines that are rather overblown and lacking charm.

This vintage will no doubt prove to be extremely popular, dependent of course on the pricing decisions of the Châteaux. It is an outstanding vintage and there have been some great wines produced at all levels. There is a need to buy with caution but that is why we visit the region each year to ensure that we only select the top performers. For your everyday drinking Claret there are some real treats, whilst for those of you who wish to put something good away in the Cellar to enjoy in your dotage, then the 2015 vintage will repay handsomely.



01482 638888

THE GROWING SEASON

After a winter that was very mild but actually very wet, the soils were holding a lot of residual water as Spring approached in Bordeaux.

The season got off to a good start with a very fine and dry Spring. April was warmer than usual whilst May saw a mini heat wave which resulted in the flowering of the vine taking place under perfect conditions. All was set for a good vintage with healthy yields. How often have we said that! Fortunately this vintage was to be one of those that delivered.

The season was progressing very well with the very hot temperatures in June, reaching 41°C as we moved into July, and thickening the grape skins. The months of May, June and July had proved to be some of the hottest on record, the vines were now short of water and beginning to stress.

In August the temperatures remained warm but the rains finally arrived and a higher level of rain fell than usual. This rainfall was helpful, giving freshness to the grapes whilst also helping to reduce the potential alcohol levels. Whilst the rains did cause some concern with regards to rot, fortunately this did not happen. The veraison – the onset of ripening when the berries begin to change colour – passed off well whilst the cool nights maintained the acidity levels

In Bordeaux the latter stages of the growing season are key. On the 11th/12th September the late season rain that fell in the Médoc did threaten the vintage, however this was mostly in the northern Médoc, in particular St Estèphe where the rains were more pronounced. Further south in St Julien and Margaux it was much drier. Whereas 150ml fell in St Estèphe, the communes of St Julien, Margaux and Pessac largely escaped as the rains petered out.

In St Emilion and Pomerol the conditions were near perfect resulting in small berries with deep colour, great concentration and a vivid acidity.

When the grapes were harvested the châteaux owners were smiling. They had just produced the finest fruit since the 2010 vintage.



THE WINES

Now that Robert Parker has withdrawn from the Bordeaux arena, handing over the reins to Neal Martin, there is a sense of a return to the more classic style of Bordeaux being produced, particularly in the Médoc. Or is that just me? It would be good if it were to be the case.

In 2015, St.Emilion has performed splendidly, with some excellent wines produced although it has to be said that some wines were very high in alcohol and a little overblown. Pomerol equally offers some superb wines and in many ways has got the better of its neighbour this vintage, with a greater degree of balance to the wines.

Over on the left bank, the Médoc has produced some wines that will rival those 'great' vintages that I have already mentioned although there is not the same homogeneity. The late rains in early September were problematic in the north of the Médoc with St Estèphe particularly affected. 150ml of rain fell in 48 hours, although the deluge was fairly localised and petered out as the storm moved south.

The communes of St Julien and Pauillac escaped relatively unscathed whilst Margaux fared best of all, with the little water that did fall giving some much needed freshness to the grapes. These three communes have produced some outstanding wines with Margaux in particular performing exceptionally well. These wines will be snapped up very quickly and will grace any to cellar in the years to come.

One should not overlook Pessac Léognan which has also enjoyed a very successful vintage. There is often a more even balance between Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot in the wines of this commune and some super wines have been produced.

Overall this is an exceptionally good vintage, certainly the finest since 2010 and, in general, one that looks a lot more sensible in terms of En Primeur pricing.



01482 638888

WHY BUY EN PRIMEUR?

There is no doubt that this has become a very contentious question in recent years, particularly when it comes to Bordeaux. What was once meant to be a system that benefited everyone, from Château owner through to the end consumer, has fallen victim to the greed of the Château owners who seem to think that no one should benefit from any value appreciation other than themselves. We must point out that this accusation is directed in particular towards the 1st Growths and 'Super Seconds', although there are others who have followed suit at the first opportunity.

Historically, there are a number of reasons for buying 'En Primeur', the most obvious being that you are buying your wine at the initial release price from the Château. The wines of Bordeaux take many years to develop before they are ready to drink by which time they may not be commercially available, and even if they are the price becomes prohibitive.

Also by buying En Primeur you can be sure of the provenance of your wine, knowing where and how it has been stored. When buying mature wine on the open market there is always the danger that it has been around the world, stored in variable conditions, which may cause damage to the wine.

Finally, it is important to purchase from a traditional, established wine merchant in whom you can place your trust. The House of Townend celebrates 110 years in the hands of the same family and we pride ourselves in giving personal, considered advice.



INDEX

BORDEAUX	Château Moulin de Mallet	1
	Château Tour de Luchey	1
BORDEAUX SUPERIEUR	Château d'Argadens	2
COTES DE BOURG	Château Saumon, Côtes de Bourg	2
FRONSAC	Château La Vieille Cure	3
MEDOC	Château Tour St Bonnet	4
	Château Tour de By	4
	Château Potensac	4
HAUT-MÉDOC	Château Semonlon	5
	Château Caronne Ste Gemme	5
	Château Beaumont	6
	Château Lanessan Cru Bourgeois Supérieur	6
	Château Lagune Haut Médoc 3ème Cru	6
	Château Cantemerle 5ème Cru Classé	7
LISTRAC	Château Fourcas-Hosten Cru Bourgeois	7
MOULIS	Château Chasse-Spleen Cru	8
	Bourgeois Exceptionnel	
	Château Maucaillou Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel	8
	Château Poujeaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel	8
ST-ESTÈPHE	Château Lafon Rochet 4ème Cru Classé	9
	Château Ormes de Pez	9
	Château Montrose 2ème Cru Classé	10
PAUILLAC	Château Duhart Milon 4ème Cru Classé	11
	Château Clerc Milon 5ème Cru Classé	11
	Château d'Armailhac 5ème Cru Classé	11
	Château Grand Puy Lacoste 5ème Cru Classé	12
	Château Lynch-Bages 5ème Cru Classé	12
	Château Pontet Canet 5ème Cru Classé	12
	Château Pichon Longueville, Comtesse de Lalande 2ème Cru Classé	13
	Château Pichon Longueville, Baron 2ème Cru Classé	13
	Château Lafite-Rothschild 1er Cru Classé	13
	Château Mouton Rothschild 1er Cru Classé	14



01482 638888

INDEX

ST-JULIEN	Château Lalande Borie, St Julien	15
	Sarget Gruaud Larose, St Julien	15
	Château Les Fiefs de Lagrange	16
	La Croix de Beaucaillou	16
	Clos du Marquis, St Julien	16
	Château Gloria, St Julien	17
	Château Talbot 4ème Cru Classé	17
	Château Gruaud Larose 2ème Cru Classé	17
	Château Beychevelle 4ème Cru Classé	18
	Château Langoa Barton 3ème Cru Classé	18
	Château Léoville-Barton 2ème Cru Classé	19
	Château Léoville-Poyerré 2ème Cru Classé	19
	Château Ducru Beaucaillou 2ème Cru Classé	20
	Château Léoville-Las-Cases 2ème Cru Classé	20
MARGAUX	Château Angludet Cru Bourgeois	21
	Château Kirwan 2ème Cru Classé	21
	Château Rauzan-Ségla 2ème Cru Classé	22
	Château Giscours 3ème Cru Classé	22
	Château Brane Cantenac 2ème Cru Classé	23
	Château Cantenac Brown 2ème Cru Classé	23
	Alter Ego de Palmer	23
	Château Palmer 3ème Cru Classé	24
PESSAC-LÉOGNAN	Château Olivier Blanc	25
	Château Olivier	25
	Château Haut Brion 1er Cru Classé	26
SATELLITE ST EMILION	Château Corbin, Montagne St Emilion	27
	Château du Courlat, Lussac St Emilion	27
	Château du Courlat Cuvee Jean Baptiste, Lussac St Emilion	27
ST EMILION	Château Fonplegade, Grand Cru St Emilion	28
	Château Grand Mayne, Grand Cru St Emilion	28
POMEROL	Château Les Hauts Conseillante, Lalande de Pomerol	29
	Château Bonalgue	30
	Clos du Clocher	30
	Château Gazin	



BORDEAUX

This appellation covers an area of 51,000 hectares of which 44,000 hectares are devoted to the production of red wines. Maximum yields are 55hl/ha with alcohol levels of between 10% and 13% vol. There is a lot of sub-standard wine in this appellation; however with careful (sometimes tedious) selection it is the home of some wonderful wines that are great value for money for everyday drinking.

**Château Moulin de Mallet, Bordeaux (case x 6)
(5+ Cases)**

**£20.00 per case IB
£18.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon

This super little château is situated on the plateau of Pujol, a rocky outcrop overlooking the Dordogne and facing the slopes of St Emilion. Owned and run by Serge Couderc and his son Julien who manage the estate, following "lutte raisonnée" principles, they always look to take low yields hence the intensity of concentrated fruits. A lovely, ripe and fruity bouquet, fresh and fragrant. The palate is finely textured with soft tannins and a rich, ripe, velvety mouth feel packed with crushed black fruits. A super 'house claret!'

Drink 2017-2020

**Château Tour de Luchey, Bordeaux (case x 6)
(5+ Cases)**

**£22.00 per case IB
£20.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 80% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon,
10% Cabernet Franc

This 25ha château, situated in Moulon, to the south of St Emilion, is owned and run by the Massé family who produce a terrific wine that is another great choice for your everyday claret. Fermented and aged in cement and stainless steel tanks, it has a lovely aromatic red fruit bouquet and a palate full of ripe fruits, very soft tannins and a little hint of spice. In vintages such as 2015 this is a great drink.

Drink 2017-2020



BORDEAUX SUPÉRIÉUR

The Bordeaux Supérieur appellation covers the same geographical area as Bordeaux AOC, however the wines are produced from older vines and released 12 months later than Bordeaux AOC. Again, there are some fantastic wines to be found at this level.

Château d'Argadens, Bordeaux Supérieur (case x 6) £27.00 per case IB
(5+ Cases) £25.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 63% Merlot, 32% Cabernet Sauvignon,
5% Cabernet Sauvignon

This château was purchased by the Sichel family (owners of Palmer and Angludet) in 2002. An ambitious programme of restoration began and the results have been fantastic. For everyday drinking Claret you can't find better. A beautiful crushed blackcurrant fruit bouquet, deep, brooding and very intense. The palate is rich and fleshy, cassis filled with succulent soft tannins. This property gets better every year and is a great value for money buy.

Drink 2018+

COTES DE BOURG

This lesser known appellation, created in 1936, is a great source of well priced claret, especially in good vintages. Situated on the right bank just to the north of Fronsac and south of the Cote de Blaye, the soil is composed of mainly clay and limestone with some gravel and sand.

Château Saumon, Côtes de Bourg £50.00 per case IB
Grape Mix: 90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon

Owned by the Sinan-Braud family, this 25ha château is situated in the north of the appellation, on the south facing hill outside the village of Villeneuve overlooking the Garonne. It is in vintages like 2015 that Châteaux like this one really come to the fore, offering amazing value for money.

A very aromatic and fragrant bouquet, the palate possesses a lovely rich and succulent black fruit character with soft and rounded tannins. Great everyday Claret.

Drink 2017+



FRONSAC

This is also one of the lesser know appellations of Bordeaux. Situated to the north west of the town of Libourne near Pomerol and St Emilion, it produces wines dominated by Merlot grown on clay and limestone soils. The wines are often a little hard and tannic even though they are Merlot dominated but we have found a little gem here that just oozes richness.

Château La Vieille Cure

£150.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 87% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc,
3% Cabernet Sauvignon

This small 16ha estate is the reference point for Fronsac, consistently one of the top performing châteaux of the appellation. Owned by Americans, Colin Ferenbach and Peter Sachs, who are advised by consultant oenologist, Michel Rolland, there is no surprise that this has a rich American feel. Handpicked 100%, the yield is 54hl/ha. Fermented in stainless steel followed by ageing in oak barrels. Deliciously moreish, rich and ripe with a hint of toasted oak. Quite sumptuous!

Drink 2019+



MÉDOC

The Médoc AOC covers approximately 5,700 ha which constitutes 34.5% of the Médoc in total. The soils are gravel and clay-limestone with frequent areas of heavy clay, rich, moisture retentive soils that are more suitable for the growing of Merlot. Hence, the higher proportion of this grape in the wines included below. In 2015, some outstanding wines were produced offering magnificent value for money.

Château Tour St Bonnet (5+ Cases)

£90.00 per case IB

£85.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 76% Merlot,
19% Cabernet Sauvignon and Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

This 40 hectare estate is situated in the north of the Médoc in the commune of St Christoly. Jacques Merlet ages his wine in large oak foudres for 18 months to protect the fruit characteristics of the wine. A much higher percentage of Merlot this vintage which is very evident with ripe plum fruits combining with a dollop of cassis. A chunky wine; well structured with firm tannins, this wine will give excellent drinking in a few years time.

Drink 2019+

Château Tour de By

£115.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot,
5% Petit Verdot

This fine property, on a high gravelly ridge in the Bas-Médoc, is one of the most popular châteaux in this appellation, always sought after for its quality and consistency. Frédéric Leclerc never fails to produce an excellent drinkable wine. With yields of 50hl/ha and aged in 25% new oak for 12 months, this is a rich, ripe wine with an underlying seam of liquorice, well balanced tannins and a lovely freshness. You get plenty of wine for your money with this one!

Drink 2020+

Château Potensac

£180.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 45% Merlot, 38% Cabernet Sauvignon,
17% Cabernet Franc

This property is run by Jean-Hubert Delon and is situated in the far north of the Medoc. We have found it has become increasingly popular over recent years. After hand harvesting the wine is aged in 33% new oak for 15 months. The vines are an average 40 years old and planted on soils similar to those of St Estephe. Only 55% of the total crop was used for this wine. This is a lovely, rich wine filled with crème de cassis and notes of vanilla and dark cherries. The tannins are supple and finely integrated. As usual this is a château to follow.

Drink 2020+



HAUT-MÉDOC

Around the edges of the Médoc and between the specific communes lies the Haut-Médoc (Upper Médoc). It varies in quality from some of the finest wines, most notably Château La Lagune in Ludon in the south and Château Sociando-Mallet in the north, to the somewhat mediocre. In normal years, careful selection is required when choosing wines from the Haut-Médoc but value for money can be found here, which is hardly what Bordeaux is renowned for!

Château Semonlon (5+ Cases)

**£63.00 per case IB
£60.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 60% Merlot

This property is located in Avensan, a small commune not far from Margaux. It's vineyards border those of Château Citran. Owned by the Dumora family, whose patrimony spans several generations, its 7 hectares are planted with 40% Cabernet Sauvignon and 60% Merlot, while the average age of the vines is 35 years. The soil is comprised of muddy gravel, large stones and small amounts of clay. Aged in 1 and 2 year old barrels sourced from the 4th Growth Grand Cru Classé, Château Prieuré-Lichine, this is a great performer in 2015 and offers terrific value. Dark ruby, almost opaque in colour, unctuous, rich and full of flavour. The tannins are perfectly poised, a touch of oak offers an added dimension and the finish is beautiful and concentrated.

Drink 2019+

Château Caronne Ste Gemme (5+ Cases)

**£105.00 per case IB
£99.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot,
6% Petit Verdot

Situated 500 metres from St Julien, adjacent to Château Gruaud Larose and Château Lascombes, this property is blessed with some very fine vineyards producing fruit worthy of Classed Growth status. In 2013 Francois Nony installed a new winemaking team, including Olivier Seze and Bruno Sauquet (previously at Montrose) to take this Château to the next level. This has proved to be a great decision. The grapes are destemmed and then lightly crushed, before fermentation in thermo-regulated stainless steel fermentation vats. The wine is aged for 12 months in 25% new oak barrels.

This vintage has produced a wine packed with intense cassis fruit with an underlay of liquorice and excellent supporting tannins. A touch of cedar wood and pencil lead adds to the character of this wine which is punching way above its weight in recent years. A claret lover's claret.

Drink 2022+



HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Beaumont (5+ Cases)

**£102.00 per case IB
£99.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon,
47% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

This is a highly regarded Château under the same ownership as Château Beychevelle. The Merlot was harvested first, starting on the 17th September followed by the Cabernet Sauvignon on the 21st September and the Petit Verdot on the 5th October. Aged in 30% new barrels, 35% 1 year old and 35% 2 year old. This is a beautifully made wine, full of crème de cassis and an underlay of chocolate, supported by impressive tannins and a firm structure. A very polished and attractive finish.

Drink 2022+

Château Lanessan Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

£114.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon,
35% Merlot, 4% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc

This large 44-hectare Cru Bourgeois Supérieur has been in the same hands for more than 200 years and has a reputation for punching above its weight. Winemaker Paz Espejo since 2009, supported by Hubert de Bouard de Laforest, produces a very stylish Claret that always performs well. Aged in barrel for 12 months (1/3 new, 1/3 one year and 1/3 two year) A fruit packed palate - cassis with a fresh and pure blueberry juice character, sturdy tannins that are ripe and in check and a hint of fresh tobacco.

Drink 2022+

Château Lagune Haut Médoc 3ème Cru Haut Medoc

£345.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot,
5% Petit Verdot

Situated just below the village of Margaux and next to Château Cantemerle, this has long been a very popular château. Since 2000 La Lagune has been in the hands of the talented Jean-Jacques Frey who is producing excellent wines year after year. Aged in 50% new oak this is a big, rich wine. Bags of sweet cherry and raspberry fruit are supported by a voluptuous underbelly of dark chocolate. The mouth feel is supple and rich with only a slight hint of finely integrated oak. A stunning wine this vintage.

Drink 2022+

“One of the most exciting Lagunes I can remember” – **Jancis Robinson April 2016**



HAUT-MÉDOC

Château Cantemerle 5ème Cru Classé Haut Médoc £210.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 59% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot,
8% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot

Situated just below the village of Margaux and next to Château La Lagune, this is one of the finest value Growth Clarets. The message here is loud and clear – “Fill your boots!” 12 months in barrel – 40% new, 40% 1 year and 20% 2 year followed by a further 4 months in vat. Arguably this wine delivers some of the best value for money this vintage. A super, structured claret showing depth and breeding. Big, rich and ripe, complex layers of intense blackcurrant fruits, balanced by a lovely bracing acidity and a sweet, almost toffee-like oak character. There is elegance in bundles here, but this shows the recent Cantemerle form of making richer, deeper, more powerful and age-worthy wines.

Drink 2022+

LISTRAC

This is the smallest appellation in the Médoc, with just 567 hectares in production and only 4% of the Médoc’s vineyards. The limestone plateau that cuts through Listrac is part of the oldest geological layer in the Médoc and sits at the highest point of the peninsula, at 43 metres above sea level. Fourcas Hosten is without doubt the star property.

Château Fourcas-Hosten Cru Bourgeois

£125.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 45% Cabernet Sauvignon, 54% Merlot,
1% Cabernet Franc

This château is the finest producer in Listrac, one of the six appellations of the Haut Médoc. Purchased in 2006 by two brothers, Laurent and Renaud Mommeja, members of the Hermès luxury-goods family, the 47 hectares of vines are planted on clay and limestone, as well as a gravel plot in the nearby hamlet of Fourcas. A controlled and round bouquet with blackcurrant aromas, the palate is very intense, rich with steamed prunes dominant and very impressive ripe tannins. A lovely Claret that will drink good and early.

Drink 2020+



MOULIS

Along with Listrac, this appellation tends to be less familiar to buyers than the four major appellations, but does produce some outstanding Cru Bourgeois. The area is situated to the north west of Margaux on a gravelly plain.

The best soils are on the great dune of gravel, stretching from Grand Poujeaux in Moulis, inland through Listrac. It is here where the likes of Château Chasse Spleen and Château Poujeaux are situated.

Château Chasse-Spleen Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel **£210.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, 3% Cabernet Franc

This renowned property was included in the new Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel classification in 2003, and rightly so as many think it worthy of Cru Classé status. It is always extremely popular with our En Primeur buyers as it provides terrific drinking at a relatively sensible price. Produced from a yield of 50hl/ha, this is a lovely wine. A pencil lead bouquet, intense black fruits, underlying oak and a very attractive mineral streak all combine to give a classic Chasse Spleen.

Drink 2022+

Château Maucaillou Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel **£165.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot

Owned by the Dourthe family since 1929, this super 90ha property is situated between Margaux and St Julien and produces arguably the best value-for-money wine in the Moulis appellation. Yields of 42hl/ha, this is a rich and jammy wine, intense with firm tannins that will soften with time and a delicious hint of dark chocolate. Take note - Moulis has performed very well in 2015.

Drink 2022+

Château Poujeaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel **£210.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 42% Merlot, 6% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc

It is fair to say that this château never fails to produce a great wine, always out-performing its appellation, hence its continuous popularity. This 68 hectare estate is now owned by Philippe Cuvelier, also owner of Clos Fourtet. This is a top performer this vintage. Layer upon layer of rich cassis fruits, soft and velvety texture with finely interlaced tannins. This is a powerful wine – generous and warm with streaks of glycerine, blackcurrant and sweet cherry. Poujeaux is punching hard!

Drink 2022+



ST-ESTÈPHE

St-Estèphe is the largest producer of the Haut-Médoc appellations, situated at the northern limit of the appellation. It is closest to the mouth of the river Gironde, joining the Atlantic Ocean. Here the richer soil with higher clay content retain moisture well during summer. Wines from the St-Estèphe commune take time to develop but are also very long lived and at their best rival the finest wines of any of the Médoc communes.

Château Lafon Rochet 4ème Cru Classé

£300.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot,
6% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

This château is situated very close to Pauillac's Château Lafite and just along the road from Cos d'Estournel – what great neighbours! Lafon's reputation has grown enormously in recent years. Although one of the lesser known, which means a much more sensible pricing policy, it now benefits from the consulting of the great Jean – Claude Berrouet of Château Petrus. Aged for 15 months in 50% new oak. The bouquet is sweet ripe and delicious with a lovely expression and character. Beautiful yet rich, the palate is relatively open and shows some mulled red fruits and vanilla. Great balance on the finish. A very good claret that shows power and elegance.

Drink 2025+

Château Ormes de Pez

£210.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 49% Merlot, 44% Cabernet Sauvignon,
1% Petit Verdot, 6% Cabernet Franc

This château is owned by the Cazes family who also own the very popular and top performing Château Lynch Bages. Yields of 40 hl/ha and aged in 45 % new oak. A lovely ripe stylish bouquet, perfumed and quite opulent; the palate follows through nicely with degrees of lush sweet bramble, cherry and peach. It is bordering on port such is its intensity! The palate continues lush and decadently sweet with looming tannins adding structure and intensity to the long finish.

Drink 2022+



ST-ESTÈPHE

Château Montrose 2ème Cru Classé

£1,140.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 67% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot,
4% Cabernet Franc

Montrose is one of the great traditional names of Bordeaux, always sought-after by En Primeur fans. It was bought in 2006 by the Bouygues family and in recent years an astonishing investment programme has been carried out at the château. Now under the stewardship of Herve Berland, formerly at Mouton Rothschild, this château continues to compete at the very highest level. With only 37% of the crop used in this year's first wine at this château, only the very best fruit has been included in the blend. It is an outstanding result and undoubtedly amongst the finest in the commune, if not the vintage. Almost opaque in colour, the bouquet is stunning, overflowing with delicious, pure cassis fruits. Aged in 65% new oak, the palate is multi dimensional. An ensemble of ripe fruit characters, including blueberry, cassis and some liquorice, as well as cedar, gun smoke and leather.

Drink 2026+



PAUILLAC

The name of Pauillac is assured from the reflected glory of its three First Growths - Lafite, Mouton-Rothschild and Latour, not to mention the other fifteen Cru Classé Châteaux situated in the commune. The wines, grown on a generally heavy gravel soil with varying sub-soils, are among the most powerful and well structured in the whole of the Bordeaux region.

Château Duhart Milon 4ème Cru Classé **£500.00 per case IB**
Grape Mix: 73% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot

Another Rothschild property produced by the team that makes Lafite, this 46-hectare estate is ever increasing its reputation for excellent, consistent quality, producing great wines over recent vintages. An excellent wine this vintage. A very aristocratic bouquet with pure cassis and a hint of gun smoke. The palate has been carefully crafted, tightly knit with cassis, black cherries and dark chocolate characters supported by beautiful tannins and a hint of cedar. Aged in 40% new oak, this is a very classy wine with a smouldering pencil lead finish.

Drink 2020+

Château Clerc Milon 5ème Cru Classé **£480.00 per case IB**
Grape Mix: 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 34% Merlot,
13% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot, 1% Carmenere

Part of the Mouton Rothschild stable and made by the same winemaking team. Aged for 16 months in 60% new oak, this is a cracking claret. Deep and dark in colour, the bouquet is forward and open with a brooding sense of power and fruit. Raspberry ripple is the immediate impression, with sweet cherry, vanilla spice, cinnamon and a touch of clove. This is a big, brooding wine with oodles of intensity – I love the hint of lavender and herbs on the warm long finish.

Drink 2025+

Château d'Armailhac 5ème Cru Classé **£310.00 per case IB**
Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot,
9% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

Formerly known as Château Mouton Baron Philippe this excellent property is still owned by the Rothschild family and is one to follow. Aged in 35% new oak for 12 months. Almost opaque in colour, a perfumed, forward bouquet reveals a brooding and intense fruit aroma. The palate is fresh and balanced, quite meaty but in the mid-core there is mocha, cherry and rich black fruits. Structured throughout and with some weight. The length of finish is also very impressive. This delivers very good value for a top Pauillac.

Drink 2025+



PAUILLAC

Château Grand Puy Lacoste 5ème Cru Classé £500.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 74% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot,
3% Cabernet Franc

Owned by the Borie family, this 45-hectare property has a reputation for producing excellent, full-bodied Pauillac. Aged in 75% new oak, this is a classic, masculine wine. Powerful and intense with a massive underbelly of ripe cassis and liquorice along with overtones of cedar and mint, supported by a very regal tannin structure. There is a lovely freshness on the finish which gives great balance to the wine. A classic Pauillac not to be missed.

Drink 2028+

Château Lynch-Bages 5ème Cru Classé £890.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 24% Merlot,
4% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

Situated on the Bages plateau, one of the finest gravelly rises in the appellation, this château, owned by the Cazes family for nearly 100 years is always one of the most popular amongst Bordeaux drinkers. Aged in 75% new oak, this is a classic Lynch Bages. The bouquet is dominated by perfumed cassis aromas that possess a stunning purity. The palate is very intense, big and powerful, very much representing the typicity of the Pauillac commune. With characters of blackcurrant, liquorice and subtle tones of cedar, the mouthfeel is very expressive and balanced by a delicious freshness and finely tuned tannins. As ever, this will be in high demand and will bless any cellar in the land.

Drink 2026+

Château Pontet Canet 5ème Cru Classé (case x 6) £400.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot,
3% Cabernet Franc, 2% Petit Verdot

This is one of the finest wines produced in 2015, a quite magnificent wine that reinforces the rise of this château to the upper echelons of the Bordeaux hierarchy. Farmed organically for the past ten years, including the use of horses in the vineyard. The wine is matured in 50% new oak, 35% concrete and 15% one-year-old barrels. Dark and brooding with a beautiful bouquet of red plums and black cherries, the palate is very aristocratic, silky in texture, full of finesse and purity but with an underlying Pauillac power. Hints of cedar and cigar box, beautifully integrated tannins and a full, intense finish. Oh My!

Drink 2028+



PAUILLAC

Château Pichon Longueville

£995.00 per case IB

Comtesse de Lalande 2ème Cru Classé

Grape Mix: 68% Cabernet Sauvignon, 29% Merlot,
2% Cabernet Franc, 1% Petit Verdot

This is one of the great châteaux of Bordeaux and is rightly one of the most sought after Second Growths, with a reputation for producing wines that are typically Pauillac. Now owned by the Champagne house Louis Roederer, the new, recently installed winery is quite magnificent. Once again this is a classic, powerful Pauillac which includes 12% “vin de presse” in the blend. A stunning bouquet that exudes the beautiful red fruit purity of great Merlot. A thick, sumptuous palate, almost viscous. Hints of pencil lead and cedar are finely integrated with a great concentration of cassis fruit. The finish is enhanced by a smouldering tobacco. What a great wine!

Drink 2029+

Château Pichon Longueville

£995.00 per case IB

Baron 2ème Cru Classé

Grape Mix: 77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 23% Merlot

Another of the great châteaux that is in the ownership of the AXA Millésimes Group. Produced solely from fruit grown in the original vineyards of this château next to Leoville Las Cases and opposite those of Latour, this is a truly great wine. The bouquet is so expressive and pure with an intensity of cassis fruits that holds your nose in the glass. Big, brooding and rich yet also with a great harmony. A sumptuous array of black fruits, a powerful structure and beautiful tannin structure are all vital to this star performer. One of the very best!

Drink 2025+

Château Lafite-Rothschild 1er Cru Classé

£4,350.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 91% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Merlot

As well as being one of the greatest producers of Claret, this château was one of the main drivers of the ‘Bordeaux bubble’ when it became such a prized name in Asia. This fascination has waned and so has its value. This vintage all the Cabernet Franc was used in the second wine – Carruades de Lafite. Aged in 100% new oak. Pure and aristocratic, the bouquet is quite fragrant with cassis, cherry and a hint of vanilla notes. The palate is silky in texture, supple with delightful cassis fruit and finely integrated cedar wood. Although the powerful Pauillac typicity is evident there is also a lovely elegance to this wine that gives it great definition.

Drink 2029+



PAUILLAC

Château Mouton Rothschild 1er Cru Classé £4,260.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 82% Cabernet Sauvignon, 16% Merlot,
2% Cabernet Franc

Upgraded to First Growth status back in 1973, Mouton Rothschild was more famous for the annual appointment of famous artists to design the label. During the 1990's its form dipped, however since the arrival of Philippe Dhalluin in 2003, Mouton is now on top form and fully justifies its position at the altar of the Bordeaux hierarchy. Aged in 100% new oak, this is a very fine Mouton that will age extremely well. A multi layered wine that is full of character with many dimensions. A stunning, intense bouquet boasts cassis, cherry fruit and a smouldering clove like character. The palate is an exciting melange of ripe black fruits, a very poised graphite minerality and beautifully infused tannins. A very aristocratic wine that goes on and on. One of the finest wines produced in this vintage.

Drink 2028+



ST-JULIEN

The smallest producer of the four main Haut-Médoc communes but one that boasts some of the finest châteaux, including several Cru Bourgeois that perform to the 1855 Classification standard. The soil is gravel with a subsoil of sandstone and clay. Drainage is very good, which allows the appellation to perform well even in wetter years. The wines tend to be a little smoother and more elegant than their Pauillac neighbours, drinking a little earlier, while at the same time offering that classic Bordeaux typicity.

Château Lalande Borie, St Julien

£180.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 55% Merlot, 45% Cabernet Sauvignon

This château was created in the 1970's when the Borie family, owners of Ducru Beaucaillou, Grand Puy Lacoste and Haut Batailley, purchased the Lalande terroir in St Julien and then added their family name to the property. The Château is situated to the west of Ducru on a single plot of 25ha surrounded by well-known Crus Classés and beautifully expresses the qualities of St Julien – finesse, power, elegance and richness. A fantastic, moreish style, full of sweet and ripe exotic flavours, very intense cassis fruits and a touch of spice. This is a bargain – don't miss it!

Drink 2022+

Sarget Gruaud Larose, St Julien

£170.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 72% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Merlot,
8% Petit Verdot, 2% Cabernet Franc

This second wine of Gruaud Larose is always worth a punt, especially in great vintages. At a reasonable price you get a wine that gives a really good glimpse of what a second growth Claret is. This wine accounts for 60% of the production this vintage and is extremely impressive. Vibrant, packed with cassis fruits with an appealing freshness. A very impressive second wine.

Drink 2020+



ST-JULIEN

Château Les Fiefs de Lagrange

£170.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot,
4% Petit Verdot

Always buy second wines in very good vintages, and this year is a definite for Fiefs de Lagrange. The second wine of Chateau Lagrange represents 65% of the total crop. Owned by Suntory, the winemaking team were instructed to make the best wine possible regardless of cost. They therefore downgraded more plots into this second wine, and by doing so improved both this and the 'grand vin'. With an average vine age of 35 years, the quality of grapes is exceptional. Rich and fruity, beautiful and charming tannins with an impressive structure that supports a super concentration of cassis.

Drink 2020+

La Croix de Beaucaillou

£320.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 52% Cabernet Sauvignon, 45% Merlot, 3% Petit Verdot

A very severe selection for the first wine has resulted in a leap in quality for the second wine at this château. The grapes for this wine come from the central part of the St-Julien commune. A very impressive bouquet, fresh and fragrant fruits with a savoury edge. The palate is very classy, with a chocolate textured foundation supporting ripe plum, blackcurrant and cherry fruits. A super second wine from a "super second" Classed Growth property.

Drink 2022+

Clos du Marquis, St Julien

£385.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot,
3% Cabernet Franc

Clos du Marquis is one of those wines that carries a little confusion. It is not, in fact, the second wine of Leoville Las Cases, but a wine produced from the said property's vineyards close to Leoville Poyferre, a more St Julien-like terroir. Leoville Las Cases tends to be more Pauillac-like given that it sits alongside Château Latour. Now that is clear, what about the wine? This vintage is a resounding success for Clos du Marquis. The yield was small, only 39hl/ha and the wine is aged in 50% new oak. A bouquet of violets and crème de cassis, the palate is super rich, full of chocolate and ripe plum flavours, creamy and exotic with the Merlot providing a succulent and fleshy mouthfeel. The balance comes from a delicious, fresh acidity and a lovely expression of terroir.

Drink 2023+



ST-JULIEN

Château Gloria, St Julien

£285.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 27% Merlot,
7% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot

This Château is somewhat of an anomaly in Bordeaux. It is made up of small plots purchased from neighbouring Classed Growth properties, including Château Léoville-Poyferré, Château Gruaud-Larose and Château Duhart Milon (who owned a small plot in St-Julien). However, once they were sold to the creator of Château Gloria, Monsieur Henri Martin, the vineyards ceased to possess their Classed Growth status. It is, however, Growth Claret in all but name. 45 hectares of vines with an average age of 45 years old, it continually performs year in year out to the highest level. Yields of 51% and aged in 40% new oak this is appealing, soft and generous. Open and lush in all areas. The bouquet shows perfume and class, the palate is mid weight, warm and open with notes of baked cherry, blackberry and spice. A super example of a very popular wine which will drink well early.

Drink 2021+

Château Talbot 4ème Cru Classé

£400.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 66% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot,
3% Petit Verdot

This Château has always had a very strong following amongst our customers here in the North of England - no doubt due to its continued policy of offering good Claret at a competitive price to its peers. A perfumed bouquet, forward and showing fine hints of cherry jam and Parma Violet. Pronounced style, quite lush and rich, there is a sweet core of fruit, integrated oak and notes of coffee, cherry, liquorice and cedar. The palate is structured, rich and quite fulsome, balanced yet big at the same time. A very good wine that will age well.

Drink 2022+

Château Gruaud Larose 2ème Cru Classé

£485.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Franc

This is one of the most famous and historic Saint Julien 2nd growth properties and has also been one of the most popular for many years. It is however a claret that is produced in a very modern, polished style. This wine tasted exceptionally well in April and it is clear to see why it is so popular. An intense, ripe cassis fruit combines with a classic pencil lead structure with notes of cedar and forest floor. There are no hard edges here and it is sure to age extremely well.

Drink 2025+



ST-JULIEN

Château Beychevelle 4ème Cru Classé

£530.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 47% Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon,
7% Cabernet Franc, 4% Petit Verdot

A large estate of 69 hectares, Beychevelle has the reputation for producing generally forward wine to give easy early drinking pleasure. Yields were low at 47hl/ha and the wine is ageing in 50% new oak for 16 months. Appealing, perfumed Parma violet bouquet, dense fruit structure with opulence and sweet notes of toasted oak. This is one of the most enjoyable wines this vintage; the high proportion of Merlot gives a stunning richness with layer upon layer of creamy chocolate and cassis flavours. A little cedar oak provides added character. A very impressive, harmonious and supple Claret.

Drink 2025+

“...this could evolve into one of Philippe Blanc’s great Beychevelles.”

Score: 92/94 Neal Martin, Wine Advocate April 2015

Château Langoa Barton 3ème Cru Classé

£342.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 54% Cabernet Sauvignon, 38% Merlot,
8% Cabernet Franc

This 20 hectare estate is the ‘sister’ to Léoville Barton and is also very fairly priced for the consistency of its quality. The grape varieties and wine-making methods are similar to these of Léoville Barton. Wow – what a wine! Aged in 60% new oak, this is another impressive vintage at Langoa. A closed, tight bouquet yielding black cherry fruits and a little toasted oak. The palate is warm, generous and impressive. Rich in structure, there is a luscious sweetness with obvious layers of crème de Mure and spice. The oak is integrated and structured. The finish is long, balanced and elegant.

Drink 2025+



ST-JULIEN

Château Léoville-Barton 2ème Cru Classé

£580.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 86% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot

This château is always one of the best selling wines, due to its consistent high quality and the long standing commitment by the Barton family to maintain a sensible pricing policy. The vineyards are intensely planted with 9,100 vines per ha. Aged for 18 months in 60% new oak, this is a balanced and impressive claret, very much in the Leoville style. An impressive bouquet, warm and open with layers of black fruits and cherries. The palate is ripe and rich, sweet at first with some vanilla evident and also cigar box, then the framework of tannins closes in and grips. Weighty and structured this is a super wine of great breeding.

Drink 2025+

Château Léoville-Poyerré 2ème Cru Classé

£570.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot,
3% Cabernet Franc, 6% Petit Verdot

Owned by the Cuvelier family since 1921, the third of the Léoville's has been regarded as the most lightweight for decades. That changed when Didier Cuvelier took charge in the 1970's, and a period of continuous improvement now sees this château amongst the finest châteaux of St-Julien. For me this was one of the wines of the vintage. Aged in 80% new oak, a big impressive and weighty wine, richly structured, voluptuous and generous. Concentrated black cherry, mulled spices and black fruits. The palate is dense and concentrated, almost creamy with layers of spice and toasty vanilla. Very impressive weight, balance, power and elegance. A multi-dimensional wine.

Drink 2028+



ST-JULIEN

Château Ducru Beaucaillou 2ème Cru Classé **£1,272.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 95% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Merlot

This 49 hectare estate has recently been in outstanding form to maintain its reputation as a 'Super Second Growth'. Bruno Borie has continued to reduce the quantity of Ducru produced, nearly halving the quantity since 2003. La Croix de Beaucaillou, the chateau's second (and also very impressive) wine, now accounts for a greater share of the crop than the first wine. This has resulted in the quality of Ducru Beaucaillou sky rocketing. Aged in 100% new oak for 18 months. Once again this is a truly a great claret.

Drink 2028+

Château Léoville-Las-Cases 2ème Cru Classé **£1,475.00 per case IB**

Grape Mix: 85% Cabernet Sauvignon,
9% Cabernet Franc, 6% Merlot

This château is widely regarded as being one of the 'Super, Super' second growths, which produces wine worthy of the top classification. A first Growth in all but name, it tends to be closer in style to Pauillac than that of St Julien, the commune in which it lies. The yield was only 39hl/ha and the wine is aged in 85% new oak. The high degree of Cabernet Sauvignon used in the blend has resulted in a classic, powerful, structured wine full of highly concentrated cassis fruit. A crafted, perfectly balanced palate oozing class and a stunning purity is something to behold. Layer upon layer of rich black fruits are supported by very precise tannins and an important freshness giving balance – perfection.

Drink 2028+



MARGAUX

This is the largest commune in the Médoc. The lighter, gravelly soils yield some of the most sensual and elegant wines of the Médoc, the complete opposite of Pauillac. This commune is the most southerly of Médoc's appellations and encompasses the neighbouring villages of Cantenac, Arsac, Labarde and Soussans. The 1855 classification includes more wines from Margaux than from any other appellation.

Château Angludet Cru Bourgeois

£216.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot,
10% Petit Verdot

Owned by the Sichel family and managed since 1989 by Ben, the youngest of the Sichel brothers. This property is blessed with ideal conditions for producing splendidly consistent wines. The sandy and gravelly soil provides good natural drainage, which increases concentration in the fruit. Careful selection ensures a perfect balance between fruit, structure and tannins. Yields of 40hl/ha this year, the fermentation was carried out in concrete vats followed by ageing in 32% new oak barrels.

A classic Angludet. A beautiful, intense bouquet full of expansive ripe fruits. The palate is thick, multi dimensional and oozes rich and supple black fruits. Cassis and plums dominate the palate with finely interwoven tannins and a delectable hint of cedar. This is an outstanding wine this vintage. Sumptuous.

Drink 2024+

Château Kirwan 2ème Cru Classé

£330.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot,
10% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

This is the first vintage produced at the new winery that has been installed with the same tanks as those designed for Château Cheval Blanc. The fermentation is cool at a maximum 25°C in order to contain the extraction and showcase the classic Margaux characters. There is 40% new oak. The bouquet displays very alluring clean berry aromas, the palate is vibrant and brimming with cassis, balanced by a very feminine freshness. A wine that possesses great opulence, this is a very good vintage for Kirwan.

Drink 2022+



MARGAUX

Château Rauzan-Ségla 2ème Cru Classé

£570.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 63% Cabernet Sauvignon, 33% Merlot,
3% Petit Verdot, 1% Cabernet Franc

This 43 hectare château has made major strides since its purchase by Chanel in 1994. It is fair to say that it now punches fully to its 1855 classification and is one of the great Super-Second's. Only half of the harvest is used in the first wine of this illustrious property. The first vintage produced by new winemaker Nicolas Audebert is a resounding success. Aged in 60% new oak for 18 months, this is a superb wine that oozes class. Beautifully aromatic, intense, tight and refined, compacted black fruits with very precise tannins and a superlative finish. One of the wines of the vintage that will be highly sought after.

Drink 2027+

Château Giscours 3ème Cru Classé

£390.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 25% Merlot,
5% Petit Verdot

Thirty years ago this 300 hectare estate reigned supreme, but its form dipped in the 80's and 90's. Now it is back on top form since a change of ownership in 1995 that saw Eric Albada Jelgersma take control. Aged in 50% new oak for 18 months, this is a real belter. A rich and intense, fruity bouquet. The palate offers an incredible intensity. Chocolate, Christmas pudding and concentrated cassis, powerful but perfectly ripe tannins and very well managed cedar oak with a sumptuous finish. Dense and powerful, this is very impressive.

Drink 2025+

"Having tasted the 1961 and 1970 Giscours just a few months ago, I wager that the 2015 will be the best since the 1961. Time to fall back in love with this great Margaux property." **94-96 points Neal Martin, Wine Advocate, April 2015**



MARGAUX

Château Brane Cantenac 2ème Cru Classé

£360.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot,
10% Petit Verdot

Owned by AXA Millésimes since 1989. Under the direction of Christian Seely this château has been totally transformed and is producing excellent wine. The Margaux commune has performed particularly well this vintage and no more so than here. This is a great Margaux. The bouquet is beautiful, displaying aromatic blackcurrant and cranberry fruit with a tiny hint of oak. The palate is tightly knit with firm and ripe tannins finely integrated into a rich seam of cassis fruit and rich chocolate. A very refined wine that will deliver great pleasure in the years to come.

Drink 2025+

Château Cantenac Brown 2ème Cru Classé

£360.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 61% Cabernet Sauvignon, 39% Merlot

This château has historically been overlooked as a source of top claret. That all changed back in 1989 when it was acquired by AXA Millésimes, also owners of Pichon Baron. Since then it has been on a constant upward trajectory and is now producing excellent wine with great consistency, under the ownership of Simon Halabi since 2006. A ripe and generous style of Margaux, rich in fruit and weighty in structure. The bouquet is inviting, lush and shows a high degree of sweetness leading to a palate that opens easily, offering creamy sweet fruit, plum, cherry and damson, with great length and balance. The balance is perfect. A very, very good wine.

Drink 2025+

Alter Ego de Palmer

£465.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 52% Merlot 42% Cabernet Sauvignon,
6% Petit Verdot

Alter Ego accounts for 50% of the production at Château Palmer in 2015 and is aged in 30% new oak. The colour is deep ruby; the bouquet is very fragrant with whiffs of violets and cherry fruit. The palate is very alluring, silky and smooth with an undercurrent of chocolate and vanilla giving added weight to the delicious ripe cassis that dances along the tongue. A fantastic wine that should not be missed.

Drink 2022+



MARGAUX

Château Palmer 3ème Cru Classé

£2,250.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 50% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot,
6% Petit Verdot

After the First Growths this is traditionally one of the highest performing chateaux and is always in high demand. Winemaker Thomas Duroux has overseen the chateau's first 100% biodynamic wine this vintage, following a journey that began back in 2008. Less than 50% of the crop was allocated to the first wine with yields of 37hl/ha. Aged in 70% new oak. What a resounding success, some even arguing that it could attain legendary status. A higher degree of Cabernet Sauvignon than usual has made for a more masculine style of Palmer this vintage. Concentration, depth and power are the defining characteristics of this great wine. Expensive? Yes but it will nevertheless be one of the most sought after wines of this vintage.

Drink 2028+



PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

Geographically this region is a continuation to the south-east of Haut-Médoc. Many vineyards in the north have disappeared as the city of Bordeaux has extended outwards. The area produces notable red and white wines, but the trend has been towards more red over the past two decades. The whole region was formerly known as Graves, but since 1996 it has been divided into two appellations, Pessac-Léognan and Graves. Pessac-Léognan is the most northerly and best part, where most of the Grands Crus are situated.

Château Olivier Blanc

£222.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 75% Sauvignon, 23% Semillon, 2% Muscadelle

With small yields of only 38hl/ha and aged in 35% new oak, this is a very impressive white Pessac - Léognan. Intense peach fruit with a tremendous minerality, great balance and a very long and lingering finish. A very good reference for white Bordeaux.

Drink 2018+

Château Olivier

£228.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 40% Merlot,
5% Petit Verdot

Classified for its red and white wines, Château Olivier is surrounded by forest that not only influences the property's micro-climate, but which has given it 8 hectares of prime vineyard, already in the Pessac-Léognan AOC. A detailed geological survey in 2003 revealed the forest was planted on a croupe of compact gravel, perfect for Cabernet Sauvignon.

A classic Pessac-Léognan, big, robust and punchy but without any hard edges. The fruit is perfectly ripe and tannins quite sumptuous. We introduced this wine with the 2008 vintage which was a roaring success. This is several notches up and will prove to be a very canny purchase. When mature this will rival many of its more illustrious peers.

Drink 2020+



PESSAC-LÉOGNAN

Château Haut Brion 1er Cru Classé

£4,260.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 50 % Merlot, 42% Cabernet Sauvignon,
8% Cabernet Franc

The creeping urbanization of Bordeaux has reached the vineyards at this great château – no sooner are you out of the city, you are in the vineyards of one of the greatest estates in Bordeaux. Arguably the most reliable of the First Growths over the years, Haut Brion always produces truly great claret. Jean Philippe Delmas likens this vintage to the great 2005 with riper tannins. It is without doubt one of the wines of the vintage. A deep, smouldering, brooding bouquet with notes of cassis, cedar and coffee. The palate is seamless with a great intensity of concentrated blackcurrant, chocolate, a hint of vanilla and superb tannins that envelope the wine. Perfectly balanced with a touch of graphite minerality, this is an incredibly precise wine yet with an astounding depth. Awe inspiring!

Drink 2030+

“A megalith” – **Jancis Robinson April 2016**



SATELLITE ST EMILION

Situated just to the north and northeast of Saint-Emilion are four separate appellations known as the 'St Emilion satellites'. They are Lussac-Saint-Emilion, Montagne-Saint-Emilion, Puisseguin-Saint-Emilion, and Saint-Georges-Saint-Emilion. Here the temperatures are a little cooler than in St. Emilion as the region is further from the Dordogne which means the harvesting is a little later. This is a great source of value for money wines, especially in top vintages.

Château Corbin, Montagne St Emilion (case x 6) £28.00 per case IB
(5+ Cases) £26.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 80% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon,
5% Cabernet Franc

Overlooking both Cheval Blanc and Petrus, this is a beautifully located château that produces outstanding, affordable claret. It is one of the oldest properties in Montagne, which in itself is the smallest appellation in the Bordeaux region with only 18 growers. Dating back to the 16th Century this property has 23ha of vines that surround the château. Since Jacques Rambaud took over from his father in 2005, he has overhauled the vineyard management and introduced careful oak ageing – 40% of the wine is aged in 1-4 year old oak.

Drink 2019+

Château du Courlat, Lussac St Emilion £75.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

From the long driveway of Cyprus trees on your approach, this estate inspires peace and tranquillity. Nature is present at every turn, with a large lake at the centre of vines, forest and château. Produced from 90% Merlot, this classic wine has a long ageing partly in oak, and expresses elegance, purity of fruit and gentle tannins. The palate is dominated by crunchy black fruits and a hint of liquorice along with a streak of graphite and pencil lead.

Drink 2017+

Château du Courlat Cuvée Jean Baptiste £99.00 per case IB
Lussac St Emilion

Grape Mix: 100% Merlot

This property is owned by the Audy family whose negociant house is situated in Libourne. In honour of Pierre Bourotte's grand-father, Jean-Baptiste Audy, this is a wine of power and depth, produced from the oldest Merlot vines of the property grown on a deep clay soil. Aged for 18 months in 25% new oak barrels. A big, rich, round and chocolaty wine with a very impressive and complex palate. An outstanding wine this vintage.

Drink 2018+



ST EMILION

On the right bank of Bordeaux, this is a large appellation where the Merlot grape dominates on the clay and limestone soils. Here the wines are rich and sumptuous. For those who like ballet dancing, head for the Médoc. For those who like belly dancing, this is the place for you!

St Emilion wines were not included in the 1855 Bordeaux classification with the first classification made in 1954. Unlike the 1855 classification, the St Emilion classification is regularly revised.

Château Fonplegade, Grand Cru St Emilion **£264.00 per case IB**
Grape Mix: 95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc

The impressive 18.5ha property, situated close to the famous Château Angélu, belongs to Americans Denise and Stephen Adams who, with the advice of Michel Rolland and Stéphané Derenoncourt are now producing one of the best value for money Grand Crus in St.Emilion. It is now certified organic. Aged in 60% new oak, with 20% in 'Pearle' barrels, Fonplegade is big, rich and powerful with a super concentration of chewy ripe plum fruit. The tannins are soft yet envelope the palate to provide an expansive mouthfeel. An impressive wine this is arguably the best that this château has ever produced.

Drink 2022+

Château Grand Mayne, Grand Cru St Emilion **£270.00 per case IB**
Grape Mix: 75% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc,
10% Cabernet Sauvignon

Located north-west of the town of St-Emilion, this château was built in 1767 and since 1934 has been owned and run by the Nony family with Jean-Pierre Nony at the helm since 1975. With 19 hectares of vineyards, the château is superbly sited on the edge of a limestone plateau, where the soils are rich in clay, limestone and iron.

This vintage saw yields of only 39hl/ha. Aged in 60% new oak for 15 months, this is a stunning wine, showing an intensely perfumed bouquet followed by a creamed bramble, cherry and jam palate, with a lovely lacing of spice and herbs. The structure is tight and rigid; there is a great depth and warmth with sweet concentrated black fruits, oak and spice. A real sweetness develops and lingers on the finish. This is very, very good!

Drink 2022+



POMEROL

Pomerol is the smallest of the major Bordeaux appellations. It is only 3 kilometers by 4 kilometers in dimension, with only 800 hectares under vine and around 150 châteaux. Whilst Pomerol is the home to some of the most sought after wines in the world, unlike other Bordeaux regions, it has no official wine classification. With soils of blue clay, the wines produced are sensual, rich and alluring.

Château Les Hauts Conseillantes Lalande de Pomerol

£120.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 90% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc

Located in Lalande de Pomerol, just across from Pomerol itself, the 10 hectare Château Les Hauts-Conseillants is owned and managed by the Bourotte family. Like some of the best soils in Pomerol, Les Hauts-Conseillants lies on a clay/gravel bed mixed with sand and produces a consistently full bodied plummy wine. Aged in 35% new oak, the colour is deep and inviting. A powerful, forward bouquet of crushed black cherry. On the palate there is a little liquorice, succulent ripe plums and a very classy hint of pencil lead. This is a super little château that always performs well.

Drink 2020+

Château Bonalgue

£198.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 100% Merlot

Originally built by one of Napoleon's officers on his return from the Egyptian campaign over 200 years ago, this property covers 7 hectares with an ideal exposure. Aged in 45% new oak for 12 months this wine is deep purple in colour, powerful and opulent on the bouquet that screams ripe plum characters. The palate is very rich with multiple layers of chocolate and liquorice. Tight and intense yet beautifully balanced with carefully integrated oak, this wine is the epitome of good Pomerol.

Drink 2022+



POMEROL

Clos du Clocher

£330.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 80% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc

The exposure of this property is perfect. Located in front of the chapel, only 200m from Vieux Château Certan and 300m from Château Petrus. Using Integral Vinification, a method of full berry ferment inside wooden barrels which remain open to increase ferment oxidization, the wine produced in 2015 is quite sensational and offers remarkable value for money compared to some of the more illustrious names of this appellation. Aged in 65% new oak for 14 months. Rich cassis fruit layered with varying flavours of coffee, liquorice, chocolate and roasted plum. The finish has a hint of rich Christmas pudding – sumptuous.

Drink 2022+

“This is massive.... Best ever from here.” **95-96 points, James Suckling**

Château Gazin

£480.00 per case IB

Grape Mix: 90% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon,
3% Cabernet Franc

Château Gazin is blessed by a super location, situated immediately next to Château Petrus on the Pomerol plateau. With yields of only 39hl/ha and aged for 15 months in 70% new oak, Gazin has delivered a beautiful wine this vintage, both elegant and restrained. The bouquet is overt and perfumed; the palate shows depth with a core of sweet black and red fruits. The tannins are very evident – the wine tightens toward the finish – powerful and creamy with very evident structure and freshness. Quite delicious!

Drink 2022+



BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2015 ORDER FORM

		Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
Prices given are per case, in bond Melton (ex VAT & Duty)				
BORDEAUX				
	Château Moulin de Mallet (c/s x 6)	.....	£20.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£18.00	.....
	Château Tour de Luchey (c/s x 6)	.....	£22.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£20.00	.....
BORDEAUX SUPERIEUR				
	Château d'Argadens (c/s x 6)	.....	£27.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£25.00	.....
COTES DE BOURG				
	Château Saumon	.....	£50.00	.....
FRONSAC				
	Château La Vieille Cure	.....	£150.00	.....
MÉDOC				
	Château Tour St Bonnet	.....	£90.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£85.00	.....
	Château Tour de By	.....	£115.00	.....
	Château Potensac	.....	£180.00	.....
HAUT-MÉDOC				
	Château Semonlon	.....	£63.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£60.00	.....
	Château Caronne Ste Gemme	.....	£105.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£99.00	.....
	Château Beaumont	.....	£102.00	.....
	(5+ Cases)	.....	£99.00	.....
	Château Lanessan Cru Bourgeois Supérieur	.....	£114.00	.....
	Château Lagune Haut Médoc	.....	£345.00	.....
	3ème Cru Haut Médoc			
	Château Cantemerle	.....	£210.00	.....
	5ème Cru Classé Haut Médoc			
LISTRAC				
	Château Fourcas-Hosten Cru Bourgeois	.....	£125.00	.....



BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2015 ORDER FORM

	Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
MOULIS			
Château Chasse-Spleen Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel	£210.00	.....
Château Maucaillou Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel	£165.00	.....
Château Poujeaux Cru Bourgeois Exceptionnel	£210.00	.....
ST-ESTÈPHE			
Château Lafon Rochet 4ème Cru Classé	£300.00	.....
Château Ormes de Pez	£210.00	.....
Château Montrose 2ème Cru Classé	£1,140.00	.....
PAUILLAC			
Château Duhart Milon 4ème Cru Classé	£500.00	.....
Château Clerc Milon 5ème Cru Classé	£480.00	.....
Château d'Armailhac 5ème Cru Classé	£310.00	.....
Château Grand Puy Lacoste 5ème Cru Classé	£500.00	.....
Château Lynch-Bages 5ème Cru Classé	£890.00	.....
Château Pontet Canet 5ème Cru Classé (c/s x 6)	£400.00	.....
Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande 2ème Cru Classé	£995.00	.....
Château Pichon Longueville Baron 2ème Cru Classé	£995.00	.....
Château Lafite-Rothschild 1er Cru Classé	£4,350.00	.....
Château Mouton Rothschild 1er Cru Classé	£4,260.00	.....
ST-JULIEN			
Château Lalande Borie, St Julien	£180.00	.....
Sarget Gruaud Larose, St Julien	£170.00	.....
Château Les Fiefs de Lagrange	£170.00	.....
La Croix de Beaucaillou	£320.00	.....
Clos du Marquis, St Julien	£385.00	.....
Château Gloria, St Julien	£285.00	.....
Château Talbot 4ème Cru Classé	£400.00	.....
Château Gruaud Larose 2ème Cru Classé	£485.00	.....
Château Beychevelle 4ème Cru Classé	£530.00	.....
Château Langoa Barton 3ème Cru Classé	£342.00	.....
Château Léoville-Barton 2ème Cru Classé	£580.00	.....
Château Léoville-Poyerré 2ème Cru Classé	£570.00	.....
Château Ducru Beaucaillou 2ème Cru Classé	£1,272.00	.....
Château Léoville-Las-Cases 2ème Cru Classé	£1,475.00	.....



01482 638888

BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2015 ORDER FORM

	Cases Req'd	Cost IB	Total
MARGAUX			
Château Angludet Cru Bourgeois	£216.00	.....
Château Kirwan 2ème Cru Classé	£330.00	.....
Château Rauzan-Ségla 2ème Cru Classé	£570.00	.....
Château Giscours 3ème Cru Classé	£390.00	.....
Château Brane Cantenac 2ème Cru Classé	£360.00	.....
Château Cantenac Brown 2ème Cru Classé	£360.00	.....
Alter Ego de Palmer	£465.00	.....
Château Palmer 3ème Cru Classé	£2,250.00	.....
PESSAC -LÉOGNAN			
Château Olivier Blanc	£222.00	.....
Château Olivier	£228.00	.....
Château Haut Brion 1er Cru Classé	£4,260.00	.....
SATELLITE ST EMILION			
Château Corbin, Montagne St Emilion (c/s x 6) (5+ Cases)	£28.00	.....
	£26.00	.....
Château du Courlat, Lussac St Emilion	£75.00	.....
Château du Courlat Cuvée Jean Baptiste Lussac St Emilion	£99.00	.....
ST EMILION			
Château Fonplegade, Grand Cru St Emilion	£264.00	.....
Château Grand Mayne, Grand Cru St Emilion	£270.00	.....
POMEROL			
Château Les Hauts Conseillantes	£120.00	.....
Lalande de Pomerol			
Château Bonalgue	£198.00	.....
Clos du Clocher	£330.00	.....
Château Gazin	£480.00	.....
		Total	.....



BORDEAUX EN PRIMEUR 2015 ORDER FORM

Please return with your payment details

Please return this form with your payment to:

House of Townend Ltd
Wyke Way
Melton West Business Park
Melton
East Riding of Yorkshire
HU14 3BQ

Payment details:

I enclose cheque for £

or

Please debit my Card No: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____

Expiry Date: __ / __ Sec No: ____

Name:
(CAPITALS PLEASE)

Signed

Tel No:

Fax No:

E-mail:

Address:

Postcode:

.....

.....

House of Townend reserve the right to refuse removal of any stock held in Melton Number 9 Bond if the customer is outside the agreed trading terms and offset any value against outstanding monies on the customer's trading account.

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE

In Bond: Wines offered are lying in Bond in Melton, and these wines will attract a charge for the Excise Duty (currently £25.00 per case of 12 bottles) and VAT, when the wine is taken out of Bond.

Storage: We will be pleased to store your wines in our secure Bonded Warehouse in Melton, if you so wish. The rental is 15 pence per case per week plus VAT, which covers all charges.

Insurance: Please ensure that if you decide to leave your wines in our Melton No 9 Bond that you take out the appropriate insurances.

House of Townend reserve the right to refuse removal of any stock held in Melton Number 9 Bond if the customer is outside the agreed trading terms and offset any value against outstanding monies on the customer's trading account.



Wyke Way Melton West Business Park Melton East Riding of Yorkshire HU14 3BQ
01482 638888 sales@houseoftownend.co.uk houseoftownend.com

